

# Rejoice!

# Keeney Update

VOLUME VIII, Number 3

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## TRACING GREENBRIER KIN

Keeneys from Tennessee to Indiana, from Iowa to Idaho, from Missouri to Oregon and points between trace their ancestry back to the 1700s in Greenbrier County, then Virginia. Frontier histories clearly point out the early settlements in Greenbrier, including those of the Keeneys. Some historians list the first Keeney settler as John some as David. He may have been John David, a common name in later generations.

From historical documentation passed on by the Montgomery kin, we learn that John Keeney patented 40 acres in the Greenbrier region, then Augusta Co., on 25 April 1751; another 375 acre land grant followed. His birth date is given as 12 March 1714 in New England.

An old historical map of migration routes over the mountains from Virginia shows the Keeney Fort at Muddy Creek as the first settlement. However, early settlements on Muddy Creek were wiped out by the Indian uprising of 1763. About 1769 daring settlers returned but it was not until the Battle of Point Pleasant in 1774 that people could feel safe. The army of Gen. Lewis had hacked out a wagon road down the Kanawha by 1782, attracting new settlements. Some Keeney families followed.

Some of the older sons of John Keeney fled or were lured by land grants into North Carolina (which became eastern Tennessee). Only a few stayed after cheap western land became available. During the American Revolution, son Jonathan served as a soldier and young Michael, Thomas and David furnished supplies.

Records at Old Greenbrier Baptist Church, at Alderson, now 210 years old, show John (David) as a member 24 Sept 1820 and his wife was one of the first ones baptized by pioneer minister John Alderson.

In 1791, after many years of hard work, John and Catherine deeded their 351 acre home in the

Muddy Creek settlement to the two youngest sons, David and Moses "for parental affection", admonishing their sons "to maintain them". Witnesses to the deed were John Matthews, John Viney and Simon Shoemaker, a neighbor.

It cannot be said that everything was always peaceful on Muddy Creek. Court records after 1780 frequently mention Keeney family members, often in cases filed but more often to serve on juries. On 20 August 1782 in John Jones vs. Thomas Keeney, Keeney was ordered "to find a security for good behavior, to be bound for 100 pounds with the condition that he keep the peace for one year and a day." Interesting was a 20 November 1784 case of John Alderson vs. Thomas Keeney, which was dismissed by agreement. On 3 Sept 1790 William Brown was ordered to pay John Keeney and Jane McClintic; 50 lbs. of tobacco each for serving two days as witnesses in a trial.

Of special note on the court record is the 10 June 1791 notation: JOHN KEENEY is discharged from paying county and parish levys on account of old age and infirmities.

One family Bible states that John and Catherine Keeney had twelve children. Many of their descendants would give a "bun" for a complete listing. The following is a reasonable start:

### I. JONATHAN KEENEY (c.1750-c.1845)


Land grants in Tennessee were made by North Carolina until 1800. As a Revolutionary War vet he received Grant #2265-67 acres in 1788 on the North side of French Broad River, Grooco Co. TN. This area became Jefferson Co. in 1792 and Cocke Co. in 1797. John(athan) Keeney was a member of original group to pick Cocke County seat. 1783 Greene Co. assessor's report showed John with 14 horses, 9 cattle, and 149 pounds. John and Ann (Poets) joined Big Pigeon Baptist Church in 1794 and were dismissed by letter in 1799. His son Jonathan was licensed to preach there. This Jonathan went to Indiana, died in Iowa, and some family members went to Oregon.

### II. JACOB KEENEY - member of Capt. Lane's company; granted 90 acres in Granger Co., TN in 1806

### III. JAMES KEENEY - Grant of 100 acres. Jefferson Co., TN in 1800; on select committee on business, Richmond & Big Springs Baptist association meeting Aug 1803; Jefferson Co. tax list 1826: Children: Alfred, m. Matilda Sladen 1837; Esram, m. Polly Moore 1833; Nancy, m. John Moore; Matilda, m. Alex P. Patterson; Sarah, m. Henry Chambers 1826

### IV. JOHN KEENEY, b. c.1759, m. Mary Sampson 29 Oct 1781 in Greenbrier Co.; died childless

### V. MICHAEL KEENEY, b. 1761, s. 1790 of pneumonia at age 29; m. Catherine Lewis, a niece of Gen. Lewis, on 1-11-1781 before Pav. John Alderson. Father of John L. & William H. C. Keeney, of Lawrence Co., OH, Indiana, Iowa and elsewhere:



I am thinking of you today  
because it is Christmas  
and I wish you happiness.  
And tomorrow,  
because it will be  
the day after Christmas.  
I shall still wish you happiness  
My thoughts and my wishes  
will be with you always.  
Whatever joy comes to you  
will make me glad  
All through the year  
I wish you the spirit of Christmas

Mary Keeney McRoberts, Fleming Co., KY and points west; and Nancy Keeney Montgomery, wife of Capt. Henry Montgomery and mother of large, prominent West Virginia family. Upon Michael's early death, Catherine married William Hilliard on 26 February 1793 in Greenbrier Co.

VI. JOSEPH KEENEY, b. c.1763; served 3 yr. as soldier on Virginia line, for which a military warrant was issued 12 Dec 1803; had land claims in Washington & Hawkins Cos., TN in 1778-79 and listed in Greene Co. records 1783; received in Big Pigeon Baptist Church in 1794 by Christian experience, dismissed 1799; first recorded in Anderson Co., TN in 1802, where family members still reside; served as county road overseer 1803-1808; father of Joseph

Keeney, Jr. (1790-1843), William S. (1795-1841), James Michael (1795-1849)

VII. THOMAS KEENEY, b. c.1760s, m. 1778 to Mary Reaves in Bedford Co., VA; Captain 8th Rgt., Cooke Co., TN 2 Oct 1809; Jefferson Co., TN records show deed for 67 acres for \$1,000 to Thomas Keeney from John Keeney; Thomas Keeney sold 119 acres in 1814-16 to Francis Carter (Jeff. Co.); lived in Indiana, then in Osage, Jackson Co., MO; father of: Michael, Kanny (2 Feb 1789, 26 Jul 1849), Nancy (m. James Massey Keeney, and Mary (1818-1875) Kelly; second wife: Davinia

VIII. DAVID KEENEY, b.1765, m. 24 April 1783 to Peninah Bailey by Rev. John Alderson;

#### URIAS KEENEY FAMILY UPDATE By Richard V. Lee, Grandson

9. GRIS ZARA KEENEY, b. 5-4-1874 d. 5-1928, m. Martha Patricia McDowell (1878-1960) 9-4-1895
10. WILLIAM EARL KEENEY, b. 11 Sept 1896, d. 5-5-1980 in KY; Rose R. 11 Burial Park
- m. (1) Mildred L. Miller (1898-1976) on 3-8-1916  
(2) Esther Louise Gehring (b. 3-14-1908) 11-11-1941
11. WILLIAM EARL KEENEY, JR., b. 5-17-1917, d. 8-21-1930; Sp. Hill Cemetery, Charleston
12. GLORIA JEAN KEENEY, b. 3-10-1944; 11ves Ashland, KY m. Darrell G. Perkins 4-20-52
13. Deborah Jean Perkins, b. 5-3-61, m. George L. Qualls (b. 1964) on 6-4-1982
13. COSUCHA WAYNE, b. 3-31-84
14. AMANDA DARLENE, b. 5-4-87
12. PATRICIA SUSAN PERKINS, b. 12-10-1951
12. BEVERLY GAIL PERKINS, b. 12-13-1961
12. DARRELL GENE PERKINS, Jr., b. 11-3-1974
10. THELMA FRANCES KEENEY, born 7-12-1899, died 12-1990 m. Ralph S. White 1-13-1925 m. Earl Siger 11-21-1953
11. LOIS KATHRYN WHITS, b. 2-21-1926; m. Brovno B. Bolton 12-28-1947
12. SHARON K. BOLTON, b. 12-8-49 m. Gregory A. Allgeier 6-27-70
13. CHRISTOPHER ALLGEIER
13. JEREMY ALLGEIER
13. SHANE ALLGEIER
12. BRUCE B. BOLTON, b. 1-11-54
12. PATRIE CATHERINE KEENEY, b. 1-19-1902; lives in Michigan m. Ivan Richards Lee (b. 10 Mar 1899, d. 21 Feb 1975)
- m. Roy G. Langdon (b. 8 Jan 1893, d. 18 Dec 1990)
11. RICHARD VINCENT LEE, b. 7 Mar 1924; lives in NC m. Connie Jean Smith 1-29-49
12. RICHARD V. LEE, JR., 1-4-31 m. Kimberly Ruth Crook 8-6-83
13. CHELSEA SYCAMETH 1-9-86
13. MEREDITH ANN 5-1-87
13. RICHARD V. III 4-16-91
12. DAVID EVERIST LEE 3-28-52 m. Pamela Gail Wiggins 1-26-80

continued, next page

## Group Area Code 304 offers the Valley a different sound

By Mary Coupe  
MIFRO STAFF

For members of one local band, life has been an odyssey of hotel lounges, church choirs and high school band rooms.

To the band Area Code 304 these musicians bring the experiences of traveling to shows in an old bus heated by a centrally located coal stove to doing studio work in the burgeoning music city of Toronto.

Members and the band's auxiliary members come to the group by way of other states and other bands. Most of them have found their way home to West Virginia after trying their luck on the road or in the studio.

The mainstay of the band, Jim Metheny, hails from Witcher Creek and has been a musician for more than 25 years. He handles keyboards and vocals for the band and wrote all the songs on Area Code 304's new cassette "Just Clownding Around."

The band repels rap and "keeps it clean," Metheny said. The cassette contains a mix of ballads, country crossovers and some blues tunes. None of the lyrics would be condemned by Tipper Gore and crew, and that's what Metheny's aiming for.

One of the band's songs is "Old Glory" which was written to protest flag burning and was featured at the Veterans of Foreign Wars national convention in 1990.

But the band's not all serious, either. One song on the latest release, promised in the press packet to be "the biggest hit" on the album, is "The Dog Song."

The cut, which outlines the struggles of David, Muhammad Ali and a little pekingese, en-

Jim Metheny, son of Helen Pauline (Bennie) Keeney & Tom Metheny, is a great grandson of John S. Keeney in the Moses Keeney Kanawha County, WV line. Orders for tapes will be forwarded by KEENEY UPDATE #17.

courages the underdog not to give up the fight.

"Well, the idea just came to me," said Metheny of his inspiration for the song. "It's just about not giving up until you get done with what you're trying to do."

What Area Code 304 is trying to do now is get its music to West Virginians. Metheny says the band's not interested in other areas, and the way the new cassette is being marketed is proof positive of that.

The release has been offered to state radio stations for airplay, but also to be sold to organizations as a fund-raising device. The tapes currently are available at VFW Post 529 in Witcher and at Dunbar Parks and Recreation.

The tape would be suitable for selling at schools and churches, Metheny said, because the songs do not promote drugs, violence,

sex, alcohol or un-American themes.

"We'll probably outfit a lot of people, with sales in this state," Metheny said. "And this money will help the community." He hopes to sell about 7,500 copies of the cassette.

In the notes to radio stations about the recording, Metheny reiterates his state ties. "We do not want to be nationally promoted," the notes outline. "We do not want to be famous. We don't want to travel. We have already paid those dues. We are home!"

Area Code 304 keeps busy, but many times it's the core group of White, Anderson, Metheny and guitarist Danny Bailey of Beckley that are called upon. The bigger contingent is too big or expensive for some bar owners.

Butti, singer Zora Lavigne and steel guitarist Randy Mallory both of St. Albans, and saxophonist Ernie Dunlap of Hurricane are auxiliary band members. Most perform regular, with other bands or have their own bands.

Many clubs aren't hiring bands these days, the member say, because they've been lured by cheaper forms of entertainment. The band's pet peeve: laser karaoke.

"Laser karaoke, DJs and music machines have really hurt live bands in the area," Mallory said. "I have a big problem with it. I think people will pay a cover charge to hear a live band. I think people have trouble with paying a cover for a disc jockey."

But Metheny emphasizes the his group is successful. "We never be out of work," he said confidently.

City View

THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 5,



JIM METHENY

# PENNSYLVANIA

deed of release to Thomas Frazer 22 June 1819 from David & Peninah Hicklen Keeney, Greenbrier Co., WV records; family Bible in possession of Thomas Hicklen Keeney family, Vermillion Co., IL lists parents as John and Catherine and names twelve children, including: John D. Keeney (1775-1855), m. Rachel Burdett in Monroe Co. WV 30 Nov 1812, settled Jackson Co., WV; Joseph Keeney (b.1790), m. Mary McClung on 30 Dec 1828; David A. Keeney (b.6-2-1790, d.6-30-1862, buried on Blaker's Run, in Greenbrier, m. Jane Hunter, of Monroe Co. (3-24-180e, 3-4-1878)), 11 children; Moses Asbury Keeney (b.1800, d.8-19-1840), m. Phoebe Ann Skeene 12-1-1825; Thomas Hicklen Keeney (b.12 Mar 1803 in Greenbrier, d. 7 Mar 1880 at Danville, Vermillion Co. IL, m. Elizabeth Caraway, 8 children; Mary Keeney (b.1795, d.2-6-1879), m. John Patterson 8-19-1824; Elizabeth Keeney, m. David Boggs 31 May 1821; also Michael, Lucretia, Ruth Keeney

IX. NELLY KEENEY, b. c.1760, m. Daniel McMullen 14 Feb 1780

X. MOSES KEENEY, b. 1766 in Greenbrier Co., d. in 1840s in Kanawha Co., WV; inherited family farm along with brother David; m. Frances Harris 11 Aug 1789, began purchasing land on Cabin Creek, Kanawha Co. soon after 1810; operated saw mill and river barge business on Kanawha & Ohio rivers, along with sons; Children: Frances Keeney (1790-1879), m. William S. Brawley, 8 children; John C. Keeney (b.1793, lived in Scioto Co., OH in 1870), m. Sarah Elizabeth Farney (1805-1880s), 9 children in OH and KY; David A. Keeney (1794-1860s), m. Catherine Jarrett, 6 children in Kanawha, Boone, Lincoln Cos., WV; Moses Walls Keeney (1797-1890), m. Mary D. Huff, remained on Cabin Creek, 9 children; Michael R. Keeney, m. Elizabeth Gatewood (1805-1882, father Ransom Gatewood early WV settler from Amherst Co., VA, 14 children, mostly around Belle, WV; William E. Keeney (1808-1870), buried at Eskdale, Cabin Creek, m. Sarah R. (Sally) Huff (1815-1908), 9 children; Foster H. Keeney (1811-1870s), m. Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Huff (1815-1864), Kanawha & Boone Cos., WV, 8 children; Stires Jada Keeney (1813-1860s), m. Milly Gatewood (1813-1860), m. Cynthia Hudnall White in late years; raised family of 11 children along Kanawha Co.; Elizabeth Keeney (b.1815), m. Thomas McDowell, settled in Illinois.

Besides the establishment of Keeney's Fort on Muddy Creek, Keeney's Mountain in nearby Summers County got the family name and a nearby Rapids in the New River, now famous for white water rafting, was named Keeney Rapids for three of the Keeney brothers. Keeney's Creek, which runs along several nearby Fayette County, WV communities, also still has the family name.

Some speculate that early Kentucky settlements by Keeneys, coming at the same as the Tennessee settlements, may have been by family members. DANIEL KEENEY received 200 acres in Logan Co., south of the Green River 7 August 1796; Moses Keeney received his first 100 acre grant 15 April 1799 in Lincoln (now Putnam) Co.

Members of the Keeney family have remained very active in the life of the German Baptist Brethren denomination. A son of the immigrant Heinrich Keeney was named John S. Keeney (July 7, 1768-June 21, 1848). George N. Falkenstein described him as a man of "medium height and weight, a man of considerable ability but of reserved and retiring disposition". In the period from 1800 until his death in 1848, he ministered as a German-language exporter of the Little Conewago Church.

John S. Keeney bought a tract of two hundred and fifty-six acres in 1792 in partnership with Jacob Petry. These brethren paid six hundred pounds for this land which lay along the road between Sinshem and Jefferson, PA. In 1794, John S. Keeney became the sole owner of one hundred and eighty-four acres of land in the eastern portion of this tract. The land now borders the community of Jefferson (Codorus), and is nearly within sight of the Chestnut Grove Church.

John S. Keeney was married to Magdalena Petry (Oct. 10, 1770-July 19, 1828), the daughter of Stephen Petry. Their children were:

Henry (Nov 2, 1793-March 1, 1862) who married Anna Yount, daughter of Samuel and Catharine Eby Yount

John P. (April 23, 1796-July 24, 1867) who married Elizabeth Wehrley (May 13, 1800-April 9, 1877), daughter of John George and Eve Hoover-Wehrley. John P. Keeney was elected to the ministry by the Little Conewago congregation on March 28, 1840.

Falken (Nov 25, 1798-July 26, 1868) was married to Salome Jacob (Nov 24, 1799-Sept 24, 1859). They resided near Glen Rock, PA.

Mary (July 22, 1801-March, 1810) who was buried at the Chestnut Grove Meetinghouse Cemetery

Samuel (Dec 5, 1803-Nov 29, 1884) who was married three times: 1) To Catharine Hoff, 2) To Magdalena Groves (March 28, 1804-May 11, 1830) and 3) To Elizabeth Stouffer Michael (May 24, 1807-April 25, 1850) who married Barbara Bollinger (May 29, 1794-June 27, 1860). Both are buried at the Chestnut Grove Meetinghouse Cemetery.

David (July 5, 1813-Nov 4, 1879)

Jonathan ( - ) who is buried at the Chestnut Grove Church Cemetery

After the death of Magdalena, John S. Keeney was married to Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_ who is buried in an unmarked grave at the Chestnut Grove burial grounds. There was one son to this union. He was named Aaron (Aug. 20, 1831- ) and continued to reside in the Jefferson area, working his trade as a saddler.

## URIAS KEENEY (cont'd)

13. DAVID E. JR. 11-18-80
13. MICHAEL JASON 6-10-84
13. JENNIFER GAIL 12-2-89
12. THOMAS EDMUND LEE 9-4-53
- m. Neva Wood on 8-16-1980
13. CHRISTOPHER AUSTIN 4-4-84
13. ERICKSON THOMAS 5-11-90
12. MARIAN CARROLL LEE 9-24-57
- m. Daniel J. Wilson 4-14-1985
13. JEFFREY BARNETT 11-4-86
11. IVAN CAMERON LEE, b. 23 Mar 1932, d. 10 Aug 1990
- m. Dianna Grimes
12. SUZANNE LEE BOYES
13. FAWNDA MATHISON
14. CHRISTOPHER MATHISON
13. ZAK MATHISON
12. RANDOLPH BROOKS LEE
- m. Ruth M. LaForce (d.1-1990)
13. JEREMY LEE 11-17-76
13. JOSHUA LEE 7-3-82
12. GREGORY STEPHEN LEE
- m. Fonda Lynn Lee
13. JILLIAN FAITH b.1981
13. GREGORY S., JR. b.1982
13. TIFFANI ALEXANDRIA, b. 10-1-87
12. SHARON LORRAINE LEE
- m. John Evans
13. JESSICA FAITH 8-24-86

## PATRONS

Michael Keeney, Clearmont, CA 90:  
James L. Keeney, Venice, FL 330:  
Juliana Cole, Bradenton, FL 330:  
Wm. Keeney, Belle, WV 10; Karl:  
Takes, Wheeling, WV 20; George  
Keeney, Anliston, TX 20

## NEEDLEPOINT PATTERN

Jim Keeney, recently retired college dean from Georgia, now living in Florida, has supplied patterns for needlepoint or cross-stitch for the KEENEY family crest, recently pictured in UPDATE. Those who want a pattern should write to the editor or call 304-346-2036.

The pattern was made by Ann Graves Keeney, of Aspen, CO. Jim's daughter, his son and dau.-in-law Rev. Randall & Dana Keeney, are the parents of the first grandchild, PATRICK SIMON, b. 14 July 91 in Georgia



ELM CREEK STOCKADE  
1869

This was the first log cabin built in Webster County, Nebraska. Six families lived in this combined home and Indian stockade for the first two years after they settled at the headwaters of Elm Creek, near the present site of Cowles. They built it in 1869. Ever a danger of Indian attacks they farmed the adjoining countryside and lived inside the stockade with their families and livestock.

Henry Keeney, born in this stockade May 13, 1872, and Edna Edson, born here May 10, 1872, were the first white children born in Webster County, Nebraska. They could tell of many strange and exciting adventures at the Old Elm Creek Stockade.

Mr. Keeney told of how they burned clay in a trench with firewood to make the lime that calked the cracks in this cabin — some of which remains very today. He

N  
E  
B  
R  
A  
S  
K  
A



Old Elm Creek Stockade is Completely Furnished.

The white man was invading the Indians buffalo hunting grounds. In fact, he was raining them — and when a man is hungry he will fight for food. Thus the Indians were trying to discourage and scare new settlers away by occasionally scalping and murdering them. It took brave men to build their homes in this Indian country.



Old Elm Creek Stockade, Webster County, Nebraska

DESCRIPTION ON ITEMS AT THE

HAROLD WARP PIONEER VILLAGE

Keeney and Edson were brothers-in-law and each had two children born in the stockade, the first the eldest born in the county.

(This Building Was Moved From Cowles, Nebraska, In 1951.)



Warp wanted this — the last remaining stockade on the plains — for his Pioneer Village. The old stockade was finally purchased from Keeney, 200 years three months before he died. Warp subsequently moved it to the Pioneer Village and renamed it in 1952. He had Mr. Tammis at Hastings make a crude sketch of a model of the old stockade in its natural environment just as he remembered it as a child. Warp

had artist Tilburne to follow this, including such details as a male and an ox hitched in a breaking plow — the womenfolk ringing the bell — while the menfolk scurry for the fort — which was set on an unusual site on these plains in the early days.

Tilburne proceeded to zoom this old stockade in its original setting. He succeeded in capturing the true action that took place when invading Indians were warned on the horizon determined to drive the white man west from their buffalo hunting grounds.

FAMILIES LIVED HERE IN 1869



John Waller L. Thomas Ed Keeney M. Thomas

Edward G. Edson, the fifth member of the stockade family, died in the epidemic, leaving a wife and three daughters.

The above picture of the remaining four was taken around 1910. These five men took an active part in organizing the county of Webster, Nebraska, and conducted the first county elections. All served the County and the State as exemplary citizens leaving families that have carried on now into the third generation.



four generations of the Keeneys since 1871 have farmed the Old Elm Creek Stockade Homestead at Cowles, Nebraska.



Harold R. Strang (left) and Gene Lindberg (right) before Webster County's Original Mail Box.

ORIGINAL MAILBOX  
OF ORIGINAL FIVE SETTLERS  
IN WEBSTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1869

This is the original mailbox, in its original location used by the first five settlers in Webster County.

After organizing Webster County, Nebraska, these men were the first five voters in Webster County. Their names: John Waller, L. D. Thomas, Ed Keeney, M. L. Thomas and Edward G. Edson.

When the Elm Creek Cabin was purchased from Henry Keeney by Harold Warp in 1952, Mr. Keeney told Mr. Warp he had put the old mail box away for safe keeping many years ago. They went down in the cellar of his new house and up on the ledge was this mail box, Mr. Keeney said. "It belongs beside the south door." There it is today.

BUILDINGS ON THE GREEN

Saved From Destruction For Our Children To See



The above picture of buildings of the Old Elm Creek Stockade that now remain at the Pioneer Village resemble all of the following pages.

There wasn't any architect, so builder made a loan. To solve their banking problems, they were strictly on their own.  
They didn't sign a mortgage and they didn't buy a lot.  
Just stopped the covered wagon at a likely looking spot.  
No lumber yards were running, they cut timber in the hills.  
And hewed it into beams and joists and doors and window sills.  
They had to hand saw every plank and quarry every stone.  
But finally they got it done—a home to call their own.  
No mansion, but a sturdy house, their own strong hands had made.  
It stood on fertile prairies, that had never been surveyed.  
No WARRANTY, no abstract fee, no red tape, legal fuss.  
They just came out and built the West and left the rest to us.

— By Gene Lindberg

HENRY G. KEENEY, b. 13 May 1872 at the stockade, d. 1951; son of Edrick H. Keeney (1839-1938), whose parents came from NY, and Alice, born in Illinois; sisters were Alice, Alma (b. 1870), Bertha (b. 1879); brother: Albert (b. 1875).  
INF.: Illinois, Nebraska census

## HOLT COUNTY, MO. DEED BOOK A 1841-1846

Page 15 - 24 Dec. 1841 Filed 5 Jan. 1842

Johnathan Keeney, Lease:  
Between Johnathan Keeney of Co. of Holt and State of Mo. of the one part Lazarus Phillips and Jeramiah Phillips of the same county and state... hath demised granted and leased... the farm and the improvements thereon which said J. Keeney now resides together with the distillery and all appertinences attached thereto: two wagons and three yoke of oxen, two ploughs and three hoes and fifty head of hogs... J. Keeney agrees to aid and assist as a hand on the farm and to have the washing done for the said L. and J. Phillips... and J. Phillips are also bound to furnish for the maintenance of the said J. Keeney and his family, whatever is necessary for their support out of proceeds arising from farm and stock... L. and J. Phillips agree... to make a good and substantial fence commencing at the N.E. corner of the said Keeney cornfield and running east with the bluff... to put up two tobacco houses each eighteen by twenty feet square... to make other necessary fencing... On 1st day of March 1843... L. and J. Phillips shall pay unto said J. Keeney the... sum of \$3,000 then all the above described property together with the profits and increase that shall have arisen there from is to become and be the property of them.  
In presence of us

## COCKE COUNTY

Cocke County was created by an act of the General Assembly, passed in October, 1797. It was cut off from Jefferson County and was named in honor of Gen. William Cocke, one of the most distinguished of the pioneers of Tennessee. The commissioners appointed to locate the seat of justice and superintend the erection of county buildings were Henry Rags, William Job, John Coffee, Peter Fine, John Keeney, Reys Jones and John McLocklen. They chose a site about one and one-half miles below the present county seat, at what was known as Fine's Ferry. Fifty acres of land were donated by John Gilliland, and the town was soon after laid out. A log courthouse and rock jail were then erected; the latter building was about twenty feet square, substantially built. The courthouse was used until 1828, when a new brick building was erected. The jail did service about ten years longer. A building was then erected with double walls of hewed logs, the intervening space being filled with small rock. It was two stories high, with a debtor's room above and a dungeon below; the latter was entered through a trap door in the floor of the room above. This building was torn down during the war, and when a new one was to be built it was erected at the new county seat.

## CAMPBELL COUNTY.

native of Virginia, and who was born July 4, 1762, a son of Matthew Lindsay, of Scotland. April 12, 1824, William removed to Campbell County, and engaged in farming and building iron forges, of which he erected fourteen during his life. He was a major of militia in the early days, and died in 1848, a highly respected man. The mother, Mary, a daughter of Cornelius and Nancy (Hall) Storm, was born in 1772 in Virginia. Her parents came to Carter County at an early day, and afterward moved to Kentucky. They both lived to be over ninety-five years of age. The mother died in 1838, a member of the Baptist Church. Our subject was educated, chiefly, in the Jacksboro schools, and for several years after leaving school he worked at his father's trade, and rebuilt Lindsay Forge. He also built a forge for Laban Sharp, at Big Creek Gap. After his marriage he began his present career as a farmer, in which he has so well succeeded. In 1851 he became a justice, and, in a new district formed, was re-elected. Since 1863 he has been a trustee of Jacksboro Academy, and in 1870 he became clerk and master of chancery, and held the office twelve years. In 1884 he was elected justice, without an effort on his part, and his official, as well as his private life, has been marked by the highest characteristics. October 3, 1850, he married Catherine Keeney, born in Anderson County, April 12, 1827, the daughter of Michael Keeney. Eight of their twelve children are living. Both our subject and his wife are members of the Missionary Baptist Church. He has served on the building committee of the academy, jail and courthouse, of which latter he was superintendent. He owns a farm of 500 acres. In 1863 he was ordained, and now is pastor of the Jacksboro Baptist Church, and has also filled the office of deacon for many years.



MICHAEL MONTGOMERY



ELIZABETH JOHNSON MONTGOMERY

## Montgomery Son

Major Henry Montgomery came to America with his brother from Scotland or Ireland to avoid political and religious persecution. Leaving his brother in Bead Ing, PA he made his way to the Ohio and Kanawha valleys. He war offered the Thompson farm, where the Coal River joins the Kanawha in exchange for his gun, powder horn and hunting knife. He chose to follow the Kanawha to the Falls, where he secured water rights and mountains on both sides of the river. The water rights were later sold and eventually were used by the metallurgical plant at Alloy nearby. Montgomery served during the American Revolution, remaining in service in 1791, located at Fort continued next page

Michael Montgomery Watts, great great grandson of Michael Montgomery, who got his name from Grandfather Michael Keeney, is a registered professional engineer with Tennessee Eastman, and proudly

carries the Michael name. This Michael just completed a term as president of the West Virginia Baptist Convention and has been a close friend of the editor of KEENEY UPDATE for many years - long before we were aware of family ties.

