

Washington Township of Years Ago: The Mirror has been at work endeavoring to define the relationship of a party now residing in Illinois to a William Markee (Markey) who died in 1846 and lies buried in a cemetery two miles north of Tippecanoe.

The Mirror believes the relationship can be established which when accomplished will cause the party in Illinois to be eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

The factors in the account as to the Harrison County relationship goes as follows:

William Markee, born 1753 in England, came to America wherein he served as a Sergeant in the 5th Maryland Regiment of the War for American Independence (1776-1783).

William and his wife Margaret Holland Markee were residents of present day Washington Township as early as 1814-15. William died in 1846, aged 93 and a stone can be seen at his grave in Myer's Cemetery which cemetery was first known as "Markee's." (Michael Myers married Sarah Markee in 1822.)

Margaret wife of William and other members of that early Markee family were, too, probably buried in the old rural graveyard but all of the early stones have crumbled away.

In fact the stone over the grave of the Revolutionary Soldier stands today because it was raised only some 25 years or so past through the generous effort of the late Rodney Simonton of Uhrichsville — once of Deersville.

In 1832 William Markee disposed of his 160 acres having sold equal parts to his son Joseph and to his son "William, Junior." William Markee Jr., proceeded to purchase other pieces of land and by 1858

he owned 193 acres but he ran into difficulty and was caused to sell-out in that year.

He, William Jr. was born in 1806 and by 1858 he had quite a large family; too, he then had a second wife, Louisina (Lucinda?) Smith Markee.

It was evidently that family which moved on to Illinois. In a second Markee cemetery to be found at Birmingham, Schuyler County, Illinois this William Jr. lies buried, the stone dates are 1806-1892.

The Mirror surmises the inquiring party can tie up the Illinois strings in the case. As far as we can see the William Markee died 1846, buried above Tippecanoe was the father of the William Jr. born 1806.

Several clear factors not here-in related appear to further establish the relationship being sought but The Mirror does not know exactly how to account for the one-time presence of later day Markees in Washington Township.

In or about 1940-45 the writer met members of the Markee Family then residing in the area of Tippecanoe. Today, however, the Mirror would not be able to define their exact relationship to William Markee 1753-1846 buried in Myers Cemetery.

It could well be that those who were in or about Tippecanoe in 1940-45 were (1) offspring of William Jr. by a son who did not go to Illinois (2) were descendants of Joseph Markee or (3) were descendants of a James Markee who was deceased by 1820.

The above James Markee was likely an elder son of William 1753-1846. There was an Edith Markee, a widow, living in that area in 1820 and she had four sons each and all under 10 years of age defined in that census of 1820.

That Edith married in 1824 a Francis

Smith of Franklin Twp. So, her sons could have remained in Harrison County.

The Mirror just can't say as to the line of the 1940-45 Markees beyond stating that it appears quite certain that all of the Markees were descendants of William of the Revolutionary War.

Just How Many Came On?: How many families in or about Washington Township can define themselves as related one way or another to the Pioneer William Markee? We will give you the names of a few of those who were married to Markees, male or females: (1) Mills (2) Myers (3) Smith (4) Nevitt (5) Hilton (6) Fordyce (7) Norris (8) Johnson and (9) Davidson.

All of the above became related in early years. In later days can be added (10) Boyd (11) Conwell (12) Billingsley (13) Grove (14) Spruell and (15) Carrouters. There are certainly scores of others to be added. When a family's Harrison County marriages began in 1816 as did the Margaret Markee to William Mills instance you are going to discover an amazing number of people who to this day, 1973, have relationships to Markees.

Then, what of those in Illinois and elsewhere?

"The Land Beyond The River": This work of fiction by Jesse Stuart is a provocative matter. It relates of a poor family coming into "Rich Ohio" in or about 1969, which family within four years had learned to live on the money and services afforded in Ohio.

The story displays the truth of their adage "It pays to be poor in Ohio". The family came into our state capable of doing excellent work and working long hours.