

CHRONICLES

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OF THE

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CLARK FAMILY

KATHARINE CLARK-MULLIKIN

# Maternal Ancestry.

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## THE RUTLEDGE LINE.

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Descent through my Grandmother Redman.

THREE brothers, John, Robert, and William Rutledge, came from Scotland to the extreme north of Ireland, and bought an estate together, in the County Cavan, Barony of Talahah, Parish of Templeport, Land of Bellomagirl—date unknown.

(1.) JOHN RUTLEDGE had two sons, William and Robert, and one daughter, Mary.

(2.) ROBERT RUTLEDGE had one son and four daughters, Edward (whose children settled in St. Louis), Catharine, Ann, Margaret, and Elizabeth, familiarly called "Bessie." The latter was Grandma Redman's companion and friend, and was the mother of Capt. Johnson, of St. Louis.

(3.) WILLIAM RUTLEDGE had three sons and three daughters, John, Andrew (noted for

his fun and mischief), James, Susan, Alice, and Grace. A son of James is now (1879) probably on the old homestead.

Through *John Rutledge*, the oldest of the three Scotch brothers, our descent comes. His son, William, was my grandmother Redman's father—my great-grandfather. His wife, my great-grandmother Rutledge, whose maiden name was Fanny Elliott, was a true Christian. She trained her children in the fear of the Lord. She would often have them stand in a line before her, and give them earnest and tender exhortations on the subject of religion.

Mary Johnson Brown—a granddaughter of Mrs. Fanny Elliot Rutledge, and daughter of Mary Rutledge Johnson—writes of her recollections of great-grandma Rutledge: "I think they (the Elliotts) must have descended from the Scotch Covenanters, they were so devotedly religious."

When Mary Rutledge and her husband, William Johnson, had prepared to come to this country, expecting to bring with them Alice, the youngest sister, they went to make a farewell visit to John Rutledge, the oldest brother. Imagine their surprise when old Mrs. Rutledge rose from her chair, came over to Mr. John-

son, and said: "Willie, I am going with you to America." She was very fond of this son-in-law. She died at his house in New York City. Before her death, she frequently talked about dying—saying she had asked the Lord to spare her life until her children were all settled, and he had answered her prayer, and now she was ready to go. She had no pain or sickness, but was confined to her bed two weeks from failure of strength, gradually growing weaker till her death. Her four daughters, Frances Rutledge Redman, Eliza Rutledge Hawkins, Mary Rutledge Johnson, and Alice Rutledge Johnson, were gathered around her dying-bed. She seemed to be engaged in prayer, when raising her hands, she exclaimed: "My Lord and my God!" Her head fell back on her daughter Mary's shoulder, and she ceased to breathe.

My great-great-grandfather, William Elliott, lived with his daughter, Fanny Elliott Rutledge. No dates whatever remain regarding him, but this tender little incident survives in an old letter. Like the patriarchs of old he worshiped God leaning on his staff. He lived to a great age, and when his mind had become much enfeebled, he would often plaintively cry out: "Tak' me back to my ain countree."

All the Rutledges were Episcopalians. The Rutledges and Elliotts who died in Ireland are buried in Church Island, Lough Sheelan, County Cavan. I have heard it described by an old family friend, Mrs. James Gamble, of Cincinnati, whose ancestors lie with ours in this romantic spot. The island is small, only containing the grave-yard, which is surrounded by a gray stone wall, covered with ivy, as are also the stone pillars at the gate of entrance. Large oak and elm trees shade it effectually, adding much to its beauty. It is in the middle of the lake. The Protestant Episcopal Church faces it on one side of the lake, and the rectory on the other, the rector's family going to Church in a boat. Mrs. Gamble brought me from Ireland a photograph of this grave-yard and its surroundings. It hangs on my library wall.

Fanny Elliott by a prior marriage had one daughter, called Hannah. She married Thomas Rice, and lived and died in the old country. Her children came to Canada in 1843. Margaret Rice, her oldest daughter, lived with her half-uncle, William Johnson, until his death, and then, until her own death, with his son, William. This quaintly expressed epitaph remains of her, "Her soul was beautiful."

Children of William and Fanny Elliott Rutledge,

(1.) JOHN RUTLEDGE, born —; died —. He inherited the paternal estate, in accordance with the custom of the country. He died many years since, without children, and, at my grandmother's suggestion, left a legacy which he proposed to give to her to the younger brother Robert, who was then in straightened circumstances. He and his family afterwards had more of "this world's goods" than my grandmother's family. John's married life was very unhappy, his wife being a woman of violent and unrestrained temper. Their children all died at their birth. If they had lived, she might have been different; but as it was, she sought in every way to annoy and afflict her husband. In telling over his particular trials, one of the relatives writes: "But the longest life draws to a close. He was in the furnace, but there was one with him like unto the Son of God. When he was on his death-bed he was very triumphant, and would sing and rejoice at the near prospect of heaven, often saying—

"When shall I be delivered  
From this vain world of sin?  
And with my blessed Savior  
Drink endless pleasures in."

(2.) FRANCES RUTLEDGE was born in County Cavan, Ireland, June 7, 1777. She was her father's favorite child, and he was unwilling that she should marry while he lived. A young woman of attractive appearance, having great personal beauty and fine manners, she received a number of eligible offers, but because of her father's solicitation refused them all. She finally "ran away" with Thomas Patterson, and was married without her father's knowledge. The news threw him into a violent passion, but, through the intercession of her younger brother Robert, he was induced to forgive and receive her again into his home. Robert, having notified her to come, watched with his ear to the ground. Finally he announced that he heard the hoofs of a horse, and knew from the sound that he "carried double." In those days it was customary for a woman to sit on a pillion, a second seat behind the saddle. They were soon at the door, and hastily dismounting, went immediately to the father, and kneeled before him. He laid his hands on their heads and blessed them, sealing the forgiveness.

She came to this country with her husband in 1804, being then twenty-seven years of age, and settled in New York City. Her husband

died in 1815, when she was thirty-eight years old. She had no children by this marriage. In 1816, or early in 1817, she was married by Rev. Danl. Ostrander to our grandfather, *Jesse Redman*. After the birth of their first child, they removed from New York City to Trenton, N. J.

My childish impression of her is that of a tall, spare, but handsome old lady, of very dignified demeanor. I used to look upon her with a great deal of awe and reverence. Her aspect was rather severe and stern. I am sure no one ever thought of taking a liberty with her. She always sat erectly in her chair, never leaning back even in later years, when feeble from long continued illness. I remember once going to church with her. She wore a stiff black satin dress; what was called a "Turk's satin" shawl, with a very deep fringe; and an excessively plain bonnet called a "scoop." From her arm hung a black satin bag. Her appearance made a deep impression upon me. As I recall our walk to Church it was a very stately progress, in which I felt myself much overshadowed. My grandmother's hands were folded before her—a position which she did not change during the whole walk. She held her head high, her figure erect, and her whole appearance con-



veyed that indefinable impression that makes the perfect lady of the "old school."

She died in Trenton in her eightieth year, Oct. 23, 1856. For sixty-five years she was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She was converted in her girlhood, through the instrumentality of one of John Wesley's preachers. Her cousins, who were Episcopalians, thought she had disgraced herself, and would not even speak to her. Her mother, a sincere Christian, stood by her, though herself an Episcopalian. Grandmother Redman was an active Christian. Before disease and age had disabled her for such service, she was for many years assistant superintendent in the Sunday-school. She visited the State prison, praying and talking with criminals; sought out the poor and unfortunate, administering to their temporal wants and binding up broken hearts. Her affection for her Church was most ardent. She gave liberally to its varied enterprises, and co-operated by her prayers and unceasing and manifold labors with those who were entrusted with its great interests. Till disease unfitted her for the exercise of hospitality, her house was the "preachers' home"—where they were always sure of a cordial welcome and kind attention. Her piety was intelligent, fervent,

and deep. In her long years of suffering her heart would swell with rapturous emotion and her lips break forth in strong and beautiful utterance, while she dwelt upon the love and sacrifice of her adorable Redeemer. She felt that the foundation upon which she rested was sure. A paralysis of the vocal organs deprived her of the power of speech for twelve hours before her death, or, doubtless, she would have left a glowing final testimony to the power of saving grace.

This sketch is collated from my own recollections of my grandmother; from what I have heard my mother tell of her; and from the memoirs read at her funeral, and afterwards published in our religious papers.

Children of Jesse and Frances Rutledge  
Redman.

(a.) *Mary Johnson Redman*, named for one of grandmother Redman's sisters, was born in New York City, Oct. 4, 1817. (A farther record will be given hereafter.)

(b.) *Katharine Clark*, named for grandfather Redman's mother, was born in Trenton, N. J., Aug. 12, 1819. She was married to Franklin S. Mills in 1840, and had fourteen children, viz.:

(A.) *Frances Redman*, born Jan. 1, 1841;

married Mr. Gates, Apr. 3, 1860, at the age of nineteen. He was killed in the early part of the War of the Rebellion, Nov. 14, 1861, leaving her with one daughter. She married again, but died not long after. Her second husband adopted the daughter of her first husband, and raised her well.

(B. and C.) *Franklin* and *Catharine*, twins, born June 9, 1842; died in infancy.

(D.) *James Redman*, born Feb. 6, 1844.

(E.) *Mary Augusta*—noted for her beauty—born June 11, 1845; married —; died —.

(F.) *Jesse Redman*, born Jan. 5, 1849; married, and died young. He was a young man of brilliant gifts.

(G.) *William Redman*, born Sept. 24, 1850.

(H.) *Rachel*, born Feb. 1, 1852.

(I.) *Davis W. Clark*, born Sept. 29, 1853; died in infancy.

(J.) *Wesley Johnson*, born Feb. 9, 1855; died in infancy.

(K.) *Sarah Narr*, born Sept. 7, 1856; died just after graduating most brilliantly from school.

(L.) *Alice*, born Dec. 13, 1858.

(M.) *Katie Redman*, born Mar. 1, 1860.

(N.) *Virginia*, born Apr. 2, 1862.

This child rose Phoenix-like from its mother's

ashes. Aunt "Cassie" died Apr. 23, 1862, aged forty-two years, eight months, and eleven days. Her illness was short but severe, but it was borne with resignation and fortitude. She filled the duties of daughter, wife, and mother with fidelity. She was charitable to the poor and unwavering in the requirements of the religion which she professed. A few days before her death, she exclaimed in the triumphant language of the Psalmist: "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Her husband, a man of good family in affluent circumstances, and having brilliant abilities, lacked qualities to give him enduring success. He was four times elected mayor of the city of Trenton, and was so popular a man that both parties joined in electing him. He was, and I believe is yet, editor and publisher of the *Daily True American*. He was a jovial companion, very indolent, of somewhat intemperate habits, and gave my aunt so much unhappiness that when she died my mother said over her grave, "Here the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

Mr. Mills married again a few years later,

and communication between the families ceased.

(3.) ELIZA RUTLEDGE, third child of William and Fanny Elliott Rutledge, was born in 1782. In 1804, at the age of twenty-two, she married *John Hawkins*, of County Tyrone, Ireland, who was ten years her senior. I can not find out with whom she came to this country, or at what date. She was married in New York City, and resided there for sixteen years, removing thence to Toronto, Canada West. They lived on a farm sixteen miles out of the village. She and her husband were Methodists. She died in 1859, aged seventy-seven years—a Christian life ended in a peaceful death. They had four daughters and one son—Eliza Jane, Alice, Maria Martin, Ann, and William.

(a.) *Eliza Jane* married George Cunningham; lives in Toronto; has eight sons and four daughters.

(b.) *Alice* died in infancy.

(c.) *Maria Martin* married Roland Caldwell; is living in Canada; has five sons and three daughters.

(d.) *Ann* married a German, John G. Goessman; died in St. Louis; had three sons.

(e.) *William*, married first, Elizabeth Price, and second, Maria Price; has two daughters

by first marriage, and one daughter by second, who live in Dixie, Province of Ontario, Canada.

My mother received a letter from William Hawkins in 1879 with kindly greetings and the above record.

(4.) MARY RUTLEDGE, the fourth child, was born April, 1784; died Sept. 4, 1850. She married in the old country, *William Johnston*, of County Tyrone, and when she came to this country was accompanied by her mother and sister Alice. She had six children.

(a.) *Francis*, born May 17, 1809; married — *Lewis*, and died Sept., 1828, leaving a babe seven months old, which was raised by its grandmother.

(b.) *James*, born Oct. 4, 1811.

(c.) *John Marsden*, born Nov. 4, 1813; died in infancy.

(d.) *Mary Ann*, born May 12, 1815; died in infancy.

(e.) *William*, born Dec. 1, 1816.

(f.) *Mary Ann*, born Apr. 23, 1820; married *Samuel Brown*, May, 1846; died 1865; lived in Brampton, Canada.

These all were born and lived in Hanlon, Ontario, Canada, or its neighborhood. They with their parents became members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church.

*Mary Ann Brown*, my grandaunt's (Mary Rutledge Johnson) youngest daughter, writes of her mother's last illness and death: "When my dear mother was taken with her last illness I went to her to take care of her, and remained six weeks. She suffered greatly, but was very patient, and would clasp her hands and say,

" 'What are all my sufferings here,  
If, Lord, thou count me meet  
With that enraptured host to appear,  
And worship at his feet.'

"When I look back through life I think of my beloved mother as one of the most unselfish women I ever knew. She endured any thing and every thing for the sake of her children. She was kind to the stranger, the widow, and the fatherless. She raised several orphan children, who were entirely dependent upon her. She fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and visited the sick, and Christ said of her, doubtless, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, ye have done it unto me.'"

(5.) ROBERT RUTLEDGE was the fifth child of William and Fanny Elliott Rutledge. Of him I can find recorded no dates, but write what my mother remembers to have heard from her mother. He came to this country in his youth—

a very handsome man. My grandmother idolized him. He married a dark complexioned, homely woman, whom my grandmother did not at all admire or consider his equal, but who afterwards proved a good wife. In 1878 they were both living in Northern Illinois, and had a large family of children. Previously to 1841 he lived in Canada. They were consistent members of the Methodist Church.

In 1880 we received several papers from Oregon, Ill., with complimentary and eulogistic memoirs and resolutions on the death of a grandson of Robert Rutledge, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Rutledge. His name was John. He served during the entire War of the Rebellion in Company G, Seventy-fourth Regiment Illinois Infantry, and his death was the result of the seeds of disease sown at that time.

(6.) ALICE RUTLEDGE came to this country in 1812, at the age of fifteen, in company with her widowed mother, her sister Mary, and the latter's husband, William Johnson. At the age of nineteen she was married by Rev. Marvin Richardson to *James Johnson*, a man of good family and abundant means, but an unkind husband. He was no relation to her brother-in-law, though the same name. He



died in New York City, May, 1827, leaving her a widow at thirty years of age, with three children. Of all my granduncles and aunts of this branch of the family, this grandaunt Alice was the only one my mother ever met. She spent part of her widowhood in Trenton. Her husband had been supposed to be wealthy, but when his estate was settled it was found to be much encumbered, and she and her children had only a slender income. She left her handsome home and went to a retired part of Trenton, N. J., where she educated her children and succeeded finally in removing all mortgages from her property. She was a devoted mother, declining eligible offers of marriage for her children's sake, and though young when left a widow, she remained such to her death.

As nearly as I can reconcile dates, she died in 1860 at the age of sixty-three, at her daughter's, in Toronto, Canada. Her children were all born in New York.

(a.) *Wesley*, born Apr. 1, 1817, was her oldest child. He left Canada in 1837 for St. Louis, and had a varied experience for many years in Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, and Texas. He was in the last named place at the opening of the War of the Rebellion, and his property was all confiscated, he

and his partner losing eighty thousand dollars. After the war his real estate was reclaimed. He married Sarah R. Phelps, and has four children. One son, Oscar, is editor of the *Ogle County Reporter*, and at last accounts was candidate for the Legislature of Illinois. James, the youngest son, has just graduated (1879) from the law department of Ann Arbor University, Mich. Alice and Eva C. are the other children.

(b.) *James Washington*, born Dec. 25, 1818, the second child, left Canada in 1839, and settled in Ogle County, Illinois, where he married Margaret J. Rutledge, his cousin, Robert Rutledge's family had removed from Canada and settled there some years previously. He was a stock farmer, and died wealthy, leaving a widow and five children—Henry, Harriet, James Augustine, Adelia Sutherland, Edwin W. One of the sons, Henry Johnson, lives in Chicago. He married Henrietta Richardson, who is spoken of as "a very nice person." Harriet married William Marsden Johnson, her cousin—a grandson of Mary Rutledge. He is in the produce and commission business extensively in the Southern and Western States. His place of business is South Water Street, Chicago. He is an upright, square dealing,

honorable man. The mother of these children, widow of James Washington Johnson, married again in 1860, George W. Phelps, by whom she has a son, George J. Phelps.

(c.) *Eliza Jane*, my grandaunt Alice Rutledge Johnson's youngest child, while on a visit to my grandmother Redman, in Trenton, was married to Rev. Carroll Sutherland, of Lockport, N. Y. Her husband died in 1843, and five years later she married Henry I. Wirt, of Orleans County, N. Y., a farmer.

(A.) *Alice Sutherland*, her daughter by her first husband, married Prof. Bangs, principal of the public schools at Troy, N. Y., afterwards of the schools at Albany, N. Y., and now principal of the public schools of Holland, Mich. Mrs. Bangs is a regular contributor to several magazines. Her husband is a son or nephew of Dr. Bangs.

(B.) *Frank Wirt*, her second daughter, married Chas. D. Elliott, of Albion, N. Y., and died a month after.

(C, D, & E.) *Ella L.*, *Maud E.*, and *Anna Grace Wirt*, the remaining children of Mrs. Wirt, and grandchildren of Alice Rutledge Johnson, are all finely educated and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

## DEATH OF MRS. E. J. WIRT.

This eminently Christian lady died at her residence on West State Street last Wednesday afternoon, after a protracted illness. Last Fall, it will be remembered, she met with an accident by which one of her limbs was broken. She had scarcely recovered from this when she was taken with a disease, which ended her earthly career on the day named. Mrs. Wirt was beloved by all who knew her, possessing as she did qualities of mind and heart which cast a happy and sunny influence all about her. She will be especially missed in the Methodist Episcopal Church, where she delighted to speak of the goodness of God and to labor for the eternal good of others. She leaves to her husband and daughters and to all her acquaintances a saintly memory and an example of true Christian faith and earnest piety.—*Orleans (Albion, N. Y.) Republican.*

As far as I have been able to extract it from old records and letters, this closes, with the exception of my mother's history, the Redman-Rutledge record.