

During the winter of 1780, Alexander married Hannah Larkin. He died December 11, 1808 in Jefferson County, Ohio. We have been unable as yet to find either his grave or any record of his burial. Birth data, also, is missing but we have not yet exhausted all sources of supply.

Hannah spent most of her later years in Brush Creek Township. She died at the age of one hundred and five years and was buried in a graveyard at a church called Old Stone Church in Carroll County.³ The only mention Hannah made of her children was in her pension claim in 1840. Then she spoke of the two eldest as being daughters, one of whom was dead at that time. The other daughter was Mary Saltsman, who was fifty-three. She mentions only one son, John, then age fifty-five but we are sure there were others living at the time whom she neglected to mention, probably because of her age.

David Call, son of Alexander was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania in 1792.⁴ David is quoted in an old issue of the Herald in an article entitled, "Early Days On Yellow Creek," as follows:⁵ he says that the family walked the entire distance from Beaver County carrying what they could of household goods somewhere about 1800. David would have been about eight years old at the time they moved and about sixteen when his father died.

³ We have not definitely located this church, as yet. There is a distinct possibility that she and Alexander are buried near each other as county boundaries in that area have been changed.

⁴ History of the Upper Ohio Valley, Volume II, page 346, states that he was born in 1793, near Hagerstown, Maryland. However, a thorough search of all available records of that area conducted for us by a research specialist has failed to turn up any mention of him.

⁵ Notes gathered by Brush Creek School, Bear Hollow and Thompson's District Literary Society, published in the Herald, clipped and saved by Katty Ann Call, who died in 1899. The manuscript containing the above is in the possession of Lloyd Bartrum.

They camped for a few days at the mouth of Yellow Creek for rest, and there they saw the blockhouse which stood between the river and the creek, near where the Children's Home onco stood. The family then pushed their way on up the creek to the present site of Hammondsville. Here they lived for some time with their relative, Phillip Saltsman. David states that the ruins of an Indian village could be seen on the bottom, west of Hammondsville.

Salt springs were numerous in this valley and boiling salt was one of the chief employments. As each member of the family had to labor diligently, David spent many a day boiling salt. For a Mr. Saltsman, who may have been his sister's father-in-law, he burnt tar kilns and cleared off patches of land along the creek bottoms for corn planting.

The country about Yellow Creek was a vast beautiful wilderness filled with deer, bears, wolves and wild turkey and consequently the chief occupation during the winter was hunting.

David, with Martin Saltsman, went out one day to work a patch of corn, taking two dogs with them. The dogs found a very large bear with her cubs at the mouth of a little run near the corn. Saltsman left David and the dogs to watch the bears while he went home to get his gun. When Saltsman came back, he found young David nearly worried to death. The bears would run the dogs and he would follow, hurling stones. Then the bears would turn and run the boy until distracted by the dogs. Thus back and forth, he had kept the bears baffled until Saltsman returned.

One harvest time, they were much plagued by turkeys and young David devised a scheme for capturing some of them. He concealed himself in the top of a stack of grain and when the turkeys alighted to feed, he grasped two of them by the legs. In the scuffle that followed, he was pulled off the stack and so beaten by their wings that his face was black and blue for days. He succeeded, however, in beheading them with his knife.

It was the custom, in those days, to leave home expecting to be gone for weeks at a time during the hunting season. One time, David and Philip Saltzman set up camp some ten miles west of Hammondsville. David was left to watch the camp, with an old flintlock, while Saltzman did the hunting. One morning Saltzman left camp as usual, with the two dogs but David was determined to try his luck at hunting and called back one of the dogs. Mr. Saltzman, being a little deaf, did not suspect. The boy then took his gun and dog and started out. He did not get far until the dog discovered a bear with two cubs. The courageous boy shot the bear and one cub but the other cub got away. Then he hurried back to camp, elated over his success. Soon after, Saltzman returned empty handed and David had the satisfaction of telling about the bears. The tired Saltzman declared that he would hang him if he found he was being deceived but David soon led him to the evidence.

The family now moved to their own log cabin, where they lived until after the war of 1812.

A grist mill had now been built about one-fourth mile up the creek from the river. The bolting cloth was turned by hand crank and this was David's first job. He worked twelve hours a day and received twelve and one-half cents for this.

At this time, young David received his first formal schooling. About the winter of 1810, a man named Johnson acquired an education sufficient to teach school. The class was held in a little cabin which stood on a point of rock called "The Narrows." The distance between the school and David's home was four miles. These lessons lasted only thirteen nights as the schoolmaster became sick and died.

During all these years, life had been made more difficult by the Indians. Several episodes with burning and raiding parties of these, ended in the War of 1812. David, with Martin and Andrew Saltzman, with their muskets, walked to Steubenville and volunteered on the twenty-fifth of September in 1811. They served as privates under Capt. Alexander and returned home sometime in 1812.

After the War of 1812, David entered into the salt business. In these days, land was sought in that area mainly for it's saline content and owing to the increasing demand for salt, this became a very lucrative business.

On December 16, 1817, David married Catherine Buygher, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1799 and died on January 7, 1881 at the age of eighty-six. She was the daughter of Jacob and Catherine Poe Buygher. She was a relative of Adam and Andrew Poe, the famous Indian fighters.

David now erected a cabin for himself and his wife. He was, at this time, devoting nearly all his time to boring salt wells along the valley. David bored a well for Mr. Thomas George, then Judge of Jefferson County. This well was situated about one hundred yards up the creek from his cabin. David moved into a cabin which stood near this salt well. He leased the well from Mr. George for a number of years and remained with him for twenty-one years. Mr. George kept a store on the present site of Mooretown. The goods were hauled in wagons from Philadelphia. A driver and team were once started east for goods. Neither driver nor team every returned. It was supposed that the man had sold the team and kept the money.

A flouring mill was built here by Mr. Mordica Moore. The mill, store and salt works made this an important business point. People came from Wayne County to buy salt.

While living near the salt well, many incidents occurred showing the hardships and dangers of early days. Some of David's children had a very narrow escape from death one day. The rocks projected out over the road several feet. The children were playing under this place. David had been away that day and had just returned. Mrs. Call went out to see where the children were, when, to her horror, she saw a large wolf lying on top of the rocks waiting for the children to come out. She immediately notified David of the danger. He got his gun, went to the door and shot the wolf. The government gave five dollars for each wolf killed because of their

terrible destruction of sheep. The sheep had to be penned every night. David told of a man who had a flock of sheep in a pen and one night a wolf succeeded in getting into the pen and killing every one of them. The man called in the neighbors and succeeded, by using ropes, in skinning the wolf alive. Turning it loose in the woods, it ran through a cluster of thorn bushes but did not take all of its flesh with it.

One day, Mr. Call and Robert George started to hunt wolves somewhere near Mooretown. They found a den. David, being a smaller man, went into the den to bring the cubs out, while Mr. George watched the entrance. The first time David came out, he brought with him three cubs. In entering the den again, he got fast and could hardly extricate himself. He got two cubs this time, killing one; they held the other one by the hind legs and whipped it to bring the old one near enough to shoot it, but in this they failed.

David, one very cold day, started out to hunt, going up what is called Brimstone Run. While wandering around, he saw a deer lying in the snow on the hillside. He got a tree between himself and the deer and slipped up as close as possible before attempting to shoot. The gun missed fire. He determined to jump on the deer, or try it, at least. He succeeded in getting hold of the deer, and a scuffle ensued. The deer dragged him into the bottom below, and tore the clothes nearly off him. His hands had become so numbed by cold that he could not open his pocket knife. He finally got the knife blade in his mouth, and in this way, opened the blade and cut the throat of the deer.

The making of salt from the well that he had loosed came to a sudden termination. One night, the salt water got to flowing and the watchman lit a candle and went too close to the well. The gas caught fire and was sucked into the well. The result was an explosion which shook the surrounding country for miles. The watchman was knocked senseless.

Mr. Call entered on several tracts of land but never settled on any of these. About 1835, he bought the farm on Pine Grove Ridge from Robert Lowry. He paid for it chiefly by raising wheat and carrying it on horseback to Steubenville. He obtained thirty-seven and one-half cents a bushel for this.

David and Catherine had twelve children, four of whom were deceased in 1890,⁴ John, Jacob, Mrs. Susan Georin, and Mrs. Eliza McCoy. Still living in 1890 were: Alexander, David, James H., Abraham, Mrs. Sarah Miller, Mrs. Matilda Call, Anna, and Julia A.

David served several years as a captain of militia and was a well-known and highly respected citizen. He died on January 11, 1883 at the advanced age of ninety-three. He and Catherine are buried at Pine Grove Ridge Cemetery.

He next came to his son, David, who was born on July 13, 1828. This David married Ellen Long of Jefferson County on July 8, 1850. He was one of the prominent farmers of the area, a good citizen, serving over ten years as school director. In politics, he was a Republican. During the Civil War, he served one hundred days from May 15, 1864, in Company E, 157th Regiment, National Guard.

In all, five Calls served during the Civil War. They were: John, James and Abraham, who were probably David's brothers, and another David, who was his nephew. These four all enlisted at President Abraham Lincoln's first call for volunteers and participated from the Battle of Bull Run onward. They were all members of Company K, 2nd Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Company K was formed from men at Mitchell's Salt Works and Steubenville. The captain was David Mitchell and their regimental commander was Anson G. McCook. 6,7

⁶ History of Jefferson County, Joseph Doyle, Richmond, Arnold Publishing Company, Chicago, Ill., 1910. Page 160

⁷ Ohio in the Civil War, Mitchell Reid, Milstach, Baldwin Company, Cincinnati, 1872. Pages 58, 21-25.

The Second Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry had a long and honorable history. It was formed in Camp Dennison during August and September 1861, it served for thirty-eight months of active service. They were a part of the Fourteenth Army Corps under General George H. Thomas and fought at Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. They then joined Sherman in the battle for Atlanta. James and David (the nephew) were captured at Pulaski, Tennessee. Among the names of those commemorated on a Civil War Monument, just below Eorgholz on Yellow Creek, are the names of two Calls: David and Isaiah, both died in 1863. This monument was erected by Robert George in 1871. John is commemorated on a Civil War Monument in the Salineville Cemetery.

David and Ellen had twelve children, who are listed in the family tree. David died on September 9, 1893 at the age of sixty-five. Ellen died on December 7, 1917. They are buried in Pine Grove Ridge Cemetery.

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THE CALL CLAN

ALEXANDER CALL * HANNAH LARKINS m. 1780
 ALEXANDER B. 1748 HANNAH b. 1757
 d. 12/11/1808 d. 1862

1. Daughter b. about 1781 d. prior to 1840
2. Daughter b. about 1783 reported living in Hancock Co. - 1840
3. John b. 1/17/1785 Isabella Roach 1/10/1806
4. Mary Polly b. 4/17/1787 Daniel Saltsman, previous James Wells
5. George(?) b. about 1789 m. ? (1830 Census) 5 children
6. David b. 1791 m. Catherine Buyer 12/16/1817 or 11/30/1814
7. Henry b. 1793 m. Catherine ? (1850 Census)
8. Son Children: Levi, Mary, Susan, Israel, Martin, Elizabeth, Martha

* William Russell's research lists Hannah m. George Puncher 4/03/1817
 Betsy m. Hamilton Slow 9/02/1817

Possibly the 2 older daughters were Agnes and Mary Polly

DAVID CALL * CATHERINE BUYGHER The 1850 Census lists David's age 56 & Catherine's 54
 David b. 1794 (?) b. 1796 m. 12/16/1817 or 11/30/1814
 d. 1/11/1883 d. 1/07/1881

1. Alexander moved to Galia Co., Ohio m. Elizabeth Clendenin 2/10/1830
 2. John b. 1820 d. 1840
 3. Isaac b. 1824 d. maybe killed in Civil War
 4. Jacob b. 1824 d. 1848
 5. Matilda b. 10/15/1825 d. 4/15/1901 m. John L. Call 1853
 6. David 11 b. 7/12/1828 d. 9/09/1893 Civil War Vet
 7. Anna C. b. 1829 d. 1900 Never married, lived in Irondale
 8. Julia A. b. 2/08/1833 d. 1901 Never married, " " "
 9. Polly M. b. 1832 d. 1901 Never married, " " "
 10. James b. 1832 d. 7/31/1901 ^{SARAH}
 11. Sally b. 1820 d. (Sarah) married a Miller, moved to Illinois
 12. Abraham b. 1839 d. 1913 married to Florence ?
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DAVID A. CALL * ANNE CATHERINE ? m. about 1830

David b. before 1800 b. 1913 or 1814
 d. 1883 age 93 d. 1848 est. (5/15.1848)

1. John L. b. 12/16/1831 d. 6/28/1888 Civil War Pri. Co K 2nd O Inf
 m. Matilda Call dtr of David & Catherine Call
 2. Alex b. about 1833 d. did not return from Civil War
 3. Julia b. 1835 d. during typhoid epidemic during Civil War,
 never married. No decedents
 4. Anne b. 1837 d. during typhoid epidemic during Civil War,
 never married. No decedents.
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One of David's 12 children was Matilda. Matilda married John L. Call, the son of
 the above David Call & Anne ? . We know very little about David except that he
 had been kidnapped and raised by the Indians. He was kidnapped when 4 years of age
 and lived 16 years with the Indians who returned him to the area where he was
 captured. He later married and had a family of 4 children. The oldest was John L. Call.

It has been passed down through the years that there is Indian blood in the Call
 Clan. It is thought one of the Call's married an Indian squaw but we have found
 no proof of this, to date.

- EARLY HISTORY OF THE CALL FAMILY -

The oldest member of the Call family, of whom we have any information, is Alexander. Information about him was obtained from a photostatic copy of a pension claim on file with the Census Bureau in Washington, D. C. This pension claim was filed by his widow, Hannah, in 1840 when she was eighty three years old.¹

Alexander was a private soldier in the Revolutionary War serving with the Pennsylvania Line. These men were called up in the beginning for protection from the Indians, along the border country which was then along the Ohio River. Later, they were sent to join Washington's troops. How many battles Alexander participated in we do not know but we do know that he fought in the battles of Trenton and Brandywine.

The battle of Trenton was fought in New Jersey on December 26, 1776. This is the famous battle which occurred when Washington took a ragged, starving army across the Delaware River, thru a sleet and snowstorm on Christmas night. Early in the morning, they attacked and defeated Howe's Hessian troops, who were still befuddled from celebrating Christmas. This is one of the places where the army left a trail of bloody footprints in the snow, having no shoes.

The battle of Brandywine Creek, fought September 11, 1777, was a bad defeat for Washington's troops and shortly after it, they went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. We can presume that Alexander did not serve after this battle for he was wounded in the hip and arm. As a result of these wounds, he was a cripple and obtained a pension of thirty-six dollars a year for the balance of his life.²

¹ This pension claim was filed through Robert George, Associate Judge of Carroll County. Hannah was unable to write.

² John Beaver of Georgetown, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, was his attorney in his application for his pension.