

From "20th Century History of Steubenville and Jefferson County, Ohio, and Representative Citizens," by Joseph B. Doyle, Chicago, 1910; p. 720:

"James George, mayor of Bergholz, Ohio, and for many years a leading citizen in Brush Creek and Ross Townships, Jefferson County, was born on his father's farm at Mooretown, three miles east of this borough, December 19, 1836, and is a son of Robert and Martha (McLaughlin) George.

"Hon. Thomas George, the grandfather of Mayor George, who was born in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio in 1775, became a prominent man in Jefferson County and was elected a common pleas judge in 1816. His children were: Robert, David, John, Thomas H., Alexander, Christina, Anna, Esther, and Sarah. After retiring from public life he resided in an old stone mansion which he built in Ross Township in 1818, and there he died when aged eighty-eight years. The old stone house was one of the most important stations on the Underground Railroad, and Robert George and our subject were important cogs in this system of freeing the slaves. Thomas George was a member of the Covenanters Church in early manhood and later of the Presbyterian bodies.

"Robert George, father of Mayor George, attended the early schools as opportunity afforded and followed farming until his marriage, when he embarked in a stove business at Mooretown. Some years later he bought a farm and later the old homestead and lived on it until his death, June 12, 1887, his burial being in the cemetery attached to the United Presbyterian Church at Mooretown. He was affiliated with the Republican Party, but never cared for office. He married Martha McLaughlin, a daughter of James McLaughlin, of Carroll County, Ohio, and they had the following children: Thomas, who was killed in the Civil War, being a member of Company "K", who is deceased. The mother died in 1890. Both parents were members of the United Presbyterian Church.

"James George obtained his education in the country schools and then turned his attention to helping his father on the farm. After his marriage, he lived on a farm in Brush Creek Township, but this he later sold, buying one in Ross Township on which he lived for five years, then removed to the old homestead in Ross Township. This place he improved and he accumulated about 600 acres of land. In 1890, he moved from the old place and retired to Bergholz and the value placed on him by his fellow citizens was very clearly shown by their electing him to the highest office in their gift in 1908. He formerly had served as a notary public and justice of the peace and for several years was postmaster at Mooretown.

"On September 15, 1857, Mr. George was married to Miss Mary J. Kirk, a daughter of John Kirk, of Circle Green, Jefferson County, and they have had seven children, as follows: Martha, who died in early womanhood; Mary Luella, deceased, who was the wife of Samuel Dorrance (had two children, Marie and William Eugene); Thomas, who owns the old homestead in Ross Township, married Anna Dorrance, a daughter of William Dorrance, and has four sons and one daughter - Robert, Jesse K., Martha, James and William; John E., who married Frances Crabb, a daughter of Mitchell Crabb and has one daughter, Mary F.; Robert William, who married Juanita Walker, and has two daughters and one son, namely, Erna, Meryl and James Walker; D. Bert, who lives in Alliance; and Mitchell, who died when aged four years. Mayor George and family are members of the United Presbyterian Church."

by John D. Morrell
139 West 14th Street
New York, NEW YORK

October 6, 1996

Dear Dorothy;

The letter you mailed to Lois was given to me for your research, as she is very busy at the library.

Sorry to report I did not find the Call family in Carroll County. I searched deeds, wills, estates, cemetery and marriage books, but did not find them.

In our library we have a "History of Call Family and Early Days in Yellow Creek Area" by Hearld Brush Creek Mental and Literary Society", also notes by Jesse K. George. It is interesting as the clippings were collected by Katy Ann Call, daughter of Alexander Call and she died in February of 1899. It also lists the twelve children of David Call. In the same pamphlet "The Early Days of Yellow Creek" by John D. Morrell of New York City states David Call came from Beaver Co., PA was born 1792 and they came to Jefferson Co. cir. 1800. Also in this same pamphlet it states that Hannah was buried at a Stone Church graveyard in Carroll County. The only one I could find in Fox Twp. which is close to Yellow Creek, was Brush Creek Baptist Cemetery. This cemetery was read in 1986 and I note that one old marker (fieldstone) has H.C. inscribed along with other initials and numbers. It describes the church as a Stone Meeting House. I copied Fox Twp. map and I circled No. 2 (Brush Creek Cemetery), also copied the two cemetery pages. Lois helped read this cemetery and I asked her if she could explain the H.C. A 28, 1848 A C 9 B, but that was ten years ago. Said she did remember the cemetery was overgrown with weeds and briars, but was cleared just prior to the reading of the stones.

I also copied some pages from Jefferson Co. Books that we have in our library, which perhaps you already have.

As Carroll County was not formed until 1833 and our marriages are available from that year, but births and deaths begin in 1867.

I am returning your check as I did not find anything on your Call family.

Sincerely,

Helen Rankin, Corr. Secy.

Encl.

DOUBLE TREE RESEARCHER

Reva Ashcraft
5817 State Route 213, Toronto, OH 43964-9747
(Phone) 614-282-6930

911 has changed my address

Dorothy Strok
351 Center Road
Bedford, Ohio. 44146-2237

Aug. 16, 1996

Dear Dorothy,

I have gotten a certified copy of David Call and Kitty Buchard's I would do a new application using Kitty Buchard. Kitty is short for Catherine, as is Polly for Mary.

Alexander Call is not on the plack at the courthouse of Rev. War soldiers. Family historians say The Saltmans brought Hannah and children here around 1800. They were related. The saltzmans. Caul and Buygher all had different spelling when the came here. They were German or Dutch.

You need to get a researcher in Washington County, Pa. The courthouse can give you one to look for deeds ect there. They may have sold land before coming to Ohio. Washington County is the parent county for Beaver. Soldiers who served in The Penna. Line served from Maryland to Western Penna. and (W)VA. Along the now Mason and Dixon Line.

Enclosed are Newspaper deaths of David and Catherine Call from the Newspaper.

I think Lois Henning may be able to help you with Hannah Call's grave and perhaps a death notice in Carroll County.
59 3rd St NE
Carrollton. Ohio 44615

I went through Lelias research and she say no joined Toronto D.A.R. under Call. From Carol Bell's Ohio Lands 15 Aug 15, 1814 Cert # 5016 Alexander Call Washington County, Pa range 3 township 11 section 18. I don't know if they were late in recording this or if it was a s/o Alexander. In 1871 Atlas of Jefferson County Joseph Jackman, Joseph and James Russell and Welhem and Hall own this section. I need to get in deeds see the First owner also if David and KITTY os catherine sold any land.

I have worked 2 hours \$14.00 and marriage \$3.00..

Sincerely,

Reva Ashcraft
Reva Ashcraft

HISTORY OF THE CALL FAMILY

Near Notes Gathered by Hearld Brush Creek District Mental and Literary Society.

EARLY DAYS OF YELLOW CREEK

After the war of 1812, David Call entered into the salt business. In those days, land was no object. It was sought after mainly for the saline matter. About 1815, David Call married Catherine Bygher, a near relative of Adam and Andrew Poe, the famous Indian fighters. Mr. Call now erected a cabin near where Cyrus Moore now lives. Owing to the increasing demand for salt, it became a very lucrative business. David now devoted nearly all his time to boring salt wells along the valley. Mr. Call bored a well for Mr. Thomas George, then Judge of Jefferson County. This well was situated about one hundred yards up the creek from the present residence of Thomas George, Jr. Mr. Call moved into a cabin which stood near the salt well. He leased the well from Mr. George for a number of years and remained with him 21 years. Mr. George kept a store on the present site of Mooretown. The goods were hauled in wagons from Philadelphia. A driver and team of six horses were once started East for goods. Neither driver nor team ever returned. It was supposed that the man had sold the team and kept the money.

A flouring mill was built here by Mr. Mordican 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 Mr. Call'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. Mr. Call had been away from home 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 Mr. Call of the danger. He got his gun, went to the door, and shot the wolf. The Government gave \$5.00 for each wolf killed because of their terrible destruction of sheep. The sheep had to be penned every night. Mr. Call tells of a man who had a flock of sheep in a pen. One night a wolf succeeded in getting into the pen and killed every one of them. The man called in the neighbors and succeeded, by using ropes, in skimming the wolf alive. Turning it loose in the woods. When loosed, it ran through a cluster of torn 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. Mr. Call, being the smaller man, went into the den to bring the cubs out, while Mr. George watched the entrance. The first time Mr. Call 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 up by the hind legs and whipped it to bring the old one near enough to shoot it, but in this they failed. Mr. Call, 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

now 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 benumbed 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 leased came to a sudden termination. One night the salt water got to flowing. The watchman lit a candle and went to close 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 a tract of land on what is owned now by Joseph Jackman. He soon sold his claim. He next bought a small tract of land where Samuel Dennis now resides, but never lived on it. About 1835, he bought the farm where he now resides from Robert Lowry, paid for it chiefly by raising wheat and carrying it on horseback to Steubenville, and obtaining $37\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ a bushel.

Mr. Call had a family of twelve children, three of whom are dead. Mrs. Call died in January 1881. Mr. Call is patiently awaiting the call of the Master. We should have stated before this, that Mr. Call identified himself early with the Disciple Church, and that his life corresponded to his profession. Mr. Call's brothers and sisters have long since passed away. His mother, in her last days, spent most of her time in Brush Creek Township, at the age of 105 years. She was buried in a graveyard at a church called the Stone Church, in Carroll County. By way of conclusion, we will narrate the incidents with the drowning of a woman and three children in Yellow Creek. This sad affair occurred about forty years ago. A man named Metchen lived in Monroeville. He employed with James Mitchell, who lived about one mile above Tunnel Mill. While working for Mitchell, his wife and children started from their home to Yellow Creek to obtain money with which to go on a visit. They were seen alive for the last time about one mile and a half north of the creek. It was thought by some, the husband did the terrible deed. The children were tied to their mother. The knots in the cord were made on her back. The husband had the people hunting for his wife when at the same time, she was lying at the bottom of the creek, at the mouth of what is called Roach Run. One of the children became detached and floated out into the rifle below. Intense excitement was produced. They were buried on a little bluff over looking the place where they were drowned.

These items were gathered by Hearld Correspondents of Brush Creek School Bear Hollow and Thompson's District Mental Aid Literary Society. Early Days on Yellow Creek, and was clipped from the Hearld Sixty or Seventy years ago by Katty Ann Call, daughter of Alexander Call, who died in February 1899.

David Call, Sr: Twelve Children

Five Girls: Polly, Sally, Matilda, Annie, and Julia.

Seven Boys: Jacob, Isaac, Alexander, John, David, James, and Abraham.

Nothing known of Polly's children.

Nothing known of Sally's children, unless some are still living in the West.

Matilda has still several children.

Nothing known of Jacob's children.

Nothing known of Isaac's children

All dead of Alexander's family, the last two dying in the last two years.

Of John's family, there are still two living: Thomas, of Lesage, West Virginia, and Amie Niday of Rio Grande.

David's family better represented than the rest. Eight living.

James still has three living and four dead.

Abraham has two living.

EARLY DAYS ON YELLOW CREEK

Having read a few articles in the Herald, of late pertaining to the early days in certain communities we thought that the adventures and incidents of one who has reached ninety mile stone in the journey of life, cannot be devoid of interest. Our narrative will pertain especially to the details of early days, as given by David Call.

Mr. Call, now living about four miles west of Hammondsville, was born in Beaver County, Pa., 1792. When quite young, his father died, leaving a widow and eight children. About 1800, the widow and children moved to the mouth of Yellow Creek, which empties into the Ohio River, about fifty miles below Pittsburgh. The family walked the entire distance, each carrying what he could of the household goods. The camped for a few days at the mouth of the Creek for rest, and to select a permanent abode. Mr. Call saw the Block House, which he says stood between the Creek and the river, near where the residence of Samuel McCullough now stands. The family now pushed their way up the Creek to the present site of Hammondsville. Here they lived for some time. Mr. Call states that the ruins of an Indian Village could be seen in the bottom, west of where the Hammondsville School now stands. Each one was compelled to labor diligently to maintain himself.

Salt springs were numerous in this valley, and boiling salt was one of the chief employments. The boy spent many a day boiling salt. In the early days, a grist mill was built about one-quarter of a mile up the Creek from the river. The bolting cloth was turned by a crank, and Mr. Call was employed to turn the bolter. He received each day the sum of one shilling, or about \$3.25 a month. Mr. Call after quitting the mill, was also residing near where Hammondsville now stands. For Mr. Saltman he burnt tar kilns and cleared off patches for corn along the creek bottoms. The country was a vast wilderness filled with deer, bears, wolves and wild turkeys, consequently the chief employment during the winter, was hunting. We will now relate some of the adventures: Messrs. Call, Martin and Philip Saltman cleared out a patch for corn opposite of what was called Lowrt's Run. Young Call and Martin Saltman went to this patch one day to work the corn. They had two dogs with them; the dogs found a very large bear and two cubs at the mouth of the

run. Saltman left Call and the dogs to watch the bears while he went down home to get a gun. When Saltman came back, young Call was nearly worried to death. The bear would run the dogs, then the young boy would follow, hurling stones at it; the bear would run the boy then. In this manner, the bear was baffled until the cubs were killed, and the old one receiving a wound, fled to the Brush Creek.

One summer after the wheat crop had been harvested and stashed the wild turkeys began to destroy it. Young Call devised a scheme to catch some of them. He would conceal himself in the tip of the stack and when they alighted, he would seize as many as he could. Then the plan was carried into execution and was successful in the capture of two large turkeys. In the scuffle which followed, the boy was pulled off the stack. They beat him with their wings until he was black in the face for several days. He succeeded in getting his pocket knife and cut off their heads.

It was a custom in early days to leave home, not expecting to be back probably for weeks during the hunting season. Young Call and Philip Saltman located a camp a few miles west of Hammondville. David was left to watch the camp while Saltman did the hunting. Saltman warned the boy not to leave the camp. One morning, Saltman left the camp as usual with his two dogs. The old man being a little deaf the boy called one of the dogs back. He was now determined to try his trick at hunting. With his gun he started; did not go far until the dog discovered a bear and two cubs concealed in a hollow tree. The courageous boy shot the old bear and one of the cubs; the other cub got away. He hurried back to camp, feeling somewhat elated over his success. He now began to hunt for himself, and soon made an expert with the rifle. The next move the family made was to a log cabin near where Jacob Grubaugh now lives. At this place, they remained until after the war of 1812. David was now employed by James Carr, who lived near the famous lead mine. Young Call had now an opportunity of going to school. About the winter of 1810, a man by the name of Johnson acquired an education sufficient to teach school for thirteen nights, to be held in a little cabin which stood on a point of rocks, called the Narrows, a short distance between the school house and the boys home was about four miles. My young reader, think of the golden privileges of today. Please mark the contrast between then and now. The school master sickened and died and his body was committed to Mother Earth, a short distance north of the old schoolhouse. The conduct of the Indians becoming suspicious to our Government, in consequence of their thievish excursions, a war was declared in the Northwestern Territory. Young Call and Martin and Andrew Saltman, with their muskets, walked to Steubenville and volunteered, on the 25th of September, 1811. They returned about the year of 1812. He tells of an invasion made by the Indians about the year 1800. They stole some horses and committed another peccadillo on the settlers who lived near where Newburgh now stands. The Indians followed the river to the mouth of Yellow Creek, then took up the creek, when near Nebo, here the whites lost the track and started back, coming down what is now called Timothy Ridge. When they reached the place where Elliott's School house now stands, it was evening. Here they turned to the right and crossed the farm now owned by Ralph Erskine and camped for the night on the point over looking what is called Long Run. A party of Indians rused upon them and killed all the whites but one. The bodies of the twelve murdered men were buried on the same point where they were killed. Another startling event occurred near Croxton Run which resulted on the stealing of two sisters by the name of Wells. They camped some time

near where Tunnel Mill now stands. Both of the girls were afterwards redeemed.

NOTES ADDED BY JESSE K. GEORGE

I have read with great interest the facts that concerning the history of the Call Family. I have always known that the Calls were among the early settlers in the Yellow Creek Valley.

There is only one correction that I wish to make concerning the disappearance of the driver and team of six horses referred to by Mr. Call. I have often heard my Father and Grand-Father relate this story. The driver of the wagon was an expert teamster and highly trusted by Judge George, who was my great, great Grand-Father. Judge George, in addition to being in the salt business, was also in the mercantile business, having a general store, at what was then known as Moore's Salt Works, and also was extensively engaged in farming.

I have forgotten the driver's name, but the Judge had sent him with a load of salt pork to market at Baltimore, Maryland, and had instructed the driver to buy a load of hardware and dress goods to be returned to the store at Moore's Salt Works. He knew about how long the driver should take, and after the driver was about ten days late in returning, the Judge started out on horseback to try to locate the driver and the team. When he got in the State of Maryland, he met the wagon and horses returning with the load of merchandise, but a strange driver. He stopped the team and conversed with the driver and the driver informed him that he had bought the team and wagon in Baltimore, and it was part of the transaction that he was to deliver the load of merchandise to the store at Moore's Salt Works, later known as Mooretown, which he did. Judge George rode on into Baltimore, but was unable to locate the driver and was never successful in getting his team and wagon back. Just what the technicality of the law was, I have never been able to understand.

Some months afterward, the George family were eating their supper at the Stone House, when the missing driver appeared. Judge George was, of course, visibly angry, but his wife asked the man to eat his supper, which he did and while he was eating, he said to great Grand-Father, "George, I have done you a serious injustice, and you are at liberty to prosecute me, and send me to prison, but I was sick and in desperate need of medical attention, and that was the reason for selling your horses and wagon, but I am here to make amends. If you will give me both board and lodging, I will work for you free of charge until this debt is paid." The man worked for about one year and died.

One further incident that I have heard the old folks relate concerning this driver, was on one of his trips with a load of produce, when he was passing the Stuart McClave Farm, that is about one-half way distance between Moore's Salt Works and Bergholz, McClave was showing a large draft horse to a group of people and the driver, being an expert horseman himself, stopped his team and wagon and was also looking at McClave's horse. Mr. McClave remarked to the driver that he should have horses like his and then he could move a real load. The driver, being an expert along this line, remarked that his smallest horse on the lead team could pull a heavier load than McClave's horse, and then bet a quart of whiskey on the strength of his horse. The driver unhitched the team and rough-locked the wheels of the wagon. McClave then hitched his

horse to the wagon, but the McClave horse was not accustomed to this kind of work and could not move the wagon. The driver then hitched the small horse to the wagon and the horse was able to move the wagon the distance he could move within his collar, without taking a step and was thus able to move the wagon several feet, and won the quart of whiskey for the driver! Judge George later heard of this incident, and informed the driver that when it was necessary for his horses to pull a heavy load, it was all right to make them do so, but if any further such exhibitions were had with his horses, he would be without a job.

The salt business was a thriving and prosperous business and a barrel of salt was considered a very sizable asset. Enlarging further on the salt well incident, I have heard many times about the explosion. I was advised by Thomas L. Moore that a man by the name of "Gearen" was attending the salt well and salt works the night of the explosion and that the force of the explosion was felt for many miles around the countryside and as far as the Village of Kilgore that is located in the adjoining County of Carroll; that the explosion did considerable damage to houses with several miles of the salt works.

Thomas George, about the year 1800 built a flat boat on the Ohio River and loaded the same with produce, and floated down river all the way to New Orleans. At this time, this was a very hazardous trip as the lower river country was especially infested by pirates and the entire country was Indian Territory.

Thomas George got his product into New Orleans without being robbed, and sold the same for gold. Of course, the only means of transportation back to Yellow Creek was on foot. He walked from New Orleans and carried his gold, and what provisions he needed for camping along the road. When he got as far as Louisville, Kentucky, he then purchased a mule and loaded his gold and possessions on the mule and led the mule on to Yellow Creek. On this journey, he related that he himself had no difficulty with the Indians, who were then numerous; that the Indians had places arranged along the River bank at various places where they stored provisions of smoked venison and other meat, and corn, and he said that he always felt free to help himself to these provisions, provided he left money in payment for them; that other travelers along the river looted such places without leaving money and the Indians persecuted and killed them.

Coming back to the driver who sold the team and wagon, I have no way of knowing what year this was, but that it was sometime after the year 1818, as that was the year the Stone House was built.

One other profitable business at the early part of the history of Jefferson County was the distilling of fermented grain into whiskey. One of the largest distilleries in Jefferson County was operated by Thomas George, near the store building and Post Office at Moore's Salt Works, and a part of the old distillery foundation is still visible at the original location.