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Willard R. Douglass, a lawyer of  
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## CHAPTER I

### GEORGE DOUGLASS

George Douglass was one of a family of three brothers and three sisters who lived in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania in the last half of the eighteenth and first part of the nineteenth centuries. The family consisted of:

I - GEORGE DOUGLASS (1) who first lived in Middleton township about three or four miles northwest of Carlisle, but later moved across the Blue Mountain into Sherman's Valley, dying there in 1801.

II - WILLIAM DOUGLASS (see Chapter II) who lived on a farm in what is now Frankford township about two miles west of George and about five or six miles northwest of Carlisle to McClure's Gap, and died there in 1831 at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

III - JAMES DOUGLASS (see Chapter III) who after George's removal to Sherman's Valley, occupied the Middleton township farm left by George, living there until 1796 when he moved to Rockbridge County, Virginia, and died there in 1811.

IV - MARGARET DOUGLASS (see Chapter IV) who was married to Robert McClure and lived about two miles west of William, in West Pennsboro township, near the present Blossierville.

V - AGNES DOUGLASS (see Chapter V) who was married to James Gordon and lived near William in Frankford township and died in 1806.

VI - JEAN DOUGLASS (see Chapter VI) who was married to Hugh Kilgore and died in 1811 in Tyrone township in Sherman's Valley.

(1) The following are all of the name of George Douglass found by the writer in Cumberland County in above period:

1-George Douglass of Greenpark, Sherman's Valley above.

2-George Douglass, his son, a minor in 1798.

3-George Douglass, nephew of George of Greenpark, son of William of Frankford Township, moved to Beaver County about 1811 and died there in 1830. Born 1780-1790.

4-George Douglass, nephew of George of Greenpark, son of Captain James Douglass, born 1789, died 1826 in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

5-George Douglass, son of John Douglass and Ann McClure of E. Pennsboro Township. Inherited tract of land in Toboyne Township from his father in 1817, on which he then lived, and sold it in 1830. Either a minor or not born during the Revolution.

There may have been other brothers and sisters, but the public records of the county give certain proof of the above six. Nothing definite has been learned of their parents<sup>1</sup>. On the first Middleton Township tax list after the erection of Cumberland County, i.e., 1751, appears the name of "Widow Duglas". Unfortunately, the tax lists from then to 1762 have been lost, but among Middleton Township taxables for 1762 are William, James, and George Douglass, and among those for West Pennsboro Township for the same year are their brothers-in-law Robert McClure and James Gordon. In a survey made for Andrew Elliott on September 9, 1765 of a tract adjoining the old Douglass lands in Middleton Township, the lands adjoining on the west are designated as the "Widow Douglass's Improvement". (Survey Book A, Vol. 47, Page 106.) In an application for a survey of this last tract filed November 25, 1766 by George Douglass, and an order of survey for same dated December 5, 1766, the above Widow Douglass's Improvement tract is described as land of Margaret Douglass. Three months later in an application of James Douglass for a survey to him of above George Douglass tract, dated March 4, 1767 and in survey of same made April 30, 1768 (Survey Book I, Page 340), the above tract which in 1765 had been described as "Widow Douglass's Improvement" and in 1766 as land of Margaret Douglass, is designated as land of William Douglass. William had made application for a survey of it on March 1, 1767 and it was surveyed to him on April 30, 1768 (Survey Book II, Page 339). It is probable that the "Widow Duglas" of the 1751 tax list and the Widow Douglass of "Widow Douglass's Improvement" of 1765 and Margaret Douglass described as owner of the same land three months later were all the same person and the mother of these children, and therefore if these children were not born in America, they had come to America with one or both of their parents<sup>2</sup>. All but Agnes (Gordon) who was born between 1725 and 1730 and married between 1745 and 1750, were too young to have emigrated except with older people.

The family was Scotch-Irish and came originally from Scotland to the North of Ireland and from the North of Ireland to America.

- (1) The name of George Douglass appeared on the tax list for Pennsboro Township in 1755, so writes John R. Miller of Carlisle July 1 and 8, 1907 citing an old newspaper file giving a fragmentary list of taxables. Could this have been the father or an uncle of these children?
- (2) On November 11, 1754, letter of administration were granted in Cumberland County to Margaret Douglass upon the estate of Elizabeth Douglass. It is possible that this Elizabeth Douglass and the "Widow Duglas" of the 1751 tax list and the Widow Douglass of the "Widow Douglass's Improvement" tract later owned by William and adjoining George Douglass, were the same person and mother of the above children, and that Margaret Douglass, and her administratrix, was her daughter and afterward married Robert McClure about 1758. This is the more possible because none of the boys George, William, and James was of age in 1754, and Margaret was probably the oldest of the unmarried daughters and therefore still at home.

Register's Office, Carlisle, shows estate of Elizabeth Douglass, letters of administration granted November 11, 1754 to Margaret Douglass (Administration Book A). Administrator's bond filed same day signed by Margaret Douglass and John Beath. Appraisement of estate made by Thomas McCoy and James Graham filed same day shows a "lam" (loom), Quale whele, "five Leids, eight pare of headles and a half", five "sholes" (shuttles) and "6 one pare of brushes", "a Bu of tinpls" and a boring iron, warping bars and frame, "the other big whele", "so much Puter", "tons and earthenweare", trunk, gown, sheet and blankets, shift and bed gown, "Capes and Pockts", "Pott and hingings and tongs", mantle and Pug, Pella case & candil stick, "towbooks", wook, sundry articles, gown and petticoat, of total value 12 pounds 10 shillings 80 pence.

The wife of George Douglass was Martha Watson whose parents lived in East Hanover Township, Lancaster County on a plantation on Bow Creek, her father William Watson dying there in 1769-1770. This plantation adjoined the site of the Hanover Meeting House and graveyard four or five miles up Bow Creek from its mouth, and was about six miles from the Derry Church (see map Appendix A page 2b). Surveys of adjoining lands show that William Watson owned this land as early as February 1743-4, although the warrant for same, being 146 acres in Hanover Township, was not issued to him until October 22, 1775. On the Rev. John Roan's account book of stipends collected for the Derry congregation, which covers the period from 1745 to 1775, appears the name of a George Douglass, stating also that he had left the congregation, but when in the above period he was a contributor or at what part of the period he left is not stated. (Egle Vol 1, 2nd Series, page 338.) It is possible that he and possibly his parents lived in this vicinity and attended this church sometime before or after he was married. He was married probably about 1762 when he was about 26 years old. A John Douglass was also on the above list with the same entries regarding him. This was probably the John Douglass who by a survey of adjoining land is shown to have been then in possession of a tract in Derry Township on the south side of the Swatara opposite the mouth of Bow Creek as early as April 19, 1738, which was warranted to him August 27, 1744 (warrant #103), and which he sold September 1, 1747. This was only four or five miles down Bow Creek from William Watson's land and the Hanover Church, and only a mile or two from the Derry Church. The fact that he sold this land in 1747 would indicate that then was the time he left the Derry congregation as noted above. He also warranted on the same date (August 27, 1744) 200 acres on Bow Creek in Hanover Township adjoining land of Michael Harper & c (warrant #104) but no return or survey seems to have been made on this warrant. Possibly he was the John Douglass who died in E. Pennsboro Township, Cumberland County in 1817 leaving a son George Douglass, which John might have been an uncle of these children of the text. Or possibly this John and the above George of the Derry congregation might have been, the one the father and the other the uncle of these children of the text, the oldest of these children having been born probably sometime between 1725 and 1730. The George of the text would have been about twelve years old when this land was sold by John in 1747. In 1750, a Robert McClure was on the tax list of East or West Derry Township, Lancaster. (But Robert McClure who married Margaret Douglass would have been only sixteen years old in 1750.) It is possible that the parents of these children liven in Chester County at an earlier date. In 1734, Fagg's Manor, a part of which was afterwards part of Londonderry Township, had a John Douglass on the tax list. In 1735, Londonderry Township (included present Londonderry, Upper and Lower Oxford and Penn townships) had on the tax list a George Douglass and two John Douglasses. In 1737 and 1740 there was a William Douglass but no George or John.

The tradition handed down to the descendents of George is that either he or his ancestors came originally from Scotland to the North of Ireland and from there to Pennsylvania, and that they lived at a place either in Scotland or Ireland where the channel between the two countries was so narrow that clothes on the line in one country could be seen from the other country across the channel on a clear day; also they were of Red Douglasses and lowlanders. Those of William Douglass's descendents who have heard anything of his nativity say he came from Scotland to Ireland and then to Pennsylvania and that he was descended from the Douglass nobility of Scotland<sup>1</sup>.

(1) *GEORGE DOUGLASS TRADITIONS*--Are as above.

*WILLIAM DOUGLASS TRADITIONS*--Lucinda (Douglass) Green of Hume, Mo., a great-granddaughter says that her father (William) said that his grandfather came from Scotland one or two years before the birth of his son John (William's father). As John died in 1819 (so says Mrs. Green), or 1815 (calculated from other data from Mrs. Green) aged 42 years (says Mrs. Green), or aged 35 years (says Delarmo Douglass), it would make the date of immigration 1771-1772 or 1775-1776 or possible 1784-1785. Obviously wrong as the land records show that he was here in 1767 and on the tax lists in 1762. Mrs. Mary C. Douglass Boley, a great-granddaughter, says her father George Douglass spoke frequently of his grandfather having come from Scotland. Lucy McCready of Ft. Madison, Iowa, a great-granddaughter says the Douglasses came from Scotland. Delarma Douglass of Minneapolis, Minn., a great-grandson says that his great-grandfather came from Scotland with two other brothers to Vermont before the Revolution and settled near each other. (He must be mistaken. Probably had been reading some other Douglass family record.)

*JAMES DOUGLASS TRADITIONS*--Mrs. J. M. Mathews of Roanoke, Va., a granddaughter (through William) says that her mother told her that her grandfather and grandmother Douglass came from Scotland and settled in Pennsylvania; that her mother used to tell her that her (Mrs. Mathews') father (William) told her that he was of the royal family of Douglas of Scotland, but that she should not brag of it as it would do them no good. Thomas E. Dixon of Murat, Va., a great-grandson, writes that his father's cousin Robert P. Douglass (grandson of James through James) told him that his great (?) grandfather came from Scotland and his name was James Douglass and that he was descended from Lord Douglass, i.e., was a son of Lord Douglass who was called Black Douglass. (Some one must have been slightly mixed on chronology.) Mahala M. Douglass of Ona, W. Va., widow of William Hamilton Douglass (grandson of James through James) writes that she often heard her husband say that his grandfather came from Scotland and was a full-blooded Scotsman; that his great-grandfather (above James' father) came over with his family; also that most of the Douglasses had black hair and eyes. Mrs. Mary Snedegar of Huntington, W. Va. (daughter of William Hamilton Douglass) writes that her father (grandson of James through James) said his grandfather originally came from Scotland and was in Ireland before coming to America, and in Pennsylvania before coming to Virginia. Miss Betty Douglass of Murat, Va., (daughter of Robert P. Douglass and great-granddaughter of James through James) writes that her great-grandfather's wife was a Duffield of Scotland.

The above mentioned tradition of the George Douglass branch of the family makes it probable that the family while resident in the North of Ireland lived in County Down, on the coast near Donaghadee. This is to the southeast of and not far from Belfast. It is possible however that they may have lived on the coast of Island McGee, a few miles to the northeast of Belfast, in County Antrim, and a lesser probability that they lived on the northeast coast of County Antrim near Fair Head or Ballycastle, these being the points of Ireland closest to Scotland and from which the Scottish coast is plainly visible<sup>1</sup>.

- (1) The shortest passage between Scotland and Ireland is from the Mull of Kintyre in the Highlands to Fair Head on the northeast coast of County Antrim in Ireland. This is sixteen miles across. This passage would be used only by Highlanders. Another passage is from Port Patrick in Scotland to Donaghadee or Broomspout on the east coast of County Down in Ireland, a few miles southeast of Belfast. This is nineteen miles across. On clear days the opposite land can be distinctly seen across these passages. These were the entry ports for Scotch immigration (*Ulster Journal of Archaeology* Vol. 4, page 160, note). The Douglasses were lowlanders and therefore probably used the latter passage. In Vol. 5, at page 332 of above work in an article on County Antrim surnames, it is said "As might be expected the names of the east border clans appear in very small numbers [i.e., in County Antrim], the name Douglass which took the lead, being scarcely known (1857)". On the other hand, a *History of County Down (1794)* (#94113 in National Library, Dublin), at page 4 states that at that time the chief names of the county are Kennedy, Mathews, Johnson, Douglass, Wilson.... Also, Slater's *Royal National Directory of Ireland (1894)* shows among farmers at Donaghadee the following names: "Alexander Douglas, Adams, Hugh Beattie, Boyd, Brown, Campbell, Carson, Crothers, McClune, McClure, McCracken, McKee, Frances Ewart, Gibson, Gordon, Johnston, Know, Patton, Robinson, Taylor". It might almost be imagined that one was reading a list of the relatives and neighbors of the Douglasses in Cumberland County, Penn., in the period of 1750-1800. All this is another straw to show that the neighborhood of Donaghadee in County Down was the residence of these Douglasses when in Ireland.

In Volume 7 of above *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, a chart shows the proportion of population as to religion by districts in 1859. (For coast note of same see *Pocket Atlas*.) The northeast part of County Antrim around Fair Head was 50% Roman Catholic. West of that and in south part of Ards, i.e., the southern part of the peninsula lying south of Donaghadee, 50% of the population was English Church. The rest of the coast, i.e., County Down, was Presbyterian. Another straw against County Antrim having been the residence of these Douglasses, as they were all Presbyterians.

The Island McGee, a peninsula northeast from Belfast, is another close point to Scotland. Larne on the mainland opposite its north extremity being one of the present (1905-1912) steamer terminals between the countries. This coast is however not quite so close to Scotland as the others and Larne is not mentioned in the above work as one of the entry ports of Scotch immigration. From all these facts in connection with the Douglass family tradition mentioned in the text, it is reasonable to infer that these Douglasses lived, when in Ireland, on the coast of County Down.

This family came with the great flood of Scotch-Irish immigration across the stormy Atlantic, making the voyage in the small sailing vessels of the eighteenth century. They probably landed either at Newcastle or Philadelphia, and whether they first sojourned in Chester or Lancaster counties is uncertain, but it is certain that these children of the family appear in Cumberland County in the early 1750s.

George Douglass was probably the oldest of the boys of the family. He was born about 1735 as he was said to be sixty-five years old<sup>1</sup> at the time of his death which occurred in 1801. His name first appears in Cumberland County on the tax list for 1762<sup>2</sup> in the Middleton Township which was then the middle portion of the county, south of the Blue Mountain, and in which Carlisle was situated, he being assessed as a freeman and for unwarranted land. On June 2, 1762, a warrant was issued to George Douglass of Cumberland County for 150 acres adjoining Thomas Adams and Samuel Linn on the south side of Sherman's Creek (Warrant #38 in State House in Harrisburg), but no patent to him or conveyance from him of this land appears on the county records. He was assessed in 1763 in Middleton Township, for 100 acres of unwarranted land and 4 horses, 3 cows, and 7 sheep. As already stated this land was described in the survey of an adjoining tract on September 9, 1765 as "George Douglass's Improvement". He was married probably about this time, 1762-3-4, when his name first begins to appear on the records, as his oldest child William was born in 1765. He married Martha Watson, daughter of William and Sarah Watson. William Watson<sup>3</sup> then lived and had lived at least as far back as February 1743-4 in East Hanover Township, Lancaster County (now Dauphin County). This was on Bow Creek four or five miles above its mouth and adjoined the Hanover Church grounds, and was also only five or six miles from the Derry Church (see map Appendix A, page 2b). On the Rev. John Roan's account book of stipends collected for the Derry congregation, which covers the period from 1745 to 1775, appear the names of George Douglass and John Douglass, stating also that they had left the congregation, but when in the above period they were contributors or at what part of the period they left is not stated. (Egle Vol. 1, 2nd Series, page 338). A John Douglass lived at the mouth of Bow Creek, a mile or two from Derry Church, as early as

- (1) *State Centennial History of Ohio and Highland County* (2 vols.) (1902) by Rowland H. Rerick, published by Northwestern Historical Association, Madison, Wisc., Volume 2, page 281, under James Norman Douglass says "George Douglass who died in Pennsylvania at age of 65 was a soldier in the Revolutionary war" &c (James Norman Douglass says (1904) that his father James Douglass, who had a remarkably good memory, told him this.
- (2) *History of Cumberland County* by Conway P. Wing, D.D. and others (1879). There is said to have been a George Douglass on the list of taxables for Pennsboro township in 1753, but it may have been another George. (Letters of John R. Miller of Carlisle July 1 and 8, 1907, citing an old newspaper file containing fragmentary list of taxables.)
- (3) For William Watson and descendents see Appendix A.

April, 1738, and sold his land there September 1, 1747. Possibly that was the date of their leaving the Derry congregation. One of these may have been our George's father and the other an uncle. It is probable that he lived in this vicinity and attended this church sometime before or after he was married and that it was there he became acquainted with Martha Watson, his future wife.

His name does not appear on the tax lists of taxables for Cumberland County in 1766 or 1767, but on application of George Douglass filed November 25, 1766, an Order of Survey #2104, dated December 5, 1766 issued to him from the Surveyor General's office at Philadelphia for 150 acres of land in Middleton Township, adjoining Margaret Douglass on the east, Mr. Ferguson on the south, Samuel Guy on the west and Mr. Allet on the north, including Spring Run bottom. This tract may have been surveyed to George on this warrant, but on March 4, 1767 his brother James Douglass made an application for a survey of the same tract. In this latter application it was said to adjoin William Douglass instead of Margaret Douglass. It was surveyed to James Douglass April 30, 1768 (Survey Book I page 340) in pursuance of an Order of Survey #2974 dated March 4, 1767. This survey recited that this land had been returned into the Surveyor General's office "sometime since" and mentions a slight change in the survey. This was the tract which was described in 1765 as "George Douglass's Improvement". George on April 2, 1782, when living in Tyrone Township in Sherman's Valley, made a deed of this tract to his brother James Douglass of Middleton Township for five shillings and other consideration (1-F.-159), and it was patented to James Douglass on April 3, 1788, the tract being called "Norval" (Patent Book P, Volume 14, page 105). This tract lay in the northwestern part of the present North Middleton Township about three miles northwest of Carlisle and one or two miles south of the North or Blue Mountain, and on the west side of Pine Run between the Long's Gap road and the Waggoner's Gap road. The present Waggoner's Gap road runs through it just before reaching the Stone Church road at the northwest corner of the tract. As this tract was surveyed to his brother James on April 30, 1768, it is possible that George ceased to live on it at that time and possibly lived in West Pennsboro Township from 1768 to 1772, as for those years he was assessed in West Pennsboro Township. At this time (1766), a number of his relatives were living near this land. Adjoining it on the west was the land called in 1765 the "Widow Douglass's Improvement", in 1766 Margaret Douglass's, and in 1767 applied for by William Douglass, surveyed to him in 1768, and patented to him in 1788 as tract "Chevy Chase". Two miles west of him on the south side of the Stone Church road, in then West Pennsboro Township, now Frankford Township, was the land of his sister Agnes's husband, James Gordon, bought in 1765, and a part of which was sold by them in 1785 to his brother William Douglass who lived on it until his death in 1831. Adjoining this on the west were the Logans, one of whom married a daughter of William Douglass. A little farther west was the land of his sister Margaret's husband, Robert McClure. This was two or three miles north or northeast of Blossierville, adjoining and to the east of school #4 (1872), about where



the road from William's land struck the road from Blosierville to McClure's Gap, about halfway between Blosierville and McClure's Gap.

On March 22, 1767, his second child Sarah was born<sup>1</sup>. In a small pamphlet among the oldest papers of the First Presbyterian Church at Carlisle is a "List of Names that sub'd to Mr. Duffield in Alexander Officer's quarter for ye yr 1767. Allex<sup>r</sup> Collector", and in the list appears the name of George Douglass for 12 shillings 6 pence. Reverend George Duffield Sr. was pastor of the "new side" division of the church at that time, and it was a relative of his, Elizabeth Duffield, whom George's brother James Douglass married in 1773.

On August 23, 1769, his father-in-law William Watson of Hanover Township, Lancaster County (now Dauphin County) being sick of body executed his will, and died between that date and October 30, 1770, when his will was probated (1-C-319, Lancaster Co.). By this will he bequeathed to his daughter Martha ten shillings. On June 8, 1773, the administration account filed by the executors showed payment of 10 shillings to George and Martha Douglass as per receipt. The total amount of the estate received by the executors was 750 pounds, 16 shillings, 2 pence. The plantation on Bow Creek had been sold to Robert and John Templeton for 550 pounds. Those of his children who received the nominal amount of ten shillings had probably received earlier advances at the time they were married.

On June 2, 1762 as already stated, a warrant<sup>2</sup> had been issued to George Douglass for 150 acres in Sherman's Valley. Sherman's

- (1) She became the wife first of Alexander McClure (Chapter IV, p.46) and second of Robert Adams.
- (2) *Pennsylvania Colonial Records, Vol.VIII, pages 472-477 (March 1, 1760):*  
 "Some lands are held by persons who had sat upon them as volunteers without any claim or pretense of right....As to these the Act of Assembly passed in 29th year of his present Majesty enacts that all settlers on lands, without title and not the real owners shall pay all taxes for them.

Some lands are surveyed by virtue of a warrant obtained from the Proprietaries." Five pounds per 100 acres was always received from purchaser before a warrant was issued. It was then an executory contract of purchase, the balance not yet being paid. No legal estate however vested in grantee until a patent [was] issued.

"Some lands are patented", i.e., it appears from the nature of the contract and from the terms of the warrants themselves that no legal estate vested in the grantee until a confirmation was made by a return accepted into the Secretary's office and patent issued in consequence of it.

[The same reference] discussing [the] bill for recording warrants and surveys, etc., tells of system at this time (1759-60). Page 337 shows there was at Philadelphia a Secretary's Office and a Surveyor General's Office and Land Office; that all patents were recorded in Land Office; that original warrants were filed alphabetically in Surveyor General's Office together with the deputation's returns, but were loose papers; that when the balance of the purchase money was paid, a return of the warrant for the survey and of the survey was made into the Secretary's Office and entered at large by the Surveyor General in strong bound books, so that there were two entries at length of all returns of surveyors, one in Surveyor General's Office and the

Valley was just across the Blue Mountain. The Blue or North Mountain is a long range forming the northern boundary of Cumberland Valley. It rises almost abruptly from the level plain of the valley, and forms a beautiful blue barrier from the country to the north. George Douglass lived about a couple of miles from its base. There is nothing to show that he ever occupied this land warranted by him in 1762. By July of the following year most of the settlers in Sherman's Valley had fled to Carlisle and elsewhere in fear of the Indians, but induced by offers of arms, etc., they returned, living in constant dread until Boquet occupied Fort Dusquesne, November 24, 1764<sup>1</sup>.

By deed dated November 20, 1772, George Douglass yeoman of Tyrone Township bought 167 acres in Tyrone Township on Montour's Run, on the north side of the Blue Mountain in Sherman's Valley in what is now Perry County at what is now the town of Greenpark<sup>2</sup>. The consideration was 300 pounds lawful money of Pennsylvania (Vol. 1, Book K, Page 188). Family tradition says he came from the south side of the Blue Mountain to Sherman's Valley and from the records he seems to have done so at this time, as he ceases to be assessed in West Pennsboro Township and begins to be assessed in Tyrone Township in 1773 for 100 acres warranted land and eleven acres cleared land, and continued to be assessed in Tyrone Township for the next twenty-nine years until his death in 1801<sup>3</sup>.

- (1) In July, 1763, Alexander Logan and his son John were killed by the Indians. (See account in *History of Perry County* by George Wright, and A. Loudon's *Narrative of Indian Wars*, Vol. II, pages 166 and 189 [Pages 181 and 200 of original edition]. Alexander Logan was an uncle of the Alexander Logan who in 1787 married George Douglass's niece, Jane Douglass, daughter of his brother William.
- (2) In 1771 a John Douglass of East Pennsboro Township was grantee of a tract in Toboy Township (later Madison Township), a few miles up the valley from Greenpark, being what was known in 1903 as the Loy farm. It is possible that he was a relative of this George. He had a son George who later lived on the tract and sold it in 1830 to Michael Loy.
- (3) The first list of taxables in the county clerk's office at Carlisle is for 1752, but it is a defective list. The lists for subsequent years up to 1762, which is (1903) also defective, not containing Middleton Township. The West Pennsboro Township list shows George Douglass to have been assessed as follows:
  - 1768 - 100 ac w'td land, 30 ac cleared land, 1 horse, 1 cow, 6 sheep
  - 1769 - 100 ac w'td land, 30 ac cleared land, 1 horse, 1 cow, 6 sheep
  - 1770 - 100 ac w'td land, 40 ac cleared land, 1 horse, 1 cow
  - 1771 - 100 ac w'td land, 40 ac cleared land, 2 horses, 1 cow, 2 sheep
  - 1772 - 100 ac S land, 30 ac cleared land, 1 horse, 2 cows, 2 sheep
 Beginning in 1773 George Douglass was assessed in Tyrone Township as follows:
  - 1773 - 100 ac w'td land, 11 ac cleared land, 2 horses, 1 cow
  - 1774 - 100 ac w'td land, 20 ac cleared land, 1 horse, 1 cow, 2 sheep
  - 1775 - 100 ac w'td land, () ac cleared land, 2 horses, 2 cows, 3 sheep
  - 1776 - 100 ac w'td land, 60 ac cleared land, 2 horses, 2 cows, 3 sheep

In 1774 another fifty acre tract of land south of Mahonoy Ridge and adjoining his other lands was deeded to him by James Moore by deed dated April 5, 1774<sup>1</sup>. This is shown by the recitals in a deed in 1780 when he sold this tract (Book E, page 532)<sup>2</sup>.

About this time his widowed mother-in-law, Sarah Watson, and some of her grown children moved from Hanover Township, Lancaster County further on the frontier in the Buffalo Valley of Northumberland County, near the present town of Mifflinburg<sup>3</sup>.

On April 28, 1776 was born his daughter Martha<sup>4</sup>, in the year of the Declaration of Independence<sup>5</sup>.

George Douglass was a soldier in the Revolution, and his son William, though a boy at the time, also helped in the great struggle as a teamster with General Washington<sup>6</sup>. In 1778, George was a private in Cumberland County militia, 8th class, 7th Battalion in Captain Thos. Clark's Company under Col. Abraham Smith (*Penn. Arch.* 2nd series, Vol. XV, page 605). On September 7, 1778, he was enlisted by Capt. John Pearson in the 9th Pennsylvania Regiment,

- (1) On May 24, 1774 was born the oldest son of his brother James Douglass, who was named William.
- (2) By this deed dated August 1, 1789, George Douglass yeoman and his wife for a consideration of seventy pounds conveyed this tract to Daniel Stewart. Martha signed by making her mark.
- (3) In 1773, the names of "Widow Watson" and Hugh Watson still appeared on the tax lists of East Hanover Township, but in 1775 the names of her sons Hugh Watson and Patrick Watson appear on the tax lists of Buffalo Valley in Northumberland County. As she was living with Patrick in 1780, she probably went with them at this time. They may have gone before 1775 as the tax lists for 1773 and 1774 were lost in the Great Runaway of 1778.
- (4) She married George Anderson. Also, on Sept. 2, 1776, a son John was born to his brother James.
- (5) On October 8, 1776 his brother-in-law, Patrick Watson was commissioned as ensign under Captain John Clark in Co. #1 of 4th Battalion of Northumberland County Associations. (This battalion went into service in December 1776 and served three and a half months.) George's brother James in 1776 was a first lieutenant in Capt. Thos. Kennedy's Co. in 2nd Battalion of Cumberland County militia; in 1778 was a captain in 2nd Battalion Cumberland County militia under Col. Samuel Dunlap and 1780 was a captain of Cumberland County Associators.
- (6) *State Centennial History of Ohio and Highland County* (2 vols) (1902) by Rowland H. Rerick, published by Northwestern Historical Association, Madison, Wis. Volume II, page 281, under head of James Norman Douglass (a great-grandson of George Douglass) recites the above and also states that he ~~lived~~ lived in Pennsylvania at the age of sixty-five. James Norman Douglass told the writer in 1904 that his father James Douglass, who had a remarkably good memory, told him the above.

commanded by Richard Butler, for the period of the war. The enlistment was mustered by Nicola and witnessed Ord (*Pennsylvania Magazine* volume 25, page 422). By July, 1779 he had either been disabled or was unable to do active service as on July 1, 1779 he was a private of Pearson's Company of the 9th Pennsylvania Regiment in the Invalid Corps. His name was on a list in the Secretary's office of soldiers whose depreciated pay escheated to the state (*Pennsylvania in the Revolution*, Vol. I, page 688, being a reprint of *Pennsylvania Archives* 2nd series, Vol. IX). Among a list of privates in the Invalid Corps from July 1779 to May 1781 is the name of George Douglass, 9th Penn. (*Pennsylvania in the Revolution*, Vol. II, page 267)<sup>1</sup>. But in the Spring of 1780 he was at home when the news came of the death of his mother-in-law at the hands of the Indians. His name also appears in *Pennsylvania Archives* Vol. XIII 2nd series in an alphabetical partial list of Pennsylvania soldiers in the Revolution, gathered from various obtainable sources, being a very imperfect list however as many of the records have been destroyed.

In 1780 occurred a tragedy which has been the subject of family tradition ever since. In that year Sarah Watson and Patrick Watson, mother and brother of the wife of George Douglass, were killed by the Indians. Accounts of the tragedy have been handed down by family tradition, and it is also described in a number of histories<sup>2</sup>. The traditional accounts vary in some of the details and contain some inaccuracies as to dates and localities. The following account is compiled from these various sources with these inaccuracies corrected. The widowed Sarah Watson was then living with her son Patrick Watson in what is now Limestone Township in the Buffalo Valley, Union County, then part of Northumberland County. Patrick lived in a cabin near a stream called the White Spring. It was on a slight elevation, a little east of the new schoolhouse (1877) at the present village of White Springs, below the White Springs Mill. This is not far from Mifflinburg. He was a tenant on the land of Robert Barber. Near them lived also her sons David Watson and Hugh Watson and possibly other relatives. This was on the extreme frontier, and the settlers had suffered much from the Indians. On July 3, 1778 had occurred the massacre at Wyoming, the news of which received on the fifth caused the great stampede of the settlers of the Buffalo Valley, called the "Great Runaway", when practically all the settlers abandoned their belongings and fled down the Susquehannah toward Harrisburg and the older settled portions of the state.

- (1) *Pennsylvania in the Revolution*, Vol. II, page 274 says "foregoing data taken principally from a paper in handwriting of Col. Lewis Nicola, without data, entitled "A Return of the officers and men belonging to the Pennsylvania Line in the Invalid Corps from June 1777 to Nov. 15 1784". The Invalid Regiment was recruited from former members of the Line who were disabled or unable to do active service, to be used in garrison duty in various places, also of new recruits to be trained and later enter the regular line.
- (2) *History of Juniata and Susquehannah Valleys* (Evarts, Peck and Richards, Philadelphia 1886) Vol. 2, page 1420.  
*Annals of Buffalo Valley 1755-1855* by John Blair Linn (Lane S. Hart, publisher, Harrisburg 1877) page 188.  
*Biographical Record of Central Pennsylvania* (J. H. Beers & Co., Chicago, 1888) page 999.

Many of them later returned, but a large part of the Valley was deserted the next year for the same reasons. Again in the spring of 1780 the Indian troubles began anew. Sarah Watson's daughter Martha, who had married George Douglass, was then living in Sherman's Valley, and surrounded by a large family of children would have been very happy, only that occasionally there would be a rumor of trouble with the Indians. One day there came word of an uprising in Northumberland County, and that the widow Watson and her son were among the victims. In those days communication was slow; there were no railroads, telegraph or telephone wires, yet generally news of this kind was carried swiftly, and when relating this to his children many years after, Watson Douglass said that his mother told his father he must go and see if it was true that her dear ones had met death at the hands of the savages. It was the first of the week, and "she would look for him back Saturday night--she could not wait longer". It was in the spring, probably in May. The roads were good. He had to go on horseback, and the week passed slowly by. Saturday night came. The mother was sitting waiting. Soon there was a sound of falling bars. There were no gates. She did not rise, but leaned her head on her hand, and when her husband came in she did not move, but his first words "It's all true, Martha" proved the truth of the dreadful rumor. Then the sad story was related. "It was a beautiful frosty morning. According to the custom, Mrs. Watson had taken an orphan boy and girl and had them 'bound' to live with her until they were of age. This morning they were up before daylight and the dogs kept up a great barking and after a while Ensign Watson<sup>1</sup> told the children to go out and see what they were barking at. They returned and said they could see nothing, only some red hogs in the mill race. He told them there were no red hogs on the place, and that it must be Indians and directed them to run to the fort about a mile distant<sup>2</sup>, and take his mother with them, and he would watch the Indians until he thought they had time to reach the fort, and then he would go. They all left the room, and about the time he thought he could go, his mother came back into the room with a large butcher knife in her hand. 'Oh, Mother, did you not go?', he cried, 'we are lost'. She said something about not leaving him. He then told her to go out a certain way and try to get to the fort, and he would go another way and try to keep the corn crib between himself and the Indians. He had almost reached the fort when he was shot through the body. A neighbor, Christian Shively, heard the firing and went to Watson's cabin, and found Mrs. Watson, Patrick's mother, lying on the floor shot, her old grey head scalped, and a dog licking her scalped head.

- (1) Traditions say he was a Captain, but the only records the writer has found show that on October 8, 1776 he was commissioned as ensign in Capt. John Clark's (father-in-law of his brother David) Company No. 1 of 4th Battalion of Northumberland County Associators, which battalion went into service in December 1776 and served three and a half months.
- (2) There was a fort at what is now New Berlin, but this was at some distance, about four miles down Penn Creek, into the White Spring emptied. These were not really forts, but houses or stockades at which a neighborhood would rendezvous for protection from the Indians.

She was still alive, but unable to speak, and in reply to his questions about Patrick, made motions which he understood to mean that Patrick had gone up (or down) the run. He accordingly went in search of him, and found him near the White Spring, where he had stopped to take a drink, not knowing that he was wounded until in drinking he discovered the water running out through his wound. Friends from the fort now rushed out and carried him in. He told them to go and get his mother, he had heard a shot, and then a shriek, he knew she was killed. He died within two hours, and the young lady he was to marry had the mournful pleasure of assisting in burying him. He and his mother were among the first buried in the Lewis graveyard. Tradition says that the fort was afterward called Fort Watson, but the writer has found no record of a fort of that name<sup>1</sup>. After all had left the house, the Indians went in, but did not disturb anything but a churn full of cream, which was found quite a little distance from the house, carried there and drunk for breakfast by them"<sup>2</sup>.

Letters of administration were issued on his estate July 23, 1780 at Sunbury, and in the inventory filed September 23, 1780 appear, amongst many other items, many articles of woman's wearing apparel evidently belonging to his mother, and "1 shirt with a bullet hole in it".

In the settlement account of Patrick Watson's estate filed

- (1) The name of sundry forts were in general after the name of the owner of the farm where situated, and were stockade defenses generally, for the refuge and defense of families, acting as farmers and settlers and not for real soldiers. *History of Juniata and Susquehanna Valleys Vol. 2, page 1220* after telling of this Watson killing and of the finding of Mrs. Watson, says that Christian Shively on one occasion before the murder of Watson, having occasion to go to a so-called fort near New Berlin, hid his wife and children, etc.
- (2) An account somewhat differing from the above was given to the writer in 1904 by Mrs. Elizabeth Otto Smith, then 78 years old, living near New Germantown, Perry County, Pennsylvania. She was the widow of George Smith and daughter of Peter and Susan Mathers Otto and grand-daughter of \_\_\_\_\_ Mathers who was crippled in the Revolution and was married and living near Mrs. Watson at the time of this tragedy. Mrs. Smith was raised in the family of John Johnson and his wife Margaret McClure Johnson. Her grandmother Mather told her of the Watson killing as did also Margaret McClure Johnson. "Mrs. Watson was getting the breakfast and her son had gone out to work, taking his rifle with him. While she was getting the breakfast and had a butcher knife in her hand, she heard a shot and thought it was he who had fired. Knowing he had only one rifle with him, she grabbed another to take to him, and went out with the butcher knife she was using still in her hand. But it was the Indians who had fired first and shot him and when she appeared, they then shot her and scalped her. Others in the neighborhood were aroused by the shooting. They were hunting the Indians and saw several of them skulking up a hollow ravine-like place. Hearing the shots they came and found them and took the corpses to the fort, and some of her married children helped.

October 12, 1792 it is shown that six pounds, five shillings cash had been paid to George Douglass, and that in the distribution of the balance in the hands of the administrator, that Martha Douglass's share was 14 pounds, 6 shillings, 10 pence.

On August 1, 1780 George Douglass and wife deeded a tract of land as already stated (p. 11, note 2) to a Daniel Stewart<sup>1</sup> (E-532).

Sometime in 1783 was born his son Watson Douglass.

On April 2, 1783, he deeded to his brother James Douglass of Middletown Township for five shillings and other consideration<sup>2</sup> (1-F-159) the application and order of survey for the tract of land in Middleton Township for which he had received an order of survey Number 2104 on December 5, 1766 as has already been narrated (p. 7).

In 1782 he seems to have acted as one of the referees in a land title dispute<sup>3</sup>, an account of which is given at length in the *History*

- (1) Query: Could this Stewart have been the husband of his [George's] wife's sister Eleanor Watson Stewart, also spelled Stuart? (Some of the name Stewart in 1904 lived on a farm near the County Poor House near Loysville and had lived there for years, and the father before them. Were they descendants of this Stewart?) This land had been warranted in 1766 by James Moore and deeded by him to George Douglass in 1774. Was this James Moore the same James Moore who was on the tax list of (now) Limestone Township, Northumberland County the next year, 1775, and who received a legacy from the estate of James Watson in 1798, which James Watson was a son of Margaret Paschall Watson Lewis, who was either related or closely connected with George Douglass's wife's brothers Hugh Watson etc.?
- (2) What the other consideration was in addition to the five shillings is not stated. The tract of land had also been surveyed to James on April 30, 1768, on an application by and order of survey to him dated March 1, 1767 (p. 7).
- (3) *History of Susquehannah and Juniata Valleys*, a two-volume work filled with facts and information, Volume II, page 1057 under head of Spring Township, condensed is as follows: "In a certain legal controversy between Kirkpatrick and Fisher as to land in Sherman's Valley, John Crozier makes oath March 12, 1765 that on April 1, 1754 he went over to plantation with James Watson (and others named) and found Richard Kirkpatrick; that he, Fisher, and Kirkpatrick then went down to Andrew Montour's place to refer dispute as to title to John Scott and Alexander Sanderson etc., etc. This dispute went on until January 15, 1782 when in paper sworn and subscribed to before David McClure, the son of Fisher and Kirkpatrick referred the dispute to Jonathan Hogue, Wm. Richardson, Robt. Robb, Thos. Beals, David Mitchell, and George Douglass, and on May 31, 1782, these made an award which is signed by them. Above copies of depositions and proceedings in the case were obtained from Mr. James Hackett of New Bloomfield. The arbitrators were chosen from different parts of the county. George Douglass lived near Greenpark, David Mitchell on the Barnett farm near New Bloomfield.

of *Susquehannah and Juniata Valleys* in Volume II at page 1057<sup>1</sup>.

On May 4, 1786 George Douglass for a consideration of 100 pounds in specie acquired from the heirs of Charles McMichael another tract of 100 acres<sup>2</sup>, including improvements, in Sherman's Valley (1-K-184)<sup>3</sup>. This tract adjoined on the north the 167 acres on Montour's Run bought by him in 1772. His son William Douglass was living on this tract in 1797 when by deed dated January 12, 1797 for a consideration of 100 cents it was conveyed to him by his parents. His wife Martha seems to have been unable to write, as she executed all these deeds by making her mark. He, however, was a good penman as appears by the signature to his will<sup>4</sup>.

In 1786 he was assessed in Tyrone Township for 567 acres of land<sup>5</sup>.

- (1) On November 16, 1784, his brother-in-law James Gordon (farmer) of West Pennsboro Township made his will, naming his brothers-in-law (George's brothers) William and James Douglass executors (E-96, probated December 16, 1786). Agnes, his wife, deeded to his brother William Douglass of West Pennsboro part of their land in West Pennsboro Township at the foot of North Mountain(1-H-163), the home tract of William. On February 29, 1786, William McClure, the oldest child of his sister Margaret Douglass McClure, was married to Agnes McKeehan.
- (2) This must have really contained more than 100 acres because he sold 22½ acres in the northeast corner of this tract to Peter Shively on July 31, 1798 (P-1-231). He sold 172 acres of it to his son William on January 12, 1797 (M-1-369), and acting under directions in his will his executors on April 14, 1802 sold the balance of it (57 acres) to William McClure (Q-1-134).
- (3) Records Office at Carlisle, Volume I, Book K, page 184. Deed dated May 4, 1786 recorded June 23, 1792. Heirs of Charles McMichael to George Douglass, yeoman, of Tyrone Township, 100 acres of land adjoining Alexander Sanderson and Robert Wilson including his Improvements in Sherman's Valley, as in and by the said warrant February 4, 1753 surveyed for Ludwick Laird, and whereas land was afterward surveyed by John Armstrong, Deputy Surveyor, and return made to Surveyor General's office at Philadelphia, reference thereto being made. (Foregoing are only extracts from the description.)
- (4) His sisters Agnes Gordon and Jean Kilgore also made their mark to their wills, but his brothers James and William and his brothers-in-law could write.
- (5) This was more land than he owned, as computed from the recorded deeds in which he was grantee.  $50 + 167 + 100 = 367$  acres. As subsequent sales (note 2 above) show the 100 acre tract to have contained 25½ acres, then  $50 + 167 + 25½ = 468½$  acres, still 100 acres short. Possibly the tax roll included the 150 acre warrant of June 2, 1762 for 150 acres on the south side of Sherman's Creek adjoining Thomas Adams and Samuel Linn of which the writer has found no further record, either of purchase or sale or occupation.



- 1786: On December 16 the will of his brother-in-law James Gordon was probated, so that his death must have been shortly before that time.
- 1787: On November 6 his niece Jane Douglass (daughter of his brother William) was married to Alexander Logan by Reverend Robert Davidson of the First Presbyterian Church, Carlisle.
- 1788: On April 24, a John Douglass of East Pennsboro Township warranted a tract of 50 acres in Toboyne Township (now in Madison Township) bounded on the west by Robert Adams and on the north by McInear (*History of Susquehannah and Juniata Valleys*, Vol. II, page 1021). He had previously on April 17, 1771 been grantee of land in Toboyne Township which in later years was known as the Loy farm at Andersonburg. Both of these tracts at his death in 1817 were willed to his son George Douglass who then lived on the lands (I-37). He sold the lands in 1828 and 1830 (Perry County records C-1-106 and D-1-191). This George Douglass was much younger than George Douglass of Greenpark, but they lived only a few miles from each other. It is very probable that they were related. Mrs. Lizzie Otto Smith of New Germantown in 1904, when seventy-eight years old, said that this George Douglass was a cousin (?) of Margaret McClure Johnson, that he was intimate with the Schenks, and that the Schenks were connected with Aunt Matsie Douglass Anderson.
- 1789: His sister Margaret Douglass McClure is said to have died some time prior to 1789. On November 3, 1789 his sister Agnes Douglass Gordon made a release for all money and claims due her from the estate of her husband James Gordon, deceased, to her brothers James and William Douglass, executors of the estate (1-M-251).
- 1791: Late in 1791 or early in 1792 his daughter Sarah was married to his nephew Alexander McClure. They had been married less than one year when he was thrown from his horse and killed while riding through the woods near Elliotsburg, not far from the George Douglass home place. Shortly afterwards in September or October 1792 died Robert McClure, the father of the foregoing Alexander, and brother-in-law of George Douglass.
- 1796: On March 1 his niece Margaret Douglass (daughter of William Douglass) was married to James Geddes (possibly Alexander Geddes) by Reverend Samuel Wilson of Big Spring Church (*History of Big Spring Church*, page 57). In October 1796 his brother Captain James Douglass sold his farm in Middleton Township, which had been deeded to him by George in 1782, and moved with his family to lands he then bought on Buffalo Creek and North River in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

On January 12, 1797, as already stated, he conveyed to his son William for a consideration of 100 cents, 172 acres, adjoining his home place on the north<sup>1</sup>, on which tract William was then living. It belonged in 1904 to M. Noll, and the M. Noll house is the old William Douglass house. It is just back of the railroad station, across Mountour's Run.

On July 31, 1798 for a consideration of 163 pounds, 2 shillings, 6 pence he conveyed to Peter Shively a tract of 22½ acres<sup>2</sup> adjoining the northeast corner of the foregoing 172 acre tract, being part of a 100 (?) acre tract acquired by him in 1786<sup>3</sup>.

On July 28, 1798 being then in perfect health he executed his last Will and Testament. This will was probated on June 2, 1801, so that his death must have occurred before the date of its probate<sup>4</sup>. Both he and his wife were probably buried in the old Hoobaugh graveyard about half a mile distant to the north<sup>5</sup>. He seems to have left

- (1) Recorder's Office, Carlisle, Vol. 1, Book M, page 369. (Witnesses were Thos. Laird and Robert McClure.) This land was afterwards deeded as follows up to 1820, being as far as the Cumberland County records apply: 1-O-360, William Douglass and Mary, his wife, Toboyne Township, to Jacob Overholser, May 30, 1801; 1-Q-481, Jacob Overholser to Henry Shoemaker Sr., April 15, 1806; 1-AA-348, Henry Shoemaker Sr. to Henry Shoemaker Jr. January 31, 1811. (Later conveyances in Perry County records.)
- (2) Vol. 1, Book P, page 231, deed dated July 31, 1798 recorded March 8, 1803; George Douglass and Martha, his wife, to Peter Shively (Martha Douglass made her mark). The name of Shively and Sheibley are the same, one being Anglicized. Editor Sheibley of the New Bloomfield paper is of the same family.
- (3) March 1, 1798 his nephew John Douglass, son of William, was married to Nancy McDowell by Rev. Samuel Wilson of Big Spring Church (*History of Big Spring Church*, p. 56).
- (4) His death was before May 19, 1801 as deed of that date from John Barnheisel to William Douglass, his son, speaks of George Douglass, deceased (1-O-358).
- (5) In September 1904, Mrs. Bell Campbell Conn of McCulloch's Mills, Juniata County, Pa. told the writer that about twenty years before that time, she and her mother Mrs. Mary Eliza Douglass Campbell went up to Sherman's Valley on the stage; that her mother pointed out the J. Weary, later Barnheisel, house on the corner at Greenpark as the old George Douglass home, and said that the old graveyard in which they and others were buried was on the hill opposite, on the spot on which a big barn had been built. An undated letter of Mrs. Mary Eliza Campbell's says "Papa's father and mother are buried on the Barnheisel place two miles from Landisburg. I have been there and seen their graves. It is where the old Presbyterian Church once stood before they took it to town." The big barn above was on the Barnheisel place but the old Presbyterian Church was probably the old Limestone Church which was by the graveyard now known as the Hoobaugh graveyard about a half mile distant to the north. At the Hoobaugh graveyard there was formerly a Presbyterian church spoken of as the "Limestone" or "Lower" Church at "Samuel Fishers". This church was partly erected in 1767 and was organized (by the Presbytery on June 24, 1772. It had no regular pastor until October 15, 1777, when Rev. John Linn accepted and was the pastor of this church together with the Center Church and the Upper Church (called also Toboyne)

a very considerable estate as appears from the inventory<sup>1</sup> of personal estate amounting to \$1324.37, and from the fact that 57½ acres directed to be sold to pay legacies brought 573 pounds, 8 shillings, 9 pence<sup>2</sup>, and that his home tract devised to his sons George and Watson was sold by them in 1810 for 2822 pounds, 6 shillings, 10 pence<sup>3</sup>; all this after he had deeded an adjoining farm to his son William, upon which William lived<sup>4</sup>.

until 1820 (*History of Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys*, page 1025). Among other gravestones are those of William Kerr, died 1795; Nancy McClure, wife of William McClure, died March 14, 1798, aged 32 years &c; Sarah Roddy, consort of Josiah Roddy, died December 6, 1840; George Elliott, died 1843; James Adams, died February 7, 1815, aged 90 years; Fosters; Magdalena Power; Neilson; Ziders. There is no stone with the Douglass name, but there are many stones destroyed and illegible. The Hoobaugh graveyard was in 1801 and for years later on or adjoining ground owned by John Barnheisel, which ground adjoined the old William Douglass tract on the north and east (of the W. D. tract). See boundary recitals in P-1-231 (1798) and U-1-19 (1810). Before 1798 this Barnheisel land had belonged to William Sanderson (M-1-369, 1797). The burial place of George Douglass was therefore probably the Hoobaugh graveyard.

- (1) Register's Office, Carlisle, Inventory #66 in D box of appraisements.
- (2) Deed dated April 14, 1802 recorded February 20, 1805 (1-Q-34). Executors of George Douglass to Wm. McClure.
- (3) Deed dated April 25, 1810 recorded June 11, 1810 (1-U-19). George Douglass and Watson Douglass, devisees of George Douglass, deceased, to James McKeenan.
- (4) Mrs. Elizabeth Otto Smith of New Germantown, Perry County, Pa., (see note 2, page 13) 78 years old in 1904, at that time told the writer that in her young days there was a very old slave called Old Black Bob, who then belonged to Judge William Anderson, having been purchased by him from George Douglass. Bell Ann Smith says her mother Nancy Douglass Smith told her that this slave nearly broke up the church at the Center. He was a freed-man, and when he died Judge Anderson wanted to bury him in Center Church graveyard. The congregation objected. He insisted, and as he was the main financial stay of the church, which would have been broken up without him, the church people had to yield. The widow of Alex B. Anderson confirms this story of her father-in-law's slave, as does also Mrs. Elizabeth Otto Smith. (See note, page 60).

His Will as appears recorded in the Register's Office of Cumberland County at Carlisle in Will Book F, at page 220, is as follows:<sup>1</sup>

Last Will & Testament  
of  
George Douglass, decd

In the Name of God, Amen.

I, George Douglass of Township of Tyrone in the County of Cumberland & State of Pennsylvania, yeoman, being in perfect health of Body and of sound mind & memory & understanding (blessed be God for the same) but Considering the uncertainty of this transitory life do make & publish this my last will & Testament in manner & form following, to wit--

Principally & first of all I commend my Immortal Soul into the hands of God who gave it & my body to the Earth to be Buried in a Decent and Christian like manner at the discretion of my Executors hereinafter named & as to such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with in this life I Give & Dispose of all my Just Debts & funeral expenses be honestly paid & Discharged. Item I will & bequeath unto my well Beloved wife Martha, her own Riding mare & also allow her to take her Choice of all my Cattle & to Chuse two cows for her own use & then my will is that she Injoy the one third of all my moveable Estate that may remain after paying my Debts discharging my funeral expenses & my wife having Received the mare Before mentioned & the two Cows & I will that my wife Injoys the plantation I now live on until my son Watson arives at the age of twenty one years to school & maintain the Children & when my son Watson shall arive at the age of twenty one years then my will is that Each of my sons George & Watson pay my wife the sum of Twenty Dollars each yearly & every year during the natural life of my sd wife.

Item I will & bequeath unto my well Beloved son William Douglass two Dollars.

Item I will Devise & bequeath unto my two sons George Douglass and Watson Douglass the tract of land I now live on to them their heirs and assigns to be divided share & share alike according to the quantity and quality; and I do will & bequeath unto my well beloved Daughter Sarah McClure the sum of one hundred and twenty five pounds & one Cow & unto my well beloved daughter Margaret Scott I will & bequath the sum of one hundred and ten pounds & unto my well beloved Daughter Martha Douglass I will & bequeath the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds & one horse & side saddle & two cows & bed and bedding; and unto my well Beloved daughter Elizabeth Douglass I will & bequeath the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds

(1) The original will is now [1904] in the possession of Willard R. Douglass.

Together with a horse and side saddle & two Cows and bed and bedding and I do hereby Impower my Executors hereafter to be named to Sell & Convey fifty seven acres and one half being the Remainder of the tract whereon my son William Douglass now lives in order to Discharge the above Legacies & my will is that whatever may Remain after Discharging the above devises of Every kind shall be Equally Divided between my Two sons George Douglass and Watson Douglass, and will further is that if Either of my two sons George or Watson Should happen to Dye before they are marryed or arive at the age of twenty one years that then the Surviving Brother shall be the Sole and Absolute heir<sup>1</sup> and my will further is that if one or both of my unmarried Daughters Martha or Elizabeth should happen to Dye before they arive at the age of twenty one years or before they are marryed that then in such case her or their share shall be Divided between her or their surviving Sisters Equally and I do hereby authorize & Impower my wife & Executors & heirs that if it may appear to them most Convenient & for the advantage of my wife & heirs that they in such Case make Sale of the place I now live on & Give my Executors in such Case full power to Convey & sufficient title or titles in the purchaser or purchasers to make, lastly I nominate Constitute and appoint my said wife and my well beloved son William Douglass of the Township of Tyrone aforesaid and my trusty and loving friend Wilson McClure Esq<sup>r</sup> of the same place my Executors to Execute this my last Will hereby Revoking all other wills legacies & bequests by me heretofore made & Declaring this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the twenty Eight day of July *Anno Domini* one thousand Seven Hundred & ninety Eight.

George Douglass (seal)

Signed sealed published & declared by the said Testator as his last will & testament in the presence of us who in his presence & at his Request have Subscribed it as Witnesses.

Thomas McClure  
John McClure  
John Delinton

Be it remembered that on the 2nd day of June A.D. 1801 the last Will and Testament of George Douglass dec<sup>d</sup> (of Tyrone Township) of which the foregoing record is a true copy, was legally proved, and Letters Testamentary with a copy of the Will annexed issued the same day in Common form to William Douglass & Wilson McClure Esq<sup>r</sup> executors therein mentioned. Inventory & account to be exhibited into the Register's Office in the Borough of Carlisle in the time appointed by Law. Witness my hand.

George Kline, Register.

(1) This clause of the will was the subject of litigation in the Supreme Court of Highland County, Ohio at Hillsboro in 1823 after the death of George Douglass, one of the brothers, who had never married. He was supposed to

The inventory and appraisement was made June 29, 1801, and was filed July 1, 1801. It is Inventory Number 66 in the "D" box of the "Personal Estate of George Douglass late of Tyrone Township in the County of Cumberland & State of Pennsylvania.

	D. C.
To cash	113.33
To Sundry Notes	212.00
To 7 Coins	3.50
To 1 Dresser & Sundrys of Kitchen furniture	6.00
To 1 bake kettle & 3 pots	2.93
To one Gridle, one pan & one Grid Iron	1.20
To one tea kettle	2.50
To one shovle tongs & fire irons	2.50
To 1 table	1.50
To one D <sup>o</sup>	1.50
To 1 tea D <sup>o</sup>	4.00
to one Dining D <sup>o</sup>	6.00
to 1 Cupboard	6.00
to 1 trunk & Chest	2.00
to 1 feather Bed Beding & bedstead	8.00
to 1 case of Drawers	5.33
to 1 D <sup>o</sup> in the Back Room downstairs	9.00
to 1 feather bed & Beding	10.00
to 1 Stan	1.00
to 1 Silver watch	6.00
to 1 looking Glass	0.80
to 1 feather Bed Beding & bedstead	7.33
to 1 D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	6.00
to 1 D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	8.00
to 1 wagon	60.00
to 1 Roan horse	74.67
to 1 bay D <sup>o</sup>	74.67
to 1 brown D <sup>o</sup>	66.67
to 1 black D <sup>o</sup>	34.67
to 1 red Cow	13.33
to 1 D <sup>o</sup> with bell	16.00
to 1 crooked horn <sup>d</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	13.33
	779.76

(End of page)

Brot over	779.76
to 1 white faced Cow	12.00
to 1 Red heifer	10.67
to 1 flecked D <sup>o</sup>	11.33
to 1 White back <sup>d</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	10.67

have left a will devising his lands to his brother Watson, but the will could not be found after his death. The lands appear to have been claimed by Watson under the above clause of their father's will, but it was decided otherwise in the suit which was entitled *William Douglass, Robert Adams & Sarah Adams, his wife, late Sarah Douglass, & Margaret Scott vs. Watson Douglass, Alexander Morrow & Elizabeth his wife, late Elizabeth Douglass, George Anderson & Martha his wife, late Martha Douglass.*

to 2 steers	18.67
to 1 Bull	6.67
to 1 heifer	7.33
to 3 calves	10.00
to 1 D <sup>o</sup>	2.00
to 20 hogs @ 2 Doll <sup>s</sup>	40.00
to 15 sheep @ \$1	15.00
to 1 wind mill <sup>1</sup>	13.33
to 1 old D <sup>o</sup>	2.67
to 1 cutting Box & Knife	1.60
to 1 sleigh	18.67
to 1 dung fork & pitch fork	0.33
to 1 ax	0.67
to horse Gears & harnessing	9.00
to 1 plow & 2 Clevises <sup>2</sup>	3.00
to 1 pair of Strechers	1.33
to 1 harrow & Chane	2.00
to 1 plow & Double Clevis	2.50
to 1 mans Saddle	8.00
to 1 Side D <sup>o</sup>	10.67
to 1 D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup>	10.00
to 10 acres of wheat @ \$10	100.00
to 8 D <sup>o</sup> of Rye @ \$6	48.00
to 13 acres of wheat @ \$11.67	147.33
to 1 fine hat	3.50
to Sundry Clothing or wearing apparel	15.00
to sundry Books	2.67

Total amt.

Doll<sup>s</sup>: 1324.37

Cumberland County ss.

Before George Stroop Esquire one of the Justices of the peace in and for the said County personally came Peter Shively and John Dunbar and being duly sworn according to law saith that the above Inventory and appraisement of the personal estate of George Douglass late of Tyrone Township dec<sup>d</sup> is Just and true according to the best of their knowledge saith not.

Peter Shively }  
John Dunbar } Appraisers<sup>3</sup>

Sworn &amp; Subscribed June 29th, 1801 before George Stroop."

- (1) Fanning mills for cleaning grain were called "wind mills" all through Sherman's Valley.
- (2) An iron which goes over the single tree.
- (3) Items in the inventory such as growing grain and calves as well as the ordinary course of probate business would indicate that he had recently died, probably in the early part of May, 1801, before May 19. (See note 4, page 17.)

Martha Douglass did not qualify as one of the executors under his will. She may have died before that date, which is most probable, although an old note book of her grandson John Coffey Douglass states that she died about 1808.

The old George Douglass house was at the southwest corner formed by the crossing of the Loysville or Valley Road and the Landisburg Road in what is now Greenpark. It was a thick walled stone house with a large fireplace and chimney at one end. Montour's Run flowed just a few yards back of it, and just south of the house between the Landisburg Road and Montour's Run was a very good spring. His son William lived just across the Run west of him. His nephew William McClure lived a short distance south of him on the opposite side of Montour's Run. A two story brick addition was built on the north end of the house in 1839 by J. Weary, as stated on a tablet inserted in the north gable wall of the brick part. In more recent years William Barnheisel<sup>1</sup> removed the roof of the stone part and the upper part of the old stone chimney, and built another story of frame above the stone part so as to make this end of the building correspond in height and dimensions with the brick part. The old stone fireplace with the shelf above it still remains in the southwest basement room of the stone part. The farm extended towards the northeast to the slopes of Mahoney Ridge, and in the other direction, southwest, commanded a beautiful view up the valley of rolling farm lands in the foreground and beautiful mountains in the distance. The county seat and market town was Carlisle, to reach which they had to travel an exceedingly difficult and rocky road, through the woods over the North or Blue Mountain, from the summit of which there is a beautiful view into both valleys.

His widow is said to have lived on the home place with her sons George and Watson until her death, which is said to have occurred in 1808<sup>2</sup>. George and Watson are then said to have lived with their sister Martha (Mrs. George Anderson), probably on the home place, until they sold it April 25, 1810, to James McKeehan and moved to Ohio, probably at the same time with their older brother William, and were followed in a few months (July 1811) by their sister Sarah Douglass McClure Adams and her husband Robert Adams.

- (1) George and Watson Douglass sold the home place to James McKeehan on April 25, 1810 (1-U-19). McKeehan sold to James McClure and William Reed March 21, 1828 (C-1-23). James McClure sold his half interest to William Reed June 3, 1828 (C-1-120). Reed sold it to John Weary. The heirs of John Weary sold to John and Frederick E. Dumm March 25, 1870 (D-2-214), and the Dumms sold to William Barnheisel, who in later years built the new brick house on the opposite side of the road from the old house. The Barnheisel family had owned and lived on lands in the vicinity from an early date.
- (2) By 1801 his son William was living in Toboyne Township which is the next township west, where he built a mill at Douglass Mills (now Blain) and became the first postmaster.