

UPDATED FEBRUARY 21, 2010

THE BRECKENRIDGE FAMILY

The Breckenridge Family was Scotch-Irish. Like so many such families they were originally from Scotland and went to Ulster or Northern Ireland in the 1600s and early 1700s. When that area proved not to be the Promised Land, they, along with thousands of others, packed up and sailed to Philadelphia in order to join Penn's Colony and the freedoms and opportunities that it afforded.

I will use the spelling of Breckenridge, although all of the early Pennsylvania documents used the more phonetic spelling of Brackenridge.

I have found the following reference in a book titled *HISTORIC FAMILIES OF KENTUCKY*:

On the 22nd day of May in 1740, fourteen heads of families appeared in the Orange County, Virginia Court House (Augusta County, Virginia not having been then established, and the territory being embraced in that of Orange) to `prove their importation.' The first of these was Alexander Breckenridge, who made oath that he had imported himself and John, George, Robert, Smith and Letitia Breckenridge, from Ireland to Philadelphia, and from thence to this colony (Virginia), at his own charges.

While I have no firm proof, I believe that this Alexander Breckenridge was one of the original Scotch Irish immigrant brothers who brought their families to the shores of America. Our line descends from another brother, Robert Breckenridge and his son, James Breckenridge.

The following was taken from a history written by John Knott of Hannibal, Missouri on February 26, 1900.

Robert Breckenridge, father of James Breckenridge, was born in Scotland; and with his two brothers came to America and then separated. Robert settled in Pennsylvania and his brothers settled in Virginia and Kentucky.

I have information on both Alexander and Robert Breckenridge, but I do not know who the other brother was.

At any rate, I have pieced out a fascinating story of this family from a series of letters compiled in 1962 by a C. G. Breckenridge.

These early documents and letters include John Knott's letter mentioned above written in 1900; a letter written by James Breckenridge of Savannah, Missouri on November 19, 1900; a letter from George Brackenridge (spelled with an `a') of San Antonio, Texas written in March of 1907; a 1913 letter from James M. Breckenridge and some other old documents.

These letters refer to an Indian Massacre, the *Wyoming Valley Massacre*, in which Robert Breckenridge and most of his family were killed. His two young sons John, six and James, four were playing in the woods when the attack came. They were separated and rescued by separate groups of survivors. Not knowing the other had survived, each son was taken in by separate families. James remained in Pennsylvania and John was taken to Virginia near the present area of

Washington D.C.

There was one other letter that refers to the family being killed by Indians, not in the Wyoming Valley in 1778, but further west in Huntingdon County on June 21, 1779.

In searching in the records of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania I did indeed find our family. The Indian massacre did take place there and Robert Breckenridge was indeed killed and the two sons separated. There is more about this in the section on Robert Breckenridge.

I will start this family history with what I know about the two brothers that came to America, Alexander and Robert. They were born in Scotland and moved as children to Northern Ireland like so many others. Life there was not much better than it was in Scotland and the sons traveled to America like many other *Scotch-Irish* accepting William Penn's invitation to come to the lands of the new world.

ALEXANDER BRECKENRIDGE

Alexander Breckenridge came to America from Northern Ireland sometime in the 1730s and arrived in the Port of Philadelphia. The family was originally Scotch. I do not know if Alexander was born in Scotland or in Ulster. He arrived with his family and three sons, John, Robert and George. According to an affirmation statement made in Orange County, Virginia in 1740 Robert's wife, Letitia Preston was with them at that time.

You also have to keep in mind that the entire northwestern portion of Virginia and the entire states of West Virginia and Kentucky were included in Orange and later Augusta County, Virginia. The 'swearing-in' in 1740 took place near Stanton, Virginia. It would appear that the family remained in Southwestern Virginia for a period in what is now Botetourt County, Virginia.

Of Alexander's children, I only have complete details on Robert Breckenridge and his wife Letitia Preston. Several biographies of his descendents may be found in an 1878 volume, *THE BIOGRAPHICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF KENTUCKY*. The Breckenridges were quite a distinctive group.

This particular line moved into what is now Fayette County, Kentucky near Lexington. Robert's eldest son, John Breckenridge, was born in Virginia in 1760 and attended William and Mary College. He studied law and went to Kentucky where he was the prominent lawyer and democratic leader of the state by 1800. John Breckenridge was Attorney General of the United States under Jefferson in 1805 until his death in 1806. A grandson, John Cabell Breckenridge was vice president under James Buchanan.

His children went on to become a famous clergyman, a professor at Princeton, a civil war general and several lawyers and it was the most prominent family in the state. The family was quite active as leaders in the Confederacy during the Civil War.

ROBERT BRECKENRIDGE SR.

Other mentions, specifically in Knott's 1900 letters, refer to three brothers, but I can only figure out two. This Robert Breckenridge is my lineage. He arrived in Philadelphia, probably with his

brother(s), and then remained in Pennsylvania.

The two brothers probably landed in Philadelphia and then moved west to Lancaster and Cumberland counties like most other Scotch-Irish families. Alexander went south to Virginia, another favored path of these peoples, while Robert remained in Cumberland County.

I know nothing more about the elder Robert other than that he probably had a son, also named Robert. There had to be two Roberts as the younger one was born in 1735 about the same time the two older men came to America.

I can only *officially* begin with my Robert Breckenridge.

ROBERT BRECKENRIDGE

Robert was born in about 1735. He could have been born in Northern Ireland or in Pennsylvania as the family came to America sometime in the 1730s.

In about 1760, he married Margaret Douglas in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Both the Douglas and Breckenridge families were there from the mid 1750s. The elder children, John and James were born there.

By the early 1770s, the lands west of the mountains were being opened up for settlement. Robert and his family took up farm lands in Hopewell, now Penn Township of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. His is listed among the first dozen or so families to move into the area.

These lands in the Juniata Valley were historically Indian hunting grounds, and as white settlers moved into the area troubles arose.

The following is taken from the *HISTORY OF HUNTINGDON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA*:

"During the latter part of 1778 and the early months of 1779 there were frequent rumors of Indian incursions east of the Allegheny Mountains and some murders committed. In the latter part of June, Robert Breckenridge and his daughter were killed and scalped by the Indians on their plantation three miles southwest of McConnellstown in Penn Township. This event struck terror among the residents of the adjoining valleys, and as a result the Frankstown settlement was almost abandoned."

There is a three page story of the Breckenridge Massacre in U. L. Jones' book, *A HISTORY OF THE JUNIATA VALLEY*. The story basically tells how the two sons, John and James, were out looking for a horse that had run away the previous night. While they were gone, Indians attacked their younger sister. Hearing the screams, the father, Robert Breckenridge, ran to her aid and was shot and killed. Then the Indians killed the daughter as well. The mother, Margaret, grabbed her two small daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret, and fled into the woods where they hid until the next day. The two boys returned home in the afternoon and found the bodies of their father and sister. They ran to the Fort at Standing Stone and made the report. The mother and sisters were found the following day.

In the meantime, it was thought that the entire family had been murdered. The boys were taken by two separate families. One son, John, was taken by a family that immediately moved out in fear of their lives. They went to Virginia near the present site of Washington D.C. James was

reunited with his mother and sisters, but John was gone, seemingly forever.

John Breckenridge remained in the Washington area and became a Presbyterian minister and founded a college there. James Breckenridge, my ancestor, remained in Pennsylvania. He eventually moved to what was the Patterson Settlement near present day Florissant, Missouri in 1820.

The story goes that one day James Breckenridge was telling the story of his early life and separation from his brother to a man named Gross. Gross said he had heard the same story from the Reverend John Breckenridge in Washington years before as a child. Letters were exchanged between the two lost brothers and in 1839, Reverend John Breckenridge made a trip to Missouri and after a separation of over 60 years, the two brothers were once again reunited.

You may not actually have had tears in your eyes in reading this, but it is true and makes a great tale.

Margaret Douglas Breckenridge remained in the area with the remainder of her family. She remarried to a man named Doyle. I do not know anymore about the marriage. Margaret wrote her will on December 15, 1788. It is in Will Book 1 of Huntingdon County.

In *ORPHANS COURT ABSTRACTS, HUNTINGDON COUNTY DOCKET A*, there are several listings on October 21, 1789. James Brackenridge, age 17, requested George Reynolds to be his guardian. Margaret Brackenridge, age 14, also requested George Reynolds. Margaret Doyle (late Margaret Brackenridge) requested the court appoint George Reynolds guardian over Elizabeth Brackenridge age 12.

In the same book on March 25, 1790, Margaret Doyle (late Margaret Brackenridge, widow and administratrix of Robert Brackenridge deceased) stated there was a remainder of the estate to be divided between her and five children. The mention of five children is tough. I can only account for James, Thomas, Margaret and Elizabeth. John is the fifth, I guess, but I did not think she knew where he was.

The Breckenridge farm was sold to Ludwig Hoover of Maryland in 1789. This was probably about the time Margaret remarried. I have no other information on Margaret after 1790. She was in her sixties by then and probably died in the early 1790s.

The following is what I know about the children of Robert and Margaret Brackenridge:

The Children of Robert Breckenridge

The following is what I know about the children of Robert Breckenridge and Margaret Douglas.

JOHN BRECKENRIDGE

John Breckenridge was born about 1772 in Pennsylvania. John was the son taken to Virginia by survivors of the Indian raid. He grew up in the vicinity of the new capital city, Washington D.C. It was there that he studied for the ministry. He was ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church. In 1795 he was appointed the first minister of the new First Presbyterian Church in the Federal City of Washington.

The church was located on the site of the present Capital building. It was buried in tact under the man made hill that supported the new Capital. It remains as the *foundation* of our Capital forever.

The Reverend John Breckenridge was minister at the new First Presbyterian Church for some forty years. He was appointed Chaplain of the U.S. Senate in 1812.

The Reverend married Eleanor White and the family remained in Washington until his death in 1841 some two years after reuniting with his brother James. Eleanor, who died in 1817, and a daughter, Mary, are buried in the Breckenridge family plot, now a part of the Soldier's home in Washington.

His children were:

James Madison Breckenridge

His eldest son, James Madison Breckenridge, moved to West Virginia and had a huge landed estate. He died there in 1852 leaving no children.

John Adams Breckenridge

The next son, John Adams Breckenridge, went to Princeton and studied law. John went to Indianapolis, Indiana about 1825 and practiced law in that state. He was active in the legislature and a political friend of Abraham Lincoln of Illinois. In 1827 he married Isabella McCullough. In 1852, John moved to Texas due to failing health. There he went into the dry goods business. He was a staunch advocate of the Union. When the civil War broke out, he was extremely distraught and died of a 'broken heart'.

Now here's another good part. One of John's sons, George, became president of the First National Bank of San Antonio. In April of 1874 he was on a stage coach to Austin that was stopped and held up by Frank and Jesse James and three other outlaws. If you can't have a black sheep in the closet, the next best thing is to be robbed by one or something like that. Anyway ...

Thomas Jefferson Breckenridge

The third son, Thomas Jefferson Breckenridge was highly educated in spite of losing his hearing in a childhood illness. He lived in Booneville, Warrick County, Indiana and had two sons, John Adams Breckenridge and Zachary Taylor Breckenridge.

JAMES BRECKENRIDGE

James was the son who remained in Pennsylvania after the family tragedy. James was born in July of 1772. He remained in Pennsylvania and in the early 1790s joined up with General *Mad Anthony* Wayne and fought the Indians with him in Ohio until the mid to latter 1790s.

He was mustered out and given a claim for bounty lands in Kentucky. He then moved south across the Ohio River to Madison County, Kentucky near the present town of Richmond, Kentucky.

At about the same time he married Eva Hockersmith. They were married in February of 1798 and I believe it took place in Madison County, Kentucky, but I am not certain.

Eva was the daughter of a Judge Hockersmith. Later searching indicates that her father was an Edward Hockersmith. I have a brief **HOCKERSMITH FAMILY HISTORY** that follows this history. I have also come up with a Hockensmith family in western Pennsylvania. This is all the same family. Spellings were erratic at best in those days.

James and Eva had ten children. The first nine were born in Richmond, Madison County, Kentucky. The youngest was born in St. Louis County, Missouri.

It seems that while living in Kentucky, James Breckenridge met Daniel Boone and traveled with him several times into what was then Louisiana but is now St. Louis, Missouri. Boone County, Missouri was named for this pioneer who eventually spent his last days there.

After exploring the area with Boone and others, James and Eva and their family moved to St. Louis County, Missouri some 10 miles north of the City of St. Louis on the St. Charles road. This was in the *Patterson Settlement* near the present day Florissant, Missouri.

There they remained for the rest of their lives. James died on June 26, 1853 and Eva died there on October 31, 1861. Both are buried in St. Louis County.

They had the following ten children:

Elizabeth Breckenridge

Elizabeth was born August 17, 1799 in Richmond, Kentucky.

She was married four times. She first married John Parks Bacon in St. Louis County, Missouri on February 15, 1821. John was born in Amherst County, Virginia on December 14, 1795.

They had four children before John Bacon died on November 16, 1829.

JULIA ANN BACON was born October 28, 1821. She married Preston Gordon in St. Louis County on March 9, 1837. She died in St. Clair County, Missouri on December 22, 1861.

JAMES LUDWELL BACON was born November 5, 1823 and died in St. Clair County on October 28, 1854.

MARGARET E. BACON was born February 10, 1826. She married John K. Orr in St. Louis County on September 22, 1845. She died in St. Louis County in 1904.

WILLIAM PARKS BACON was born November 10, 1828. He married Minerva Eve Hume in St. Louis County on March 11, 1852. Minerva was a daughter of Stanton Hume and Sarah Ann Breckenridge. Minerva was born February 20, 1832.

After John Bacon died on November 16, 1829, Elizabeth married William Orr. They were married in St. Louis County on February 23, 1831. They had one child:

JAMES ORR born February 19, 1832. He married Elvira Lewis and died sometime in the late 1850s. Elvira was listed as a widow in January 1858.

William Orr must have died very shortly after they were married as on December 13, 1833, Elizabeth married Thomas James Ferguson in St. Louis County. They had two children:

SALINA B. FERGUSON born April 15, 1836. She married John Hockersmith on May 15, 1853. She died in the 1870s in St. Louis County.

VIRGINIA CARR FERGUSON was born January 18, 1857. She married Stanton Hume (Junior) in St. Louis County on February 26, 1857. Stanton was a son of Stanton Hume and Sarah Ann Breckenridge. He was born February 13, 1836 and died August 22, 1922. They had one son:

Robert Breckenridge Hume who married Annie Teet Hyatt, daughter of Judge Joseph Hyatt and Elizabeth Harris.

Elizabeth married for the fourth time in 1853. She became the fifth wife of Judge Frederick Hyatt and she again outlived this husband as well. Frederick died September 10, 1870.

Elizabeth was living with her daughter Virginia and her husband Stanton Hume in the 1880 census.

John Breckenridge

John was born January 25, 1801. He married Elizabeth Post on April 30, 1829 in St. Louis County. Elizabeth was born in Vermont.

The family moved to Andrew County, Missouri in 1844. John died there in 1865 and is buried in the old Savannah Cemetery. Elizabeth remained in the area until her death on September 28, 1897.

They had these children:

SARAH BRECKENRIDGE She married William Fulkerson on October 5, 1848 in Andrew County, Missouri.

ELIZABETH BRECKENRIDGE She married Fielding P. Chamberlain in Andrew County on May 19, 1852.

JAMES CLINTON BRECKENRIDGE He was born January 31, 1835 and died January 16, 1917. He married Amanda Young April 12, 1881 in Savannah, Andrew County. They had 3 children:

John Clinton Breckenridge born May 29, 1882 and died in New Orleans April 20, 1920. He never married.

Robert James Breckenridge born September 14, 1883 and died in Texarkana, Texas March 21, 1933. He first married an Ethel in 1910 and later married Mary Martin May 4, 1919.

Asa Allen Breckenridge born July 26, 1887 and died in New Orleans January 18, 1919. He first married Mattie Crosby in 1915 and then Nellie Heikes August 19, 1920.

MINERVA BRECKENRIDGE married Elcana Trumbo on October 22, 1863.

MISSOURI BRECKENRIDGE married E. S. Castle on November 5, 1862.

ELIZA BRECKENRIDGE

ASA BRECKENRIDGE

Sarah (Sallie) Breckenridge

Sallie was born in August 1802. She died as an infant.

Sarah Ann Breckenridge

The second Sarah was born January 22, 1804. Sarah Ann married Stanton Hume and is my ancestor. They were married on December 31, 1822. The **HUME FAMILY HISTORY** was covered in the preceding section.

Stanton Hume was born in Madison County, Virginia on May 12, 1799 and he died February 18, 1850 in St. Louis County, Missouri.

Stanton and Sarah Ann Hume lived in the Patterson Settlement some 15 miles north of the present City of St. Louis and farmed the land all their lives. Both Stanton and Sarah Ann are buried in the Cold Water Cemetery near Florissant, Missouri. Sarah Ann died July 23, 1888.

They had twelve children all of whom were born in Florissant, St. Louis County, Missouri. The following is what I know about the family of Stanton Hume and Sarah Breckenridge Hume.

ANNE ELIZABETH HUME was born on December 1, 1823. She married Lemuel James Patterson in Flourissant, Missouri on October 1, 1843. This is my line of Humes and Pattersons. Lemuel James Patterson and Ann Elizabeth Patterson's daughter Minerva Eve Patterson married John Jones. John and Minerva Jones were my mother's grandparents.

TALITHA HUME was one of the twins born on February 20, 1825. She married Rufus Blackburn on December 15, 1842.

LEWIS F. HUME was the second twin born on February 20, 1825. He married Mary Ann Cason on March 16, 1847. Their children were:

James Hume
Stanton Hume
Catherine Hume
Another Daughter

JAMES BRECKENRIDGE HUME was born on March 31, 1828. He married Keziah Patterson on November 16, 1854. James died on September 7, 1901. Keziah died on April 7, 1907. Both are buried in the Cold Water Cemetery. They had these children:

Patrick Hume a son born September 9, 1855 and died May 20, 1857.

Lucy Ann Hume was born February 2, 1860 and died April 26, 1862.

Gertrude Hume was born in 1865. She married Judge Robert Lee Hyatt on November 16, 1886.

Stanton Beauregard Hume

JOHN M. HUME was born on February 18, 1830 and died on August 19, 1847 at the age of seventeen.

MINERVA EVE HUME was born on February 20, 1832. She married William Parks Bacon on March 11, 1852. They had one daughter who married John Tyler.

MARIAH CATHERINE HUME was born on October 29, 1833. She married Pendleton P. Ellis on April 2, 1857. Marie died on February 7, 1861. They had one child that died in infancy.

STANTON HUME II was born on February 13, 1836 and died on August 22, 1922. He married Virginia Carr Ferguson on February 27, 1857. She was a daughter of Thomas Ferguson and Elizabeth Breckenridge. They had two sons:

Robert Breckenridge Hume who married Annie Teet Hyatt, a daughter of Judge Joseph Lafayette Hyatt and Elizabeth Harris. They had two children: **Joseph Hyatt Hume** and **Virginia Elizabeth Hume** who married Silas Thompson.

Jefferson D. Hume died at age 7 months and 7 days on October 23, 1862.

SARAH M. HUME was born on March 11, 1841 and died on May 1, 1904. She married N. W. Evans on December 20, 1864. She later moved to Chicago, Illinois.

GEORGE WASHINGTON HUME was born on January 27, 1843 and died May 18, 1932. He married Anna Washington Tyler on February 18, 1879. They had two sons and four daughters:

Lewis Hume

Paul Hume

Sarah Hume

Anna Hume

Gussie Hume

Edna Hume

MARY THOMAS HUME was born on November 27, 1844. She married Curtis W. Martin in June of 1867. They moved to Pike County, Missouri.

JULIA ANNA HUME was born in 1845. She married J. C. Henly on February 18, 1862. They had three girls and she died a widow in Roodhouse, Illinois at the home of her sister, Ann Elizabeth Patterson.

Margaret L. Breckenridge

Margaret was born February 17, 1806. She married Walter Hensen Boswell in St. Louis County on February 19, 1839. Walter was born in Charles County, Maryland on July 11, 1808.

They remained in St. Louis County. Walter died in 1851, Margaret died January 29, 1874. Both are buried in the Fee Fee Cemetery.

They had one child:

CHARLES BOSWELL born in 1843. He was not mentioned in his mother's will so must have died in the 1860s, possibly in the Civil War as he was the right age.

Asa Brackenridge

Asa was born in Madison County, Kentucky on May 22, 1808. He always spelled his name with an 'a.' He married Mary Elizabeth Goode on November 27, 1834 in Franklin County, Missouri. Mary had previously been married to William E. Roberts of Franklin County.

They lived in Franklin County all their lives. Asa was a farmer there.

Their children were:

ALBERT BRECKENRIDGE

MACK BRECKENRIDGE

ROBERT BRECKENRIDGE born December 25, 1841 and died in Franklin County on November 25, 1882.

MINERVA BRECKENRIDGE born October 26, 1844. She married John T. Crowe on January 16, 1866. She died in Franklin County on July 6, 1874 at age thirty.

MARY JANE BRECKENRIDGE married David J. Voorhis in Franklin County on September 15, 1868.

LUCY BRECKENRIDGE was born April 5, 1850. She married Charles P. McCune on November 15, 1871 and died in Franklin County on May 17, 1879.

JAMES E. BRECKENRIDGE

Isaac Hockersmith Breckenridge

Isaac, or *Hawker* as he was called, was born April 5, 1810 in Madison County, Kentucky. He married Lois Post in St. Louis County, Missouri on February 14, 1836.

He was a farmer and remained in St. Louis County all his life.

Hawker died on October 19, 1875 and Lois died there January 13, 1904. Both are buried in the Fee Fee Cemetery.

Their children were:

THOMAS E. BRECKENRIDGE born October 28, 1836. He married Nancy J. McClain on July 20, 1873. He died November 1, 1910.

ELIZABETH BRECKENRIDGE was born in June 1839 and died on September 3, 1853 at age fourteen.

JAMES BRECKENRIDGE was born in June 1842 and died at age twenty-six on September 13, 1868.

JOHN POST BRECKENRIDGE was born December 8, 1844 and died in St. Louis County on April 6, 1907.

ISAAC BRECKENRIDGE

ERASTUS BRECKENRIDGE was born in 1850 and died August 28, 1853.

Minerva M. Breckenridge

Minerva was born November 1, 1812.

She married James Gordon in St. Louis County on December 10, 1835. Minerva died in the 1844-1847 time period and James died February 16, 1852.

The children of James and Minerva were:

MARGARET B. GORDON

ELIZABETH A. GORDON

EUPHEMIA J. GORDON

MINERVA E. GORDON

James Gordon late remarried to a Sarah Ann 'Sallie' who survived him in 1853.

James Madison Breckenridge

James Brackenridge was born January 12, 1816 in Madison County, Kentucky. This family continued to use the spelling of Brackenridge.

He married Mary Ann Magdaline Burch in Rives County, Missouri on January 27, 1840. Mary was born in Hardy County, Virginia on January 7, 1822. She was a daughter of Robert Norton Burch and Rebecca Swisher.

The family moved to St. Clair County, Missouri where both died. James died on June 28, 1895 and Mary on January 13, 1903. Both are buried in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery.

Their children were:

ROBERT THOMAS BRACKENRIDGE was born October 25, 1844. He married Sarah Elizabeth Gordon on October 23, 1870. She was born March 18, 1850, a daughter of Preston Gordon and Julia Ann Bacon. They remained in St. Clair county and she died there September 20, 1918 and he died February 26, 1923. Their children were:

James Preston Brackenridge born August 9, 1871 and died October 30, 1937. He married Alice Brown in Tiffin, Missouri on September 3, 1901. They had three children: Everett Nally, Mary Lois and Elizabeth Ellen Brackenridge.

William Edward Brackenridge born July 27, 1873 and died August 20, 1949. He married Laura Josie True on March 18, 1894.

Charles Henry Brackenridge was born October 29, 1879 and died in Cedar County, Missouri on April 17, 1963. He married Mary Brown on August 16, 1905.

EVE REBECCA BRACKENRIDGE was born April 10, 1848. She married William R. Boles in St. Clair County on February 20, 1868. She died in St. Clair County on August 17, 1920.

MARGARET VIRGINIA BRACKENRIDGE was born January 27, 1852. She married Thomas C. Chambers on January 4, 1872. She died in St. Clair County on October 23, 1940.

Thomas Edwin Breckenridge

Thomas Breckenridge was born March 15, 1825 in St. Louis County, Missouri. He was the only child born in Missouri.

He went on the famous early expedition to California with Colonel James Fremont in 1848. He survived and returned to St. Louis County in 1850.

He married Margaret Elizabeth Ritenour on January 30, 1851.

The family moved to Hannibal, Marion County, Missouri where he remained until he died on April 23, 1897.

Their children, all born in Missouri, were:

JAMES J. BRECKENRIDGE

THOMAS BRECKENRIDGE

HARRIETT BRECKENRIDGE

WALTER BRECKENRIDGE

HENRY P. BRECKENRIDGE

REECE C. BRECKENRIDGE

ELIZABETH BRECKENRIDGE

Elizabeth was the infant daughter saved by her mother. She would have been born about 1777 in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania.

She married William Meek about 1795 and lived in the adjacent Center County, Pennsylvania.

William Meek died in 1806 and Elizabeth died in 1820, both in Centre County.

Their children were:

JOHN BRECKENRIDGE MEEK born in 1797. He married Sarah Elizabeth Noyes in 1857 and died in Washington DC in 1868.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MEEK born about 1801. He married Rachel Barron in 1833.

REUBEN HERRON MEEK was born about 1803. He married Mary Ann Gray.

WILLIAM JAY MEEK was born about 1805.

THOMAS BRECKENRIDGE

Thomas seems to have remained for a while in Pennsylvania. He is listed as a single freeman in the 1788 tax list of Huntingdon County. This would put him over the age of eighteen in that year. This would make him the eldest child, born about 1761 to 1769.

He was listed as a single freeman in 1812 in West Township so he was still unmarried at that point.

I have nothing else on him.

MARGARET BRECKENRIDGE

The only information I have on Margaret was that she was fourteen years old in 1789. She would have been two at the time of the massacre.

I have no further information, so do not know if she lived or was married.

Like so many of the families that married into my family and became a part of my heritage, the Breckenridges were a very colorful and important addition.