

CLASS OF 1877

HISTORY

-of-

THE ATKINSON - ATKESON FAMILY.

Thomas Clark Atkeson

April 1900.

DEDICATION

The story of a family is always interesting to the members thereof; and this brief outline is presented after having taken much time and pains, to secure all of the available information as to the earliest generations. It is not supposed that the general public will care to read this history, and no apology is offered to readers and friends of the family who may read it. With a sincere conviction that the members of the family will appreciate what I have done to preserve the family history and traditions, this is dedicated to my Sisters and Brothers.

The Author

THE ATKINSON-ATKESON FAMILY.

BY

THOMAS CLARK ATKESON.

On the fifteenth of September, 1898, a family reunion of the Atkinsons of the Pan-handle counties of the State was held in a grove on the farm of John Atkinson in Brooke county, at which a brief history of that branch of the Atkinson family was read by Hon. John H. Atkinson, which contains some suggestion and conclusions of interest to members of the family every where, which will justify the reproduction of the following. He says:

"It is only the inspired historian who can say, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth;' and had Moses been left to his own knowledge and the legends of his ancestors, the history of the world would have been a blank for 2,500 years. And he who would write of to-day, even though he be four score years of age, will find that without a written history of events, he will have but little knowledge of what occurred one hundred years ago. He may treasure up in his memory the oft repeated tales of father and mother, and it may be of an aged grand-parent, and reminiscence from the oldest inhabitants, but the hand of time will have left his recollections uncertain, and what was once clear to his memory will have become mythical, or lost in the sea of forgetfulness.

I have been requested to give you today the genealogy or history of the Atkinson family, and it reminds me very forcibly, that at the age of 79 years I am three years older than my grand-father was when he died, and that I am the oldest living representative of the family who came 102 years since to settle upon the banks of the Ohio River.

Before speaking of what may be called the known history of the family, it may be interesting to note that the family name may be found in every shire in England, in many parts of the north of Ireland, in Scotland and in nearly every state of the Union.

In the heraldry of England, one of the Atkinson family, Lord of North-cumberland and Somers, had for his coat of arms an eagle, wings expanded, with an olive branch in his beak, and arrows in his talons; seeming to have foreshadowed the emblem of American liberty, and given a hint to the free men of the new world, in the choice of a national seal.

Professor Lower, upon English surnames, published in London, gives the derivation of Atkinson, as coming from Arthur, the last king of Britain before that country was overrun by the hordes that swept over them from the continent.

Camden, another author upon surnames, derives the name from Att, the familiar abbreviation from Arthur, and kins, a diminutive, signifying a child of Arthur. Fairbanks, another writer upon heraldry, says, 'In all the countries of Europe, rank, title and precedence are grand prizes in the race of life; while in America every man is the architect of his own fortune and name.'

How careful then should we be to write upon our individual escutcheon only what is honest, noble and true.

While the real history and derivation of the family name may be hard to trace from the day of Arthur, in the Fifth century, to the days of Cromwell in the Seventeenth century; it is certain that the clans must have borne their full share in the struggles and wars of England, as the name, 'Tommy Atkins' has for years stood as the facetious synonym of the English soldier, as yankee has been a like synonym of the American soldier. But upon the conquest of Ireland about 1650 we have data which shows that among the vast crowds of English families, who were colonized by Cromwell upon the confiscated lands of the north of Ireland, were some of our name, where they engaged in manufactures. After the overthrow of the Commonwealth and the return of royalty to England the taxes became so burdensome upon the manufacturers that many determined to emigrate to the new world. Early in the Eighteenth century Thomas Atkinson came to this country from the north of Ireland, settling first in Maryland near Baltimore, but removing in a few years to the waters of Ten Mile in Washington county Pa., then supposed to be in Virginia. Here he engaged in farming and made a home a few miles north of the present village of Prosperity. This was our great grand-father, and as the Indian still contended for domain over the forest from the Allegheny mountains to the Ohio river, Thomas Atkinson had upon his home place a fort, which for some time was the refuge of the white families of that region when they were forced to flee for safety from the numerous bands of Indians that made frequent incursions as far east as Brownsville. And here at his home came such men as Wetzel and Brady, as they kept guard of this western country of the approach of savages. Although not certain, it is very probable that Thomas Atkinson was one of the army that made the unfortunate campaign into Ohio under Colonel Crawford. If so, he escaped the sad fate of his commander, as he died at home and was buried in the old church yard near his place. Here in the year 1837, while teaching school on Ten Mile creek, I visited his grave marked by a substantial sand-stone slab.

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By his side slept his wife, our great grandmother."

Then follows a rather lengthy account of the individual members of this branch of the family which we must omit, notwithstanding the almost certain conclusion that they are directly related to the branch of the family with which we are immediately concerned.

The Atkin son family in America had its origin in an ancient Irish stock, which probably migrate from the south of England to Ireland at an early date.

We have in our possession a letter written by Mrs. Adelaede Atkinson Cheney, of Meriden Conn. in which she says: "I am happy to acknowledge the receipt of your kind letter, and will state in response that I believe the information it contains has enabled me to tabulate your branch with others of Irish extraction. In 1690 two brothers named John and George Atkinson, of Yorkshire County, England, were officers in the army of William the Third and invaded Ireland. They remained there and settled themselves in the contiguous counties of Downs and Armagh. I think John lived in Armagh. A Mr. Hoffman Atkinson of Anniston Ala. writes me that his progenitors came from Armagh, and that he belongs to the branch of which Bishop Atkinson, Gov. Atkinson of Georgia and the Mayo Atkinsons of Baltimore and the family of Judge Atkinson Iryor belong. So no doubt your ancestors originated in County Armagh, Ireland. Your letter was replete with interest, as the names you cite, of Thomas, Robert, Betsy and Nancy, are the very same as those of the children of my great-great-grandfather, Stephen Atkinson, of County Armagh, Ireland. Robert lived in Baltimore Maryland in 1735. My great-great-grandfather, Thomas, lived in Lancaster county Pa. and there married a Dutch woman, Salome Widner. He finally moved to Virginia and died near the city of Alexandria about the year 1773. You perceive the histories of our progenitors are very like, and yet they are not the same. The migratory nature of the early settlers in America makes it difficult to discover at this late date, very much that is definite concerning them, but I find family tradition is most satisfactory in many instances in establishing missing links between families, apparently not related. The counties of Armagh and Downs are very small, consequently the families of Atkinsons who emigrated from there were in all probability from the same stock. The names of Robert and Thomas occur in all the families who claim Ireland as the home of their progenitors, and I may add that John is conspicuous in that relation also.

There is a large family of Atkinsons in Henderson Ky. who came from Downs county originally, and John was the name of the ancestor from whom they came. I believe that by investigation and perseverance, I shall find the Atkinsons of Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, Illinois and Carolina, are from Ireland and came from the two brothers who went there in 1690."

We read this letter from Mrs. Cheney with much interest and insert it here because of the fact that it is not unlikely that Stephen Atkinson of county Armagh, Ireland was the father of my great-grandfather, John Atkin son, who may have been a brother of Mrs. Cheney's grandfather, Thomas, and grand uncle, Robert. As this history progresses it will be interesting to note the probability of some of Mrs. Cheneys conclusions.

Mr. Theodore Ellis Atkinson, brother of the Governor of Georgia, writes us that: "About a century ago John Atkinson of Burnswick Co. Va. was married to Miss Elizabeth Bland Lundie, daughter of an Episcopal minister of that county.

The children who lived to be grown were five daughters and one son. The son, John Pepper Atkinson, was born Nov.-, 1804. First married Miss Harwell. Their children were:-

Martha A. R. Atkinson, now Mrs. G. R. Mallory, Lawrenceville Va.

Mary Yates Atkinson, now Mrs. M. Y. Mallory, Concord Ga.

John Pepper Atkinson Jr. mortally wounded in first battle of Manassas.

After the death of his first wife he was married about 1848 to Miss Theodora Phelps Ellis, daughter of Dr. Iddo Ellis of Ga. Their children were :-

Lucy A. Atkinson, born 1850, was educated at Vassar College. Now Mrs. D. P. Ellis, Oakland Ga.

Theodore Ellis Atkinson, born 1851, educated at Emory College and the University of Virginia. Is a merchant at Newman Ga.

William Yates Atkinson, born Nov. 1854. Educated at the University of Georgia. Was Speaker of the House of Representatives and Governor of Ga. for two terms, from 1894 to 1898. Died August 8, 1899.

Thomas Alexander Atkinson, born 1860. Educated at Senoria High School. Is a merchant and Vice President of Greenville Bank, Greenville Ga.

It is altogether probable that John Atkinson, grandfather of Gov. W. Y. Atkin son was a first cousin of John Atkinson, who was the grandfather of Gov. G. W. Atkin son of W. Va., and of the writer of this sketch. This statement may not be made as an absolute fact but from all the information I have been able to gather that conclusion has been reached with a considerable degree of certainty. It is altogether probable that all the Atkinsons in America who descended from Irish stock are more or less closely related, but leaving the field of speculation we enter the field of Authentic history.

JOHN ATKINSON.

JOHN ATKINSON.

Was the founder of the Atkinson family in this country in which we are the most directly interested. He came from Ireland to the United States when a very young man and landed at the city of Baltimore. Just what part of Ireland he came from is not definitely known, but probably from county Armagh or Down. Soon after his arrival in Baltimore he went to some place in Pennsylvania, and while there married a German lady - at least of German parentage - whose name we have not been able to learn. Some of his children were born there but how many of them is unknown. We have been unable to learn the exact date but while still a young man he left Penn. with his family and settled in Rockbridge co. Va. where he resided for many years and reared his family.

Thence he moved with his family to Greenbrier Co., Va., now W. Va. Some of the children married while in Greenbrier, as will hereafter appear. Late in life he again moved, this time to Kanawha Co. and settled three miles below Charleston W. Va. about one mile below the mouth of Two Mile creek, where he died at a ripe old age, and there he lies buried. The best evidence obtainable fixes the date of his death at about 1822. John Atkinson left eight children: two girls and six boys.

BETSY ATKINSON.

Married a man by the name of Thomas Paxton and of their descendants we have little knowledge. They raised a family on Elk River in what is now Clay Co. W. Va., where a large number of their descendants are now living.

NANCY ATKINSON.

Married a man by the name of Allen Baxter in Greenbrier Co. They moved to and settled somewhere on Elk in what is now Braxton Co. and there reared a family of whom we know but little, but are informed that they have quite a number of descendants in that county. One of them, Felix J. Baxter, is a prominent lawyer, and was, some years ago, a member of the State Senate of West Virginia.

GEORGE ATKINSON.

Was born in Penna. in 1776, (this date seems to be authentic) was married to a Miss Sarah Donally in Greenbrier Co., (who was a sister of the grandmother of the writer). They moved to Elk river in Kanawha Co. where they raised a family of six children, three boys and three girls --- William, John, James, Jane, Polly and Nancy.

William Atkinson, his eldest son, died near Deer Lake in Mason Co. W. Va. at 83 years of age after having been married three times and left a large family, namely: James M., John Wesley and George H. Atkinson. James M. and John Wesley are deceased, and George H. resides on Thirteen Mile creek, Putnam Co. W. Va. His daughters were Mrs. Sarah J. Armstrong, Mrs. Melissa Vickers, Mrs. Roxalina Thomas, Mrs. Mary F. Warner, Mrs. Anne Eliza Hill, Mrs. Clarissa Sisson and Mrs. Virginia Buck; all of whom are dead except Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Thomas.

John Atkinson died at the age of 78, in 1875, in Kanawha Co. He was twice married. His first wife was Mary Slack, daughter of John Slack, who resided in Kanawha Co. By this marriage two children were born --- Burwell and Mary. The former died at the age of sixteen. Mary became the wife of Rev. Joseph B. Feather, a member of the W. Va. Conference, M. E. Church, and is still an active minister therein. His wife died about 20 years ago. Two children were born to them who are now residing in Preston Co. W. Va.

John Atkinson's second wife was Nancy McClanahan, who was reared on Pocataligo river in Kanawha Co. The fruit of this wedlock were four boys: John McCoppin, James William, Benjamin Franklin and David H. Atkinson. The eldest died on Kanawha two mile creek, some fifteen years ago. The second son was killed by the burning of a steamboat on the Ohio river between Cincinnati and Louisville, about twenty-six years ago. The remaining two sons now reside in Kanawha Co., W. Va. Both of them are married and have large families.

James Atkinson was born May 28, 1811 and died from the effects of a drink of caustic soda taken through mistake for cider, Sept. 11, 1866. He was reared on a farm in Kanawha Co. Va. and was a boat builder by trade; worked at same until about 37 years of age; was a Justice of the Peace 20 years; was Deputy Sheriff of Kanawha Co. for 8 years, and High Sheriff 4 years; was a merchant in Charleston the last ten years of his life; owned a large farm, 1066 acres, on Elk River 5 miles from Charleston, and conducted it for 35 years; and was 38 years a member of the M. E. Church. He was a man of worth and influence in the county in which he was born, lived and died.

He married Miss Miriam Rader of Nicolas Co. in 1842. She died at the age of 83, Aug. 30, 1896, at Charleston W. Va. Eight children were the result of their wedlock --- six daughters and two sons.

The daughters were Sarah Jane, who married Chas. F. Duling, Eugenia Baines, who married James Bibby, Mira Electia, who married Capt. E. M. Stone, Elmra Rader, who married Asbury Mick, who is an active minister in the M. E. Church, Elizabeth Miriam, who died in 1873 at the age of 21, and Mary Catherine who became the wife of James B. Pemberton now deceased. Mrs. Duling died in 1878.

George Wesley the eldest son, began attending school in early life; graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University; was admitted to the bar in 1875; has been a student all his life; has written several books, has been a newspaper editor; Post Master of Charleston; U. S. Marshal; Member of Congress; and is the present Governor of W. Va.; and only lacked a few votes in 1899 to be elected U. S. Senator. He became a member of the M. E. Church when 19 years of age and has ever been as active and conscientious churchman.

James Sinnett, the second son, and youngest of the family is a book and job printer, in one of the Department printing offices at Washington D. C., where he now resides. He has never married.

Jane Atkinson married Andrew Atkinson, son of Dawson Atkinson, her first cousin, and moved to Morgan Co. Mo. where she reared a family and some of her posterity still reside.

Nancy Atkinson married a Mr. Lewis and died childless.

Polly Atkinson married Joseph Blakney, by whom she became the mother of three daughters. She was the mother of Rev. James Boyd Blakeney, who attained a high mark as a minister in the M. E. Church; preached many years in Va.; moved to Iowa about the close of the Civil war; filled many high stations in his church, and died in Iowa about 1890. He possessed great pulpit power and was a noted man in his church. One of his daughters, Sarah, became the wife of Rev. Warwick Briscoe an honored minister in the M. E. Church, South.

JOHN ATKESON
(Grandfather of the writer)

Was born in Penna. Sept. 5, 1768, and died in Gallia Co. Ohio Oct. 12, 1823, aged 55 years. He married Miss Mary Donally in Greenbrier Co. Va. and located on Sink ing creek, ten miles north of Lewisburg. Here he accumulated considerable property, owning two farms and a powder mill or two. His wife, Mary Donally was born March 26, 1778, and died Jan. 9, 1854. After the birth of their fourth child they moved to Gallin Co. Ohio in the spring of 1806, taking their little family with them through a wilderness country down the New and Kahawha rivers, with every obstacle peculiar to a new and roadless country to impede their trip to their new home. Their traveling companions were Andrew Donally, a brother of Mrs. Atkeson, and his family. Arriving safely north of the Ohio river they made their first settlement near the present town of Rodney in Green township, Gallia Co., on what was afterwards known as the Malone farm. After a year or two they moved to what is known in an early day as "Poplar Cabin" at the foot of Indian Hill on the Chillecothe Road. In 1811 he moved from Indian Hill to the Black Fork of Symms Creek, Jackson Co. Ohio., and about three miles from Centreville, Gallia Co., and the same distance from Oak Hill, Jackson Co. While living here it appears from the statements of old men, that many important circumstances connected with the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Atkeson occurred. At this place he built a cabin surrounded by an unbroken forest, with wild beasts as his near rest and most numerous neighbors. Many times when he was away from home, she would take her children up the ladder into the loft, drawing the ladder up after them, and spend the night on boards laid across poles for joists, to secure them from the wolves and other wild animals. ←

Jackson Co. was organized, the Townships surveyed, and the village of Jackson established in the year 1806, in all of which it appears John Atkeson took a very active part. In organizing the first court for the County of Jackson, he was on the Jury, and the court held its sessions under a large tree, in the absence of a Court House, which had not yet been provided for the new county. Much of the information in regard to the early settlement of Jackson Co. and Mr. Atkeson's connection therewith was derived from Mr. Elias Long, one of the oldest and earliest settlers of northern Ohio. On April 6, 1818, John Atkinson returned to Green Township, Gallia Co., and settled on the Martin, afterwards Byers, farm where he died, leaving a widow and nine children to mourn their loss.

John Atkeson changed the spelling of his name, for some unknown and unaccountable reason. After much investigation we can find no mention of his spelling before or since, except by his posterity, some of whom have changed back to Atkinson, which was doubtless the original spelling.

John and Mary (Donally) Atkeson had born to them ten children, nine boys and one girl, as follows:-

Gilfoil Atkeson, was born Oct. 10, 1802, and died Jan. 10, 1838. Hon. Geo. W. Hale relates of this child: "While Mr. and Mrs. Atkeson were away from home some boys came to the house, got the powder-horn, poured powder on the floor in a circle persuaded Gilfoil to get inside and then fired it. The burn and fright that resulted, threw him into spasms from the effects of which he never recovered." ←

Katherine Atkeson, was born Sept. 12, 1803, married Apr. 20, 1826, to Rev. Alvin A. Martin, a minister of the M. E. Church. The names of their four sons and five daughters are as follows:- Electa Ann, Minerva Katherine, Sincen James F ranklin, Martha Ann, Rosina Ar telia, Henry Asa, Alvin Thomas, John Wesley and May Eneine. Of this family we have but little knowledge, except Dr. John Wesley Martin, who is now a successful physician living at Ashland Ky., where we had the pleasure of spending a day at his home during the past summer, (1899).

Thomas Atkeson, (father of the author) whose biography will be given in part 2 of this history .

William At keson , was born Oct. 9, 1805. When a young man he left the old home in Gallia Co. Ohio, and went to the Kanawha Salt Works, above the city of Charleston where his brother Thomas had preceded him, and where he shifted about for s several years at various occupations, and finally went to steamboating on the Kanawha and Ohio rivers. He built a boat at Buffalo Va. which he called the Osceola. This boat he, acting as Captain, ran in the Kanawha and Cincinnati trade for some time, but some difficulty or dispute arising among the owners, part of whom wanted to run the boat below Cincinnati, and the others wanted to return to the Kanawha river. A row or mutiny of some kind occurred and several men were badly hurt. Sam Sears, who was Capt. Atkeson's first mate, at the time was severely hurt. In the s pring of 1872, while the writer was a student at the University at Morgantown W. Va ., he found old man Sears keeping the toll gate at one end of the suspension bridge that spans the Mason gabela river at that place. He was then very old and crippled from the hurt received in the row on Capt. Atkesons boat at Cin cinn attl. He had many thrilling stories and anecdotes to tell of his old Captain, which would serve well to illustrate his moral worth and force of character, but which we must omit with many regrets. Capt. William Atkeson was married July 2, 1837, to Miss Louise J. Boyle, daughter of Major John Boyle, who had moved from Virginia to the Kanawha Valley with his family and af terwards moved to Missouri; where in 1874 we met two of his daughters and one son at their home near Warrensburg. In 1848 Capt. At keson went to boating on the Mississippi river, where he took the cholera and died at St. Louis Mo., June 5, 1849. He was buried in the cemetary at Lexington Mo. by the side of his wife who had died sometime previous.

They left three children:- Mary Francis, who has been married three times, and the last heard of her, in 1874, she was living in Te xas with her third husband, who rescued her when shipwrecked on the gulf of Mexico; Barnet James, who was born May 28, 1841, joined Gen. Price's army at the beginning of the rebellion, in 1861 and rose to the rank of Captain , but the fate of war awaited him and he perished on the field of battle; the third child, Louisa Rosina, died at the home of her grandfather, John Boyle, in Missouri when a beautiful young woman eighteen years of age.

John Atkeson, was born June 22, 1807, and married Miss Ros-etta Amsbury, April 18, 1833. When a boy he was apprenticed to a shoemaker, and learned the trade, but on coming of age he went to farming eight miles North of Gallipolis O. Later, he sold his farm and in partnership with a man named Nash, he kept a Book Store in Gallipolis for several years. His partner ultimately swindled him out of all he had and absconded. His first wife died leaving eight children:- John Milton, Darius M., Alonzo Parish, Dr. William Thomas Ja mes, Elaira, Louisa, and Fannie. As a second wife he married Miss Sarah McClellen, Feb. 23, 1860. They had no children. For sake of brevity we must omit further mention of this family here.

James Donally Atkeson, was born July 1, 1808. He went south as Captain of the steamboat Carrolton, in 1837, and run her in theNaches and Red River trade until his last sickness. He died in the house of a man named Paine, and was buried near Lake Bon Du, Aug. 14, 1841. He was never married, and died leaving considerable property in Louisiana, which through neglect was permitted to go into the hands of strangers. But little is known of his last years.

Andrew C. Atkeson, was born Dec. 20, 1809, and married Miss Mary G. Hayward, Nov. 21, 1835. They had four children:- Alonzo who was a Captain in the Confed-erate army and killed in battle. Hamilton, Hamilton, Caroline, who married a Mr. Calvin , and Elizabeth, who married Marcellus P. Brown. Andrew C. Atkeson studied Medicine after he was married and practiced his profession at Boonsville, Mo. and afterward moved to Knob Noster, where he died leaving a considerable estate. He was married a second time and left a widow and several small children, of whom the writer never had and knowledge.

Char les Wesley Atkeson, was born July 26, 1813. Married Anyvs Brown, a. f first cousin of the writers mother, Aug. 5, 1847. He was a well borer by trade and a geologist of distinction. He bored many of the salt wells in the Kanawha Valley, and two of the deepest artesian wells in the world, at St. Louis Mo. He also made the soundings for the piers on the Mississippi river, for the great bridge across the river at that place. His wife died April 5, 1853, and was buried at Lexington Mo. They had two children, a girl and a boy. The girl died in infancy, and the son, James Marcellus, resides on the farm near Grafton Ill., left him by his father at his death which occurred Feb. 16, 1876.

Jesse F. Atkinson, was born May 20, 1814. He studied medicine, and located at Lexington Mo. where he had a lucrative practice for many years, and accumulated considerable fortune. He was for a number of years Professor in a Kansas City Medical College where he made an enviable record. He was first married to Miss Artelia Rives, Jan. 15, 1848. She died childless, July 8, 1849. Later he married a Miss Pearson, who died in a few years leaving four children, two boys and two girls. Of these children, the oldest, Bettie, is living with her stepmother at St. Louis, Mo. Leoto C. died at Pendleton Ore. Oct. 6, 1897. Lucy died April 26, 1872.

Frank M. Atkinson is the present Post Master of St. Joseph, Mo. He was born Jan. 31, 1863 at Lexington Mo., and after attending the public schools in that city he completed his education at the Wentworth Military Academy. He was appointed Post Master of St. Joseph by President Harrison, Sept. 1, 1892, served through Pres. Cleavlands second term and is now serving under a reappointment made by Pres. McKinley.

Dr. Jesse F. Atkinson for a third wife married Miss Almira Goodloe Williams, a granddaughter of Capt. Archibald Woods, who took part in the Shawnee Indian wars and served under Col. Andrew Donally, a most accomplished lady, and to them two children were born, a boy and a girl. The girl, Jessie, married Dr. John W. Leonard, a very bright and promising young physician of St. Joseph Mo.. The boy, Dr. Howard D. Atkinson, died at Ensworth Hospital, St. Joseph Mo., June 21, 1894, from the shock of a surgical operation. Aged 25 years. Full of promise his young life was ended. Sometime between 1850 and 1860, probably about the latter date, Dr. Jessie F. Atkinson, changed the spelling of his name from Atkeson to Atkinson, and the members of his family have so spelled it since. He died at his home at Lexington Mo. April 6, 1882.

Lewis A. Atkinson, the tenth and youngest child of his family, was born April 24, 1821. He also changed the spelling of his name to Atkinson about the same date as his brother, Dr. Jessie F., and in this history we use their adopted orthography. He became prominent member of the M.E. Church. He served through the war of the Rebellion on the Union side, as Chaplain and as Captain of Co. H, 91st, O. V. I.. He was severely wounded in the battle of Winchester Va., Sept. 19, 1864, but after five months returned to the army, where he remained until the end of the war. He married Miss Amanda Long of Jackson Co. O., Nov. 13, 1850. They were blessed with four children, one son and three daughters, all of whom are living except the second daughter who died in infancy, in 1859. The son, Hon. Chas. A. Atkinson, is a prominent lawyer in Lincoln Nebraska, and now connected with the Department of Justice at Washington. Rev. Lewis A. Atkinson died at his home in Jackson Co. Ohio from the effects of his army wound on Sept. 13, 1882, just 18 years from the very day he received the wound at the battle of Winchester. He was Auditor of Jackson Co. O. from March 1867 to March 1869, and his political and official character was without a stain, and "Lewis A. Atkinson the Christian husband and father, the Christian citizen, the Christian minister, the Christian public officer, the Christian soldier, and the Christian sufferer is at rest."

DAWSON ATKINSON

Married in Greenbrier Co. Va. Settled on Elk river near Charleston in Kanawha Co., and later he removed to Missouri, about 1842, settled in Cooper Co., near the town of Tipton where he died leaving a family of six sons. By his first wife two sons, Andrew and James, and by his second wife, John, Robert, Thomas, and Allen.

Andrew Atkinson remained in Greenbrier Co. Robert Atkinson went to Cincinnati O., and was a cooper by trade. Thomas Atkinson went to ~~GREENBRIER~~ Morgan Co. Mo., in 1846, and died there leaving several sons. James Atkinson settled somewhere in Missouri.

Little is known of the children or grand children of Dawson Atkinson, but his descendants are scattered over several of the western states, and some of them probably remain in Greenbrier Co. W. Va.

THOMAS ATKINSON.

Went to some place in Ohio in an early day, where he married. Later, he moved to Ill. where he reared a family. His wife died in Illinois. After his family had grown up he left them and went to Morgan Co. Mo., where he married a young woman as a second wife, and soon afterward died about 1860. One son went to Georgia and is probably the ancestor of some of the Georgia Atkinsons. Very little is known of his descendants in Ill., though it is probable that many of them may now be found in that State.

ROBERT ATKINSON.

Married in Greenbrier Co. Va., and settled in Kanawha Co. on Pocataligo river, where he reared a family of eleven children, four boys and seven girls,

and died there about 1835. The names of the boys were John, Henry, Andrew and Alpheus; the girls were named Nancie, Susannah, Pollie, Eliza, Ona, Phoebe and Emily. All of them went to Missouri and settled in Cooper Co. about 1814. Five of the girls married and left families in Cooper Co. All the girls are now dead except Emily who married a man by the name of Koontz, and lives somewhere in Texas.

*And died
there
about
1835*

John Atkinson, son of Robert Atkinson, spells his name Atkinson. When asked what he knew about the diversity of spelling the name, said he knew nothing except that there was some difference, and when asked why he spelled his name as he did, replied that he did not except he had just got in the habit of spelling it that way. He married Miss Hannah Catterlin in Mercer Co. O., went to Mo. and settled near Tipton Cooper Co. in the vicinity of his brothers and sisters. He moved to Bates Co. Mo. in 1860 and resided in the town of Butler at the time of his death. He reared a family of one son, Robert A. Atkinson, and five girls, all of whom are married and living in Butler. John Atkinson was born on Pocataligo river, near Tappers Creek, now Putnam Co. W. Va. in 1815. He enlisted in the Federal army in 1861, and became First Lieutenant of Company H, 7th Missouri Cavalry, under Col. J. F. Phillips. In 1864 he was elected County Judge for Bates Co. but shortly afterward resigned to assume the duties of High Sheriff, to which office he had been elected. He was re-elected Sheriff in 1868 and served two full terms. He was long a respected citizen of Butler Mo. where he died at a ripe old age, with his children and grand children about him, April 24, 1900.

Henry Atkinson, went to Indiana where he married and died, leaving a child, a girl, who, when last heard of her, was still living in Indiana.

Andrew Atkinson, married near Cooper Co. Mo. Reared a family there and died in that County near Otterville. His children scattered over the State and their present whereabouts are unknown.

Alpheus Atkinson, went to Cass Co. Mo. and married there. Reared one child, a girl, who is now married, and he and his wife now live with their daughter and son-in-law, near Belton in said County.

JAMES ATKINSON.

Married and settled at the mouth of Big Sandy, now Clendennen on Elk river in Kanawha Co., where he reared a family and died at an advanced age. We have been able to learn but little of his posterity, many of whom, however, still reside in that section, and some of whom are well known in the local affairs of Kanawha County.

CONCLUSION OF PART I.

We are fully aware that the preceding part of our family history must be more or less unsatisfactory, because of its extreme brevity. But as we have given all the facts and dates in our possession, we feel sure the data will prove a valuable starting point for any of the descendants of this Atkinson family who may wish to follow their own line down to themselves. As time goes on, the data will become more and more valuable, as it becomes less and less obtainable from any other source. If the present generation does not, we feel that subsequent generations, in to whose hands this history may come, will thank us for the time and labor we have given to writing it. In such conviction is our reward for what has been no small task.