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Frampton Reunion 1896

Submitted by Roger Nale



The first reunion - held 6 Aug 1896 - of the descendants of William and Mary Williams Frampton. They are both buried in the Centennial Cemetery in Strattanville. Newspaper account of the reunion:

Reunion of the Frampton Family 1896

Several hundred members of the Frampton family assembled at the old homestead, one mile southwest of Reidsburg, Pa., Now occupied by Wm. H. Frampton on Thursday August 6, for their first reunion. The day was pleasant. It was not too warm and there was a pleasant breeze.

This family with its connections is one of the most numerous in Clarion County and a large number of them were present. Among those from out of the county who attended were Misses Jennie and Tillie Frampton, Miss Edith Frampton and Prescott Frampton, all of Mercer county, R.R. Frampton and daughter Louise of Oil City, W.J. Capwell and wife and Miss Elizabeth Frampton of Franklin, Rev. J.S. Wrightner and Mrs. Ida F. Wrightner and daughters Eve and Ada of [illegible] Mrs. A.B. Williams and daughter Mabel of Ridgway, Samuel Frampton of Corsica and other representatives of adjoining counties. Had all the Frampton descendants been present there would have been at least a thousand in attendance.

Letters of regret and congratulations were read from W.T. Slaon, M.D. of Peoria, Ill., from T.J. and Mary Duncan of Cincinatti, Ohio, and Mrs. H.J. Shaw and family of Moundsville, W.Va, all members of the family. From one, not a member, the Rev. H.R. Goodchild, of Brookville, a very interesting letter was read. Besides the members of the family, Prof. John Ballentine, Rev. B.F. Delo, Mrs. Rev. Elger and Rev. George Ballentine were present.

The Rimmersburg and Curlisville bands furnished excellent music for the occasion. At noon a bountiful repast was served under the trees in the orchard. After this the company was assembled near the delightful spring whose waters have quenched the thirst of so many.

Officers were elected as follows: H.R. Frampton of Curlisville, Chairman and W.A. Hindman of Clarion, Secretary. The following were appointed as a Committee of arrangements for another reunion, which was afterwards decided should be held next

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year at the same place, namely: H.R. Frampton, J.A. Magee, W. Wm. Wilson, J.C. Shields, W.K. Fetzer, S.A. Frampton, B.H. Frampton, D.A. Frampton, D.R. Curl, D.R. Hindman, S.C. Sloan, W.H. Frampton and J.T. Frampton.

Speeches were next in order. First by Rev. J.S. Wrightner, of Lincoln, Ill., married to Ida F., daughter of the late Samuel Frampton of Clarion, who congratulated the company on their being descendants [illegible] woman of such honorable character and who had dwelt amid such pleasant surroundings as those afforded by the old homestead. He gave a sketch of the family, the substance of which is given below. He said that the taint of low vices was not found in the Frampton blood. He said that they were men and women of generous stature, endowed with health, long life, and the faculty of accumulating a fair portion of this world's goods, and most of them are living for an inheritance hereafter. He urged the younger members worthily to transmit the characteristics of so good ancestry, and to be, wherever they might settle, good American citizens, loyal to the Stars and Stripes.

Samuel Frampton of Corsica, Pa., the son of the late William Frampton, then gave some very interesting reminiscences of the past including further facts connected with the family history. Then followed a musical selection by Mrs. Neale, Mrs. Capwell and Mrs. McKuhl, descendants of William Frampton. Mrs. Neale later sang a solo. Addresses followed from Rev. B.F. Delo, Prof. John Ballentine and Rev. George Ballentine. Those who were not members of the family congratulated those who were on being members of so creditable a connection, with so honorable a record and gave reminiscences of various members with which they had been acquainted. Indeed Prof. Ballentine endeavored to show that there was a connection on his part, because his ancestors sought liberty [illegible] in America.

After music by the band further addresses were made by the following who spoke briefly of different branches of the family, viz. W.H. Frampton, W.A. Hindman, Miss Jennie Frampton, of Transfer Pa. and Mr. Clyde Curl, the last of whom represented the younger members present. Mrs. Dr. Elder of Clarion spoke expressing regrets of Dr. Elder that he could not be present.

A large dish was exhibited, the property of Miss Kever, which had been handed down for four generations, from the wife of William Frampton, who died in 1829. A plane, once the property of the same William Frampton, was exhibited by his descendant of the fourth generation, Samuel Frampton of Corsica, Pa. The descendants of the late William Frampton of Frampton, Pa. then sang a selection and another selection was rendered by the descendants of the late Samuel Frampton.

History of the Family

The following is a summary of the family history as brought out in addresses of Rev. J.S. Wrightner and Samuel Frampton of Corsica, both of whom interested themselves in tracing the genealogy.

The origin of the family is English. When surnames began to originate, about the 10th century, someone, who came from some well known walled town or "frame town" was called so and so from the Framed Town or Framptown or Frampton. He was the ancestor of the family. English accounts tell of various persons of the name of Frampton of England most of them within recent years. Very interesting memories of the Court of George the IV have been written in which the name Lady Mary Frampton frequently appears. There is a Frampton Court in England. This book is in the possession of the Framptons of Mercer County. George Frampton, an English sculptor, had a number of pieces of statuary on exhibition at the World's Fair. Wilby Frampton was a distinguished actor.

The Framptons in this country, so far as known, descended from William Frampton, a Quaker or Friend, who was associated with William Penn in the first settlement of Pennsylvania. He held high positions in connection with the infant colony. In 1686 he was Keeper of the Great Seal. A very rare book, containing the early records of Pennsylvania, a copy of which is in the possession of Judge Tuttle of Warren, frequently speaks of William Frampton. He was a prominent merchant in the infant city and in one place an invoice of goods imported by him is given. He was also a very prominent member of the Council of Legislature of the Commonwealth. He left a son John. Whether there were other sons is not known, but there is no record of any others. This son settled near what is now Carlisle, Pa. He married a lady by the name of Critchfield. His son William settled four miles from where Lewistown now stands on the site now occupied by the Pennsylvania Steel Works. He was a small man, but married a wife of great stature, a Miss Staley from whom those Framptons who are descended from him inherit their large size. This William subsequently divided his property among his children, giving one hundred acres to each of his daughters and a large amount to his sons. He died in 1829, being over eighty years of age. His wife died in 1829 and both are buried in the cemetery near Churchville, Clarion county, Pa.

William had four brothers, John, Samuel, Nathaniel and Arthur. Samuel became the ancestor of the Framptons who have lived and some so whom yet live near Punxsutawney, Jefferson. County, Pa; one descendant in this branch is Rev. Frampton

of Curlisville. One of the descendants of Nathaniel lives in Utah. Arthur left descendants one of whom was living [illegible]. There was a James Frampton, a merchant in Philadelphia, like his ancestor, who was probably a descendant of these brothers.

William, though reared a Quaker, like his father, in the faith of his grandfather, became a Baptist, and nearly all of his descendants are Baptists to this day. He had but one son, David, who settled in 1811 on the farm near Reidsburg where the reunion was held. It was the intention to settle at what is now Youngstown, in Mahoning County, O. but they were led to select this spot in the woods of Clarion County (then Armstrong county) instead. At this time his son Samuel, who died aged 76 near Clarion in 1887 was only 18 months old, when he was brought on horseback from Mifflin county, Pa. David had several sisters who became the ancestors of many of the Magees, Fetzers in Clarion county. Their names were Mrs. Ann Magee, Mrs. Sallie Magee, married to Mr. Magee after the death of Ann, Mrs. Susie Fetzer, Mrs. Nellie Copley, Mrs. Nancy Clough and Mrs. Emily Frampton.

David married Hannah Lobaugh and his sons were William, Abraham, Jonathon, David, Samuel and Reid. His daughters were Mrs. Sally Shields, afterwards Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Hannah Hindman, Mrs. Mary Core, afterwards Mrs. Dunkle, Mrs. Eliza Jane Curl and Mrs. Sabina Sloan, afterwards Johnston. Of these the only ones now living are H. Reid Frampton and Mrs. Sabina Johnston, the latter now living at Ellwood, Ill. but too feeble to attend the reunion. Mrs. Eveline Frampton, widow of Samuel, with Reid were the only members of this generation present. All of the large number present were descendants of David or his sisters.

The children of William were Fulton, Samuel, Amos, Mrs. Eliza J. McCullough, Mrs. Nancy [illegible], Mrs. Mary Kuhn, Mrs. Phillitia Neal and Mrs. Mattie Fulton, most of whom with their families were present.

The children of Abraham were Elliott, Hannah, Mary Ellen, [illegible] all living in the West and Hunter. Hunter lives in [illegible]. David deceased.

The children of Jonathon were Amos, David, William, Hannah Jane, John, Mrs. Mary Duncan and Miss Tillie. Jonathon settled in Mercer county, and his descendants, except the Duncans, still reside there.

The children of David L. were William H., residing on the old homestead, Wade, Mrs. Narcissa Conner, Mrs. Emma Stuart and Mrs. Clarissa Austin.

The children of Samuel were Richard, Thomas B. Hays, Mrs. Melinda Jones, afterwards Cathers, Mrs. Elizabeth Elliott, Mrs. Minerva Wilson, Mrs. Anna Belle Williams, Mrs. Evaline Kier, deceased, and Mrs. Ida May Wrightner.

The children of H. Reid Frampton are John T., David M., Mrs. Sarah E. Myers, Thurston H. and Misses Mary and Laura.

The children of Mrs. Sally Shields, afterwards Gardner, were John C. [illegible] Samuel F. Shields, Mrs. Sally Lavier, Mrs. Ella Wilson and Wm. R. Gardner.

The children of Mrs. Hannah Hindman were Mrs. Sabina J. Fulton, John T. Hindman, deceased, Mrs. Mary A. Wilson, David R. Hindman, W. A. Hindman. The children of Mrs. Mary Core, afterwards Dunkle, were Mrs. Ann Eliza Brosius and Mrs. Margaret Wilson. The children of Eliza Jane Curl were Mrs. Belinda Bittenbender, Mrs. Emily J. Corbett, David Reid, George and Thomas, the latter deceased. The children of Mrs. Sabina Sloan, afterwards Johnston, were S.C. Sloan, Miss Cynthia Sloan, W.T. Sloan, M.D., Mrs. Anna Magee, Mrs. Lavinia Gabriel.

The entire company was photographed by artist F.M. Lewis of Clarion, Pa.; afterwards various groups were taken and the company began to separate, having enjoyed a delightful day.

Submitted by Roger Nale, great great great grandson of William and Mary Williams Frampton, great great grandson of Amos Jasper Frampton, great grandson of William Nell and Carlotta "Lottie" Frampton Fleming, grandson of Roy Wilmer and Ruth Marie Fleming Himes, and son of Mildred Ruth Himes Nale.

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