

Gloria V. Gatewood  
3571 Deep Landing Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639-9544  
December 19, 1998

Michael A. McKenzie  
4227 Kessler Ridge Road  
Marietta, GA 30062

Dear Mr. McKenzie,

A cousin of my husband told me in her letter sometime ago that she had received a package on the McKenzie family but really didn't know what to do with it, nor did she have the money to send it on to me if I wanted it. Marian (Merrill) Frankenberry from Cumberland Maryland and I have been corresponding for many years. Marian has not been well recently and has some very serious health problems. She hasn't told me about sending a letter to Joe McKenzie in Dunedin Florida, and of course she didn't have to, but the focus of the letter apparently was on Maria McKenzie who married Ira Burton.

I wrote Marian and told her I would be glad to look at the information that she received if she wanted me to. I sent her money for postage and your letter and the enclosure with more McKenzie data than I have ever seen in print arrived yesterday. I have read just about all of it and was amazed at the facts and details it contains.

First, let me explain my relationship to the McKenzie, et.al. family. My husband is a direct descendent to Ira E. Burton through his first wife Nany Green (also found as Nany, Nancy, and Mary). Nany died probably after the birth of her last child. Where she died and why Ira and perhaps Nany got to Allegany County Maryland from the area around Culpeper Virginia is not known. Ira did state on an application for pension that he had lived in the Allegany County area about 9 years.

He married Maria Burton, the widow of Levi McKensie, on February 15, 1849. They were married by Rev. John Gilpin Stewart of the United Brethren Church in Allegany County, Maryland. Both Ira and Maria had children by their former marriages.

Maria had several brothers and sisters as was mentioned in your narrative. The sister, Ann Mary Ellen Jane McKenzie who married John Wesley Burton was a younger sister of Maria. John Wesley Burton was the son of Ira E. Burton and Nany Green. Ellen Jane and John Wesley had eight children, one of whom was Julia Elizabeth Burton who became my husband's grandmother.

Julia was 86 years of age when I married my husband in 1950 and was as spry as a 15 year old with a memory to match. She lived to be 99 years and 4 months of age. I wish my foresight had been better at that time because she was chocked full of information



that no one in this family ever extracted to any extent. I know for a fact, that families back when Julia was growing up, didn't divulge a whole lot, but I also know if the right questions are asked in the correct manner years later, those questions can sometimes bring some results. I have gleaned information from members of my mother's family that even some of them didn't realize that they knew until the family got to talking.

I have information on this Burton family if you are interested. You stated in your letter that you are interested in information on other McKenzie relatives in the Western Maryland area. Most of these McKenzie/Burton etc., descendants spent most of their life in the Allegany County region and so many are buried there. Just exactly what information you would like to have, I am not sure.

I have a copy of the Bible Record for Benjamin F. C. McKenzie. Both of his marriages are recorded in the Bible that is believed to have belonged to him. His sister, Ann Mary Ellen Jane Burton (written exactly as shown), who was a McKenzie also appears in the Bible. The entry reads:

Ann Mary Ellen Jane Burton  
was born in the year of Our  
Lord December 12th 1827.

You may have a copy of these pages but if you do not I will be most happy to send you a copy.

There is one puzzling problem to me, however. You mention as the 8th child, Lyttleton McKenzie who was born in 1837 to Jesse McKenzie and Catherine Winter. I too, have the "complaint" filed by Moses McKenzie against Ira Burton, Maria Burton his wife, and others. In the complaint the children of Jesse and Catherine McKenzie are mentioned but I have never found a child named Lyttleton McKenzie. However, I have located two children that I and other researchers believe to be the children of Ira Burton and Nany Green. Let me tell you what we have perceived and see if you agree or if you have additional information on this Lyttleton McKenzie, or can offer any evidence otherwise.

On the 1850 census, Ira Burton and his wife Maria Burton are living in Election District No. 3 of Allegany County, Maryland. In their household are children: Minerva age 12, Alexander age 19; and Sarah age 9. All information gives rise to the fact that all of these children are Burton's. Sarah was mentioned in an application when Maria applied for her widow's pension from Ira. She states that she had a daughter Sarah who was witness to her marriage to Ira. Ira, as you probably know, served in the War of 1812.

All of the above children shown on this census are too old to be the issue of Ira AND Maria so they must be children of other marriages.



On May 21, 1879, Robert H. Gordon forwarded to J.H. Gordon & Son, Attorneys at Law, in Cumberland Maryland an affidavit from Amanda Folk, sister of Maria Burton, and also an affidavit from Sarah Caruthers, daughter of Maria Burton by her first husband [Levi McKensie] "who were present and saw her married to Ira Burton." Minerva age 12 on the census may also have been another daughter of Levi and Maria.

The 19 year old Alexander shown in the household of Ira and Maria in 1850 is the son of Ira and his first wife Nany Green. Alexander married Mary Ann Park and raised a family. He died in Cumberland Maryland. In an affidavit filed on April 4, 1885 Mrs. Mariah Burton stated that she married Alexander's father when Alexander was about 14 years of age. This was a statement on behalf of his applying for a pension from the Civil War.

Now on the same census (1850) in Election District No. 6, dwelling visitation numbers 2071-2101, there is a listing for Jesse McKenzie age 59 born Maryland; Catharine McKenzie age 58, born Maryland; Ellen Jane McKenzie age 10; and Lyttleton McKenzie age 13 which gives credence that he was born about 1837. Why were they living with Jesse and Catherine McKenzie if they were Burton's? We don't know.

We believe that Ellen Jane and Lyttleton may not have been McKenzie's but children of Ira and his first wife. They appear as McKenzie but the 1860 census for the 6th District of Allegany County in dwelling/visitation numbers 1381-1881 show Ira Burton and his family. Ira is age 67, Cooper, born Va; Maria is 43 born Maryland; Mary age 10; Rebecca age 8; Benjamin age 6; Amanda age 3; and Eliza E. age 6 months; are all children of Ira and Maria. Then we have Alexander age 27; William age 25; and Ellen age 19.

Lyttleton who we believe was a child of Ira and Nany was not shown among these children but a Littleton (note that this man's name has been spelled with both a y and an i), married Mary Martha Holtzman on June 14, 1856 in Allegany County Maryland. They were living in Frostburg in 1860 with their first born child Alphalina age 4 months. The family eventually relocated to Newark in Licking County, Ohio where Littleton died in 1921. His daughter Marietta (Mrs. Aaron Hickey) was the informant on his death certificate and listed his parents as Ira Burton and **Mary** Green both born Culpeper, Virginia.

The Ellen who is living in the 1850 household of Jesse and Catharine McKenzie is approximately the right age to be the daughter of Ira Burton and Nany Green. This is where it gets confusing. Ira and Nany did have a child named Ellen Jane McKenzie. She was married three times: (1) Amos Steel(e) on June 1, 1863; (2) Harry Biggs (no record of marriage found); and (3) Aaron I. Hill. (An application was recorded on June 1, 1863 for Aaron I. Hill and Ellen J. Biggs but no minister's return was filed. Ellen Jane's marriage to Amos Steele was recorded in the Frostburg Memorial Church book with the following entry:



May 31, 1863, Ellen J. Burton  
married Amos Steel. Married by N.S.  
Buckingham, Minister. Present at  
wedding were Wesley Burton and wife  
as witnesses.

This Ellen Jane was quite a controversial figure to put it mildly. For years we searched for her and came up with absolutely no clue as to what happened to Ellen after her marriage to Amos. It was only recently that we found a cousin who verified that Ellen Jane (Burton) Steele Biggs Hill was the child of Ira and Nany Burton. She had two children by Amos, four by Biggs, and none by Hill. The lady, Gaynell (Frantz) Shank who is now deceased was the daughter of Bessie May Biggs who was a child of Ellen Jane Burton Steele and her second husband, Harry Biggs. Bessie married Benjamin W. Frantz. She had been raised by a German woman named Sophia Ault because Ellen had agreed to "adopt out" the two younger children by her husband Harry Biggs before she married Aaron I. Hill. Gaynell's mother Bessie, told her the story of her grandmother and how she had seen her mother Ellen Jane only a few times after she went to live with Sophia Ault.

To confuse things even more Ira's son John Wesley Burton married Mary Ann Ellen Jane McKenzie on October 15, 1848. (This date was taken from the family Bible in possession of one of the Burton descendants.) We knew her only as Ellen Jane Burton until the Bible record of Benjamin F.C. McKenzie surfaced. My husband Donald's oldest sister Jane was named for her great grandmother Ellen Jane. Ellen Jane (McKenzie) Burton died in Washington, DC while visiting at the home of her daughter Julia Elizabeth (Burton) Gatewood on May 14, 1909. She was taken back to Frostburg for burial.

So John Wesley Burton had a sister named Ellen Jane Burton and when he married Ellen Jane McKenzie she became Ellen Jane Burton. I found the marriage record for both of these Ellen Jane's at the Cumberland Court House and must confess I was totally confused until I found out who these women were.

There were other children by Ira's first wife but I think you probably only want the descendants of McKenzie's. Ira did have issue by Maria and they descend directly through the female side of the McKenzie's.

It is very possible that there was a Lyttleton McKenzie but I have never come across that name nor have those with whom this research was shared. Do you have any other information about a Lyttleton McKenzie that you could share with us. After you read this letter I would ask your opinion on Lyttleton McKenzie.

I do have some McKenzie information that I can share with you. However, there is a direct descendent of Benjamin Franklin McKenzie that I am going to send a copy of your report to if you have no objection. Her name is Mrs. Jean Waldman, of Silver Spring, Maryland.

A cousin who comes from the Porter branch is also very interested in the McKenzie family. Her great grandmother was Mary Catherine Burton oldest daughter of John Wesley Burton and Ellen Jane McKenzie. Mary Catherine married George T.C. Porter and together they had 12 children. One of their son's was Levi Samuel Porter. Levi had five children, one of whom was Paul Burton Porter who still lives in Baton Rouge. His daughter Dr. Lynne Alexander who lives in Bogalusa, Louisiana is very much interested in the McKenzie line. I will send her a copy of your letter and it's enclosure if it's alright with you.

The information I am sending is not meant to confuse you but only to state the facts as I and other's have interpreted them. I would ask for your opinion and would gladly share with you any documents that I have if you would like to have them.

Recently another "cousin" has come forward with his genealogy. He is from Ira's second marriage to Maria McKenzie. Ace Howard Humbertson is a direct descendant of the McKenzie family. His line is through Amanda Elizabeth Burton daughter of Ira and Maria who married Howard Humbertson in 1874. Both are buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Cumberland Maryland.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy holiday. As your letter to Marian had no date I hope it didn't take too for you to get an answer. I would be most happy to hear from you and have your thoughts about these Lyttleton's. As you know, genealogy is not a perfect science and certainly we never know everything, especially about the past, so everything we can learn I feel is a plus to the researcher. There very well could have been a Lyttleton McKenzie and if there was I know the others would be happy to add him to the family group.

Most sincerely,

*Gloria V. Gatewood*

Gloria V. Gatewood



Michael A. McKenzie  
4227 Kessler Ridge Drive  
Marietta, Georgia 30062

December 28, 1998

Gloria V. Gatewood  
3571 Deep Landing Road  
Huntingtown, Maryland 20639-9544

Dear Ms. Gatewood:

Thank you for your recent letter. I have done a lot of research since I corresponded with Ms. Frankenberry, and unfortunately it caused me to realize that I had been searching the wrong branch of the McKenzie family tree.

I first got involved in searching for my roots about this time last year. I had accumulated a lot of information from McKenzie relatives and other McKenzie researchers who I discovered on the Internet. I accepted their research at face value and after piecing together what I believed to be my family tree, I began looking for the source documents that would corroborate what various researchers had provided me. It was at that time I discovered my error.

It turns out that there were two John Frank McKenzies living in Allegany County, Maryland at approximately the same time in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. I thought the one in my line was John Frank McKenzie (b.1850, died 1929). He was the son of Benjiman Franklin McKenzie. It turns out that the "other" John Frank McKenzie was born in 1852 and died about 1916. Unfortunately, I have not been able to locate his death certificate, which I hoped would provide me with the identity of his parents so that I could continue my research. The bottom line is that I spent approximately two hundred hours searching the wrong branch of the family tree.

The information that I have set forth in the family history (new copy enclosed) is correct to the best of my knowledge up through John Frank McKenzie (born 1850). After that link the portion that starts with George

Newton McKenzie is the beginning of my line. I am sending you a corrected version that contains more information than what I previously supplied Ms. Frankenberry. You will note the cutoff point where I make the transition to my tree. I have no objection to you sending the material to whomever you like. I just did not want you to do so with the mistake contained within it. You may want to send a copy of this letter to the individuals with whom you share the information.

Insofar as Lyttleton/Littleton McKenzie is concerned, I cannot help you. The information I obtained on him came from the research of Col. Gabriel MacKenzie, now deceased, which has been placed on microfilm. I was able to obtain the address of the microfilm company that offers the film for sale from Joe McKenzie in Dunedin, Florida. There is no backup information reflected on the microfilm that is supportive of Lyttleton being a child of Jesse and Catherine (or otherwise related to them) other than a list from the 1850 Census that reads as follows:

Jesse McKenzie	59	Md.
Catherine	58	“
Ellen Jane	15	“
Lyttleton	13	“

I have enclosed a copy of that page of Col. MacKenzie's notes. It may not be as accurate as what you have.

On another page of notes (copy enclosed), Colonel MacKenzie listed Lyttleton (b.1837) and Ellen Jane (b. 1840) as being children of Ann Mary Ellen Jane and John W. Burton. Again, there is no support for these notes other than the notes themselves. That information does not appear to be correct since Ann Mary Ellen Jane was supposedly born in 1827. I doubt she was rearing children at age 10. Also, it appears that you located the marriage license which shows they were married in 1848.

You state that you believe the children to be those from the marriage of Ira Burton and his first wife, Nany. To play devil's advocate, why then would they be living with Jesse and Catherine and not their own father and his new wife? Of course, you raised a similar question in your letter. That does not seem logical to me either, although who ever said genealogy was logical. The fact that the children were not listed in the Equity Complaint leads me to conclude that they definitely were not the children of Jesse and Catherine



as I believe you have concluded, or else they would have been listed. Incidentally, there are two Equity Complaints that I located that were very helpful to me in piecing these generations together. One is Equity Case #734 and the other is Equity Case #1804 recorded in Judgment Book #12 at page 250, Allegany Courthouse records. If you are interested in further piecing this line together you will want to study both complaints. I have copies of both if you do not. Please let me know which one you have and I will be happy to send the other to you.

Correspondingly, although I am not part of the Benjiman Franklin McKenzie line, now that I have spent hundreds of hours piecing it together, I would like to get those pages from the family Bible that you referenced in your letter. I will add that to my information when you forward it so at least I will have it available if other researchers contact me in the future.

Finally, if you have any information that would assist me in identifying the parents of my John Frank McKenzie, I would welcome receiving that information from you. I am trying to follow up on a clue as we speak that I uncovered in the index to the 1870 census that I found at the Allegany County Community College library (copy enclosed). You will note the reference to Moses and Margaret McKenzie. The last three children listed are not theirs. This Moses was an ancestor of Colonel Gabriel MacKenzie and if there was any line that he traced that was accurate, it was this one. I know from his research that the last child of Moses and Margaret was Charles, age 17 at the time of this census. You will note the "John, age 18" listed which just happens to coincide with the age of my John Frank McKenzie, born 1852. Any insight you can provide would be appreciated.

I am sorry that I could not be of much help with Lyttleton/Littleton. Please feel free to contact me in the future if you would like to discuss further these "endless McKenzies"

With kind regards,

Michael A. McKenzie