

George Little (1735-1815)

By Jerry Long, Owensboro, Ky., 1988

19 May 1988

Jerry Long
1701 Alexander Ave.
Owensboro, Ky. 42301

Dear Jerry,

I wonder if you have time to check records at the courthouse! It is almost impossible for me to get there and I know of no one that does research.

A Mr. J. K. Little, Dallas, Texas, saw in the library there the article in Volume 8, p.p.87-89 "Ky. Family Records" about the Jonas Little family and found his great-grandfather, William Little listed as one of the children of Jonas Little. I have sent him a lot of information about the family and do know that William was the son of Jonas Little and "Betsy" Douglas but I have no documentary proof which is needed for his sister's DAR papers.

Jonas names only two of his children in his will but says: all property is to be sold after his death and money to be divided equally among his children. It may be they had to sign a deed as grantors. If so, that would be easy to find. But what about the settlement of the estate? That should be on record somewhere. For that period (1850) believe it would be in clerk's office probably in the basement or would it be in circuit court records? Those books may have been destroyed.

Children of Jonas Little were: sons, George, Douglas, James, Wesley, William and Hiram. Daus: Polly Moseley, Martha Waltrip, Sally Minton and Elizabeth Robards.

What are your charges per hour. Please let me hear from you regarding this. I would appreciate it very much.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth S. Cox

4814 Ky. 140 West
Utica, Ky. 42376

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16 June 1988

Mrs. Edgar (Elizabeth S.) Cox
4814 Ky. 140 West
Utica, Ky. 42376

Dear Mrs. Cox:

I spent three hours at the Daviess County Courthouse looking for documented proof of the relationship between Jonas Little (1780-1850) and William Little (c1819-). Sorry to report I could find no single document that stated in black and white that William was Jonas's son. I checked the deeds, circuit court index (& original suits involving Littles), court order books, settlement books, and also rechecked the marriages, wills and administrator bonds for any clues.

In the circuit court records found two suits in which William Little was involved. Both were "ordinary" (& not equity) cases, involving the payment of monies and thus gave no indication of relationships. In one, suit #195, filed in March 1852, William was co-defendant with George & Douglas Little; Hewitt & Harrison were plaintiffs. In the deed books found no joint deed by the heirs of Jonas Little. William Little appeared as a witness on several of the deeds involving the known children of Jonas Little. The last deed recorded by William Little was when he and his wife, Jane, sold three tracts of 79, 54 & 165 acres, to Agnes Little, deed book L, page 587. In this deed both parties were identified as being "of Daviess County", however, the deed was submitted and sworn to in McLean County, on 24 Oct. 1854, and was recorded in Daviess County on 29 Oct. 1854.

In Daviess County order book E there are three references to Jonas Little and his estate. On page 314, on 8 July 1850, it was recorded that the will of Jonas Little, deceased, was entered & ordered to be recorded. The will was sworn to by the oaths of Isham R. Allin and James F. Bennett. Administration of the estate was granted to George Little. On page 564, it is recorded that at the December 1852 term a settlement by George Little, administrator of the estate of Jonas Little, dec'd, was tendered in court and it was ordered to be filed and lie over one term for exceptions. And on page 578, of the same book, the following was entered at the February 1853 term: "A settlement of the county Judge with George Little administrator of Jonas Little, dec'd, which was filed and laid over for exceptions at our last December term is now ordered to be recorded."

The settlement of the estate of Jonas Little by his son, George Little, was recorded on page 155 of Settlement Book C (March 1848-April 1861); this is the only one of the first five settlement books. still at the courthouse and it is in a sad state. A copy of this page from Settlement Book C is enclosed (only page). In this account no division among the heirs, at this

time, is indicated. William Little is shown as paying two bills of \$49.20 & \$2.95 to the estate. The only heir shown on this account as receiving money from the estate was "E. Little", probably Jonas' widow Elizabeth, who received \$56.65.

The settlement by George Little was dated 18 Nov. 1852 and it was recorded in Feb. 1853. Original loose estate "settlement" papers are filed in metal drawers at the Daviess County Courthouse. Each drawer is labeled according to the settlement book in which it was recorded, A, B, C, etc. These files generally contain other statements & invoices not recorded in the settlement books, usually only a final settlement (or report of accounts, sometimes there were several) were recorded in the settlement books. In the drawer for settlement book "C" I took every file out and checked for the George Little settlement but could not find it. It is possible that it has been misplaced in another file box or it has been taken. Could it be that since George Little was a resident of McLean County after its formation in 1854, some of accounts of the estate of Jonas Little were recorded in McLean County?

Since George Little is shown in the 1852 Daviess County tax list as paying taxes on the 650 acres as administrator of the Jonas Little estate I checked the Daviess County deeds to determine when this land was sold. I could find no deed under the Little name that identified the land as being part of the Jonas Little lands. Have the McLean County, Ky. deeds, estate & equity records been checked for information on the estate and heirs of Jonas Little?

I wish I could have found more. Since I was not able to find what you needed I will not request I will not request payment for my full time at the rate I quoted. For the three hours of research I will request \$7.00. Thank you for contacting me. Best wishes and success in your search.

Yours truly,
Jerry Long

1701 Alexander Avenue
Owensboro, KY 42301

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25 June 1988

Dear Jerry,

Find enclosed check for \$7.00 in payment for your research. I appreciate your effort to find proof needed. Seems it just can't isn't there.

Yes, the McLean County records have been checked. We may try again. The circuit court records have not been kept in order. Many are missing.

George Little may have gained possession of that 650 acres. He was a big land owner in this area. He built and lived in the house that I live in. It has been in our family since 1897.

Thanks for your work,

Sincerely,
Elizabeth S. Cox

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Kentucky Family Records, Volume IX, West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, McDowell Publications, Owensboro, KY, 1981, p25, "Revolutionary Soldiers That Lived in Daviess County, Kentucky":

GEORGE LITTLE born 1735 Scotland, Served as Capt. S.C. Married 1st - Mary – 2nd - Mary (Handley) Douglas. To Ky. 1804, settled 5 miles north of Ft. Vienna (now McLean Co.) where he died 1815; buried at VanMeter Springs.

Children (by 1st wife - as mentioned in will - a number of them lived and died in Newberry, Union District S.C.

1. Joseph Little born 1774
2. Jonas Little (1780-1850) married Elizabeth Douglas dau. of Alexander Douglas and Mary Handley.
3. John Little came to Ky. on to Tenn. and Texas where he died.
4. William Little
5. Thomas Little
6. Mary Little married Abner Spray; lived in Curdsville Precinct, Davi,ss Co.
7. Sarah Little married Richard Harris
8. Susannah Little married John Phillips
9. Jane Little (deceased before 1815) married John Hunt
10. Nancy Little married Henry Cockburn

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The Bulletin, West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, Owensboro, KY, McDowell Publications, Winter 1999, p.40:

ELIZABETH SMITH COX
January 1901 - 15 September 1999

Elizabeth Smith Cox, 98, of Calhoun, McLean County, KY died Wednesday, 15 September 1999, at the Riverside Manor Health Care Center in Calhoun. She was born in Guffie, McLean County, KY, graduated from Beech Grove High School and attended Western Kentucky State Teachers College in Bowling Green. She obtained her teaching certificate, after which she taught at several one-room school houses, including Guffie and Licks Branch. She was a member of Oak Grove United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Cox was a member of the Captain William Rowan Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution for over thirty years. She presented many historical programs pertaining to

McLean County. She received the National Seimes Microfilm pin and several letters of award from National and State officers. She served as Registrar of the Chapter for many years .and was a Kentucky Colonel.

In May of 1968, Mrs. Cox was one of the four founders of our West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association. (The other three were T. W. Westerfield, Michael J. Edgeworth and Margaret S. Alford.) She served as Editor of Kentucky Family Records from its beginning in 1970 through 1988 when failing eyesight made it necessary for her to give it up. She and a coworker copied almost all of the cemeteries in McLean County, and her work made possible the publication of two volumes of cemetery records by WCK:FRA. With Mike Edgeworth, she made possible the annotated publication of the 1860 Census of McLean County (the first census of the county and another WCK:FRA book). She was a "walking history book" and always ready and able to help anyone in area family research. She compiled a book "Guffie Through the Years".

Survivors include her daughter, Dixie Wayne Cox Crawley (Mrs. Herb Crawley); a granddaughter, Kathleen Crawley Vandiver (Mrs. Joe Vandiver) and a grandson, Tommy Crawley. Services were held at 11 a.m., Monday, September 20th, 1999 at Muster Funeral Home, in Calhoun, Kentucky. Burial was in Calhoun Cemetery beside her husband, Edgar Lee Cox, who died 15 August 1994.

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The following picture of Mrs. Elizabeth Smith Cox (1901-1999) was taken on 4 March 1981 on my visit to her home at Guffie in McLean County, Ky.

