

Charles Henderson
(1781-1871)
of Ohio County, Ky.

By Jerry Long

The following letter and chapter on the Henderson family, by Tula Pendleton Cummins (1872-1924), was copied from papers in the possession of the author's great-niece, Ann Wooten Sabetta, of Owensboro, Ky. Mrs. Sabetta is the daughter of Gooddell R. Wooten & Mary Laura Pendleton. Her grandfather, Dr. Eugene Banks Pendleton, was a son of Dr. John Edward Pendleton & Margaret Nall. Mrs. Cummins was a great-granddaughter of Charles Henderson & Margaret Rogers. The family history manuscript by Mrs. Cummins, sent to her half-brother, John Edward Pendleton, Jr. in 1920, also included chapters on the families of Jefferson, Randolph, Isham, Beverly, Pendleton, Berry, Banks, Mitchell & Lincoln. The following transcription was done by Jerry Long, of Owensboro, Ky., on May 20, 1989. I tried to maintain the spelling found in the original document:

March 13, 1920

Mr. John Edward Pendleton
Talala, Oklahoma

Dear Brother:

I send you herewith our family history, including the lines: Henderson, Randolph, Lewis, Jefferson, Isham, Beverly, Warner, Rogers (on our mothers' side) and the lines of Pendleton, Berry, Shipley, Banks, Brazzleton (on out fathers' side) with some collateral branches.

This has been a labor of love and appreciation to you. As you will see upon reading the Berry history, you, bearing the name of your great-grandfather, Major Edward Berry, only ran true to the Berry humanitarianism when you helped your little sister in her dire need.

This will be too much for you to read in one or two sittings, but I hope I have made the whole clear to you.

Everywhere I have stated things as facts I based the assertion on legal proof and I have avoided using and tradition except such as is credible in the light of corroborative fact.

Your children may not realize the importance of this matter now, but as the years pass, if it is preserved, it will increase in value and their children's children will find it of great interest and value. There-fore I shall enjoin you to preserve it from danger of fire.

I have kept no complete copy, though I have all the dates from which this history is compiled. It is my wish that you do not allow anyone to copy this (any other member of the family except you and yours) without my consent, though I believe I should like Charles to have any of it should he desire. I shall do the Banks part for Eugene, should he desire it, of course.

You will see from this record that we, at least, have no cause to be ashamed of the bold that is in us. I care not for "blue blood" – per se, but then we thus prove out title to the blood that produced so many of the men who had to do with the highest acts of the intellect, the bravery, and the fact that we are their descendants. This ought to act only as a spur to us, all of us, to live up, as far as may be, to the high standard set for us by our forebears.

Your loving sister,
Tula D. Pendleton Cummins

.....

Mathew Rogers emigrated from England to America.

Mathew Rogers had a son, James.

James mar. Blackburn and had a son, William.

William Rogers mar. (either Thornton or Casey) had dau. Margaret.

Margaret Rogers mar. Charles Henderson, had dau. Emily.

Emily Henderson mar. John G. Nalle and had dau. Margaret

Margaret Nalle mar. John E. Pendleton and has son, John Edward.

John Edward Pendleton, Jr. mar. Lucia Free

John Henderson, our fourth grandfather is as far back on the Henderson as I have been able to authentically trace. John Henderson lived on his plantation in Albemarle County, Va. He married Martha Goode who was a daughter of Bennett Goode and Martha Jefferson (sister of Peter Jefferson, father of Thomas Jefferson, the President.)

Colonel Bennett Henderson, who was the father of our great-grandfather, Charles Henderson, was the son of the above John Henderson and Martha Goode Henderson.

Colonel Bennett Henderson was a most interesting man, in the light of the glimpses my research has given me. He was a signer of what is known as "The Albemarle Declaration of Independence" and he was one of that band of young men who marched to Williamsburg to protest against Lord Dunmore's action in regard to the power (See History of Albemarle County by Wood.) His plantation and home was at the village of "Milton", Albemarle County, a village

which belonged to him, being the cluster of employees and tenants of his land which grew up around the great mill which he built and operated there on the Rivanna River. Milton was at that time larger and more promising than Charlottesville, which became the county-seat later. Great-grandfather Henderson has told my mother interesting stories of his early life at Milton when the big barges tied up at his father's wharf and the long lines of tobacco wagons were senecurcked around great fires while the men who had bought the tobacco for shipment camped at Milton.

Aunt Janetta Robertson, in her old age, told mother a most interesting reminiscence, which she had from her father, of Revolutionary days. It was story of "Tarleton's Raid" and ran as follows:

When the dashing British Colonel Tarleton made the celebrated raid on Albemarle County in the effort to capture President Jefferson from Monticello, his estate adjoining Milton, - he, Colonel Tarleton, did considerable work of destruction in the county. Having burned and pillaged other plantations he stopped at Milton to finish his raid by looting and burning the big mill belonging to Colonel Bennett Henderson.

Colonel Bennett Henderson was away from home, but his old Welsh grandmother, Martha Jefferson Goode, right doughtily defended the property from the marauder. The old lady was a worshiper of her grandson, Colonel Bennett Henderson, whom she thought the greatest and most important man in the world. When Tarleton's men were about to apply the torch, the old lady held up a warning finger as she approached the dashing, redcoated, Tarleton, and said: "Young man, you don't know my grandson, Bennett as I do! If you did, you'd do a lot of thinking before you dared to do this thing you are about to do. Why, Bennett will be perfectly furious when he find it out!" Tarleton threw back his head and laughed at the old lady's awes of her grandson, Bennett, and said that a man who was able to inspire such a wholesome awe of his anger in his womenfolk was man after his own heart. He patted the old lady on the shoulder, called his dragoons off and rode away leaving the great mill with it's fat storehouse untouched.

...[section omitted here on the descent of Elizabeth Lewis, wife of Colonel Bennett Henderson, from the crowns of France and England]...

Colonel Bennett Henderson and wife, Elizabeth Lewis Henderson, had a son, Charles Henderson who emigrated to Kentucky. Elizabeth Lewis Henderson was left a widow comparatively early. About 1800 she followed her children to Kentucky and lived in Shelby County, Ky, with her daughter, Frances Henderson Hornsby at their farm on "Plum Green". She died there in 1828 and was buried on the farm, where her gravestone still is to be seen with legible inscription. It is interesting to note that she bore the name, Elizabeth of her great-grandmother, Elizabeth Warner Lewis, through whom she was descended from the crowns of both England and France.

As said above, Bennett Henderson was not only the inheritor of a good property but he was also a good business man. In a list of Albemarle property in 1785 he is listed with "family of

8, dwellings 5, other buildings 15." He died comparatively young about 1790, and his property passed into Thomas Jefferson's hands.

I have visited the site of "Milton", and found the stones foundation of the great mill extant, also one outbuilding of the practically-immortal oak logs of which the pioneers built. The Rivanna, now practically abandoned as a waterway, is beautiful, and when flush often oversteps the bounds of river decorum. The river reminded me of another of great-grandfather Henderson's stories which we had from great-aunt, Janetta.

"Among Colonel Bennett Henderson's slaves was one old man who was said to have been an "African King" when captured and sold as a slave in America. He could not speak a word of English but just moaned and kept up a kind of rhythmic movement of the shoulders. His homesickness did not mitigate with a year of life in Virginia, it grew worse. He knew he had been brought to Milton by a barge by way of the river which ran by his master's mill, and he would stand by the river looking down it in the direction he had been brought from - even sometimes through the night. At last, he began walking in the water down towards home as far as he could go without getting beyond his depth - at last the homesickness grew so he could no longer endure it, and one day he just walked on out in the river and kept on until it was over his head. He had "gone home" after all.

Thomas Jefferson's estate, "Monticello" adjoined the lands of Milton. As shown in the Randolph branch of this history, Thomas Jefferson and Elizabeth Lewis Henderson, wife of Colonel Bennett Henderson, were first cousins, their mother having been, respectively Jane and Mary Randolph of "Dungenens". But, also as stated above, there was another blood tie between the two families besides their Randolph kinship, for Thomas Jefferson's father, Peter Jefferson, and Bennett Henderson's grandmother, Martha Jefferson Goode, were brother and sister. So you see, our great-grandfather, Charles Henderson, son of Bennett Henderson and Elizabeth Lewis Henderson, had exactly the same blood as Thomas Jefferson on both sides of the house.

Our great-grandfather, Charles Henderson, remembered Thomas Jefferson distinctly, although of course he was a small child of 10 years old when Jefferson died. But Grandfather Henderson said he had often been sent on errands to "Monticello" in the natural intercourse that existed between the families akin on both sides of the house, and he, Grandfather Henderson, had a perfect memory-picture of the "old gentleman in buckled shoes, with a long pipe in his mouth, who sat on the porch of Monticello and patted him on the head" as he passed through the porch coming and going.

Great grandfather Henderson made a trip to Kentucky before he took the trip to settle there. He went by way of "a pirogue", or Indian canoe. True descendant of William Randolph and Isham, he early heard "the call of the West". His aunt, Susan Henderson, has married Robert Clark, gone to Ky., where she became the mother of James Clark, Governor of Kentucky. His

sisters had married Bullock and Hornsby and settled in Kentucky. It was natural that he should settle near them.

Of course you know that Grandfather Henderson was a cousin to Alexander Campbell? And doubtless you know of his encouragement of the early "Christian" ministers in our district. I found several letters in his correspondence from these "Christian" ministers showing the "aid and comfort" they gave each other, and conversely, took away from the devil. They seemed to have been pretty active and must have given the devil and his works many a swat. Grandfather was a Christian of the highest type, of the unostentatious "work-before-preachment" kind. His wife, Margaret Rogers Henderson was a deeply religious woman. She was a housekeeper of more than countywide fame, her biscuits and waffles were the "best ever", and, be it whispered in these Wayne Wheeler times, her "cherry-bounce" was said to be as seductive as it was potent. They lived in their last housekeeping days at that place later occupied by Professor McIntyre. I can remember the groups of big cherry-trees in the side yard. Mother could remember when visiting lawyers from Owensboro used to sit with Grandfather drinking cherry-bounce under the very trees from which its flavor had been derived. Be it whispered too, they always drank it "in goblets".

Of course you know of the pathos of the deaths of these two old dears, Charles and Margaret Henderson. They lived to be ninety, I believe, and when he died, the bond after the long years together was too strong to be broken. She moaned like a pitiful baby for three weeks and then joined him on the "other side of the river."

Emily Addison Henderson was our grandmother. She was the daughter of Charles and Margaret Rogers Henderson. It is not necessary for me to tell you of her intellectual gifts. You know that she was the founder of the old Literary Club which had symposiums that very often were veritable "feasts of reason," and that she was for many years the editor of the Club paper which was called "The Hickory Leaf", and was the author of many of the little dramas which the Club members gave on occasions, and the director of the dramatic performances of Shakespeare given in Hartford, Ky. long before "the war." In truth her influence had much to do for developing the intellectual bent of the tiny town so that it came to be known as "The Athens of Western Ky."

Her first education was got at Hartford. Aunt Jannetta Henderson Robertson's reminiscences at the age of eighty years tell an interesting story of the early schooling of herself and her sister, Emily. A very brilliant woman came to Hartford from Frankfort to teach. This woman was said to be a natural daughter of Aaron Burr. She brought with her the great romances of Walter Scott and many others to add to the meager store of classics in the libraries of Hartford at that early date. (1821 or thereabouts). The Henderson girls' father, Charles Henderson, had some of the Latin classics and some great English books including bound copies of Addison's "Spectator" (you remember our grandmother was named Emily Addison Henderson) but you can imagine what a wonder-treasure to the young folk of the town were, "Rob Roy", "Ivanhoe" etc.

Aunt Janetta was a tomboy. One of her best reminiscences was of running away, as a small child, to a "handings". In those days a "handing" was public, when the poor fellow was put in a cart which was driven under a convenient limb, and the job accomplished without any sqimishness on the part of the law. Aunt Jannetta said it was too much for even her lusty spirit of adventure. She came home in tears and nausea, saying: "The poor man curled up like a fever-worm."

To return to our grandmother, Emily Addison Henderson - after the Hartford schooling, she at about 16 was taken to Shelbyville, Ky. to "finish" at the celebrated ante-bellum school for girls founded by Mrs. Julia Tevis, where she was one of the earliest matriculants. She made the journey, on horseback with her father, carrying her clothes in a carpet-bag swung from the saddle.

Her father's sisters, Frances Henderson Hornsby and Jane Henderson Bullock had with their husbands emigrated to Shelby County, Ky., from Albemarle Co.. Va. They were people of refinement and culture as well as of means and they entertained their young niece "over Sundays". Her father's brother, Isham Henderson, lived at Newport, Ky. not far away and she visited him too during the school days. So the schooldays were pleasant as well as profitable.

I will interpolate here that the fatal family failing (inherited from their Randolph and Lewis and Isham and Henderson forebears!) for falling in love with first cousins got in its work right here. For our grandmother's cousin, Will Hornsby fell violently in love with the little auburn-haired, vivacious Emily. The two families opposed of course, and the two were torn ruthlessly apart. She recovered, but young Will Hornsby never did. He lived an erratic bachelorhood to a great age. His love wounds tho did not prevent his seeing the right side of land and money deals, for he became a millionaire, when millionaires were scarce as hens' teeth. A story told of him by Uncle Ion will illustrate his character. He walked to Louisville driving a herd of cattle, taking off his shoes on the way for comfort. Arriving in Louisville he billsted his cattle, then coolly walked barefooted to the Galt House, where he always stayed. A new clerk was on, and seeing his barefeet refused to let him register without paying in advance. Hornsby was furious. The other clerk coming on duty at the moment recognized him and they began to "put the big pot in the little!" for the millionaire guest, bellboys obsecqueiously taking his carpet bag etc. But Hornsby was mad as a hornet - mad all over. He refused to stay now without paying in advance, and in payment gave them a certified check on a New York Bank for five thousand dollars with a "give me my change please." Of course they hadn't that much change in the whole hotel, so there was much adoo. That was his character - erratic, but lots of brains. He died, with the wounds put in his heart by our sprightly and brilliant grandmother, Emily Henderson, unhealed. . His great nephew, Bennett Henderson Hornsby, our cousin, is a brilliant man - regular "Order of the Cincinatti", "Sons of the Revolution", "Sons of the French Wars" etc. "fan" - he belongs to all of them. He has written me several interesting letters.

Grandmother tho' got over her cousin-love affair, and, as you know married one of the finest and best men of his day and state. At the age of nineteen, she married John Gatewood Nall (spelled Nalle in Virginia.)

Grandfather Nalle was a son of John Nalle and Elizabeth Nalle (named Nalle before her marriage). John, Nalle emigrated to Washington Co., Ky. from Culpeper, Va. and in Washington County, Ky. our grandfather, John Gatewood Nalle was born. They were of a distinguished Huguenot family in France (originally, Noialles). The Virginia progenitor of the family was Captain John Nalle of "The Coast Guard." It is presumed that the mother of the Ky. emigrant was a Gatewood, and thus the name, John Gatewood Nalle, came down to our grandfather. Our grandfather died comparatively young, having already made good as a planter-merchant.

Great-grandfather, Charles Henderson's older brother, John Henderson, married an heiress from the "lower James" and came home to Milton with a "coach and six and liveried negroes on the box as outriders." According to human nature, John, already having more than enough of this world's goods, wanted more, so he "did" the minor children out of most of their portion of the estate of their father, Colonel Bennett Henderson - so Aunt Janetta told us. So when our great grandfather, Charles, who was one of the younger children, came, of age there was not much left, therefore he 'went back to Kentucky the second time.

He stopped at Bardstown, where being without means he got in financial straits and was somehow cozened into apprenticing himself to a saddler. When he found he couldn't get out of bondage, he was in a terrible pickle until his first cousin, Governor Clark, (son of his Aunt Susan Henderson Clark) happened along and employed Henry Clay as lawyer to free the boy. George Rogers Clark was related to our great-grandfather Henderson on both sides of the house as was Lewis of the "Lewis and Clark" western expedition, they being also connections of Thomas Jefferson who incited them to the expedition, as you know.

At Bardstown, Charles Henderson, our great-grandfather, met with old Colonel James Rogers, that doughty Revolutionary soldier who was just as fiery a preacher as he was soldier and Indian Fighter. Some of the old records of Ky contain reference to "Rogers Station" or "Roger's Fort", which was the blockhouse built by Colonel James Rogers. A small portion of the stockade still exists being the only portion of any of the stockade now extant in Ky. The present owner of the place has built a roof over this tiny relic of the "dark and bloody ground" to preserve it. It is six miles west of Bardstown. (Ben Johnson, the congressman, is also a descendant of Colonel James Rogers and wrote me he had interesting data on the subject.)

Colonel James Rogers was a direct descendant of the martyr Rogers who was burned at the stake in England for his religious belief. The father of Colonel James was said to be Mathew Rogers who was in the wonderful fight at the early fort which was near Wheeling West Va. stands now. History tells of the great scrap put there by the white men who were besieged by the Indians.

Colonel James Rogers married Miss Blackburn in Va. before going to Kentucky. He was a member of the earliest Ky legislature.:

The son of Colonel James Rogers, William Rogers, (also called Colonel, but really a Captain in Ky revolutionary service against Indians - which service is considered as actual revolutionary service because the Indians were helping the English), was our great-great-grandfather. I have not been able to positively identify his wife. Old Mr. Rogers of Ohio County, Ky is a descendant of Colonel William Rogers' brother says that Colonel William Rogers' wife was "either a Thornton or a Casey." I am of the opinion, as also is old Mr. Rogers, that she was a Thornton and was from Charlottesville, Va. I lean to this belief for the reason that the Rogers of Charlottesville had the rare name, Janetta, in their family, also the name of Thornton. Colonel William Rogers had two sons, respectively, named Thornton and Casey. Gen. Peter Casey was a great revolutionary Indian fighter in Ky and a contemporary of old Colonel James Rogers so it might have been that Col. William named his son for his friend. In any event, Colonel William Rogers' daughter, Margaret, married our great-grandfather, Charles Henderson. Whether the love affair was begun in Bardstown at the home of her grandfather, Colonel James Rogers, or whether after grandfather Henderson settled in Ohio county near where Colonel William Rogers had settled, I am not able to state, but married they were. Colonel William Rogers lived at the house known to us as "Judge Townsend's house". You remember the thickwalled, narrow slitlike windowed brick house? It was the first brick house in Ohio county. I think, tho', Colonel William Rogers once lived, before that, in a log house nearer to Beaver Dam. Colonel William Rogers, our great-great grandfather, was also a member of the Ky legislature.

When Audubon, the great naturalist, was in Ky making his great bird studies he stayed with our great-grandfather and our great-great grandfather, as they always kept open house for travelers.

Another most interesting bit of history of this portion of Ohio county in early times will be found in Washington Irving's, "Ralph Ringwood". Washington Irving had not been to the wilds of Ohio county Ky himself but he had a friend who had, and the adventures of "Pigeon Roost" on the "fork of Muddy" are the adventures that this friend of Irving' s had and which he retailed to Irving and which Irving immortalized, giving his friend the fictitious name of "Ralph Ringwood". The friend's name was actually Duval. He was a young Virginian of fine family and mentality who traveled for adventure. He afterward was Governor of Florida and was a potent factor in the history of this country for his connection with "The Seminole Treaty". I inherited from my mother, grandma, Emily Henderson Nall's papers, and among them I found a letter from this Gov. Duvall, "Ralph Ringwood" in which letter he wrote of the Seminole affair in detail. The letter was addressed to grandfather Henderson who was his dear friend. It would not surprise me if grandfather Henderson and the Rogers boys were with Ringwood at the shindig "On the fork of Muddy" which Irving so graphically describes. There were once away back in my childhood, some water-color bird-drawings up in "the garret" at Grandma's, which I know now must have been Audubon 's - Alas that they can not now be located!

Perhaps you know that after leaving Bardstown Grandfather Henderson first settled at Henderson Ky (named for his cousin, Miss Sarah Henderson, who gave large quantities of her immense tract of land there, so I have heard). Aunt Janetta said Grandfather Henderson started the practice of law there (he being graduate of the "William and Mary" university at Williamsburg, Va.), but he gave up the law as he said "practicing law in Ky was too much wear and tear on the conscience". That was literally true, for the land deals of early Ky will now, in many cases, bear the light of thy. Some graft!

•••••

Kentucky: A History of the State , J. H. Battle, W. H. Perrin & G. C. Kniffin, 1885, Ohio County section:

DR. JOHN E. PENDLETON, a lineal descendant of one of the oldest and most respected families of Virginia, was born September 1, 1831, in Washington County, Ky. His paternal grandparents, John and Sarah (Banks) Pendleton, came to Kentucky from Culpeper County, Va., in 1780, and located in Lincoln County. The children of these grandparents were Micajah, Tinsley, Richard, James and four girls, one of whom, Malinda, married Thomas Scott, of Pendleton County, Ky. Micajah lived and died at Independence, Mo., at the age of eighty-two. His children were Frank Pendleton, now deceased, and three daughters. Tinsley lived and died in Lincoln County; James now resides at Independence, Mo., and is more than eighty years of age, and is the father of twelve sons, all now grown, and respected citizens of Jackson County, Mo. The four daughters all lived and died in Kentucky. Dr. Richard, father of the subject of this sketch, began the practice of medicine in Washington County, Ky., in 1820, and in 1833 moved to Henry County, and died in the same year from over exertion in behalf of those afflicted with cholera. His age was twenty-six years. He was a member of the Methodist Church. Sarah Banks Pendleton, the grandmother, lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years. John Pendleton, the grandfather, was descended (as is proved by Rev. Philip Slaughter in his History of St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper County, Va.), from Dr. Pendleton, who, with his brother, an Episcopal minister, came from England in 1640, and settled in Virginia. Rev. Slaughter connects the Pendleton with the Virginia families, Spottswood, Slaughter, Strother, Taylor, Gaines, Carpenter, Preston and Garnett. Dr. John E. Pendleton, who was but two and one-half years of age at the death of his father, returned with his mother and only sister, Naomi (now wife of Dr. H. C. Allin), to the residence of his maternal grandfather, Maj. Ed Berry, of Washington County, where he continued to reside until twenty years of age. His mother, Mary Berry Pendleton, died at the age of thirty-three years, when he was but seventeen years of age. While in Washington County Dr. Pendleton obtained a fair education, Prof. Boyle having been his preceptor at one time. At twenty years of age he removed to Hartford Ohio Co., Ky., and began the study of medicine with Dr. William J. Berry, his maternal uncle. He then attended the medical university of Louisville, from which school he graduated in 1854, and immediately began the practice of medicine at Hartford, and, in 1857, took two terms of medicine at Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, and resumed the practice of medicine in 1861. - In the fall of the same year he raised a company of soldiers in Ohio and Muhlenburgh Counties, and entered the Confederate service as their captain in the Ninth Regiment, First Kentucky Brigade. He was soon promoted to surgeon of the regiment, and successively as surgeon of the brigade, and chief surgeon of Gen. John C. Breckinridge's command. When Gen. Breckinridge became secretary of war he was placed with Gen. William T. Martin's division, and was shortly afterward appointed medical adviser in Lieut.

Gen. Wheeler's corps with which he remained until the close of the war. During these years. he served as surgeon upon the fields of Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburgh, Baton Rouge, Stone River, Shelbyville, Farmington, Atlanta, Now Market, Strawberry Plains, etc. He was with Wheeler in his march, following Sherman to the sea. He surrendered at Charlottesville, N. C., with the regiment, in 1865. He returned home immediately, and began the practice of medicine at Hartford. His residence at Hartford, known as Hillside, is a handsome brick structure in the suburbs, in a large yard beautifully ornamented with shrubbery. Dr. Pendleton is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of I. O. O. F., holding chief offices in both orders; is a member of the McDowell Medical Association, American Medical Association, and Medical Examining Board of the district. March 1, 1855, he married Margaret, daughter of John G. and Emily A. Nall, of Hartford. John G. Nall was born in Washington County, Ky., in 1800, and is closely related to the Nalls in Hardin and Nelson Counties. He died in 1856. Emily A. Nail was the daughter of Charles Henderson, who was for fifty years circuit and county clerk of Ohio County, Ky. Charles Henderson was born in Virginia in 1781, and was closely related to Thomas Jefferson. He died in 1871 at the age of ninety years. His children were Beverly, Emily A., Jeanette, John, James, Elizabeth, Thomas and Gabrielle, all now deceased but James and Jennette. The children of John G. Nall and Emily A. Nall are Laura, wife of Frank J. McLean, both now deceased; Margaret, first wife of Dr. Pendleton; Charles G., at one time clerk of Dixon County court; Eugene, residing at Jeffersonville, Ind.; Ida, present wife, of Dr. Pendleton, and John B. Nall, editor Farmer's Home Journal, Louisville, Ky. The children of John E. and Margaret Pendleton are Laura Gray, wife of Howard Gray, of Louisville, Ky.; Mary, wife of H. P. Taylor, of Hartford; Charles M. Pendleton, an attorney at the Hartford bar; John E. and Eugene Banks, who are together in Cherokee, Kas., in the drug business. In July, 1869, Margaret Pendleton died, and in 1871 Dr. Pendleton married Ida a younger sister of his first wife. Tula is their only child.

•••••

**Ohio County, Kentucky in the Olden Days,
by Harrison D. Taylor, John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, KY, 1926, p.24:**

Charles Henderson was county and circuit court clerk for about forty years He was a native of Albemarle County, Virginia. In 1808 when he was appointed clerk of the county and circuit courts he moved from Henderson to Hartford He was the fifth county clerk and served from 1809 to 1847. The first was William Rowan, who was succeeded, in turn, by Samuel Work, Aquilla Field, and Daniel Barry. Mr. Henderson continued to live in Hartford until his death in 1871. He was blind during his last years. No man in Ohio County came in closer and more frequent contact with the citizens of his time. It is quite probable that if Mr. Taylor had added another sketch to his fragmentary history, it would have been one on Charles Henderson. In Mr. Taylor's scrap book is a clipping, about one column in length, dated and credited "Hartford, February 18, 1875: Correspondence of the Courier-Journal," and signed "Quits," the name used by Mrs. James (Kittie McElroy) Chapman. Further investigation revealed that it was published in the Weekly Courier-Journal, on March 3, 1875. Most of the sketch is devoted to Charles Henderson and Mrs. Elizabeth Foreman, who was a daughter of William Peyton and a sister of Dr. Samuel O. Peyton. Charles Henderson's children were: Beverly, John, James, and Thomas Henderson and Mrs. John Gatewood (Emily A.) Nall, Mrs. Powhatan (Jeannette) Robertson, Mrs. Calvin (Elizabeth) Couch, and Miss Gabrielle Henderson.

.....

Additional notes by Jerry Long, Owensboro, KY:

Charles Henderson, son of Bennett Henderson & Elizabeth Lewis, was born 1781 Albemarle County, VA. He married Margaret Rogers, 2 February 1811 Ohio County, KY; the daughter of William Rogers, she was born c1790 Nelson County, KY and died in 1871 Ohio County, KY.

Ohio County, Kentucky Loose Marriage Documents, Ohio County Clerk's office, Ohio County Courthouse, Hartford, KY:

Thus and more by their presence that the Ch^r Henderson
 & James, Ch^r Mackley and his and freely bound
 us to his commonwealth of Kentucky in the penal sum
 of fifty pounds current money which payment will
 and truly to be made to the said commonwealth We
 bind ourselves our heirs Executors administrators & family
 by their presence seals and signatures and dated this 2nd
 day of February 1811

The condition of the above obligation is such
 that the above bound Ch^r Henderson is about
 to be married to Margaret Rogers now if there
 be no lawful cause to obstruct said marriage the
 above obligation to void also to be understood in full
 force and effect as law

Ch^r Henderson
 Seal
 Jas^{ts} Ch^r Mackley
 Seal

Ohio County, KY Bonds - loose documents, Ohio County
Clerk's office, Ohio County Courthouse, Hartford, KY:



For Ohio County, (as appears by the returns made to the office of the Secretary of State.) I hereby invest him with full power and authority to execute and discharge the duties of the said office, according to law. And to have and to hold the same, with all the rights and emoluments thereunto legally appertaining for and during the term prescribed by the Constitution. I testimony, I have caused these letters to be made patent, and the Seal of the Commonwealth to be hereunto affixed. Done at Frankfort the 31st day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one, and in the fifty-ninth year of the Commonwealth. John L. Helm. By the Governor: Jno. W. Fennell, Secretary of State. By E. R. Smith, Asst. Sec'y

Charles Henderson died in 1871 Ohio County, KY. Charles and his wife, Margaret, were probably buried in the Morton Cemetery, in Hartford, Ohio County, KY, where two of his sons have monuments. They had eight children:

1. Emily Addison Henderson, born 1812 Ohio County, KY; married John Gatewood Nall, 29 March 1832 Ohio County, KY; she died 6 April 1883 Hartford, Ohio County, KY. John Gatewood Nall, son of John & Elizabeth Nalle, was born 10 August 1809 Washington County, KY and died 11 September 1856 Ohio County, KY; buried Morton Cemetery, Hartford, Ohio County, KY. He married 1st Frances Berryman, 2 September 1828 Ohio County, KY. John G. Emily Nall had seven children: Laura Lewis (c1834-before 1883, wife of Frank J. McLean), Margaret (1836-1869, 1st wife of Dr. John Edward Pendleton), Charles Gatewood (c1837-1874, husband of Mary E. Frost), Eugene (1839-1890, husband of Maliza Colgan), Ion Beverly (1841-1917, husband of Mary

Ormsby Gray), Ann Mary G. (1843-1845) and Ida Emily (c1850-1906, 2nd wife of Dr. John Edward Pendleton.

Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 11 April 1883, p.3:

THE DARK ANGEL

Severs the Cord of a Long Life.

At her home in this place, at 9 o'clock p.m., on Thursday, April 5, 1883, Mrs. Emily A. Nall peacefully died.

The best eulogy we can give is to refer to the long life she laid down, through all of which shone with bright effulgence the many noble traits of womanhood, which will serve to keep the flowers of memory fresh for years or forever in the hearts of those who knew her.

She was a daughter of Charles Henderson, who, with his family, came to Ohio county in 1798, and settled in Hartford. He was Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts for a period of over forty years, and is remembered as such by many who are not yet our oldest citizens.

Her birth occurred in the year 1812, and she was consequently in her 71st year at the time of her death.

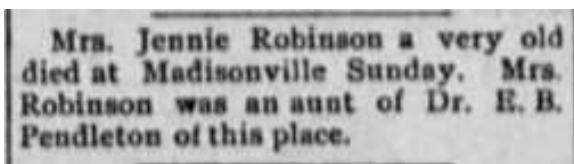
She was educated at Science Hill, Shelbyville, Ky., the most celebrated school for young ladies Kentucky has ever known. The training she received there was not by any means superficial, for as long as she lived there were evidences of superior and well-trained natural gifts and acquired accomplishments. At an early age she wooed the muses and they responded to the call, the result being that she wrote for the Louisville *Journal* while Prentice was editor, and her articles attracted much attention, securing recognition from Kentucky's greatest wit and poet. He frequently wrote commendatory letters to the young authoress and took every opportunity of recognizing her merit as a writer.

But three of her seven children survive her: Mrs. Dr. Pendleton, Col. I. B. Nall, editor Farmers Home Journal, Louisville, and Eugene Nall, of Jeffersonville, Ind.

The sorrowing relatives have our heartfelt sympathy in their loss, and we feel that we can take the liberty to vouchsafe that of every member of the community.

2. Janetta E. Henderson, born c1814 Ohio County, KY; married Powhattan M. Robertson (2 January 1808 – 14 April 1863), 25 June 1834 Ohio County, KY; she died 12 March 1899 at Madisonville, Hopkins County, KY, where she was buried with her husband in the Grapevine Cemetery. Children: Susan E. (1837-1931, wife of __ Lowe & Stephen Fisk), Irene A. (1839-1861, wife of Calvin G. Couch), Elizabeth H. (1841-1894, wife of John T. Scott), Charles J. (1843-1875), Irdell H. (c1845), Mary (1852-1915, single), Cammie Pendleton (1855-1862) and Thomas H. (1860-1930).

Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, Friday, 17 March 1899, p.3:



Mrs. Jennie Robinson a very old died at Madisonville Sunday. Mrs. Robinson was an aunt of Dr. E. B. Pendleton of this place.

3. Gabriella Henderson, born c1817 Ohio County, KY; died 1870-1885; single in 1870.
4. John (or Beverly) Henderson, born 1811-1825 Ohio County, KY; died 1830-1885.
5. James Henderson, born c1820 Ohio County, KY; died 15 February 1907 Hartford, Ohio County, KY; buried Oakwood Cemetery, Hartford, Ohio County, KY.

Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, Friday, 22 February 1907, p.5:

Mr. James Henderson, one of the oldest residents of Hartford, died Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock at the residence of Mr. H. P. Taylor, where he had made his home for the past several years, of troubles incident of old age. Mr. Henderson was a son of Charles Henderson, who was County Court Clerk of Ohio county for probably 25 years soon after the county's establishment. Interment took place at Oakwood cemetery yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

6. Elizabeth Lewis Henderson, born 23 September 1825 Ohio County, KY; married Calvin George Couch (20 August 1829 – 8 March 1887), 11 November 1850 Hopkins County, KY; died 27 September 1855; buried Grapevine Cemetery, Madisonville, Hopkins County, KY. She had daughters: Laura Nall (1851-1923, wife of Thomas Benjamin Botts) and Margaret (1853-1854).
7. Thomas Jefferson Henderson, born 6 April 1829 Ohio County, KY; died 25 September 1853; buried Morton Cemetery, Hartford, Ohio County, KY.



8. Charles (? Beverly) Henderson, born 22 June 1832 Ohio County, KY; died 10 February 1839; buried Morton Cemetery, Hartford, Ohio County, KY.



.....



Morton Cemetery, Hartford, Ohio County, KY



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 3 June 1979, p.2E:

Legend tells why the river's Rough instead of Noble

By Keith Lawrence, Messenger-Inquirer

EDITOR'S NOTE: This account of the "Legend of Rough River" was written by the late Thomas Jefferson Henderson of Hartford sometime near the turn of the century and supplied to the Messenger-Inquirer by his great-great-grandniece, Ann Sabetta of Owensboro.

Long ago when most of Kentucky was a wilderness, a party of young men from Maryland and Virginia set out in a crude flat-boat down the Ohio River.

A treaty with the Indians had been signed recently so they felt comparatively safe and "floated along with frolic and song" day after day, enjoying everything in the beautiful Indian summer weather of November.

One hundred and fifty miles below the falls (Louisville), they found a small settlement called Yellow Banks (Owensboro), so named for the deep yellow clay stretching six miles along the banks some 20 to 30 feet above the high water mark. There were only a few log cabins at the settlement and the people were poor. Nonetheless, the strangers were received with generous hospitality and everything was done to make them feel at home and even welcome to settle on the "dark and bloody ground."

Two of the party decided to remain Henry Noble and Robert Rough.

Following a winter at the Yellow Banks settlement the young men procured horses and a rude wagon and started out in the spring to explore the wilderness.

One day, as night was coming on, their hearts were gladdened by the sight of a comfortable log cabin on the banks of a swiftly flowing stream.

Here they found an old man named Adams with his wife, their son Frank and grown daughter Mary.

I need not try to describe the joy of these people in receiving the handsome, educated young gentlemen, nor the surprise of Henry and Robert to find a sweet young girl.

According to Henderson's account:

*"She was fair as the zephyr blows,
o'er the flowers that bloom in May,
she was bright as the blush on a rose
where the sun steals the dew-drops away.
There was thought, there was brilliance of mind.
there was all that the heart could retain.
So much beauty and sweetness combined,
they would meet with, ah, never again."*

In the course of time, Henry and Robert became Mary's devoted slaves and she could not or would not decide between them. The time was spent by her brother Frank and the visitors hunting and fishing. Often Mary went with them.

They would ride far down the creek to the old abandoned Spanish fort, which had been destroyed long ago by Indians. Every day she said, "We will go in the canoe and in the middle of the stream I will jump out and the one that rescues me, I will marry."

So they prepared for the contest and one lovely afternoon when father and mother were busy and paying no attention to the young folks, Frank stood on the bank and Mary and her gallant suitors got into the boat. The water was running rapidly.

A few feet from the shore Mary jumped out. Rough sprang after her but she already had sunk twice when he caught her by the hair and began swimming out with her. Noble, who seemed terribly frightened, stood in the boat as Rough neared the shore with a half-drowned Mary. Throwing his arms around her, Noble carried her out of the water to her brother in whose loving arms she was brought home.

She was greatly exhausted and declined to speak to anyone until the next afternoon. That evening after supper, in the soft moonlight she met the men, who were impatient for her answer.

According to Henderson, this was her reply:

*"Young Noble gazed upon the wave,
he thought his job was tough.
A plunge he gave, my life to save,
but the work was done by Rough."*

Rough carried off the prize.

In a few weeks, an old Methodist preacher from the fort a few miles away came and performed the ceremony that made them husband and wife.

Henry Noble went back to Virginia. And the stream became known as Rough Creek. Many years later, a fine lock and dam was built and the name was changed to Rough River.

[Note by Jerry Long: The preceding account of the naming of Rough Creek in Ohio County, KY was penned by Thomas Jefferson Henderson (1829-1853), son of Charles Henderson & Margaret Rogers. It is not clear if the work was intended to be a historical chapter or as a work of fiction. I suspect it was the latter. It is not supported by any other accounts and no one of the name Rough is found in the early records of Ohio County or its parent county, Hardin County. The following passage about the naming of Rough Creek was written by Harrison D. Taylor (1802-1889), the most acclaimed historian of Ohio County's pioneer history ("Fragments of the Early History of Ohio County", by Harrison D. Taylor, Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, 2 May 1877, p.1; and Ohio County, Kentucky in the Olden Days, by Harrison D. Taylor, John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, KY, 1926, pp.8-9). Mr. Taylor's explanation seems far more plausible:

"It also appears from the deposition of Isaacs and Mathias Shultz, that Rough creek was notorious and well-known as early as 1782, and that a company of men raised a field of corn at Barnett's Station in 1785. This old station was about two miles north-east of Hartford and the late residence of Dr. B. F. Nall, and from traditions of Indians depredations. Hartford was settled during the year 1785 or 6. The Indian depredations will be made the subject of a separate chapter.

How Hartford and the stream upon which it is located acquired their names, is unknown. The stream near its head is called Yellow creek, in various entries and surveys, but lower down it invariably bore the name of Rough creek. The following seems the most rational solution of the question. Near its source the country is broken and hilly; the rains wash the soil from the hill sides immediately

into the stream and kept it turbid and yellow, whilst lower down, in the wide, level bottom lands the current lost its force, and the stream was greatly obstructed with logs and driftwood, giving it haggard, rough aspect; hence arose the name of Rough, on the lower, and Yellow, on the upper portion of the dire stream. Hartford was probably derived from the ford on the stream, where deer and other wild animals were in the habit of crossing in great number.”]



Interview of Ann Wooten Sabetta by Jerry Long

On February 16, 1989 and May 20, 1989 this writer visited and interviewed Mrs. Thomas J. (Ann Pendleton Wooten) Sabetta (1922-2001) of Owensboro, KY. Mrs. Sabetta was a third-great-granddaughter of Charles Henderson & Margaret Rogers. She had a copy of a family history that was written by her great-aunt, Tula Pendleton Cummins (1877-1924).

The following are notes I made during my interview of Mrs. Sabetta:

Charles Henderson was the son of Col. Bennett Henderson & Elizabeth Lewis. Elizabeth Lewis was a descendant of Pocahontas and was a first cousin of President Thomas Jefferson. Bennett Henderson’s plantation, “Milton” adjoined Jefferson’s Monticello in Albemarle County, Virginia. Bennett Henderson was the son of John Henderson & Martha Goode. Bennett’s widow, Elizabeth, came to Kentucky and made her home in Shelby County, where she died and was buried.

Charles Henderson was a first cousin of Kentucky governor, James Clark (1779-1839). Charles was one of his parents’ younger children and by the time he came of age most of his father’s estate had been lost. Charles migrated to Bardstown, Nelson County, KY. At Bardstown Charles met with Col. James Rogers, the builder of Rogers’ Station, six miles west of Bardstown. James Rogers was a member of the Kentucky Legislature. He was said to be the son of Matthew Rogers, who was in the fight at the early fort that was near where Wheeling, West Virginia now stands. James married a Miss Blackburn in Virginia. Ben Johnson, a U.S. congressman, is a descendant of James Rogers.

James Roger’s son, William, served as a captain in the Revolution in service against the Indians. William Rogers moved to Ohio County, KY, where he first lived near Beaver Dam. William later lived near Hartford in the house known as the Judge Townsend house. The house had thick walls and was the first brick house built in Ohio County. William Rogers’s daughter, Margaret, married Charles Henderson. Charles Henderson lived to be 90 and his wife, Margaret Rogers Henderson, died three weeks after him. Mrs. Sabetta said her aunt had letter to Charles Henderson by William Pope Duvall, governor of the state of Florida. Mrs. Sabetta did not know the whereabouts of the letter now.

