

VA.021 INFORMATION REGARDING THE FAMILY OF A SPENCER HILL (REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER) OF BATH COUNTY VIRGINIA, LATER INTO WHAT IS TODAY NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA.

Gathered & Entered by Robert R. Hill Sr. in May 1987.

Research for following: Mrs. Green, Mother of Carrie Green Floyd of Buckhannon, West Virginia (D.A.R. Member & descendent of MOSES MANN HILL, NATIONAL # 631960).

Additional comments were also given by Mr. Ralph Hill, of Prattsburg, N.Y.

Note by Robert Hill: Figures after the individual's names shows what known generation they belong to in this family line and were not in the original document.

#### THE SPENCER HILL FAMILY.

FRANCIS HILL 1/ came from England. He settled in Shenandoah County, (Virginia) and then moved into Bath County, Virginia.

Mr. Ralph Hill states that early Tax Lists of Virginia shows Francis Hill 1/ to have been in both Shenandoah and Rockingham Counties.

SPENCER HILL 2/ (REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIER), was a son of Francis Hill. He was born on 26th February 1762 and was with Washington at Valley Forge when he was 16 years old.

Spencer Hill 2/ is listed as having served in the 5th Continental Line of Virginia in the Revolutionary War. He married MARY RUTHERFORD and they had 14 children.

They moved from Bath County, Virginia into an area that is today Belva, NICHOLAS COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA. SPENCER HILL 2/ died on 8th October 1855 at age of 93 years. He is buried at Belva, West Virginia where the D.A.R. has placed a marker on his grave.

Mr. Ralph Hill states that he felt Spencer Hill 2/ and Mary Rutherford were probably married in Botetourt County, Virginia, in Augusta County, Virginia, in 1790.

There is mention in a court suit "concerning Mary Rutherford's fortune" held by her guardian, Elliot Rutherford, after her father died during the time prior to

her coming of age.

Mr. Hill goes on to say that members of this family (children & grandchildren) moved into areas that later became known as West Virginia (viz: Fayette, Nicholas, Kanawha counties) and some of the grand children moved into Floyd & Morgan Counties in Kentucky and by 1850 one can find a Spencer Hill in

Wyoming County, New York; Monroe County, Virginia, Marshall County, Mississippi, Maury and Henry Counties in Tennessee, all of his family line.

He states that the Spencer Hill in New York, most likely, came from Spencer County, Mass. The Spencer Hill, who moved from N.C. to Tennessee was his line and appears to be from a different Spencer Hill (b. 26 February 1762).

His ancestor (Spencer Hill) was born ca. 1756 in Northumberland County, Virginia, later moving to N.C., then to Williamson County, Tennessee.

(Note by Robert Hill: While I have no way at this time of proving my theory, I strongly suspect that this Spencer Hill is related to the Spencer Hill 2/, who moved to Bath County, Virginia, who fought in the Revolution and who was the son of Francis Hill 1/. My feeling is based on the fact that the given name of "Spencer" is somewhat unusual and also that a family often carried on the same given name for years, and was often picked up by a brother or sister of a particular family. Also it should be noted that Northumberland County Virginia is not too far from Rockingham and Shenandoah Counties of Virginia), where the Spencer Hill 2/ (The Revolutionary Soldier) lived).

The children of Spencer Hill 2/ & Mary Rutherford were:

1. JANE HILL, married Richard Payne. She died at Greenup, Kentucky.
2. BETTY HILL, married John Keyser, lived in Cabell County, West Virginia.
3. ROBERT DOSIER HILL, married Lettie Estep, lived at

Lizemore, Clay County, West Virginia.

4. MARTIN HILL, of Monroe County (What State?).
5. SPENCER HILL JR., married Jarrett. (Last name?).
6. JOHN HILL, married Kiger, lived at Gauley Bridge, West Virginia. He was a wealthy slave holder, Sheriff of the county, widely known Mason and Philanthropist.
7. MOSES MANNING HILL, married Felicity VanBidder, daughter of Mathias (Tice) VanBidder, the renowned scout and comrade of Daniel Boone. Her sister, Chloe VanBidder married Jesse Boone, son of Daniel Boone, hence the connection between the Hill-Boone families. Other sisters of Felicity VanBidder married Col. Andrew Donnally, \_\_\_\_\_Reynolds and \_\_\_\_\_Slaughter, all of the Kanawha Valley. Moses Mann Hill began the practice of medicine when he was about 55 years of age

and continued until his death in 1872, when he was stricken with paralysis while on a visit to a patient near Summersville. His practice extended from Webster County to Kanawha, including Nicholas, Fayette and Clay Counties.

8. JOSEPH HILL 3/, went to Oregon.
9. ARCHIBALD HILL 3/, went to Iowa.
10. WILLIAM HILL 3/, went to Ohio.
11. NATHAN HILL 3/, lived near Lizemore, Clay County.
12. MARY HILL 3/, married (Mr.?) Speaker.
13. NANCY RENICK HILL 3/, married (Mr.?) Whalen.
14. HIRAM HILL 3/, lived at Fayetteville, Fayette County, West Virginia.

ROBERT DOSIER HILL 3/, son of (SPENCER 2/, FRANCIS HILL 1/) and wife Lettie Estep had the following children:

- i. William Hill 4/, never married.
- ii. Virginia Hill 4/, m. a McGraw 4/, and lived at Bell Creek, near Belva.
- iii. Betty Hill 4/, m. a Copeland.
- iv. Lettie Hill 4/, m. a Kincaid.
- v. Robert Hill Jr. 4/, married a Simms.
- vi. Emma Hill 4/.

SPENCER HILL JR. 3/, son of (SPENCER HILL SR. 2/, FRANCIS HILL 1/), and wife had following children:

- i. Frank Hill 4/, a banker.
- ii. Joseph S. Hill 4/, a Charleston (W. Va.?) banker, at one time state Banking Commissioner.

JOHN HILL 3/, son of SPENCER HILL SR. 2/, FRANCIS HILL 1/), and wife had following children:

- i. Caroline Hill 4/, married a Tyree.
- ii. Virginia Hill 4/, married a Hartman.
- iii. William H. Hill 4/, never married, owned several hundred acres of coal and timber lands in Nicholas, Clay and Fayette Counties, died leaving his entire estate to the Masonic Lodge, Presbyterian Church and other charities. His sisters contested the will and it was in litigation for more than 48 years, finally settled in the late 50s each member of the family receiving a mere token of the original value of this enormous estate.

The following article on HIRAM HILL 3/, son of (SPENCER HILL

SR. 2/, FRANCIS HILL 1/), was attached. It was labeled "Fayette County's "PIKE'S PEAK" People."

Note by Robert Hill: The figures that appear after a name in the following document, were added for the purpose of showing what generation that person belongs and was not in the original document.

#### HONORABLE HIRAM HILL 3/ AND HIS DESCENDENTS

Hiram Hill 3/, father of Fayetteville, Seat of Justice of

Fayette County, West Virginia, was a native of Rockbridge County, Virginia, where he was born in the year of 1799.

Spencer Hill 2/ and Mary Rutherford, his wife, were the parents of this worthy. His mother was of Rockingham County, Virginia.

During the Revolutionary War, Spencer Hill 2/ served in the Colonial Forces in the 5th Virginia Company, according to the inscription on his grave stone in the cemetery at Belva, West Virginia, where he is buried.

Hiram Hill 3/ and Miss Selina Harvey, sister of Morris Harvey of Morris Harvey College, were married in Kanawha County on 20th July 1828. They had the following children:

1. Mary Hill 4/, who married James Phillips;
2. Caroline Hill 4/, who married James Burgess;
3. Joe Hill 4/, who died unmarried at age of 21
4. Eunice Hill 4/
5. Frances Hill 4/ ("Aunt Fan"), died in November 1926, unmarried;
6. Edward L. Hill 4/, born near Beckwith on April 13, 1851, and who died at Oak Hill on June 29, 1937; married Miss Margaret Duncan in 1885. Their children were:
  - a. C.R. Hill Jr. 5/
  - b. John Hill 5/, both graduated of Yale University;
  - c. Millicent Hill 5/, graduate of Vassar, and wife of John G. Fox, former Attorney General of State of West Virginia and now Counsel of C. & P. Telephone Company, of this state
  - d. Carolyn Hill 5/, graduate of Smith College and University of Iowa, who is married to Juan A. Faria Jr. and now lives in Puerto Rico.

Grandchildren of Hiram Hill 3/, by Edward L. Hill 4/, his son, have achieved distinction in this area. Oldest of the three sons was:

1. Dr. Dennis L. Hill 6/ (M.D.) (July 18, 1890-September 19, 1937)
2. William H. Hill 6/, (February 10, 1893-November

13, 1941)  
3. C.R. Hill Sr. 6/.

Hiram Hill 3/ died in November of 1879 at the age of 79 years 6 months and 13 days. He is buried in the Poteet cemetery on the eastern outskirts of the village of Hill Top, a few miles south of Oak Hill.

Before the formation of West Virginia and its admission into the Union on 20th June 1863, Hiram Hill 3/ represented Fayette County in the General Assembly of Virginia from 1846 to 1848 and again from 1849 to 1850. Fayette County, during those years, comprised present day Raleigh County. It was largely through the efforts of Hiram Hill 3/ that Raleigh County was created in 1850.

Hiram Hill 3/ was the first Clerk of the County Court of Fayette, serving from 1831 till 1845, serving as such longer than any other incumbent in the history of the county.

When election was on in 1837 to select a suitable county seat for Fayette County, it was Hiram Hill 3/ who secured enough votes of qualified freeholders to swing the election for Vandalia, later named Fayetteville.

Hill deeded acre tracts to those who would vote for Vandalia as the site of the seat of justice. Those deeds had no calls in them, hence no land was really given. However, the strategy worked and Hiram Hill 3/ became the Father of Fayetteville.

No man left a larger or more lasting influence on the early history of Fayette County than Hiram Hill 3/. His wife died in 1851, shortly after the birth of her last child, Edward L. Hill. She was buried in a private cemetery between Glen Jean and Hill Top.

END OF VA.021 DATA.

