

Patterson-Andrews Genealogy

About 1840 James Patterson Andrews, M. D., commenced a compilation of a genealogical register of the descendants of James and Mary (Montgomery) Patterson, founders of the Little Britain, Lancaster county, branch of the Patterson family, and also of the descendants of the Chester county branch of the Andrews family, of which Widow Andrews was founder; the two families being early and closely connected by marriage, Dr. Andrews continued his register up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1875. Of recent years George M. Black, of Oak Park, Ill., of the fourth generation of Pattersons and the fifth generation of Andrewses, has been making an effort to continue the lines of work with the view of putting the whole pamphlet into book form, when as near complete as possible.

Prompt assistance is asked of those knowing themselves to be descended from Widow Andrews or James and Mary (Montgomery) Patterson.

The subject is one that should appeal to a large number of persons in our county, especially resident in the Lower End, where both strains of the family were numerous and influential. I take it the Colerain and Little Britain and the Chester county Pattersons were distinct from the family of the same name who so largely peopled the Donegal region and left their deep imprint in that locality. James Patterson, the elder, at the age of twenty, came from his native county of Antrim, Ireland, to Little Britain,

in 1728. His bride, Mary Montgomery, followed him from the North of Ireland three or four years later, and married him. Widow Andrews and her children came later and settled in Chester county. Her daughter, Frances, married Robert Gardner and their daughter, Letitia, married James Montgomery Patterson, son of James and Mary. Hence the many Wilson, Andrews, Ewing, Shippen, Clendennin, Neiper, Black and White notable families of lower Lancaster county. The illustrious Ramsays—David, doctor, statesman and historian; William, the divine; and Nathaniel, soldier and Treasury official—were nephews of one of the women of this Patterson-Andrews line. Robert Fulton, the inventor, through his lineage from the Blacks and Smiths, was collaterally related to this family. Robert Fulton, the elder, married his cousin, Mary Smith, daughter of Joseph.

John Black, father of the present genealogist of this family, was born in Chester county, in 1798. His mother, Hannah Ross Black, was full cousin of Robert Fulton, of steamboat fame. Her mother was Isabella Smith, sister of Mary Smith, mother of Fulton. They were daughters of Joseph Smith, born in Ireland, 1704, came to Chester county, 1726, with a brother, John, and sister, Mary, who married William Fulton. They were grandparents of Robert, the inventor.

Biographers became confused in the two Mary Smiths, and many mistakes have occurred in writing the family lines. John (1686), Mary (?), and Joseph (1704), were born in County Monaghan, Ireland, children of John Macdonald Smith, born in County Antrim, 1655. His parents came from Scotland, and were named Macdonald. The name of Smith was given to John

by William of Orange, at or about the time of the battle of the Boyne, from an incident that occurred wherein the King's horse cast a shoe, which was replaced by John Macdonald. The King inquired of the man his name, and was told Macdonald. The King told him his name ought to be Macdonald the smith. The remark was heard by some of Macdonald's neighbors, who dubbed him with the name, and the Smith name was adopted by the family, and Smith it has remained.

Author: Hensel, W. U. (William Uhler), 1851-1915.

Title: Patterson-Andrews genealogy / by W. U. Hensel, Esq.

Primary Material: Book

Subject(s): Patterson family.
Andrews family.
Lancaster County (Pa.)--Genealogy.

Publisher: Lancaster, Pa. : Lancaster County Historical Society, 1913

Description: 112-114 p. ; ill. ; 23 cm.

Series: Journal of the Lancaster County Historical Society ; v. 17,
no. 4

Call Number: 974.9 L245 v.17

Location: LCHSJL -- Journal Article (reading room)

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