

CHAPTER XXXII

WILLIAM EWING (c1696-1794) OF ROCKINGHAM Co., VA.

**NOT half-brother to Nathaniel Ewing
But a Contemporary who REALLY DID MARRY
first Eliza Milford in Ireland ca.,1724/5
second Anna Shannon Daughter of Thomas Shannon ca 1740/41**

Years of study have produced the information I will share with you. All of it comes from documents I have read and analyzed very carefully. Some of it will “fly in the face of tradition.” But, truth is truth.

William Ewing signed the attached Petition with another William Ewins and a Thomas Shennon August 27, 1728. It is quite old as you can see and tells a story. “Petition of some of inhabitants of West of Sadsbury Township in (then) Chester Co., Pa.” [Chester Co., Archives Vol 1, page 8 “Twp school & Election Distr.”] Early Lancaster which was created in 1729 reveal names of most of the signers.

Thomas Shennon wrote his will in Sadsbury Township, Lancaster Co., Pa. (Will Book A-1:26) April 4,1737, proved 27th April 1737. It reads as follows with original spelling:

“In the name of God Amen Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and thirty-seven, I, Thomas Shannon of Sadsberry (sic) township and county of Lancaster, farmer, being sick and weak of body but of perfit mind and memory thanks be given unto God therefor calling unto mind the mortality of my body and that it is appointed for all men once to Die do make and ordain this my last will and testament that is to say: I recommend my soul unto the hands of God that gave it and my body to the Earth to be buried at Descression of my Executors and as for such worldly goods as it had pleased God to bless me with I now despose and bequeath in manner and form following:

Item; first of all I order that all my just and lawful debts be payed and my funeral charges

Item; I give and bequeath unto my son John Shannan one half of the place where I now Live and the other half I give and bequeath unto my son Samuel Shannan to be equally divided between them and I order my well beloved wife, Agness Shannon shall be mentained out of that half that I give to my son, Samuel while she lives and my other three children viz: Margaret, Thomas, and Anna Shannon are to be maintained out of the same until they become of age.

Item; I give and bequeath unto each of my two Daughters Fifteen pounds to be Raised (?) out of my movable estate and payed unto the eldest at the expiration of two years and to be payed unto the other when she comes of age.

Item; I give and bequeath to my son Thomas Shannon fifteen pounds to be Raised out of my movable estate to be payed when he comes of age to gither with his loom and tacklin (?) and I do constitut and apoint my well beloved son John Shannon and my trusty friend Samuel Irwin to be my sole Executor of this my last will and Testament and the Reverend Mr. Alexander Craighead I empower as a guardian to take care and see that all things as done according to this my last will and testament.

And I do revoak disallow and disannol all other will and if testaments made by me before the deat_ herewith pronouncing. and declaring this and no other to be my last will and testament as witness my hand the day and year above written. [The date “April the fourth” was written in above anno domoni at the beginning.]

Signed and Delivered
In the presence of us
William McClure
“W” his mark
Samuel Irwin
James Eger
“X” his mark
Margaret Carnahan
? her mark

Thomas Shannon
“T S” his mark
[Note that his mark resembles the signature
on the petition of 1728.]

Lancaster Co. ye April the 27th 1737 Then personally appeared William McClure and Samuel Irwin two of the witnesses to the within written will and on their oath did declare they saw and heard Thomas Shannon the testator sign seal and publish and declare the same will to be his last will and Testament and that at the doing thereof he was of sound mind and understanding to the best of their knowledge.

Before me
Sa^l. Blunston, D. Reg.”

Rev. Alexander Craighead mentioned by Thomas Shannon above was at Pequea Presbyterian Church until 1735 when he became minister of Middle Octoraro Presbyterian Church in, then, Salisbury twp. It was called “Craighead's Meeting

Chester County Archives Vol. 1, pages 8 and 9
Township School and Election District
Petition of Inhabitants of
West of Sadsbury for a road, 27 August 1748

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Lancaster County, Pennsylvania Will Book A-1-26
Will of Thomas Shannon of Sadsbury, dated 4 April 1737

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Note in will: "...children viz Margaret, Thomas and Anna Shannon are to be maintained ..."
"...Reverend W^m Alexander Craighead [Presbyterian] ... a guardian..."

House". In 1749 he moved to Augusta Co., VA and was pastor at the windy Cove Presbyterian Church on Cowpasture Creek, not the River. He remained there until about 1756 when he became the first pastor of the Rocky River Presbyterian which he had organized on Old Sugaw Creek, Mecklenburg Co., N.C. He preached there until he died and was buried there in 1766 at "Old Sugaw Church". Please note that William Shannon bought his first land near Cowpasture Creek in Augusta Co., Va as recorded by Chalkley Vol. 3 (see ahead). It is my belief they traveled to Augusta Co., Va. together.

One William Shannon (Sr as son called Jr) of Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co. wrote his will there on May 13, 1741. See will Book A Vol. 1 page 69. It says briefly:

"I a farmer, sick, give to wife Mary, son James, son Hugh, daughter Gresall, daughter Jean Shennon, son-in-law Robert McAlphin, son William Shennon right and title of improvement on which I live." One witness was John Shennon who wrote his name clearly. Surely he is the eldest son of Thomas Shannon above. The will was proved in court by Sa^l Blunston, D. Reg. on 25 March 1742. Probate and letters testamentary granted to Wm. Shannon, Jr.

We suggest that this must be a brother to the above Thomas Shannon and that they died about 4 years apart.

A search of persons named Shannon in Records of Philadelphia, City and County, Chester Co. PA, Lancaster Co. PA and Bucks Co. PA was quite thorough. In addition to the Petition mentioned above, and the 1737 will of Thomas Shannon we found the following:

- 1734, 4 June -Lancaster Co. PA Sadsbury twp. Thomas Shannon received a Warrantee of 200 acres of land. "It was never taken up" was the report given me by the Land Records Office in Harrisburg Pa. Archives. No Survey, No Land Patent. However, Thomas Sr. willed half the land to his eldest son, John Shannon and the other half to his second son, Samuel Shannon after the mother, Agness Shannon, died.
- 1750, no mo/day - Lancaster Co. Pa. John Shannon received a Warrantee for 213 acres of land.

Below we list the children and approximate birth dates based on the will etc.

- John Shannon, eldest, was born about 1713-14. He seems never to have left the area. He witnessed the 1741 will of his uncle William Shannon. As stated above he received 213 acres of land in 1750.
- Samuel Shannon was the second son born about 1719-15. One by that name is listed as marrying in Bucks Co. PA in 1752. Brides name is not listed. See below where we found a Samuel Shannon Presbyterian Minister in Augusta Co., VA as early as 1765.
- Margaret Shannon is the third child listed in the Will of 1737. She was born about 1717-18 we figure. She was to have her £15 in 2 years indicating "she would be of age" by or before then.
- Thomas Shannon (Jr.) is the 4th child listed, underage in 1737 so born about 1718-19. One Thomas Shannon was said to be the father of Susanna Shannon born 1738 in Pennsylvania. We think it could be this man if he married at 20-21 years.
- Anne Shannon is the 5th and last child mentioned. She must have been born about 1720-1721. She was to receive her £15 when she comes of age. This is, surely, the Anna/Anne/Ann Shannon who married William Ewing of Bucks Co. PA sometime after 1737 possibly 1740/41, time to become "of age" collect inheritance of £15 with interest and grieve her father. Some "family Traditions" say she was 5 years older than William Ewing. However, the William Ewing who acquired land in Bucks Co., Pa. In 1739 had to have been settled, applied, had survey run and Patent bought before 1739. Thus he had to have been older than Anne. He was indicated in 1728 as being married so, Anne must have been the second wife.

As two men named William Ewing were in Sadsbury twp. Chester/ Lancaster Co., PA in 1728 one of them must have been the William who went early to Amelia/Prince Edward Co., Va as we have shown in Chapter XXVI and is a half-brother to Nathaniel Ewing. The other has to be the William Ewing who went to Bucks Co., PA and married Anne or Anna Shannon. He is shown in Sadsbury twp. , seemingly, as a settled/married? man.

As my search continued I located from the Land Division of the Pennsylvania Archives and History Museum in Harrisburg, Pa copies of the Warrantee, Survey and Patent to William Ewing in Plumstead township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

- 1734, 8 June -Warrant # 3 issued for 150 acres in Plumstead twp. Bucks Co. and Surveyed on 30 September 1734 for 156 acres. Notation indicated "Voided."
- 1739, 20 March -Warrant #19 issued to William Ewing for land in Plumstead twp. Bucks Co. Pa. Survey was the same as for Warrant #3.
- 1739, 20 March -Survey # Q -210 issued to William Hughing (Ewing) and contains the following information: "John Ashmead, now William Hughing (Ewing), in Bucks, William Ewing 156 acres returned ye 20 March 1739."
- 1740, 21 August - Patent # A-10-27 to William Ewing of Plumstead twp. Bucks Co. PA reads: "8 June 1734 there was surveyed and laid out to John Ashmead 150 acres of land situated in Plumstead twp. in Bucks Co. PA ... under certain conditions which conditions not being complied with by the said Ashmead the said Warrant and Survey made in pursuance thereof became utterly void ... etc ... etc."

The patent goes on to say that the Survey was redone and was issued to William Ewing (name spelled correctly) and the fee paid for the Patent by him. It was issued 21 August 1740.

We can safely assume that William Ewing lived there long enough to cultivate the proper amount of land to be able to receive a Patent. Many early tax lists are not preserved especially in Bucks Co., PA. There are two that we have with his name on them:

- 1759 Plumstead twp Bucks Co. PA shows that William Ewing paid a percentage for tax on £14.03.06 (probably assessed value of his land). His name is listed between William Jessop and Daniel Watkins noted as “poor”.
- 1761 Plumstead twp. Bucks Co. PA tax list shows William Ewing paid a percentage for tax on the same amount shown above. His name is listed between Neal Morrison and David Smith.

Bucks Co. Pa. Historical Society informed us that the 1761 tax was taken in April of that year.

All attempts to find who purchased this land from William have failed. We searched the joining landowners with no luck. The “joiner” Joseph Brown is the only clue. We found that a Joseph Brown married an Anne Ewing in St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster Co. PA on 2 December 1762. We are not sure who either of them is but she might be a daughter of William and Ann Shannon Ewing. She might have married the neighbor Joseph Brown as other members of her family moved to Virginia. Joseph Brown is shown in 1759 tax first as “single” and “now married” has been added. He was taxed 9 shillings as a single man. In 1761 he is taxed on £6.01.5 the same that Abraham and Isaac Brown were taxed. Joseph Brown does not appear on the Plumstead 1762 tax but Abraham and Isaac Brown are still there. One Joseph Brown married Christian McClellan widow of Hugh McClellan in the St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster Co., PA on 26 Jan 1764. Hugh McClellan had died in 1754. (See Chapter XIX).

As William Ewing of Rockingham Co., Virginia is the subject of this chapter we searched the records for the date of his move. The William Ewing who moved to Virginia prior to 1742 was NOT this William but a son of John Ewing and Jennet McIlveney as is shown in Chapter XI above. We found and have a copy of the following Deed recorded in Augusta Co. Va. as the county of Rockingham Va. was not created until 1777.

- 1761, 17 November -Augusta Co. VA Deed Book 10 page 133
 “William Ewing of the county of Augusta (VA) in consideration of five shillings current money of Virginia paid John Green, James Green and Moses Green of Culpepper County, VA have bargained and sold unto the said William Ewing a certain tract or parcel of land containing seven hundred and eight acres more or less lying and being in Augusta Co. and bound as follows: viz. Beginning at two white oaks and a black oak on the side of a limestone hill near the Eastern most Branch of Linville's Creek etc ... hereby granted unto the said William Ewing ... from the day before the date hereof for and during the full term of time of a whole one year from thence next fully ensuing ... the rent of one pepper corn on Lady Day next, etc....”
 /Sealed and delivered in the presence of
 John Madison,
 Mich^l Boroyer
 Andrew Ewin
 /signed/ John Green [Seal]
 James Green [Seal]
 Moses Green [Seal]

Marginal Note: “Examined & Delivered Andrew Ewin, Oct 1769”

“At a court conv. and held for Augusta Co. Feb17, 1761/2 this Lease indented from John Green, James Green and Moses Green to William Ewing was proved by the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded ...
 Teste James Madison.” [See page 287.]

- 1761, 18 November -Augusta Co. VA Deed Book 10 page 135 [Only one day later than above deed.]
 “This indenture made the eighteenth day of November 1761 between John, James and Moses Green of the County of Culpepper and William Ewing of the county of Augusta in consideration of one hundred forty pounds current money of Virginia paid above Greens they do hereby release and discharge William Ewing etc. (in his actual possession) etc ... land formerly conveyed to John, James and Moses Green from Joss Rite, Robert McCoy and Robert Green recorded in the County of Augusta etc ... in witness whereof the said John, James and Moses Green have hereto set their hands and seals
 /Sealed and delivered in presence of
 John Madison,
 Mic^l Bowyer
 Andrew Ewing
 /signed/ John Green [Seal]
 James Green [Seal]
 Moses Green [Seal]

Ewing is written with a “g” above but without it in two previous documents he witnessed and signed.

“At a court held for Augusta County Febr 12 1762 this release indented from John, James and Moses Green to William Ewing was proved by the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.

Test. John Madison” [See page 289.]

Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Warrant # 3 issued 10 September 1734 as # 19 to
William Ewing on 20 March 1739 in Plumstead Twp.

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Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Survey Q-210
John Ashmead now sold to William Ewing
20th of March 1739

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Bucks County, Pennsylvania
Patent Book A Volume 10 page 127
to William Ewing, 156 acres, on 1 August 1740

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Andrew Ewing seems to have been proven as a son of William Ewing. It has been said that he is the one who signed the Petition as related in Chalkey's Volume I page 442 and dated March 1753/4. The birth date of Andrew Ewing son of William Ewing is given on his tombstone and in the Family Bible (copies of which I have) as "March 15, 1740" and that of his wife, Susan (Shannon, daughter of Thomas), is 15 December 1738. So, Andrew Ewing of the 1753 petition cannot be this Andrew, son of William Ewing of, now, Augusta/Rockingham County in VA.

An Andrew Ewing is shown in PENNSYLVANIA MARRIAGES as having married Elizabeth Tupy in September of 1749. We were unable to trace him but believe he is a brother to the above William Ewing. An Elizabeth Ewing married a Thomas Wills the same year, 1749, August, and must have been a sister to both of them. We have not pursued this except that Thomas Wills married later and had children by another wife. None are ever given as children of Elizabeth.

We purchased all the Shannon wills available i.e. listed for early Virginia. We checked Pennsylvania Marriages for any by ones named Shannon. We found there none listed for any "QUAKERS" by that name. In fact Swathmore Friends Society informed us they had NO name Shannon listed until about 1800. We found that a James Shannon, thought to be a son of William Shannon who died 1741 in Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co. PA, married Martha Lewis in PA on 25 March 1752. We found in Augusta Co. Deed Book 19 page 75 dated 10 Sept 1772 James and Martha Shannon sold land to John Wilson he had purchased in 1762. William Shannon (his brother) witnessed the deed.

We found that Samuel Shannon, possibly a son of Thomas Shannon, Sr. was a Minister and is mentioned in Chalkey's Volumes many times. The earliest seems to be 11 Nov 1765.

We bought Virginia wills of Thomas and William Shannon. The one of William gave us no help. However the will of Thomas Shannon WB #1 page 449 Amherst Co. Va was dated 17 July 1772 and probated in August 1772. He mentions his cousin, Thomas Shannon and his son, John Shannon, his brother, Samuel Shannon and his son, Thomas Shannon. I sincerely believe this is the "Thomas Shannon of Virginia" whose daughter is said to be the Susan/Susanna Shannon who married Andrew Ewing son of William Ewing of Augusta/Rockingham Co., VA. Thomas Shannon's inventory shows a "Sermon Book" (preacher?). Thomas mentions "nephew," Sarah Crow and to William Crows children, but no other.

All of the Augusta/Rockingham Deeds available for EWING, early on ,were purchased. There are "Burnt Book Deeds" from Rockingham County which are incomplete. There seem to be NO Deeds from the early William to his sons unless they are under ERVINE.

**Augusta County, Virginia
Deed Book 10, page 133**

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Marginal note states: "Examined and delivered Andrw Ewin Octobr 1769"

Augusta County, Virginia
Deed Book 10, page 134

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**Augusta County, Virginia
Deed Book 10, page 135**

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Augusta County, Virginia
Deed Book 10, page 136

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**Augusta County, Virginia
Deed Book 10, page 137**

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Note: Use of term "Release" and date of February 1762, and says William Ewing. Marginal note page 133 state "Deliver to Andrew Ewing October 1769".

The following Deeds found in Augusta Co. Va. prior to 1777 when Rockingham Co. Va. was created tell us something of the sons, at least, of this William Ewing of Sadsbury, Lancaster Co. Pa and Bucks Co. PA.

- 1765, 20 May, Augusta Co. Deed Book 13 page 867,
William Ervine (sic) to Henry Ervine, his son for £15, 225 acres on a branch of Linville's Creek, part of 707 (correct 708) acres whereon William now lived. Delivered: Thos Bell, 16 May 1772
- 1765, 19 May, Augusta Co. Deed Book 13 page 869
William Ervine (sic) to Andrew Ervine, his son for £15, 200 acres on a branch of Linville Creek part of the 707 (correct 708) acres above. Delivered: Thos Woodrow, September 1778.
- 1772, 20 March, Augusta Co. Deed Book 18 page 181
Henry Ewing or Irvine from John Botkin a tracts of land being on Cowpasture Creek Augusta by David Bells land etc.
- 1772, 17 August Augusta Co. Deed Book 18:522
William Ewing from Thomas Campbell
- 1774, 17 May, Augusta Co. Deed Book 20 page 246
John and Phebe Ewing sold to Lawrence Bell land she had inherited from her grandfather/mother.
- 1780, 21 March Augusta Co. Deed Book 23 page 180
Henry and Jane Ewing sell to Samuel Redman the same land they purchased of John Botkin in 1772. Henry is "of Rockingham Co. VA". "Marginal note stated 'Delivered to John Redman Nov Court 1780'."
- 1804, 3 Sept Augusta Co. Deed Book "D of T" (Deed of Trust) page 85.
James Ewing (a son of John and Phebe Ewing) to Thomas Shanklin ("one of my brothers-in-law").

We also investigated some of the Shannon deeds in Augusta Co. Virginia and we found numerous ones some of which are listed below. We have not purchased all of these but most important are those Rear to the EWING lands near Linville Creek.

- 1760 (no mo/day) Augusta Co. Deed Book 8 page 259
William Shannon purchased 200 acres for. £40 on Christians Creek, Thos. Rutledge land at Black Branch. Delivered to William Shannon Dec 1764.
- 1760, 27 Jan Augusta Co. Deed Book 8 page 276
William Shannon purchased 224 acres for £35 from Michael and Isabel Harper on Newfoundland Creek. Delivered Wm. Shannon Dec 1764.
- 1763, 24 Nov Augusta Co. Deed Book 10 page 559
William Shannon purchased 400 acres for £62 from Henry Smith and wife on Free Mason's Branch of North River Shanando (i.e. North Fork of the Shenandoah).
- 1765, 22 Feb Augusta Co. Deed Book 13 page 849
William and Jean Shannon sold to Robert Scott for £29, 224 acres on Newfoundland Creek. (Lost 6 pounds on that deal.)
- 1767, 19 May Augusta Co. Deed Book 15 page 258
William Shannon and wife, Jean, to Robert Grayson for £35 400 acres on North River Shenando. "Delivered to Mitchell 1792"
- 1769, 21 June Augusta Co. Deed Book ? page 470
William Shannon and Jean Shannon to John Lowry for £100 300 acres on North River of Shenandoah. Same land William purchased of Henry Smith.
- 1772, 10 Sept James Shannon and wife Martha to John Wilson land purchased 28 Sept 1762 of John Malkom (sic Malcolm) William Shannon witnessed the deed.

Several wills refer to Rev. Samuel Shannon. He signed a bond re "matrimony". He was Presbyterian.

Much of what Presley K. Ewing and E.W.R. Ewing give in their books regarding this family has been studiously obtained. However, as we now know there are, now, more Indexes than then; there are many more documents released for study; there are more ways of "putting information together." What is written below is in no way critical of them. E.W.R. Ewing admits of at least ten differing traditions regarding this family and presents them "for further study."

The information below is merely to correct some of the early information for this book is regarding EWING IN EARLY AMERICA. That was my one aim and goal in writing.

The first wife of William of Scotland/Ireland/Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co., Pa/Bucks Co., PA/and lastly, Rockingham Co., Va. was Eliza Milford. She had no proven connection to Cecil Co. EWING family. Col. Wm. A. Ewing's chart of which I have a copy had added her name as being the wife of the grandfather of the Cecil Co., Maryland EWING. He got the name and didn't know what to do with it for his emphasis was on them. He thought he was a descendant of the Cecil County brothers and brother but he was wrong. I proved that in an earlier Chapter. When Scotland produced no MILFORD name, she was moved up a generation. She was still "with" the wrong William! !

In E.W.R. Ewing's book page 271 Eliza Milford Ewing born 24 Dec 1807, is 5th child born to William Ewing born 29 Nov 1771 died 1 Nov 1845 and Margaret Love whom he married 26 May 1795. William Ewing born 1771 was the eldest child of Andrew Ewing who was born 15 March 1740 and Susan Shannon Ewing born 15 Dec 1738. This is from the William Ewing Bible a copy of which I obtained from Tennessee Archives. Andrew Ewing was a son of William Ewing and, possibly, Eliza Milford (of Ireland). The Eliza Milford Ewing born 1807 married James B. Dunaway on 3 January 1828. In 1865 she wrote a letter to her nephew Randal Milton Ewing born 1829 a son of her brother Andrew B. Ewing born 27 July 1796 died 15 May 1880 in Nashville Tn. His mother was Eliza McDowell McGavock daughter of Capt Hugh McGavock. This 1807 Eliza Milford (Ewing) Dunaway said in her letter that she "was named after her great grandmother whose maiden name was Eliza Milford. This was William's, of Rockingham Co. VA., first wife." On page 280 E.W.R. Ewing who then proceeds to say she was mixed up. However, most of us know for whom we are named. I say she is right and that her sister born 1804 named Susanna Shannon Ewing knew she was named for her grandmother "daughter of Thomas Shannon of Virginia" who married Andrew Ewing on 11 Dec 1760. Their eldest child was the above William born 11 years later in 1771.

When Eliza Milford Ewing died sometime after 1740 then William Ewing married 2nd Anne Shannon daughter of Thomas Shannon, Sr. who died in Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co., PA in 1737 whose will is copied for you above. Some of his children may have gone to Bucks Co., PA when William Ewing did. We are not sure of the date moved from Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co., PA for there are no tax Records existing until 1750 in that county.

Andrew Ewing born 15 March 1740 [41] married Susan Shannon said to be a daughter of Thomas Shannon of VA. His tombstone indicates he was a Quaker. This is questionable as he was Clerk of the Court for Davidson County, Tennessee for 30 years and Quakers don't swear!

Mrs. Albert Ewing, III of Nashville, TN wrote a 500 page biography of Andrew Ewing "born 15 Dec 1740 in Pennsylvania". To date I have been unable to acquire a copy of this. I have a copy of the will of Andrew Ewing; filed in Davidson Co., TN in Will Book #4, page 235. He names "sons: Nathan, Andrew, William, daughter Amelia, Eliza.

THE MCGAVOCK Family A Genealogical History of JAMES MCGAVOCK and His Descendants from 1760 to 1903 was written by Rev. Robert Gray and dated 1903, Richmond VA, Wm. Ellis Jones, Book and Job Printer. There are excessive mistakes in it. We will quote only one but do this because it was the second time we located the name Eliza Milford. On page 157 of "Addenda" is the paragraph titled "EWING" and it states :

"Andrew Ewing the ancestor of the Virginia and Tennessee Ewings, emigrated to America from the city of Belfast, Ireland, about 1720, and first settled in Pennsylvania, and thence moved to Rockbridge County, VA., and there resided until his death. Before leaving Ireland he married Eliza Milford. Of the above Andrew and Eliza was born Andrew in Rockbridge Co., VA 15 March 1740, and married Susannah Shannon, 1760, and died in Davidson County, Tenn. (whither they had moved) April, 1813."

There is NO DOCUMENTATION of this information. Rockbridge and Rockingham Co., Va were not created from Augusta Co., Va. until 1777. From whom did this man get the information about Eliza Milford or that she married Andrew Ewing whom he gives as the ancestor of the Virginia/Tennessee Ewings?

There are slight changes that should be made to accounts of Henry Ewing and Jane (Rodgers) Ewing obtained from the "Burnt Books" of Rockingham Co. Book 7 page 137 dated 20 October 1825. It gives some of the children, correctly, of Henry and Jane. It shows that they had four daughters – given in most records as only one. If you are of that family you may want to purchase them.

There was a Henry Ewing of Rockbridge Co., Va who died 1793 but he was a son of "OLD HENRY EWING" of Chapter XVII page 131 this book. Henry Ewing of Rockbridge had a son, John Ewing who moved to and died in Blount Co., TN in 1827. John's will is recorded there in Blount Co., TN Wills 1 page 41 dated April 28, 1827.

William Ewing of Rockingham born ca 1696 in Scotland went to Ireland about 1718. I believe he met and married **Eliza Milford** and they came to America together and to Sadsbury township in Chester Co., PA by 1728 where they were near to Thomas Shannon, Sr. and his family which included Anna Shannon. We have shown that several other EWING lived in or were associated with Sadsbury twp. i.e. Joshua Ewing born 1704 married Jane Patton of Sadsbury twp. John Ewing thought to be a brother of Joshua was settled with a ford on Octoraro Creek, Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co. (Quarter Sessions) The second William Ewing who signed the 1728 Petition is, more than likely the brother of Joshua, of John and the other Cecil Co. Ewing half-brothers, Nathaniel.

William Ewing and Eliza Milford Ewing probably had their children in this order:

- I. **Elizabeth Ewing** (named for her mother) was born ca 1730 in Sadsbury twp. I believe she married a son of **John Devor**, who signed the petition in 1728 with Thomas Shannon, Sr. and two men named William Ewing, The name is spelled, in Augusta Co., VA where they lived, various ways. A deed dated 22 Nov 1759 in Augusta Co. shows that Charles Diver sold to John Divir quite near the land William Ewing bought in 1761/2. We believe him one and the same with the man above.

- II. **Henry Ewing** b 1736 possibly in Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co., PA. He married **Jane Rodgers** of Cumru Township, Berks Co. PA (created 1752 from Philadelphia Co., PA and Lancaster Co., PA). "In 1764, 26 day of May a meeting was held at the Linville Creek Church at which time a letter (membership) was approved of to be sent to the Church at Cumru in Berks County Pennsylvania regarding our sister Jane Rodgers, a member of the Pennsylvania church." This is on page 186 from *The Settlers Of The Long Grey Trail*. It can then be safely assumed that Henry and Jane were married about 1760 just prior to moving to Rockingham Co., VA with his father, William Ewing. Henry and Jane (Rodgers) Ewing had:
- A. **John Ewing** b 1761 d 1796 in Rockingham Co., VA married **Sallie Davis** 5 May 1787 and their children are much as given in E.W.R. Ewing's Book. We have Deeds as listed indicating when and where they died. He died 1796 where he had gone with his father to Hardin Co., KY. Both John and his father, Henry, died the same year.
 - B. **Henry Ewing** b ca 1763 married **Rachel Bolin** 9 January 1806 in Hardin Co. KY where he had gone with his father in 1790.
 - C. **Sarah "Sally" Ewing** b ca 1770 married **John Davis** in 1795 in Rockingham Co. Father Henry Ewin (not in county), Jno. Ewin, Jr. security.
 - D. **Andrew Ewing** b ca 1766 married **Sarah Hickman**. We found no more
 - E. **Elizabeth Ewing** b ca 1768 married 1782 **William Devier** (Devor?) possibly a cousin, son of Hugh Devier (Devor). Their marriage is listed in the Rockingham Co. Records and shows Henry Ewin as her father and Jno. Ewin, Jr. security.
 - F. **Jane Ewing** b ca 1772 married 5 Nov 1791 **John Shipman**. She was listed as Jenny Ewing and Clerk W. F. Ewing signed the certificate.
 - G. **Nancy Ewing** b ca 1775 married **George Bell** in 1795. "Father Henry Ewin, Jno. Ewin, Jr. Security" were on the Marriage Certificate in Rockingham Co. VA

There is a "Burnt Book" need book 7 page 137 dated 20 October 1825 which tells of some of the members of this family.

The children of John Ewing ("A" above) are given and proven in Will Book A page 36 Hardin County, KY dated 9 July 1796. He speaks of his "brother Henry Ewen; John indebted to his mother Jane Ewing who is to, be repaid; John's wife is Sally; his four children are Henry; Watts; Jennetta and John Ewen. Brothers-in-law John Davis and George Bell of Hardin Co. KY.

- III. **Andrew Ewing** according to the Family Bible [according to informant] he was born 15 March 1740. His tombstone in the Ewing Graveyard, located four miles south of Nashville, TN on Granny pike Road, says "born in the state of Pennsylvania Mar 17, 1740; educated in the Quaker persuasion." His descendants are exceedingly far reaching and much as E.W.R. Ewing has shown in his book. We copy here those in the Bible and some additional. His death is not written in the Bible but marker says "died May 1, 1813 age 75 years [does not calculate]. First Clerk of Davidson Co. TN Oct 1783-April 1813." **Susan (Shannon) Ewing** was born 15 December 1738. Her tombstone reads "born in Philadelphia, Dec 25, 1737- October 31, 1818, age 80 years 10 months, 5 days." The Bible merely lists the children leaving out Edley Ewing proven to have been a son by Milam Myrl Ewing in his book *Edley Ewing, Texas pioneer, 1978*. The Bible states that "Andr. Ewing sen. & Susan Shannon intermarried Dec 11, 1760." As this is the Bible of the William Ewing family, son of Andrew and Susan, it does not give anything but a list of their children. There were only 6 children on the Bible list but eight inheritors in the will of Andrew 1813. The 8 were:
- A. **Andrew Ewing** b 1 July 1768 d 1 March 1830 (son \$250) (in Bible)
 - B. **Margaret Ewing** b 4 June 1769 d 1 June 1862 married **Andrew Casselman** (\$250 in will yet not called a daughter but is on Bible list).
 - C. **William Ewing Senr** was born Nov 29th 1771. **Margaret Ewing**, Senr was born Jan^y 31st, 1777 & their children as follows (is from the Family Bible and Pleas A. Ewing my correspondent):
 - 1. **Andrew Ewing** was born July 27, 1796 d 15 May 1880/1 married **Eliza M. McGavock** (b 4 Dec 1801 daughter of Hugh McGavock. She died 6 June 2 am _____) on 1 May 1826. He was a Doctor. They had:
 - a. **William Ewing** b 1823 married twice;
 - b. **Hugh Ewing** b 1824;
 - c. **Margaret Ewing** b 9 Nov 1826
 - d. **Randal Milton Ewing** b 1 June 1829 married Sept 1853 **Mary Ellen McGavock** (daughter of James Rogers McGavock). They had 3 sons and 2 daughters among whom was:
 - i. **Charles Andrew Ewing** b 25 Sept 1857 who married **Sarah Owen** on 22 Nov 1887. They had 3 sons and 3 daughters among whom was:
 - (1.) **Pleasant Andrew Ewing** b 23 Feb 1889 d 22 Feb 1964 married **Carrtie Louise Waddell** (had 1 son and 1 daughter)
 - (A.) **Pleas Andrew Ewing, Jr.** b 24 Nov 1923 married June 1963 **LaVerne Blankenship** (b 8 June 1929 d 19 Mar 1971) They had:
 - (1.) **Pleas Andrew Ewing, III** b 4 July 1966
 - (2.) a daughter
 - e. **Andrew J. Ewing** b 19 May 1833
 - f. **Susan Mary Ewing** (no info),
 - g.. **Ann Eliza Ewing** (no info.)
 - h. **Sarah Amelia Ewing**(no info).
 - 2. **Joseph Love Ewing** b 31 May 1798 d 1864 married 11 Nov 1824 in Davidson Co.,TN marriages, **Sarah McGavock** daughter of David McGavock.

3. **Felix Grundy Ewing** b 2 Sept 1800 married 2 September 1824 in Williamson Co., TN **Rachel Sarah L.C.M. McCrory** (TN Marriages).
 4. **Mary Ewing** b/d 1803.
 5. **Susan Shannon Ewing** (aka Susanna) b 4 July 1804 married 3/4 April 1839 Major **William Hartsfield** in Davidson Co. TN (marriages).
 6. **Milton P. Ewing** b 4 April 1806 d 28 Sept 1837 no record of marriage/children.
 7. **Eliza Milford Ewing** b 24 Dec 1807 married 3 Jan 1828 **Griffin James Dunneway** (sic) in Davidson Co. Marriages (License shown as Jan 1, 1828). She spelled their name, later, as Dunaway which is the correct spelling. She wrote the 1865 memo that said she "was named for her great-grandmother Eliza Milford William Ewing's first wife." As before stated I believe she knew what she was talking about.
 8. **William L. Ewing** b 1 Nov 1809 married 16 Feb 1832 **Nancy P. Thompson**.
 9. **Jesse H. Ewing** b 10 Sept 1811 d 1858 married 7 Jan 1841 **Jane Johnson** of Williamson Co., TN.
 10. **Cyrus G. Ewing** b 26 Sept 1813 d 27 Nov 1835.
 11. **Margaret A. Ewing** b 11 Sept 1815 married 1st) 7 Dec 1835 Dr. **Andrew White** married 2nd) Dr. **Robert Glass** married 3rd) Dr. **D. Cameron**.
 12. **Mary Jane Ewing** b 5 October 1817 married 16 Feb 1837 **Pleasant A. Smith**.
- D. **Amelia Ewing** b7 Jan 1774 d Nov 1836 married 1795 **Moses Speer** in Nashville, TN (he died 11 July 1840 in Houston Co. TX) They had eight children as given in E.W.R. Ewing's CLAN EWING page 271-2
- E. **Nathan Ewing** "b 11 Feb 1776 d 1 May 1813" but his tombstone states born "Feb 17, 1776." He is buried in the same Ewing Cemetery as his parents. He is mentioned in the Will as "son" and was the Clerk who recorded it in Probate Court 1813. Nathan Ewing married **Sarah Hill** daughter of Daniel Hill. She died in Nashville, TN in 1855. They had 6 children traced in CLAN EWING and in P.K. Ewing's EWING GENEALOGY.
- F. **Edley Ewing** born 1778 (according to Mylam Myrl Ewing's book *EDLEY EWING: Texas Pioneer*) to Andrew and Susan (Shannon) Ewing. He is named in the 1813 will of Andrew only through "\$250 to sons of Edley Ewing, William Ewing, Wilson Edley Ewing and Andrew B. Ewing". Andrew's 1813 will mentions Margaret, Edley and sons of William Montgomery giving them all the same \$250 he gives to the others called "sons" or "daughters". It is a very puzzling will. Most of the descendants of Edley know who they are for they attend a yearly reunion in Temple, TX.
- Edley Ewing married 1st **Elizabeth Love** in 1798. She was b 22 Jan 1780 Augusta Co. VA daughter of Joseph Love, Jr. and Mary Marshall. They lived on the Granny Pike Road near Nashville. The Ewing Cemetery is located on that road. They had:
1. **William Ewing** b 1799 became a Doctor and died Carrolton, MS. 1890.
 2. **Wilson Edley Ewing** b 2 August 1800 (ancestor of Mylam Myrl).
 3. **Andrew B. Ewing** (2nd "Doctor" Andrew B. see William's child) born 1805.
 4. **Henry Ewing** b 1808 (not listed, as child on release nor tax).
 5. **Amaada Melvina Ewing** b 1809.
 6. **James Ewing** b 1812 (Did not sign "release" nor on tax as child. Edley Ewing married 2nd) Mrs **Elizabeth Ardrey** on 23 August 1845 in San Augustine, Texas. No issue
 7. **Elizabeth Ewing** b 14 March 1779 married in Rockingham Co., Va. **Thomas Shannon**. It is my belief he is Thomas, son of Samuel Shannon minister of Augusta/Rockingham Co., Va.. The will of Thomas Shannon who died in Amherst Co., Va 1772 mentions "Thomas son of my brother, Samuel Shannon." I believe Elizabeth married her cousin-grandson of Thomas Shannon who died 1737 in Sadsbury twp Lancaster Co., Pa. And, that she, too, is a great grandchild of that same Thomas Shannon who died 1737.
 - 8.
- H. Ewing b ca 1781 married **William Montgomery**. To date no one has traced this family. They were given the same \$250 (through her husband) "as" sons of William Montgomery." If Edley and Margaret's children identify them as children of Andrew and Susan Shannon Ewing then we must, also, include this lady. The sons names were Andrew Montgomery and Edley Montgomery, surely, she was a sister of Edley and Andrew and daughter to Andrew and Susan.
- IV. **John Ewing** "third son of the older William Ewing" was born ca 1748 and died June 1822 in Rockingham Co. Va. He was the only son who stayed there. In 1768 he married **Phebe Davis** (aka Davison) daughter of Walter Davis and Phebe Harrison daughter of John Harrison, Jr. Phebe Ewing was left land by John Harrison, Jr. her grandfather. John and Phebe's ages are indicated in Deposition taken in then, Augusta Co. Court, dated 13 Sept 1816. John Ewing is 76/77 (so born ca 1740?) and Phebe's as age 68 (so born ca 1748). Various dates are given for John's birth date. I found no record of his tombstone. However, descendants say he is buried in the same churchyard with his father and mother.
- John Ewing and Phebe Davis Ewing had at least 8 children:
- A. **Ann Ewing** b 9 July 1770, d 1845 **Thomas Shanklin** and moved to Kentucky. I believe she was named for Ann Shannon Ewing.
 - B. **James Ewing** b 1772 married 15 April 1793 **Grace Shanklin**.
 - C. **Mary Ewing** b 8 Oct 1775 married 1st **Benjamin Smith** on 19 April, 1792; married 2nd **John Pence** on 6 Oct 1796.
 - D. **William Ewing** b 15 August 1780 d 14 Jan 1857. (Served in war of 1812 as Capt. of Cavalry, 116th Regiment, Rockingham Co., VA. He married **Elizabeth Bryan** and they had 8 children as given in E.W.R. Ewing page 277.
 - E. **Hannah Ewing** b 8 Dec .1782 married 13 April 1809 **James Mallory** and moved to Missouri.
 - F. **Elizabeth Ewing** b 7 Nov 1786 married **Harrison Connor**.

- G. **John Davidson Ewing** b 2 April 1788 married (prior to 1825) **Drusilla de LaFayette** and they lived in Rockbridge Co., VA as proven by another of the Burt Book Deeds 7 page 137. The deed proves that Hannah Mallory was his sister and that William Ewing was his brother. John D. had bought the land willed by his Uncle Henry Ewing (will lost) to his sons and daughters. We do not have the children of John D. and Drusilla de LaFayette Ewing.
- H. **Jesse Ewing** b 2 July 1791 died 16 June 1809 never married.
- V. **Nancy Ewing**, who I think, is the youngest of William Ewing and Ann Shannon Ewing. She was probably born about 1750/51 and her husband's name was either Hogshett /Hogsed /Hogshed /Hogshead. No one has, seemingly, searched out this family. Nancy may, also, be a nickname for Anne/Anna/Ann (her mother).

At this time this is all the information we are recording as regarding the family of WILLIAM EWING of Sadsbury twp. Lancaster Co., PA/Bucks Co., PA/Rockingham Co., VA and his two wives.

MORE ABOUT ELIZA MILFORD

When and where she is mentioned, chronologically in writings about EWING .

First Time about 1895:

The "Chart" by Col Wm. A. Ewing, supposedly, was done about 1895 as that is the latest date I find on it. The name Eliza Milford is clearly added as no space seemed to have been left for her. It says:

"William Ewing of Glasgow, Scotland and his wife, Eliza Milford, 'with William and his 3 other sons not named' was in the siege of Londonderry, Ireland 1690 'came from Belfast to America in the Eagle Wing'."

FACT: There were no families by the name of Milford in Scotland until after 1750. Two hired researchers proved this for me as early as 1980.

The "Chart" by Col. Wm. A. Ewing or his editor, F. N. Trevor, adds with no confirmation as to names of two ancestors name : "William Ewing" [indicated with an arrow as if a son-unproven] married twice. By second wife he had William, Joshua, James, Ann, Samuel and probably other children. By his first wife he had only one son, Nathaniel Ewing".

His date of death is given as 1748 ... which is correct so he cannot be a son of William Ewing of Glasgow and Eliza Milford. SHE CAN NOT be the wife of any Ewing "of Glasgow" generations prior to Nathaniel. Nathaniel's birth date is given as 1693 as recorded in the Bible of Dr. John Ewing (1732-1803) Philadelphia PA.

Second Time about 1903:

The book referred to in this Chapter called *THE McGAVOCK FAMILY* states that:

"Andrew Ewing, the ancestor of the Virginia Tennessee Ewings [There were at least 100 ancestors of the Virginia/Tennessee Ewings] emigrated to America from the city of Belfast, Ireland about 1720 and, first, settled in Pennsylvania, and thence moved to Rockbridge Co., VA and there resided until his death. Before leaving Ireland he married Eliza Milford. Of the above Andrew and Eliza was born Andrew in Rockbridge (sic) Co., VA 15 March 1740 and married Susanna Shannon, 1760 and died in Davidson Co., TN (whither they had moved) April, 1813."

FACT: Rockbridge Co., Va. never had an Andrew Ewing but there was, as I proved in this Chapter, a William Ewing in Augusta Co., Va. who bought land in 1762 on Linville Creek in what became Rockingham Co., Va. Thus he is referred to as "William Ewing of Rockingham Co., VA." He it was who had the son, Andrew born 1740. There never was an Andrew who married an Eliza Milford in Ireland. The writer had the names of ancestors mixed. I believe it should read "William Ewing, emigrated to America about 1725 (not 20) and before leaving Ireland married Eliza Milford. Of the above William and Eliza was born Andrew (in probably Bucks Co., PA) 15 March 1740 and moved to Augusta Co., VA in the part that became Rockingham Co., VA." The earlier Andrew Ewing in Pennsylvania and Virginia was probably a brother to William.

Third Time 1919

The book by P.K. Ewing *EWING GENEALOGY WITH COGNATE BRANCHES* states on page 6:

"Nathaniel Ewing who was born at or near Coleraine, Co., Londonderry Ireland about 1692 and died 6 September 1748 and emigrated thence to America in 1725 ... etc. His father was William Ewing, born about 1665-1670 near Stirling Castle in Scotland whence he went to county Londonderry, ... William Ewing who was the son of William Ewing, and his wife, Eliza Milford, married twice, by the first marriage he had one son, the emigrant Nathaniel, and by the second marriage he had four sons and a daughter, William, Joshua, James, Samuel and Anne, and possibly other children."... "But we have NO RECORD OF THE HALF-BROTHERS JOSHUA, JAMES AND SAMUEL."

FACT: "Nathaniel Ewing born at or near Coleraine Co. Londonderry Ireland about 1693 and died 6 September 1748" is proven in the Bible of his son Dr. John Ewing. There are records of brothers Joshua, James and Samuel for the

searching!! Who his father was is unproven. The suggestion that he might be named William was made in 1846 and the writer said "I think his name was William."

"If the immigrant, Nathaniel, were born in 1693" then his grandmother COULD NOT BE ELIZA MILFORD for there were NO MILFORD persons in Scotland in the 17th century" researcher John G. Harrison of Stirling, Scotland stated in his report to CLAN EWING IN AMERICA.

Fourth Time 1923

The book by E.W.R. Ewing *CLAN EWING OF SCOTLAND* gives a slightly different view of her and doubt as to who she might have been states on his page 182:

"To recapitulate a second, we recall that William Ewing and second wife, Eliza Milford (if that were her maiden name) Ewing had: Joshua; William; James who located in Prince Edward Co., VA and who gave to the Nathaniel, whose sketch was published in the *Courier Journal*, information when about 80 [NOTE: He was 68]. Anne, who married Rev. Joseph Cowder, Samuel who died in Virginia; John it is believed who settled in North Carolina; Henry and perhaps others."

FACT: Rev. Joseph Cowden was born 1741 so Did not marry Anne born about 1709! Dear Eliza Milford has been given to at least 4 different men in 3 different countries. It can not all be true. Anne married George Gillespie and John of NC was born 1730 Queen Annes Co., Md. Henry above is not in the family of Nathaniel for as we proved in chapter XX he was born 1737 (was a son of John Ewing died 1753) and died 1809 so could not be a brother of Nathaniel even by a second wife of the same father.

WORTH NOTING

The researcher in Scotland hired engaged for Ewing research in Scotland by Clan Ewing in America suggested page 1, "Perhaps relevant is the marriage of Samuel Ewing to Margaret Lennox 9 July 1685 in Parish of Templemore." Their first son Nathaniel died. Did they have a second, named Nathaniel, who lived?

[Editor's note: Some descendants of this family disagree with the information presented in this book about Eliza Milford and ask that I make corrections to the book. When I asked for the information to support the changes they wanted made, I never received any additional correspondence. I have not researched this family and do not claim to understand every thing there is to know about this family, but I could not make changes without some supporting evidence.]