

The Metcalf Family

William Metcalf, the first Metcalf I have found in Kentucky, was on the tax list of Madison County in 1787. Just what his connection was with the families I will follow, if any, is unknown.

On the tax list of Nelson County, 1792, there were two Metcalfs: James and Ignatius. I would think these two were brothers, but they could be father and son. In 1795, James and Ignatius were on Pottinger's Creek, a Catholic settlement in Nelson County, first settled by Maryland Catholics in 1785.

The following is the tax list of Nelson County:

1797

James

Ignatius

William

Charles

1800

George Metcalf on Cox's Creek

Ignatius on Pottinger's Creek

John K.

Charles

1801

Charles Metcalf

George Metcalf on Cox's Creek

1830

Stephan Metcalf in Washington County

Ignatius Metcalf on Beech Fork, 200 acres

John K. Metcalf on Beech Fork, 150 acres

Charles Metcalf on Beech Fork, 175 acres

George Metcalf on Rolling Fork

Joseph Metcalf on Beech Fork, 100 acres

James Metcalf on Buffalow Creek, 150 acres

1831

John K. Metcalf on Sugar Creek, 750 acres

James Metcalf on Buffalo Creek

Elisha Metcalf, Jr. on Simpson Creek

Elisha Metcalf on Cox's Creek, 138 acres

Elisha Metcalf on Spencer Cox's Creek, 80 acres

1838

George Metcalf on Beech Fork, 150 acres

Charles Metcalf on Pottinger's Creek, 50 acres

Elisha Metcalf in Fairfield

Charles Metcalf in Taylorville.

It would seem, from the tax lists, that the Metcalfs were moving away from Nelson County, for they appeared in Spencer, Hardin and Breckinridge Counties.

The Metcalfs were Catholic, but Webb does not mention them in his book on Catholicism in Kentucky. The tax lists show they were in every Catholic community in Nelson County.

Ignatius Metcalf is supposed to have married a daughter of William Coomes and his wife, Jane, in 1776. We have not found this marriage. William Coomes was in Harrodsburg by 1775, and helped defend the fort. He moved to Bardstown in 1785/1786 to be with his fellow Catholics. William's wife was supposed to be the first white woman who entered Kentucky with the purpose of staying here, and was the first person in Kentucky to make salt. The Coomes family lived about three miles east and north of Bardstown.

Marriages found at Bardstown:

James Metcalf to Mary Brian, January 10, 1797.

Joseph Metcalf to Nancy Figgs, April 17, 1811 by C. Nerinckx.

Ignatius Metcalf to Nelly Richie, July 28, 1812 by J. David.

Benjamin Metcalf to Mary B. Figgs, June 1, 1812. Father of the bride was John Figgs.

Benjamin Metcalfe to Margaret Bethel, June 24, 1812, by Fr. S.F. Baden.

Jno. Metcalf to Teresa Dixon, August 22, 1814 by John David.

James Metcalf to Mary Rebecca Rizer, October 27, 1818 by John David.
(James and Mary Rebecca were my great-great-grandparents.)

Ignatius Metcalf to Betsy Coomes, December 29, 1818 by Jno. Jackson.

Elisha Medcalfe to Catherine Bodine, a widow, December 20, 1820.

Ignatius Metcalf, Jr. to Agatha Catherine Huff, September 26, 1821.

From the marriage books at Bardstown:

"To any authorized minister of the Gospel;

"These are to license you to solemnize the rites of matrimony according to the forms of the Church to which you belong between Ignatius Medcalf Jr. and Miss Agatha Catherine Huff, daughter of widow Ann Hugg.

"Given under my hand as clerk of the County Court of the said County this 25th day of September, 1821.

"signed, Benjamin Grayson"

Ignatius Medcalfe to Eliza Vowels, January 3, 1823. Father of the bride, Thomas Vowels.

Elisha Medcalfe to Mary Matilda Spalding, November 18, 1823 by W.S. Coomes.

Charles Medcalfe to Frances Coomes, February 19, 1833 by W.S. Coomes.

George Medcalf to Mary Abell, May 4, 1835 by W.S. Coomes. (George and Mary were the parents of George, John K. and Winiford Metcalfe.)

Alfred Medcalf to Christina Burkhead, February 7, 1835.

Elizabeth Medcalf to Johnathon Ditch, September 15, 1813.

Sarah Medcalf to John Gilky, March 1, 1819.

Mary Medcalf to Francis Coomes, August 9, 1820. (These last three brides are daughters of Ignatius Metcalf, and sisters of James.)

Matilda Medcalf to James Boyle, June 22, 1831.

Elizabeth Medcalf to Alfred Boyle, September 29, 1825.

Clemency Metcalf to John Abell, February 3, 1816.

Ann Metcalf to Joseph Clarke, March 30, 1826. (These last four brides were daughters of Charles Metcalf.)

The 1880 census of Nelson County lists Ignatius Metcalf, 84, pauper, divorced; born in Kentucky, father in Maryland, mother in Maryland; living in household of Wm. Peak.

In his book, **Two Hundred Years in Hardin County**, McClure stated the Metcalfes came from Yorkshire, England and Fauquier County, Virginia. The Tomes family of Edmonson and Grayson Counties also came from Fauquier County.

In the marriage books at Bardstown we found the marriage of Philip Rizer.

Philip Rizer, parentage unknown, was married to Mary M., daughter of John Quirk and Rebecca _____, November 7, 1797.

Philip first appeared in Nelson County on the tax list of 1797. Quirk, an Irish name, is pronounced "Kirk".

Philip Rizer was married second to Agnes Tabitha Blandford, parentage unknown, May 22, 1804. Both were over twenty-one, and they were married by Fr. S. Baden. The father of Agnes was probably John P. Blandford, who gave consent in the marriage of Francis Blandford and Catherine Wathen. Catherine was the step-daughter of Zachariah Aud. The Aud family were prominent Catholics of Nelson and Hardin Counties.

James, son of Ignatius Metcalf and _____ Coomes, was married to Mary Rebecca, daughter of Philip Rizer and Mary M. Quirk, October 27, 1818.

In deed book "4", page 229, Nelson County:

"This indenture made this 5th day of December in the year of our Lord eighteen Hundred and Twenty, between Philip Rizer and Tabitha Rizer his wife, of Nelson County and State of Kentucky, of the first part, and James Metcalf of the same County and State aforesaid of the other part, Witnesseth that in consideration of the natural love and affection which they, the said Philip Rizer and Tabitha Rizer, hath for the said James Metcalf, their son-in-law, that certain tract or parcel of land lying on the North side of Bear Creek and on the East side of the one hundred acres which the said Philip Rizer bought off Abreham Weekly, it being a track or parcel of land which Erheart Glaze left to the said Philip Rizer by will for services rendered his by the said Philip Rizer, containing 53 acres"

The Metcalf Family

James and Rebecca sold this tract of land to Jacob Beam, whose land it joined, August 8, 1823.

In deed book #18, page 137, Nelson County, dated January 19, 1830, James Metcalf and Rebecca, his wife, and Joseph Rizer and Sarah, his wife, sold to John Speak, "a certain track or parcel of land on the North side of Bear Creek, being a part of the land which Philip Rizer lived and died on," for \$130.00. Apparently Philip Rizer died before this date.

In deed book "J", page 481, Hardin County, September 13, 1824, Hanson Dugan and his wife, Nancy Ann, sold to James Metcalf a tract of land, "located on the road between Elizabethtown and the mouth of Salt River," for \$370.00.

In deed book "K", page 327, November 20, 1827, James and Rebecca sold this property to Jacob Rogers for 171.20.

On the census of Hardin County, 1840:

James Metcalf

1 male 5 to 10, 1 male 10 to 15, 1 male 40 to 50

2 females 10 to 15, 1 female 15 to 20, 1 female 40 to 50.

At St. Clare in Colesburg we found the baptismal record for one child of James and Mary Rebecca:

Nancy Ellen, daughter of James Metcalf and Rebecca Rizer, born September 11, 1840.

Since no female child was listed under 10 years old, Nancy Ellen could have died. She was not on the census of 1850.

In deed book "D", page 159, Edmonson County, November 11, 1841, Samuel S. Durbin of Grayson County sold to James Metcalf of Hardin County 100 acres of land for \$200.00.

Samuel S. Durbin, the son of Edward Durbin and Elizabeth Porter, according to James Virden of Versailles, Ohio, was married to a Catherine _____, and moved to Union County before 1850. He later moved to Gallatin County, Missouri before 1860, and died there after 1860.

James Metcalf was on the tax list of Edmonson County in 1841, but we don't know if Mary Rebecca was with him, for we don't know when she died. She was on the 1840 census, but not the 1850 census. We know of the marriage for only three children of James and Mary Rebecca. I have nothing on the others.

On the census of Edmonson County, 1850:

James Metcalf	56
James	15

On the census of Grayson County, 1870, James Metcalf was listed in the household of W.A. Alvey, and 75 years old. He died before 1880.

Children of James Metcalf and Mary Rebecca Rizer

- A. John D., son of James Metcalf and Mary R. Rizer, was married to Agatha Surrilda, daughter of Landon Bush and Mary Logsdon, in Edmonson County, January 20, 1849.

On the census of Grayson County, 1850:

John Medcalf	24
Zurrilda	24
John W.	1

On the census of Edmonson County, 1860:

John D. Metcalf	34
Zurrilda	32
William Thomas	10
Richard E.	8
Louis D.	5
John R.	2

On the census of Edmonson County, 1870:

John D. Metcalf	44
Surrilda	42
William Thomas	20
Richard E.	18
Louis D.	15
John R.	12
James L.	9
Palestine	7
Joseph	3
Pius	1

On the census of Edmonson County, 1880:

John Metcalf	54
Zurilda	52
Palestine	17
Joseph	13
Pius	10
Mary E.	4
Lewis Metcalf	25
Martha	21 (Error; Louis' wife was named Dorothy)
John	1
Josephine	4/12

John D. Metcalf sold his farm in Edmonson County to, I believe, his son, James L., in 1892. There is nothing after that year bearing John's name, and I believe he and family moved to another State, probably Missouri. He would have been 66 years old in 1892. It is possible that he and Surrilda died in Sunfish, but I have nothing on their deaths, and very little on their children. The lack of records makes me believe they moved.

Children of John D. Metcalf and Agatha Surrilda Bush

1. William Thomas, son of John D. Metcalf and Agatha Surrilda Bush, was married to Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Joseph "Pete Mudd and Polly White, in Grayson County, circa 1872.

On the census of Grayson County, 1880:

William T. Metcalf	30
Elizabeth A.	37
John Joseph	7
Mary S.	5
Eliza Ellen	2
Susan Jane	1

According to a book on the Mudd family, William and Elizabeth moved to Missouri.

From death records at St. Joseph:

William Thomas Metcalf, age 72, died Oct. 15, 1917.

Elizabeth Ann Mudd Metcalf, age 75, died July 30, 1917.

There are two marriages in the Grayson County records for children of William and Elizabeth Metcalf:

Joseph, 28, son of William T. Metcalf and Elizabeth Mudd, was married to Minnie Carnes, 20, second marriage, daughter of John T. Stevenson and Rhodia Sanders, December 24, 1901.

Charles L., 23, son of William T. Metcalf and Elizabeth Mudd, was married to Frankie Scott, 32, third marriage, daughter of Ben Higdon and Patsy Mudd, March 30, 1904.

No other information on these families.

2. Richard E., son of John D. Metcalf and Surrilda Bush, was married to Nancy E., daughter of Joseph "Pete" Mudd and Elizabeth Metcalf, February 5, 1877.

On the census of Grayson County, 1880:

Richard E. Metcalf	26
Nancy E.	26
Mary J.	3
Andrew J.	1

On the census of Grayson County, 1900:

Richard E. Metcalf	Apr. 1856 - 47
Nanzy E.	May 1854 - 46
Addie E.	Feb. 1885 - 15
Maud E.	Mar. 1887 - 13
Maggie M.	May 1890 - 10
William H.	Mar. 1894 - 6
John E.	Mar. 1896 - 4

Richard E. Metcalf died January 16, 1916, and is buried at St. Joseph Cemetery.

Nancy E. was married second to John B. Rice, November 16, 1922.

Ethel, daughter of Richard Metcalf and Nancy E. Mudd, was married to Benjamin, son of Scott Hayes and Elizabeth Meredith, April 4, 1904.

Ethel was 18, so she could be either Addie or Maude. Benjamin was 25.

Benjamin and Ethel moved to Arkansas soon after they were married, and Benjamin was killed by a tornado soon after their arrival there.

Julia Metcalf, probable daughter of Richard E. Metcalf and Nancy E. Mudd, was married to William L. Hayes, parentage unknown, January 1, 1898.

Maggie, 17, daughter of Richard E. Metcalf and Nancy E. Mudd, was married to Clifton, 20, son of Thomas Sanders and Annie Stevenson, April 20, 1907.

I have no other information on this line.

3. Louis David, son of John D. Metcalf and Surrilda Bush, was married to Dorothy, daughter of John N. Durbin and Mary H. Simon, February 26, 1787.

We did not find Louis and Dorothy on the census of 1900, but were told they were the parents of thirteen children. We found five on the baptismal records:

John Thomas, born January 14, 1879.

Joseph Melvin, born February 26, 1880.

Nicholas, born October 11, 1882.

James, born May 9, 1884.

Mary Elizabeth, born July 20, 1886.

When Christipher N. Durbin and his wife left for Missouri in 1901, Louis and family went with them. James Thomas Durbin, brother of Dorothy and Sarah Ann, and his wife, Catherine, also went to Missouri. Before making the river crossing, Louis and some of his children became ill with meningitis. He and eleven of the children are supposed to have died, and are buried on the banks of the Ohio River. Dorothy and the two surviving children went on into Missouri, and in the flu epidemic of 1918, the other two children died.

4. John Robert, son of John D. Metcalf and Surrilda Bush, was married to Mary Martha Higdon, a widow, daughter of Joseph "Pete" Mudd and Polly White, October 21, 1878.

On the census of Grayson County, 1880:

John R. Metcalf	26
Mary Martha	31
Mary Jane	?
Eliza Ellen Higdon	13, step-daughter
Margaret F. Higdon	10, step-daughter
James L. Metcalf	20, brother

We found the baptismal record for one child:

Jesse, son of John R. Metcalf and Mary Martha Mudd, born July 18, 1889.

5. James L., son of John D. Metcalf and Surrilda Bush, was married to Eliza Ellen, daughter of _____ Higdon and Mary Martha Mudd, July 8, 1883.

I have no other information on this line.

Other children of John D. Metcalf and Agatha Surrilda Bush, children on whom I found no information in regards to marriages, etc.:

6. Palestine.
7. Joseph.
8. Pius, born July 5, 1869.
9. Mary E.
10. John W., born circa 1849/1850, must have died as a child.

I have no other information on this family.

Joseph "Pete" Mudd was the second child of Henry Mudd and Elizabeth Frame (Fraim) of Washington County. Born in 1813, he was married four times:

1. Nancy Byers.
2. Dassie Decker, lived but six months after the marriage.
3. Polly White, February 16, 1843 by Father Aug. Degauquier.
4. Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Metcalf and Catherine Carroll, June 15, 1850.

B. Sarah Ann, daughter of James Metcalf and Mary Rebecca Rizer, was married to William Henry, son of Landon Bush and Mary Logsdon, May 4, 1849. (This line will be carried in the Bush Family Section.)

C. James, son of James Metcalf and Mary Rebecca Rizer, was married to Margaret A., daughter of William Richard Durbin and Rachael Logsdon, November 28, 1855.

On the census of Edmonson County, 1860:

James Metcalf	26
Margaret Ann	26
Rachel E.	4
Richard T.	2
Silvester	6/12

From baptismal records:

Ellen, daughter of James Metcalf and Mary, born Oct. 30, 1856.

Sylvester, son of James Metcalf and Margaret, born Jan. 7, 1860.

Mary R., daughter of James Metcalf and Margaret, born 1862.

James Metcalf, Jr. died after 1862 and before 1866. Only one child survived to 1870, and appeared on the census with Margaret in the home of William Richard Durbin.

Margaret Ann was married second to Owen McQuillen, parentage unknown, in Edmonson County, February 13, 1872.

On the census of Edmonson County, 1880:

Owen McQuillen	57
Margaret	46
Nancy E.	5
James	4
Rachel Metcalf	29, step-daughter
Anney Metcalf	14, step-daughter

Baptismal records show that Margaret was the mother of an illegitimate daughter, Ann, born November 16, 1866. Charity Ann, daughter of Margaret Durbin Metcalf, was married to Charles McDaniel Bullock, 22, in Grayson County, February 21, 1884. (This line will be continued in the Richard Durbin Family Section.)

There was another Metcalf family on the census of Edmonson County, 1850:

Benjamin Metcalf	62
Catherine	53
Nancy	18
Eliza	16
Benjamin	12
Nathan	9
George	8
Rebecca Carroll	101, born in Virginia

Benjamin Metcalf served in the War of 1812 while living in Hardin County. He died in Grayson County on March 18, 1859, of consumption at age 70 years.

We know of only three marriages for the children of Benjamin Metcalf and Catherine Carroll.

- A. Mary, daughter of Benjamin Metcalf and Catherine Carroll, was married to Silvanous Blanton, parentage unknown, in Edmonson County, September 10, 1849.
- B. Elizabeth, daughter of Benjamin Metcalf and Catherine Carroll, was married to Joseph, son of Henry Mudd and Elizabeth Frame (Fraim) June 15, 1850.

- C. Nancy, daughter of Benjamin Metcalf and Catherine Carroll, was married to John R., son of Christopher N. Durbin and Mary Durbin, in Grayson County, circa 1850/1851. Date was not found. (This line will be carried in the Christopher N. Durbin Family Section.)