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Part II

SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE MEEKER FAMILY IN AMERICA

By David W. Meeker (VIII)

From Dr. Lewis E. Meeker of Brooklyn, New York, who has given the history of the family a good deal of study, I ascertained that according to his researches, the family is of Norse origin and the tribe from which they took their name was called the "Mecars" meaning the fighters.

From the North they went to Normandy when the Norsemen over-ran the South.

They are next to be found in England, having come over with "William the Conqueror," and were known as "Le Megre," the thin folk, which seems to hold good to the present time.

The first mention of the Meekers of which I have knowledge is from Hatfield's History of Elizabeth, N.J., published in 1868.

From that I learn that William Meeker (spelled Meacher in the first list) was one of the original Associates that founded Elizabethtown in 1665.

Note: William Meeker first listed in New Haven Court Records 1-4-1643.

He came from New Haven where his name first appears in 1644. He is "propounded to be loader to Mill" Oct. 7th, 1646. He frequently appears as Meaker and Mecar. He had a brother in New Haven, Robert Meeker, from whom the Connecticut branch of the family is descended.

Arthur Meeker of Armour & Co. of Chicago is one of the descendants of the Connecticut branch.

These two brothers are supposed to have come over to America in a ship that left England about 1630.

Lists of the passengers on all ships that left England from the "Mayflower" in 1620 to about 1650 are extant excepting this one in 1630, and as the Meekers' names do not appear in any of those lists, and as we find them in America in 1644, it is fair to suppose that they came in this unlisted ship in 1630.

The brothers William and Robert, while living in New Haven, were supposed to be sailors owning a small vessel, as the excuse they gave for not attending military drill was that "they could not leave their ship."

William Meeker had a house lot and farm lands to the amount of 152 acres in the Elizabethtown settlement. He was appointed Constable of the town Oct. 13, 1667, and in the performance of his duties became obnoxious to the Governor and the property was forfeited in favor of William Pardon.

William Meeker's sons, Joseph and Benjamin, were also numbered among the original 60 (80?) associates. (Xerox copy smudgy in spots.)

To show the liberty loving and independent character of these early settlers of New Jersey from New England, we will find on pages 137-8-9 of Hatfield's history, an account of how William Meeker with others pulled down a fence and house built on public lands which Governor Carteret had taken and given to a servant of his.

For this so-called rioting, William Meeker, his son Joseph, and others were called before a court (see pages 142-3-4-5-6 and 180-1) but finding the court to be a packed one with the result a foregone conclusion, they all marched out again. They were fined, but the fines were never collected.

It was in consequence of further trouble on this account that he finally lost his property by confiscation by the Governor. This History of Elizabeth shows clearly the beginnings of the spirit of liberty which culminated in the Revolution of 1776.

Generation I

William Meeker died in December, 1690. The sons of William Meeker were JOSEPH, who kept a country store, and BENJAMIN, a carpenter, while both were land owners and planters.

The sons of Joseph were probably ROBERT, STEPHEN and DAVID.

As to which of the sons, Joseph or Benjamin, we are descended from, I have not been able to ascertain, but probably from Benjamin.

Hatfield says (page 635) that Connecticut Farms, now town of Union, was settled early in the 1700's by families from Elizabeth, but does not

② mention the given names but only their family names, and says they were of the second and third generations of the Elizabethtown settlers and Meeker was one of the names mentioned.

It is from this family that we are descended, as Benjamin Meeker, my great grandfather, lived there, and grandfather Cornelius Meeker was born there.

Generation II

BENJAMIN MEEKER son of WILLIAM MEEKER came of age between 1666 and 1673, so he was born probably about 1650. It is quite likely that it was one of his sons' (3rd) generation, that settled in Connecticut Farms, so it is probable that great grandfather BENJAMIN MEEKER, born in 1747, was of the 5th generation, the original WILLIAM MEEKER being the first.

Generation V

BENJAMIN MEEKER born in Connecticut Farms, N.J. in 1747, died in 1828. He had three wives; CORNELIUS MEEKER was the son of his first wife.

Generation VI

CORNELIUS MEEKER was born 13 April 1776 and died 23 May 1827. He was married 1 April 1797 to Libbie Clausen, born 1 Dec. 1778 and died 12 June 1800. They had one child that died young. CORNELIUS MEEKER married as a second wife 20 Dec. 1801 Nancy Redding, born 21 March 1782, daughter of Mary Ward.

I believe the old Genung house in Chatham, N.J., which at one time belonged to my father, was the old Redding homestead.

Generation VII

LUKE CARTER MEEKER born 20 Jan. 1803; died 4 Nov. 1804
 Libbie Clausen Meeker born 8 April 1805; died 3 Dec. 1858
 X WILLIAM EDWIN MEEKER born 17 Feb. 1807; died 23 May 1875
 MARY ANN WARD MEEKER born 13 Nov. 1809; died 1 May 1876
 ANDREW JACKSON MEEKER born 23 Dec. 1814; died 13 Jan. 1845
 CORNELIUS IRVING MEEKER born 1 Dec. 1816; died 1900?
 Julia Butler Meeker born 4 April 1820; died 1896.
 From the Cornelius Meeker Bible;
 Jacob Redding, born 21 Jan. 1753; died 28 Dec. 1826, father of Nancy Redding.
 Mary Ward Redding, born 7 Dec. 1760; died 26 July 1829, mother of Nancy Redding.

Generation VII

Libbie Clausen Meeker married Ira Genung 25 July 1824. They had children:

Cyrus Carter, Elijah, Sara Jane, Isaac, Elizabeth, Irving, and Nancy Meeker Genung. Andrew killed at Spotsylvania, Va. 12 May 1864.

X WILLIAM EDWIN MEEKER married Mary Marschalk Youle 26 Mar. 1828 and had children:

JAMES WHITE, WILLIAM EDWIN, CORNELIUS, Emeline, Mary Francis, CHARLES WESLEY, Amelia White, HENRY CLAY, EMMA, DAVID WILSON, Jane Ann, THOMAS YOULE & WALTER COOPER MEEKER.

Mary Ward Meeker married Isaac P. Genung 26 Dec. 1830 and had children: Elizabeth W., Wm. Edwin, Julia Meeker, Abbie Johnson, Charles, Andrew, Sara Jane and Marietta Genung.

ANDREW J. MEEKER married Elizabeth Sturges 24 Dec. 1835 and had children:

SARAH E. and ORLEANA MEEKER.

ANDREW J. MEEKER married Mary Morgan 28 June 1843 and had child: JOHN MEEKER.

CORNELIUS IRVING MEEKER married Charlotte Reed Houghton 21 Aug. 1850 and had children:

Charlotte, Cornelia A., JOHN R., IRVING, Clara L., and ALBERT S. J. MEEKER.

CORNELIUS IRVING MEEKER married Kate Carson Smith 6 Dec. 1866.

Julia Butler Meeker married Gilbert Taylor Pugsley 11 Dec. 1844 and had children: Irving, Sara A. and Cornelius Pugsley.

Children of WILLIAM E. and Mary M. Meeker:

JAMES WHITE MEEKER born 23 Nov. 1828; died 26 Dec. 1829

WILLIAM EDWIN MEEKER born 29 Mar. 1821; died 13 Oct. 1831

CORNELIUS MEEKER born 27 Aug. 1832; died Dec. 1905.

Does
Not
Have
GENS
III FYW

Meeker Family, Part II

Continued, Generation VII, children of Wm. E. & Mary M. Meeker:

Emeline born 22 Sept. 1835; died 8 Dec. 1837
 Mary Frances Meeker born 7 Oct. 1837; died 13 June 1842
 CHARLES WESLEY MEEKER born 10 Oct. 1839; died 27 March 1897
 Amelia White Meeker born 30 March 1842; died 15 Aug. 1874
 HENRY CLAY MEEKER born 8 Mar. 1844, died 13 July 1845.
 Emma Meeker, born 24 Aug. 1846
 DAVID WILSON MEEKER born 31 Oct. 1848
 Jane Ann Meeker born 20 Dec. 1850; died 6 Feb. 1852
 THOMAS YOULE MEEKER born 20 Dec. 1850; died 8 July 1851
 WALTER COOPER born 30 Nov. 1853; died 1 Feb. 1923

Generation VIII

CORNELIUS MEEKER, above, married Annie M. Avard (died 2 Aug. 1918)
 on 15 Aug. 1872. They had children:
 Irving Avard, born 5 July 1873
 ARTHUR YOULE MEEKER, born Oct. 1877

CHARLES WESLEY MEEKER, above, married Esther Jane Voorhis (died 16 Aug.
 1917) on 15 Sept. 1860. They had children:

Ella Francis Meeker born 15 May 1861. Died
 CHARLES WESLEY MEEKER, born Dec. 1862; died 1 Jan. 1890

Amelia White Meeker married William A. Sharp March, 1861 and had chil-
 dren:

Mary Alice Sharp born 24 Nov. 1862; died 16 Aug. 1919
 Boy? Died young
 Bertha Amelia Sharp, died 1892 (or 1882?)

DAVID WILSON MEEKER married Jane Eliza Gilman 10 Feb. 18 80 in Tampa,
 Fla. by Rev. Dr. Branch. They had children:

CHESTER GILMAN MEEKER born 7 May 1882
 Jane Eliza Meeker died 23 June 1882

DAVID WILSON MEEKER married Jennie Elizabeth Russell 18 May 1897 in
 Newark, N.J. by Rev. Lyman Allen and had children:

LINCOLN DAVID MEEKER born 17 Sept. 1898 (1899)

RUSSELL YOULE MEEKER born 27 May 1903 (FATHER OF Wm. E. MEEKER, SACRAM)

WALTER COOPER MEEKER married Anna A. Crane 30 Dec. 1878. They had
 children:

WALTER LE ROY MEEKER born 31 Dec. 1879
 FRANK MEEKER born Sept. 1881
 EDWIN YOULE MEEKER

Ruth Meeker

Generation IX

IRVING AVARD MEEKER married Elizabeth Carpenter June 1915 and had
 children:

LEONARD CARPENTER MEEKER born
 IRVING AVARD MEEKER
 Emily Elizabeth Meeker

ARTHUR YOULE MEEKER married Charlotte Ayre and had children:
 Mary Avard Meeker
 Alice Meeker

Ella Francis Meeker married Edwin Averill and had children:
 Esther Averill and Margaret Caven dish Averill

Mary Alice Sharp Married Isaac B. Keiser and had Louise Keiser.

CHESTER GILMAN MEEKER married Martha Ann Rowlands 1 Jan. 1905 and
 had children:

Dorothy Rowlands Meeker born 24 Jan. 1906
 HORACE GILMAN MEEKER born 26 Feb. 1907
 DAVID VAUGHAN MEEKER born 20 Sept. 1912

Generation VII

Children of Mary W. Meeker and Isaac P. Genung
 (over)

Generation VII

Children of Mary W. Meeker and Isaac P. Genung:
 Elizabeth W. Genung born 17 Oct. 1831; died Aug. 1897
 Wm. Edwin Genung born 13 Feb. 1834.
 Julia M. Genung, born 12 Sept. 1837; died Nov. 1915
 Abbie J. GENUNG born 3 Dec. 1839; died 14 June 1909
 Charles Genung born 22 July 1842; died 6 Feb. 1921
 Andrew, Sara Jane & Marietta Genung died young.

Generation VIII

William Edwin Genung married Sarah A. Russell 30 Sept. 1855 and had children: Frank C. Genung, Arthur R. Genung & Mary Alice Genung.

Abbie J. Genung married Charles M. Russell 9 Oct. 1864 and had children: Jennie Elizabeth Russell born 29 Jan. 1866; Charles Prentiss Russell born 4 Aug. 1870 and died 23 Mar. 1893; Frank Parkhurst Russell born 2 Jan. 1877 and Mary Agness Russell also born 2 Jan. 1877.

Charles Genung married Orlie Anna (Orleana) Meeker and had children: Florence, Oscar and Ernest GENUNG.

Jennie Elizabeth Russell married DAVID W. MEEKER 18 May 1897 and had children:

X LINCOLN DAVID MEEKER & RUSSELL YOULE MEEKER.

Charles Prentiss Russell married Minnie J. Moore and had child, Helen Muriel Russell.

Frank Parkhurst Russell married Maud Helen Clark 1 Oct. 1901 (?) and had children Franklin Russell & Whitney Russell.

Helen Muriel Russell married J. Russell LaBar in Oct. 1916 and had children, Donald Moore LaBar and Dorris Muriel LaBar.

I never learned much of my mother's family. Her grandfather William Youle and wife Jane came from England probably shortly after the Revolutionary War.

William and Jane Youle had children: William, James, Joseph, John, George, Timothy, Mary, Thomas, and Jane Youle

Thomas Youle married Francis Isleton. Her mother was Catharine Sayre and Catherine Sayre's mother was Generte Walmsley.

The children of Thomas and Frances Youle were William McClellan Youle, Sarah Youle, Jane Youle, Mary Marschalk Youle, Emeline Youle and James Youle. William McClellan Youle died at 31 years. He was a sailor and the picture on ivory is supposed to be of his wife.

Sarah Jane Youle married William M. Thorne. Their children were: Francis J., George W., William Thomas, Catherine A., James, Peter, Mary Emeline, Sarah A. Youle.

X Mary Marschalk Youle married WILLIAM E. MEEKER. Their children are found elsewhere in this copy.

Emeline Youle married Alonzo Lane. Their children were: Emeline Anna, Alexander, Alonzo and Charlotte Imogene. All died unmarried.

Frances Isleton married James White as a second husband and had children: Amelia, John and Kate White.

Amelia White married Edward Blake. Their children were Henry, Alida, Louise, Adelaide and Katherine Blake.

John White married Kate _____ . Their children were James, Clementine, Emily and Alice White.

Kate White married James Hetherington. Her child was Amelia Hetherington who owns the old Youle grandfather clock.

Mary Youle, my grandfather's sister, married a man by the name of Marschalk, and my mother was named after her.

Jane Youle, the other sister, married James Shaw, who visited England and painted the water color of "Youle Lodge" and other sketches after he was 80 years old. He lived to be nearly 98. Youle Lodge is at Roxbury, England.

Finis to date -
 January, 1923

(Lineage given by William Meeker, supt. of the Sacramento City Zoo, which his father had.) (His father RUSSEL Y. MEEKER married Lucy A. AXLINE 4 JULY 1928 & had 2 Sons: M. DAVID & son, E. Meeker)