

# French Jacob

Jacob Groshong was christened Johann Jacob Grosjean. He was born to Johann David Grosjean and Judith Vaturin on December 18, 1725, in Hellingen, Les Fentrange, Moselle (Alsace-Lorraine), France. He came to America on the ship, Queen of Denmark, stopping in Rotterdam and Cowes and then on to Philadelphia, PA. He took the oath of allegiance on Friday October 4, 1751, the day of his arrival. Jacob was thought to be French Huguenot.

When Jacob came to America his name was changed to Groshong. Whether this was his doing or that of an English interpreter is unknown. Grosjean in French means "Big John", which certainly fits his description as he was quite a character according to folklore in the Millersburg area of PA.

Once here, he became an active landowner, making likely his first purchase on Warrant for 147 acres February 19, 1753, north of Wiconisco Creek close to the Susquehanna River, in Upper Paxton Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. There is no mention of his having a grist or sawmill at this spot, yet it would be uncharacteristic for him if he did not. He continued purchasing tracts in the same area, 150 acres February 13, 1755, and in 1765, he surveyed another 200 acres adjoining his other lands. By that time, he had a large acreage and definitely was operating mills at Millersburg Pennsylvania. He had moved to Buffalo Township (now West Buffalo Township, Union Co.), Northumberland County, Pennsylvania and purchased 75 acres on January 8, 1773, located in the Buffalo Valley and on the north side of Buffalo Creek. A short time later on April 26, 1773, he surveyed 94 acres. There, near a large spring is where he built another gristmill in 1775 and sawmill in 1778. It is not known whether he sold any of these lands along the way or just kept accumulating. This area was first in Cumberland Co., next Lancaster Co. and then became part of Northumberland Co. prior to 1780 and is now in Union Co.

Indians habitually made harassing attacks on the populace. Certainly, locations being as active as the mill would draw extra attention. Jacob had a hiding place near the big spring where he would go and stay until the Indians retreated, then would return to normal activities and continue to work his mill until the next attack. Apparently, he was on good terms with the Indians, as it is said he did a brisk trade with them in his years in Pennsylvania.

The Indian unrest could be traced to territorial differences. Companies of soldiers were kept to protect the citizenry during the late 1770's. Patrols of five men, bi-weekly kept an eye out for trouble and would alert others to assemble and repel the opposition. One such patrol regularly billeted at Jacob Groshong's mill. On May 18, 1780, the patrol was washing their clothes and drying them on the boulders near the mill when they were fired upon by a band of Delaware Indians. Taken completely by surprise, they scrambled for the mill. Four of the men were killed instantly and the fifth probably would have been, if he had not stumbled and fallen just before reaching the door. Bullet holes in the

doorframe indicate he would have been hit directly in the head. Neighbors heard the shots and alerted others. They quickly assembled and chased the Indians away.

The old mill was torn down in later years and the lumber reused. Carpenters made sure the timbers with bullet holes in them were left exposed for all who passed through to see.

The census of 1781 shows Jacob was assessed for 290 acres in Buffalo Township, Northumberland Co, PA and about 1,000 acres in Upper Paxton Township Lancaster CO., PA. Just how much acreage he lost with the mill is unknown.

Jacob built his mill on what he thought was clearly his land, however, he was taken to court in Surbury PA and in March Term 1782 and lost his mill. He went directly home that night, dismantled the moving parts and moved them all to another location down stream, where he constructed a larger gristmill and sawmill.

On a Land patent dated September 22, 1792 Jacob surveyed land at the west end of the Nittany Mountains, in the far western part of PA. This area was still in Northumberland Co. at the time. He moved there shortly thereafter. The reason for this move is not known but early in 1793 he was on the move again. This time it was to Kentucky. Before leaving he sold all his holdings in PA.

#### Adventures of Jacob Groshon

The following account comes from, Jacob Groshong Notes and Queries: by Wm. H. Engle (Collected Stories) Volume 1 4<sup>th</sup> series 1770/1893 page 171-172, REMINISCENCE OF LONG AGO French Jacob. Make of it what you will.

*Millersburg is built upon a plateau of land eighty or one hundred feet above the Susquehanna river. The site is under laid by hard slate rock, a fact that has enabled that little town of Lykens Valley land to jut out square upon the river, and from time immemorial to resist floods and washings. Six hundred yards wide by twelve hundred long it is the best town site above Harrisburg. The Wisconsin creek skirts it's southern border, whilst Spring branch does like duty for the southern. Spring branch is headed by two springs, east and back of Oakdale cemetery, and is thought to furnish exceptionally good water.*

*The Mornvain Bishop, Cammerhoff, in his journal(1748) states, that passing from Bethlehem to Shamokin, he found so setiled place or habitation between Fort Hunter and McKee(Georgetown). It is not known at what time a trading house was built on Spring branch nor who built it. It is only that in the last century sixties, that here was the home of Jacob Beauchamp, known as French Jacob.*

*Although the name French Jacob is familiar to old residents of Millersburg, none, so far as I know after enquiry, could give any connected account of the man, where he lived, his occupation or history. The question occurs here, how did it happen that the name of a man who left no landmarks behind and disappeared*

*from the valley a hundred and twenty years ago should be retained to this day? It is the purpose of this paper to explain that conundrum, so far as a puzzle can be explained.*

*As to his origin or birth place we have no knowledge. In the absence of data conjecture is allowable, based upon a little we know of his character and history. His forefathers were probably Gascon-French; driven by persecution, they found refuge, like other Huguenots, with the friendly Holinders, where our Indian trader, we will suppose, was born, and took for a name the Teutonic Jacob, instead of French Jacques,(Aghee-James). It is stated that he moved from Lancaster, brought with him a wife, a sister and a Negro slave. It appears that he had a warrant for land reaching from head of Spring branch to the river, including the island adjoining, land which belonged to the estate of the late Jacob Seal. It is uncertain whether the warrant took in the town site or not. As the story goes he and his wife once made a business visit to Lancaster, leaving the girl and the Negro to plant corn on the island. On their return they met the Negro on the road. On close questioning he confessed to having murdered the girl and burying her in the sand. He was handed over to the authorities and hanged in due time. I had this incident from my old friend O. J. Campbell, of Millersburg, one of its honored octogenarians.*

*French Jacob had a personality peculiar to himself; perhaps his Gasconblend may have asserted itself, or the opportunities, which to this day new settlements afford for romance and personal exaggeration-one of those artistic monumental liars with whom you will seldom meet more than once in a lifetime. With an appreciative audience he filled the Hudibras description. "He knew whatever was to be known, and much more than he'd own".*

*He proposed to have a knowledge of the occult sciences, whatever that may be, he could charm the festive rattler and wave the intrusive bear backward with his hand; could cure all diseases with words, blow out fire from burns and scalds and stop flowing blood. A great wizard, a mighty hex! All witches held him in terror. Like his friend and contemporary, Dr Deninger, of Lebanon Valley, he could as he stated, by simply reading his witch book-Nostradamus-transform little boys or bigger ones, too, if he so pleased into sheeps heads, black cats or black dogs.*

*A farmer named Rush, living three miles east of Millersburg, once informed me-fifty-five years ago-that his forefathers had come to the valley at a very early day; that once upon a time a great fire came down Berry's Mountain, leaped the creek and set the country in ablaze. French Jacob happened to be in the neighborhood and joined the people in their efforts to stop the fire. They exhausted themselves in vain, and sat down to rest. French Jacob produced his pipe, went forward to the fire and with a burning branch lit his tobacco, the making a mark with it upon the log, announced that the fire would stop there, and so sat down beside it. He would not permit the men to work any more lest it might break the spell and that fire, added my informant, did not dare come any farther.*

*The Wisconsin creek for a few miles above Millersburg skirts the mountain. But on its way to the river sheers off to the right and strikes the southeast corner of town. At this point is a gravel and sand beach, with a few good sized boulders on the shore and in the channel. In the long ago this was a favorite place for washing clothes, the boulders serving as stools for wrung out garments, prepared for the line. It was here that Mr. Beauchamp had one of his remarkable adventures, as was detailed to me by one of Mr. Rush's neighbors, whom I cannot at this moment recall. Jacob had turned out his horses one evening to graze and next morning taking his gun he went out to look for them as a matter of course, but under the difficulties of a dense fog. Passing up along the creek in his search, he reached this particular bend and the place being open, he halted to look and listen. At the moment he was fired upon by a party of Indians from the opposite side. Fortunately he was not hit and although his peril was great, his resources were equal to the situation. Whether it was that he possessed the ring of Gyges, or the tarn-cap of Forner, is not known but by means of one or the other. ....? hind this barrier he proceeded to shoot down his opponents with profound deliberation. The muzzle-loader is a slow weapon, and by the time he had four or five disposed of, the balance, seeing no enemy, and believing that they had met the devil, went into panic and fled. Jacob was a utilitarian, he drove his hogs to the place and thus disposed of the dead bodies to the best advantage. Ghosts were supposed to haunt this place when I knew it. No wonder the fight wasn't fair or square, and those dusky specters or spooks unsatisfied, may still be hunting for the invisible slayer. An old lady named Sandoe, living in a tumbled down shanty nearby, assured in a most emphatic manner that she had seen these ghosts several times.*

*The narrator of the foregoing further stated, that Jacob possessed a silver mine on Berry's Mountain; that this mine was guarded by a spell. And he himself could open it only at certain phases of the moon. When he needed money and the sign was right he would pronounce it an open sesame, go in, take out a bar, and by the same token close it up. My friend stated that he had looked for that mine himself, but, as he said, it was no use; no man could ever find it, because it was guarded by a spell.*

*What was his success as an Indian trader is at this point uncertain. The Indians lived to the north and McKee's was nine miles above him, where, on account of his half breed family, that famous had the sway. When he left Spring branch is not known. In the history of Buffalo Valley his name appears on the tax lists of 1773. It seems that he joined in the great Runaway of the later year. With other fugitives he returned built a mill, resumed his Indian trading business and lived there until 1790.*

*On the old tax lists his name is always spelt phonetically, Sometimes Groshong, sometimes Bushon. As if the writers were in doubt, they frequently added brackets {French Jacob}. When he left Buffalo Valley he struck out west and said*

*he did not know where he would stop. Probably Kentucky, became the resting place of his old age; Some forty years afterwards the name Beauchamp figured as principal in a.....?*

Locals still point out the hiding place near the Big Spring and talk about French Jacob or Jacob Groshong /Grosjean. He is the hero of all wild tales of Indian troubles in that part of the valley. The local Historical Society erected a marker at the site of the old mill referring to it as Jacob Grozing's mill in 1922 and honoring the fallen Revolutionary Patrol members by name.

Martin Dreisback, who came on the same ship as Jacob settled nearby. He donated land for the Lutheran and Reformed church. French Jacob was one of the First Reformed Elders of that church. It was the first German church to be organized in the valley.

This writing may have confused the lives of two different individuals, yet it may be the result of stories repeated over time, with each teller adding their imagination. Its validity is left to the discretion of the reader and was only included to help define the man. It does not, however diminish his contribution to the history of the area. It is thought Jacob's sister came to America on the same ship, which may explain her disappearance from the records. There are those who believe this sister was actually from a different set of Groshongs who came to America about the same time and over time the repetitions became mixed.

Jacob seemed to shy away from participation in government, yet he cooperated with it fully. He took no part that we know in the Revolutionary War or other wars going on from time to time. He was friendly to the patrols and allowed them to use his facilities. He seemed to be business-oriented only. The one exception would be family.

While he was amassing large quantities of land and operating mills his family grew. On May 30, 1764 Jacob married Maria Magdalena Kistler in the German Reform Church at Carlisle, Cumberland Co., PA. She was born January 14, 1744 in Tulpehocken Township, Berks Co. PA to Johann Nicklaus Kistler and Anna Magdalena Brossman. Maria Magdalena busied herself bearing and raising the children while Jacob tended to the business of making the living. Beginning in 1765 they proceeded to have seven boys and four girls over the next fourteen years ending in 1779, bringing the total to eleven. They are as follows.

- 1) Peter Groshong born about 1765 in Cumberland Co.
- 2) Judith Groshong born about 1765 in Cumberland Co. PA.
- 3) Lewis Groshong born about in 1767 in Cumberland Co PA
- 4) John Groshong born about 1770 in Cumberland Co. PA.
- 5) Jeremiah Jefferson Groshong born about 1771 in Cumberland Co. Pa
- 6) Elizabeth Groshong Born about 1772 in Cumberland Co PA.
- 7) Abraham Groshong born about 1773 in Northumberland Co. PA
- 8) \*Susannah Groshong born August 24, 1776, in Northumberland Co. PA.

- 9) Sarah Groshong born about 1777 in Northumberland Co. PA
- 10) Jacob Groshong Jr. born about 1778 in Northumberland Co. PA.
- 11) Samuel Groshong born about 1779 or 1784 in Northumberland Co. PA

Note! Some of these birth dates appear to be misplaced or in error.

#### Peter Groshong

Peter, the oldest, born in 1765 left home early, going to North Carolina where he met and married Elizabeth Williams on a marriage bond application dated November 1, 1784. Records show they were living in the town of Edenton, Chowan Co. NC. He was a carpenter and ships fitter. His offspring made their way to New York and in later years spread west as far as Washington State.

#### Lewis Groshong

Lewis, their second son left home before 1790. It is thought that he relocated to Franklin Co. in the western part of PA. Some researchers believe it is this Lewis that settled much later on Loutre Island, MO. This island is located in the Missouri River at the mouth of Loutre Creek in what was then part of St. Charles Co, now in Montgomery Co. The first settlers came there in 1798 and were under the rule of Spain. His son Jacob born about 1800 was thought to be the first white child born in that area. Nothing more is known about him. Note! This birth may be that of Jacob, the son of Jacob Jr. and the stories just became mixed.

#### John Groshong

John, their third son appeared in Fredrick Co. MD married to Anna Kortes. Their children are as follows but the list may be incomplete.

- 1) Abraham Groshong , birth date unknown.
- 2) Anna Groshong, born March 18,1800, in Fredrick Co., MD.
- 3) Henry Groshong, birth date unknown.
- 4) Hannah Groshong, birth date unknown.

#### Susannah Groshong

Susannah is mysteriously absent from the records. There is no evidence she ever came to Kentucky. \*In fact, she may not belong with this family.

The remainder of the clan moved to Kentucky with Jacob and Maria. Just what precipitated Jacob's move to Kentucky is not known but it obviously was done with a calculated plan. Frances Kistler, brother-in-law of Jacob, was found on the 1791 Tax List of Bourbon Co. KY., leading one to believe he may have provided the inspiration for the move.

Their relocation came with the second wave of settlers. The 1790's saw phenomenal growth in Kentucky. Most of the good land had already been claimed on land Warrants similar to those used by Jacob in Pennsylvania, so he was left to purchase tracts from existing landowners.

To move with a family of seven children remaining under his wings, while disposing of his Pennsylvania property and taking care of all hanging business would be quite a chore. It became even more complex when he decided to relocate with a group of families from the same area.

The Groshong, Hammerly, Kroh, McCoy families and possibly others, moved to Bourbon Co. KY in 1793. The Kistler family obviously came earlier. They were thought to have settled near Ruddles Mills or Ruddles Fort. (Harrison Co. was formed out of Bourbon Co. in December of 1793 and became an independent entity January 1, 1794) Ruddles Mills remained in Bourbon Co., while Ruddles Fort, three mile north was included in Harrison Co.

Jacob appeared on the Harrison Co. tax rolls for the year 1794 as living next to Godfrey Crowe/Crow on or near the South Licking River and near the Bourbon Co. line. More should be said about their relationship at the time.

Godfrey Crowe was christened Johannes Gottfried Kroh born February 28, 1728, in The Rhine, Palatinate or Westfalen, Berleburgstadt, Germany. He also came to America in 1751, although not aboard the same ship as Jacob. Godfrey married Barbara Haverling in 1765 and had twelve children. He too belonged to the German Reformed Lutheran Church. The two men had many common denominators in their relationship.

Kroh became Crow/Crowe in Ky. For purposes of consistency, Crowe will be used here but it is not necessarily the preferred spelling of their name.

If Jacob did in fact settle there it was for only a short time as he was taxed in Campbell Co. in 1795 for 150 acres on the South Licking river near the mouth of Crooked Creek and for another 10 acres on the east side of the South Licking River nearly across from the mouth of Fork Lick Creek. In addition he had two horses and five head of cattle. These two locations are six miles apart as the river meanders or four miles apart as the crow flies. One wonders about this until you realize they both are excellent mill sites. To add to the mystery the upper land (Remember upper is south) is on the west side of the river and the lower is on the east, requiring him to cross back and forth. This tax listing may be over looked while checking Campbell Co tax lists because his name appears in the C's as Croshon. Jeremiah his son, as all males age twenty-one were listed, was also under the C's as having no real estate but having one horse and four head of cattle. On the west side of the river, Crooked Creek served as the line between the newly formed Campbell Co. and its partial parent Harrison Co.

Jacob's last name became Groshon in Kentucky as recorders unanimously dropped the G from the end of his name. It sometimes reappeared in matters of the Courts.

He recorded a first by getting his water gristmill and sawmill approved by the Campbell Co. court at its meeting held September 7, 1795. Approval came just before John Waller and John Cook received approval for their mill at Falmouth (approximately eight miles down river and near the forks of the Licking) in the same session. Since approval required a prior request to the Co. Court and an official appointment of a Jury of twelve citizens to meet and view the site, assess damage to neighbors, the free passage of fish, potential flooding, possibility of stagnant waters and any thing else that could possibly happen, it seems logical that it had been omitted from the record or the prior paperwork has since been lost. Since records show Waller and Cook petitioned the Court to build a water gristmill and sawmill at the June 1, 1795, meeting, it would be logical to assume Jacob made such a request at the time or at an earlier date. These were the first mills approved in the northern Kentucky area. It covers the present day counties of Boone, Kenton and Campbell adjacent to the Ohio River directly across from Cincinnati, Ohio. Just to the south and included were Pendleton and Grant Counties. All five came from Campbell Co. Their southern most line extended approximately fifty miles south of Cincinnati. This was a big step toward development of the area. The Shawnee were still a menace but their influence was in decline. Small bands of Indians occasionally aggravated the inhabitants of the area until 1815. Jacob full well understood Indian problems.

They may have been the first but their corner on the milling market soon went by the wayside. John Ewing petitioned the Court to build a gristmill and sawmill on Fork Lick Creek August 1, 1796, and received approval to do same on September 5, 1796. This mill site was less than a mile from Jacob's mill, as the crow flies and not much farther on the ground. John Downard requested approval for a mill to the east about three miles, on Blanket Creek, on August 1, 1796, and received approval on the same day that Ewing received his approval. On November 7, 1796, John McClanahan received permission to build a mill on his land on Crooked Creek, at a site where he owned both sides. (McClanahans site was near Jacob's 150 acre farm) Add to that, John Stuart received approval for a mill on Fork Lick about three miles up stream from John Ewing's mill on September 9, 1797. By this time competition had to be keen.

Jacob had a year to build customer relationships throughout the community before Ewing's mill, his closest competition was up and running. Having been a miller for years, it would seem he would have a natural edge.

Early mills were a natural meeting place for neighbors to spend time talking and visiting with one another. Many times there would be a line, thus they wandered around visiting and discussing local events while waiting their turn. Mills served to replace the church, country store or sometimes the tavern. Many mills had access to a distillery and sold whiskey by the drink, half pint or by the gallon. One of the mills operating there much later also sold "treets". This is as seen in the miller's day book but no one knows their composition. There is no known record of Jacob doing any more than grinding grains and sawing lumber at his mills.

Friends, customers and acquaintances from the area that was to become the Morgan community would include but not be limited to the following. George Hume adjoined him to the south east, along with Arthur Burns on the northeast and Thomas Lancaster on the east. His neighbor to the southwest is unknown but is thought to be Ignatius Wheeler. Moving down river on the east side the next owner was William Angell, followed by Tunis Quick, James Kerr, John Ammerman, John Lowe and Anthony Kendall. All of these people owned 100 acre tracts laid out in rectangles. John Lowe was the exception, having 200 acres. Anthony Kendall's farm was bordered on the north by Johnson Creek and the South Licking River. James Johnson owned, bordering on the river from the mouth of Johnson Creek on the opposite or southwestern side. The Johnson land stretched out to a point as the river curved back around to the south, effectively keeping John Lowe from having river frontage. Johnson and Kendall land came from a Nicholas Meriwether Land Grant while all the others came from Alexander Reed's 1,000 acre Grant. Adjoining all these on the southeast was the 2,000 acre Grant to John Parker, yet undivided but lived on by William Routt II, William Routt III and William Myers.

Those neighbors across the river, beginning across from Johnson and moving up river would first be, Joel Robinson who owned 500 acres, then Matthew Graves, also owning 500 acres. The Graves land roughly bordered on the northeast side of Fork Lick Creek. John Ewing's 429 acre farm was on the other side of Fork Lick Creek and bordering the west side of the river. John Hand was above Ewing, on the river and first owned 510 acres, running from the river to Fork Lick Creek after the creek had turned in a more south western direction. Daniel McClain and Edward King were also neighbors but were not landowners. There would have been many others in the outlying areas but these were his base customers.

In two short years there were four new mills up and running, serving as competition for fringe business. Actually John Ewing, being so close would become a direct competitor. Just when Jacob decided to sell the mill is not known. Sometime prior to 1799 he sold it to Bernard Fowler.

Bernard Fowler was born about 1752 in Henrico Co. VA. He married Temperance Panky June 4, 1788, in Chesterfield, VA. They had five children before her death in 1797. On July 27, 1798, he married Elizabeth Grant, daughter of Colonel John Grant and Mary Mosby. Elizabeth was born on April 28, 1780, in Rowan Co. NC. Bernard died January 1, 1799. No cause of death has been determined. This event sure set off a long list of complications for Jacob and his family.

When Jacob purchased his properties he did so on "Title Bond". By definition a title bond is a legally binding promise to deliver a clear deed for a set acreage at a set price at a future date. It was seldom recorded with the Co. Clerk but was simply held by the purchaser and could be assigned (sold) repeatedly. Part of the purchase price was paid up front, with the remainder paid upon delivery of the actual deed. All local purchases around the time of Jacob's were done in that manner. All though the locating, staking and entering of these claims occurred in 1782 and 1783, under Virginia law, none had been Granted before Kentucky became a state in 1792. It was the late 1790's before the

Grant process was complete in the immediate area. That was when the owners realized there were some serious problems facing them. Shingling of claims was a fact of life and had to be dealt with in an amicable manner where possible. If the individuals could not resolve boundary conflicts, then it was necessary to resort to a legal setting.

Undoubtedly, there were rumblings about disputed claims by the time Jacob sold his mill. Maybe it was the fact that persuaded Jeremiah to relocate to Missouri. We will probably never know why he sold but there were no outward signs of discord before Bernard Fowler died. The first real glimpse into just how complicated and entangled the transactions had become were revealed in the following deed of agreement recorded in Deed Book A, page 325 of the Pendleton Co. Clerk on October 31, 1801.

*In consideration of John Fowler agreeing to convey to me as much good land to be estimated and valued by Major James Littell and John Zinn to be laid off in a square tract out of a survey made for John and Jordan Harris containing 44,109 ¼ acres to begin at the south corner of said survey as will amount to the balance due me by the beloved John Grant executor to Bernard Fowler deceased who assumed to pay suit balance for the said Bernard deceased and for which I have commenced a suit at law against the said Grant it being a balance due on account of a purchase of ten acres of land and including a mill built by me on the south fork of Licking made of me by the said Bernard in his lifetime and whereas the said Grant has commenced a suit against me for the title of said land and mill, I do hereby agree to dismiss the said suit against the said John Grant and receive payment for the balance in lands of John Fowler as above described and do agree to assign George Hume bond given to me for said ten acres of land and will to John Fowler his heirs or assigns on the express conditions that the said Col John Grant will dismiss the said suit against me for the said title of said land and give me up my deed (crossed out and replaced with) bond each party paying their own costs and I do further agree on said conditions being complied with that I will dismiss the suit against George Hume Esq. For the title of said land and put the said bond in the possession of the said John Fowler. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1801.*

*Teste-Sqr Grant*

*W. Routt John Ewing*

*Jacob Grogann*

*Seal*

The above agreement was evidently worked out through discussion and was meant to resolve all the difficulties and suits that followed Bernard's untimely demise. When one analyzes it, there is an appearance of favoring Jacob. Since he drew it up and was the only one to sign, then it probably was favorable to him.

What this agreement (If you can call a signed statement by one an agreement.) did establish was suits and counter suits had been filed earlier in Campbell Co. Court before Pendleton Co. got their Courts on line and functioning. Colonel John Grant as executor of Bernard Fowler deceased had brought suit against Jacob to produce a deed, while Jacob sued Grant for the balance owed. Jacob proposed to drop his suit for deed against George Hume and simply turn the bond he held from Hume over to John Fowler in

exchange for an amount of land of like value to that of the unpaid balance from the purchase by Bernard Fowler deceased to John Fowler. It doesn't say but likely means John Fowler would pay Hume any balance owed him by Jacob. Jacob and John Fowler seem to be in agreement at this point. The result for Jacob would be having his land on Crooked Creek paid for and be free of the mess with the mill, while John Fowler would have another business venture.

It is obvious Jacob had purchased his land on Crooked Creek from John Fowler on title bond. This was a way to clear the amount owed on that property and get a clear title. It was also evident Fowler wanted the mill. John Fowler, it may be noted, was an older brother to Bernard. At this point, the onus seemed to be on John Grant as to the outcome. There was no mention of the equity held by the deceased's estate but one would assume John Fowler would be responsible.

The signed agreement seemed to be working to perfection, when in the April Term of Pendleton co. Court of Quarterly Sessions on April 14, 1802, John Grant vs. Jacob Groshon (no G) was dismissed by order of the plaintiff. Then came April 14, 1802, Jacob Groshon vs. John Grant, contract—Continued on leave to amend plea.

July Term came and on July 13, 1802, Jacob Groshon vs. John Grant, contract was on the docket. It gave an explanation of the suit from the Campbell Co Court as referred to in the filed agreement of 1801. Excerpts are found below.

*This day came the parties by there attorney and said Defendant John Grant by Richard Henderson his attorney comes and defends the force and injury when &c and craves oyer of the wrighting obgligatory and it is read to him in the following words to wit Whereas Jacob Groshon has this day sold to me and assigned a judgment on Bernard Fowler Deceased which judgment was obtained in the Court of Campbell Co. to the amount now due of about two hundred and fifty pounds against the estate of said Deceased the Execution in the hands of the sheriff of above county and whereas said Jacob does relinquish to me all the interest of said Execution it is to be understood that I do for the same oblige myself to pay in property Such as horse Creatures Cattle &c at there Common selling price the amount of such above mentioned Judgment by the first day of May next in testimony I have hereby bound myself my heirs executors and assigns as witness my hand and seal this 19<sup>th</sup> date of December 1799.  
Teste*

*John B Lindsey*

*J. Barth Joseph Mosby*

*John Grant (seal)*

*If I sell property of the estate of Bernard Fowler Dec'd his mill &c and can precure(sic) a Negro that suits Mr. Groshon I am to give s'd Negro in place of above trade as above* *John Grant*

*And he says that the said plaintiff ought not to have and maintain his action afs'd against him because he has not Violated this Covenant in the*

*said Declaration mentioned and for further plea the said Deft says that an article of agreement was entered into on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1801 between the said plaintiff and a certain John Fowler which article is in the following word to wit.....Skip...see above...skip... Which article of agreement is of record is in the Pendleton Co. Clerk's office by which article the said Plaintiff fully released the said Defendant from the said obligation in condition that he said Defendant would dismiss a suit then depending in the quarter sessions Court of Pendleton Court which suit he this Deft evers he has dismissed when fore he prays Judgment if &c  
Richard Henderson atty for Deft*

The above was included to show what had transpired in Campbell Co. Court in 1799.

Of course Jacobs attorney argued that he did have a right to continue the suit because John Grant had not complied by paying Jacob the two hundred an fifty pounds by January 1, 1800, or to date for that matter. This suit made its way through the Court sessions until July Term and on July 10, 1804, the damages were reset to 146 pounds 5 shillings and 9 1/4 pence with Jacob's costs to be paid by John Grant.

John Grant immediately filed a chancery suit and on October 8, 1804, supiona (sic) were ordered for John Fowler and George Hume. The suit was amended to Fowler Administrators vs. Jacob Groshon on May 12, 1806. This suit had to do with boundary lines. Surveys and depositions were ordered. The case was carried forward many times. By September 15, 1807, the court requested by subpoena that Thomas Lancaster bring deed of conveyance from Alexander Reed to John Cook to the next session. This suit was carried through several sessions but ended in October Term of Court on October 16, 1810. The verdict? DISMISSED! Note! It is understandable why there was a dispute as all of the deed descriptions attributed to the ten acres would not plat. Evidently the original filing had one or more lines and directions missing. They repeatedly recorded the error in future deeds.

These suits were really played out by John Fowler and John Grant. Obviously Jacob had received title to his 150 acre tract on Crooked Creek long before. Jacob had given power-of-attorney over all of his assets and legal transactions in Kentucky to his brother-in-law Francis Keastler (Kistler) who resided in Harrison Co., but near Jacob, on September 8 1804, recorded in Deed Book B, page 38. Just fourteen days later on September 22, 1804, he sold the 150 acres on Crooked Creek to Francis for 80 pounds, found in Deed Book B, page 45 in the office of the Pendleton Co. Clerk.

Those acts are of a man on his deathbed or with the intent of leaving the state of Kentucky permanently. From this time forward the only mention of Jacob was his being named in the lawsuits.

As stated Jacob splashed on the scene in the 1794 Tax list in Harrison Co. and the following year, 1795 in Campbell Co. as discussed above. In 1796 he was taxed for 150 acres of land on the South Fork of the Licking River but no mention of the 10 acre mill

tract. In fact it was not mentioned in any future year. Perhaps he had already sold it or it may have been an oversight by the tax assessor. In years 1797 and 1798 Jacob was taxed for 250 acres on the South Fork. No other Groshons were listed for those years. The year 1799 was the first for Pendleton Co as an entity and those records appear lost. Year 1800 saw listings of both Jacob Sr. and Jacob Jr., who was then of age. It may be noted James Hammerly first appeared and as having no land in 1796 and remained on the list throughout the years of his life. In the 1802 Delinquent Tax Roll Jacob Groshon was noted as "out of state". This had to be Jacob Jr. Delinquent taxes in year 1803 saw Jacob listed as "gone to Elinoy" This is again, Jacob Jr.

More than adequate proof that Jacob Sr. was the one still in Pendleton Co. came at the March 14, 1803, Co. Court meeting when Jacob Groshon Sr. was exempted from roadwork. The only way an adult male could get out of working a set number of hours/days on the roads that ran through his community was to be infirmed or too old to work. It is not known but Jacob Sr. might have qualified on either account, his being 77 years of age at the time.

Jacob wasted little time in making the Stray Stock list in Campbell Co. by having one posted as stray on Crooked Creek in October 1795. He made it at least once a year in consecutive years through 1798. When Pendleton Co. became an entity in 1799 his bright bay three-year-old mare with a star, a small ketch and no brand but some saddle spots, appeared as stray June 17, 1799. All of the above instances were on Crooked Creek. On December 11, 1801, James Hammerly, living on Crooked Creek was reported as having a stray animal. He was a member of the Hammerly family who came to KY the same time as Jacob. About two weeks later on December 28, 1801, Jacob was again cited for a stray.

Jacob's first entry in Pendleton Co. Court of Quarterly Sessions minutes came on May 7, 1800, when the suit by Charles Stuart vs. Jacob Groshong was entered. The charge was Trespass. The plaintiff asked to recover against the defendant and his damages sustained by the occasion of trespass. He called for a Jury in the next court. On August 6, 1800, it was dismissed by order of the plaintiff. It appears Jacob and Charles worked their problems out in an amicable manner.

Jacob again appeared in the records of Pendleton Co Court of Quarterly sessions, October Term on October 11, 1802, as James Sodusky vs. Jacob Groshon for Debt. Plaintiff asked for 50 pounds. The Court awarded 25 pounds, with interest at a rate of 6 pence per annum from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1799 until paid. Defendant reserves himself the benefit of equity &c. George Smeral and Daniel Seward testified on behalf of the defendant.

In Kentucky Maria busied herself tending to Jacob's and the children's needs. Of the seven offspring, Samuel was the only one who did not marry in Kentucky. This meant Maria assisted in six marriages in as many years. By 1803 all children had left the state except Judy and Samuel.

The urge to marry seemed to descend on this particular group from Pennsylvania. Many chose spouses from this very group-Abraham and Mary Hornbeck about 1793, Jeremiah and Polly Crowe, February 25, 1794, Sarah and John Crowe February 25, 1794, (could have been a double ceremony), Elizabeth and Henry Crowe May 6, 1794, Judith and James Hammerly, April 18, 1796; then Jacob Jr. and Catherine McCoy January 30, 1800. Samuel waited to marry until he arrived in Missouri and still married one from the original group, namely Hester McCoy.

### Jeremiah Groshong

Jeremiah Jefferson Groshon, the eldest son who came to Kentucky seemed to follow most closely in the footsteps of his aging father. His penchant for adventure into new lands, plus his entrepreneurial spirit set him apart from the others.

Jeremiah born 1771/1772 in Northumberland Co. PA married Mary (Polly) Magdalena Kroh/Crowe on March 4, 1794 in Bourbon Co, KY. She was born to Johannes Gottfried Kroh and Barbara Heberling about 1773 in Northumberland Co. PA. Bondsman for their marriage was John Crowe with her father Godfrey Crowe giving consent. Jeremiah and Mary Polly proceeded to have nine children, as follows.

- 1) Elizabeth Groshong born September 23, 1796, in Bourbon Co. KY
- 2) Samuel Groshong born August 12, 1798, in Bourbon Co. KY
- 3) Jacob DeClemente Groshong born October 2, 1800, in now Lincoln Co. MO.
- 4) Sarah Groshong born July 7, 1803, in now Lincoln Co. MO.
- 5) James Groshong born May 18, 1806, in now Lincoln Co. MO.
- 6) Mary Groshong born August 20, 1808 in now Lincoln Co. MO.
- 7) Susannah Groshong born December 16, 1810 in now Lincoln Co MO.
- 8) Jefferson Jeremiah Groshong born May 29, 1813 in now Lincoln Co MO.
- 9) William C Groshong born January 22, 1817, in now Lincoln Co. MO.

It may be noted that Jacob DeClemente was the first white child born in this area of MO. By continuing to live in the vicinity, he became the only person to live under the jurisdiction of Spain, France, the District of Louisiana, the Territory of Louisiana, the Territory of Missouri and the State of Missouri without changing his place of residence.

Elizabeth was born September 23, 1796, in Bourbon Co. KY. Samuel was also born August 12, 1798, in Bourbon Co. KY. The location of their birth may or may not be correct. If they were in fact born in Bourbon Co. Jeremiah and Polly must have moved back since the Campbell Co. Tax Rolls for 1795 listed Jeremiah as living there for purposes of taxation.

Jeremiah next surfaced in St Charles Co. MO. On land grant #460, dated December 1, 1799. This tract was assigned by Lewis (Louis) Crowe next to Johann Gottfried Kroh and contained 200 arpens of land as described in a survey plat certified January 10, 1800,

found in Book C, page 297 in the Co. Recorders office. He also had several French and Spanish land grants.

Exactly when Jeremiah built his first mill is unknown but it is logical to think it would have been very soon after arriving. Tax records as early as 1812 show Jeremiah assessed for one water mill at \$400.00. The mill was located on the southwest side of the Cuivre River on the land he purchased in 1799.

For reasons unknown, he decided to sell the saw and gristmills in 1819. A deed from Jeremiah and Polly to Shapely Ross was filed in the Lincoln Co. Clerks office on June 28, 1819 in Deed Book C, pages 16-18, with a sale price of \$3,000.00. The property was comprised of 164 acres and the sawmill and gristmill, located on the northeast corner of the town of Moscow Mills.

Prior to this transaction he had sold an adjacent 50 1/4 acre tract on June 19, 1819, to a group of men on Deed for \$500.00. Those purchasing were Shapely Ross, James Duncan, John Geiger, and Morgan Wright. This tract was the future site of the town of Moscow Mills. It also bordered on the Cuivre River.

At this point in life Jeremiah strayed from his father's footsteps by serving as Trustee of the new town of Moscow Mills. He served along side Andrew Miller and W. H. Robinson. Their first job was to convey the lots to would be purchasers. He was appointed to the Board of Business for the town. He assisted in the organization of the county of Lincoln and served as Juror on several occasions.

The mills Jeremiah started became the mainstay for the town of Moscow mills. The mills were, later enhanced by a large grain elevator and the additional assist by the building of the St Louis and Hannibal (short line) Railroad. Together, they formed the main enterprise in town.

On January 6, 1825, he and Polly sold two additional tracts adjacent to those sold earlier. This was probably where he built the stone house and where the children were raised. He had accumulated several tracts through various Governments Land Grants.

The stone house later became vacant and rundown as many old houses have over the years. This particular one parallels the folklore of Jacob years before in Pennsylvania. Stories were told of slaves being held prisoner and starving to death in the basement, giving rise to other stories of it being haunted. Additionally, it was said to be a place where men congregated to gamble. The dark days for the house were lifted when it was remodeled, wings were added and later lived in by former Senator Long, thus preserving another of Jeremiah's early accomplishments.

Perhaps his most notorious tract was the one he traded to David Bryan, nephew of Daniel and Rebecca Bryan Boone. The sale occurred on September 5, 1800, with Jeremiah receiving one hundred twenty hard dollars for 400 superficial arpens (340 acres) on the

River Tugue in the District of Femme Osage. In addition, Jeremiah was to receive 400 arpens of land of his choice, which he was to select as soon as possible or at least by 1802. This was evidently not officially cleared until March 29, 1836, although the actual exchange was at a much earlier date.

The significance of this tract stems from the belief that Daniel and Rebecca Boone were buried there. David built a fine house on the acreage and at his home was where Daniel and Rebecca lived out their years. The people of Missouri maintain the two are still buried in the Bryan family Cemetery and the bones sent to Kentucky were those of slaves, who had also been buried there.

At any rate clearing the title was near to his last act in Missouri as he and four of his children, namely Sarah, Samuel, James and William left for Wisconsin in 1836 to seek a new adventure. This time it was to operate a dairy farm. He reappeared at Beetown, Grant Co. Wisconsin, located in the southwest corner of the state.

Not much is known of his adventure into milk production. Mary Magdalena died in 1843 and was buried in the Kinney-Groshong Cemetery, Hurricane Grove, WI. Jeremiah was found living with his youngest son William in the 1850 Grant Co. WI. Census. His current age was then listed as 80 years, with his occupation being that of farmer. William's primary occupation was listed as miner. This goes along with the story that Jeremiah dabbled in lead mining in his later years, as always he was looking for adventure much like his father before him. James and Jefferson J. were living nearby in the same Census. Jeremiah died May 17, 1858, and went to rest beside his wife Polly, ending a remarkable 86 year trip from Pennsylvania via Kentucky and Missouri before coming to rest in Wisconsin.

#### Jacob Groshong Jr.

Johann Jacob Grosjean Jr. generally referred to as Jacob Groshong Jr. born about 1778 in Northumberland, PA married Catherine McCoy born about 1780 in Northumberland, PA. January 30, 1800, in Pendleton Co. KY. She was the daughter of John McCoy and Martha Humphrey. Jacob Jr. and Catherine had nine children as follows.

- 1) Dorcus Groshong born August 19, 1808, in St Charles Co. Mo.
- 2) William Groshong born July 11, 1813, in St Charles Co. MO.
- 3) Zumiri Groshong born about 1815 in St Charles Co. MO.
- 4) Samuel Groshong born about 1819 in St Charles Co. MO.
- 5) Nathan Groshong born about 1820, in Lincoln Co. MO.
- 6) John Groshong born about 1821 in Lincoln Co. MO.
- 7) James Groshong born about 1822 in Lincoln Co. MO.
- 8) Jacob Groshong born about 1823 in Lincoln Co. MO.

Jacob Jr. made very few entries in the record books while in Kentucky largely due to his age. He finally appeared on the Tax List in 1800 because he had turned age 21. Jacob then appeared on the Delinquent Tax List in Pendleton Co. KY in 1802 (out of state) and again in 1803 (gone to Elinoy). Also in 1803 he was found owning land near Jeremiah in St Charles Co. MO. Some time after becoming settled, he began operating a distillery and in 1811 it was assessed at \$250.00 for tax purposes.

Jacob Jr. served on St. Charles Co. Juries and appeared to be a law-abiding citizen of that county. He also was active in claiming vacant lands, gathering a sizeable acreage before divesting lands his in Lincoln Co in 1825 and 1826. He sold the parcels from a 400 arpen tract of a survey #1648 signed July 29, 1817, by William Rector surveyor, from a certificate issued by the Land Office dated February 1, 1823, a tract of 25 acres went to Elias Turner in 1825 and the remainder to Elijah Perkins and William W, Woodbridge in 1826. Jacob Jr. and Catherine both signed the deeds.

Jacob Jr. and part of his family appeared in the 1830 census of Adams Co. IL. Just when he went there or how long he remained is unknown. Son William married there and continued to make it his home. In the 1840 census Jacob Jr. and Catherine were found in Buchanan Co. MO and 1850 in Andrew Co. MO. Jacob Jr. died about 1858.

### Samuel Groshong

Samuel Groshong, the baby of the family is the hardest to discuss because there were two Samuels who happened to arrive in St Charles Co. MO. about the same time and marry only about two years apart. One was thought to be the son of Lewis Groshong and the older son of Jacob Sr., who earlier had settled in western PA.

The Samuel most logically the son of Jacob Sr. was born about 1779 in Northumberland Co Pa. He is thought to be the last to leave the nest. At the March 14, 1803, meeting of the Pendleton Co. Court found on page 167 of the records as follows, *Andrew Brann was appointed a road surveyor on the lands of Fetty Bonar, Samuel Groshon, James McCandless, Charles Stewart, Henry Cholders (Childers) and James Hammerly.* The others were all neighbors of Jacob Sr. on Crooked Creek. For Samuel to be named to this group he would have been age of 21 or older. This means he would have been born in 1883 or earlier.

Samuel Groshong married Hester McCoy, born about 1783 in Northumberland Co. PA to John McCoy and Martha Humphrey, on June 27, 1805, in St Charles Co. Missouri. From records in St Charles Co--*Be it remembered that on the twenty seventh day of June AD one thousand eight hundred and five Samuel Groshong and Hester McCoy having first been duly published according to law the said Samuel and Hester McCoy were by me joined in marriage the day and year above written. Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand Christopher Chastie Esq. District of St Charles recorded this eighteen day of September one thousand eight hundred and five. P. Provenchery, Recorder.* Very little is known of this family.

The other Samuel Groshong married Elizabeth Buckalew born about 1779 or 1782 in Edgefield Co. South Carolina, daughter of Garrett Buckalew and Polly Newton, on June 20, 1803, in St Charles Co. MO. Their children were as follows.

- 1) Frances "Fannie" Groshong, born in 1806 in St Charles Co. MO.
- 2) Mary "Polly" Groshong, born May 11, 1811, in St Charles Co. MO.

Samuel's activities in Missouri are unaccounted for, yet he must have been an active participant in the War of 1812. From the history of Adams Co. IL, we find him employed by the Federal Government as a dispatch runner between two Forts. Some say he was a government spy, keeping an eye on the Indians. He supposedly spoke five Indian languages and some times dressed and posed as an Indian. Fort Edwards near the present city of Warsaw and an outpost at the present town of Alton IL, were his destinations. It appears he later made his home near the present towns of Mendon and Ursa, in Ursa Township.

This was obviously Indian country at the time but Samuel enjoyed a harmonious relationship with them. Around 1824 Elizabeth died. Samuel in the same year moved his children from Missouri to the northeast quarter of section 29 near Rock Creek in Adams Co. His was probably the first white family to settle in the area.

George Campbell became the second settler, bringing his belongings from Tennessee. He chose to live on a site near Samuel. It was around a year later George married Samuel's daughter Mary on August 18, 1825. This was only the second marriage to take place in the county.

Samuel died in the winter of 1826-27. It was such a cold winter the grave was dug to only about two feet. He was wrapped in a blanket and covered with as much dirt as possible, then covered with rocks to keep animals away. The burial took place in what is now Dennison Cemetery, Mendon, Ursa Township, Adams Co. IL

#### Abraham Groshong

Abraham Groshong born about 1773 in Northumberland Co PA., married Mary Hornbeck about 1793 in Harrison Co. KY. This is all the information available for them

#### Judith Groshong.

Judith Groshong the eldest daughter of Jacob and Maria was born about 1765 in Cumberland Co. PA. She married James Hammerly on April 18 1796, in Harrison Co. KY. The parents of James were Jacob Hammerly and Martha Van Brugh. He was born November 14, 1760, in Fort Augusta, Cumberland Co. PA.

James Hammerly and David McCoy signed for the fifty-pound bond the same day as the marriage. It would be unusual for the marriage to take place on the same date but it

would be close. William Moore Clerk of Harrison Co. issued the license for the marriage in the names of James Hammersly and Judy Grosjeans.

Their union produced the following children.

- 1) Andrew Hammerly born about 1796 in Campbell Co. KY.
- 2) David Hammerly born about 1796 in Campbell Co. KY.
- 3) John Hammerly born about 1804 in Pendleton Co. KY.
- 4) Mary Emily Hammerly born about 1806 in Pendleton Co. KY.
- 5) Elizabeth Hammerly born about 1808 in Pendleton Co. KY.
- 6) Lucinda Hammerly born about 1812 in Pendleton Co. KY.
- 7) Margaret A Hammerly born about 1813 in Pendleton Co. KY.
- 8) Martha Patsy Hammerly born about 1814 in Pendleton Co. KY.

They settled near Jacob and Maria on Crooked Creek. James had already been listed on the 1795 Tax List for Campbell Co. as having three horses and one town lot. The town lot may be a misnomer as the column is next to the one for cattle.

This must be explained. It was a much easier and shorter trip to Cynthiana the seat of Harrison Co. than Newport, on the Ohio River, the seat of Campbell Co. Many early inhabitants in the southern part of Campbell and then Pendleton counties used the former for business purposes.

The 1800 Pendleton Co. Census just shows head of household as James Hammerly. In 1801 he appeared on the Stray Stock list. By the 1806 Tax List he is shown as owning 400 acres on Fork Lick Creek. This has to be in error as James and Judy lived on Crooked Creek their entire married life and until their death. The 1810 census has James situated between John Readnour and Thomas Dance, close neighbors to Jacob and Maria. The 1820 census shows three boys and five girls, indicating all children are still at home. By the 1830 census, two boys and two girls are listed.

The 1840 census reflects only one son at home and no girls. The notes say James is now deaf. It also notes his Revolutionary War service and service in the War of 1812. The notation "white age 70" would be off 10 years from his listed birth. The 1850 census lists only Judy Hanonly(sic) age 80, born in Pennsylvania and blind.

James and Judith Hammerly appeared before three Justices in Pendleton Co., Ky. On October 7, 1833. James age 72 testified he was born November 16, 1760, at Fort Augustine Northumberland Co. PA. and that he enlisted for 7 months against British and Indians and he was a former citizen of Cumberland Co., PA. His service consisted of marching from point to point on the frontier, pursuing the enemy and guarding frontier forts and protecting and defending bordering settlements. At the time of entering service he was residing in Northumberland Co., PA. He was a private in a company commanded by Capt. McCoy on the PA.state line for seven months. From the time of his birth up to 1793, he resided in Northumberland Co. Note. Since this was in a deposition it negates the age listing on the earlier census.

James obviously died in testate. Division of his land was made by the Pendleton Co. Court on October 18, 1844, with Reuben McCarty Pendleton Co. Surveyor to make the plat. Judy received a widow's dower of 60 acres. Mary Ann McCandless, daughter of George and Elizabeth Hammerly McCandless, 66.11 acres. Elizabeth was deceased by this time. Patsy Hammerly Odor received 22 acres. John Hammerly received 20 acres. James McCandless in right of his wife late Mary Hammerly, 53.18 acres. Susan McCandless in right of her mother Margaret Hammerly, the late Margaret McCandless, 55.18 acres. Signed by Thos. Corwin and Thos. L. Garrad. The deed descriptions mention Morton's old line, Crooked Creek, South Fork of the Licking River, William Dance and John Hammerly's line. James had sold 65 1/4 acres to his son, John Hammerly in 1839. On August 24, 1849, as part of the estate settlement, Judith Hammerly made declaration she was James Hammerly's widow and she was married to him April 1796 and that James died January 27, 1843.

Judy's last testimony came on March 26, 1855, when she stated she was 90 years of age. She states she was a Revolutionary War Pensioner and was married to James in 1796. This was for the purpose of receiving Bounty land for James's war service, which apparently she obtained. How much longer Judy lived after this is not known.

This couple seemed in complete contrast to the other members of their respective families. Judy was the only child of Jacob and Maria to remain in KY. One big move seemed to be enough for the both of them.

#### Elizabeth Groshong

Elizabeth Groshong married Henry Crowe son of Johannes Gottfried Kroh and Barbara Heberling May 6, 1794, in Bourbon Co. KY. Henry was born about 1766 in Berks Co. PA. They had ten children.

- 1) Michael Crowe
- 2) Katherine Crowe born February 7, 1797, in St Charles Co. MO.
- 3) Polly Crowe
- 4) Susan Crowe
- 5) Jonathan Crowe born about 1807
- 6) Daniel Crowe born about 1810
- 7) John Crowe
- 8) David Crowe born about 1813
- 9) Peter Crowe
- 10) Medford Crowe

Henry and Elizabeth migrated to Missouri in the late 1790's along with other members of the Crowe family. Henry can be found among the first Grantee's of St Charles Co. Kroh's Run was named after the Crowe brothers who settled there. Henry settled next to

his brother Godfrey. Godfrey sold land to Jeremiah Groshong, meaning they all settled in a concentrated area.

The 1805 census revealed five children living with Henry and Elizabeth. He also had one horse and nine “neat cattle”, four times the taxable rate for regular “run of the mill” cattle.

Henry died in 1827, leaving Elizabeth widowed with under age children. His estate was appraised by neighbors-Abraham Shobz, George Zumwalt and Henry Ringo. They were sworn in on October 2, 1828, by Mrps. Bigelow Justice of the Peace St Charles Co. MO. The inventory reveals he had claimed 400 arpens on the Missouri River in the Township of Femme Osage, County of St. Charles MO. Otherwise the inventory is normal for the times. It seems he was free of debt but did have some receivables. Nothing more is known of Elizabeth.

#### Sarah Groshong

Sarah Groshong married John Crowe, born about 1777 in Berks Co. PA. To Johannes Gottfried Kroh and Barbara Heberling, on February 25, 1794, in Bourbon Co. KY. Bourbon Co records show Jeremiah Groshon signed for their marriage bond February 25.1794.

The listing of their children is incomplete. Those listed were less than fourteen years of age at John’s death. David Edwards was appointed guardian of the five in March 1819 in Franklin Co. MO. They are as follows.

- 1) Samuel Crowe
- 2) Barbara Crowe
- 3) Isaac Crowe
- 4) Sarah Crowe
- 5) Susanna Crowe

John and Sarah went to Missouri with the other families in the late 1790’s. They had about eleven years to have other children but nothing more is known of them.

#### Zumwalt Family

The Zumwalt family came to Kentucky about the same time as the group from Pennsylvania. They settled in close proximity and obviously became friends and neighbors. Before long their children were getting married. Groshong, Crowe, McCoy and Zumwalt families all saw a number of their offspring intermarry in KY. By the late 1790’s these couples and most of their other family members had moved farther into the interior. They first settled in St. Charles Co MO. Many of the descendants can be found in the general area today, while others went off in all directions.

Jacob and Marie appear to have readied for, yet again, a move to new surroundings. In late 1804 when Francis Kistler became his power of attorney for business in Kentucky and he sold his remaining property to him, it was certainly a signal they intended to leave the state of Kentucky. He was then was 78 years old, leading one to think he was simply planning to follow the children to Missouri as opposed to starting a new venture.

Though Jacob stayed only ten short but important years, to the development of the Morgan community as a commercial center. Those who were to come later owed a debt of gratitude for his foresight. The mill he started remained in operation for many years through other owners, even when very close competition threatened. In 1813 another mill about one third mile up stream on the same side was opened for business by William Stowers.

Some researchers believe Jacob and Marie died in KY. One places his death at Bourbon Co. KY. in 1800. That must be discounted because of numerous instances of recorded evidence. Another has him dying in Lincoln Co., MO. in 1826. This would make him about 101 years old. Maria was said to have died in Lincoln Co., MO. in 1822 at about 78 years of age. Some present family members think the two are buried in one of two cemeteries in town Moscow Mills, Lincoln Co., MO.. It is hoped the exact dates and location can some day be proven. These two deserve it.

Jacob was a remarkable man, a true pioneer, continually facing danger and the unknown with vigor. When he did suffer setbacks, he retrenched and moved forward. His choice of a life mate seems to have been a good one. She assisted him over many years, caring for him and giving him eleven children. Together their parenting resulted in the children being well-behaved productive citizens. The new world, especially in the states Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Missouri, was made better by their having passed through it.

Sources for this writing are local County Court records, local libraries, county Genealogy Web sites, Genweb-world connect and two lovely women, June Groshong in Missouri and Christy Sharp Mollahan in Oregon. Thanks to both.

Written by; James C Carr

