

**THE  
MCCLANAHANS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649010646

The McClanahans by H. M. White

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**H. M. WHITE**

**THE  
MCCLANAHANS**



THE McCLANAHANS.

WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

125,938  
JUL 29 1963

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA.  
The Stone Printing and Manufacturing Company.  
1864.

MEMORIAL  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

90

CS

71

M12

## PREFACE.

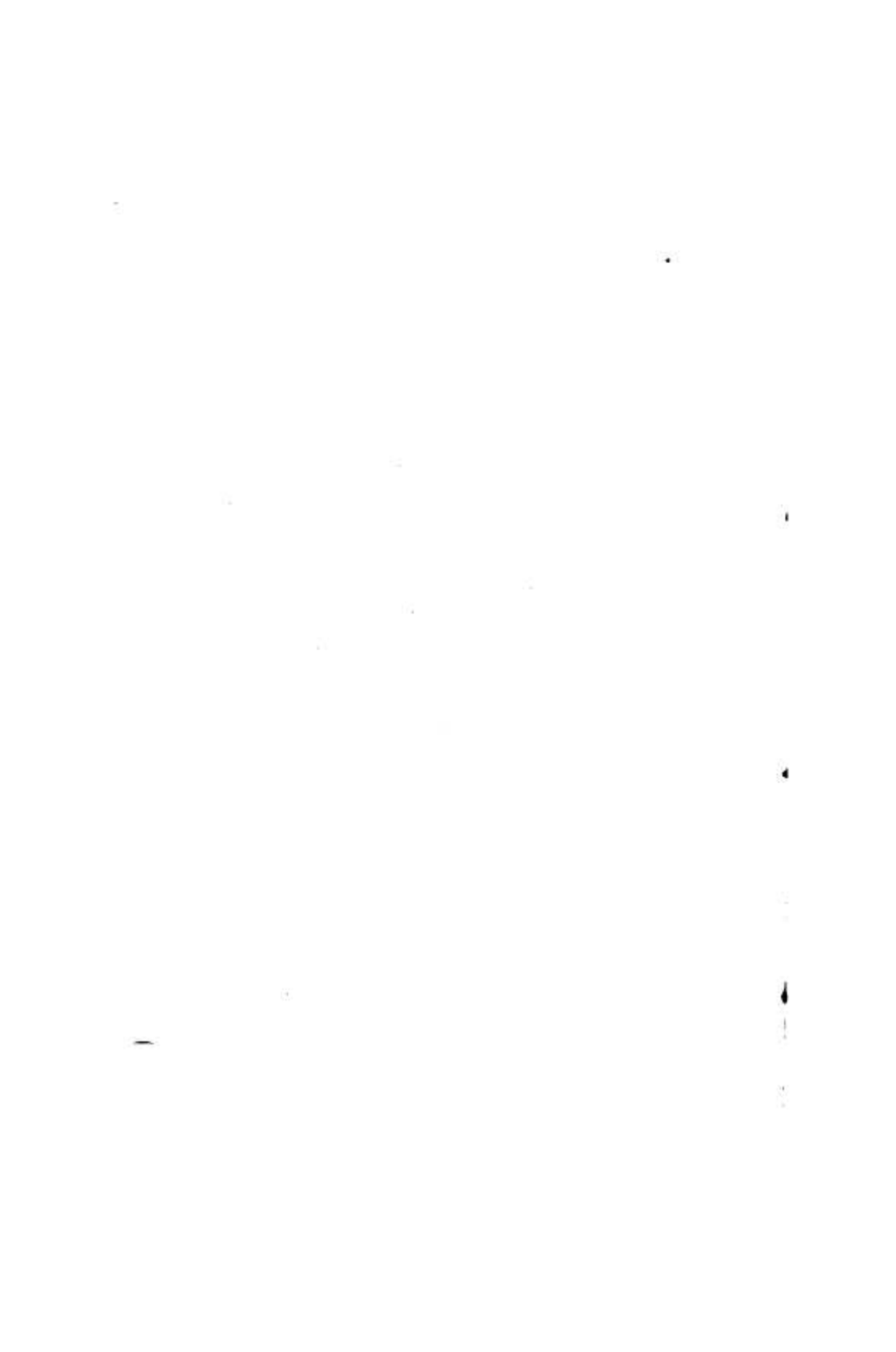
---

TO know whence we sprung is a trait peculiar to human beings; and the higher we ascend in the scale of intelligence and moral worth, the more this trait seems to grow. They who cherish not the memory of their ancestors will not have a posterity to cherish theirs.

The following sketch is prepared for the present generation of McClanahans and those to follow. It is not expected to be of interest to any outside of the "Clan."

The writer regrets his inability to trace the lineage beyond the sea. This might be done by a visit to the North of Ireland.

H. M. WHITE.





# THE McCLANAHANS.

## CHAPTER I.

ROBERT McCLANAHAN.

SO far as is known, Augusta County, in the Valley of Virginia, was not visited by white men before Governor Spotswood in person took possession for King George the first, of England. This was done September 5, 1716, on the Shenandoah River, it is believed at a point about opposite Swift Run Gap, in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

It has not been clearly shown in what year the first white man, or colony of white men, settled in the Upper Valley. But it seems to be proved conclusively that the first white settler of Augusta County, as now bounded, was John Lewis—the father of Thomas, Andrew, William and Charles, who distinguished themselves greatly in the early history of Virginia, especially in the wars with the Indians, French and British. He came from Donegal County, Province of Ulster, Ireland, and

was of Scottish descent. He settled on "Lewis Creek," as it has ever since been called, which empties into the Middle Fork of the Shenandoah and near to the site of Staunton. The Valley of Virginia was then a wooded "prairie of hills and dales."

The early settlers were not disturbed by the Indians for a time. Through twenty years, they who had fled from Ireland to escape war, lived and died, says Foote, in his "Sketches of Virginia," "in that peace in this wilderness for which their hearts had longed in their native land." "During this time," writes Waddell, in his "Annals of Augusta County," that is to say, during first twenty years after John Lewis came, "the young Lewises, *McClanahans*, *Matthewses*, *Campbells*, and others, were growing up and maturing for many a desperate encounter and field of battle."

Again he writes: "By the year 1745 the Alexanders, Allens, Andersons, Bells, Bowyers, Breckinridges, Browns, Buchanans, Campbells, Christians, Craigs, Cunninghams, Dickinsons, Doaks, Finleys, Johnstons, Kerrs, Lewises, Lyles, Matthewses, Millers, Moores, McNutts, Moffetts, McPheeters, *McClanahans*, McDowell, McClung, Pattons, Pickenses, Pattersons, Pilsons,

Poages, Prestons, Robinsons, Scotts, Sitlingtons, Stuarts, Tates, Thompsons, Trimbles, Wilsons, Youngs, and others, abounded in the settlement. Other immigrants of the same race came in afterwards."

*Robert McClanahan* came to Augusta County from Ireland. The time of his coming has not been certainly determined, but it was at an early day. His deed to three hundred and thirty-one acres of land by William Beverly, dated May 27, 1741, is on record in Orange Courthouse, Virginia. There was no clerk's office, in Augusta County, until 1745. His wife, Sarah Breckinridge, was daughter of Alexander Breckinridge, who came to America from the North of Ireland in 1728, and removed from Pennsylvania to a farm near the present site of Staunton, in Augusta County, Virginia. Robert McClanahan died in 1791, at his home, one mile south of Staunton, on what is known now as the Greenville road. He was, therefore, "the emigrant and founder." His children were Alexander, John, Robert and William (sons); with Mrs. St. Clair, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Poage and Mrs. Keiser (daughters). It is a little doubtful whether Mrs. Poage was daughter or granddaughter of Robert, the first; but the evidence for the former is very strong.