

GEORGE BAKER, Sr. and GEORGE BAKER, Jr.

George Baker, Sr. was born in 1762 in Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and died in 1845 in Graysville, Monroe County, Ohio. It is reported that George Baker, Sr. was married first to an unknown wife and he was reported second to have married Sarah Beam after 1789.¹ Sarah was born in Maryland in 1766 and died after the 1850 Census. George was said to have been a farmer and woodsman and lived on Little Grave Creek. Their children included Catherine; Elizabeth; Henry, born in 1820 and died in 1886; Sarah, born after 1790; Leah, born on May 5, 1794 and died on October 24, 1845 in Monroe County, Ohio; George W. Baker, Jr., born in 1796 at Baker's Station, Marshall County, West Virginia and died on February 13, 1863 in Madison County, Iowa; Daniel Ernest, born in 1802 and died about 1886; Isaac Baker, born in 1803 and died in 1884; John Baker, born before 1813 and died 1856; and Dorsey Baker, born on October 20, 1816, and died on February 29, 1904.²

Mary Uhlen Baker,³ born April 5, 1789 in Washington County, Pennsylvania, was reported to be the child of George Baker, Sr. and the unknown first wife. Mary, who is buried near McFall, Gentry County, Missouri, was the half-sister of the rest of the siblings. In a letter written in 1907 Andrew Jackson Baker reported that Mary Uhlen Baker was called "*Aunt Polly*" by the family.⁴

The obituary of Mary Uhlen Baker Reager notes that she lived in Virginia about forty-five years and then moved to Butler County, Ohio about 1835. She married second Leonard Reager, Jr. in Butler County, Ohio. They then moved to Dearborn County, Indiana in 1837. They moved to Gallatin County, Kentucky in 1841 and to Des Moines County, Iowa in 1847.⁵ They moved to Madison County, Iowa in 1856 where Leonard Reager, Jr. died. She lived with the Hamilton Reager family.⁶ Mary then moved to Daviess County, Missouri in 1865 and continued to live with Hamilton Reager, the son of Leonard Reager, Jr. and his first wife.⁷ Leonard Reager, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker, wife of George Baker, Jr. were brother and sister. Leonard Reager, Sr. was in the Revolutionary War. He entered in the fall of 1775 and was discharged at Valley Forge in the spring of 1778.⁸

The obituary of Mary Uhlen Baker Reager, wife of Leonard Reager, Jr. states that:

*"Mary was born in Washington co, Pa, 5 Apr 1789; moved to Marshall co, Va in 1790; lived there 45 years. There her parents-George and Sarah Baker- died; moved to Butler co, Ohio in 1835; to Gallatin co, Ky in 1841; to Desmoines co, Iowa in 1847; ⁹ to Madison co, Iowa in 1856; to Davies co, Mo in 1865 and, finally, after having seen so much of this country, on 7 July 1789, being 90 yrs 3mos 2 das old, she was called to that better country...She enjoyed the ministry of a great many Methodist preachers...She raised 5 children.- A.J.Worley"*¹⁰

The 1790 Census of Pennsylvania lists a John Baker and a George Baker living in Allegheny and portion of Washington County. The Census lists four males over age sixteen and one female in the household. No males under age sixteen were listed.¹¹ John and George Baker could have been brothers and the sons of Capt. John Baker.

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The 1810 Virginia Census, Ohio County, page 18 lists the following:

George Baker	male 32110	female 22010
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In 1810 George Baker, Sr. should have been about 48 if he was born in 1762. The rest of the data would then be correct if he was listed as "45 and up" on the 1810 Census. The above data would be correct if George Baker's birthday is not 1762, as reported, but the same as Sarah Beam Baker, i.e. 1766. Michael Cresap lived adjacent to George Baker, Sr.

The 1820 Virginia Census, Ohio County, page 13 lists the following:

George Baker, Sr.	male 121101	female 010010	In Agri. 4
George Baker, Jr.	male 100100	female 101000	1

On the same page are Jacob and Henry Baker.

George, Sr. and Sarah Beam Baker would have been over forty-five years of age.

George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker would have been between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six as George, Jr. was 24 and Margaret was 20 years of age. One person in the George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker household was listed as foreign and not naturalized. John W. Baker, born about 1820, was probably the male child listed and Ruth, his sister, may have been the female child. Andrew Jackson Baker, brother of John W. Baker, reported in a letter written in 1907 that Ruth Baker was born in 1822 but this date may have not been accurate as Census reports seem to list her as born in 1820. The other possibility could be a female child that later died but Andrew Jackson Baker did not mention such a sibling in his letter of 1907.

The 1820 Ohio Census, Monroe County, page 122 lists the following:

Elizabeth Baker	male 100000	female 21011
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The 1830 Virginia Census, Ohio County, page 199 lists the following:

George Baker	male 000120001	female 010000001
George Baker, Jr.	male 011001	female 111001

Also listed on the same page are John, Jacob, Henry, and John Jr. Baker. Henry and Jacob were probably sons on Captain John Baker but the others are not known. John Baker, Jr. the son of Captain John Baker was killed earlier in an Indian battle.

George Baker, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker would have been between thirty and forty years of age.

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The 1840 Virginia Census, Marshall County, page 287, lists the following:

George Baker	male	1	age 70-80	0000000001
	female	1	age 5-10	0100000001
	female	1	age 70-80	

George Baker, Sr. reportedly died in 1845 in Marshall County, Virginia.¹² The female child must have been a grandchild or relative's child. This probably was the Susan Baker listed in the 1850 Census.

The 1850 Virginia Census, Marshall County, West Virginia, page 313 lists the following:

Sarah Baker	age 84	born MD
Susan Baker	age 14	born VA

This has been mentioned before but will be repeated here for completeness. The first church in Graysville (then Hornbrook's Mill), Marshall County, Virginia (West Virginia) was Baker's Chapel and later named the Graysville Calvary Methodist Church built in 1842. The site for the church was given by George, Sr. and Sarah Beam Baker on January 26, 1842. The deed stated that "*...they shall erect and build or cause to be erected and built a house or place of worship for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America.*"¹³ The church was a Methodist Episcopal Church known as Baker's Meeting House. Baker's Meeting House was described as "*a log building, lap weatherboarded and sealed, containing benches which had no backs, and heated by a burnside stove*".¹⁴

The Meeting House was used as a church, school, and community meeting place for thirty years. In 1872 a new building was erected to the right of the original church principally with funds from the Hornbrook family. The present front of the church was originally the back of the church but J.P. Hornbrook contributed money to change the entrance of the church. George, Sr. and Sarah Beam Baker are reported to have been buried in the cemetery adjacent to the church.^{15 16}

GEORGE BAKER, Sr. and GEORGE BAKER, Jr.

Margaret Reager Baker
b. April 25, 1800
d. February 3, 1874



George W. Baker, Jr.
b. April 13, 1796
d. February 13, 1863

Winterset, Madison County, Iowa

Andrew Jackson Baker
b. June 6, 1832
d. April 23, 1911



Sophia Jane Parker Baker
b. April 28, 1840
d. March 10, 1927



GEORGE BAKER, Sr. and GEORGE BAKER, Jr.

ANDREW J. BAKER to his CHILDREN: September 7, 1907.

Several of my children having expressed to me at various times a desire to learn the history of our ancestry I take this method of giving what little I know on the subject.

About the year 1755 Adam Baker, a native of Hanover in Germany landed at Philadelphia, Pa. In the year 1760 he was married to Elizabeth Sullivan, a native of Ireland. Shortly thereafter they moved to the Shenandoah Valley in the province of Virginia. In 1775 they were living in what is now Washington County, Penn. They then had four sons: Henry, Isaac, ^(Father's grand father) George, and John. Sometime in the earlier years of the revolutionary war, Adam Baker having learned that the British and Indians had planned a surprise on a garrison of patriots at the mouth of Wheeling Creek, where the city of Wheeling, W. Va. now stands; sent as scouts his eldest son, Henry, together with Henry Yoho, who afterward married one of Henry Baker's sisters, to apprise the garrison of the contemplated attack. There was along with the two Henries another young man whose name I have forgotten.

When the said scouts were within five miles of the garrison they ran into the Indians, who at once began firing on them. At the first volley the young man was killed, Yoho's horse was wounded but got away together with the rider, who notified the garrison. Uncle Henry Baker's horse was killed and falling pinned the rider under him, and he was taken prisoner. He said he was taken by the hair and shaken nearly out of his boots. The apparent Indian who was shaking him said to him in good plain English, "What are you doing here, get up." He was then taken along with the band down past where Moundville now is, following the course of the Ohio river down to opposite where Marietta, Ohio, now stands; there they crossed the river and went out to where Chillicothe now stands on the banks of the Scioto river. There was the Indian village. There were five other

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prisoners there which had been brought up from Kentucky. Each day one of these prisoners were taken out, painted black in the face and bound to a stake and burned in the sight of the others.

Our Uncle Henry witnessed the burning of all the five, and then he was taken out and bound to the stake and the faggots were heaped around him to be burned. A historic renegade white man named Simon Gerty, who for some sort of criminality had to flee justice, attached himself to the Indians and came to be regarded as a great chieftain among the tribes. Adam Baker had known Simon Gerty in their youthful days and had at sometime shielded him and done a great kindness to him. Uncle Henry knew this, and while he was blacked and bound to the stake, Simon Gerty arrived in the village and seeing a prisoner bound to the stake to be burned, he went up to him and slapped him in the face with the flat side of his tomahawk. Henry recognized Gerty and said to him, "Simon Gerty ought not to slap the son of Adam Baker," thus making his identity known.

Gerty then said to him that he would try to get him off. The history from which this is taken: (a history of Marshall County West Virginia) describes the scene that then took place, very graphically setting out how Gerty would sit down on the ground with the Indians and smoke, and how at times he would jump up and flourish his tomahawk in the air, and sink it into the trees, and how all the Indians would then be up gesticulating and whooping. This continued for a considerable time, and then Gerty informed Uncle Henry that the best he could do was to let him off by his "running the gauntlet". This consisted of the young braves forming two lines facing inward, each armed with a club, and between these lines the prisoner, also furnished with a club, had to run. Uncle Henry, the history says was an athletic youth of some 15 years and that in the run knocked down some of the young bucks. He got through, however, and the squaws took him and doctored him up and he was then their prisoner. He was finally taken by Gerty to an English garrison somewhere near, or at the cite

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of the present city of Cleveland, Ohio. Not having been taken in arms against the British government he could not properly be held as a prisoner of war; however, they did hold him for sometime and endeavored both by threats and offered bribes to get him to tell the strength of the garrison at Wheeling, and to disclose other matters they supposed he was cognizant of. All this he steadily refused to comply with, and after being so held for near a year he was turned loose or rather permitted to escape. He made his way back through the wilderness to where his father and family was when he left, to find when he got there that they had gone south down the Ohio river valley.

After he had been sent to warn the garrison, as related, his family heard no more about him only the report of Henry Yoho that he had been killed in the ambuscade near the Wheeling garrison. His father and the remainder of the family, perhaps, with a forlorn hope of finding some trace of him had sold out in Pennsylvania and journeyed down the Ohio river to the mouth of Grave Creek, which is some four miles south of the present county seat of Marshall County, W. VA. and there purchased a tract of very fertile land known as "the round bottom". Here he erected a stockade of some considerable extent and strength, and in it built a blockhouse, which is the citadel of the primitive American forts. Into this stockade the settlers would withdraw with their families, supplies and stock when the Indians went on the war path. It was called Baker's station. *See record - N. Va.*

Here finally, our old great uncle Henry Baker, after his travels at last found his father and family. My father was born in the block house in that stockade in the year 1796.

After Grand Uncle Henry's return he remained in that vicinity and became the boon companion of Lewis Wetzel, a noted scout and Indian fighter of early days. Henry's brother John Baker was the companion of Martin Wetzel, a brother of Lewis; and both of the Wetzels figure largely in the early border warfare of that early day.

The history also gives an account of the death and burial of this John Baker. He was decapitated across the river to the Ohio side.

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by an Indian in ambush calling like the call of a turkey to its mates, and was shot and scalped. A foray of white settlers, among whom were both the Wetzels, recovered the body. Among the names of the persons present at the funeral of our great Uncle John Baker was Leonard Reager who was the father of my mother. My grand father, George Baker, was the third son of Adam Baker, and my father's name was also George. My father's brothers were Dorsey, Isaac, John, Daniel, and Henry. His sisters were Leah, Catherine, Elizabeth, and Sarah, and a half sister who was the eldest, Mary Uhlen, familiarly known in the family as Aunt Polly. She married a second time my mother's eldest brother Leonard Reager. Elizabeth Baker married Andrew Reager, another of my mother's brothers. Catherine Baker married Hiram Snyder. Sarah Baker married Andrew Snyder, the father of Theodore Snyder, the lawyer, now at Ft. Madison, Ia. and formerly of Burlington, Ia. My Great Grandmother, Elizabeth Sullivan Baker lived to the age of one-hundred and four years. She had gained her second sight, could read, thread her needle and sew without glasses for a number of years before her death. She lived with my father's brother, Daniel, in Marshall County, W. Va. His letter informing my father's family of her death, stated that about dusk in the evening he had taken her to her room, and seen her to bed, in the morning she was lying in her usual pose as if sleeping, but had ceased to breathe. Beyond doubt she went to sleep on earth and awoke in "that undiscovered country from whose border no traveler returns". She had never had a physician prescribe medicine to her.

Of my mother's family her father was the Leonard Reager spoken of in the history of Marshall County, Va. as one of the persons attending the funeral of Great Uncle John Baker. Her mother was of scotish origin and her maiden name was Margaret Hays. As you know my mother's name was also Margaret. So the name has come down undoubtedly, from many generations to the present time. Margaret is a distinctively scotish name, and figures largely in the romance and song of that peculiarly clannish race. Margaret Douglas is the central character

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Note*

There were seven children born to George Baker and his wife, Margaret Reager Baker viz: John, born in 1820, Ruth born in 1822, Sydney in 1824, Daniel in 1826, Melvina in 1828, Andrew J. in 1832 and Mary in 1837. She died in early infancy. The others as you know all grew up, were married and raised families. All are now at rest save Sydney Baker White and myself.

Since writing the above, Sister Sydney has died and I am now the only survivor of the family -

Andrew Jackson Baker
"TO HIS CHILDREN"
September 7, 1907

Letter to Ethel Baker Lehnhard
daughter of Andrew Jackson Baker

Given to and provided by:

Anne Lehnhard Rast
Great great granddaughter of
Andrew Jackson Baker

Grand daughter of
Ethel Baker Lehnhard
Longview, Texas

* See the text of George Baker, Jr. for the first sentence of page five that is missing. The original page five was lost.

**Andrew Jackson Baker was the great greatgrandson
of Captain John and Elizabeth Sullivan Baker.
Andrew Jackson Baker was elected
Attorney General of Missouri and later Attorney General Iowa.
He practiced law in Missouri and Iowa.
In 1907 he wrote this story of the family history to his children.
Andrew Jackson Baker died on April 23, 1911**

George W. Baker, Jr. was born in April 13, 1796¹⁷ at Baker's Station,¹⁸ Marshall County, West Virginia and died on February 13, 1863¹⁹ in Madison County, Iowa. Before 1820 in Virginia he married Margaret Reager, the daughter of Leonard, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager. They had five children including:

John W.	born about 1820	died about 1879
Ruth	born in 1822	
Sidney	born in 1824	died about 1907

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Daniel,	born in 1826	buried May 17, 1876
Malvina	born in 1828	
Andrew Jackson Baker	born on June 6, 1832	died on April 23, 1911
Mary Baker	born in 1837	died in infancy

The 1820 Virginia Census, Ohio County, page 13 lists the following:

George Baker male 100100 female 101000

This would be most likely George Baker, Jr. family with the male child being John W. Baker. As noted before the female child is not known.

The George Baker, Jr. family lived in Marshall County, West Virginia and then moved to Butler County, Ohio in about 1833.²⁰ George Baker, Jr. was a farmer. The George Baker, Jr. family came by wagon to Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa in 1848.^{21 22} The John W. Baker family came to Des Moines County, Iowa in 1849.²³

The 1840 Ohio Census, Butler County, Fairfield Township, page 177 lists the following:

George Baker 0110201 0011101

The male children should be Andrew, Daniel, John and an unknown male. The female children should be Mary, Sidney, and Ruth. Perhaps the unknown male was the spouse of Ruth.

The 1850 Iowa Census, Des Moines County, Flint River Township, dwelling # 747, lists the following:²⁴

George (W) Baker (Jr.)	54	M	Farmer	\$2500	Virginia
Margaret	57	F			Virginia
Sidney	25	M(female-Author)			Virginia
Daniel	23	M			Virginia
Minerva (?Malvina)	22	F			Virginia
Andrew	18	M			Virginia
John Baker*	30	M			Ohio(Virginia)
Margaret	27	F			Ohio
Luna	1	F			(Iowa)
Walter Knapp	14	M	Household help		England

*John W. and Margaret Reager Baker and their oldest child, Lora, (Luna-on the Census) were living with his parents, George W. Baker, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker, at the time of the 1850 Iowa Census.

The 1852 Iowa Census, Flint River Township, Des Moines County lists the following:

George Baker

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Males 2
Females 2

There was one voter listed and one in the militia.

The 1852 Iowa Census, Danville Township, Des Moines County lists the following:

John W. Baker Males 2
Females 2

There was one voter and one in the militia.

The 1852 Iowa Census, Danville Township, Des Moines County lists the following:

Daniel Baker Males 2
Females 1

There was one voter listed and one person in the militia. Daniel was the brother of John W. Baker. In 1850 Daniel married to Fannie Moore Baker in Des Moines County, Iowa.

The reproduced copy of the 1856 Iowa Census, Center Township, Madison County, dwelling number 129, page 104 lists the following:

	Age	Sex	Married	Years in State	Birth Pl.
Margaret Baker	58	F Farmer	X	8	Virginia
George Baker(Jr.)	62	M	X	8	Virginia
Malvina	24(?28)	F		8	Virginia

Sidney Baker, sister of John W. and Andrew Jackson, was living in dwelling 131 with John H. Goff who was a physician.

George Baker, Jr. was not listed as the “head of the household” but instead Margaret Reager Baker was listed as “head of the household” and a “farmer”. This entry must have been in error. The family had been Iowa since 1848. George Baker is listed as a “farmer” in the 1860 Iowa Census.

Living in the same dwelling with the George Baker, Jr. family was John B. Lamb, Sarah B. Lamb, R.J. Moore, Phillip C. Moore, Martha A. Lamb, and John H. Lamb. This must have been a large house.

The original handwritten 1856 Iowa Census ²⁵ lists the following:

Geo Baker	54	Virginia	Farmer	170 acres
Margaret Baker	56	Ohio		
Sydney Baker	31	Ohio		

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Melvina	26	Ohio
Hellen R. Davis	8	Ohio

The slight difference in the two 1856 Census reports is not understood.

The 1856 Iowa Census, Center Township, Madison County, page 126-128 lists the following:

	Age	Sex	Read/Write	Years in State	Occupation	Birthplace
John W. Baker	31	M	yes	7	Teamster	Virginia
Margaret Baker	30	F	yes	7		Ohio
L. B. (Lora)	5	F		5		Iowa
Emily	3	F		3		Iowa
E.W. (Edgar)	1	M		1		Iowa
A.J. *	22	M	yes	7	Lawyer	Virginia

John and Margaret Baker came to Iowa in 1849²⁶ and moved to Madison County, Iowa in 1853.²⁷

*A.J. would have been Andrew Jackson Baker, son of George W. and Sarah Beam Baker and the brother of John W. Baker. From 1870 to 1872 Andrew Jackson Baker was the Attorney General of Missouri²⁸ and from 1883 to 1889 he was Attorney General of Iowa.²⁹ He taught school near Mount Pleasant, Iowa and attended Howe's Academy. Andrew Jackson Baker was living with John W. Baker, his brother, at the time of the 1856 Census. John W. Baker lived in Center Township (Winterset) at this time. Andrew Jackson Baker was admitted to the bar in Chariton, Iowa and opened his law practice in Winterset in 1855 at which time he reportedly had only fifty cents to his name.³⁰ His parents lived in the more rural area of Walnut Township, Madison County, Iowa and John Baker and his family lived in Winterset, Iowa. He organized a company of Iowa Infantry and was a Lieutenant. He was discharged in Missouri and practiced law in that state. Later he returned to Iowa. Andrew Jackson Baker received the title "General" for civic duties while holding the Office of Attorney General in Missouri.³¹ He was described as industrious, intelligent, capable, moral, and well respected for his memory. He practiced law in Des Moines and later in Centerville, Iowa with his son, Clarence Baker. Andrew Jackson Baker was an accomplished lawyer and legal writer.^{32 33}

The 1860 Iowa Census, Madison County, Walnut Township, Household # 832, page 121 (767):

	Age	Occupation	R. Est. Value	Per.Prop. Value	Place Birth
George Baker(Jr.)	63	Farmer	800	200	Virginia
Margaret Baker	60				Ohio
Melvina Baker	25 (?32)				Virginia
Hellen R. Baker	12				Ohio

Malvina Baker is listed as twenty-two years of age in the 1850 Census, twenty four years

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of age in the 1856 Iowa Census and twenty five years of age in the 1860 Iowa Census. The parents of Hellen R. Baker are not known. Hellen is listed as Hellen R. Davis, age 8, on the 1856 Census living in the household of George Baker, Jr. ³⁴

Also listed on the 1860 Iowa Census, page 121, (767) with George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker is Andrew and Orphah (Green) Reager, Joseph and Rachael (Dawsey) Reager, John and Catherine Dawsey, and Isaac and Mary (Sutherland) Reager. Andrew, the brother of Margaret Reager Baker, was married first to Elizabeth Baker, the daughter of George Baker, Sr. and Sarah Beam Baker. He was married second to Orphah Green. John Dawsey was probably the father of Rachael Dawsey Reager, the wife of Joseph Reager. John Dawsey, age 53, was married to a younger wife, Catherine, age 39 and no children were listed in the household.

John Baker and Margaret Lyst Baker and family are listed on the 1860 Iowa Census in Winterset, Iowa. ³⁵ This is further discussed under his biography. Hanson R(e)ager and his wife, Rachael, and family lived adjacent to John Baker. Hanson Reager is the son of Leonard Reager, Jr. Leonard Reager, Jr., Margaret Reager (Baker), and Andrew Reager were children of Leonard, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager.

The U.S. Selected Federal Census Non-Population Schedule for Madison County, Iowa lists George Baker with forty acres of improved land and forty acres of unimproved land with a total value of seven hundred dollars. The livestock included one horse, one milk (milch) cow, two working oxen and five other oxen. The grains included twenty bushels of wheat, two hundred and fifty bushels of rye, and seventy bushels of oats. ³⁶ On this report were also listed Andrew Rager, Joseph Rager, and Hamilton Rager.

Daniel Baker, brother of John W. Baker, his wife, Fanny Moore Baker, and family were living in Walnut Township, Madison County at the same time. Living next to George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker in Walnut Township was Margaret's brother, Andrew Reager and his sons, Joseph Reager and Isaac Reager and their families. Hanson Rager and his wife, Rachael, and family lived adjacent to John Baker. Hanson Rager's brother, Hamilton Rager, and his wife, Martha, and family were living in Walnut Township and Mary Rager was living with them. This Mary Rager was the wife of Leonard Reager (Rager), Jr., Margaret Reager Baker's brother. This Mary Rager was Mary Uhlen Baker Chaplaine Reager. Mary Uhlen Chaplaine Baker was the half-sister of George W. Baker, Sr. She was married first to William Chaplaine and second to Leonard Reager (Rager), Jr. ³⁷

Leonard Reager, Jr., Margaret Reager (Baker), and Andrew Reager were the children of Leonard, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager.

The 1870 Iowa Census Center Township, Winterset 2nd Ward, Madison County, dwelling 5, family 5, page 178 lists the following:

Baker, Margaret	70	F	Keeping house	\$800	\$100	Ohio
Davis, Davis	21	F	Housekeeper			Ohio

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This would be Margaret Reager Baker the wife of George W. Baker, Sr. George Baker, Sr. died on February 13, 1863.

Margaret Reager Baker was born on April 25, 1800.³⁸ Margaret Reager Baker died at the home of her son, Andrew Jackson Baker, in St. Louis, Missouri on February 3, 1874. Her body was brought back to Winterset by Andrew. The story in the paper was as follows:

*Mrs. Margaret Baker, relict of George Baker, formerly of Walnut Township, died on the 3d inst., at the residence of her son, Hon. A. J. Baker, of St. Louis. Her disease was pneumonia. She was sick only about five days. Her son brought her remains to this city, to the residence of her son-in-law, J. S. White, Esq., arriving last Friday evening. She was buried on Sunday. A large number of mourning friends followed her remains to the grave, tendering their sympathy to the bereaved family. Mrs. Baker was an estimable woman and universally respected. She was born in Virginia and was 74 years old. She has been a member of the Methodist Church 55 years.*³⁹

George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker are buried in the Winterset Cemetery, Winterset, Iowa.⁴⁰

Andrew Jackson Baker in a letter to his ‘*CHILDREN*’ reports the following: “*Several of my children having expressed to me at various times a desire to learn the history of our ancestry I take this method of giving what little I know on the subject.*” A portion of the letter follows and the entire letter is in the appendix.

Andrew Jackson Baker reports in his letter of September 7, 1907 that “*four of the sons of Adam Baker (Captain John Baker--Author) were Henry, Isaac, George, (Sr., Andrew Jackson Baker’s grandfather--Author), and John, (Jr.--Author)*”. He further reports “*My grand father, George Baker, (Sr.) was the third son of Adam (Captain John Baker--Author), and my father’s name was also George (Jr.). My father’s brother’s were Dorsey, Isaac, John, Daniel, and Henry. His sisters were Leah, Catherine, Elizabeth, and Sarah and a half sister who was the eldest, Mary Uhlen, familiarly known in the family as Aunt Polly. She married a second time my mother’s eldest brother, Leonard Reager. Elizabeth Baker married Andrew Reager, another of my mother’s brothers. Catherine Baker married Hiram Snyder, the lawyer, now at Ft. Madison, Ia. and formerly of Burlington, Ia. My Great Grandmother, Elizabeth Sullivan Baker lived to the age of one-hundred and four years. (Elizabeth Sullivan Baker was reported on her tombstone to have lived 92 years, 3 months, and 8 days. She died May 22, 1836--Author) She had gained her second sight, could read, thread her needle and sew without glasses for a number of years before her death. She lived with my father’s brother, Daniel, in Marshall County, W, Va. (This probably was Martin Baker in Monroe County, Ohio--Author). His letter informing the family of her death, reported that about dusk in the evening he had taken her to her room, and seen her to bed, in the morning she was lying in her usual pose as if sleeping, but had ceased to breathe. Beyond doubt she went to sleep on earth and awoke in ‘that undiscovered country from whose border no traveler*

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returns'. She had never had a physician prescribe medicine for her.

Of my mother's family her father was the Leonard Reager spoken of in the history of Marshall County, Va. as on of the persons attending the funeral of Great Uncle John Baker. (Andrew Jackson Baker is probably confusing the death of Captain John Baker with the death of John, Jr. Baker, son of Captain John Baker and brother of George Baker, Sr. The funeral that Leonard Reager is reported to have attended is that of Captain John Baker. Captain John Baker was Andrew Jackson Baker's great grandfather and John Baker, Jr. was his great uncle--Author).⁴¹ Her mother was of Scottish origin and her maiden name was Margaret Hays. (Catherine Hays--Author). As you know my mothers name was Margaret. So the name has come down undoubtedly, from many generations to the present time. Margaret is a distinctively Scottish name, and figures largely in the romance and song of that peculiarly clannish race. Margaret Douglas is the central character--(the end of page four and then page five begins with another paragraph--Author) Anne Rast reported that the original page five was lost but the missing sentence should read: "Margaret Douglas is the central character in Scott's immortal poem, 'The Lady of the Lake'. It was the name of my mother's grandmother her mother and as you know, the name of my mother and your sister." ⁴²

There were seven children born to George (Jr.) Baker and his wife, Margaret Reager Baker vis: John, born in 1820, Ruth born in 1822, Sydney in 1824, Daniel in 1826, Malvinia in 1828. Andrew J. in 1832, and Mary in 1837. She died in early infancy. The others as you know all grew up, were married and raised families. All are not at rest save Sydney Baker White and myself.

Since writing the above, Sister Sydney as died and I am now the only survivor of the family--" ⁴³

This letter from Andrew Jackson Baker clearly defines the lineage from Captain John Baker to George (Sr.) to George (Jr.) and finally to John (W) Baker. This was the connection that the author needed to define the family lineage.

John W. Baker was born in 1819 or 1820 in Virginia and according to his death certificate married M. List ⁴⁴ who was reported to have been born in Hamilton, Butler County, Ohio.⁴⁵ His middle name is unknown. It is not known where he is buried but it is thought to be in McFall Cemetery, Gentry County, Missouri but the early cemetery records have been lost.

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GEORGE BAKER, Sr. and GEORGE BAKER, Jr.

History of Marshall County West Virginia 1984, Marshal County Historical Society

Obituary, Fred Baker, Casper, Natrona County, Wyoming, 1919

U.S. Census Records

Baker family records, Delores Roberts Choates

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Baker family records, Virginia L. Baker Bininger

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ANDREW J. BAKER to his CHILDREN, Letter, Andrew Jackson Baker, September 7, 1907, provided by Anne Rast

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Topeka, Kansas

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¹ *Baker Family*, Monroe County, Families, Monroe County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, page 70, 1991

² *Baker-VI Generations, History of Marshall County West Virginia 1984*, Oran V. Baker, page 100, 1984

³ *Andrew J. Baker to his Children*, personal letter, Andrew Jackson Baker, September 7, 1907, from records of Anne Rast. Andrew Jackson Baker reported that Mary Uhlen Baker was his half-sister and the eldest sibling

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ 1850 Iowa Census, Des Moines County, Pleasant Grove Township, page 358

⁶ 1860 Iowa Census, Madison County, Walnut Township, page 768

⁷ *Missouri Obituaries July 1877-1878-Dec. 1879*, abstracts of obituaries published in the St. Louis Christian Advocate, compiled by Mrs. Howard W. Woodruff, Missouri Pioneers and Missouri Miscellany 1985

⁸ Revolutionary War Record, S. 40315, Captain Dark's company, Colonel Muhlenberg's Virginia Regiment, under General Marion's command, application executed on August 20, 1818

⁹ 1856 Iowa Census, Madison County, Walnut Township, page 418, lists their arrival in 1849

¹⁰ *Missouri Obituaries July 1877-1878-Dec. 1879*

¹¹ 1790 Pennsylvania U.S. Census, Allegheny and portion taken from Washington County, page 210

¹² *Baker-VI Generations*, submitted by Oran V. Baker, History of Marshall County West Virginia, 1984

¹³ George and Sarah Baker Deed, Marshall County, West Virginia, Deed Book 8, page 96

¹⁴ *Graysville Calvary Methodist*, from Wheeling News-Register, March 14, 1954, History of Marshall County West Virginia, 1984

GEORGE BAKER, Sr. and GEORGE BAKER, Jr.

- ¹⁵ Ibid.
- ¹⁶ *Baker-VI Generations*, submitted by Oran V. Baker, History of Marshall County West Virginia, 1984
- ¹⁷ Birth date calculated from grave stone, Winterset Cemetery, Winterset, Madison County, Iowa
- ¹⁸ *General Andrew J. Baker, Centerville*, The United States Biographical Dictionary, Iowa Volume 1878, page 409, Chicago: American Biographical Publishing Co., copy provided by Marvin W. Baker, Salem, Oregon, June 2003
- ¹⁹ Winterset Cemetery, Winterset, Madison County, Iowa
- ²⁰ *General Andrew J. Baker, Centerville*
- ²¹ *Obituary of Andrew Jackson Baker*, from papers of Ethel Baker Lehnhard, daughter, source unknown, provided by Anne Rast
- ²² 1856 Iowa Census, Center Township, Madison County, Iowa, page 104
- ²³ 1856 Iowa Census, Center Township, Madison County, Iowa, page 126-128
- ²⁴ 1850 Iowa Census, Des Moines County, Flint River Township, page 420
- ²⁵ 1856 Iowa Census, Madison County, Walnut Township, page 439
- ²⁶ 1856 Iowa Census, Madison County, Center Township, Winterset, page 126-128
- ²⁷ *History of Madison County Iowa and Its People*, Herman A. Mueller, Volume 1, page 308, 1915
- ²⁸ *Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa Belonging to the First and Second Generations*, Edward Holcomb Stiles, Homestead Publishing, Des Moines, 1916
- ²⁹ *General Andrew J. Baker, Centerville*
- ³⁰ Ibid.
- ³¹ *General Andrew J. Baker, Centerville*
- ³² *Recollections and Sketches of Notable Lawyers and Public Men of Early Iowa Belonging to the First and Second Generations*
- ³³ *Obituary Andrew Jackson Baker*, The Annals of Iowa, Vol. 10, No. 3, page 239-240, 1911
- ³⁴ 1856 Iowa Census, Madison County, Walnut Township, page 439
- ³⁵ 1860 Iowa Census, Madison County, Winterset, page 179
- ³⁶ 1860 Selected Federal Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880, Iowa, Agriculture, Madison County, Walnut Township, Peru Post Office, page 45
- ³⁷ The Reager name is Rager in some of the Census information.
- ³⁸ Birth date calculated from grave stone, Winterset Cemetery, Winterset, Madison County, Iowa
- ³⁹ Winterset Madisionian, February 12, 1874
- ⁴⁰ Grave stone photos in files of the author, provided by Lorraine Kile, Winterset, Iowa 2003
- ⁴¹ *Death of Capt. John Baker by the Indians*, History of the Pan-Handle, West Virginia, J. H. Newton, G.G. Nichols, and A. G. Sprankle, published by J.A. Caldwell, page 363, 1879
- ⁴² Andrew Jackson Baker wrote that Leonard Reager, Sr. was married to Margaret Hays. However, Leonard Reager, Sr. was married to Catherine Hays and Andrew Jackson Baker's mother was Margaret Reager Baker. Margaret Reager Baker was the daughter of Leonard, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager.
- ⁴³ *ANDREW J. BAKER to his CHILDREN*, Letter to his children by Andrew Jackson Baker, September 7, 1907, copy provided by Anne Rast
- ⁴⁴ Margaret List as listed on the Death Certificate of John Baker was really Margaret Lyst as noted on the Marriage Record of John and Margaret Lyst Baker.
- ⁴⁵ Obituary, Margaret Lyst Baker, unknown source, Laurel, Nebraska