

LEONARD REAGER, Sr. and MARGARET REAGER

The following biography of the Reager family originally appeared in *Movers and Settlers: The Baker Family* written by the author in 2006. It has been recently updated

Leonard Reager, Sr. was born in Virginia in 1746 and married Catherine Hays on October 25, 1781. He was the son of Burckhart and Margaret Reager and grandson of Antoni and Judith Schaub Ruger (Reager). Leonard Reager, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager's daughter was Margaret Reager.

Antoni Ruger (Reuger/Reager) was reportedly from the Alsace region of France and fled to Switzerland. The early family origins may have been Jewish and the family may have had roots in Spain. Jewish families were in the Alsace area of France as early as the fourth century and the community thrived until the persecution began in 1212 and they were expelled in 1306. During the Spanish Inquisition of the 15th century some Sephardic Jews were given the choice of being baptized Christian or going into exile. Many families fled to Bohemia and Austria at this time. The subsequent persecution there caused them to flee to the Alsace region of France and Germany. The Alsace region was contested during the Thirty Years War, 1618-1648, by France and Germany. Families fled from the Alsace region to Switzerland because the later was an area of religious tolerance for the pacifists.¹

The Reuger/Reager family belonged to the German Reformed Church composed of people that had fled from the Alsace area. Alsace was part of France or Germany depending upon the time in history but the citizens spoke German.

Antoni married Judith Schaub and they had four children: Antoni, Jr., Burckhart, Barbara, and Elsbeth (sic) Reuger. Antoni, Sr., was a carpenter, Antoni, Jr. was a shoemaker, and Burckhart was a tailor. Judith Schaub Reuger died before the family left for America in 1737 and later Antoni married Barbara Wurtz after the death of her husband, Jacob Schaub. The children of Antonia and Barbara Wurtz Schaub Reuger included Hans Jacob and Maria.

The Reuger family lived in the Canton of Basel, Switzerland in the town of Benken. Antoni was baptized in the German Reformed Church as Anthone Reuger in Benken in 1689. Records of October 29, 1736 indicated that people from Benken went to Basel to request to go to the Carolinas in America but the Mayor denied their request. The ruling council investigated rumors of a "*plotting*" to immigrate to America by some fiat holders or sub tenants in the home of Lienert Heyer. Antoni and others reportedly "*had been actuated to do so, partly by a letter of Gondy in praise of Carolina, written in Charleston, South Carolina in 1733, but only lately come into their possession through a man of Grenzach across the Rhine and partly by their own unfavorable circumstances. The carpenter and wagon maker had complained of growing competition in their trades and all of them arrived at the conclusion their heavy debts of 5% interest they had to pay in consequence of the mandate, combined with the tithes of wheat and grain, made it impossible for them to sustain themselves and longer.*"²

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Until 1790 the city of Basel had control of the whole Canton and kept the subjects in a state of serfdom.

Families left because of excessive taxation, excessive church tithes, excessive interest charges on the taxes in addition to the cruelty by the armies of France, Germany and Spain.

Antoni Reuger and Leinert Heyer proceeded for preparation and obtained consent from the government to leave. The record further states "*They claimed to have friends in the vicinity of the Palatinate (Germany) and if they did not find their fortunes there, they would seek it in another country.*" ³

Information found in the State records in Basel ⁴ list the following:

Antoni Rieger	Tax for emigration Pro manumission ⁵ at pounds	10-30
	Tax on 500 pounds of property Drawn away at 10 %	50-80

Elsbeth Reuger, daughter of Antoni, did not emigrate with the family and later received an inheritance from her father who was in America. ⁶

On May 11, 1737 he family left Rotterdam on the ship *Virtuous Grace* via Cowes, England arriving on September 24, 1737 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The passenger list included Antoni Ruger, age 48, Antoni Ruger, age 24, and Burckhart, age 21. ⁷ The ship master was, John Bull, and the Palatinates, who were underwritten, took the Oath of Abjuration including Antoni Ruger, Sr., Antoni Ruger, Jr., and Burckhart Ruger. The original signatures on the lists are very readable and show the name as Ruger. ⁸

Also on September 24, 1737 Leinert (Leonhart) Heier and Clara Lutzler Heier, who were close friends of the Reugers, came to America on the same ship, *Virtuous Grace*. Jacob Schaub and his wife, Barbara Wurtz Schaub, from Wittenberg also came on the same ship. Jacob Schaub died and Antoni Ruger, Sr. married his widow, Barbara Wurtz Schaub.

After arriving in Philadelphia the Reuger's went to Dolben Hagen (Wolmesdorf) in Berks County, Pennsylvania. This was a large German Lutheran settlement about seventy-five miles southwest of Philadelphia. At this location the newly arrived settlers remained for a short time before moving to the surrounding areas or further south. The Reuger family remained there for six months and then moved to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania where Antoni Reuger (Reyger) received a land grant for two hundred acres in 1738. ⁹

In 1748 they moved to Augusta County, Virginia and the name was Reger when they received land from Lord Halifax. Anthony Regar, Sr. and Anthony, Jr. stayed in August County and Burckhart moved to Berkley County, Virginia near Shepherdstown. ¹⁰

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On May 19, 1758 Hans (John) Reger, son of Antoni, Sr. and Barbara Wurtz Reger, and his wife were killed by Indian Chief Killbuck in Augusta County, Virginia. Their daughters, Barbara and Dorothy were captured but they returned years later. His son, John, was also captured and was believed to have been killed by the Indians. John was a member of the Virginia Militia. ¹¹ Hans lived near present day Kline, Pendleton County, Virginia (West Virginia).

The will of Anthony Regar, Sr. was recorded by Joseph Rigor as follows:

“To ye will of God Amen, I Antoney Reeger, being weak in body but of pearfect minde and memory do make this my last Will and Testament first I do recommend my bodey to ye ground and then into ye hands of Him that gave it and that I be burred in a Christian and desent manner and that all my legal debts to be paid and ye remainder parts I do will and bequeave unto my beloved son Antoney Reeger.

And my Son Antoney and Herman Shuck my sole executor of this my Last Will and Testament.

From under my hand this fourth day of November 1769.

Antoney “X” Reeger” ¹²

The will was signed with an “X” even though Anthony could write well as was noted on the ships roster that he had signed. The will was proved on May 8, 1770 in Court in Hampshire County, Virginia. It is thought that Antony Reger, Sr. died in Fredrickstown (now Charles Town), Virginia (now West Virginia) in 1770.¹³

Burckhart Reager was baptized on September 19, 1717 in the German Reformed Church in Benken, Switzerland. On September 24, 1737 he immigrated with his father to America on the ship *Virtuous Grace*.¹⁴ Initially Antoni Reuger, Sr. (Reager), his father, and Burckhart settled in Berks County, Pennsylvania in Dolben Hagen, now Womelsdorf. He received two hundred acres of land in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. In 1750 he moved to Augusta County, Virginia and soon went to Berkley County, Virginia (West Virginia) where he received a grant for two hundred twelve acres of land. ¹⁵

In Switzerland Burckhart was a tailor and Anthony, his brother, was a shoe maker. They both became farmers and large land owners in America. ¹⁶

Burckhart married in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania to a woman named Margaret. He died in Berkley County, Virginia (West Virginia) in 1782. His wife died between 1775 and 1782. Their children included Leonard, Anthony, Burcke, Sarah, Prudence, Margaret, George, and Henry.

On October 15, 1782 the will of Burckhart Regar was filed in Court in Berkley County, Virginia (West Virginia).

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*In the name of God Amen: the twenty fifth Day of January in the year of our Lord God, one thousand seven hundred and seventy three, I Burket Regar of the Colony of Virginia and the County of Berkley being very sick and weak in body but of perfect mind and memory thanks to God, there fore calling to mind the mortality of my Body and knowing it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all I give and recommend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it, and my body I recommend it to the earth to be burred in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my executors nothing doubting but at the general resurection I shall receive same again by the mighty power of God that gave it, and as Touching and Wordly estate where with it hath pleased God to bless me in this life I give and bequeath and Dispose of the same in the following manner and form. IMPRIMIS I give to my beloved wife Margaret Regar a full and just share of all my lands and Tenements and chattels and household goods with her bed and to have her firewood cut and brought Home to her and the use of the stove during her natural like by her peaceably and quietly to be until her death and at her Death what remains of her thirds it is my will that it be divided between my children such as she shall think is in most want of it. This is my last will concerning my wife after my just debts and funeral charges is paid off. Further it is my Will and pleasure that after my Wifes thirds is take off that there be an appraisment of all the rest of my lands and household goods, money, bonds, and notes and an equal division made amongst my children, and BURKET my son I leave him twenty five pounds in money more than his equal part and my clothes and a mare colt clear of appraisment and to **LEONARD** my son it is my will to allow him to clear my Plantation adjoining the BURRIS what he pleases for ten years and likewise it is my will that the plantation is not to be sold until my youngest son comes of age. I likewise allow my daughters SARAH and PRUDENCE each of them to a cow and a bed clear of the appraisment and my daughter MARGARET STROOP to have and equal part and I allow one half the rent of my Plantation to school and bring up my sons, GEORGE and HENRY and maintain my wife and the other part of the Rent to be divided amongst my children or laid out to their necessity at the pleasure of my Executors and it is my Will and pleasure that if any of my children die before they come of age or has a family of their own, that their part shall be equally divided amongst them that lives freely by them and their heirs lawfully begotten and to be enjoyed forever, at it is my Will that my son ANTHONY may be put to a Trade which he may choose for him self and I likewise constitute and appoint my beloved wife and my son LEONARD to be my sole executors of this my last will and testament and I do hereby disallow and revoke and dismiss all and every other former Testament, Wills, Legacies, Bequests, and Executors by me in anywise before time made will and bequeathed, Ratifying, confirming this and no other to be my last Will & Testament.*

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the day & year written above..... (signed) Burket Reagar (his mark and seal)

Signed sealed and published and declared by said Burket Reagar as his last Will and Testament, in Witness of us the subscribers:

June Duke William Kerney Samuel Thompson

N.B. Before signing, if my son HENRY before coming of age, the plantation may be sold or if any of my sons is willing and able to buy the plantation before he comes of

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*age it may be sold to them and when HENRY is of age, it is to be sold and equally divided between my children.*¹⁷

Leonard Reager, Sr. and Catherine Hays Reager were the parents of Margaret, Andrew, Leonard Jr., James, Prudence, and Burket. In the fall of 1775 enlisted in Shepherdstown of Berkley County and served in Captain Dark's company of the Eighth Virginia Infantry under the command of Colonel Muhlenberg. In the spring of 1776 the unit marched through North and South Carolina and Georgia. They returned to Virginia and went into winter quarters in the winter of 1776 in Fredericksburg. He was discharged at Valley Forge in the spring 1778.

Leonard Reager, Sr. is mentioned in his father, Burckhart Reager's will of 1782 as receiving use of the farm for up to ten years and also as acting as the executor of the estate.¹⁸

The oath by Leonard Reager, Sr. was written by the Court of Butler County., Ohio was as follows:

“That the said Leonard Rager enlisted in Shepherdstown in Berkley County Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain Dark some time in the fall of seventeen hundred seventy five for the term of two years in the spring of seventeen hundred and seventy six the Company joined the Eight Virginia Regiment of troops at Tuppulo commanded by Colonel Muhlenberg this informant further saith that shortly after the company joined the Regiment they were marched in the states of North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia and returned to Virginia some time in December 1776 and took Winter quarters at Fredricksburg this informant further states that he continued in the said company and Regiment until early in the spring of Seventeen hundred and seventy eight when he was discharged at Valley Forge serving longer than the enlistment that he was in a number of skirmishes this informant further in his oath saith the he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his _____ of his said service.”

The above reports that Leonard Reager was with General George Washington at Valley Forge during the winter of 1776.

On August 20, 1818 Leonard Reager filed a pension application filed for his service before Associate Judge, Henry Weaver. Leonard of Lemon Township in Butler County was reported *“to be crippled and in reduced circumstances and stands in need of assistance for his support”*.^{19 20}

On September 4, 1820 Leonard Reager appeared in court in Butler County to that he did not have *“any property securities contracts or debts due him nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule here to annexed and by me subscribed to wit;”*²¹

The property included: *“two cows and one calf, four sheep, ten gallon bottle, two pots, one oven, one table, two pewter dishes, six pewter plates, one pewter basin, three tin*

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cups, three earthen dishes, one brass tea kettle, one tin coffee pot, half dozen old knives and forks, one horse trammel, four old barrels, and one hatchet and one cleaver. My family consists of myself & wife who is aged seventy years & two grandchildren". The total value was forty one dollars in the opinion of the court and signed by John Riley.²²

He was listed as a cabinet maker in family legends and lived on the Round Bottom, south of Moundsville, Virginia, on the Ohio River. They raised their four boys and two daughters in this area. After Leonard, Sr. died Margaret reportedly married a man by the name of Gray. Burket Reager, brother of Leonard, moved to Indiana north of Louisville, Kentucky in the Indian Territory. He was a friend of Captain John Baker, immigrant ancestor of the author. In 1787 Leonard Reager attended the funeral of Captain John Baker at Baker's Station, Virginia.²³

The 1810 Pennsylvania Census, Washington County lists the following:

Leonard Riger			
Males	16-26	1	Leonard, Jr.
	> 45	1	Leonard, Sr.
Females	16-26	1	Margaret
	16-26	2	(Unknown)
	> 45	1	Catherine

The 1820 Ohio Census, Butler County, Lemon Township lists the following:

Leonard Rager			
Males	< 10	1	
	10-16	2	
	> 45	1	Leonard, Sr.
Females	> 45	1	Catherine

Burket Rager is listed adjacent to Leonard Rager, Sr. with one male under 10, one male between 26 and 45, and one female between sixteen and twenty-six. Burket Rager was the son of Leonard and Catherine Hays Rager.

Leonard Rager was a private in the regiment commanded by Captain Dark and Colonel Muhlenberg of the Virginia line was to be paid a pension of eight dollars per month beginning on August 20, 1818 on file No. 10188. The certificate of pension was issued with the money to be sent to Henry Weaver of Hamilton Ohio.²⁴

Leonard, Sr. died in Tippecanoe County, Indiana on April 20, 1833.²⁵ On February 29, 1856 Burket Rager filed an affidavit in Jefferson County, Kentucky to obtain the money due for Leonard Reager's Revolutionary War service which he was never paid.²⁶

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Margaret Reager was born on April 25, 1800. She was the daughter of Catherine Hays and Leonard Reager, Sr. Margaret Reager married George Baker, Jr. about 1819 in Virginia (West Virginia).

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

George Baker male 100100 female 1010

This would be most likely George Baker, Jr. family with the male child being John W. Baker.

Before 1820 in Virginia Margaret Reager, the daughter of Leonard and Catherine Hays Reager²⁷ married George Baker, Jr. They had five children including:²⁸

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

Andrew Jackson Baker ²⁹ wrote “*Of my mothers family her father was Leonard Reager spoken of in the history of Marshall County, Va. as one of the persons attending the funeral of Great Uncle John Baker.* ³⁰ *Her mother was of Scottish origin and her maiden name was Margaret Hays.* ³¹ *As you know my mothers name was also Margaret”.*³² ³³

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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**

The original page five was lost but Ann Rast reported the sentence should read "*Margaret Douglas is the central character in Scott's immortal poem, '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.*" ³⁴

The George Baker, Jr. family lived in Marshall County, West Virginia and then moved to Butler County, Ohio in about 1838. The George Baker, Jr. family came by wagon to

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Burlington, Des Moines County, Iowa in 1848.³⁵ Mail was being held in the Burlington, Iowa Post Office for a Margaret Baker in 1850.³⁶

The 1850 Iowa Census, Flint River Township, Des Moines County, page 420, lists the following:

George (W) Baker (Jr.)	54	M	Farmer	\$2500	Virginia
Margaret	57	F			Virginia
Sidney	25	M		Virginia	
Daniel	23	M			Virginia
Minerva (?Malvina)	22	F			Virginia
Andrew	18	M			Virginia
John (W) Baker	30	M			Ohio(Virginia)
Margaret	27	F			Ohio
Luna	1	F			(Iowa)
(Not readable)	14	M	Household help		England

Sidney listed as male on this census was actually a daughter of George, Jr. and Margaret Baker.³⁷ Margaret Lyst married to John W. Baker, son of George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker, were living with John's parents during the 1850 Iowa Census. During the 1852 Iowa Census George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker were living in their own home.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 Baker. The story in the *Winterset Madisonian* 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

The *Winterset Madisonian* reports a related story about the family of Margaret Baker as follows.

"Mrs. Helen Wilkinson, of California, reached our city last Friday. At Des Moines she met the remains of her grandmother, Mrs. Baker. She had no word of her death until reaching Des Moines. Mrs. W. will spend the winter here, and in the spring or summer her husband, A.W. Wilkinson, our late County Surveyor, will

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return to Iowa. He has had all he wants of California."⁴⁰

George, Jr. and Margaret Reager Baker are buried in the Winterset Cemetery, Winterset, Madison County, Iowa. ⁴¹

Phillip Leonard Baker, M.D.

Topeka, Kansas

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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



¹ *The Reager Family*, Joseph E. Rigor, South Bend, Indiana, 1964

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Manumission, payment for the formal release from serfdom. Serfdom continued until 1790.

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⁶ State Archives, Basel, Switzerland, Kirchenburcher-Parish, Rumlingen, Elsbeth went to Wallenberg in 1734. She never went to America. Her father left her an inheritance but she renounced it in favor of those in America.

⁷ *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, Pennsylvania German Society, Vol. II, Ralph Beaver Strassberger, LL.D, edited by William Hinke, Ph.D., D.D., page 178 and 180, 1934

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ *The Reager Family*

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ Mathew Patton, Abram Archer, and Thompson Archer, for Administration, John Reger Estate, Court, Augusta County, Virginia, May 19, 1758

¹² Last Will and Testament, Anthony Reeger, Clerk of the Court, Hampshire County, Virginia (West Virginia) copy obtained by Joseph Rigor, 1947

¹³ *The Reager Family*

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ *The Reager Family*

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Will and Testament, Burckhart Reager, Berkley County, Virginia, January 25, 1773

¹⁸ Will and Testament, Burckhart Reager, Berkley County, Virginia, January 25, 1773

¹⁹ Pension Application, Butler County, Ohio, Leonard Reager, August 20, 1818

²⁰ Pension Claim Number S. 40315, Letter from Administrator Revolutionary War Records, A.D. Hiller, August 17, 1939

²¹ Oath and Property Schedule, Butler County, Ohio, Clerk of the Court, John Riley, 1820

²² Ibid.

²³ *History of the Pan-Handle*, J. Newton, G.G. Nichols, and A.G. Sprankle, published by J.A.Caldwell, 1879

²⁴ Revolutionary claim Act 18th March 1818, Certificate of Pension, 10,188, Roll of Ohio, for Leonard Rager, signed August 20, 1818

²⁵ *The Reager Family*

²⁶ Affidavit of Service, Leonard Rager, filed by Burket Rager before a Justice of the Peace, Jefferson County, Kentucky, February 29, 1856

²⁷ *Andrew J. Baker to his Children*, personal letter, Andrew Jackson Baker, September 7, 1907, from records of Anne Rast. Andrew Jackson Baker was Attorney General of Missouri and Iowa

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Andrew Jackson Baker was the Attorney General of Missouri and later the Attorney General of Iowa during his legal career.

³⁰ This was Captain John Baker, and not his son John Baker, who would have been a great uncle to Andrew Jackson Baker. Andrew Jackson Baker reported that Adam was the name of Capt. John Baker.

³¹ Catherine Hays and not Margaret Hays, author

³² *Andrew J. Baker to his Children*, page 4

³³ Catherine Hays Reager was the mother of Margaret Reager who was the mother of Andrew Jackson Baker and John W. Baker. On October 1, 1831 Catherine Hays Reager died before the birth of Andrew Jackson Baker on June 6, 1832.

³⁴ *Andrew J. Baker to his Children*, page 5

³⁵ 1856 Iowa Census Township, Madison County, page 104

³⁶ *Burlington Hawk Eye*, 1850

³⁷ *Andrew J. Baker to his Children*, page 5

³⁸ 1852 Iowa Census, Des Moines County, Flint River Township

³⁹ *Winterset Madsonian*, Winterset, Iowa, February 12, 1874

⁴⁰ Ibid.

⁴¹ Grave stone photos in files of the author, provided by Lorraine Kile, Winterset, Iowa 2003