



KINSMEN AT THE REUNION IN 1910

# The Baird Family

## Centennial



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With a sketch of the life of Francis Baird, the pioneer, who settled in Warwick, N. Y., in 1765, and a geneological list of some of his descendants, and other papers read on the occasion of the reunion at the homestead of his late son, William Eagles Baird, in 1910.

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EDITOR  
FERDINAND V. SANFORD

Warwick Valley Dispatch Print,  
Warwick, N. Y.  
1912.

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## PROGRAM.

1810

BAIRD CENTENNIAL

1910

FRANCIS BAIRD SANFORD, Chairman.

- 1 Invocation - - - - Rev. Taber Knox
- 2 Luncheon
- 3 History Baird Family - - - Ferdinand V. Sanford
- 4 Acrostic—Francis Baird.  
Written by Rev. Ezra T. Sanford, a neighbor, who was not able to be present, and read by William L. Baird.
- 5 Sarah DeKay, the First Mistress of the Baird House.  
Written by David Barclay; read by the present mistress, Anna Jayne Baird.
- 6 Poem—Abia Francis Baird.  
An appreciation. Written and read by his grand daughter, Katherine G. Sanders.
- 7 Reminiscences of Bally Castle - - George A. Sanford
- 8 Extracts from letters from the kinsmen, expressing regrets, read by one of the Walling kinsmen, Lillian A. Wilson.
- 9 Parting Song—"Auld Lang Syne."

Gift  
Editor  
N. S. '12

## FOREWORD.

**T**HE BAIRDS were among the early settlers of the town of Warwick, and this is an attempt—the first one—it is believed to perpetuate the history of the family in permanent form. As the years roll on and the older faces vanish from view, it becomes more and more difficult to gather up matters of family history.

It was on the occasion of the reunion in 1910, to celebrate the centennial of the erection of the William Eagles Baird homestead in this town, that the matter of preserving some facts of our history received its impulse.

This booklet does not assume to be a complete history of the family, or of the pioneer and his descendants, but it is an account primarily of the doings at the reunion, and a record of the articles read at that time. Some genealogical statistics have been appended to add to its value as a souvenir. There are doubtless some errors in this part, but the writer has done the best he could to gather up such material as is given, although he was wholly unable in some branches of the family to get any data whatever.

The booklet is sent forth in the hope that it may prove to be an introduction, perhaps, to a history more worthy of this good old family, to be written by some of the kinsmen who may have more time at their disposal.

To all who have so kindly contributed in any way to the publication, due acknowledgment is hereby made, and that the scattered clansmen into whose hands it shall come will pardon its limitations and join in the confident hope that the bonds uniting our family may be strengthened, is the sincere desire and cordial greeting of

THE EDITOR.

Dated Warwick, N. Y., March, 1912.

FRANCIS BAIRD, b—d 1800; m Jnne 21, 1758, Esther Eagles (?)

William Eagles 1765-1814 m Sarah DeKay 1766-1819	John no descendants	Samuel 1769-1816 m Dec. 12, 1792, Hannah Minthorn	Abia Francis no descendants	Anna no descendants	Margaret m Joseph Walling
Esther 1785-1785	Thomas E. m Mary A. Taylor Washington, D. C. left descendants	Esther m William Lawson	Margaret m William Browning		(1) Francis Baird 1786-1861. Tanner m (1) Margaret Perry m (2) Mrs. Mary Van Court (2) Joseph Moved to the west and left descendants (3) Sarah or Polly died in infancy
Nathaniel Wheeler 1787-1838 m Abigail Denton		Samuel Thomas Baird	Samuel Thomas - - } Henry Alice		
Mary 1790-1836 m Thomas H. Burt					
Abia Francis 1792-1848 m 1823 Lany Forshee					
Elizabeth 1794-1794					
Jane Ann 1795-1853					
Frances 1800-1889 m Abia Blain					
Sarah 1802-1886 m Nathaniel Pelton					
Juliana E. 1805-1808					
Christina Eliza 1809-1896 m David H. Barclay					





WILLIAM EAGLES BAIRD HOMESTEAD, ERECTED IN 1810  
Now owned by his great grand son, William Parks Baird



THE MILL ERECTED IN 1800

## BAIRD FAMILY CENTENNIAL

Dear Kinsman:

This year marks the centennial of the erection of the Baird homestead in this town, a cut of which appears opposite.

We shall celebrate the event by a family re-union to be held at the homestead, at noon on August 2, 1910. All the descendants of Francis Baird, the pioneer, will be cordially welcome. He came to this town in 1765, and built a stone house which is still standing in the village. The stone house, shown in cut, was built by his oldest son, William Eagles Baird, in 1810, and has been ever since in the Baird family. The present owner, Mr. William Parks Baird, invites all of the Baird kinsmen to attend and commemorate the one hundredth anniversary on the date stated.

It is the purpose of the committee to have a picnic on the grounds, with social fellowship, and some addresses; a short history of the family by Mr. Ferdinand V. Sanford; an original poem by Miss Katherine G. Sanders of Auburn, entitled "An Appreciation of Abia Francis Baird;" a sketch of Sarah DeKay, the wife of William Eagles Baird, by Mr. David Barclay of Newburgh, and an address by Mr. George A. Sanford of New York, who has visited Bally Castle, Ireland, from whence the pioneer sailed to this country some time in the fore part of the eighteenth century.

It is hoped that enough interest will be manifested so that a booklet may be published containing the addresses delivered, the names of those in attendance and a list of the members of the family so far as they are known.

Those desiring copies of the booklet will kindly forward their names and addresses to the Secretary, with \$1.00, the cost of publication per copy.

Annexed is a short chart of the family showing the principal lines of descent from which you may trace your relationship.

Kindly write to the Secretary promptly whether you expect to be present.

Train will leave Warwick at 12 noon arriving at Baird's crossing at 12.05; returning at 3.50 or 4.40 p. m. Round trip tickets ten cents.

Cordially yours,

William Parks Baird.

Katherine G. Sanders,

Ferdinand V. Sanford, Secretary,

Annie Walling,

Mrs. William P. Baird,

Mrs. Frank E. Smith,

Mrs. Pierre S. Demerest,

Mrs. John W. Sanford,

Dated, Warwick, N. Y., July 15, 1910.

Committee.

## KINSMEN AT REUNION

WITH a few exceptions, all of the company present at the Centennial were Bairds by birth, marriage or descent. The following is the list from the guest book:

Baird, William Parks.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Anna J.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Sarah A.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, John H.....	Butler, N. J.
Baird, John Jr.....	Butler, N. J.
Baird, Minnie W.....	Butler, N. J.
Baird, Isaac Sharp.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, William L.....	Paterson, N. J.
Baird, Elizabeth K.....	Paterson, N. J.
Baird, Charles Seely.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Mrs. Isaac S.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Mrs. John C.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Fred J.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Minnie C.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, William H.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Mrs. William H.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, George M.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, John C.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Percy M.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Nathaniel W.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Mrs. Nathaniel W.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Mabel De Kay.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Ella M.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Thomas.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Samuel D.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Baird, Clara Benedict.....	Chester, N. Y.
Bertholf, Sarah C.....	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Bertholf, Mazie J.....	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Coates, Maud Baird.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, Emma May.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, Charles William.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, Mary Elizabeth.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, Grace Baird.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, George Edgar.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Coates, Ernest Thomas.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Demerest, Sue Baird.....	Warwick, N. Y.
Demerest, Pierre Sanford.....	Warwick, N. Y.

Hopkins, Gilbert P.....New York City.  
 Hopkins, James S.....New York City.  
 Houston, Myra.....Bellvale, N. Y.  
 Houston, Oliver A.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Houston, Julia E.....Bellvale, N. Y.  
 Houston, Mrs. Floyd S.....West Hoboken, N. J.  
 Houston, May.....West Hoboken, N. J.  
 Houston, Edgar A.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Howell, Sidney O.....Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Howell, Nellie P.....Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Howell, Mary M.....Goshen, N. Y.  
 Howell, Bertha.....Campbell Hall, N. Y.  
 Howell, Charles B.....Campbell Hall, N. Y.  
 Howell, Elizabeth.....Campbell Hall, N. Y.  
 Hansel, Rev. Ernest.....Amity, N. Y.  
  
 Jayne, Mrs. George F.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Jayne, Carrie L.....Florida, N. Y.  
  
 Ketchum, George F.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Ketchum, Evelyn Wilson.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Knox, Rev. Taber.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Knox, Ada Quinby.....Warwick, N. Y.  
  
 Lattimer, John.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Lattimer, Mrs. John.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Laroe, Helen.....Sugar Loaf, N. Y.  
  
 Parkhurst, Floyd V.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Parkhurst, Mrs. Floyd V.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Parkhurst, Mildred E.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Parkhurst, Thomas Taylor.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Parkhurst, Margaret Taylor.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Parkhurst, Mary J.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Pierson, Mrs. G. Wilson.....Florida, N. Y.  
  
 Sanders, Katherine G.....Auburn, N. Y.  
 Sanders, Jane Baird.....Auburn, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Ferdinand V.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Rowena Herrick.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Francis Baird.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Sarah Welling.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 \*Sanford, Frances Amelia Baird.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, George Alden.....New York City.  
 Sanford, John Wheeler.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, John Wheeler Jr.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Bertha Furman.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Bertha Elizabeth.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, John Alden.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 \*Died Jan. 26, 1911.

Sanford, Marion Burt.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Winthrop.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Mary Bessie.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, J. Everett.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Sarah Burt.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sanford, Townsend Wright.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Smith, Mary Sanford.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Smith, Frank E.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Sturr, Mary E.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Sturr, Sarah C.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Sturr, William V.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Sturr, Walter R.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Talcott, Lillian Baird.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Tate, Hiram.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Taylor, Howell.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Taylor, Morrison.....Florida, N. Y.  
 Taylor, Sarah C.....Florida, N. Y.  
 \*Walling, Francis.....Vernon, N. J.  
 Walling, Mrs. Francis.....Vernon, N. J.  
 Walling, Mrs. Sarah J.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Walling, Henry.....Amity, N. Y.  
 Walling, Nicholas R.....Amity, N. Y.  
 Walling, Mrs. Nicholas R.....Amity, N. Y.  
 Walling, John R.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Walling, Charles B.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Walling, Mrs. John R.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Walling, Helen.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Walling, Ruth.....New Hampton, N. Y.  
 Wilson, Fred W.....Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Wilson, Elizabeth Walling.....Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Wilson, Lillian A.....Brooklyn, N. Y.  
 Welch, John W.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Welch, Emma Walling.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Welch, Ralph Sayre.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Welch, Sarah Eleanor.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Welch, Marguerite.....Warwick, N. Y.  
 Wyker, Elizabeth H.....Goshen, N. Y.  
 Wyker, Alfred Ogden.....Goshen, N. Y.  
 Zabriskie, Anita L.....Cooperstown, N. Y.  
 \*Died 1911.

# THE BAIRD FAMILY

BY FERDINAND V. SANFORD



RANCIS BAIRD, the pioneer, was among the early settlers of the town of Warwick, coming here in about 1765. He had previously been a merchant for a long time in New York City. Shortly after his arrival, he purchased a large tract of land of about 220 acres—the greater part of which he probably bought of Henry Wisner of Goshen. In 1766 he built the stone house on Main street in the village of Warwick, which is still standing in excellent preservation and is now owned by Mr. William B. Sayer.

Mr. Sayer, in an article published in December, 1903, in the Warwick Dispatch, says of this house: "The house, as originally built, had a frame addition on the south end, one and a half stories high, which was the kitchen, and contained two large old-fashioned fire places, with a stone back-log and a brick oven, with a stone chimney built into the south end of the stone part of the house.

"In this kitchen were prepared the old-fashioned dinners of our grandfather's days. This was the leading tavern, or inn, in the village from the time it was built up to 1830, and the shows that came to town, for this was the center of the village at that time, were held in the large ball room, which had a spring floor, and was situated in the northeast corner of the second story. The beaux and belles of ye olden time used to meet and dance there. The room opening off this room to the west is said to be the room where Gen. George Washington slept. In the first story a large hall ran through from the front to the back on the south end with a winding staircase running up to the attic. North of that, in the front of the house, was the barroom with a large open fire place, with two bars for the sale of whiskey—one long one and one built like a quarter of a circle.

"One day a man rode into this barroom on horseback and drank at the bar sitting on his horse. On training days, when the militia gathered for practice, they made egg nog by the barrel for the men to drink. One day when it rained and the militia could not practice, the late Benjamin Sayer was present and heard the muster roll called in the attic. In olden times the attic was used to store grain in. Many a traveling circus was held where the present barn stands. Most of the timbers of this house are of oak, hewn square with axes, and the floors are of wide pine planks, two inches thick; the old windows have 24 lights 8x10 inches in each; all doors, mouldings, casings, flooring, &c., were dressed out by hand. The stone chimney, containing four flues, is 15 feet across where it goes through the attic. The mechanics who built this house were brought from New York City, and when completed it was considered the finest house in this section. The farm of 220 acres embraced all the land along the west side of Main street from the Welling Hotel to the home of Judge John J. Beattie, and ran along both sides of the Edenville road to the farm of Mr. Henry P. Demarest."

Francis Baird's assessment in 1775, as made by John Hathorn, assessor, was 21 pounds 6 pence, the largest assessment but one on the assessment roll.

Among the distinguished persons who have stopped at this house were Gen. George Washington and wife who stayed over night here during the Revolutionary War, when en route to his Newburgh headquarters.

Mrs. George M. VanDuzer of this village, by dint of considerable research, has discovered the exact date of the General's visit to Warwick to have been on July 27, 1782.

On Thursday, May 20, 1779, at 9 a. m., the Third New Hampshire Regiment, under Col. Henry Dearborn, stopped at Francis Baird's tavern in the village of Warwick and took breakfast.

Capt. Daniel Livermore, one of his captains, made a record of this fact in his journal. This regiment was the one that saved the day in the great battle near Elmira, under Gen. Sullivan.

Rev. James Manning, a Baptist minister and wife, from Providence, R. I., preached at Warwick and took dinner with Mr. Baird on Sunday, Sept. 12, 1779, and said in his diary: "We had an elegant dinner and were treated very hospitably."

The Marquis de Chastellux, one of the forty members of the French Academy, and a Major General in the French Army, serving under Count Rochambeau, stayed all night here with his aides on Dec. 6, 1782, and says in his "Travels in North America in the years 1780, '81 '82:" "Warwick, where I slept, a pretty large place for so wild a country, is twelve miles from Chester and twenty-eight from Newburgh. I lodged here in a very good inn kept by Mr. Smith, the same at whose house I had slept two years before at Ckeat, which was much inferior to this. The American army having for two years past had their winter quarters near West Point, Mr. Smith imagined with reason that this road would be more frequented than that of Paramus, and he had taken this inn of a Mr. Beard at whose house we stopped next day to breakfast. The house had been given up to him with some furniture and he had upwards of 150 acres of land, belonging to it, for the whole of which he paid seventy pounds (currency) making about 100 pistoles. I had every reason to be content with my old acquaintance, and the new establishment. The next morning, the 7th, we set out before breakfast and the snow began to fall as soon as we got on horseback, which did not cease till we got to Beard's tavern. This house was not near so good as the other, but the workmen were busy augmenting it. On inquiring of Mr. Beard, who is an Irishman, the reason of his quitting his good house at Warwick, to keep this inn, he informed me, it was a settlement he was forming for his son-in-law, and that as soon as he had put it in order, he should return to his house at Warwick. This Mr. Beard had long lived as a merchant at New York, and even sold books, which I learned from observing some good ones at his house, among others, 'Human Prudence', which I purchased."

From the records of the First and Second Presbyterian Churches of New York City, there is an entry among the marriages of date June 21, 1758, of Francis Baird to Esther Eagles. This is believed to be the mar-





JOHN BAIRD  
1820-1906

riage record of the pioneer, and the name of his wife, our maternal ancestor. The wife's surname is preserved in the middle name of their first born son, William Eagles Baird, the builder of this hospitable mansion one hundred years ago. Francis Baird was a man of prominence and wealth for that early day. He was one of the trustees of the Presbyterian Church of the village of Warwick, and one of its incorporators on Oct. 22, 1791. (This church was the predecessor of the Reformed Church and stood on the same grounds.) He was the First Clerk of that organization, and the records kept by him, which are still preserved, are in beautiful handwriting. The deed of the church property is in his name as one of the trustees. His name also appears as one of the most liberal subscribers to the work of that church at different times.

From the census of the U. S. 1790 (the first Federal Census) we find this entry: "Francis Baird, number of male members of his family (including head.)

Over 16 years old.....	8
Male members of his family under 16 years .....	1
Female members.....	3
Slaves.....	2
<hr/>	
Total.....	14

Francis Baird also conducted a general country store at his residence, in a small wing of the house, and a sign in front indicated that there was "Chandler's & Baird's store."

He was a patriot and a signer of the non-importation pledge. He conveyed his Warwick property to his son John, who was a tanner, in 1799, for the consideration of \$3750.00, taking back a mortgage for the whole purchase money. His wife must have died prior to his death, as no mention is made of her in his will. He died in 1800 and left a will dated Dec. 18, 1799, which was probated in this county on May 12, 1800. His son, Abia Francis, who was a lawyer, was appointed sole executor. All of his property, with a few exceptions, was given to his six children in equal shares. One clause in the will reads: "Item: I give to my four sons, William, John, Samuel and Abia, and my two daughters, Anna and Margaret, each ten pounds to purchase a mourning suit of clothes."

It is not known where Francis and his wife are buried, but they are supposed to have been buried in the Presbyterian Church burying ground, and their bodies may have been removed to the Warwick Cemetery in 1889, at the time when the new Reformed Church was built, and all of the graves were removed by the latter church to the Warwick Cemetery. No stone, however, marks the spot of these our progenitors.

So much for the pioneer and the old ancestral home of the Bairds in the village of Warwick. Here were born presumably the six children, viz:

William Eagles,	b Oct. 8, 1765;	d May 21, 1814
John,	b	d
Samuel,	b Aug. 31, 1769;	d Nov. 15, 1816
Abia Francis,	b	d
Anna,	b	d
Margaret,	b	d

The son, Abia Francis, is said to have been a lawyer. He never married and died, it is said, at Sandy Hill, N. Y. He was a lame man. John was a tanner and conducted a tannery in this village for several years. It was located on the brook in the rear of the Francis Baird farm in this village. He married Esther ——— and moved to Sandy Hill, and then to Saratoga where he conducted the Congress Hall Hotel there. He died and was buried at Saratoga. He had no children, but had two adopted daughters, Margaret Baird and Julia Sherrill; the latter's husband kept the Lake House Hotel at Saratoga.

The daughter, Anna, never married so far as it can be ascertained, and was probably buried with her parents in the church burying ground in this village.

The son, Samuel, married Dec. 12, 1792, Hannah Minthorn, and by her had nine children—

Nathaniel M., who left no decendants.

Francis, who left no decendants.

Thomas Eagles, b                      d April 27, 1852; m Mary Ann Tylor. b April 12, 1798.

Thomas, deceased.

Anna Elizabeth, b 1824; d 1897; m Nov. 6, 1845, William H. Marbury.

Alice, b Sept. 7, 1846; m Nov. 6, 1868, Thomas B. Browning.

Thomas Baird, b Sept. 3, 1869; d Sept. 28, 1884.

Edith Marbury, b Sept. 23, 1871.

Alice, b Oct. 28, 1873.

Anna Thomas.

William Henry, deceased.

Mary, b                      d                      m Warren P. Taylor.

William Henry Marbury.

Anna de Leon, deceased.

Warren P. Taylor, Jr.

Francis Ferdinand.

Mary, died in infancy.

Ella, died in infancy.

Leonard, b                      d                      m Clara Davis.

William Henry.

Anna Mason, deceased.

Leonard.

Henry, died in infancy.

Leonard, deceased.

Eliza Hunton.

Mary, b Dec. 18, 1868.

Edith, deceased.

Hannah Minthorn, b                      d                      m Jan. 23, 1849, John R. Masters.

John Sommers.

Edith.

Elizabeth.

m Lawrence Stabler.

Elizabeth, deceased.

Bezin.

William Henry Marbury.

Hester or Esther, deceased.

Hester or Esther, b                      d                      m William Lawson.

Samuel,

Thomas Baird, b                      d                      m Mary Denyse.

Samuel, deceased.

David Turner, deceased.

Hannah, who left no descendants.

Margaret, b           d           m 1841 William Browning, b May 7, 1792;  
d 1863.

Samuel, b Oct. 25, 1842; d Oct. 17, 1892; m Dec. 16, 1868, Lucretia  
Burdett.

Grace, b Oct. 2, 1869; m Rev. J. J. Moore.

Paul,

Adele, b Aug. 30, 1871.

William, deceased.

Louise, deceased.

Thomas Baird, b Sept 9, 1844.

m Nov. 6, 1868, Alice Virginia Marbury.

Thomas Baird, b Sept. 3, 1869; d Sept. 28, 1884.

Edith Marbury, b Sept. 23, 1871.

Alice, b Oct. 28, 1873.

Henry, b Jan. 16, 1847; d Aug. 10, 1873; m Charlotte  
Boardman.

Nathaniel M., who left no descendants.

Jane, who left no descendants

Thomas E. Baird, son of Samuel, went to Washington, D. C., where he met George Rodney and Thomas Tyler, who had a contract for furnishing stone for the United States treasury building from the quarry on their plantation in Stafford County, Virginia. Thomas E. went with the Tylers, who were related to the President, to their home, and later married their youngest sister, Mary Ann Tyler. He survived the Tyler brothers and finished the contract, passing the remainder of his life in Alexandria, Virginia.

Samuel Lawson died before his brother, Thomas B. Lawson, at Fall River, Mass., where he was engaged in the iron business.

Thomas Baird Lawson often visited at Warwick, at Mrs. George W. Sanford's, who was a cousin, and among the other relatives. He was an expert accountant in New York, and a delightful conversationalist. He knew more about the Baird family than any of the Warwick branch. He always said that the Bairds came from Bally Castle, Ireland, in the Boat King William. He had two sons, both of whom are deceased, leaving no descendants. His youngest son, David Turner Lawson, graduated at Cornell University in 1873 as a civil engineer.

The daughter, Margaret Baird, married Joseph Walling, and by him had three children:

Sarah, who died at six years of age.

Francis Baird, b 1786; d 1861.

Joseph.

(For Walling descendants see Appendix.)

From the Hardyston Memorial by Rev. A. A. Haines page 25, in speaking of the early settlers of Hardyston Township, Sussex County, New Jersey, says: "Joseph Walling, Sr., came in very early. He owned a tract of land extending from the Wallkill, and the lands of the Sharps and the Lawrences, for nearly a mile east. He lived at first in a log house, but, about 1750, erected his frame dwelling (See cut in the Memorial.) Some have called this the first frame house in Hamburg. At any rate it was superior to all that has preceded it, and standing on the State road, was

for more than a century the central landmark of the village. The house was licensed as an inn and on ancient maps, the place is designated as "Wallings."

It was consumed by fire in 1859, and the house of Richard E. Edsall now stands upon its site. When General Washington, during the Revolutionary War, passed through from Newburgh to Easton, he is said to have dined at the stone house of Colonel John Hathorn, this side of Warwick, to have spent the night in the Walling house, and the night following at New Town (Newton) where he was entertained by Thomas Anderson, Assistant Quartermaster of the Continental Army. \* \* \* Joseph Walling, Jr. built what is commonly called the Samuel Riggs house which is still standing. There he died at the age of twenty-four, leaving three children, Francis, Joseph and Polly. The land passed out of their hands, Francis when grown lived at Amity, but returned for one year to Hamburg and worked at the tanner's trade. They were the ancestors of the Wallings now living among us."

This Joseph Walling, Jr., was the husband of Margaret Baird, and the daughter Polly referred to by Mr. Haines is the one known as Sarah who died in infancy.

Another writer in speaking of Joseph Walling says: He is supposed to have been a man of considerable means for he took up a large amount of land in that place and although he died in middle life, he was the possessor of some three thousand acres, owning tracts about Hamburg and nearly all the land from Tompkins Corners to Hamburg. He died on the Charles De Kay tract, which he owned, in Vernon.

His son Francis Baird Walling learned the tanner and currier business of Maj. James Wheeler of Warwick, during his minority; afterwards with his brother Joseph went to Cincinnati, where they were engaged in business for a time and were very successful. Returning he married, (1) Margaret Perry and then (2) Mrs. Van Court by whom he had the children above mentioned.

After returning from Cincinnati, Francis engaged in the tanning and currying business at Amity, and during the latter part of his life became a large farmer.

Although his father acquired considerable property, through complications in business matters little was received by his children, and consequently they started out in life with little pecuniary assistance.

Francis Walling was a thorough-going business man, belonging to the old line Whig party, but was no seeker after political place. He furnished a substitute for the war of 1812, was patriotic and a strong supporter of the government.

His brother Joseph continued to live in the west and is said to have left descendants.

The oldest son of Francis Baird, William Eagles, was married on Feb. 22, 1784 to Sarah DeKay (b April 24, 1766 d. June 5, 1819) a daughter of Capt. Thomas Dekay, who at that time resided on the Townsend W. Sanford farm, which adjoined the Baird homestead. To them were born 10 children, as follows:

Esther, b July 7, 1785; d July 15, 1785.  
Nathaniel Wheeler, b July 31, 1787; d April 7, 1838.  
Mary, b March 17, 1790; d June 9, 1836.  
Abia Francis, b Sept. 3, 1792; d July 18, 1848.  
Elizabeth, b Sept. 27, 1794; d Oct. 27, 1794.  
Jane Ann, b Sept. 8, 1795; d July 14, 1853.  
Frances, b Aug. 4, 1802; d March 10, 1889.  
Sarah, b Sept. 16, 1802; d April 1, 1886.  
Juliana E., b Dec. 22, 1805; d June 6, 1808.  
Christian Eliza, b March 17, 1809; d Oct. 7, 1896.

Three of these children, Esther, Elizabeth and Juliana E., died in infancy. Jane Ann died in her 58th year unmarried. She always made her home at this house. She was a tailoress by trade, and a most estimable lady. I have heard it said of her that she was a perfect lady, and taught her nephews and nieces many things, and especially good manners and deportment.

Sarah, the wife of Nathaniel Pelton, left no issue, and is well remembered by many of us, as kindly, genial and very hospitable. She is buried in the Warwick Cemetery beside her husband in the Pelton plot. Here are also buried William Eagles Baird, his wife Sarah and daughter Jane Ann, all of whom had been previously buried in the DeKay burying ground on the Townsend W. Sanford farm, but whose bodies were afterwards removed to the Pelton plot by Mrs. David H. Barclay of Newburgh, a daughter and sister respectively of the parties.

It may be interesting to those who desire to know more of their DeKay ancestors, that there are also buried in this old burying ground (on the Sanford farm) with stones to mark their graves, the parents of Sarah DeKay Baird, with the following inscriptions:

Capt. Thomas DeKay  
who departed this life  
Feb. 12, 1810,  
in the 78th year of his age.

Mary DeKay  
wife of Thomas DeKay  
died, Dec. 21, 1820  
in the 82nd year.

Christian  
wife of Nathaniel Wheeler  
daughter of Thomas and Mary  
DeKay, died, Nov. 7, 1853  
aged 84 years, 8 months, 25 days.

The other children of William Eagles Baird and Sarah DeKay his wife married and had children, and their names and descendants, so far as the writer has been able to get them, are given in the appendix below.

William Eagles was a farmer, or yeoman as described in the old deeds, that is, a freeholder, or a man free born. In England a yeoman is considered next in order to the gentry.

He bought and moved to this homestead in the year 1789, and the farm has been continuously in his and his descendants' ownership ever since, or more than 121 years.

The title deeds are still in the present owner's possession, many of

them unrecorded, but in excellent preservation, and it is a pleasing coincidence that the present owner bears the same name as his worthy great-grandfather.

The deeds for the first four tracts conveyed to William Eagles Baird are as follows:

1. From William Wickham, attorney at law of the City of New York, conveying for the consideration of 32 pounds current money of the state, dated, March 31, 1789, 35 acres, 3 roods and 31 rods of land.
2. From Thomas DeKay, yeoman of the town of Warwick, dated, June 8, 1789, conveying for the consideration of 90 pounds current money of N. Y. 40 acres of land.
3. From Thomas DeKay and Mary his wife of the town of Warwick, dated, May 1, 1794, conveying for the consideration of 157 pounds, 5 acres and 31 rods of land.
4. From Thomas DeKay of Warwick, dated, May 1, 1794, conveying for the consideration of 21 pounds current money of the state, 9 acres of land, 3 quarters and 9 rods of land, beginning on the west side of DeKay's mill pond, &c. (Note.)

Those deeds conveyed in all 90 acres, 3 roods, and 31 rods for a total consideration of 300 pounds.

There was a house on the property before the present one was built, but its location cannot be told with certainty; one of the deeds, No. 3 above refers to the place of beginning as being two rods from William E. Baird's house, and another No. 2 as beginning on the west side of the creek, below William E. Baird's house. Probably it stood not far from the present house and it may have been on part of the same foundation. These old deeds refer to DeKay's mill pond, which would imply that there had been a mill there in his time.

This house was begun in 1809 and was probably completed in 1810, as that date appears in the North gable. Who was the builder and where the materials came from it is impossible to say; limestone abounds on the farm and the stone may have been secured right here. That the house was well built is attested by the fact of its splendid condition to-day after standing for a century.

The style is excellent, and we the descendants of this good builder may well feel a pride in looking upon it to-day after the storms and stress of the hundred years through which it has passed, still finding it as homelike and attractive as of old.

This house has been the scene of many a joy and many a sorrow; here have been born within its walls 16 children; five marriages have been celebrated and many dear ones have had the last sad rites said over their remains here.

(NOTE)—There appears among the title deeds a conveyance from William E. Baird to Thomas DeKay of Sussex County, N. J., dated, August 22, 1799, of the four tracts above mentioned for the consideration of 300 pounds. The property remained his nominal possession until Feb. 2, 1824, when he or his son re-conveyed the same to Nathaniel W. and Abia F. Baird, Jr., sons of William E. Baird, deceased, for the consideration of \$5.00. Whether the said Thomas DeKay built the house during this interim it is impossible to say, but judging from the re-conveyance in 1824 to William's two sons for a nominal consideration, it would seem that the Bairds must have continued in possession during the time of this transfer and built the house and made other improvements on the farm. The Thomas DeKay to whom the conveyance was made may have been the father-in-law of the said William, but the conveyance back to Nathaniel W. and Abia F. must have been by his son. The father-in-law died in 1810.





FRANCES AMELIA BAIRD SANFORD  
1827-1911

William Eagles Baird died in 1814, aged 49 years, having had ten children, eight of whom survived him and his widow Sarah DeKay Baird. He left a will dated, April 24, 1814, probated on July 8th of that year, wherein he leaves all of his real estate to his two sons, Nathaniel Wheeler and Abia Francis, charged with the payment of certain legacies to his wife and daughters. Nathaniel Wheeler Baird and Thomas Sproull were named as executors. The will directed that testator's daughter Jane Ann should be supported from his real estate during the time she lived a single life.

An inventory of his personal estate made by Gilbert Wheeler and James Wheeler appraisers on July 23, 1814, amounted to \$783.45. Among other things enumerated are 3 horses (\$80), 4 cows (\$90), 9 hogs (\$28), 2 heifers; 30 shocks of wheat; 20 do rye; wagons, harness; 45 lbs wool (\$25), bed linen (\$36.95), table linen (\$25), feather beds, bedding, &c. (\$40), wooden clock (\$25), 3 fiddle back chairs; 6 Windsor chairs, andirons, &c.

This homestead, on the death of William Eagles, passed into the ownership of his two sons, Nathaniel Wheeler and Abia Francis Baird, (designated as Junior to distinguish from his uncle Abia Francis, the lawyer.)

On February 3, 1824, Abia Francis Baird, Jr., and Lany Forshee, his wife, conveyed their right, title and interest in this homestead to Nathaniel W. Baird for the consideration of \$1000. From Warwick they went to Montezuma, in Cayuga County in this state. Nine children were born to them. (See appendix.) Abia Francis died on July 16, 1848, and is buried with his wife at Mentz, in the same county.

Nathaniel Wheeler Baird married Abigail Denton, a daughter of Samuel and Juliana Roe Denton, and by her had eight children (See appendix) all of whom were born in this house. Mr. Baird died in 1838, leaving his widow and eight children surviving, who continued to live at the homestead until they married and left home. Samuel Denton Baird bought out the other heirs and continued to reside here until his death in 1892. His son William Parks Baird bought out the shares of his brothers and sister in 1907, and is now the present owner of the homestead and our host to-day.

Nathaniel Wheeler Baird served in the War of 1812, and was known as Captain Baird. His son, Charles Roe Baird, served in the N. Y. 71st Regt. Co. I, in the War of the Rebellion.

Finally, in reviewing the history of this ancient family, since the advent of the pioneer, Francis, nearly 150 years ago, I find that it has made a record of which we may well be proud. The family has increased and multiplied many fold.

Nearly 150 invitations were sent out to summon the kinsmen to this celebration. The descendants live in many different states—in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Illinois, Michigan, California and Washington.

Responses and regrets have been received from many. Some have come from afar to participate in these festivities.

One lady, Mrs. Frances Amelia Baird Sanford, returns to her birthplace to day, with the weight of 83 years resting upon her, to unite with us

and her only surviving brother William Henry Baird, both of the fourth generation, in this centennial.

Descendants of Margaret Baird, the wife of Joseph Walling, deceased, are with us in large numbers. Descendants of Abia Francis Baird of the fifth generation, have traversed this great state to be present. Many others are here of the fifth, sixth and even seventh generations.

To each and all of these beloved kinsmen, who are with us, either in spirit or in person, we bid a hearty welcome.

While the Baird sons and daughters may not have achieved any special distinction in state or national affairs, they have, I believe, been worthy citizens, acting well their part in the drama of life. Industry and thrift have been at least two prime characteristics. That they or two of them, were master-builders, is evidenced by the fact of the two houses, already referred to, standing to-day after the lapse of 150 and 100 years respectively.

The Baird women should not be forgotten and are entitled to special praise. They have been noble and fruitful mothers, and their children rise up to-day and call them blessed.







NATHANIEL AUSTIN BAIRD  
1844-1906

## APPENDIX

### William Eagles Baird's Descendants.

- Nathaniel Wheeler Baird, b July 31, 1787; d April 7, 1838; m Abigail Denton; b Nov. 5, 1798; d Aug. 23, 1879.
- Julia, b           d           m Thomas E. DeKay.  
William Nathaniel, b           d
- John, b June 4, 1820, d April 12, 1906; m Oct. 27, 1841, Mary DeKay, b April 26, 1823; d July 7, 1905.
- Nathaniel Austin, b June 25, 1844; d Aug. 20, 1906; m Jan. 18, 1871, Clara Benedict.
- William Lawrence, b April 2, 1872; m July 7, 1897, Elizabeth King.
- Ernest A., b Oct. 23, 1873; m Dec. 21, 1898, Elizabeth Hill.  
Ruth, b Nov. 21, 1899; d July 19, 1900.
- Howard M., b Oct. 14, 1875; m Oct. 27, 1905, Eva Longworthy; d May 13, 1907.  
m (2) Dec. 12, 1911, Jessie Evans.
- John C., b July 17, 1880; m March 18, 1906, May Sayer.
- Mabel D., b March 30, 1882; m Feb., 1911, Warren S. Green.
- Percy M., b Nov. 9, 1885; m Oct. 25, 1909, Ruth Leonard.  
Howard Leonard, b Sept. 21, 1910.
- Julia, b April 7, 1846; d June 21, 1880; m Feb. 6, 1867, John W. Houston.
- Floyd Reeves, b Feb. 20, 1868; m Nov. 18, 1896, Clara T. Warner, b Oct. 2, 1871.  
Floyd D., b Sept. 4, 1899.  
Mildred, b Sept. 10, 1901.  
John R., b Nov. 10, 1903.
- George, b Dec. 18, 1869; m (1) Abigail L. Wood, Feb. 28, 1889.  
Julia E., b May 18, 1890.  
Clara, b June 5, 1891; d Oct. 10, 1891.  
Myra, b Dec. 16, 1892.  
m (2) Oct. 15, 1903, Alice M. Witherell.
- James C., b Feb. 6, 1872; m June 30, 1896, Florence Helena Williams; no children.
- Frank S., m Lottie Hutchinson.  
Mary.  
Clara.
- Clara, b March 3, 1873; m March 23, 1904, Edgar A. Houston.  
Oliver Allen, b May 1, 1905.  
James Carr, b April 3, 1908.  
Margaret.
- Mary F., b May 30, 1848; d April, 1908; m Feb. 6, 1867, Thomas B. Stewart.
- Mary, m Feb. 9, 1888, James B. Laroe.  
Helen.  
Stewart.  
Clifford Baird.  
Mark K.  
John Seeger.
- Julia, m June 5, 1895, Frank Laroe.  
Lorna.  
Frank W.  
Mary Winifred.

Samuel J., m Annie Lane.  
     Anna.  
     Marion.  
     Julia.  
     Helen.  
     Samuel.  
     Durland.  
     Thomas.  
 Isaac Sharpe, b July 14, 1850; m (1) Oct. 13, 1873, Mary  
     Frances Cole; d Sept. 25, 1877.  
     Anna M., b Jan. 30, 1875; m Oct. 22, 1896, Jacob Calhoun.  
     Bertha, b Feb. 25, 1877; d  
     m (2) Mary Eleanor Benedict.  
 Thomas Blain, b Aug. 4, 1852; d Sept. 15, 1882; m Mary L.  
     Utter.  
     Thomas, m Ella Vance.  
     Maud, m J. William Coates.  
         Emma May.  
         Charles William.  
         Mary E.  
         Grace B.  
         George E.  
         Ernest T.  
 John Henry, m July 22, 1882, Minnie W. Posten.  
     Wilbur C., b Feb. 9, 1884; m June 9, 1906, Anna Reardon.  
     Julia Helena, b Feb. 9, 1888; d Aug. 25, 1888.  
     Nellie, b March 15, 1889; m June 21, 1910, William Gleeson.  
     Ralph, b Aug. 28, 1892.  
     Mildred, b Jan. 10, 1895.  
     Harold, b Sept. 26, 1896.  
     Clara Alice, b Aug. 31, 1899.  
     John H., b June 14, 1905.  
 Samuel W., b July 15, 1856; d Jan. 21, 1881.  
 Clara, b Aug. 29, 1858; d Aug. 14, 1881.  
 Sarah C., b Aug. 3, 1860.  
     m (1) Dec. 22, 1880, James H. Bertholf.  
     Charles E., b Nov. 13, 1882.  
     Mary J., b Dec. 16, 1885.  
     Fred K., b Sept. 1, 1887; d April 23, 1894  
     m (2) Dec. 30, 1911, Adam Jackowska.  
     Fannie, b Feb. 24, 1864; d April 18, 1864.  
 Samuel Denton Baird, b Oct. 10, 1822; d Nov. 19, 1892.  
     m (1) June 9, 1866, Susie Montross; d.  
     Abby, b June 7, 1867; d July 15, 1868.  
     m (2) July 9, 1875, Sarah Parks.  
     Susan, b Oct. 13, 1876; m Oct. 13, 1900, Pierre S. Demerest.  
     Samuel Denton, b March 2, 1878.  
     Nathaniel Wheeler, b July 29, 1879; m Oct. 2, 1909, Adalyn L.  
         Ackerman.  
         Nathaniel A., b March, 1911.  
     William Parks, b Feb. 11, 1881; m March 17, 1909, Anna M. Jayne.  
     Fred J., b March 7, 1883,  
     George Mapes, b Dec. 4, 1885.  
 Mary Baird, b Jan. 15, 1825; d March 16, 1895; m Nov. 19, 1844,  
     Ogden Howell.  
 Sidney Ogden, b March 12, 1847; m July 31, 1878, Nellie M. Post.  
     James Ogden, b Oct. 2, 1879; d Feb. 25, 1882.  
     Randolph Churchill, b Sept. 17, 1884; m Feb. 19, 1910, May  
         Waterbury.  
     Ogden Lewis.

Susan, b Sept. 30, 1849; m Dec. 28, 1870, Gilbert P. Hopkins.  
     Bertha, b Sept. 27, 1871; d March 18, 1883.  
     Mary, b Sept. 3, 1876; d Sept. 4, 1876.  
     James S., b Jan. 12, 1886.  
 Mary Meeker, b March 20, 1852.  
 Charles Baird, b Sept. 17, 1855; d March 19, 1909; m Sept. 26,  
     1888, Susan Pierson.  
     George Gouge, b Jan. 9, 1890.  
     Anna Craft, b May 20, 1891; d Jan. 14, 1896.  
     Russell Bull, b April 4, 1893.  
     Bertha, b Dec. 12, 1895.  
     Charles Baird, b Nov. 16, 1897.  
     Elizabeth, b Oct. 6, 1900.  
     Pierson Beyea, b May 19, 1903.  
     John Archer, b June 24, 1905.  
     Marion, b April 30, 1909.  
 Elizabeth H., b June 25, 1858; m June 25, 1884, William H. Wyker.  
     Helen Ludlum, b Jan. 13, 1887; d June 28, 1887.  
     Alfred Ogden, b May 3, 1891.  
 Samuel Denton, b Apr. 20, 1861; d Jan. 23, 1863.  
 Albert Crane, b Aug. 28, 1862; d Feb. 5, 1863.  
 Daniel Webster, b Dec. 16, 1863; d Sept. 3, 1864.  
 Frances Amelia, b April 15, 1827; d Jan. 26, 1911; m Jan. 28, 1847,  
     George W. Sanford, b Nov. 5, 1821; d Jan. 6, 1900.  
 Lansing Haight, b Oct. 18, 1848; d Sept. 23, 1900.  
     m (1) 1871, Mary Phelps Cooper.  
     Mary Bessie, b July 3, 1873; m Edward Wheeler Everett.  
     m (2) Nellie Murdock, no children.  
 Nathaniel Baird, b July 4, 1850; d May 27, 1851.  
 Ezra, b Nov. 19, 1854; d Jan. 2, 1855.  
 Ferdinand Van Derveer, b April 19, 1856; m April 14, 1885,  
     Rowena Herrick.  
     George Herrick, b Jan. 30, 1886; d Jan. 1, 1890.  
     Ferdinand Doan, b Mar. 1, 1888.  
     Marion Burt, b Oct. 7, 1890.  
     John Alden, b Feb. 20, 1893.  
     Winthrop, b Feb. 22, 1896.  
     William Wendover, b Sept. 28, 1904; d Oct. 18, 1907.  
 George Alden, b Nov. 30, 1858  
     m (1) Sarah E. Gouldy, Feb., 1887; d July 5, 1897.  
     m (2) Helen Gillespie, May 25, 1907.  
     Alden Gillespie, b. Dec. 24, 1910.  
 Mary Elizabeth, b Jan. 20, 1861; m April 1909, Frank Elsworth  
     Smith.  
 John Wheeler, b May 13, 1864; m Oct. 6, 1897, Bertha Furman.  
     Frances Isabel, b Feb. 11, 1900.  
     Bertha Elizabeth, b Jan. 29, 1905.  
     John Wheeler, b Jan. 8, 1910.  
 Francis Baird, b Oct. 30, 1871; m Nov. 30, 1898, Sarah Welling.  
     Mary Bessie, b Jan. 15, 1903.  
     Helen, b March 10, 1909.  
 Sarah Louise, b May 11, 1830; d June 22, 1909; m Oct. 31, 1852,  
     Thomas J. Taylor, (1828-1910.)  
 Margaret, b Sept. 17, 1853; m Oct. 1, 1874, DeWitt J. Parkhurst,  
     (1850-1903)  
     Floyd V., b July 18, 1875; m Jan. 29, 1903, Evangeline Roe.  
     Mildred Evangeline, b Jan. 5, 1904.  
     Sara E., b Nov. 23, 1878.  
     Lewis D., b March 11, 1882.  
     Christina T., b Jan. 31, 1884; d Aug. 2, 1884.

Mary J., b April 13, 1886.  
 Frances M., b Oct. 22, 1888; d Jan. 9, 1889.  
 Thomas T., b July 26, 1890.  
 Mary Abbey, b June 3, 1857; d Dec. 21, 1857.  
 Charles Baird, b Oct. 25, 1858; m Sept. 6, 1905. Rose F. Bremer.  
 Morrison, b Jan. 6, 1862; m (1) Feb. 25, 1892. Martha J. Howell,  
 (1863-1909.)  
 Howell, b Oct. 28, 1893.  
 Sarah C., b Aug. 8, 1895.  
 m (2) March 28, 1911, Alberta Sturr.  
 William Chauncey, b Oct. 31, 1863; m Jan. 5, 1893, Matilda A.  
 Kale, b Feb. 11, 1869.  
 Chauncey Vincent, b Nov. 24, 1893.  
 Francis, b May 14, 1896.  
 Thomas J., b May 2, 1898.  
 William M., b April 18, 1900.  
 Margaret Mary, b May 7, 1902.  
 Charles Baird, Jr., b Feb. 7, 1904.  
 Rose Marie, b June 18, 1909.  
 Sara Christina, b Jan. 30, 1865; m Oct. 22, 1891, William V. Sturr.  
 Mary E., b May 29, 1893.  
 Walter E., b Aug. 5, 1895.  
 William Henry, b Jan. 10, 1834; m (1) July, 1861, Laura E. Gibbs;  
 d 1866.  
 Cora Abby, b July 24, 1862; d 1896; m 1883, — Leonard.  
 One child died in infancy.  
 m (2) Mary Lameroux.  
 Charles Roe, b Sept. 13, 1836; d March 10, 1901; m Anna M.  
 Jayne, Feb. 27, 1862.  
 Lillian, b March 15, 1863; m Nov. 26, 1884, Edward N. K.  
 Talcott.  
 Ralph Emerson, b May 11, 1886.  
 Harry Buxton, b July 9, 1888.  
 Dorothy Baird, b Dec. 16, 1894.  
 Minnie Christine, b Nov. 23, 1864.  
 Charles Seely, b April 12, 1875; m Jan. 17, 1899, Elizabeth Mae  
 VanHouten.  
 Ruth Louise, b Feb. 11, 1900.

**Mary (Polly) Baird**, b March 17, 1790; d June 9, 1836; m Thomas  
 Hathorn Burt.  
 William Baird, b Dec. 13, 1810; d Sept. 17, 1853; m Eliza Riekey.  
 William, b April 20, 1836; d Nov. 23, 1837.  
 Thomas, b April 14, 1839; d Oct. 10, 1854.  
 Abbie, b Aug. 19, 1842; m 1862, James Gilmore.  
 Burt, twice m  
 Helen, child by first wife; d.  
 William, m Agnes Latimer.  
 One child; d.  
 Roscoe.  
 McFarland.  
 James, m Lillian Knoblock.  
 Helen; d.  
 Jesse.  
 William R., b Nov. 24, 1850; m 1876, Susan Turner.  
 Mary J., b Aug. 30, 1879.  
 George DeKay, b March 7, 1813; d Jan. 18, 1853; m Mary Hamil-  
 ton.

Francis H., b Oct. 24, 1839; d Jan. 23, 1890; m 1859, Marian  
Hollenbeck.  
George, m Harriet Baker.  
Ina, m Frank Botts.  
Leslie.  
Floyd Merton.  
Ada.  
Austin.  
Nellie, m Claude Wallace.  
Clifford.  
Anna May, m Wells Hewitt.  
Marian.  
Anna M., b March 27, 1847; d m William Ewell.  
Eva.  
Frank, m Alice Tucker.  
Burt.  
Glenn.  
William.  
Henry.

Sarah Maria, b Aug. 3, 1816; d Dec. 19, 1902; m Ira Townsend.  
Thomas Albert, b Oct. 12, 1839; d Sept. 24, 1861.  
Mary J., b Sept. 16, 1843; m N. M. Wellman.  
Albert, b April 30, 1867; m Laura Smith.  
George, b Sept. 4, 1888.  
William, b Oct. 7, 1890.  
Amy, b 1893; d 1895.  
Anna, b May 19, 1895.  
Lloyd, b Jan., 1897.  
Howard, b July 2, 1899.  
Lewis, b Sept., 1901.  
Chauncey, b July 3, 1906.  
Kenneth, b Aug. 7, 1907.  
Adelaide E., b June 24, 1876; m Ira Milroy.  
Theron W., b June 16, 1901.  
Albert E., b March 16, 1904.  
Winifred, b June 21, 1878; m C. W. McKeever.  
George Durell, b April 25, 1850; m Mary Grant.  
Jane Ann, b Oct. 9, 1818; d Jan. 19, 1895.  
m (1) Alexander MacFarland.  
m (2) Matthias Crowner.  
Thomas Richard, (unmarried.)

**Abia Francis Baird**, b Sept. 3, 1792; d July 16, 1848; m Lany Forshee,  
Mary Jane, b Feb. 11, 1826; d Dec. 29, 1868; m John C. Morrison  
May 6, 1852.  
John Baird, b 1853; d 1853.  
Lany A., b Aug. 6, 1855; m Sept. 26, 1890, George Caswell.  
Martha A., b April 2, 1858; m Jan. 30, 1878, Lyman B Fresh-  
hour.  
Harry, b March 10, 1880; m March 5, 1902, Julia Belle  
Miner.  
Lyman Baird, b May 19, 1903.  
Martha Lillian, b March 11, 1906.  
Archibald Hector, b July 27, 1860; d Aug. 21, 1881.  
Mary Frances, b May 25, 1862; m Oct. 18, 1882, Seymour  
Freshour.  
Frank, b May 20, 1885; m June 27, 1908, Blanche Roar-  
beck.  
Esther Louise.

Herbert T., b April 16, 1866; m Feb. 22, 1889, Allie Southwick.  
     Mabel, b Jan. 10, 1890.  
     Myrtle, b June 22, 1892.  
     Martha, b Aug. 30, 1895.  
     Lany Frances, b April 21, 1897.  
 Catharine Baird, b Jan. 11, 1828; m Oct. 24, 1848, Philip Martin.  
     Nettie, b Oct. 17, 1849; d Oct. 30, 1851.  
     Frank Baird, b Dec. 17, 1852; m April 2, 1874, Addie Caldwell.  
     Iva Hannah, b April 30, 1875.  
 Clara Edith, b July 29, 1864, m Oct. 10, 1893, Alfred Baber.  
     Catherine Augusta, b Jan. 11, 1898.  
     Philip Edmund, b May 2, 1902.  
 John F., b Jan. 14, 1830; d Sept. 21, 1899; m July 23, 1857, Mary  
     V. Hicks.  
     James, b May 6, 1858; d Jan. 25, 1893; m Sept. 1, 1891, Lillie  
         G. Porter.  
     Grace Vivian, b May 24, 1892.  
 Christina E., b April 7, 1860; d Oct. 31, 1864.  
 Charles F., b Dec. 25, 1865; m Nov. 28, 1890, Cora V. Young.  
     Thomas J., b Aug. 24, 1891.  
     Ralph G., b Feb. 23, 1893.  
     Lucy Alice, b Dec. 25, 1894.  
     Abram L., b March 7, 1897.  
     Esther Nora, b Jan. 27, 1899.  
     Laura, b Jan. 28, 1901; d Sept. 15, 1902.  
     Lester Jess, b April 11, 1904.  
     Troy C., b Aug. 3, 1908.  
 Mary Catherine, b Oct. 21, 1868; d May 15, 1871.  
 Frank T., b Oct. 28, 1874; d Dec. 4, 1897.  
 Mary Catherine, b March 12, 1877; m Feb. 28, 1903, J. A.  
     Heathfield.  
 Sarah Baird, b March 12, 1832; m Dec. 28, 1853, Andrew Jackson  
     Sanders; d Dec. 7, 1888.  
 Arthur M., b Oct. 3, 1854; d Feb., 1905; m June 16, 1880,  
     Emma F. Wheeler.  
     Frances Wheeler, b Dec. 10, 1887; d Dec. 13.  
     Mary Louise, b Oct. 21, 1889.  
     Marjory Ward, b Oct. 20, 1890.  
     Arthur Llewellyn, b Aug. 30, 1891; d Jan. 3, 1896.  
     Avery Wheeler, b Feb. 9, 1894.  
     Emma Morse, b Oct. 31, 1895; d March 1, 1896.  
 Mary Ardilla, b July 23, 1856.  
 Francis Abner, b Nov. 17, 1858; m Jan., 1883, Alice Wallace.  
     Marion Wallace, died in infancy.  
     Frances Marie, b May 11, 1886; m April, 1906, Robert J.  
         Little.  
     Mildred Sarah, b Dec. 27, 1893.  
 Katherine Gertrude, b June 2, 1861.  
 Jane Baird, b Sept. 26, 1864.  
 Frances Helen, b Oct. 15, 1866; m June 18, 1895, William  
     Claude Jirdinston.  
 Llewellyn Jackson, b Oct. 27, 1872; m June 19, 1901, Grace  
     Wilkins.  
     Arthur Jackson, b Feb. 27, 1911.  
 David Baird, b Sept. 16, 1834; d May 9, 1901; m Jan. 7, 1866, Lu-  
     cretia A. Green.  
     Kate, b Oct. 4, 1866.  
     Fannie, b May 10, 1868; m June 12, 1899, Leonard Josiah Ben-  
         nett.  
     Alegin, b Dec. 31, 1907.





WILLIAM BLAIN  
1821-1889

Claud, b Feb. 23, 1875.  
Rhea, b Nov. 6, 1895.  
Ray, b Nov. 26, 1877.  
Thomas Benton Baird, b Feb. 8, 1837; d May 30, 1898; m Ellen —  
Nellie, b July 12, 1867; m April 11, 1893. Robert G. Williams,  
Henry.  
Laura.  
Laura, b Jan. 14, 1877.  
Martin VanBuren Baird, b Jan. 2, 1841; m Feb. 6, 1862, Cynthia  
A. French.  
Anna, d 1864.  
Myrta, b April 16, 1865; m Nov. 1, 1893, Ernest Litchfield.  
Josephine, b Aug. 10, 1897.  
Sarah, b Oct. 16, 1867; m April 23, 1887, Adelbert Litchfield.  
Leigh, b Sept. 21, 1890.  
Louis, b Dec. 23, 1895.  
Mary Esther, b Nov. 25, 1897.  
Ned, b April 8, 1870; m Sept. 6, 1908, Violet Nensel.  
Martin W., b May 17, 1879; m May 7, 1910, Emma Dapha.  
William Baird, b Nov. 9, 1842; m 1865, Carrie Emerick.  
Nettie, m and had two children.  
Frank.  
An infant that died in 1874.

**Frances Baird**, b Aug. 4, 1800; d March 10, 1889; m Dec. 28, 1820,  
Abia Blain.  
William, b Sept. 30, 1821; d March 5, 1889; m Sept. 30, 1851,  
Helen Center; b July 13, 1832; d July 4, 1910.  
Fannie M., d Nov. 6, 1867.  
Theron K., b Aug. 30, 1853; m Laura C. McDowell.  
Helen Emily, b Dec. 27, 1878.  
Hortense, b Sept. 30, 1881; m Feb. 4, 1908, Albert B.  
Koehler.  
Gladys Eliza, b May 12, 1902.  
Ida W., b Nov. 14, 1855; m Henderson Fugate.  
William Blaine, b Oct. 12, 1881.  
Nathaniel A., b Nov. 18, 1859; m Elizabeth Bargeman.  
George Adolph, b July 10, 1909.  
Sarah Jane, b July 10, 1824; d Feb. 28, 1887; m Sept. 17, 1846,  
Henry Lovejoy.  
Elizabeth, b July 22, 1826; d Dec. 10, 1836.  
Pauline, b May 27, 1832; d Jan. 5, 1842.  
Christina, b Oct. 30, 1835; d Jan. 19, 1866; m William Zeek.  
Cynthia, b Aug. 29, 1828; m Sept. 23, 1852, George Howland.  
Abia, d June 18, 1885.

**Christina Eliza**, b March 17, 1809; d Oct. 7, 1896; m Jan. 25, 1842,  
David H. Barclay; b April 10, 1801; d March 30, 1879.  
Anna J., b Feb. 3, 1844; d Aug. 27, 1893.  
Robert, b March 16, 1846; d Aug. 24, 1847.  
David, b Dec. 29, 1848.



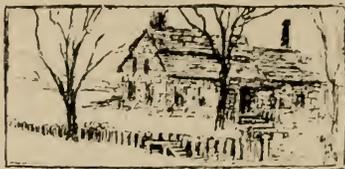
- James, b 1879; d March 27, 1881.  
 Anna M., b Dec. 25, 1881.  
 Henry, b Aug. 3, 1889.  
 George H., b Feb. 7, 1851; m Julia A. Walling.  
 (See descendants below.)  
 Francis, b Aug. 13, 1853; d Feb. 15, 1854.  
 John R., b Aug. 3, 1855; m Lucy E. Bull.  
 Edyth Lucille, b June 30, 1876.  
 Sarah Abigail, b Dec., 1879.  
 Matilda Jane, b July 13, 1882.  
 Anna Delia, b Nov. 30, 1857; m William Seely.  
 Elizabeth Munson.  
 Almeda.  
 Anna.  
 Ruth.  
 Elizabeth M., b March 10, 1860; m June 24, 1885, Fred W.  
 Wilson.  
 Caroline A., b 1888; d 1896.  
 Lillian, b  
 Amos M., b Dec. 25, 1862; d March 13, 1886.  
 Charles F., b June 14, 1866; m Minnie Clark.  
 Hannah, m Frederick Gulick.  
 Abia F., m Jane Ryerson.  
 John R., m Fannie Brown.  
 Charles.  
 Helen.  
 Ruth.  
 Clinton Adams.  
 Frank, m Carrie Bennett.  
 Bennett.  
 Catherine.  
 Anna, m Ebenezer Bull.  
 Brice P.  
 m (1) Louisa Andrews.  
 m (2) Jane Harriet Schofield.  
 Meta, m Thomas E. Lyde.  
 Marguerite, m Ferdinand Hubert.  
 Elizabeth W., m George Minster.  
 George Walling.  
 Henry Schofield.  
 William.  
 m (1) Mrs. Jones.  
 m (2) Susan McBride Philby.  
 Flora.  
 Agnes, m George W. McElroy.  
 Walling.  
 Julia.  
 Katherine, m John Runyon.  
 Mildred.  
 2. Mrs. Mary Van Court. (Sister of Gov. John Wilcox.)  
 b July, 1798; d Feb. 29, 1872.  
 Julia, b Aug. 4, 1834; d Aug. 24, 1853.  
 Harriet, b Feb. 3, 1827; d May 8, 1854.  
 Mary, m Alfred Carling; no descendants.  
 Almeda, b Nov., 1841; d Jan., 1899; m Chauncey  
 Millspaugh, 1866.  
 Frank W., b March, 1869; m Helen Edsall,  
 George, b 1871.  
 Henry C., b Nov. 17, 1843; d July 21, 1872; m April 12,  
 1866, Sarah J. Sayre; b Oct. 26, 1843.

Frank, b July 19, 1867; d April 12, 1872.  
Julia A., b July 19, 1868; m March 6, 1901, George H.  
Walling.  
Susan Elizabeth, b Jan. 26, 1902.  
George Washington, b April 19, 1903.  
Francis Emily, b May 15, 1904.  
Charles Henry, b Jan. 18, 1906.  
Julia Marjorie, b Feb. 8, 1907.  
John, b April 31, 1908; d July 2, 1908.  
Frances Emily, b Dec. 27, 1870; m Feb. 5, 1896, John  
W. Welch; b Dec. 13, 1865.  
Ralph Sayre, b June 5, 1897.  
Sarab E., b March 24, 1899.  
Marguerite, b May 13, 1901.





ABIA FRANCIS BAIRD



FROM ORANGE  
TO CAYUGA



# ABIA FRANCIS BAIRD

## AN APPRECIATION.

BY KATHERINE GERTRUDE SANDERS.

### I.

A young man wandered, weak and weary,  
Through a country wild and eerie,  
O'er many a plain and woodland  
Of which he had heard before.  
While he walked on, never napping,  
Suddenly he heard a tapping,  
And it set his pulses rapping  
As they ne'er had done before.  
Only this, and nothing more.  
This it was and nothing more.

### II.

"Is this a portent, a thing of evil?  
Surely it is not the devil!"  
Said the youth, as peering through the  
Brambles which his clothing tore.  
"Ah, I see a path of yellow,  
T'is a flicker, gorgeous fellow,  
In his own peculiar bellow,  
Tapping at his own front door.  
Only that, and nothing more."  
Yes, 'twas that, and nothing more.

### III.

With his senses keenly shaken,  
New impulses began to waken,  
And this bird of brilliant plumage  
Seemed to o'er his fancies pour  
Such a strange, peculiar feeling  
That it sent him fairly reeling,  
As the bird was slowly wheeling  
Toward the Hudson's western shore.  
This he did, and nothing more.  
He did this, and nothing more.

### IV.

This same act he kept repeating,  
Kept revolving, kept retreating,  
As if beckoning the young man  
Toward the land of Indian lore.  
Something seemed within him calling,  
Just as Newton's apple falling,  
And Columbus' boats were hauling  
Those great men where surges roar.  
This he felt, and nothing more.  
He felt this, and nothing more.

### V.

The chandelier at Pisa swinging  
Set great Gallileo flinging  
Far across the world of Science  
Facts that ne'er were dreamed before.

[Twenty-ninth]

So this myth, or something other,  
Made my grandad leave his mother,  
Leave his sisters and his brother,  
Made his own and their hearts sore.  
For this something, something more.  
Unaccountable, something more.

VI.

Abia Francis Baird's obsession  
Was to gain some new possession.  
Cayuga County was far western  
Land of wild uncanny lore,  
Where the Indians were trying,  
And were very often sighing  
That their customs were all dying  
Which they'd used for ages o'er,  
But were using never more.  
Never, never, never more.

VII.

Still they often were exciting,  
Were quite partial to igniting  
Many strange and curious brands which  
Scared and burned to the heart's core.  
Grandma told of this one story,  
Which suggests the wierd and gory,  
And would make the hair grow hoary,  
Should it happen ever more.  
But it ceased long years before.  
Ceased forever, ever more.

VIII.

Indian traders had been dealing,  
With the best of friendly feeling,  
And exclaimed upon the goodness  
Of our people at their door.  
Grandma said "This kindly feeling  
Soon may set your senses reeling,  
And your ever moving wheeling Braves  
May once more thirst for gore.  
And may kill us ever more.  
Kill us all for ever more,"

IX.

"No, kind lady," said the speaker,  
And her pretty voice grew weaker,  
As she thought of all the kindness  
Which she had received before.  
"No," she said, with bright eyes snapping,  
While her foot was gently tapping,  
"I, myself, would kill you napping."  
And she smiled at thoughts of gore.  
Thoughts of deeds forever o'er.  
This she said and nothing more.

X.

Thus it was that life was going,  
When into Joneses he came blowing,  
Our good grandad, with adventures,  
Which he in the ear would pour,  
At the new canal he wondered !  
Yes, his stage-coach had been plundered,  
And the brigands at them thundered,

Made attempts upon their store;  
But got their purses, nothing more.  
Only purses, nothing more.

XI.

He boasted that he feared no raiders  
Among the Indians or traders,  
Nor of any strange and dangerous  
Wild beasts, with an awful roar.  
Naught he cared for any danger,  
Even if he was a stranger,  
He could meet with any ranger;  
Of his prowess great he swore.  
But smiled upon them, nothing more.  
Sweetly smiled and said no more.

XII.

Thus he boasted to his people,  
Thus much higher than a steeple,  
Went his plans and great ambitions,  
And almost his hair he tore,  
As he told of all the rappings,  
Of his visions, and theappings,  
Of the flicker and his snappings,  
Wheeling, beckoning on before.  
Of the something, something more.  
Strange, wierd and wild something more.

XIII.

At this something his brow darkened,  
At its mystery they harkened,  
As he told them how it lured him,  
Led him way from Hudson's shore.  
What it was he had a feeling,  
That he knew not, but a reeling,  
Strange sensation, like the sealing  
Of the fates in days of yore.  
This he felt and nothing more.  
Felt he this, and nothing more.

XIV.

Jones, his father's dearest cousin,  
Had resources by the dozen,  
And he took his fine young kinsman  
To his neighbor's open door.  
He was met with cordial greeting,  
And right there he had a meeting,  
Swift and strange, and ever fleeting,  
With a maiden—not Lenore!  
But Lany Forshee, evermore.  
Only her, and nothing more.

XV.

Evermore came the old feeling,  
That strange something; then came reeling  
Into many a strange and unknown corner  
Where he his emotions wore.  
And his heart came nigh to bursting,  
He seemed ever to be thirsting.  
And this thirsting and this bursting  
Ever left him, left him sore.

Was this the something, something more?  
Was it this, the something more?

XVI.

Yes it was the same old story!  
All the prowess, all the glory,  
All the strange and wierd sensations  
Which had led him on before,  
Slowly left him as the lover  
Quietly emerged from cover.  
Was there ever such another  
Since the long lost days of yore?  
In search of something, something more?  
Of the great, good something more.

XVII.

Yes, the story was a dear one,  
Like all others, meant to cheer one,  
When the youth and maiden marry,  
And live happy evermore.  
Those young lovers were well mated.  
All unworthy things they hated.  
But they ever were ill fated,  
For the shams of many more,  
Came to see them by the score.  
To stay if asked, forever more.

XVIII.

In Wolcott was their humble dwelling,  
And their hearts with love were swelling,  
And in time by thrift and patience  
They "had basket and had store."  
Grandma had a way of blinking  
As she saw her husband thinking,  
And felt that his heart was sinking,  
As he thought of days of yore  
Of his home near Hudson's shore.  
In Warwick were his thoughts of yore.

XIX.

Aunt Fannie Blaine lived in that region,  
On that account and reasons legion,  
Known to those who delve in records  
Of Wayne County's mystic lore,  
These first years were very pleasing.  
Then Cousin Jones began his teasing,  
In Cayuga County all were seizing,  
Land along the Erie's shore,  
The new canal would treasures pour  
With Montezuma's land boom roar.

XX.

But their cares were very many,  
And it cost them many a penny  
To provide for their small household,  
And necessities galore,  
Children came and kept on coming,  
And it kept them sharply humming,  
Kept them figuring and summing,  
That the wolf avoid their door.  
And he came not, ever more.  
Never, never, never more.





SARAH BAIRD SANDERS  
1882



CATHARINE BAIRD MARTIN  
1828

## XXI.

"Those were days of sorrows and joys,  
Interspersed with girls and boys."  
For a long time they were worried,  
For of girls they had four,  
And the boys of course were needed  
To help to keep the garden weeded,  
And the pastures to be seeded,  
And to tend to jobs galore.  
For this they were needed evermore.  
Forever needed, ever more.

## XXII.

Of their fourth girl there's a story,  
Which redounds to grandad's glory,  
For it shows that he was worthy  
Of his fathers gone before.  
It showed clearly his good breeding,  
Generations of fine seeding,  
To produce the virtues needing  
Use to grasp this problem o'er.  
Needed this and nothing more.  
Of essentials, nothing more.

## XXIII.

To resume my little story,  
And attach the robes of glory,  
Which in time had recognition  
In fine boys, a lusty four.  
Their first boy, William, sickly laddie,  
Grew no larger than the caddy  
So well known to modern faddy,  
Players of a "fulsome score,"  
Quite unknown in days of yore.  
Unknown to all in days of yore.

## XXIV.

He died, then Mary came, a beauty,  
Such a pleasure and a duty,  
Just to get out the old album  
And to look at her once more.  
John, then Catherine good and true,  
With the real Baird eyes of deep blue,  
That could read one through and through,  
To bad children quite a bore.  
Gently chiding, nothing more.  
Good and true forever more.

## XXV.

Sarah came next in the way,  
Named for Great Grandmother DeKay,  
Could this fact have made, her grown up,  
Best of all gone on before?  
Best of wives and best of mothers,  
Best to all of her good brothers,  
Best indeed to all the others  
Who enter in her open door?  
Always welcome, evermore.  
The heart's best welcome, evermore.

## XXVI.

A sickly boy, three sturdy girls,  
Although their worth outnumbered pearls,

[Thirty-third]

Brought unto their loving parents  
Hopes their faithful heartstrings tore.  
Boys were what they really needed,  
Boys for which they sorely pleaded,  
And a chance for this succeeded  
In this way right at their door.  
A chance to adopt one for evermore.  
Yes, for ever, ever more.

XXVII.

A mother near them had just died,  
Her only riches and her pride  
Were her children, quite a houseful,  
Somewhere near, not quite a score.  
Grandma sent for what they were needing,  
For a boy their hearts were pleading,  
And between the lines were reading  
Plans for future joys in store.  
Joyful plans for evermore.  
Plans of joys, for evermore.

XXVIII.

When the fond Abia Francis  
Came back home he seemed in trances.  
For he had within his carriage  
Not a boy, but such a bore!  
Only a girl with eyes so sunny,  
Really it was very funny!  
She sat up there like a bunny  
Of B'rer Fox's fantastic lore.  
Only this and nothing more.  
This it was and nothing more.

XXIX

Grandad's eyes spoke worlds of sadness,  
Quite dispelling grandma's madness,  
And ae soon as he was able  
He went and talked the matter o'er.  
No one wanted the little lady.  
Her future life seemed very shady!  
She could work with little Sadie,  
Wipe the dishes, sweep the floor.  
This was needed evermore.  
Needed, ever, ever more.

XXX.

Urane was the name of this new daughter,  
And the kindly fate which sought her  
Was not unlike the tales of fiction  
Over which we often pour,  
She became a perfect treasure.  
It is impossible to measure  
All the helpfulness and pleasure  
Which she to good grandma bore,  
Then married a man with goods galore,  
And lived happy ever more.

XXXI.

Somewhere in the realms of glory,  
I just hope that this sweet story  
Has passed on to the good standing  
Of grandad on the golden shore.  
I trust he knows that his decendants,

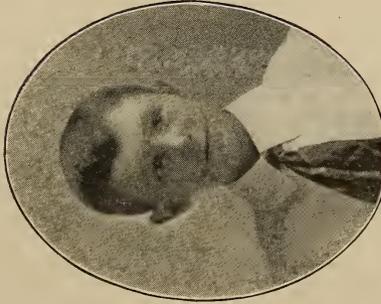
[Thirty-fourth]



THOMAS BENTON BAIRD  
1837—1898



MARY BAIRD HOWELL  
1825—1895



LYMAN BAIRD FRESHOUR  
1903



His admirers and dependents  
Vote for him without amendments,  
With a thrill quite sure to score.  
Pride and joy for evermore.  
Yes, for ever, ever more.

XXXII.

Afterward came their four boys,  
David and Thomas, perfect joys.  
And because he was a reader  
Of the nation's mystic lore,  
And a Democrat when speaking,  
But I trust not office seeking,  
Martin VanBuren's name came sneaking  
Among the family names galore.  
Then came William, and no more.  
Nine fine children, and no more.

XXXIII.

In '61 at the country's calling,  
When in homes the tears were falling,  
Tom and David promptly answered  
As the call came o'er and o'er.  
Dave received a cruel wound,  
And the bullet was not found.  
So he bravely bore it round  
Many years—at least a score,  
Patiently the trial bore  
War's fearful scar, forevermore.

XXXIV.

Mother's tales would make me able  
To construct full many a fable,  
And draw out this piece of fancy  
'Till it became a perfect bore.  
How their home became to teachers,  
And to all such funny creatures  
As the itinerary preachers,  
Quite a haven and a store.  
Their real welcome, open door.  
Always welcome, ever more.

XXXV.

How good grandad was a trusty  
Manager of schools, and lusty  
Helper in all kinds of goodness,  
Charity, and work galore.  
Made a fortune which was plenty,  
In those days when a good twenty  
Stood for a thousand now, and meant he  
To live on and enjoy his store,  
To enjoy it ever more.  
Yes for many ages o'er.

XXXVI.

But at fifty-six he died,  
And 'twas grandma's joy and pride  
To continue grandpa's business  
As he planned it out before.  
For a second farm make payment,  
To provide the food and raiment,  
And to manage, not to lament,

[Thirty-fifth]

For the Heavenly golden shore.  
But to join him for ever more.  
To meet forever, ever more.

XXXVII.

I hope I've made this little story  
Half reflect the worldly glory  
Our good Uncle David Barclay  
Gave us Bairds in days of yore.  
When our Uncle Phil he greeted  
With a courtesy well meted,  
Though his wishes were defeated  
To entertain him days galore.  
Homesick he went for evermore.  
Went home and came back no more.

XXXVIII.

This was Uncle David's greeting  
To his guest as he was meeting  
His wife's kindred in his kindly  
Courteous air of days of yore,  
"You are also of the lucky men,  
Courageous, too, and plucky,"  
With a twinkling eye and cluck, he  
Said at Uncle Phil's great roar,  
What we have quoted evermore.  
Yes, forever, ever more.

XXXIX.

"You've in the royal family married."  
And his loving eyes long tarried  
On the dear beloved auntie  
Whose sweet life we all adore.  
It is here I leave my ditty,  
Feeling that it's quite a pity  
That it could not be more witty  
To be in keeping with Baird lore.  
But here's to the Bairds for evermore.  
"The Royal Family," evermore.

## BALLY CASTLE, IRELAND.

BY GEORGE ALDEN SANFORD.

**A**FTER the finished addresses and splendid historical papers which we have all so greatly enjoyed, I feel as if I have no contribution, which is worth while to the pleasure of this hour. However, I have been asked to say a word about Bally Castle, which I gladly do.

When a boy, I used to ask where the Bairds came from, and the answer was Bally Castle. In after years, I happened one summer to be vacationing on the Emerald Isle, so I turned my face toward Bally Castle (Town of the Castle). Hazy as is the connection between the Baird family and Ireland, it is a matter of happiness to me, that there is at least a legendary connection. Little wonder that its meadows are so green and bright, for no where else does the sun shine so kindly, or showers fall so refreshingly. The people too, are the incarnation of optimism and friendliness. Then there is the out-cropping of humor, which in the Irish character, as in Banquo's ghost will not down. "Ye spalpeen" said an irate mother to a small child who had accidentally swallowed a button, "I am supposin' that now ye won't be satisfied, until ye have swallowed a button hole." Even the sad hour of death is sometimes not without its humor. "Bridget," said the doctor, "I am sorry to tell you that Patrick is dying by inches." Well doctor, replied, Biddy, it is a good thing, Pat is so tall, he is six foot three and at that rate, he will last a good while yet."

My visit to Bally Castle was in 1898, just when the Spanish-American War was on. I remember while riding on the Bally Castle railroad, which was a truly huckle-berry affair, of being oblivious to everything while reading an account of the San Juan battle. At last my paper finished, I was brought back to life by laughter and merriment in the car compartment, which found its source in a comely Irish girl, whose droll remarks created echoes of laughter in the half dozen women of assorted sizes who occupied the compartment. At last the young woman, noticing that I was through reading, and with a twinkle of fun in her eye addressed me; she said "did you notice that hole in the car ceiling?" Looking up I noticed the hole where the lamp had been removed and which with true Irish thrift had been left open. "That she said is the car observatory; from it there is a fine view."

This banter brought out sundry snickerings from my traveling companions, but when I was gravely informed that an American, who recently in taking the view was unable to withdraw his head, because his ears stuck out too far, this was received with wild hysterical cackles. I was solemnly invited to take the view. It took me a little time to get my bearings, but then I realized that here was a young woman, modest and attractive, who felt it incumbent on her to entertain strangers passing through her country. Upon arriving at her station she shook hands with the women, old

and young, but when she came to me she hesitated—that was a different proposition—but after a moment's hesitation, she said: "Well I may as well shake hands with you too, good bye."

Bally Castle is an indifferent little village of a few hundred people, built on either side of a main street, which slide off into potato fields. Making my way to the local branch of the Y. M. C. A., I inquired of the honorary secretary, a lawyer, concerning the Bairds. He informed me that Baird was a Scotch and not an Irish name, but that there was one local family in the neighborhood.

The day happened to be a market day, so he left his office with two or three waiting clients to try and find the local Mr. Baird. That gentleman did not materialize, which ended that search. The fact, however, that I found a whole page of Bairds in the Edinburgh directory, also a clan tartan of the Baird family—"the fighting Bairds"—and the further fact that Bally Castle is the nearest seaport to Scotland were all suggestive that perhaps the Bairds, like many others from the north of Ireland, came originally from Scotland,\* and are not to the manor born, but who sailed for America from Bally Castle.

I should here like to pay a brief tribute to three persons whose lives have been closely associated in my memory with this old home. First to my grandmother, Abigail Denton Baird, whose industry and thrift kept her large family together, and whose influence wrought in her children, honorable men and women. When I was a boy I did not appreciate her industry as now, for my keenest recollections of her were as I would be comfortably seated with a book in my hands, she would always suggest that either the wood-box was empty or that some other small, insistent chore was needed.

Let me pay a tribute to another kins-woman, whose friendship is one of the choice memories of my life. My acquaintance with Mrs. Christian Baird Barclay, youngest daughter of William Eagles Baird, was in the last years of her long life. She was so cheerful, so quaint in her individuality so true that her society was a delight. She was born in 1809, the same year the construction of this old stone house was begun. I have heard her tell the story of when she was a little girl, one summer morning she stood outside the door of this very house, and saw on the ridge just across the road a fine, wild buck with branching antlers. Each gazed at the other for a little time, then the deer trotted away.

To one other descendant of Francis Baird, an aged lady who bears his name, and who we are proud to have with us to-day, I wish in behalf of my brothers, my sister and myself to express our gratitude. Our mother, Frances Amelia Baird Sanford, has been to us and is a devoted parent,

— — —  
\*NOTE.—Since the above article was read, Mrs. Mary H. Barrell of New York, has given the following in reference to the Scotch ancestry of the Bairds: "Francis Baird (never Beard) may have been Irish by nativity, but not by ancestry. The Bairds of Avondale were an ancient and powerful Berg Scots clan, and as long ago as the wild days of the struggles between Robert Bruce and John Balliol for the Scottish crown (1309) gave brave account of themselves on the side of the Lord of Lorne against the finally victorious Bruce. The name originally (Norman-French) Bayard was shortened into Baird by neighbors after the family passed into Scotland from France at an early date. Mr. Francis was an offshoot and clansman of this stock."—Editor.

whose life has been given to our training, especially along Christian ideals. We owe to her more than we can ever pay.

Let me say to the Baird mothers and women who are here to-day, yours is no mean sphere of life to lead sons and daughters to high ideals, for this is the noblest gift of the Heavenly Father.

In closing, let me call your attention to the little mill, which through all our program to-day, as it has for one hundred and fifty years, been carrying out its mission of usefulness—in grinding, grinding, grinding.

So let our lives be marked by the industry, which is a part of our heritage. Let us make the Baird name stand for something more than an honorable place in our day and communities. Let it also stand for the best things in life—things ethical and Christian. For after all, the sorrows and burdens of the world's need have a pull upon every heart, and ours is the opportunity to bring such weary ones to the Burden Bearer of Sorrows, and the Emancipator of sin.



## ANCESTRY OF SARAH DEKAY.

WIFE OF WILLIAM E. BAIRD, AND THE FIRST MISTRESS OF THE BAIRD HOUSE NEAR WARWICK, N. Y.

BY DAVID BARCLAY.



MORE than two hundred and fifty years have passed since members of the DeKay family came from Holland to reside at New Amsterdam, on Manhattan Island. Originally, the DeKays appear to have been Protestant refugees from French and Spanish Flanders. In 1644, William de Key, formerly of Harlem, was appointed Receiver-General of the Dutch province of New Netherland, and resided at New Amsterdam, where he discharged the duties of his office for several years. Another member of the family, Jacob Theunissen de Key, at about this time, also took up his residence at New Amsterdam. Here he married Hilegonda Theunis, and became a wealthy merchant, an elder of the Dutch Church who was held "in high esteem as a man of probity and honor." He had five children, Janneken, Agnietie and Maria, daughters, and Tunisand Jacobus, sons. Jacobus married Sarah Willett of Flushing, L. I., and in 1701, bought from the corporation of New York City two hundred and thirty-five acres of land in what was then known as the Out Ward. One of his sons was Thomas, who the records of the Dutch Church show, received baptism February 6th, 1693. Thomas DeKay succeeded his father as owner of the estate in the Out Ward, or a considerable portion of it, and married Christiana Duncan, daughter of George Duncan, of Scotland. In 1724, he purchased twelve hundred acres of land, part of the Wawayanda patent, situated in what is now Orange County, New York, and Sussex County, New Jersey. About ten years later he sold his property in the Out Ward, and removed with his family to the Wawayanda estate. Of the original house built by him, only the stones of the foundation now remain. It stood not far from the present residence of Mr. Henry B. DeKay, beside the Wawayanda stream, called in the old deed Bandon river. He was one of the earliest settlers upon that portion of the Patent, the region being then an almost unbroken forest.

Within the limits of this paper, only brief allusion can be made to some of the principal events in the life of Thomas DeKay. A man of great strength of character, he took no inconsiderable part in the affairs of this portion of the colony. Soon after his arrival he was commissioned Colonel of the Militia of Western Orange County, which included the frontier

districts, and as far eastward as Goshen. The office was no sinecure. It entailed many dangers and hardships. When the former friendly Indians of this section became disaffected and sullen, Colonel DeKay with a guard was sent by the Colonial Government to Cohecton on the Delaware River in the midst of a severe winter, to treat with them. This mission he accomplished successfully, and persuaded the Indians to send delegates to meet him at Goshen and ratify a treaty of peace. It must have been a picturesque and impressive ceremony, that Goshen treaty, which was held on January 3rd, 1745. A dozen chiefs of the Minsi or Wolf, and the Unalachtgo or Turkey tribes, assembled there. Colonel DeKay received them. Speeches were made, affairs were settled satisfactorily, and then at the request of the chiefs, the Colonel was chained to them for an hour or more, in token of their being bound together in the bonds of peace. While he was chained to them the Indians gave him a belt of wampum, a treaty belt, to be delivered to the Governor of the colony. An entry in the books of the Lords of Trade in London, shows that the Colonel a few days later came before the Assembly at New York and reported the success of his mission and delivered the wampum belt. It is the only occasion on record when the Indian ceremony of the covenant chain was performed in Orange County.

During the period of the French and Indian war, bands of hostile savages made several raids upon the frontiers of this county. A number of settlers were killed and their homes pillaged. Others fled to more thickly inhabited localities, so that whole districts were deserted. At this time Colonel DeKay and his regiment were frequently in service, ranging the woods and guarding as well as they could against Indian forays. Some times almost the entire regiment was under arms, but usually only detachments were called out for a brief period and replaced in turn by others. The service was arduous, there was no commissary, each man supplying his own rations. Among the historical manuscripts on file at Albany is a letter written by Colonel DeKay to Governor Sir Charles Hardy, dated at Minisink, January 8th, 1756, in mid-winter. He writes that the alarm began about eight o'clock, and Captain DeKay with thirty of the rangers and twenty men besides, crossed the river to Pennsylvania and marched down the other side to prevent the enemy from crossing over. He hears that the Indians are burning all before them down below. He urges the necessity of more forces, states that he would be glad if they had two or three great guns, about six pounders, with a few swivels, and powder and ball.

Besides protecting their own homes the regiment was ordered in 1757 to march to the relief of Fort William Henry, on Lake George, then besieged by French and Indians under the Marquis de Montcalm. The Colonel's men were mounted for this service, and though they doubtless rode with all speed, on reaching the rendezvous at Fort Edward, near Albany, they learned that Fort William Henry had already fallen. The last public service rendered by the Colonel, only a few weeks before his death, was in November, 1757, when he with Colonel Clinton and a guard journeyed along the frontiers of Orange County and located the places for

erecting block houses which had been ordered built by Lieut. Governor DeLancey.

Colonel DeKay died January 1, 1758. According to the family tradition, at his first arrival on the Wawayanda lands purchased by him, he camped on a knoll overlooking the valley, and was so charmed by the beautiful landscape spread before him that he expressed a desire to be buried there. The wish was faithfully carried out, a substantial stone marking the resting place of the sturdy pioneer. He left surviving him his widow and a large family of sons and daughters. One of his sons was Thomas, who served with the rank of Captain in his father's regiment. Captain Thomas DeKay owned the farm now belonging to Mr. Townsend W. Sanford, adjoining the Baird property. He sold a portion of his lands in 1789 to William E. Baird, who was then his son-in-law. The Captain died in 1810, and both he and his wife are buried in the private cemetery on the farm. He left sons, Nathaniel and Thomas, and daughters, Mary, Sarah, Christian, Jane and Julia. His daughter, Sarah DeKay, was born April 24th, 1766, and married William E. Baird February 22nd, 1784. They were a very young people to take upon themselves the cares and responsibilities of matrimony. Sarah was then not quite eighteen years of age, and her husband less than six months older. Of the ten children born to them in after years my mother was the youngest. Frequently she has told me that this stone house was built the year of her birth, 1809. Doubtless it was completed as the date engraved on its wall testifies, in 1810, just a century ago. It is a good and substantial structure, of dignified appearance, and bids fair to resist the elements for another hundred years. Unfortunately the first owners were not destined to enjoy its shelter very long. William E. Baird died four years after the completion of the building, and his wife Sarah survived but six years longer.

Here, however, they and their children must have enjoyed many happy days, though days that were not free from toil. I myself possess some proof that my grandmother was an industrious woman. At my house in Newburgh is her spinning wheel; its wooden treadle worn thin by constant use. Of her life I know but little. Sometimes on winter evenings, while watching the fire light shining on my grandmother's old brass andirons, I have tried to remember whatever had been told me of her. But the incidents I can recall are few, in the life of the first mistress of this house, Sarah DeKay Baird.



## EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

**A** GREAT many letters were received by the Secretary in connection with the Centennial of 1910. With apology to the many that must go unnoticed, a few extracts will be quoted from some of those received.

Mrs. Mary J. Wellman, Pavilion, N. Y.—We have just received the invitation to the Baird Centennial and regret that it is impossible for any of us to be present. We were much interested in the picture of the Baird Homestead and in the chart showing the lines of descent.

Mrs. Brice P. Walling, Sussex, N. J.—Mrs. Walling and son regret that previous arrangements will prevent them from attending the Baird reunion on August 2.

Mrs. Sarah Baird Sanders, Auburn, N. Y.—I regret very much being unable to meet with you on August 2nd to celebrate the anniversary of so great an event. Please send me a booklet telling of the things I have missed.

Mrs. Alice V. Browning, Cragmoor, N. Y.—Your very interesting and kind invitation reached me and I shall be unable to accept with my daughters. My mother was Anna Elizabeth and her sister Hannah Minthorn.

Miss Katherine Baird, Plymouth, Michigan.—With sincere regrets I must forego the pleasure of meeting with you on the 2nd inst.

T. K. Blaine and family, Piper City, Illinois—To all the Baird kinsmen, greeting. Distance making it impracticable to be with you in person on August 2nd, we shall be with you in spirit.

Mrs. Grace Browning Moore, Lake Placid, N. Y.—Please accept my hearty thanks for the invitation to the Baird Centennial and my sincere regrets that I shall be unable to be present on that occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Freshour, Mason, Michigan.—Invitation received which we appreciate greatly and regret that we shall be unable to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Jirdinston, Auburn, N. Y.—Very much regret their inability to attend the Baird reunion on August 2nd.

Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Freshour and Esther Louise Freshour, Mason, Michigan.—We regret that we cannot be present on August 2nd to help celebrate the reunion of the Baird family centennial.

David Barclay, Newburgh, N. Y.—Regret that I cannot attend the reunion. I am sending a couple of silver spoons that formerly belonged to Sarah DeKay, wife of William Eagles Baird. Please keep one of them

yourself and give the other one to William Parks Baird, who owns the old Baird house.

Miss Ardilla Sanders, Auburn, N. Y.—Regret exceedingly that I cannot be present on August 2nd, and with heartiest congratulations for the success of the affair and with hopes that the next centennial may be of as much interest as this one.

Miss Adele Browning, Bear and Fox Inn, Onteora Club, Tannersville, N. Y.—I am very sorry that I will not be able to be present at the Baird reunion. Please send me a booklet.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Freshour and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Freshour, Mason, Michigan.—Regret their inability to accept your kind invitation for the 2nd of August for the Baird family reunion.

Julia DeKay Winans, New York City—Mr. Winans and I regret exceedingly we shall be unable to attend the Baird family reunion.

James C. Houston, New York City, the Bronx.—My wife and I both regret that we cannot be present with those who are near and dear to us on August 2nd.

Howard M. Baird, Los Angeles, California.—I was very pleased to receive an invitation to the Baird reunion. That I would like to be present on that occasion but feebly expresses the longing of my heart. The next best thing for me is to get one of the booklets, for which I enclose check.

Laura B. Baird, Coronado, California.—Regret that I could not be present at the reunion. Please send me a booklet.

Thomas W. DeKay, Vernon, N. J.—I regret that I cannot be present and accept your invitation to read the history of Sarah DeKay, the first mistress of the Baird homestead, prepared by Mr. Barclay.

Mrs. Kate Frances Underwood, nee Lovejoy, Gardner, Illinois.—I am pleased to be remembered as a descendant of the Baird family and am very sorry that I cannot meet with you on August 2nd. \* \* I sincerely hope that this reunion will bring us in closer fellowship in the future. \* \* My grandmother was Frances (Fanny) Blain. She was born in 1800 instead of 1802, as your chart shows. Please send me a booklet.

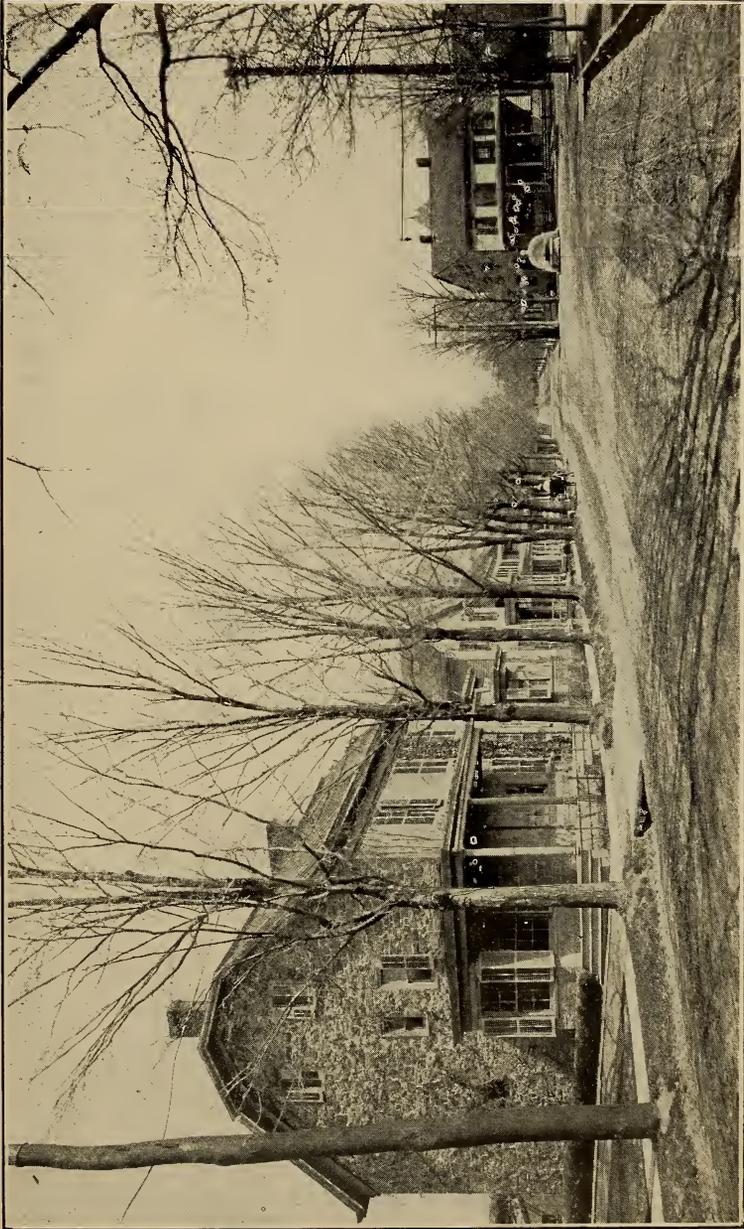


## ACROSTIC

**F**irst among the sons of men,  
**R**eversed by daughters fair,  
**A**nd by his sons and next of kin  
**N**o other can compare.  
**C**ontent was he to serve his day,  
**I**n church and state as well  
**S**o now we show our gratitude

**B**y this centennial.  
**A**gain to-day his name revere,  
**I**n this our native place,  
**R**elations, famous, great or small,  
**D**eem him foremost of the race.





FRANCIS BAIRD HOUSE ERECTED IN 1766

Now owned by William B. Sayer