

3119 Vilura Pkwy.
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
November 11, 1965

Dear Miss DeBell,

Please forgive me for being so slow about acknowledging the additional information and thanking you your efforts. I also appreciated receiving the newspaper. This additional information has been quite helpful and gives me additional leads. I believe that list of Spencers in 1840 in Washington Co. are the ones that are my line and want to dig into records of that county at the nearest opportunity. My Great Grandfather's full name was James Whitley Spencer and just noted yesterday that there was a famous Indian fighter, w Col. Whitley, whose ~~home~~ is a historical site in the neighboring county to Washington--suppose there is a family tie or was he named in honor of the Indian Fighter?

My 95 year old great aunt has been ill this summer and not been able to write much to answer all of my many questions that I started too late in asking. She did send me some fine pictures (two) recently. One was a Golden Wedding anniversary picture of her grandparent Mark's (my great great) taken in 1892 with excellent pictures of many--group of about forty. It included my great grandmother Louisa (Mark) Elliott and her parents, Rev. William Fletcher Mark's (grandson of the Fleming Co. William Mark). The second picture was of Rev. William Mark and his two brothers and sister taken about the same time.

I wish I knew the source of the "Mark Lineage" given me by my great Aunt. One statement is in error and am wondering how many more are. Family traditions rarely are completely wrong but can get misstated or twisted. It states that Miles left home at an early age after a family misunderstanding and dropped the "s" off of his surname and informed his family on his deathbed. The part about the "s" is incorrect because all the information you have given me on his Father's family does not show an "s" on Mark. Also Miles and his children named many of their children in honor of the senior William of Fleming and his children so would appear the families were rather closely informed of each other. Other information that doesn't appear correct from information that you have provided me is that which said William of Blenkinsburg was a large plantation owner. It must have been William of Fleming that dropped the "s" off his name and it could have been him that told his wife about his family while on his death bed (he only died about 20 years before Miles and obviously signed his will while on his death bed from information provided by you). This makes me wonder if this large plantation supposed to have been owned by William was owned by his father instead and probably in Virginia. If my deductions are correct, Timothy could be a brother of William and not his son and

this would account for you not being able to find information on Timothy and in turn make it possible for him to have been the father of Thomas born in 1803 who was a cousin of Miles.

Other information in this "Mark Lineage" states that William's grandfather was in the Rev. War. I have come across several Mark & Marks in the early history of Virginia. One family in particular intrigues me but probably a wild goose chase. It is that of Captain John Mark or Marks who had a large plantation in Virginia and was quite prominent as well as some of his children, including a son John and daughter Ann. Our William of Fleming apparently named his first son John and first daughter Ann which could have been in honor of a favorite Aunt and Uncle. For William's grandfather to have served in the Rev. War he would have had to have been rather old for a soldier and Captain John meets this description. Captain John had a large plantation before the Rev. War and received 4200 acres more as a bonus for serving in the War. He had another son named Stanley who I am hoping might prove to be Williams' father. He resided in Virginia near Harper's Ferry where Miles was supposed to have worked as a gunsmith. Of course, if Miles has been given credit for other things that should have been given to his father William--it could have been William that worked as a gunsmith in Harper's Ferry.

I must close. Family made me quit typing last night so they could sleep. My family has been Methodists as far back as I have any records. I am a civil engineer for the Soil Conservation Service, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. I am the Watershed Planning Engineer for the State, planning small flood control and grade stabilization structures to prevent erosion in organized watersheds. These structures provide ponds or lakes from 3 to 1000 acres in size with some of the larger ones to be used for Parks. Thanks again for information.

Sincerely,
Loren S. Elliott

Loren S. Elliott

Heming Co. Ky. County Clerk's Office -
Will of William Mark Will Book D, fo. 3789

In the name of god amen the twentyfourth
day of December One thousand eight
hundred and thirty two I William Mark
of Heming County and State of Kentucky
being in sound mind and memory do make
this my last will and testament,
First, I will each of all my children one
dollar each secondly I make my wife
Sarah Mark my sole executrix to have and
to Receive and pay of in any way she may
see proper and to receive of my Real and
personal estate as long as she lives to sell
or dispose of in any way she may see proper
Independant to any person or persons
I authorize my wife Sarah Mark to sell
the balance if any at her death to any
or all of my children at the same time I
do appoint my wife Sarah Mark my
Executrix of this my last will and Testament
to which I have hereunto set my hand
and seal this 24th day of December
one thousand eight hundred and
thirty-two

William Mark

Census record 1800+ for Ky. from tax list

Mary P. Keiser
Aug. 1965

| | <u>name</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>date</u> | |
|-----|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| (2) | Amasa | Mercer | 1800 | |
| | Edward | Gallatin | 4-11-1800 | |
| | James | Fleming | 8-16- | " father was Melvin |
| | Jephtha | Lincoln | 8-16 | " ^{Compelled} fence |
| X | Jesse | Washington | " | |
| | John | Barton | " | |
| | " | Christian | 8-22- | " |
| | " | Shelby | 8-25- | " |
| X | Matthew | Washington | " | |
| X | Michael | " | " | |
| | Noadiah | Lincoln | 8-16 | " |
| X | Robinson | Washington | " | |
| | Samuel | Breckinridge | 8-19- | " |
| | Sharp | Bullitt | 8-30- | " |
| | Spear | Shelby | 8-25- | " |
| | Thos. | Barton | " | |
| (3) | " | Meigs | 8-30 | " |
| X | " | Washington | " | |
| | Walter | Franklin | 8-10- | " |
| | William | Barton | " | |
| | " | Campbell | 9-1- | " |

3119 Vilura Pkwy.
Des Moines, Iowa 50310
August 23, 1965

Dear Miss DeBell,

I was glad to receive your letter and appreciate the information on the "Mark" family. I had hoped for some definite tie of my Grandfather Miles and elusive brother "Timothy" to William. The information you garnered on William and Sarah must be the parents as that is the first names he gave as his parents and William's death date would jive with Miles story. Sarah was supposed to have resided after the Civil War with a daughter--a widow named Walker. Neither daughter listed married a Walker (one married a Wallingford) but suppose one could have lost her first husband and married a Walker at a later date. The marriage date of John Mark (1812) would make him probably slightly older than Miles. A distant relative whose father by tradition was a cousin of Miles and thinks possible her grandfather Thomas Fletcher Mark born in 1803 might have been a son of the elusive "Timothy". Thomas named his first daughter Sarah and his age would have been about the same as Rebecca, the daughter of William and Sarah. This makes me think that Thomas was another son of William and Sarah and perhaps was nicknamed "Timothy". Thomas married Mahala Ruggles in 1825 but no one knows where. My distant relative interested in Thomas is 95 years old and my great aunt that has been providing me much information on the Mark family will be 95 next month--cousins and living near each other in Loveland, Colorado, and apparently having gotten acquainted in recent years--seems a remarkable coincidence!

It is also a coincidence that your little friend should be named "Timothy Mark". I intended to check phone book while there to see if any Mark's were living yet in Fleming county--always a chance that one might have records recorded in a Family Bible. Since Sarah and William named several children for bible characters--they undoubtedly had a bible. In my hurry I neglected to check the phone book, however. I am including a check to cover the \$5. cost of copies of will and deed you mentioned of William Mark. z

I have traced my Mother's family into Kentucky via census records--one grandfather James SPENCER having been born in Kentucky in 1797. I would very much appreciate a list of the "Spencer's" that you have listed in the 1800 tax census. I am including a dollar that I hope will cover your fee for the list. I have no idea where he was born in Kentucky but suspect from Census records that his father's name was Michael.

I must close. Thank you for the assistance.

Sincerely,

Loren S. Elliott