

CHAPTER THREE – WILLIAM MCGEE FAMILY

Generation No. 2

1. WILLIAM S.² MCGEE (*JOHN*¹) was born abt. 1832 in Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio. He married **MARY E. ?**. She was born abt. 1841 in the state of Illinois.

Notes for WILLIAM S. MCGEE:

Although William McGee was born in Oxford Township, Butler County, Ohio, he spent much of his youth in neighboring Fayette County, Indiana, where his parents moved about 1837 or 1838. Shortly before 1850, the family moved once again, this time to Clinton County, Indiana, located some 100 miles to the northwest. By 1855, William McGee was a 25 year old farmer and the owner 40 acres of land in Michigan Township, Clinton County, Indiana. He also owned two town lots in Michigantown, where it is believed he lived with his parents. Tax records indicate that in late 1859, he sold this property to William Creson and left Indiana with his wife and baby son and headed for West Township, McLean County, Illinois. When William and his family relocated to Illinois, they were accompanied by his sister and brother-in-law, Martha and Jacob Dodson, and the two families settled next to each other in McLean County. Meanwhile, John McGee, the father of William McGee and Martha Dodson, having recently lost his wife, was living in Tippecanoe County, Indiana in the household of his other daughter, Elizabeth Dodson. (Martha and Elizabeth McGee married brothers Jacob and John Dodson.)

William McGee and Jacob Dodson remained neighbors for the next twelve to thirteen years, but around 1873, Jacob and Martha Dodson departed Illinois and eventually settled in Norton County, Kansas. William and Mary McGee remained in McLean County for approximately ten more years until the early 1880's, when they left Illinois and moved to Luverne Township, Rock County, Minnesota. Their oldest child, Charles T. McGee, who was married by then and starting his own family, also moved to Luverne Township, and both families were listed as residents there in the 1885 Minnesota State Census. Rock County is located in the extreme southwestern corner of the state bordering Iowa on the south and South Dakota on the west. The McGees don't appear to have remained for long in Rock County, because the author was unable to trace them after 1885. They were not listed in the 1895 Minnesota State Census nor were they named in the 1900 U.S. Census for that state.

In 1850, William McGee, age 20 and single, was living in the household of his parents, John and Jane McGee, in Michigan Township, Clinton County, Indiana.

Personal property tax records for Clinton County, Indiana prior to 1855 have not survived, but the 1855 tax records for Michigan Township list William McGee as tax payer # 2485, owner of 40 acres located in the south half of the west half of the northwest quarter of Section 17, Township 22, Range 1 E with an assessed value of \$150. The value of improvements on the property was estimated at \$100. for a total of \$250. He also owned two lots (Lots #53 & #54) in Michigantown valued at \$10. His personal property was valued at \$30. His total taxable property was assessed at \$290. (Indiana State Library Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana.)

The 1856 tax records are missing, but the 1857 records for Michigan Township, Clinton County, Indiana list William McGee as tax payer #2919, the owner of the exact same property and assessment value as stated for 1855 (see above). The only change from 1855 to 1857 was an increase in personal property assets from \$30 in 1855 to \$247 in 1857. Total taxable property for the year 1857 was assessed at \$507.

1859 was the last year that William McGee appeared on the tax rolls for Clinton County, Indiana. In 1859, he was shown as taxpayer # 2607 with the same acreage previously described but now valued at \$390, including improvements. His personal property was valued at \$156 for a total taxable estate worth \$546. A notation attached to the 1859 tax record indicates that William McGee sold his Clinton County property to William Creson.

After William McGee sold his land holding in Clinton County, Indiana in 1859, he and his family moved westward to McLean County, Illinois accompanied his brother-in-law, Jacob Dodson and his sister, Martha McGee Dodson. Both families are seen residing next to one another in the 1860 census.

*The 1860 census for Leroy post office, West Township, McLean County, Illinois lists **William McGee**, age 27, a farmer, b. in Ohio; his wife, Mary E., age 19, b. in Illinois; and a son, Charles T., age 2, b. in Illinois*

*The 1870 census for Farmer City post office, West Township, McLean County, Illinois lists **William McGee**, age 37, a farmer, b. in Ohio; his wife, Mary, age 29, keeping house, b. in Illinois; a son, Charles, age 12, b. in Indiana; a daughter, Elizabeth, age 10, b. in Illinois; a son, William, age 8, b. in Illinois; a daughter, Minnie, age 6, b. in Illinois; and a daughter, Lillie, age 4, b. in Illinois*

*The 1880 census for West Township, McLean County, Illinois lists **William McGee**, age 49, a farmer, b. in Ohio; his wife, Mary E., age 39, keeping house, b. in ILL; a daughter, Elizabeth, age 18, b. in ILL; a son, William H., age 17, b. in ILL; a daughter, Minnie B., age 15, b. in ILL; a daughter, Lillie E., age 13, b. in ILL; and a son, John L., age 10, b. in ILL.*

Sometime shortly after 1880, William McGee relocated his family to Rock County, Minnesota:

*The Minnesota and Territorial State Census for the year 1885 lists as residents of the village of Luverne, Rock County, **Wm. S. McGee**, age 53, b. in Ohio; his wife, Mary E., age 43, b. in Illinois; a daughter, Lily S., age 17, b. in Illinois; and a son, John L., age 14, b. in Illinois.*

More About WILLIAM S. MCGEE:

Occupation: Farmer

Children of WILLIAM MCGEE and MARY ? are:

2. i. **CHARLES T.³ MCGEE**, b. abt. 1858, prob. Clinton County, Indiana.
3. ii. **ELIZABETH J. MCGEE**, b. October 1860, McLean County, Illinois; d. Aft. 1930, prob. Cerro Gordo County, Iowa.
- iii. **WILLIAM H. MCGEE**, b. abt. 1862, McLean County, Illinois.
- iv. **MINNIE B. MCGEE**, b. abt. 1864, McLean County, Illinois.
- v. **LILLIE S. MCGEE**, b. abt. 1866, McLean County, Illinois.
- vi. **JOHN L. MCGEE**, b. abt. 1869, McLean County, Illinois.

Notes for JOHN L. MCGEE:

*The 1910 census for Luverne, Rock County, Minnesota lists **John McGee**, age 41, farmer, b. in Illinois; his wife, Minnie, age 36, b. in Iowa; a son, Phillip, age 12; a son, William, age 7; and a son, Fred, age 1 month. All children b. in Minnesota. The couple had been married for 13 years and all three of their children were living.*

Generation No. 3

2. CHARLES T.³ MCGEE (*WILLIAM S.², JOHN¹*) was born abt. 1858 prob. in Clinton County, Indiana. He married **ELLEN ?**. She was born abt. 1862 in the state of Missouri.

Notes for CHARLES T. MCGEE:

*The 1880 census for Santa Anna, Dewitt County, Illinois lists **Charles McGee**, age 21, head and a farmer, his wife, Ellen, age 18, and a daughter, Clara B., age 1 month.*

*The Minnesota Territorial and State Census for 1885, Luverne Post Office, the town of Vienna, Rock County, lists **Charles T. McGee**, age 27, b. in Indiana; and his wife, Sarah E., age 25, b. in Missouri.*

More About CHARLES T. MCGEE:

Occupation: Farmer

Child of CHARLES MCGEE and ELLEN ? is:

- i. **CLARA B.⁴ MCGEE**, b. April 1880, state of Illinois.

3. ELIZABETH J.³ MCGEE (*WILLIAM S.², JOHN¹*) was born October 1860 in McLean County, Illinois, and died aft. 1930 prob. in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa. She married **WILLIAM Y. MCCORD** September 07, 1882 in McLean County, Illinois. He was born August 1856 in the state of Illinois, and died aft. 1930 prob. in Cerro Gordo County, Iowa.

Notes for WILLIAM Y. MCCORD:

*The 1900 census for Beaver Township, Humboldt County, Iowa lists William McCord, age 42, a farmer; his wife, **Elizabeth J.**, age 39; a son, Les L., age 15, b. in ILL; and a daughter, Sarah R., age 5, b. in Iowa. The couple had been married for approximately 17 years, and only two of their four children were still living.*

*The 1910 census for Grove, Humboldt County, Iowa lists William Y. McCord, age 55, a farmer; his wife, **Elizabeth J.**, age 49, a son, Lee, age 25, a farmer; a daughter, Ruth, age 15; a daughter-in-law, Maud, age 22; and a grandson, Willard B., age 1 year. The couple had been married for approximately 28 years, and only two of their five children were still living.*

*The 1920 census for Union Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa lists W. Y. McCord, age 63, a farmer; his wife, **Elizabeth**, age 59; and a son, Lee L., age 34, a farmer, single.*

*The 1930 census for Union Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa lists W. Y. McCord, age 73, a farmer; and his wife, **Elizabeth**, age 69.*

More About WILLIAM Y. MCCORD:

Occupation: Farmer

Children of ELIZABETH MCGEE and WILLIAM MCCORD are:

4. i. **LEE L.⁴ MCCORD**, b. March 15, 1884, state of Illinois; d. July 25, 1966, Hennepin County, Minnesota.
- ii. **SARAH RUTH MCCORD**, b. April 1895, state of Iowa.

Generation No. 4

4. LEE L.⁴ MCCORD (*ELIZABETH J.³ MCGEE, WILLIAM S.², JOHN¹*) was born March 15, 1884 in the state of Illinois, and died July 25, 1966 in Hennepin County, Minnesota. He married **(1) MAUD ?** abt. 1908 in the state of Iowa. He married **(2) LETA ?** bet. 1920 - 1930. She was born abt. 1885 in Norway.

Notes for LEE L. MCCORD:

The 1910 U.S. Census for Grove Township, Humboldt County, Iowa lists William Y. McCord, age 53, a farmer, b. in Illinois; his wife, Elizabeth, b. in Illinois; a son, Lee, age 25, b. in Illinois; a daughter, Ruth, age 15, b. in Iowa; a daughter-in-law, Maud, age 22, b. in Iowa; and a grandson, Williard B., age 2, b. in Iowa. Lee and Maud had been married for approximately two years, and their child was still living.

The Iowa State Census for 1915, Grove Township, Humboldt County, lists Lee McCord, age 29, a farmer, divorced, able to read and write, b. in Illinois, affiliated with the Methodist church.

The 1920 U.S. Census for Union Township, Cerro Gordo County, Iowa lists W.Y. McCord, age 63, head, a farmer; his wife, Elizabeth, age 59; and his son, Lee, age 34, a farmer.

The 1930 U.S. Census for Minneapolis, Hennepin Township, Minnesota lists Lee L. McCord, age 45, employed as a switchman for the steam railroad, b. in ILL; and his wife, Leta, age 45, b. in Norway. Both had been previously married.

More About LEE MCCORD and MAUD ?:

Divorced: bet. 1910 - 1915, Humboldt County, Iowa

Child of LEE MCCORD and MAUD ? is:

- i. **WILLARD B.⁵ MCCORD**, b. abt. 1909, Humboldt County, Iowa.