Montgomery Family
of Scott County, Indiana

2004
Steve Otto
Introduction

There are numerous Montgomery family branches in the United States – and several in Scott County, Indiana, where this branch settled and prospered after William Montgomery’s immigration from Ireland. A companion piece to this work describes the Johnson family of Scott County. These two pioneer families were united with the marriage of Augustus Arthur Johnson and Leda Belle Montgomery, in 1907.

Many thanks to the volunteers at Scott County Genealogical Society, Inc., for their generous research assistance.
William Montgomery + Mary Crawford

The 1st Generation

Among the handwritten notes in family papers is a description of William Montgomery, “born in Ireland near Dublin in the year 1785, emigrated to the United States and settled in the State of Pennsylvania. Came down the Ohio River in a flat boat with seven other families and settled in the State of Indiana near Lexington and died March 22, 1849. Was buried near Chelsea Jefferson County (Bethel Cemetery) was married to Mary Crawford. Six children were the results of this union, names as follows: William C., John, Samuel, Sarah, Nancy, and Eliza.”

William C. Montgomery + Isabella Reddenbaugh

The 2nd Generation

William Montgomery married Isabella Reddenbaugh Jan. 5, 1832, in Jefferson County, Indiana. Her father, Philip Reddenbaugh (also Reddenbaugh), emigrated from Germany about 1776 and moved to Bartholomew County, Indiana, where he lived as a farmer. “He once owned the land on which Columbus [county seat] stands and which is now worth millions.” (Biographical & Historical Souvenir for the Counties of Clark, Crawford, etc., 1889, pp. 244-45)

William was granted a U.S. land patent on December 10, 1821, for eighty-two acres in Jeffersonville, Indiana.

The 1821 land patent describes the land granted as “the West half of the South West quarter of section six, in Township four, north of Range seven East in the District of Jeffersonville and State of Indiana, containing eighty two acres.”
William is listed in the 1850 Census in Scott County, Ind. (New Frankfort post office) age 40(?) with his wife Isabel, age 38, from Ohio. Also listed in the household are:

- Mary M., 18
- Marianna (?) Jane, 16
- Cynthia Sue (?), 14
- Richard W., 12
- Eliza E., 10
- John W., 7
- Andrew J., 5
- James, 3
- David M., 2

William’s profession is given as shoemaker, with a declared value of $400. In the 1860 Census (still New Frankfort post office) his profession is listed as farmer, with a declared value of $800. Remaining in the household in 1860 are his wife, Isabel, and these children:

- Jane, 25
- Richard, 23, boot and shoemaker
- John W., 18, laborer
- Andrew J., 16
- James, 14
- David M., 13, noted as an “idiot”

In the adjoining census tract was the family of James Stratton, a school-teacher, with a daughter Mary S., age 6. This daughter eventually married her neighbor, Richard Montgomery.

John W. was born Dec. 4, 1842, and died in Scottsburg Feb. 11, 1920. He married Matilda Ervin in 1866; she was born Dec. 7, 1847, and died Feb. 19, 1929. Their daughter Cora married Charles Mann. John was postmaster and ran the general store in Austin, Indiana, for many years.

In his book *Scott County Civil War Veterans*, local historian Carl Bogardus drew from a number of sources to document the war service of area residents. The entry for John W. Montgomery notes that on June 19, 1861, he was mustered as a private into Company D of the 13th Indiana Regiment; then was transferred to the reorganized regiment’s Company B on December 30, 1863; and then back to Company D as a sergeant on December 2, 1864. He was commissioned as a first lieutenant on May 1, 1865, and left the army on September 6, 1865. The description notes a brother Jackson [Andrew J.] of Austin and a brother James, of Kentucky. A useful resource for researching this area is W.H.H. Terrell, *Indiana in the War of the Rebellion: Report of the Adjutant General*, 8 vols., 1869.

Also in Bogardus, there is recorded a William C. Montgomery serving as a corporal in the Indiana Volunteer Infantry, mustered on Sept. 18, 1861, during the Civil War. Records indicate that William was living in September 1867; he signed a petition protesting a redistricting of Scott County that resulted in the addition of Finley and Johnson townships.

William and Isabella Montgomery do not appear in the 1870 Census, and the household seems to have broken up.
Richard Wasson Montgomery + Mary Susan Stratton

The 3rd Generation

Richard Wasson Montgomery was born April 30, 1838, and died Oct. 24, 1906. In 1872 he married Mary Susan Stratton. She was born March 6, 1854, and died Oct. 29, 1940. Mary’s father James H. Stratton was born and raised in Jefferson County, Indiana; his father came from Kentucky, and his mother was Sarah D. Dryden of Jefferson County (Madison).

The 1870 census (Austin post office) shows R.W. Montgomery, still a shoemaker, as head of household with his brother Andrew and a Vaughn family headed by Cynthia, described as “keeping house.” Richard is a shoemaker with a declared value of $5,000; and Andrew is described as a laborer.

In this same census, Richard’s brother James is living on the adjoining tract, as a laborer, with Saffronia Montgomery “keeping house” and Anna, age 1 year.

Richard was raised on the farm and received a Common School education. Until 1872 he engaged in the boot and shoe business. Then he was elected treasurer of the county and served two terms. Previously he was a trustee of Jennings Township.

For sixteen years he was president of the Scott County Bank, which closed for two days, Thursday and Friday, to honor his death in 1906. He was a member of Miller Lodge No. 555, I.O.O.F; Scottsburg Lodge No. 572, F. & A.M.; Seymour Chapter and Seymour Council of Royal Arch Masons; and Scottsburg Chapter No. 107, O.E.S. At one point he owned 312 lots in Indianapolis. (Biographical and Historical Souvenir etc., 1889, p. 244)

Richard’s younger brother Arthur, later noted as president of the Scott County State Bank, was married to Frona Montgomery, who died Oct. 25, 1954, twelve years to the day after her husband. “It had been her custom to raise the window blind of the east side of her living room each morning when she arose and on Monday morning her neighbors, Mrs. Dixon Hall, noticed late in the morning that she had not raised the blind. She and Mrs.
Dean then tried to call by phone and receiving no response they summoned Rev. Hall from the church and Mrs. Montgomery was discovered still in bed. She had died some hours previously and there were no signs of any struggle. She had suffered from a heart condition for a number of years” (obit.). Among their surviving children listed were L.S. [Leland Scott], of Owensboro, Kentucky; Alton [Walter], of Baltimore; Margaret Hays, of Louisville, and Neva Offutt, of Louisville.

The following children were born to Richard and Mary Montgomery: Walter Herman, b. July 1, 1873; Daisy Gertrude, b. Feb. 1, 1876; Arthur Herbert, b. Aug. 24, 1877; Clyde Scott, b. Aug. 25, 1879; Leda Belle, b. Feb. 6, 1882; Cleona Mae, b. May 19, 1884; Ethel Faye, b. Oct. 11, 1886; and Leland Floyd, b. July 19, 1889.
Leda Belle Montgomery + Augustus Arthur Johnson

The 4th Generation

On June 26, 1907, Leda Belle Montgomery married Augustus Arthur Johnson, uniting two of Scottsburg’s pioneer families. They had one child, Mary Ellen Johnson, born Oct. 11, 1911, in St. Joseph, Missouri. A companion piece to this work, *The Johnson Family of Scott County*, describes this generation and how the family eventually settled in Richmond, Virginia.

The Montgomery family appears to have kept some of its Irish roots into the twentieth century. Among the family papers is a 190x sheet of letterhead from the Scott County Bank with a handwritten copy of a traditional Irish wedding poem, possibly prepared for the marriage of Leda Belle and Gus Johnson.

---

**Irish Wedding Poem**

Marry when the year is new,
Always loving, kind and true.

When February birds do mate,
You may wed, nor dread your fate.

If you wed when March winds blow,
Joy and sorry both you’ll know.

Marry in April when you can,
Joy for maiden and for man.

Marry in the month of May,
You will surely rue the day.

Marry when June roses blow,
Over land and sea you’ll go.

They who in July do wed,
Must labour always for their bread.

Whoever wed in August be,
Many a change are sure to see.

Marry in September’s shine,
Your living will be rich and fine.

If in October you do marry,
Love will come but riches tarry.

If you wed in bleak November,
Only joy will come, remember.

When December’s showers fall fast,
Marry and true love will last.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st Generation</th>
<th>2nd Generation</th>
<th>3rd Generation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>William Montgomery + Mary Crawford</td>
<td>William C. Montgomery + Isabella Reddenbaugh</td>
<td>Richard Wasson Montgomery + Mary Susan Stratton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILDREN:</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHILDREN:</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHILDREN:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William C. Montgomery</td>
<td>Mary M. Montgomery</td>
<td>Walter Herman Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Montgomery</td>
<td>b. circa 1831</td>
<td>b. July 1, 1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Montgomery</td>
<td>Marianna(?) Jane Montgomery</td>
<td>d. Oct. 25, 1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Montgomery</td>
<td>b. circa 1833</td>
<td>Daisy Gertrude Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Montgomery</td>
<td>Cynthia Sue(?) Montgomery</td>
<td>b. Feb. 1, 1876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliza Montgomery</td>
<td>b. circa 1935</td>
<td>d. May 7, 1876</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Wasson Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur Herbert Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. April 30, 1838</td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Aug. 24, 1877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Oct. 24, 1906</td>
<td></td>
<td>d. April 14, 1879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliza E. Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Clyde Scott Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. circa 1939</td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Aug. 25, 1879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John W. Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>d. Oct. 19, 1897</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Dec. 4, 1842</td>
<td></td>
<td>Leda Belle Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Feb. 11, 1920</td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Feb. 6, 1882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew J. Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleona Mae Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. circa 1844</td>
<td></td>
<td>b. May 19, 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>d. 1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. circa 1846</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ethel Faye Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David M. Montgomery</td>
<td></td>
<td>b. Oct. 11, 1886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. circa 1847</td>
<td></td>
<td>d. 1971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Leland Floyd Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. July 19, 1889</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4th Generation

Leda Belle Montgomery + Augustus Arthur Johnson

CHILDREN:

Mary Ellen Johnson
b. Oct. 9, 1911, St. Joseph, Mo.
d. April 17, 2003, in Richmond, Va.
m. Frederick Henry Garber on June 21, 1933

5th Generation

Mary Ellen Johnson + Frederick Henry Garber

CHILDREN:

Freddie Sue Garber
b. March 31, 1935

Mary Ellen Garber
b. December 16, 1936

6th Generation

Freddie Sue Garber + Thomas Franklin Stewart

CHILDREN:

Susan Garber Stewart
b. Nov. 22, 1958
m. Donald Etz on July 21, 1984
m. Benjamin Gilbert Perkins on Nov. 17, 2001

7K Generation

Susan Garber Stewart + Donald Etz

CHILDREN:

Lauren Michele Etz
b. March 2, 1986

Kristen Marie Etz
b. March 10, 1989

6K Generation

Mary Ellen Garber + Carl Hyde Otto

CHILDREN:

Kathryn Garber Otto
b. April 7, 1959
m. David Gilman on May 28, 1994

Steven Carl Otto
b. December 10, 1960

6K Generation

Mary Ellen Garber + Carl Hyde Otto

CHILDREN:

Kathryn Garber Otto
b. April 7, 1959
m. David Gilman on May 28, 1994

Steven Carl Otto
b. December 10, 1960