

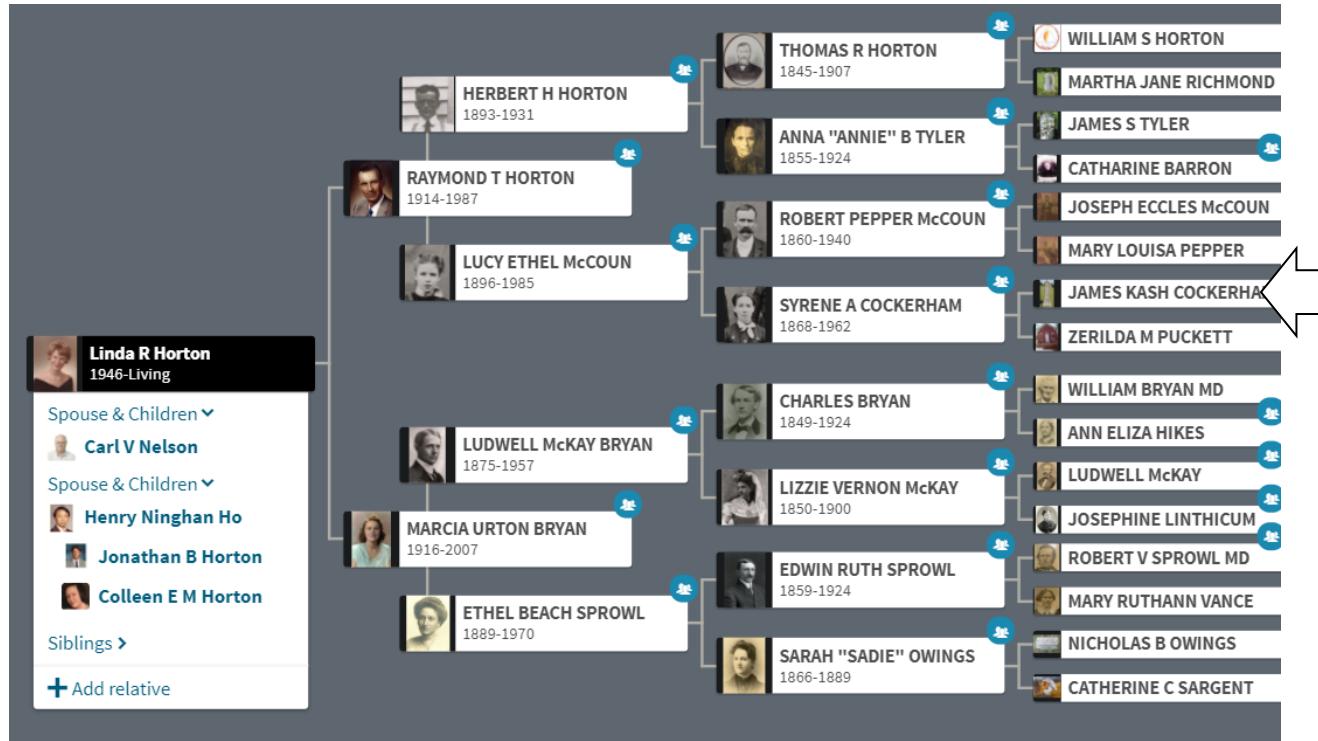
## James Kash Cockerham (1846-1916), Ancestor 22 By his great great granddaughter, Linda R. Horton, 15 December 2021<sup>1</sup>



James Kash Cockerham was born on 25 June 1846, in Owsley County, Kentucky,<sup>1</sup> the son of James Henry Cockerham (1822-1904) and Emily Stamper (1826-1900). In 1866, James married Zerilda Manervia Puckett (1831-1921) at Puckett's Bend in Breathitt County, Kentucky. They had four children. Their eldest, Syrene Cockerham (1868-1962), married Robert Pepper McCoun (1860-1940). They were our great grandparents.

James worked at several occupations, according to U.S. census reports for Wolfe County: he was a farmer in 1870; a carpenter in 1880; a hotel landlord in 1900; a liveryman in 1910; and a retiree when he died on 30 August 1916. The fact that James changed occupations suggests a willingness to try new things. Or perhaps his wife, Manervia, had an entrepreneurial bent. She was the one more associated with running the boarding house where their daughter Syrene met Rob McCoun. Or maybe James just didn't care for farming, by far the leading occupation of people in their area at the time. In 1916, James died of a rare disease called intestinal tuberculosis in Campton, Wolfe County, at age 70. He was buried in the Evans Cemetery there. Family members have found no photos of James or Manervia. This

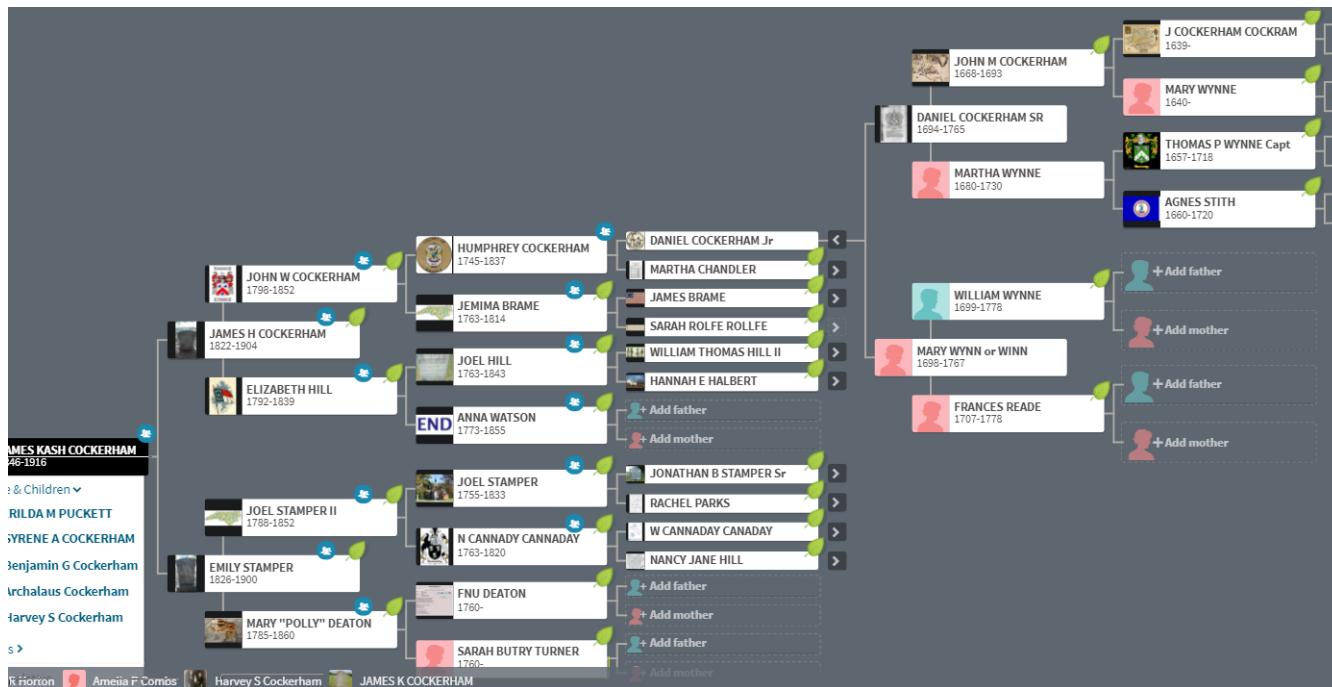
biography is illustrated instead with an image of his headstone.



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## James on the Family Tree and on Maps

Ancestors of James Kash Cockerham were in the British American colonies before the Revolutionary War, and his ancestry is believed to be 100% English. As may be seen in pedigree below, we do have in this part of the tree quite a few “brick walls” in which we do not know the identity of earlier ancestors. In those cases, the ethnicity of the forebears of a brick-wall ancestor may be the subject of an educated guess, based on both surname origin and the predominance of English migrants among early arrivals in Virginia. After arrival, our Cockerhams migrated next to Wilkes County, North Carolina, where they lived several generations. A further discussion of the history and genealogy of this branch of our family is found at the end of this biography.

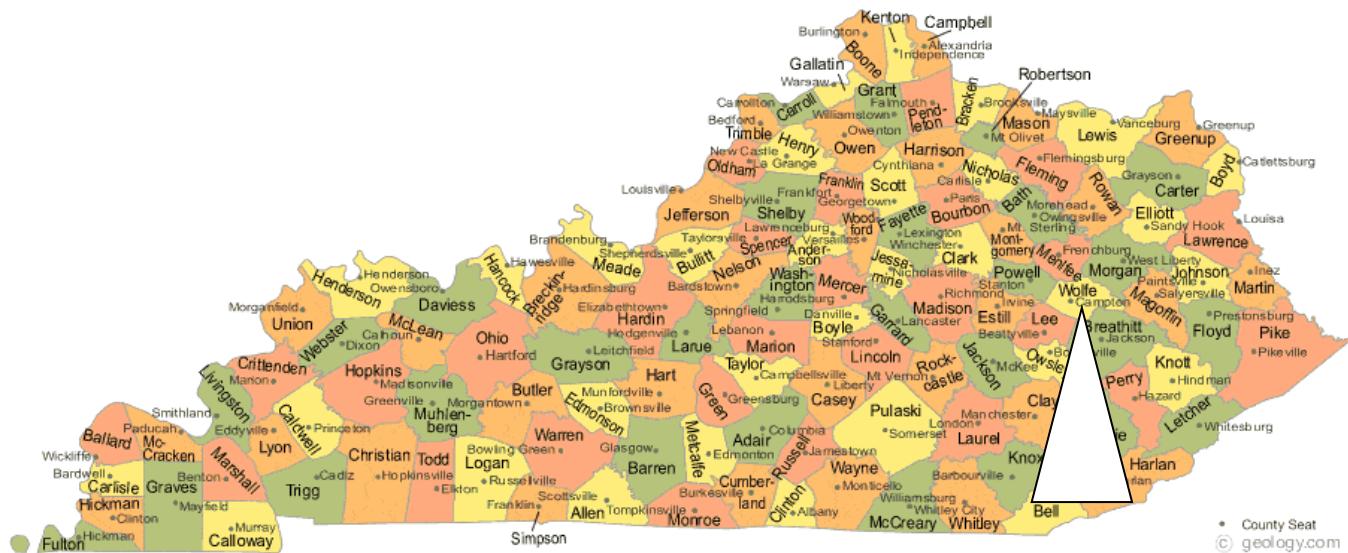


When James Kash's father James Henry Cockerham accompanied his parents on the 300-mile trek from Wilkes County, North Carolina to Kentucky, where he met and married Kentucky-born Emily Stamper, the area in which the Cockerhams settled was part of Owsley County. Later new counties were formed that encompassed territory formerly in Owsley—Wolfe in 1860 and Lee in 1870. It is likely that the spot in Owsley County where his parents settled and James Kash Cockerham was born in 1846 is today in Wolfe County near its border with Breathitt County.

In the 1856 map at right,<sup>2</sup> Wolfe County would be formed where five counties came together just southeast of the second “K” in the name “Kentucky.”



Below is a contemporary map showing Kentucky's 120 counties with an arrow pointing to Wolfe County. The rationale for the state's having so many counties is that citizens need access to their county seats.<sup>3</sup> The roads were poor, and it apparently was considered preferable to create new counties rather than to build new roads. Also, counties were named for politicians and military heroes. A result of having so many counties is high overhead cost for 120 county bureaucracies and school systems in a state ranked 46<sup>th</sup> out of 50 states in per capita income.<sup>4</sup> In the 2010 census, Owsley County was the poorest in the nation in terms of income per household.<sup>5</sup> It had the second-highest level of child poverty of any county in the United States.



### James Kash Cockerham's Early Years

As far as we know, James' middle name, Kash, is not an ancestral name in our family. Like our ancestors with the surnames Cockerham, Horton, Puckett, Stamper, and Tyler, the Kash family was prominent among those who migrated from Virginia or North Carolina to Kentucky's Appalachian counties in the middle of the nineteenth century. The middle name Kash may have been given James in honor of a friend with that surname. Interestingly, the eldest of James' three sons married a woman whose maiden name was Kash.

We have several examples in this branch of our family tree of middle names being used to honor family or friends. James and Manervia named one son in honor of her brother, and gave another son the middle name, Congleton, to honor an in-law. James' grandson Glenn Reynolds McCoun was given the middle name "Reynolds" to honor a Texas friend of his father. Then Glenn, in turn, named his firstborn Glenn Hatchet McCoun to honor a cousin, Lena Pepper Hatchet.

The 1850 census was enumerated on 27 August in Owsley County when James Kash Cockerham was a small boy:

191/191 James Cockerham	2 1/2 m	Farmer	\$200	16	1
" " Emily Cockerham	24 1/2			16	1
" " John	7 m			.	.
" " James	4 m			.	.
" " Melinda	2 1/2			.	.
" " William	2 1/2 m	Laborer		1	1
" " Maria Ann	21 m	Laborer	75	1	1

- James [Henry] Cockrum age 28 was a farmer with real property worth \$700. He was born in North Carolina.
- Emily, listed as “Emilia,” was 24. Birthplace was reported incorrectly as North Carolina, where her parents had been born. Emily actually was born in Kentucky, as other census reports and her death certificate stated.
- Children were John, age seven; James, age four; and William, two.
- Living with them were James Henry’s brothers William (1827-1878) and Martin (1830-1879), both laborers.
- Next door were James Henry’s parents, William Cockrum age 56, and Elizabeth (Hill), along with their sons Miles, Elijah, and Danile (17, 15, and 12, respectively).

The 1860 census was enumerated on 15 August in Owsley County for the Spruce Grove post office:

849	865	James Cockerham	38	M	Farmer	2500	4000	16		
		Emily	34	F	"			16		1
		John	16	M	Farmer			16	11	
		James	14	M				16	11	
		William	12	M				16	11	
		Mary	8	F				16	1	
		Z. H.	5	M				16		
		Gilly Ann	4	F				16		
		Malissa	1/2	F				16		
850	866	Mary Stamper	73	F	Widow Farmer			16		1
		Eliz. White	21	F				16		

- James [Henry] Cockrum was 38, a farmer, owing real property worth \$700.
- Emily was 34.
- Their seven children were John, 17, a farmer; James, 14; William 12; Mary A., 8; Z.T. [Zachary Taylor], 5; Gilly Ann, 4; and Malissa, five months.
- Living next door were Mary Deaton Stamper, Emily’s widowed mother, and Emily’s widowed younger sister Elizabeth Stamper White. Both women were farmers.

### James Kash Cockerham and Zerilda Manervia Puckett Wed

According to information provided by Glenn Reynolds McCoun,<sup>6</sup> James and Zerilda Manervia “Manervia” Puckett married in 1866 at a place called Puckett’s Bend, which cannot be found today on a map. There is, however, a creek named Puckett’s Branch and a cemetery called Puckett Cemetery, both located in northwestern Breathitt County near its border with Wolfe County. The marriage year was also confirmed by an entry in the 1900 census, which asked respondents how long they had been married.

Two years before the 1866 marriage of James and Manervia, his older brother, John, had married Polly Puckett, her younger sister. If James Kash and Manervia had not known each other already through other means, this kinship would have gotten them acquainted. Records vary concerning Manervia’s birth year, but it appears she was born in 1839 and was seven years older than James. He was 20 and she 27 at the time of their 1866 marriage. Manervia had been born in Floyd County, Kentucky, in the eastern corner of the state, the daughter of Floyd County native

Morgan Puckett (1801-1890) and Virginia-born Susan Whitaker (1800-1877). She was the ninth of 13 children. Manervia and her family had moved to Breathitt County in 1843.

Compared to most couples of that era, Manervia and James were getting a late start raising a family. They had four children, one daughter, Syrene, and three sons. Syrene was born 2 May 1868, and appeared in the 1870 census enumerated with her parents on 12 August in Wolfe County, Hazel Green post office:

W. Cockerham June 8 1851 W. Farmer 500 Kentucky 1  
- married in N. 30<sup>th</sup> St. Keeping House Kentucky 1  
- Sarah 23<sup>rd</sup> Jany 1851 Kentucky

The 1870 census enumerated on 14 July showed James' parents had moved to Lee County. They were living in the Thomas precinct of Lee County, Beattyville Post Office.

60	60	Lockwood	James	48	m	w	Farmer	3000	1500	North Carolina	/	/
		Family		44	m	w	keeping house			Kentucky	/	/
		Mary		18	f	w				"	/	
		Taylor		15	m	w		"		"	/	
		Lilyann		10	f	w		"		"	/	
		Malissa		10	f	w		"		"	/	
		Caroline		6	f	w		"				

The 1880 census entry indicates that the two of Syrene's three younger brothers had joined the family and that Manervia's father, Morgan, was living with them. James gave as his occupation house carpenter rather than farmer.

James W. on 50	Dearday	1	Dearday		
Cochran James W. m 35		1	House Carpenter		Kentucky NC
— Faulkner W. J. 42	Wife	1	keeping house		Kentucky Tenn
— Stevey W. J. 12	Daughter	1	keeping House	11	Kentucky Ky
— Benjamin W. m 9	Son	1			++ Kentucky Ky
— Archelas W. m 3	Son	1			++ Kentucky Ky

Most 1890 U.S. census reports were destroyed in a fire, so the next report was in 1900, by which time Syrene had married and begun a family of her own, as discussed below. To avoid repetition, the biography of Manervia describes key events in the couple's life together from 1880.

I like to think that James and Manervia had some opportunities to enjoy the older of their great grandchildren, children born to Syrene's older daughters Hettie and Ethel, who as teenagers married two Horton brothers and went on to have large families. My father, Raymond Thomas Horton was born 15 November 1914 and likely had memories of his great grandmother Manervia Puckett Cockerham, who was called "Grandma Cockerham" by her grandchildren. Perhaps James had a chance to view and even hold Raymond as an infant a few times before James' death, when Raymond was a toddler 21 months old. Or perhaps James' illness, described below, made it difficult to enjoy his great grandchildren.

The family story has been that James' death on 30 August 1916 was caused by injuries suffered when he was thrown from a horse.<sup>7</sup> His death certificate, however, stated that he died of

tuberculosis of the bowel.<sup>8</sup> This rare disease is most commonly associated with the consumption of unpasteurized milk, a practice common in eastern Kentucky in the early 1900s and much less common today. Intestinal tuberculosis is, however, a zoonotic disease that can be transmitted to humans from other animals, including horses. Thus, it is possible that James, before he retired from running a livery stable, was infected by the bacterium that causes intestinal tuberculosis. The disease results in such disfigurement of the intestinal lining that the infected individual cannot absorb the nutritional components of food and ultimately dies of wasting. Today intestinal tuberculosis can be treated with antibiotics. As can be seen from the death certificate, the informant was James' son A.C. Cockerham, who provided an incorrect birth date and age for his father. James had been born in 1846, not 1844, and was 70 years old, not 72.

James was buried in the Evans Cemetery in Campton. A photograph of the headstone is on page one. Its inscription reads: "James K. Cockerham, Born June 25, 1846; Died Aug. 30, 1916."

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>WHITE PLATELY, WITH UNFADING INK—THIS IS APPARENTLY DODGEE</b> N. B.—Every form of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICAL STATE should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly certified. BRIEF STATEMENT OF OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.</p>		<p>Form V-1-1908 1-H-U 1 PLACE OF DEATH County <u>Wolf</u> Vot. Pow. <u>Campton</u> Inc. Town <u>Campton</u> City <u>Campton</u> (No. <u>1170</u>) Full Name <u>James K. Cockerham</u></p>																																													
		<p>Commonwealth of Kentucky STATE BOARD OF HEALTH BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS CERTIFICATE OF DEATH Registration District No. <u>1170</u> Primary Registration District No. <u>2890</u> File No. <u>1884</u> Registered No. <u>21984</u> [If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.] Ward <u>Ward</u></p>																																													
<p><b>PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>SEX <u>M</u></td> <td>COLOR OR RACE <u>W</u></td> <td>SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (With the word)</td> <td>Married</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">DATE OF BIRTH</td> <td colspan="2">IF LESS than (Month) <u>6</u> (Day) <u>25</u> (Year) <u>1846</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">AGE</td> <td colspan="2">17 yrs. 3 mos. 6 ds. IF LESS than 1 day... hrs. or... min?</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work <u>Raised horses</u> (b) General nature of industry business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) <u>Raised horses</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Wolf Co.</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">           10 NAME OF FATHER <u>James K. Cockerham</u>            11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>North Carolina</u>            12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Emma Stamps</u>            13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>North Carolina</u> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">           14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE            (Informant) <u>A. C. Cockerham</u>            (Address) <u>Campton, Ky.</u>            Filled Aug. 30, 1916, Post Card         </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">           15 REGISTRAR         </td> <td colspan="2">           16 DATE OF DEATH  <u>8 30 1916</u>            17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>4</u> am., <u>1916</u>, to <u>8</u> am., <u>1916</u>, that I last saw him alive on <u>8 29 1916</u>, and that death occurred on the date stated above at <u>8</u> am. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Intestinal tuberculosis, age 70</u>            (Duration) <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u>            Contributory (Secondary) <u>None</u>            (Duration) <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u>            (Signed) <u>A. C. Cockerham</u>, M. D.  <u>8-30-1916</u> (Address) <u>Campton, Ky.</u> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">           18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAVELERS OR RECENT RESIDENTS)            At place of death <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u> In the            Where was disease contracted,            if not at place of death?         </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">           19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Evans Cemetery</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>Aug. 30, 1916</u>            20 UNDERTAKER <u>James K. Cockerham</u> ADDRESS <u>Campton</u> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4"> <u>By Maggie Cockerham</u> </td> </tr> </table>				SEX <u>M</u>	COLOR OR RACE <u>W</u>	SINGLE MARRIED WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (With the word)	Married	DATE OF BIRTH		IF LESS than (Month) <u>6</u> (Day) <u>25</u> (Year) <u>1846</u>		AGE		17 yrs. 3 mos. 6 ds. IF LESS than 1 day... hrs. or... min?		OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work <u>Raised horses</u> (b) General nature of industry business, or establishment in which employed (or employer) <u>Raised horses</u>				9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Wolf Co.</u>				10 NAME OF FATHER <u>James K. Cockerham</u> 11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>North Carolina</u> 12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Emma Stamps</u> 13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>North Carolina</u>				14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) <u>A. C. Cockerham</u> (Address) <u>Campton, Ky.</u> Filled Aug. 30, 1916, Post Card				15 REGISTRAR		16 DATE OF DEATH <u>8 30 1916</u> 17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>4</u> am., <u>1916</u> , to <u>8</u> am., <u>1916</u> , that I last saw him alive on <u>8 29 1916</u> , and that death occurred on the date stated above at <u>8</u> am. The CAUSE OF DEATH was as follows: <u>Intestinal tuberculosis, age 70</u> (Duration) <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u> Contributory (Secondary) <u>None</u> (Duration) <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u> (Signed) <u>A. C. Cockerham</u> , M. D. <u>8-30-1916</u> (Address) <u>Campton, Ky.</u>		18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAVELERS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death <u>8 mos. 5 ds.</u> In the Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death?				19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Evans Cemetery</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>Aug. 30, 1916</u> 20 UNDERTAKER <u>James K. Cockerham</u> ADDRESS <u>Campton</u>				<u>By Maggie Cockerham</u>			
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## Genetic genealogy of James Kash Cockerham and his family

From a genetic genealogy standpoint, on average, 6.25 percent of our DNA came each of our 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandparents.<sup>9</sup> This does not sound like a huge percentage, and it is not, but in reading about this ancestor it is worth keeping in mind that each of his great great grandchildren is likely to have a fraction of DNA from James (that he in turn inherited from his ancestors).

Cousin Robert Coldiron McCoun said that his grandfather Rob McCoun was of Scottish descent, which is correct—our McCoun immigrant ancestor had lived in County Down, Ireland, but he was an Ulster Scot whose ancestors had migrated from Scotland to Ireland in the 1600s. Cousin Robert said that Syrene Cockerham claimed to be Irish and spoke with a brogue. I have found no evidence of her having had Irish ancestry, and family histories point to Dorset in the south of England as the origin of our Cockerhams. It should be noted that many individuals with the surname Cockerham have in recent generations simplified the spelling to a more common surname, Cochran. The surname Cochran is Scottish in origin and is quite common today in both Scotland and Ireland. I do believe that those Cochrans whose forbears were Cockerhams had been English.

### YDNA of William Walter Cochran

A cousin by the name William Walter “Bill” Cochran agreed to do YDNA testing so that we could learn more about our shared Cockerham ancestry. A fifth cousin and friend, Bella Gerstang, was able to identify Bill as a candidate for YDNA testing by posting on her family tree on Ancestry.com a request that males with the surname Cockerham/Cochran get in contact with her. After Bill’s daughter responded, she and I communicated, and Bill agreed to test. Bill’s relationship to us is as follows; individuals whose names appear in all-capital letters are our ancestors:

**William Walter Cochran, Jr 1932-  
3rd cousin 2x removed**

**William Walter Cockerham Cochran Sr 1908-1966**  
*Father of William Walter Cochran, Jr*  
**Franklin Cockerham 1864-1947**  
*Father of William Walter Cockerham Cochran Sr*  
**John Miles Cockerham 1833-1924**  
*Father of Franklin Cockerham*

**JOHN WILLIAM COCKERHAM 1798-1852** ← Most Recent Common Ancestor  
*Father of John Miles Cockerham*

**JAMES HENRY COCKERHAM 1822-1904**  
*Son of JOHN WILLIAM COCKERHAM*

**JAMES KASH COCKERHAM 1846-1916**  
*Son of JAMES HENRY COCKERHAM*

**SYRENE A COCKERHAM-FT134834 M 1868-1962**  
*Daughter of JAMES KASH COCKERHAM*

**LUCY ETHEL McCOUN 1896-1985**  
*Daughter of SYRENE A COCKERHAM*

**RAYMOND THOMAS HORTON 1914-1987**  
*Son of LUCY ETHEL McCOUN*

It has been my objective to discover the YDNA haplogroups of all of our key ancestral lines. So far, we have that information for the surnames Horton, McCoun, Cockerham/Cochran, and Richmond (and possibly Tyler and Barron) on our paternal side and Bryan, Sprowl, Owings, McKay, Vance, Glass, and Nelson on our maternal side. YDNA testing has allowed us to identify Horton cousins in Yorkshire, England, MacKay and Vance cousins in Scotland, and Sprowl cousins in both Ireland and Northern Ireland.

We know from Bill Cochran's YDNA testing that his haplogroup is R, the dominant YDNA haplogroup among men of European ancestry. Through the Big Y-700 test, we know that Bill's specific haplogroup is R-FT134834 and that his closest match is a man named Jerry Cockerham, who shares this haplogroup. Jerry's YDNA profile is not identical to Bill's but is very close. On the Family Finder autosomal test, Bill's two matches to two members of our family—Robert Coldiron McCoun and Raymond Thomas Horton—help confirm that the Cockerham ancestors in Bill's trees are indeed our Cockerham ancestors as well.<sup>10</sup>

### **Children of James Kash Cockerham and Zerilda Manervia Puckett**

In this project of preparing biographies of our ancestors, it is my practice to include in the biography of each recent ancestral couple a series of brief sketches concerning the lives of their children. For James Kash and Manervia Puckett, their children's sketches are set forth below and provide interesting reading. In Manervia's biography, I placed in chronological order key events in her adult sons' lives as well as key events in the life of her and her husband James. An exceptional amount of detail is being provided about this branch of the family because, of the four children of James Kash Cockerham and Zerilda Manervia Puckett, only Syrene and A.C. have living descendants as of 2021.

**Syrene A Cockerham** (1868-1972). See her biographical sketch, **Syrene Cockerham McCoun (1868-1962), Ancestor 11, 19 June 2021**



- Born 8 May 1868 in Wolfe County, Kentucky.
- Married Robert Pepper McCoun on 14 February 1891
- Was mother of seven children, six of whom lived to adulthood.
- Died 19 October 1962 at age 94 at the Winchester, Kentucky home of her son Glenn and daughter-in-law Grace McCoun.
- On 22 October 1962, was buried in the Evans Cemetery.
- Obituary stated that she had 25 grandchildren, 45 great grandchildren, and one great great grandchild.<sup>11</sup>

Syrene's three younger brothers were photographed in about 1884. They were, from left to right: Benjamin Gardner Cockerham, Harvey Scott Cockerham, and Archalaus Congleton Cockerham. Each had a colorful life, as recounted in the sketches below.

I believe that these three young fellows had a scampish look to them. But, then again, I know a bit about their later lives. Read on.



### Benjamin Gardner "Gardner" Cockerham (1872-1924)



Vaughn with James H. Stamper officiating; no children.

- 1900 census showed the couple living next door to his sister, Syrene, and her husband, Rob McCoun.
- 22 August 1901 Hazel Green Herald: *A son of Jim K. Cockerham, the one who married a daughter of Little Caleb Kash of Bear Pen, was on Tuesday tried before Judge Center and a jury on a writ of lunacy and being found of unsound mind was ordered sent to the Eastern Asylum at Lexington.*
- 21 April 1905 Gardner was readmitted to the Eastern Asylum, according to the Breathitt County News. The article said his mind became "unbalanced" after witnessing the shooting death of Ellis Wright, described in the article below.
- December 1916 was the date of his next readmission to the Asylum, based on a statement in his death certificate that he had resided there seven years, four months, and six days.

- Born May 1872 in Wolfe County, Kentucky.
- Named for an uncle, Benjamin Gardner Puckett (1831-1900), his mother's brother.
- Was enumerated with his parents in the 1880 census.
- On 9 February 1893, married Lou Ellen Kash (1872-1957) at home of J.N.

A son of Jim K. Cockerham of Campton, the one who married a daughter of Little Caleb Kash of Bear Pen, was on Tuesday tried before Judge Center and a jury on a writ of lunacy, and being found of unsound mind was ordered sent to the Eastern Asylum at Lexington.

#### Killing at Campton.

Ellis Wright was shot and killed by Joe Firestein Friday. An eye witness to the tragedy says that Wright and Bill Firestein were wrestling and that Wright was thrown to the floor, and that while he was getting up Joe Firestein stepped from behind the counter and fired. Others say that Wright had been very boisterous in the store prior to the shooting. The defense claims that Wright was interfering with the clerks, and became angry when requested to leave and then threw Bill Firestein to the floor. Joe Firestein's bail was fixed at \$5,000, which he failed to give.—Campton Courier.

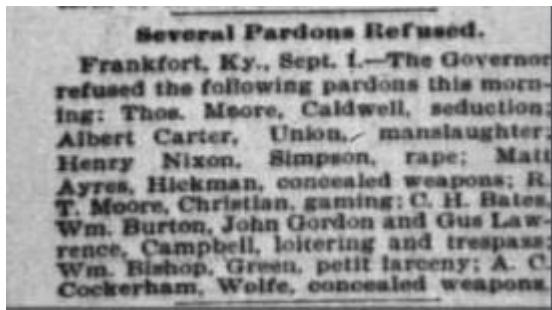
- The 1920 census showed Lou living alone and working as a servant.
- Gardner died 21 March 1924 at the Eastern Asylum in Lexington. Cause of death was chronic myocarditis (inflammation of the heart), with epilepsy reported as a contributory cause of death.

#### **Unbalanced His Mind.**

Gardner Cockerham, son of J. K. Cockerham, a prominent citizen of Campton, was tried Tuesday before County Judge Congleton on the charge of lunacy and was ordered sent to the insane asylum at Lexington. The cause of Cockerham's mind becoming unbalanced is said to be from seeing the killing of Ellis Wright last Friday by Joe Firestone.

**Archalaus Congleton Cockerham** (1876-1953); went by "A.C."

- Born in Wolfe County on 19 July 1876.
- Archalaus was a Greek name: in the Bible, Herod Archelaus was the son of King Herod the Great. Congleton was the married name of James' first cousin, Nancy Stamper Congleton.
- Was enumerated with his parents, sister, and brother in the 1880 census.



On 2 September 1896, was denied a pardon for a conviction for carrying a concealed weapon, according to this Louisville Courier Journal article. No incarceration records have been found.

- Fired a shot at Sam



Faulkner in Campton, "then left and has not been heard from since," from *Hazel Green Herald*, 21 April 1898.

- Not two months later, was 120 miles away in Spencer County, Kentucky, where on 17 June 1898 A.C. married his first cousin, Mollie C. Puckett. Her father was his mother's brother.
- An article in the *Hazel Green Herald* dated 25 August 1898 stated that, "Prof. A.C. Cockerham and wife will teach in the Shelbyville graded school." Shelbyville is 110 miles from Campton, in a county bordering Spencer County.
- In the 1900 census enumerated on 14 June, A.C. and Mollie were attending school and living with her parents, John and Caroline Puckett. Apparently, the Wolfe County police were not after him for the April 1898 shooting. The next month, the *Hazel Green Herald* reported on 26 July 1900 that, "A.C. Cockerham and his wife, of ? Shelby County, are visiting father, James K."

July 26, 1900

*A. C. Cockerham and wife, of ? t. en, Shelby County, are visiting father, James K.*

- The marriage of A.C. and Mollie apparently did not work out, but records of a divorce have not been found. By the 1910 census, 32-year-old Mollie was living in Louisville, with another cousin named William Puckett, age 34, and they had a one-year-old son named Harvey.
- A.C. has not been found in the census for 1910 or 1920. Evidence concerning the ancestry of William Puckett, Mollie's husband as of 1910, makes it unlikely that it was A.C. living with Mollie in 1910 under a pseudonym, William Puckett.
- Caron's 1910 Directory for Louisville listed Archalus C. Cockerham, salesman, Ouerbacker-Gilmore Company, wholesale grocers at 319 West Main Street in Louisville;<sup>12</sup> A.C.'s residence was 136 W. Bayly Avenue (brother Harvey was living elsewhere in Louisville).
- On 22 December 1915, A.C. was the informant on the death certificate for his brother, Harvey Scott Cockerham, who died in Lexington of surgical shot following a gunshot wound.

- On 30 August 1916, A.C. was the informant on the death certificate for his father, James Kash Cockerham, who died in Campton. A.C. as informant indicated that his residence was Campton.
- In 1917, A.C.'s WW I draft registration card gave his address as the La Salle Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. His birth date was given as 16 Jul 1876 and age as 42 years old. His occupation was described as traveling salesman. A.C. reported he was native born and that his nearest relative was his mother, Minerva Cockerham. It was also reported that A.C. had a crippled left hand.
- A.C. married Laura Thyms c. 1921. No marriage record has been found.
- On 13 December 1921, James Henry Cockerham, their only child, was born to Laura and A.C. in St. Louis, Missouri. He probably was named for his great grandfather, James Henry Cockerham.
- On 11 August 1929, A.C.'s wife Laura, her son James, and a friend named Josephine Hennessy took a motor trip through the Ozark Mountains, as reported in the St. Louis newspaper.

Mrs. A. C. Cockerham and son, James Henry, 2908 Virginia avenue, departed Wednesday for a motor trip through the Ozarks. They were accompanied by Miss Josephine Hennessy, 3500 Wyoming street. Mrs. Cockerham's sister, Miss Adele Thym of Albion place, has returned from a visit with relatives in Kansas City. Another sister, Miss Alma Thym, departed Friday for Avant, Ok., to

- The 1930 Census for St Louis, Missouri showed A.C., age 55, living with wife Laura, 31, and son, James H., 8. The record reported that A.C. was born in Kentucky and that his parents were born in Scotland; actually, his parents were born in the United States. A.C.'s occupation was a salesman in the grocery industry.
- According to the Hazel Green (Kentucky) Herald, on 21 July 1932, A.C. had the middle finger of his left hand amputated at the St. Francis Hospital, probably in St. Louis, Missouri.
- When 42-year-old A.C. registered for the draft on 12 September 1941, his residence was the LaSalle Hotel in St. Louis Missouri; his occupation was a traveling salesman; and his nearest relative was his mother in Campton. He stood five feet seven inches tall, was of medium build, and had blue eyes and sandy gray hair. He cited a "crippled left hand" as physically disqualifying him from military service. There is no record of his being drafted in either war.

COCKERHAM, ARCHALUS C.,  
St. Clair, Mo., Fri., Sept. 24,  
1953, dear husband of Daisy Cockerham (nee Schloss), father of  
James Henry Cockerham of St.  
Louis, grandfather, father-in-law  
and brother-in-law.  
Funeral service Sun., Sept. 27,  
2 p.m., at the KITCHELL Chapel,  
St. Clair, Mo. Interment Odd Fel-  
lows Cemetery, St. Clair. Member  
of Benjamin Franklin Lodge No.  
642, A.F.&A.M., Kilwinning Chap-  
ter No. 50, R.A.M., Hiram Council  
No. 1, R.&S.M., and St. Louis  
Commandery No. 1, K.T. Masonic  
Services at time of funeral.



- 1940 Census: A.C., age 64, was living with Laura, 41, and their only child, James H 18 (James' college yearbook photo shown at left). It was correctly reported that A.C. was an American citizen but incorrectly reported that he had been

born in Scotland. His age at 1st marriage was reported as 45. His occupation was traveling salesman in the wholesale drug industry.

- On 24 September 1953, Archalaus C. Cockerham died in St. Clair, Missouri, as reported in a St. Louis newspaper two days later. He and Laura were apparently no longer married as at the time of his death his widow was Daisy, nee Schloss. The obituary stated that A.C. was a Mason. He was buried in the Odd Fellows Cemetery in St. Clair.
- A.C.'s only child, James Henry, had two sons who had several children, as reported in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch obituary of Virginia Kerner, the wife of James Henry Cockerham shown at right.

**COCKERHAM, VIRGINIA K.** (nee Kerner), on Tuesday, November 9th, 2004; cherished wife of James H. Cockerham for 60 years; loving mother of James H., Robert W. (Stacy) Cockerham and the late David R. Cockerham; dear grandmother of Misty, Dustin, Erika, Alicia, Ryan, Brandon, Quentin, Sabrina and Abigail; our dear neighbor and friend.

Virginia unselfishly served the Masonic Fraternity in numerous capacities including the York Rite, Scottish Rite, Blue Lodge, the Order of DeMolay and as a 50 yr. member of the Social Order of the Beauxceant. She was a life-long member of Trinity Presbyterian Church.

Funeral service on Tuesday, November 16th, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. from SHEPARD Funeral Chapel, 9255 Natural Bridge at I-170, (314-426-6000). Interment Lake Charles Cemetery. Visitation Monday, November 15th, 3-7 p.m. Family requests memorial contributions be made to the James H. and Virginia K. Cockerham DeMolay Scholarship Fund, 11541 Lakeshore Drive, St. Louis, MO 63141.





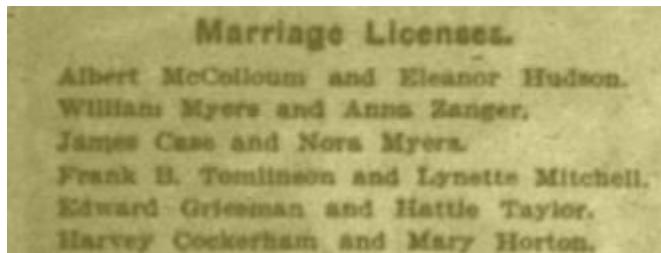
### Harvey Scott Cockerham (1881-1915)

- Born 12 July 1881 in Campton, Kentucky.
- Lived with parents on 1 June 1900, the day the census was enumerated in Campton, Wolfe County: James K. Cockerham, 62, hotel landlord; Manervia, 55; Harvey, 20, photographer; Hettie McCoun, granddaughter, 6; Rebeca Peters, servant, 45.

- Married Mary Jane Horton in Indiana on 16 1904 when he 23. She was the daughter of Harvey N.

Horton (a brother of Thomas Richmond Horton); the marriage was reported in the *Indianapolis News* at right.<sup>13</sup>

- Was listed in with Mary in the 1910 Census for Louisville, Ward 12; they had been married for five years and had no children; he was employed as a streetcar conductor.
- Caron's 1910 Directory for Louisville listed Harvey S, conductor, Louisville Railway Company, residence 2521 W. Market Street (brother A.C. lived elsewhere in Louisville).
- Was shot in Campton by Dale Woodson and died 22 December 1915 of surgical shock, due to a gunshot wound in his left leg, in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky. His brother, A.C., was the informant.



June was

ton and Lakeland, thus throwing them on to the care of the counties whence they come. They now have over 500 more than the normal capacity.

#### Wanted For Alleged Killing.

Campton, Ky., Jan. 19.—A warrant has been sworn to for Dale Woodson, charging him with the killing of Harvey Cockerham. Woodson and Cockerham had a difficulty on the streets of this place and Cockerham was wounded in the leg with a shotgun and afterwards died in the hospital at Lexington. Woodson, just after the shooting, made his escape and is said to be somewhere in Tennessee. Gov. Stanley has been asked to issue a reward for his capture.

#### After Poll Tax Dodgers.

Madisonville, Ky., Jan. 19.—The Fiscal Court of Hopkins county at its last

Above, the Louisville Courier Journal dated 20 Jan 1916 reported that Dale Woodson had shot Harvey Scott Cockerham in the leg:

#### Wanted for Alleged Killing.

Campton, Ky., Jan. 19—A warrant has been sworn to for Dale Woodson, charging him with the killing of Harvey Cockerham. Woodson and Cockerham had difficulty on the streets of this place and Cockerham was wounded in the leg with a shotgun and afterwards died in the hospital at Lexington. Woodson, just after the shooting, made his escape and is said to be somewhere in Tennessee. Gov. Stanley has been asked to issue a reward for his capture.

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PLACE OF DEATH County <u>Fayette</u>		Commonwealth of Kentucky STATE BOARD OF HEALTH BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
Vot. Pot.	Registration District No. <u>380</u>	File No. <u>29802</u>	Registered No. <u>1023</u>
Ino. Town. <u>Compton</u>	Primary Registration District No. <u>216</u>	(If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its name and street and number.)	
City. <u>Lexington</u>	Geo. <u>St. James Hospital</u>	Ward	
1 FULL NAME <u>Harvey Scott Cockerham</u>			
PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			
SEX <u>Male</u>	COLOR OF HAIR <u>White</u>	SINGLE, MARRIED MARRIED (Write the word)	Married
DATE OF BIRTH <u>July 12</u>	1881 (Month) <u>July</u> (Year)	1881 (Month) <u>July</u> (Year)	
AGE <u>34 yrs. 5 mos. 10 ds.</u>	IF LESS than 1 day... hrs. or... min?		
OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work. <u>Liv. as a man</u> (b) General nature of business business or establishment in which employed (or employer)			
BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Compton Ky</u>			
PARENTS (1) NAME OF FATHER <u>I. K. Cockerham</u>			
(2) BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER <u>Kentucky</u> (State or country)			
(3) MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Berilda Newins</u>			
(4) BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER <u>Rose Hill Va</u> (State or country)			
14 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE <u>Ameliaus Congleton Cockerham</u> (Signature) (Address) <u>Compton Ky</u>			
15 Filed <u>1/24/46</u> A.M. <u>Hawkins</u> REGISTRATION			
16 <small>State the Disease Causing Death, or, in deaths from VOLUNTARY CAUSES state (1) Means of Injury and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL or HOMICIDAL.</small>			
17 HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>Dec. 17, 1945</u> to <u>Dec. 22, 1945</u> and that I last saw him alive on <u>Dec. 22, 1945</u> and that death occurred on the date stated above at <u>12:30 a.m.</u> The CAUSE OF DEATH <sup>1</sup> was as follows <u>Surgical Shock</u>			
18 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (For HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAIN- ING SCHOOLS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death <u>1 yr.</u> mos. <u>0</u> da. In the Where was disease contracted, If not at place of death? <u>Compton Ky</u>			
19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>Compton Ky</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>Dec. 23, 1945</u>			
20 UNDERAKER <u>Kerr Bros.</u> ADDRESS <u>Lexington Ky</u>			

11-3184

## Wolfe Youth Indicted In Slaying of Officer

Compton, Ky., April 12 (AP)—I. M. Combs, Jr., 19, son of a Compton attorney, was indicted here today charged with the murder of Deputy Sheriff W. M. Perry, 60, who was shot yesterday while he and James Dykes, deputy and town marshall, were trying to arrest Combs. Dykes, 60, in a Lexington Hospital with an abdominal wound, was reported resting fairly well.

Combs ran to his father's house after the shooting on a street here and later returned and was placed in jail. His hearing was set for Friday. Sheriff J. R. Clark said the officers were trying to arrest Combs for threatening another man with a pistol.

- There was, alas, no happy ending for Harvey's widow, Mary Jane Horton Cockerham. She later married Isaac Morton Combs, an attorney, and they were living in Arkansas in 1930.

- Their son Isaac Morton Combs Jr., born in 1920, was indicted in 1940 for murdering the Wolfe County Deputy Sheriff but was acquitted of that charge, he married and had a daughter alive today; divorced his wife and remarried in Ohio; and died in 1946 in Compton of a pistol shot through his chest.

- Their daughter, Amelia Pocohontas, lived from 1923-1996 and had no children.
- Mary Horton Cockerham Combs died in 1974, age 92.

## Wolfe Youth Freed In Officer's Killing

Special to The Courier-Journal.

Compton, Ky., May 12.—A jury in Wolfe Circuit Court today acquitted I. M. Combs, Jr., 19, son of an attorney here, of a charge of wilful murder of Deputy Sheriff William Perry last month.

Combs' defense was that he didn't know Perry and Deputy James Dykes, wounded at the time, were officers when they sought to take him in custody during a street altercation.

<sup>1</sup> Several census reports as well as his death certificate say that James Kash Cockerham was born in Wilkes County, North Carolina. This information is incorrect. He was born in Kentucky.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.mapsofthepast.com/states-kentucky-tennessee-map-j-h-colton-co-1856.html>

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<sup>3</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_counties\\_in\\_Kentucky](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_counties_in_Kentucky)

<sup>4</sup> List of U.S. states and territories by income, [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

<sup>5</sup> Wikipedia, Owsley County. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Owsley\\_County\\_Kentucky](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Owsley_County_Kentucky)

<sup>6</sup> Horton, Marcia Bryan. *A History of the McCoun Family compiled as a Memorial to my husband, Raymond Thomas Horton (1914-1987)*. 1989, at A-25.

<sup>7</sup> Id.

<sup>8</sup> Tuberculosis of the Bowel is described on the Science Direct website as a chronic wasting disease. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/medicine-and-dentistry/intestinal-tuberculosis>  
<https://occupationalhealth.oregonstate.edu/horses> <https://wagwalking.com/horse/condition/tuberculosis>

<sup>9</sup> <https://genetics.thetech.org/ask/ask445>

<sup>10</sup> Robert McCoun and Bill Cockerham share 42 centiMorgans (cM) of DNA, with 9 cM as the longest shared segment. Raymond Horton and Bill share 43 cM of DNA, with 17 cM as the longest shared segment.

<sup>11</sup> Counting Raymond Horton's daughter Carol Saunders and her children, Syrene at the time of her death had 46 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. Two of Carol's three children were born before Syrene died.

<sup>12</sup> A publication concerning the coffee and tea business reported in March 1912 that,

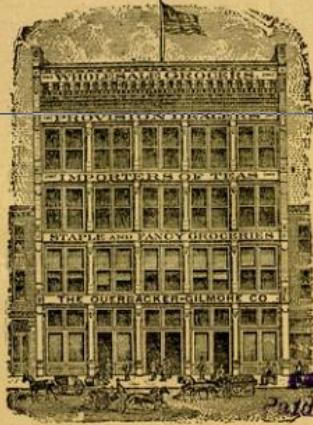
Samuel Ouerbacker, owner of the controlling interest in the Ouerbacker-Gilmore Co., wholesale grocery, 315 West Main street, Louisville, Ky., has disposed of his holdings to Henry O. Gray and George A. Ouerbacker, involving a consideration of \$90,000. The company are capitalized at \$125,000, and it is understood that Mr. Gray and George A. Ouerbacker each took half of the stock held by Samuel Ouerbacker, who will give up active business life. George A. Ouerbacker, formerly vice-president of the concern, has been elected president, while Mr. Gray is vice-president. The Ouerbacker Coffee Co., a subsidiary of the grocery concern, will continue under the management of J. P. Love, president, and George A. Ouerbacker, vice-president.

The Spice Mill, March 1912.

[https://www.google.com/books/edition/Coffee\\_and\\_Tea\\_Industries\\_and\\_the\\_Flavor/jwxAQAAQAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Ouerbacker-Gilmore+Company&pg=PA234&printsec=frontcover](https://www.google.com/books/edition/Coffee_and_Tea_Industries_and_the_Flavor/jwxAQAAQAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Ouerbacker-Gilmore+Company&pg=PA234&printsec=frontcover)

<sup>13</sup> See above. Posted on flickr: "I'm excited to have found this 1897 sales receipt that has an image of the original Ouerbacker-Gilmore storefront. . . ." <https://www.flickr.com/photos/deatonstreet/6852596615>

Return No Goods Without First Advising Us.



**The Querbacker-Gilmore Co.**  
 Incorporated  
**WHOLESALE GROCERS,**

319-21 West Main St., LOUISVILLE, KY.

Sold to

March 11, 1897

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M A C Sutton

TERMS: 2 1/2 allowed, if  
 Paid within 10 days from date.

Kossuth, Ind.

1 bl Star JB Crax  
 1 sc P Nuts  
 1 keg 10 wire  
 1 keg 8 wire

47	5 1/2	2 59	255
25	5	1 25	125
		1 65	384
		1 80	
		7 29	