

Recollections of the Frame Family
By Mary Marsh Frame-Meacham (1817-1893)
August 8, 1888

(Compiled By Ted Hine, February 2015)

Following are Mary Marsh Frame-Meacham's recollections of her Frame family as written to, and at the request of, her niece Emma Kirtland-Hine (my great grandmother and wife of Samuel Hine). Mary Frame-Meacham was the sister of Emma's mother, Ruthanna Frame-Kirtland (wife of Billius Kirtland).

The recollections (both written and transcribed) were provided to me in 2010 by Joanna Moore a descendent of Ruthanna and Billius Kirtland's daughter Lucy Hall Kirtland-Mays. Johanna Moore is my 3rd cousin.

Presented below first is a typed transcription prepared by Joanna Moore followed by the original hand written 7 page document.

Poland

August 8, 1888

My Early Recollections

(Written by Mary Frame Meacham, age 81, at the request of Emma Kirtland Hine)

Page 1 William and Rebecca Frame [were] my parents. There were nine children of us, 3 sons and 6 daughters. Father was from Pennsylvania, brought [up] by an aunt, a Quaker preacher. Ruthanna Linley was her name. He married Rebecca Marsh of New Jersey. Her father's name was John Marsh, his wife Jannette. I have heard Mother tell of her father and mother having hard times in the War of 1812. My parents began life in New York. He commenced in a grocery business. Their first child was born there. Her name was Mary Miller Frame. She died while an infant, and being strangers in the city they decided to take the baby back to her home in New Jersey to bury. She had to go on a schooner, no steam ships in those days. She traveled all night and sat by her darling baby. Father could not leave, so she was alone, and the home folks knew nothing of it until she arrived at home. It was a sad coming home. I do not remember how soon she returned to New York. The family was of Scotch descent. Her father served in the Revolutionary War and claimed royal blood.

Page 2 Mother's sisters' names were Mary Ann Latuchin and Elizabeth. Brothers [were] Lewis, John, George. I do not know how long they lived in New York, but they moved to Pennsylvania, and Father engaged in the milling business. He was of Irish descent, and the children were all born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and lived there many years. Eliza, the eldest, was educated at a Wilmington boarding school for girls only, a Quaker school, I think. George, the eldest brother, was sent to New York to be a millwright, a trade, and stayed until he married. Ruthanna Linley, second daughter, was named for Father's aunt who brought him up. Thomas was named for one of Father's brothers. He had four, Jesse, David, James and Rheuben Frame; sisters Rachel, Sarah and Jane [are] all I remember. When I was about 14 years old I went back with brother George and stayed a year. He took me to visit my uncles and aunts in Rahway and on Staten Island. We visited Uncle Lewis. They treated us to clams. We went on snow across the Sound, frozen up. It was very unusual to be frozen so hard, but that year many heavy teams crossed. The snow was deep. I saw some very old-fashioned furniture of mahogany. After staying there a year my brother moved to Ohio in a two horse carriage he brought for Billius Kirtland, Ruthanna's husband.

Page 3 Brother George was between Eliza and Ruthanna, then Thomas. He was named for Father's brother Thomas Frame. His brothers were James, Jesse, David, and Rheuben. The sisters were Rachel, Jane, and Sara, all I remember. While I stayed in New Jersey I visited many aunts and uncles. George took me up North River to visit Aunt Mary Decamp. I was delighted. It was in the summer when berries were ripe and vegetables. I was amazed to see the small boats on North River loaded with all kinds of vegetables going to New York. Brother George was attending a buzz saw which sawed mahogany veneer. Jane Mender was [his] wife's name. She was very kind to me. After moving to Ohio they had two daughters, Henrietta and Marina Mary. They all went

back to New York in time. Brother died first and his wife very soon. The girls learned the dressmaking business and are now there. Henrietta never married but now is doing a large business in the city. Marina Mary married, and they all became Catholics. That was a great sorrow to their parents and to us all.

Page 4 Now to go back to my childhood, my father left the milling business and opened a public house in Downingtown, Pennsylvania, on the Turnpike about 50 miles from Philadelphia. He also kept the Post Office. In the early days people traveled by stages, and their stopping place was at our house for dinner. This was Downingtown. We children were born there. I remember well that they kept black help, and Father owned a boy named Black Bill. The people were mostly Quakers. My father was raised a Quaker, Mother Presbyterian. I wish I could remember dates. When I was 5 years old my parents moved to Maryland, Baltimore City, and kept a tavern, it was called then, and they have a sign called the Golden Horse. It was in the upper part of the city near Washington Monument. We only stayed there two years and moved four miles out on the Turnpike road. That seemed like the country, and we children enjoyed [it] and our folks kept a tavern or more of a boarding house for city people to come for the summer. Father was fond of flowers and had a lovely zinnia garden. Our neighbors owned slaves. They were Quakers. As a child I remember they had dogs[in the] house and kept them chained up through the day and let them loose nights.

Page 5 We were afraid to go to a neighbor's house. She was a widow. She had two daughters, young ladies that often called at our house. Mother sent Sister Rebecca and I on an errand to Mrs. Hunt's and when we got in their yard the dog was loose and came at us and jumped on me and I screamed, which brought the ladies out very soon and called off the dog. I was not bitten but badly scared. They took us in and the ladies gave us something and played the piano for us and we soon scampered home. On the north a Capt. Anderson lived who owned many Negroes and hounds. They kept them chained up so we children would go there. They had no children, lived in grand style and on their mantle piece they had globes with gold and silver fish. They were nice to us and showed us many pretty things. After staying there two years the boys were so large and needing to be on a farm and my parents decided to come west - only 9 children. There was a gentleman who he became acquainted [with] that owned land in Ohio and induced him to go on the farm which was in Trumbull Co., Ohio. While we were in Maryland Father had a brother David who lived 50 miles west of us. He was a Quaker and often came to see us and wanted Mother to send Ruthanna with him to attend a Quaker school. They had children, and Ruthanna went and enjoyed it very much.

Page 6 After Father decided to move to Ohio the only way there was to come by land. He had a pair of big horses and fitted up a wagon to accommodate the family and bring a bedstead and a few household things. [We] had extra horses, but we children walked until we were tired. We crossed the Allegheny Mountains. Mother's brother George was with us, and he could play the flute and when we stopped to rest he would play and the girls sing. Ruthanna had a lovely voice. I do not remember how long it took us to get to our journey's end but remember well the farm house they expected to occupy was not vacated and we had to go in a small log cabin, only one large room and a floor, half one [on] the second story and no windows, only a hole to see day light and we girls were

stowed away on the floor in the loft. My parents brought the bedstead which they enjoyed. I do not remember what the boys and uncle did do, but I remember well the girls thought they had come to the back woods sure enough. They were ambitious and had pride enough. Sister Ruthanna rebelled and exclaimed one day in walking around the cabin: "Is it possible we have come to this?" but we did not have to stop there long. We moved into a double log house and had plenty of room but plain.

Father and Uncle soon made us comfortable, and we were a happy family again. About two years [later] Sister Ruthanna married Judge Kirtland's son Billius and was nicely provided for. We as a family had many ups and downs. Eliza and Jannet married Yankies (Albert and Dudley Allen from Vermont some years. Rebecca had her home with Ruthanna and married a Marcellus that went west to Iowa, then a), and my parents Rebecca, and Katherine to take care of ourselves. My brothers were married before they (parents) died. We lived with our sisters for new state, and now on this date my sister Rebecca died and left one child, and I married Marcellus and moved to Iowa, and we lived together 30 years very happy and we prospered. We had 4 children, Lucretia, Edgar, Dudly A., and Carrie Meacham, and now in 1888 I am a widow. My children [are] all married. I have sold our beautiful farm and am here in Ohio living with Sister Kirtland, her health being poor. Will stay and care for her and her pleasant house. This is in Poland, Ohio, where I have spent many happy days. I had professed Christ and joined the Presbyterian Church when a girl and so did Rebecca. Many changes have come to me but I am happy believing in Jesus Christ our only Savior.

Mary Meacham

For Mrs Samuel Line
by request

NOTE BY JOANNA MOORE
DEC 2010

Handwritten memoir
of the William Frame
family, written by
Mary Frame Moacham
in her old age at the
request of Mrs. Samuel
Line who was Emma
Kirtland Line.

1888
Poland Aug 8

My Early recollections

William and Rebecca Frame My Parents.
There were nine children of us 3 Sons & six
Daughters. Father was from Pennsylvania brought
by an Aunt a Quaker Preacher Ruthven Linley
was her Name, he married Rebecca Marsh
of New Jersey her Father's Name was John Marsh
his wife Jane. I have heard another tell of
her Father's Mother during the ~~War of 1812~~
War of 1812. My parents kept up in New York
he commenced a grocery business
their first child was born there her Name
was Mary Miller Frame she died while an
infant, and being strangers in the City they
decided to take the babe back to her home
in New Jersey to bury. She had to go on a
schooner no steam ships in those days she
traveled all night and set by her darling baby
Father could not leave so she was alone with
the home folks knew nothing of it until she arri-
ved at home it was a sad coming home.
I do not recollect how soon she returned to New York
the family was of Scotch Descent her Father served in
the Revolutionary War
and America Royal blood

Brothers Sisters names were Mary Ann Lettich
 and Elizabeth Brothers Lewis John George
 I do not know how long they lived in New York
 but they moved to Pennsylvania Father
 Engage in the Milling business he was of
 Irish descent and the children were all born
 in Chester county Pennsylvania and lived there
 many years Eliza the eldest was Educated
 at ~~Wilmington~~ ^{Wilmington} Boarding school for girls only
 a Quaker school I think George the eldest Brother
 was sent to New York to learn to be a millwright
 a trade and stayed until his marriage
 Ruth and Linley second daughter ^{was} named for Father
 Aunt who brought him up. Thomas named for
 one of Father's Brothers he had four Jessie David
 James and Rebecca James's sister Rachel Sarah
 & Jane all I remember when I was about
 18 years old I went back with Brother Lewis
 and stayed a year he took me to visit my
 Uncle & Aunt in Rarway and on Staten Island
 we visited Uncle Lewis they treated to Clermont
 we went on snow across the ~~ice~~ ^{ice} frozen up
 it was very unusual to be frozen so hard but
 that year was very heavy times, crossed the snow in Dec
 I see some very old fashioned furniture of
 Mahogany After staying there a year my
 Brother moved to Ohio
 in a two horse carriage
 he brought for Belknap
 Girl friend
 Ruth and her name

Now to go back to my child hood
 My Father left the Milling business
 and opened a Public House in Downing
 Town Pennsylvania on the Turn Pike about
 50 miles from Philadelphia he also kept
 the Post office in early days people traveled
 by Stages & there stopping place was at our
 house for dinner. This was Downing Town
 one child was born there. I remember
 well that they kept black help and Father
 owned a boy called Black Bell. The people
 were mostly Quakers. My Father was raised
 a Quaker. Mother Presbyterian I wish
 I could remember dates. When I was 3
 years old my Parents moved to Maryland
 Baltimore City and kept a Tavern it was
 called Henry and they had a sign called
 the Golden Horse. I was in the upper part of
 the City near Washington Monument.
 We only stayed there two years and
 moved four miles out on the Turn Pike
 road that seemed like the country and the
 children enjoyed it and our folk kept a Tavern
 on more of a boarding house for City people
 to come & dinner. Father was former flower
 681 and had a lovely garden & garden but
 Neighbours owned slaves many were Quakers
 as a child I remember they had Dog houses & kept
 them chained up through the day & let them loose
 nights.

6
We were afraid to go to a Neighbour that
he was a meadow-hack two Daughters & one Ladys
tho after called at our house Mother sent
Sister Rebecca & I on an errand to Mrs Hunt
and when we got in there good the Dog
was low & lame at all & jumped on me &
I screamed which brought the Ladys out
very soon & called off the Dog I was not bitten
but badly scared they took us into the Ladys
gave us something and stayed the Pione for us
and we soon scamp home On the North
A Capt. Anderson lived who owned many
Rigges, once known they kept these chene dogs
for his children would go there they had
for children time in special stile and
on their mantle piece they had Globes
with Gold & Silver fish they were nice
to us & show us many pretty things —
After staying there two years the boys were
so large & mature to be on a farm and
my Parents decided to come west only
of children, there was a Gentleman who
he became acquainted that owned land
in Ohio and induced him to go on the
farm which was in Tumbull Co. Ohio
While we were in Maryland Father had a
Brother David ^{born} lived 56 miles west
of us he was a Quaker & often came to see
us and invited Mother to send Ruthanna
with him to attend a Quaker
School they had children were
Ruthanna went and enjoyed very
much

After Father decided to move to Ohio the
 only way then was to come by land he
 had a pair of big horses and put up a
 wagon to accommodate the family & bring
 a chesters a few household things & extra
 horses but one child was left in until we
 were there we crossed the Allegheny Mountains
 Mother's Brother George was with us & he could
 play the Flute once and when we stopped to rest
 he would play & the girls sing Ruthen
 had a lovely voice. I do not remember
 how long it took us to get to our journey's
 end but remember well the friends house we
 expected to occupy was not vacated and
 we had to go in a small lay cabin only
 one large room & a door half on the second
 story & no window only a hole to see daylight
 and the girls was stowed away on the floor in the
 left hand corner brought the chesters which they
 enjoyed I do not remember what the boys did
 else do but I remember well the girls that
 they have come to the back woods run enough
 they were ambitious, and had pride enough
 Sister Ruthen & her one & a half were one
 day in walking around the cabin it is possible
 that we had come to this, but we did not
 have to stop then long money in a double
 lay house & had plenty of room but please
 68, Father & Mother were made so comfort-
 able and we were a happy family after
 about two years Sister Ruthen married
 Judge Kirtlandson Billions & was much
 promoted for herself & family.
 have many up & down & down
 and General Messier Genkies

and my parents died & left myself
 Rebecca & Ruthen to take care of our
 selves my Brother over married before
 they died we lived with our Sisters
 for some years Rebecca & Ruthen
 Ruthen & married a Mr. Allen that
 went West to Iowa & a new State
 and now at this date my Sister Rebecca
 died left one Child and I married
 Mr. Allen and moved to Iowa and
 we lived together 30 years very happy and
 we prospered we had 4 children Lucinda
 Edgar Dudley & and Cora McArthur
 and now in 1878 I am a widow
 my children all married I have
 sold our beautiful farm & are
 here in Ohio living with Sister Ruthen
 her health being poor will stay and
 care for her and has a plot house
 this is in Poline Ohio when I have
 spent my happy days I have professed
 Christ and joined the Presbyterian Church
 when a girl & so did Rebecca my
 Chorus her course to me but I am
 happy believing in Jesus Christ -
 our only Saviour

Rebecca
 Mary McArthur
 1878