

## **Some of the Real Irish People to Virginia**

The Dooleys, Pattersons, Glennans, Kevills, Barrys, O,Connors, Fitzgeralds, Keans, Rheas, Kendricks, Kellys, McChesneys, Goolricks, Wards, Higgins, Doyles, Lawlers, Rafter, Ferriters, McKenneys, McCrackens, Youngs, Coles, Macgills, O.Bannons, Irvings, Irwins, Nolans, O.Sullivans, Sullivans, Walshs, O.Neills, Kanes, Murphys, Ryans and a hundred others, came largely during the present century.

One thing that we should remember is that it was the Ulster Irish who first came to America. Later on, poor families left Ireland in the great exodus which followed the famine of 1846 to 1847.

Certainly Virginia received about that time the greatest number of immigrants who, unfortunately for themselves and for their race, have preferred for the most part to lead urban lives.

Capt. Page McCarty, of Richmond, Va., writes: "I learned something of Irish-Americans from the papers of my father, Governor of Florida at one time, and member of Congress in 1839.

The Scotch-Irish appear to have established a theory of pre-emption or monopoly, and of that I learned but little. O'Brien, of staff of General Washington, was from Alexandria, Va.

Colonels McClanahan and Andrew Wagoner and Maj. Richard McCarty, of the Revolution, were descendants of a small group of Irishmen who named the little town of Kinsale on the Potomac about 1662.

Daniel McCarty, speaker of the Virginia House of Burgesses 1715, was of this set of people, and

grandson of McCarty, of Clenclare, though I see that some of his kin are trying to Scotch-Irish him also.

The main immigration path of the Irish was through Philadelphia and Charleston, South Carolina, and they penetrated to the mountains with the most adventuresome pioneers and met in the valley that extends from the Peaks of Otter to the headwaters of the Tennessee river."

Source: Some Irish Settlers in Virginia by Hon. Joseph T. Lawless, Richmond, Virginia