

Husband: GENERAL MARQUIS CALMES IV #4201
 Born: 26-FEB-1755 in: FREDERICK CO.,VA
 Died: 27-FEB-1834 in: VERSAILLES,WOODFORD CO.,KY
 RELIGION: OCCUPATION: (GENERAL) REV. WAR
 Father: WILLIAM WALLER CALMES #4204
 Mother: LUCY NEVILLE #4205

WAS NAMED AFTER HIS GRANDFATHER, HIS GREAT GRANDFATHER, & HIS UNCLE. HE WAS MARQUIS CALMES IV IN AMERICA, SOMETIMES CALLED "JR". HE, LIKE HIS FATHER & GRANDFATHER WAS SENT ABROAD FOR EDUCATION. 2 MISS. WOMEN JOINED D.A.R ON MARQUIS AS A CAPT ON THE CONTINENTAL LINE OF VA. A GENERAL IN THE WAR OF 1812 PENSION \$2588,400 AC IN WOODFORD & CLARK CO, KY FOR AMERICAN REVOLUTION. REF: RECORDS BY WM FLETCHER BOGGER PG.1-2-3; HISTORY OF FREDERICK CO.,VA. "CALMES NOTES VOL 1 ISSUE 111 JUNE 1992" **GEN

Wife: PRISCILLA HEALE #4202
 Married: 11-FEB-1782 in: FAUQUIER CO.,VA
 Born: 22-SEP-1759 in: LANCASTER CO., VA
 Died: 18-NOV-1821 in:
 Father: GEORGE HEALE #4899
 Mother: SARAH SMITH #4900

NAME ALSO SPELLED HALE
 WILL OF MARQUIS CALMES WILL INDEX I; PAGE 474-475
 "GENERAL MARQUIS CALMES OF CANELAND" by J.A.STEELE wrote that PRISCILLA HEALE was "a lady of culture & refinement to whom the Gen. was devotedly attached"

1	M	WILLIAM CALMES #4843	Born: 20-OCT-1782	
	sp.	MATILDA HATTON #6315	Married: 07-NOV-1835	Died: 03-OCT-1854 CLARKE CO., KY
			Buried:	
2	M	MARQUIS CALMES V #4844	Born: 11-FEB-1785	
	sp.	ELIZABETH HALE HAMILTON #4867	Married: 06-SEP-1836	Died: 06-AUG-1868/9
		Born: Died: LIVING IN 1850	Buried:	
3	F	SARAH (SALLY) CALMES #4845	Born: 28-JUN-1786 (OR 1784)	
	sp.	BIMEON BOHANNAN #4868	Married: 28-SEP-1803	Died: 11-AUG-1874 PETTIS CO., MO.
			Buried:	PROVIDENCE CEMETERY
4	M	GEORGE CALMES #4846	Born: 10-MAY-1789	
	sp.	NANCY LEE WHITE #4869	Married: - - -1822	Died: 08-DEC-1842 TEXAS
			Buried:	
5	M	FIELDING CALMES #4847	Born: 08-JAN-1791	
	sp.		Married:	Died: 19-OCT-1835 WOODFORD CO.,KY
			Buried:	
6	M	SPENCER CALMES #4848	Born: 17-AUG-1793	
	sp.	SARAH EDWARDS #4851	Married: 02-SEP-1817	Died: 15-JUN-1849 CLARKE CO., KY
		Born: 03-FEB-1798 Died: 26-NOV-1866	Buried:	VERSAILLES, WOODFORD CO., KY
7	F	NANCY CALMES #4849	Born: 16-SEP-1795	
	sp.	WILLIAM ROWLEY JENNINGS, M.D. #4870	Married: 02-FEB-1825	Died: 14-SEPT-1825 BOND DATE-CALMES NOTES
		Born: Died: - -1848	Buried:	
8	F	MIRIAM CALMES #4850	Born: 15-AUG-1797	
	sp.	THOMAS EASTIN #4873	Married: 18-DEC-1823	Died: 11-APR-1881 WOODFORD CO., KY
		Born: 14-APR-1788 Died: 20-MAY-1859	Buried:	

DOLores JEAN (STONE) HALL
 10714 CHARLENE DRIVE
 FAIRDALE, KENTUCKY 40116

F. PRISCILLA CALMES #3066	Born: 16-DEC-1799	WOODFORD CO., KY
sp. JOHN HONORIAS KIRTLEY #3065	Married: 04-JAN-1821	WOODFORD CO., KY
Born: - -1802	Died: 1840/50	Died: AFTER 1864
	Buried:	

DOLORES JEAN (STONE) HALL
 10714 CHARLENE DRIVE
 FAIRDALE, KENTUCKY 40118
 PHONE # 502-358-1056

Kentucky Historical Society Register

Calmes

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GENERAL MARQUIS CALMES

of "Caneland,"

A Revolutionary Hero of Woodford Co., Ky.

By JNO. A. STEELE.



GENERAL MARQUIS CALMES

of "Caneland," Woodford Co., Ky.

One of the earliest settlers of Woodford county was General Marquis Calmes, a noted Revolutionary soldier and Indian fighter whose name deserves honorable mention in the history of our State and country. General Calmes was born in Shenandoah county Virginia, in the year 1755. He was of Huguenot ancestry his father the Marquis de La Calmetz (Anglicized to Calmes) was a nobleman of wealth and culture who fled to America to avoid religious persecution and to find a home where he could worship God according to his belief and the dictates of his conscience. With many others of the same sect he landed first in Carolina, but finally located permanently in the valley of Virginia. There he married Lucy Neville, said to be a lineal descendant of the Earl of Warwick, "the King Maker," of England, and reared a large family, the oldest of which was Marquis.

When young Calmes arrived at the proper age, he was sent abroad to be educated, as was the custom of the wealthy persons of that period. During that time, the War of the Revolution broke out and, being deeply imbued with a love of freedom and liberty, he hastened home, raised and equipped a company at his own expense, and as its captain joined the Third Regiment of the

Virginia line, commanded by Colonel Thomas Marshall, father of the great chief justice, himself an officer in the same command. At the battle of Brandywine, Colonel Marshall was badly wounded, and Calmes, who had risen to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, afterwards led the regiment with distinguished bravery. He crossed the Delaware with Washington, fought at Monmouth and other engagements and was at Yorktown when the combined forces of Washington and Rochambeau, assisted by the French fleet under the Count De Grasse, compelled the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, the result of which was the independence of the colonies.

It is related that upon one occasion he single-handed and alone captured three British soldiers. He had gone to a spring for water and seeing them approach from the opposite direction, concealed himself in the bushes. Upon reaching the spring and suspecting no danger, they laid their guns aside, when Calmes sprang forward like a tiger from his lair, seized their arms and marched them into the American camp amid the plaudits of the army. After the termination of the war, having heard of the great fertility and boundless resources of the country west of the Alleghanies, and filled with the spirit of adventure,

he determined to seek a home in Kentucky, then the frontier county of Virginia. With a company of men, he came down the Ohio river in keel boats to the mouth of Cabin Creek, near Maysville, thence across to Indian Fields in what is now Clark county, where he located a large body of land and raised a crop of corn. He soon after removed to Woodford, then a part of Fayette county, and located at "Caneland," adjoining "Buck Pond," the home of his old friend and comrade, Colonel Thomas Marshall, where each built a brick house among the first of the kind in the county (both of which are in a good state of preservation to-day). Here for some years he was busily engaged in clearing land and improving his property.

When war was declared against England in 1812, he was again ready to meet his old enemy and promptly offered his services to his country. He was made a brigadier-general and placed in command of the first brigade of Kentucky riflemen, composed of the regiments of Colonels Trotter and Donaldson. He served with great credit during the arduous campaign of the Northwest under Harrison and Shelby. He was within the army upon the invasion of Canada and was present at the battle of the Thames, which resulted in the death of Tecumseh and the defeat of Proctor, but on account of sickness, the result of hardship and exposure, he was not able to take an active part, and his brigade was ably commanded by Colonel George Trotter. After the conclusion of the war, he returned to his fine estate where, surrounded by a retinue of servants, he lived with his family in ease and comfort until his death, which occurred Feb-

ruary 27, 1834. His remains now repose by the side of those of his wife in a stone mausoleum, built with great care by his direction and under his supervision before his death, about three miles east of Versailles and near the railroad leading from that place to Lexington. General Calmes was a man of striking and unique personality, nearly six feet in height and weighing over two hundred pounds, with blue eyes and a fair complexion; his bearing was soldierly, his step lithe and active and his manner was courteous and elegant. He never abandoned the colonial customs or style in dress. He wore his hair dressed in a queue and neatly tied with a black ribbon, a broad cocked hat, sweeping blue cloth coat, with metal buttons, velvet knee pants and stockings, and shoes with large silver buckles. Thus equipped, he would ride to Versailles to attend county court of which honorable body he was for many years a valued member. He owned a number of slaves and had them taught the various trades so necessary to farmers of the earlier times. He owned his sawyer, carpenter, blacksmith and shoemaker and brewed his own whisky and brandy, which he dispensed with a generous hospitality to his many friends and guests.

When LaFayette visited America in 1825, he stopped in Versailles. He and Calmes had been warm friends during the Revolution, and the meeting between the two old soldiers was touching and pathetic as they embraced each other and wept like children. Sarah Calmes, a daughter of the general, headed a committee of young ladies to strew flowers in the path of the old hero, but

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LaFayette displayed his gallantry and greatness by walking around them instead of over them.

In early life, General Calmes was happily married to Priscilla Hale, a lady of culture and refinement, to whom he was devotedly attached and whose death preceded his own some years.

As a disguise to his sorrow, nearly every year he built a boat at the mouth of Clear Creek on the Kentucky river, and, accompanied by a few of his friends and servants, he sought the wilds of Arkansas to enjoy hunting, his favorite amusement, returning overland horseback. He was one of the projectors of the town of Versailles, assisted in laying it out and named it after the city of Versailles in France. He never sought political honors or preferment, except 1795 he represented Woodford county in the State Legislature. He was essentially a soldier and when the duties of that calling were performed, he preferred the quietude of his home rather than the applause and heraldry often sought and received by others less deserving. Possessed of an ample fortune

he was kind to the poor, respected and beloved by the neighbors.

He was the father of nine children, five sons and four daughters, none of whom are now living. Not one of his descendants is living in Woodford county to-day, but are scattered over different parts of this and other States. George W. Calmes, of Lee county, Ky., to whom the writer is indebted for valuable information, is a grandson. "Caneland" was afterward the home of Col. Ezekiel Field and is now owned by the Dunlap heirs. The grand old forests of the Calmes manor have gradually disappeared before the relentless stroke of the woodman's axe, and in their stead an expanse of cultivated fields is now to be seen, and a few persons to-day as they pass and repass are conscious that beneath that venerable pile hard by rests the remains of one whose life was guided by that spirit of patriotism which proclaimed to the world the independence of America, and which as a soldier and a citizen he preserved untarnished to the day of his death.

J. A. STEELE.

Midway, Ky.

