

## High Family - Hampshire County, WV

(Last update 06/05/2023)

This report on the High family in Hampshire County, WV is a work in progress. I have attempted to document my sources and welcome anyone who reads this history to contact me with corrections or additional information that can be added for the benefit of future generations.

I am the wife of John M High (no middle name, just M) who is a descendant of Frederick Steinbach/Steinback/Steinbeck High and the nephew of Lawrence Alwyn High of Purgittsville. While preparing heritage albums for my two boys I was very intrigued after hearing the story of three High brothers who came from Germany and fought as Hessian soldiers. Motivated to discover all I could about the Highs in Hampshire County for the benefit of my High boys and grandson I set out on a mission to get a better understanding of their history. What information follows is a result of my findings and as stated earlier - a work in progress.

Because all ancestry sites say that John High, b:10/19/1726 (the founder of all Highs in Hampshire county) is the son of Johann Carl Hoch and Susanna Herbein Hoch of Berks County, PA I found myself questioning the family story of the brothers coming to America as Hessian soldiers. While I did find a connection to the Hessian soldier story it does not appear they came here to fight as Hessian soldiers but they may have already been in America when the war started and fought for or showed allegiance to the British. More on this later. In addition, and because all the ancestry sites credit Johann Carl Hock and Susanna Herbein Hoch as our John High's parents, I went in search of a family history on the Berks County, PA Hocks only to discover that dates and information just did not seem to add up. I believe the ancestry sites are wrong. I do, however, believe the Berks County, PA Hocks may be related and that at one time our John High may have stayed with them. This may be why the ancestry sites think John was their son. Later in this report you will read of a Henry High who also stayed with the Berks County Hocks after arriving in America. A small portion of the history of the Berks County, PA Hocks is included in this report and is sufficient for comparing dates and some information. The remainder of their history is available upon request. It is quite extensive and was compiled and documented by the Hocks of PA.

If anyone can add, confirm, or correct what's been offered up in this history I would sincerely appreciate hearing from you. In the mean time I will continue to research, add, and correct for the benefit of future generations.

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## Johann Hoch/Hoke (anglicized John High)

Birth: 10/19/1726 (or 1727) Most records say Berks County, PA?? One record says Baden-Wurttemberg, Germany

Died: 4/17/1817, Hampshire, WV, US

Buried: John High Cemetery, 1.6 miles Southwest of Junction on Route 220. Cemetery, left side of road very close to the guard rail – not maintained. 1700 feet south of Boxwood Drive and 3500 feet north of Davy Road intersection.

### Spouse:

Elizabeth Haymaker High (birth name: Elizabeth Hamacher)

Birth: 1730 (or 1733) One record says Westerwald, Schaumburg, Niedersachsen, Germany. Another record says Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany. MyHeritage.com says she was born in 1736 in Deutschland.

Married: 1748 (Ancestry.com says Elizabeth married Johann Adam Hoch High)

Died: 6/11/1814 Hampshire, WV, US (one record says she died in Junction City, Talbot, GA ??)

Buried: High Homestead/John High Cemetery 1.6 miles Southwest of Junction on Route 220, Hampshire Co. WV

Parents: Johan Huberich Hamacher (1713-1804) Catharina Charlotta Jung (1706-1782) who were married 7/6/1732 in Hachenburg, Westerwald, Germany. Immigrated to Philadelphia, PA from Germany 1740 (?) on the ship "Samuel and Elizabeth" from Rotterdam to Philadelphia. According to Shenandoah Valley Pioneers and Their Decendants (Cartmell) there were Haymakers living in Winchester from the early Colonial period. Adam Haymaker a gunsmith of the early war period. A John Haymaker who bought a lot from Philip Bush on Cameron Street and also a lot on the common. This was in 1778. In the late 1800s there was an old man, Henry Haymaker, who lived on the N.W. Turnpike four miles from Winchester.

### Children of John and Elizabeth High (bolded names have generational family history available)

- Nancy High, Born 1749-1753, Died after 1800, MyHeritage.com is the only website that lists a Nancy High as part of this family. She is believed to be the wife of Henry Hawk of Hampshire County. Henry received land transfers from John High (w/Elizabeth) in 1796 and 1797.
- **Henry Ulysses High, 1750-1833 (possibly 1760), War of 1812, Whiskey rebellion 1818 (read history elsewhere in this report)**
- Jacob High 1753-1838, Born White Plains NY, Buried in Warren Co. Indiana. Revolutionary War (DAR records) *Volunteered Hampshire Co. Virginia, 1777 as priv. in Col. Wm. Foreman's CO., later Capt. Alboah Johnson and Col. Crisp. Building garrison on Big Beaver, Vir. At the Siege of Yorktown. Proof: Pension claim S. 32322 (or 32822) Buried: In orchard across the road from Red Wood School. Stone. Indiana*
- George High B:1755 D:9/18/1792, Spouse: Mary Boncratz
- **John High Jr. 1756-1850 or 1762-1851, Revolutionary War (read history elsewhere in this report)**
- **Frederick Steinbach/Steinback/Steinbeck High 1761-1844, Revolutionary War Patriot, Suspect: Hessian (read history elsewhere in this report)**
- Mary Magdalene (Molly) 1767-1840 PA, H: Jacob Fidler 1762-1840 PA, Married: 1788 Hampshire Co.

John and his wife Elizabeth are credited with being the founder of the Mill Creek High families. Court records show that John eventually owned 1600 acres on Mill Creek, Hampshire County. He sold most of the property he owned to his sons and son-in-law(s). (See attached, "Early Records of Hampshire Co. VA").

Several High families were Brethren – Church of the Brethren (AKA: Dunkers). Some of them from a very early period. Allegheny Passage (Pg. 237 footnote) Other High families were associated with other faiths in the Mill Creek community. Pg. 240

There is conflicting information as to where John actually came from. Was he born here in America or did he come to America as a Hessian soldier? One record says he was born in Germany but all ancestry websites point to him having been born in Pennsylvania to parents Johann Carl Hoch and Susanna Herbein Hoch. Once again, I do not believe this is correct. A couple of reasons: The websites say that Johann Carl and Susanna Hoch had another son named Johannes Hoch. Johannes Hoch anglicized is John High. Why would they name two of their sons the same name? Also, Johann Carl Hoch left a Will dated 8/15/1769 and states that his son, John High, is deceased. This is very interesting because records show our John High alive living in Hampshire County until 1817. Johannes Hoch is no doubt the son who is referred to in the Will of Johann Carl Hoch as being deceased. Johannes Hoch died in 1763 leaving a wife and daughter. The Will was written in 1769 and includes the names of all Johann Carl Hock's children but does not mention a second son named John High.

I believe John and Elizabeth were born in Germany. They were married in 1748. Records say Elizabeth's parents immigrated to America in 1740. Elizabeth would have been 10 years old and 18 years old when she married John. If this is correct then John and Elizabeth were married in America and had their first child, Henry Ulysses in 1750 (or Nancy in 1749) in Philadelphia, PA and their last child Mary Magdalene in 1767 in Pennsylvania. If this information is correct they were not in Hampshire County until sometime after 1767.

There is a book by Fred High (1949) of Carrol County, AR who says that John Hoke was Dutch and came to the USA about 1756. He was 18 years old. I don't think this is accurate. Our John High was born in 1726 and would have been 30 years old in 1756.

Family Source: John and Elizabeth came together from Germany.

Family source: Three High brothers came to America as Hessian soldiers.

Family source: John High together with his two brothers, Henry and Frederick, fought as mercenaries in the Revolutionary war.

The Allegheny Passage says John High together with two brothers, Henry and Frederick fought as mercenaries in the Revolutionary War. The statement "John High and two brothers, Henry and Frederick" can be interpreted a couple of ways. John had several sons (Henry, Jacob, George, John Jr. and Frederick). It could be that John (the father) and his two sons Henry and Frederick (who were brothers) fought for the British and were considered Hessian soldiers because of their German heritage. While John's sons would have been old enough to fight in the Revolutionary war with their father I think this highly unlikely based on research I've done on each of these sons. DAR records show that John's sons, Jacob, John Jr., and Frederick were Patriots; so, if they started out fighting for the British it appears they changed sides. Ancestry.com shows son Frederick as a Patriot with a question as to whether he was a Hessian soldier. (See section on son Frederick Steinbach High for a possible Hessian/mercenary connection). I have found no record that Henry Ulysses was involved in the Revolutionary war.

There is a record of a Henry High residing in Warwick Twp., Lancaster Co., PA born Circa 1733 in Germany; died 9/12/1827 North Middleton Twp. Cumberland, Co. PA. whose patriotic service was in Pennsylvania as a Private. His service description: *Henry High B: Circa 1733 Germany, D:9/12/1827 North Middletown Twp, Cumberland Co. Pennsylvania, Lived: Warwick Twp, Lancaster Co. PA. Wife: Rachel Fackler. RANK: Patriotic Service, Private. Service source PA ARCH, 5<sup>th</sup> SER, VOL 2, PP 489-492; 3<sup>RD</sup> SER. VOL 17, P 503. Service Description: 1) CAPT ABRAHAM DEHUFF, MUSKETRY BATTALION; PAID SUPPLY TAX 1779.* I have found no evidence of this Henry High being a Hessian soldier and then converting to support the colonists but this does not mean it isn't so. More research is needed. I find it very interesting that shortly after this Henry High's arrival in America he connected with the Hochs of Berks County, PA. I believe this Henry High is the brother of our John High as they both have a connection with the Hoch's of Berks County. Our John High was born in 1726 in Germany and this Henry High was born in 1733 in Germany.

There is in the "US and Canada Passenger and Immigration Lists index, 1500s-1900s" a Friedrich Hock who arrived in Pennsylvania sometime between 1741-1767, publication code 8602. Source Bibliography: Clifford Neal Smith. Emigrants from the principality of Hessen-Hanau, Germany, 1741-1767. (German-American Genealogical Research Monograph, 6.) McNeal, Aris: Westland Publications, 1979. 22p. According to The Allegheny Passage there was a Frederick High who settled in Frederick County, MD and produced a large family in that county. They connected this Frederick High as possibly being the brother of our John High. If so, these three could be the John High and two brothers, Henry and Frederick who family sources say fought as mercenaries in the Revolutionary War. More research is needed to be sure they actually fought as mercenaries. If they did, it appears they changed sides. **I believe these three; John, Henry, and Friedrich are the three brothers family sources say came from Germany.**

According to the U.S. and Canada Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s a John High arrived in America in 1782. This same passenger and immigration list says that a John High arrived in America in 1772. (I have challenged the 1782 date below)

Extracted from the George Washington Papers, Library of Congress Presidential Paper Series, microfilm roll 117, vols. 7-8 (British and German deserters, 1782-1783) names those who were interrogated by American officers as deserters who crossed over/changed sides. There is a report (Allegheny Passage pg. 240, Mineral County 238) that says a John High was captured and imprisoned at Winchester. There were many incentives offered to mercenaries to change sides. (See: The Hessian Barracks at Winchester, Virginia and Frederick, Maryland by Marie Rasnick Fetzer 2009 and What Happened to the Captured Hessians? By historian David Hackett Fischer).

The History of Hampshire Co. / Mineral Co. History says a John High was captured at the battle of Trenton (12/26/1776) and imprisoned at Winchester. He was later released having promised he would not return to the war. As mentioned earlier there were many incentives offered to mercenaries to change sides. This could be how John High ended up in Hampshire County had he been one of the prisoners allowed to work as a farm hand in neighboring communities while a prisoner in Winchester and then when released, after agreeing not to return to the war, decided to move his family from Pennsylvania. Note: Mentioned above Geo. Washington's Papers say a John High "arrived" in America in 1782 and was interrogated by American officers. This date does not correspond with a John High captured at the Battle of Trenton in 1776. Could the above mentioned 1782 "date of arrival" in America be a mistake and is actually the date that John High was interrogated by the American officers? This would certainly make more sense if in fact our John High was the John High captured at the Battle of Trenton in 1776 and imprisoned at Winchester. The Allegheny Passage also says a John High was captured and imprisoned at Winchester; however, it does not say he was captured at the Battle of Trenton.

Another scenario of how John High may have ended up in Hampshire County is that he and his family could have come south from Pennsylvania and settled the land on Mill Creek prior to the Revolutionary War. Lord Fairfax referred to these settlers as squatters when he held title to the land. After 1778, when Fairfax no longer owned the land, Virginia gave to every bona fide settler who had built a log cabin and raised a crop of corn before 1778 a title to 400 acres of land and a pre-emption to 1000 acres more adjoining.\* Our ancestor John High is recorded as having property (400 acres on Mill Creek) deeded to him in 1780 by Abraham Hite. Hampshire tax tables in 1782 list a John High as head of a household of nine at the settlement on Mill Creek and by the time of his death, he owned 1600 acres. If John and his family were already in Hampshire County when the war started he could have fought for the British and was in fact captured and imprisoned at Winchester. Whether he was captured at the battle of Trenton in 1776 needs more research. **I believe this scenario of how John High came to be in Hampshire County to be the most probable.**

\* Commissioners were appointed to give a certificate of these "settlement rights" to the settlers.\* The certificate with the surveyor's plat was sent to the land office at Richmond, and in six months if no caveat was offered the patent was issued and the title was complete. The settlement-right to 400 acres was certified and a certificate issued upon payment of ten shillings per one hundred acres. The cost of certificate was two shillings and six pence. More on this topic can be found in the "History of Hampshire County, West Virginia, from its Earliest Settlement to the Present" by: HU Maxwell and H. L. Swisher, pages 21-22.

### Information from the "Early Records of Hampshire Co. VA"

- 1753 – Thomas Lord Fairfax (April 4, 1753) granted to Abraham Hite 400 acres. Abraham Hite (1780) 400 acres to John High. John High (1799) to Henry High, Henry High (1805) 200 acres to Frederick High - Deed of Sale.
- 1763 – Thomas Rutherford of Frederick Co. (lease & release) 400 acres on Mill Creek. Rec: 10/12/1768 To: Abraham Hite of Hampshire County. Wit: Ja.Keith, Gabriel Jones, Peter Hog
- 1772 – Thomas Harman of Hampshire County (power of atty) authority to convey track of land on Mill Creek, To: Abraham Hite of Hampshire County (atty). Rec: 5/11/1773, Wit: Sam Dew, Garret Vanmeter, Hathel Manning

### Land Records associated with Highs:

- 1780 - Hite, Abraham to John High of Hampshire Co., 400 acres on Mill Creek (rec. 5/9/1781 no witness)
- 1787 - Hite, Abraham (w. Rebekah) to Andrew Smalley, 200 acres on South Branch (witness: Jacob High, John High, Wm. Norman, Harry Hawk)
- 1795 - High, John (w. Elizabeth) to daughter Molly Fiddle of Hampshire VA (deed of gift) also deed of gift, sheep, personal property (rec. 2/16/1795). (witness: Andrew Wodrow, Wm Bullitt Jr, Sam Dew Jr). Molly Fidler was the wife of Jacob Fidler.
- 1796 - High, John (w. Elizabeth) to Henry Hawk of Hampshire Co. 400 acres on Mill Creek (Bill of sale 10/25/1796) (rec. 12/19/1796 no witness)
- 1796 - Smalley, Andrew of Loudin Co. to John High of Hampshire Co. (bill of sale) also Smalley, Ezekiel of Hampshire Co. 400 acres on Mill Creek (rec. 12/19/1796, witness: Vincent Williams, Henry Hawk, Isaac Williams Edward Williams Jr.)
- 1797 - High, John (w. Elizabeth) to Henry Hawk, 400 acres on Mill Creek (Bill of sale 1/7/1797) (rec. 2/29/1797)
- 1797 - High, John (w. Elizabeth) to James Fleming of Hampshire Co. 84 acres in Hampshire Col. (rec. 9/8/1797)
- 1798 - Thomas, Enoch of Hampshire Co. to Jacob High of Hampshire Co. 219 acres on Mill Creek (rec.10/15/1798 witness: John Foley, William Foley, Phillip Foley, Phillip Kline, Ann Thomas)
- 1799 - High, John to Henry High of Hampshire Co. 400 acres on Mill Creek (rec. 2/18/1799, witness: John Foley, John Foley Jr)
- 1799 - High, John to Henry High of Hampshire Co. 100 acres on Mill Creek (rec. 2/18/1799, witness: John Foley, John Foley Jr, Daniel Eller)
- 1799 - High, John to John High Jr. of Hampshire Co. 213 acres on Mill Creek (rec. 2/18/1799, witness: John Foley, John Foley Jr, Daniel Eller)

1788 – Henry Hawk, 400 acres on the waters of Mill Creek

1791 – Frederick High purchases 610 acres of the Fairfax lands on Mill Creek

1792 – John High owned 137 acres on Mill Creek.

1794 – Henry Purgitt received a land transfer of 137 acres on Mill Creek from Elizabeth Fidler (Fiedler) who had gotten the land in a land transfer from her son Jacob on 12/10/1794. Elizabeth Fidler (Fiedler) was the widow of George Fidler. Henry Purgitt married Elizabeth and resided in Henry's large log home. (Hampshire County West Virginia 1754-2004 pg.75) The large log home and the 137 acres eventually became the property and residence of Lawrence Alwyn High and is currently owned by Paul Henry (Pete) High of Purgittsville. Records show that John High owned 137 acres on Mill Creek (1792?). Jacob Fidler was married to Mary Magdalene (Molly) High the daughter of John High. More research is needed to determine if John High's 137 acres ended up deeded to his son-in-law, Jacob Fidler, who in turn transferred the land to his mother, who transferred it to her new husband Henry Purgitt. If this is the case then the 137 acres was originally owned by the High family before Henry Purgitt received it. Note: see above 1795 (deed of gift) to Molly Fidler from her father John High. This deed of gift could have been the 137 acres. See additional information below.

1797 - Frederick Haus (?) owned 64 acres on South Branch

1805 – Henry U High w/Susanna (Elizabeth) to Frederick High, 200 acres of the 400 acres that was sold to John High by Abraham Hite in 1780. Have a copy of the deed of sale.

### History of John High's 137 acres of land on Mill Creek ??

1792 – John High

1794/95 – John High to daughter Molly Fidler (husband Jacob Fidler) See above “deed of gift” to Molly 1795.

1794/95 – Jacob Fidler to his mother Elizabeth Fidler on 12/10/1794

1794/95 – Elizabeth Fidler to Henry Purgitt

3/27/1837 – Henry Purgitt to son William Purgitt

At some point in time and until his death in 1948 the property and house were owned by John Harper “Biscut” High.

Lawrence Alwyn High acquired the property and house from his father John Harper “Biscut” High and lived there until his death 6/21/1993

1993 – Estate of Lawrence Alwyn High to Paul Henry (Pete) High - purchase

### From the book “History of Hampshire County, West Virginia, from its Earliest Settlement to the Present”

- 1788 – Henry Hawk, 400 acres on the waters of Mill Creek\*
- 1792 – John High, 137 acres on Mill Creek
- 1797 – Frederick Haus(?) 64 acres on South Branch

### 1782 Hampshire County Tax List

- High, John 3 1785
- John 1 (1785,1786,1790,1792,1794,1795,1796,1798,1799)
- High, John 3 (1785)
- Henry High (1795,1796,1798,1799)
- Jacob (1795,1796,1798,1799)
- Jonathan (1795,1796,1798,1799)
- Frederick (1795,1796,1798,1799)

- ✓ Hampshire tax tables in 1782 list a John High as head of a household of nine at the settlement on Mill Creek.
- ✓ Records show a John High owned 137 acres on Mill Creek, Hampshire County, WV (1792)
- ✓ Before his death, John High, Sr., owned at least 1,600 acres, most of which he sold to his sons, relatives, and in-laws.

### 1790 Census Hampshire Co. WV

- High, John – Hampshire Co. VA (pg.27)

### 1810 Census Hampshire Co. WV

- High, Frederick - VA Hampshire Co. 24 181033010-1100100
- High, Henry – VA Hampshire Co. 24 181030010-2001000
- High, Jacob – VA Hampshire Co. 23 181011001-4200100
- High, John – VA Hampshire Co. 25 181021010-4100100
- High, John Sr. – VA Hampshire Co. 24 181001001-000010, Hampshire Co. (pg.24)

**Following is a bit of history for Johann Carl Hoch & Susanna Herbein Hoch of Berks County, PA**

according to all the ancestry sites these are the parents of our John High. I believe this is wrong. I believe these individuals are relatives of our John High and his two brothers Henry & Frederick. A complete history on the Berks County, PA Hocks is available.

Johann Carl Hoch: (B: 1700 Switzerland-D: 1777 Berks County, PA)

Susanna Herbein: (B: 1698 or 1702) D: 1763 Berks County, PA).

Married: 1720 Berks County, PA

Immigrated to America 1717

**Children of Johann Carl Hoch and Susanna Herbein Hoch according to ancestry web sites**

Deborah Herbein Hoch 1721-1779, wife of John DeTurck

Samuel Hoch 1723-1795, Spouse: Esther Herbein, Signed oath of allegiance (Rev. War) Berks Co.

Rudolph Hoch 1725-1796 – Revolutionary War Patriot

**John High 1726-1817, w/Elizabeth**

Daniel Herbein Hoch 1728-1805

Maria Magdalena 1730-1804, wife of Hans Pott

Anna Maria Herbein Hoch 1730-1823, wife of Jacob Keim

Johannes Hoch 1733-1763, married Susannah Weimar Levan in 1763, one daughter Catharine named in Will

Susannah (Hannah) Hoch 1735-1801, wife of Ludwig Pitting

Jacob Hoch 1738-1814

Esther Hoch 1742-1766

Abraham Hoch 1745-1826

**Henry Ulysses High** (son of John & Elizabeth High) **Extensive Genealogy for Henry is available.**

Born: Circa 1750 – My Heritage.com Alternate Birth 1760 - Philadelphia, PA (Allegheny Passage says Germany but gives no year. They probably have him confused with his uncle Henry who was born in Germany)

Died: 11/20/1833 (or 1/24/1834), Hampshire, VA

Spouse: Susanna Elizabeth Myers (Moyers) 1780-1848

Henry's will was probated 2/24/1834 and names his wife Susannah and ten children.

A believer in the doctrines of the German Baptist Church. Owned property on Mill Creek. Purchased or given to him by his father 400 acres recorded 2/18/1799 and 100 acres recorded 2/18/1799. April 15, 1805 Henry sold to Frederick "...200 acres of land being half of a tract of four hundred acres formerly belonging to Abraham Hite conveyed from said Hite to John High and then from John High to Henry High...".

Henry was a soldier during the war of 1812 and also helped to quell the whisky rebellion (1818) in PA and VA. In all my research I have not found that Henry Ulysses High fought in the Revolutionary War as a Hessian Soldier or as a Patriot.

Because family sources say a Henry High fought as a Hessian soldier I'm thinking that the Henry they are referring to is the Henry High mentioned earlier who connected with the Hocks of Berks County, PA. and is possibly the brother of our John High.

DAR records of Revolutionary War soldiers buried in Indiana show a Henry High (Warren County) Service: discharge recorded at Court House, Williamsport, Indiana. Buried across road from Redwood school. Stone. Not sure who this Henry High is/was.

There is a chance that Henry Ulysses has been confused with his brother Jacob High who did serve in the Revolutionary war. DAR records show a Jacob High (born 1763) in White Plains, NY volunteered 1777 in Hampshire County, VA as *a private in Col. Wm. Foreman's CO, later Capt. Alboah Johnson and Col. Crisip. Building garrison on Big Beaver, VA and was at the Siege of Yorktown. Proof: Pension claim S.32322 (or S.32822).* Jacob is buried in an orchard across the road from Red Wood School in Indiana. I have not researched Jacob High enough to be able to determine whether or not he was a Hessian soldier who crossed over and became a Patriot.



**John High Jr.** (son of John & Elizabeth High) **Extensive Genealogy for John Jr. is available.**

Born: 1756 (possibly 5/10/1762) Schuylkill Township Chester, PA (Allegheny Passage gives no date or place of birth)

Died: 1850 (possibly 5/8/1851) Warren, Indiana

Spouse: Mary Ann Smith – B: 1770 Hampshire County, D: 1825 Ohio, M: 1788 Hampshire County

Service: (DAR record) Entered from Romney, Hampshire Co. Virginia, June 1780 as private under Capt. Isaac Parsons, Col. Lawson's Vir. Troops. Battles of Guilford and Yorktown. Discharged Nov or Dec 1781. His pension was rejected for proof of service by witnesses. His service was Virginia. *Captain Isaac Parsons, Col. Robert Lawson. Service Source: R4985V: Pension of Jacob High \*S32322; Sanchez-Saavedra, A Guide to VA Mil Orgs in the Am Rev, PP138, 145, 183, 184. Other source: In 1788 volunteered under Capt. Henry Parker one year defending settlements of the Ohio River. Proof: Pension claim R. 4985. Died May 8, 1851.* (Why Jacob High's name appears in John's service record is a mystery to me. It could be a mistake. I've reported here how the record actually reads.

Children George, Henry, Isaac, Nimrod, John, Hiram, Frederick, Catherine Price, Christina Sharp, Julian, Amaziah.

Records show that a John High Jr. and brother Jacob were living in Licking County, OH in 1839. They were originally from Hampshire County, WV and were the sons of John and Elizabeth (Haymaker) High. Jacob and some of John's children moved to Carroll County, Arkansas. At some point in time John moved to Warren, Indiana where he married his second wife Nancy Sullivan and is buried there. John's first wife Mary Ann died in 1822 or 1825 in Ohio.

**Frederick Steinbach (Steinback/Steinbeck) High** (son of John & Elizabeth High) **Extensive Genealogy for Frederick is available.**

Born: 1761 Schuylkill, Chester, PA (one record says 1/18/1751 Philadelphia) (Allegheny Passage says 1/19/1761 in Germany? They probably have him confused with his uncle Frederick who was born in Germany)

Died: 1844 (possibly 3/22/1843) Hampshire, VA/WV (Allegheny passage says D: 1/18/1844)

Buried: Elijah High Cemetery (AKA High Cemetery) on Route 220, Davy Road, Mill Creek, Hampshire County, WV

Spouse: Christiana Kale (Cale or Kail)

Married: 1789 (possibly 1793) Hampshire Co, VA

Born: 8/11/1770, Capon Bridge, Hampshire Co, VA (Allegheny Passage says 11/6/1770)

Died: 5/31/1854, Hampshire County, VA (Allegheny Passage says 5/29/1854)

- Frederick purchased/owned 610 acres of the Fairfax Lands on Mill Creek, Hampshire County, VA - 1791 – Book 975.495H2M
- 1810 Census shows him in Hampshire County, VA
- 1820 Census shows him in Rockingham County, VA (?)
- On February 20, 1814 a David Gibson arrived at Romney. He entered the store of Frederick Steinback. “History of Hampshire County, West Virginia, from its Earliest Settlement to the Present”, by: Maxwell and Swisher (pg.707)
- It has been recorded that a Frederick High settled in Frederick County, MD and raised a large family there. This is probably his uncle Frederick.
- According to Ancestry.com Frederick was a Revolutionary War Patriot, Militia, 2D Regiment, VA July 1779. DAR National #733259 Ancestor #A055373, Service in VA, Rank: Soldier/Militia Service Source: Book 31, Page 53 Aud. Acct Book REQ 7633 In Data
- One ancestry site mentions Frederick as a possible Hessian soldier from Germany. If this is true then he eventually changed sides as DAR records him as a Patriot. DAR – Service: Virginia, Rank: Soldier, Birth: 1/18/1751 Pennsylvania, Death: 3/22/1843 Hampshire CO Virginia, Service Source: Book 31, Page 53 AUD.ACCT Book REQ 7633 IN Data, Service Description: Militia. The DAR records for Frederick’s date of birth and date of death differ from other ancestry records. His Will was probated on 7/27/1844 and names wife Christiana and eight children.

Frederick and Christiana had many children with records showing their first born was named John born 1794. A family source (Rebecca High Kelley of Keyser, WV) is on record saying that the story coming down from family sources is that Frederick & Christiana’s son John was really only raised by Frederick and Christiana and was not born a High. Rebecca goes on to say that she believes that John was a High (emphasis hers). What makes her so sure she does not say. I will share here what my research has found. MyHeritage.com shows an Anna Elizabeth High (born Kale) married to a Frederick Steinbach High. Another ancestry site (Ancestry.com?) shows a child named John being born in 1792 (or 1794) to Anna Elizabeth & Frederick Steinbach. If the ancestry sites are correct Anna (b: 1776 Capon Valley) would have been 16 (or 18) when baby John was born. Anna died at the age of 24 near Capon Bridge, Hampshire County on 6/1/1800. Records show that Christiana High (born Kale) married Frederick Steinbach in 1793 (one site says 1789) which means that Anna was still alive. Could it be that Anna became ill or suffered an injury causing her demise and Christiana married Frederick and raised Anna and Frederick’s son John as her own? Christiana and Anna were sisters. Or, could it be that the ancestry site is mistaken and Anna and Frederick were not husband and wife but did in fact have a child together? This would then explain why Frederick (being unmarried) married Christiana before Anna died. MyHeritage.com has a good bit of information about an Anna Elizabeth Kale (born Wagner) married to a John Kale. I believe they have confused information between the two Anna Elizabeths making it very difficult to get to the truth.

### Concerning the Cale (Kale, Kail, Kahl) family – Christiana and Anna’s Parents

- About the year 1740 a German family named Kale took up the land and built there (Capon District, Bubbling Springs) and brought up their family. “Capon Valley It’s Pioneers and Their Descendants”, by: Maud Pugh (pg. 20)
- In 1802 Jesse Pugh purchased property from John Kail, Deed Book 13, -242. “Capon Valley It’s Pioneers and Their Descendants” by: Maud Pugh (pg. 37)
- The Kale family was of German origin, John Kale, a Revolutionary soldier, settled at an early date on the west bank of Capon river and owned a good farm adjacent to what was once called Kale’s Ford. There is an old cemetery on this farm, the Kale burial ground. “Capon Valley It’s Pioneers and Their Descendants” by: Maud Pugh (pg. 189)
- Geo. Washington fails to mention the Cale (Kale, Kail, Kahl) family in his notebooks while surveying and taking a census of the Yellow Spring (Capon Valley) area in 1750. “Capon Valley Sampler” (pg. 25,26) By: Willard Wirtz. Mr. Wirtz writes:

“Crosschecking with other records confirms the relative completeness, with one intriguing exception, of the Washington notebooks as a census of the Yellow Spring area, 1750. The Nicholas Robinson cabin was probably about where the mill is now, nestled like most of the others at the base of the mountain for warmth in the winter and coolness in the summer. The Weltons lived upriver, the Hughses and Carpenters above them, and the Woodfins a little to the east. Below on the river were the Kinnisons, John Lonem (apparently with his family), the McKeevers, and Jeremiah Hook. All of British descent, these early settlers, probably following the wagon trail from the Potomac to Frederick Town and then probing another twenty-five miles west to satisfy their instinct or desire for independence or whatever it was that made them willing to assume isolation’s high risks.”

“As far as I can determine, Washington’s list omits only one of this area’s original settlers. John Cale was probably the first to build a cabin here, a little downriver, near what would become Hooks Mill. This would have been in the early 1740s. The McKeevers apparently arrived three or four years later and were his neighbors. Yet Washington’s records include no reference to Cale.”

“Trying to find a reason for this, I came to the realization that virtually all of the names in Washington’s notebooks are of English, Irish, Scotch, or Welsh derivation. John Cale had come from Germany. I had wondered about why the young surveyor in his journal, would have made the statement, “as Ignorant a Set of people as the Indians they would never speak English but when spoken to they speak all Dutch.” About to claim copyright on a novel interpretation of a tidbit of American history, I discovered that Winchester historian Oren Frederic Morton has a prior claim. He concludes that when Fairfax cut his deal with Joist Hite and James Wood, dividing up the disputed land rights, part of the arrangement with Hite, who had been born in Strasbourg, Alsace, Germany was that his Lordship would not bother any squatters of German descent. Deutschland uber alles.” Germany above all: German unity above factionalism.” These above three paragraphs were written by: Willard Wirtz in the Capon Valley Sampler (pg.25,26).

### A possible connection/explanation of how Frederick may have gotten a reputation as a Hessian soldier.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Hampshire County was torn by internal strife because a large percentage of its inhabitants were English and found it hard to turn their back on the crown. There was a tory uprising when they (the British sympathizers) refused to pay their taxes and offer up men for the colonial militia. Approximately 50 tories placed themselves under the leadership of John Brake, a German, and used his house (which was above Petersburg in what is now Hardy County) as their place of rendezvous. There they made preparation to join the British forces on the eastern coast when they found themselves under attack by 400 colonial militia. The tories were violently crushed. Those who refused to surrender were killed; and the others, thoroughly convinced at the superiority of the American forces, quickly joined the American army and fought as Patriots till the close of the war. I mention this story because ancestry.com mentioned that Frederick High could have been a Hessian soldier but also lists him as a Patriot. Perhaps he was one of the 50 tories under John Brake who ended up joining the American army. This information was taken from “History of Hampshire County, West Virginia, from its Earliest Settlement to the Present” by: Maxwell and Swisher (pg. 62, 63) and “Historic Hampshire” by: Selden W Brannon (pg. 90, 91, 92) The tory uprising is also referred to as Claypool’s Rebellion in 1781.

An interesting note: Henry Purgitt (a Revolutionary war Patriot) was drafted again in 1781 to go after the tories in Hardy County. He was given no discharge papers so had to have testimony of people who knew he was in the war; these included Frederick High, Henry High, and John Sedgwick. (Source: Hampshire County, West Virginia 1754-2004 published by The Hampshire County 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee)

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