

Data for a Memoir of

Thomas Ingles of Augusta, Kentucky

Transcription by James Duvall, M. A. Boone County Public Library Burlington, Kentucky

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My Grandfather William Ingles, who came from Scotland, was married to Miss Mary Draper, in Virginia, in the year 1750, and soon after his marriage, established Ingles' Ferry on New River. My Father Thomas Ingles, son of William and Mary Ingles, was born in Virginia, in the year 1751, and was a prisoner with the Shawnee Indians from about 3½ years of age until nearly seventeen years old.

— A prisoner nearly 13 years. He was educated at Charlottesville, Va., and became acquainted with Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and a host of old Virginia Worthies.

Was a Lieutenant in Col. William Christian's Regiment when by forced marches he endeavored to join Genl. Lewis at Point Pleasant, Va., before that great battle with the Indians was fought, but did not arrive until a few hours after that bloody battle had been fought; and the Victory won by the noble and brave Genl. Lewis, and his valient Virginia Cohorts. My Father received several Commissions signed by Thomas Jefferson when Governor of Virginia, among them one of Colonel of Militia.

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Thomas Jefferson and my Father both received instructions in music, on the Violin, from the same teacher; and at the same time. He was a great admirer of Patrick Henry.

My Mother was born at Charlettesville, Va., and educated there, and became acquainted with all of the old Virginia Worthies above named, and a host of others not named. She was intimately acquainted with the Jefferson Family, and spent, in her youthful days, many happy hours at Monticello.

My Father and Mother were married in Virginia in the year 1775. When they had three Children, my Mother and her children were taken prisoners by the Indians, but were rescued on the fifth day, by my Father and a small company of men; but not until the Indians had perpetrated the savage and bloody deed of tomhawking my Mother and her two oldest children — a Daughter & son, both of whom died. My mother had an infant daughter in her Arms, who escaped unhurt; though my Mother lingered for a long time, no less than eleven pieces of her skull bone having been taken out of her head.

I, Thomas Ingles, was born early on the morning of December 25th, 1791, in Grainger County Tennessee, being the youngest of Eight Children — 5 sons & 3 daughters.

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Emigrated with my Father, Mother and part of their family, from Knoxville, Tennessee, in Feb. 1800 to the Mississippi Territory, and in the passage down the several Rivers — Holston, Tennessee, Ohio and Mississippi, witnessed many interesting scenes, some of which I would relate, but my limit on this paper, and the occasion forbids it. I was at that time, between 10 & eleven years of Age.

Was Educated, principally, at Madison Academy, near Port Gibson, Mississippi, the best school, perhaps, in Mississippi, at that time.

Had charge of the Post Office at Port Gibson, as Assistant, when a youth, for more than two years, and performed nearly all the labor and duties of that Office.

Was Deputy Sherif (sic) of Claiborne County, Mi., at two different times, when quite young to fill such a responsible Office, but that business was not congenial with, either my taste or feelings quite opposed to my sympathies.

Was in Mississippi, an Trustee of Centre Academy in Claiborne County, a Chartered institution, and the youngest man in the Board of Trustees, by more than ten years.

Secretary of a Missionary Society, and Captain of a large and well disciplined Militia Company in Mississippi

Was married to Miss Mary Barnes a native of North Carolina near

Port Gibson, Miss., in July 1818, and a most estimable young lady was She — just as sweet as a Pink and blooming as a Rose. We had Seven Children, 4 Sons and three Daughters four of whom [Last line on page appears to be missing in copy; probably reads: *are still alive*,

or words to that effect.]

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My two eldest, living Sons, are at this time in the City of New York. The youngest son by my first Wife, who is not yet 21 years of age in in Cincinnati, a Book Keeper in a large store in Cincinnati. These three sons were educated in Augusta College.

My first Wife died in February 1838. in Augusta. Came to this place in 1828.

Have been a mercantile man a great portion of my life, occupied mostly, in my youthful days, in Book keeping, both in Natchez & Port Gibson, Miss. Soon after my first marriage bought and cultivated a fine farm in Claiborne County, Miss., and made seven crops, but my health failed, and in 1826 & 27, travelled thousands of miles, with my family, with an expence in travelling and Physicians' bills of thousands of dollars, leaving me with an enfeebled constitution, having been very sickly for a term of nineteen years, during which time I was not, most of the time, able to attend to business.

Recovered my health partially, in 1840, Took charge of the Post Office in Augusta April 1st, 1840, served as Postmaster until Sep 30th, 1853, during which time — 13 years and 6 months, not a single error was detected in my accounts by the Department, though still in my debt. [Page 5] Was Treasurer of the Auxiliary Colonization society of Augusta, in the Palmy days of the Rev. Henry B. Bascom, Agent. Was Secretary of the Bible society — Auxiliary to the American Bible Society for many years. A Trustee and secretary of the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this place, for many years.

Was Trustee of the Bracken Academy in this place since 1831, and appointed Clerk of the Board in 1832. A Trustee of Augusta College — elected in 1832, and appointed Secretary of the Board in 1835.

Was married the second time, in July 1841to Miss Elenjean (?) Henry Warren, a native of Maryland, a very small, but most excellent Woman. We have five Children — 3 daughters and two sons — the two sons being the youngest the elder is named Warren, and the Other Fillmore.

Have been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1821 — a steward and Class leader at different times and sundry places — Also superintendant of various Sunday Schools.

Have read both Law & Medicine to some extent, for my own information, without any desire to practice either. Have devoted more time and attention to the

study of Divinity than to either Law or Medicine, but never believed that I was called & required to preach the Gospel.

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Finally, I am a working man not a literary or scientific character. Take great pleasure, so far as it is in my power, in amelirating the condition of my fellow Man.

From boyhood, it has been my desire to think correctly, speak correctly, act righteously and to put *multum in parvo*,

"To do Justly, to love Mercy, and to walk humbly with my God."

Yes. I forgot to say that although I have paid some attention to Politics, yet never had any aspirations for Political Fame: because being a domestic man, have always found more pleasure at home with my beloved wives and interesting children than could be enjoyed abroad. Yes. Home —

"Sweet home" is the place for me,

your unworthy correspondent.

Augusta, Ky,

April 1854

Thomas Ingles

John Livingston, Esq.

P. S. Omitted to state that in 1850, I was unanimously elected by the stock Holders of the Augusta, Cynthiana, & Georgetown Turnpike Road Company as Treasurer. The Road being completed, all my accounts have been settled satisfactorily, leaving the company in my debt. *T. I.*

28 April 2008

Notes

multum in parvo (= "much in little")

Micah 6.8: It hath been told thee, O man, what is good, and what the LORD doth require of thee: only to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.