A Brief History / Genealogy of John Knox & His Family of the town of Hillsdale, Columbia County, NY and the Town of Elizabethtown, Essex County, NY

Collected and Compiled by David Rogers, January, 2013.

Introduction: Two hundred years ago, give or take a few months, John Knox, farmer & widower, and his five young children moved from North Hillsdale, Columbia County, NY to Elizabethtown, Essex County, NY. His wife, Elizabeth Calkin, died sometime after she gave birth to her fifth child, George Knox, born July 18, 1811. John had been a farmer all his life, helping his parents, James & Sabra [Huntley] Knox, on their farm among the valleys and hills of North Hillsdale. The purpose of his trip north was to join his Calkin in-laws, where they had settled about 11 years previously. He may have been told that Elizabeth's family would provide support in helping to raise his young family – or there may have been other reasons for moving, now unknown. He & his family settled on the lower slopes of Mt. Hurricane, in the Eastern Adirondacks where these hills were much higher and steeper than he had been used to in Hillsdale. John spent the rest of his life, working hard to establish a farm and provide necessities for his family. John & Elizabeth were my great-great-great grandparents. The information which follows has been collected to remember his life & this, pioneer family of Essex County, NY. Corrections and additional information on these families would be welcome and appreciated. David W. Rogers, dirogers@eastlink.ca

John Knox, farmer and Veteran of the Battle of Plattsburgh, was born in the town of Hillsdale, Columbia Co., NY, on November 1, 1781. He was the oldest child of James Knox, b August 14, 1755, in Blandford, Hampden County, Massachusetts and Sabra Huntley of Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess Co. and Hillsdale, Columbia Co., NY. The source of John Knox's birthdate is page 12, William Knox of Blandford, Mass., by Nathaniel Foote, 1926.

James Knox, Father of John, Veteran of Revolutionary War, farmer, & distiller? born August 12. 1755, Blandford, Mass.; died March, 1823 in North Hillsdale, NY. In 1760, ten pounds, £10, were appropriated for schooling in the town of Blandford, prior to that date pupils had been taught in homes in the area. In 1762, the town was divided into 3 school districts, and a vote passed at town meeting to build 3 school houses.... After the erection of these houses the people made rapid progress in education...." It is supposed that James Knox, had the advantage of schooling in one of these newly built Blandford schoolhouses. Source - pgs 28, 29, The History of Blandford, 1850. During his early years he most likely helped out on his father's farm and perhaps in his father's inn or tavern. When older he became a member of the local Militia. As a result of this training, James Knox was a Private in Capt. John Ferguson's company of Minutemen, Col Timothy Danielson's regt., which marched April 20, 1775 to Cambridge in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775 and the Battle of Bunker Hill. This company later returned to Roxbury in October, 1775 for 3 months of guard duty during the siege of Boston. Later, during the winter of 1777, James Knox, Serg't, enlisted again in the same company raised to reinforce the Continental Army at Ticonderoga. Sometime later, in the late 1770s, James removed 40 miles to the west of Blandford where he established himself in the town of Hillsdale, Columbia co., NY, and where he married Sabra Huntley, c 1780/1781. She was the daughter of John & Lois [Beckwith] Huntley who were both born in Lyme, Ct. Sabra was living in Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess County, age 6 or 7, in 1768, when her father died. John Huntley's will left his farm to his oldest son. William. In the census of 1790. William Huntley is found in the town of Hillsdale. living near James Knox. It is assumed that other members of William's family, including his brothers and sisters, moved to Hillsdale with him, possibly in the late 1770s. It was likely in that community that James Knox met Sabra Huntley, and his brother, Elijah Knox, met Sabra's sister, Ruth, whom he married.

James was perhaps encouraged to move to Hillsdale by his Uncle & Aunt, John & Elizabeth [Knox] McKinstry and other members of the McKinistry family who had settled in Blandford about 1746 and who removed to the town of Hillsdale in the early 1770s. John McKinstry served in the Revolutionary War as a Captain and Colonel, and was taken prisoner

when his unit surrendered to the British near Montreal, Canada, after the Battle of the Cedars in May, 1776.

James Knox and Sabra, his wife, spent the remainder of their lives in the area of North Hillsdale, where he & Sabra raised 9 children, the 10th dying young. The first property [of which there is a record in Columbia County, NY] purchased by James Knox is recorded on Page 108, Book Q, Columbia County Records - On the 29th day of September, 1805, Henry I.? Van Renssalar of the city of Hudson, sold to James Knox, of the town of Hillsdale, for the sum of \$1168.00, two pieces of land. 1. **one hundred and eighty-nine acres**, one Rood and thirty perches. 2. And an additional **sixty nine acres**, three Roods and five perches of Land. This land apprears to have been in North Hillsdale, a short distance to the west of the village of **Green River** on the south side of the road leading to Hudson. It is possible that James Knox rented lands from the Renssalar family prior to 1805, although such records have not been found.

On 16 October, 1822, James Knox made his last will & testament and following his death a detailed inventory of his property was recorded. Among his possessions were: 40 Gallons of Cider Brandy, 4 Hogsheads of Cider, and 5 Barrels of Cider. The description of property left to his sons included this phrase – "thence northerly to a hard Maple Tree marked, standing in the south east corner of the Woods **near the Distillery....**" These items seem to suggest that James had a distillery on his property where he produced Cider Brandy in quantities beyond what would normally be used for home consumption. James Knox appears to have been a prosperous farmer and in his will provided a payment to his oldest son John: ..."I also give and bequeathe to my son **John Knox** the sum of three hundred dollars to be paid to him within four years after my decease to be paid to him his heirs or assigns...." Source of Will & Inventory - Will Book E, page 59, Columbia County Records, NY.

Family of James & Sabra [Huntley] Knox.: : John, b 1781, Sarah, b 1784, Louis, b 1786, who died the same year, James, b 1788, Sabra, b 1791, George, b 1793, William, b 1797, Amos, b 1800, Hannah, b 1804, Rachel, b 1806.

Cemetery Records There isn't any record of the burial place of James Knox or of Sabra [Huntley] Knox. Information received from Virgil Huntley provides the information that Sabra Huntley was born on 1 September, 1761 in Dutchess Co.; she died 4 November, 1842 in the town of Hillsdale.

John Knox's Early Years Information about John Knox's youth has not been found. It is assumed that, as the oldest member of James Knox's family, he spent most of his early years helping on his father's farm and learning and practicing farming and land clearing skills. From the inventory of his father's farm on April 2, 1823, it appears that James Knox was a prosperous farmer – these records show that he had 2 yoke of oxen, 2 horses, 7 cows, six yearlings, 3 two year olds, 3 calves, 5 hogs, 30 hens, 8 geese, and 17 sheep. Crops included flax, buckwheat, corn, rye, timothy & clover, potatoes, grain, beans and peas, etc. The value of his father's home and farm inventory amounted to \$1808.52. This included several hundred dollars worth of notes, money he had loaned to neighbours & family members.

It is possible that John Knox, as a young man, visited his Knox relatives in Blandford, Massachusetts. It isn't known whether he had the opportunity for any formal schooling in North Hillsdale, or elsewhere. Details of John Knox's early life are sadly lacking. The first record of John Knox appears in the 1910 census. By then he had a wife and four children.

John Knox's 1st Wife - Elizabeth Calkins

John Knox married **Elizabeth Calkin**, c 1800; she was born on 5 March, 1784, the oldest child of Elijah⁶ Calkin Jnr. (Deacon Elijah⁵, John⁴, John³, John², Deacon Hugh¹) and Keziah⁶ Rogers, (Isaac⁵, Hezekiah⁴, Obadiah³, Jonathan², William¹) of *North-East, Dutchess County, NY. Note: Deacon Hugh² Calkin was christened 8 Apr 1603 in Waverton, Cheshire, England. He died Jun 1690 in Norwich, New London, Connecticut. Hugh married Ann on 1626 in Waverton, Cheshire, England.

Ancestry of Keziah Rogers, wife of Elijah Calkin Jr. – Keziah Rogers Calkin, (Isaac , Hezekiah , Obediah , Jonathan , William , Thomas , Thomas , Thomas , Thomas .)

Note: Jonathan⁵ Rogers was christened 4 Sep 1636 in Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire, England. He died in 1707 in Huntington, Suffolk, New York.

Calkin & Rogers Family Backgrounds The families of Isaac Rogers & Elijah Calkin had a similar experience, they settled for many years in what is now Putnam County, NY and later moved north to re-establish their homes & farms in the town of North East, Dutchess County. It appears that both families were members of the Baptist churches in these two areas and later became related through the marriage of Keziah Rogers and Elijah Calkin Jr. A summary of these events follow.

Betsy's Family Background - John Knox's wife, Elizabeth Calkin, also known as Betsy or Amy, was the grand-daughter of Deacon Elijah Calkin and his wife Sarah. Both Elijah & Sarah were born in Lebanon, New London County, Connecticut. It appears that Elijah & Sarah lived the first 22 or so years of their married lives in what later became the town of Kent, Putnam County, NY., where all their children were born. Members of their family were: Elisha, b 1753, Ebenezer, b 1755, Hezekiah, born 1757, Seth, born 1758, David, born 1660, Aaron, b 1762, and Elijah Jr., born 9 April, 1764. Elijah Calkin is particularly noted for his association with a Baptist Church, which he helped to establish in Phillips Patent. He was appointed a Deacon, a position he held for 44 years, "..In November, 1751, the first Baptist church in Dutchess County was organized. It was called the Baptist Church of Phillips' Patent, Government of York... and was also referred to as the Baptist Church of Fredericksburg. Its members came from what was later called Patterson and the surrounding towns. Among the founders were Simon and Rebecca Dakin,& Elijah and Sarah Calkin of Kent, and several others. In November 1765, members of the church were among local residents upset at the English Manor Lords' unjust attempts to take their land....They agreed to defend their friends and neighbors and became part of the Settlers' Revolt, the Prelude to the Revolution..." Source – A Brief History of Patterson Baptist Church, Internet. "Owing to the numerous difficulties where they lived,, and the invitation to remove being so cordial, they decided that the change should at once be made.... By the last of April the move was effected, and on the first of May, 1773 they held their first covenant and continued there as a congregation. This church was located where is now the old graveyard at Spencer's Corners, about two miles from the present Millerton. The church records refer to their congregation as The Baptist Church in North-East Town or The Church of Christ in Phillips' Patent...." Source -History of Dutchess County, NY, Chapter 5. Church and other records list Elijah Calkin Jr. and Keziah [Rogers] Calkin, as members of the Baptist Church in North-East. Deacon Elijah Calkin is reported to have died in the town of North East, Dutchess County, in 1817.

WAR SERVICE Elijah Calkin Jr., Elijah Calkin Sr., & Isaac Rogers were enlisted men in the Dutchess County Militia (Land Bounty Rights), Sixth Regiment, during the War of the Revolution. Nothing more is known of their military careers. The Sixth Regiment was an extremely large one, the list of names covering 5 pages in the 2nd Edition, New York in the Revolution as Province & State. Elijah Calkin Sr. & his son, Elijah Jr. are listed on page 247.

Census of 1790	Northeast Town	Dutchess Co., NY page 85, includes:	
Elijah Calkins	[Sr.] 1 – 1 – 3	Census numbers left to right	
Isaac Rogers	3 - 0 - 6	Free white males age 16 and over	
Elijah Calkins	Junr 2 – 3 – 3	Free white males under 16.	
-		Free white females including heads of families	3.

Census of 1790 Hillsdale Town Columbia Co., NY page 65

James Knox 1 – 4 - 2

ISAAC⁵ ROGERS (Hezekiah⁴, Obediah³, Jonathan², William¹). Isaac "was born ca. 1726 and baptized 13 March 1725/26 at Huntington, Sufflok, NY.,, and married 1st at Huntington, 17 Nov. 1747, to Mary Rogers, both then were living at Huntington. She was probably a daughter of Joseph⁴⁻³, (Jonathan², William¹) and Mary (Conklin) Rogers. [Another source reports **Mary Rogers**, as the daughter of Josiah Rogers and Elisheba Conklin on 17 November, 1747 in

Huntington, Sufflok, NY. Mary is reported to have died in 1762. Isaac & Mary's children were: Joseph, Micah, Ruth, Mary, and Jerusha.]

Isaac Rogers married 2nd, **Anna Halstead**, widow of Benjamin Halstead, on 3 May 1763 at Rombout Presbyterian Church. Source: pgs. 920,921, <u>The Settlers of The Beekman Patent Dutchess County, New York</u>, Vol. 10, by Frank J. Doherty, Orlando Fl., 32825, 2010. Anna, the daughter of Josiah Wilcox and Keziah Kelsey was born 25 April, 1735 in Killingworth, Middlesex, Connecticut, and died 30 October, 1835 in North East, Dutchess County, NY. Children, from Isaac Rogers second marriage were: **Keziah**, born April 9, 1764, **Elizabeth** b c 1766? [listed in Isaac's will], and **Joel**, born c 1769. No information has been located about Elizabeth Rogers and it is assumed that she died sometime after the census of 1800. It seems possible that Keziah [Rogers] Calkin, named her first child, Elizabeth, born in 1784, for her younger sister

*Rombout **Precinct, Dutchess County, tax records include those for Isaac Rogers for the years 1758 – 1763 and 1765 – 1772. It is assumed that he & his family then moved to the town of North East with other members of his church. Of note perhaps, is that four of Isaac's brothers died in Dutchess county. They were: Ezekiel, who died in Fishkill 20 September, 1785; Zophar, who died about 1800 in Beekman; Hezekiah who died in the same area on 31 August, 1812; & Michah, who died in Fishkill on 16 February, 1815.

*Note: Source of Tax Records – 18th Century Records of the Portion of Dutchess Co., NY that was included in the Rombout Precinct and the Original Town of Fishkill – collected by William Willis Reese, edited by Helen Wilkerson Reynolds

**Rombout Precinct "confirmed very nearly to the boundaries of the tract of land title to was used by Rombout Patent...."

The History of Torrington, Connecticut, by Samuel Orcutt, 1878, pg. 198, records that Joel Rogers, was born in Fishkill, NY in 1769, or 1770, and removed to North East Dutchess Co., about 1775 with his father, Isaac Rogers..." Other records give Joel's birthday as 16 February, 1769. It appears from this record that his sister, Keziah, was also born in the area of Fishkill / Rombout Precinct.

Isaac Rogers' Will

The will of Isaac Rogers of North East Town, Dutchess County was dated 22 Dec. 1794 and proved 30 Oct. 1807. In it he mentions wife Anna, to son Joseph (the eldest), £200, to son Micah £84, to dau. Ruth £80, to heirs of dau. Mary, (dec'd), £80, to dau Jerusha £80, to dau. Kezia £80, and to dau. Elizabeth £80. He also mentions children of his wife Ann: Josiah and Jemima Halstead, and also "heirs of dau. Mary, dec'd". The executor was his son Joel to whom he gives all the estate real and personal except as mentioned as reserved. He also gives to Josiah Halstead, son of his wife £30 and same to Jemima Halstead, dau. of his wife." Son JOEL as Executor. He signed, witnesses were Mary Stoddard, *Jacob Dakin, *Benjamin Dakin. Source - Dutchess County Will book C, page 284, on LSD # 913661.

Note: *Jacob & Benjamin Dakin were the sons of Joshua Dakin & grandsons of Simon Dakin, the long term minister of the Baptist Church of Patterson and North East Town.

Death Notice: "Isaac Rogers, died 8 April 1807 age 82; "At his farm in Northeast on the 8th instant, Mr. Isaac Rodgers in the 82nd year of his age, (Survived by his widow and children.) Source – Political Barometer, Tuesday, 21 April, 1807. **Boston Corners:** "There is a small ground [cemetery] near Boston Corners, the oldest stone in which is dated 1807. It is that of Isaac Rogers..."

Marriage John Knox was included as a member of his father's family in North Hillsdale in the census of 1800. He was married c 1801/1802, to Amy / Betsy / Elizabeth Calkins, born 5 March, 1784. She was the daughter & oldest child of Elijah Calkins Jr. and Keziah Rogers of North-East, Dutchess County, NY. The date of John & Betsy Knox's marriage is an estimate, based on the birth of their four children prior to the 1810 census and the birth of their oldest child, Henry, sometime in 1803. Considering the very close association of the Calkin family with the Baptist Church of North-East, Dutchess county, NY, it is quite possible that Rev. Simon Dakins,

was the clergyman who married Elizabeth [Betsy] Calkins, and John Knox. It is also possible that Elizabeth Calkin's parents [and perhaps even her grandfather, Deacon Calkin,] attended her wedding, prior to her parent's move north.

Early Baptist Church of Hillsdale "The church known more generally at the present time as the "East Baptist Church," was organized May 28, 1787 by Revs. John and Stephen *Gano. There were fourteen persons who entered into covenant and constituted the society....." It isn't known whether Betsy Calkin Knox and members of her family might have helped to establish this church or attended services there. North Hillsdale is approximately 22 miles from the town of North-East. It is possible, but unknown, whether John Knox and Elizabeth Calkin met through the Calkin connection with this church.

The Calkin Family Move North "During the year 1802 Elijah Calkin [Jr.] and his family came into Elizabethtown. Elijah⁷, Calkins [Jr.] (Deacon Elijah⁶, John⁵, John⁴, John³, Deacon Hugh², Rowland¹) was born at *Northeast, Dutchess County, N.Y., April 9, 1764. His wife, Keziah⁹ Rogers, (Isaac⁸, Hezekiah⁷, Obediah⁶, Jonathan⁵, William⁴, Thomas³, Thomas², Thomas¹) was born May 9, 1764, and was therefore just one month his junior. Elijah Calkin [Jr] and wife lived for years in Northeast, N.Y., but finally, with many other good Dutchess County people, found their way into central Essex County. Elijah Calkin and family settled on a farm "up west" of Elizabethtown village, where both died and are buried in the old "Calkin burying ground," which took its name from them." pg 112, Pleasant Valley, a History of Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY by George Levi Brown.

*It appears that the Calkin family moved to the town of North-East in Dutchess county in the early 1770s. Therefore it is understood that Elijah Calkin Jr. was born in or near the community of Patterson, in what is now Putnam County, NY.

Note: The Calkin family settled on a large block of land called the Old Military Tract, Thorn's Survey, which was two miles west of the village of Elizabethtown. The northern part of this tract was on the lower slopes of Mt. Hurricane. John Knox, later settled nearby on lots 3 and 8 in this same block of land.

Calkin Deaths Both Elijah Calkins [Junr.] and his wife, Keziah Rogers are reported to have died in 1838 and are buried in unmarked graves in the Calkin Cemetery, Hurricane Road, near Elizabethtown, NY.

JOHN KNOX'S In-laws: The Family Of Elijah Calkin Jr. & Keziah Rogers

Keziah Rogers was born 7 May, 1764 in Rumbout, Dutchess Co. She married Elijah Calkin Jr., born 9 April, 1764, in 1883. Family members were:

DOILI	bott 5 April, 1704, iii 1000. Tattiily mortibots word.							
1.	Elizabeth Calkin	born	05 March, 1784	*Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
2.	John Calkin	born	17 July, 1785	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
3.	Calvin Calkin	born	09 January, 1787	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
4.	Anna Calkin Newell	born	28 July, 1788	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
5.	Isaac Rogers Calkin	born	11 October, 1790	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
6.	Phebe Calkins Betts	born	20 February, 1794	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
7.	Benjamin Calkin	born	29 September, 1795	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
8.	Elijah Calkin	born	27 December, 1798	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
9.	Hiram Calkin	born	09 November, 1800	Northeast, Dutchess Co.				
10.	Ransom Calkin	born	28 February, 1803	Elizabethtown, Essex Co.				
11.	Keziah Calkin	born	30 March, 1806	Elizabethtown, Essex Co.				
12.	Elon Calkin	born	28 February, 1808	Elizabethtown, Essex Co.				
	Source of above dates.	family	vsearch, CLDS Records.	Internet.				

To Elizabethtown John & Betsy's children, all born in Hillsdale, NY., were: *Henry, born c 1803, Keziah, born November 12, 1804, Sabrah, born February 5, 1807, Ann Eliza, born May 3, 1809, and George born July 18, 1811. The Knox family history, written by his granddaughter, Sarah Jane [Knox] Knowlton recalled: - "Amy left five children motherless - - *George, the

youngest, **four and a half years old. John Knox then brought his family to Elizabeth Town where her people had located...."

*Henry may have been named for General Henry Knox, one of the heroes of the Revolutionary War. During that war, General Henry Knox led a detachment of troops which hauled cannons from Fort Ticonderoga on Lake Champlain, over the Berkshire hills and through both the towns of Hillsdale and Blandford, and then continued on to Boston. There the cannons were used to bombard the British, forcing their withdrawal from the city.

** George Knox was about two and a half years old in January, 1814. It is suggested in this paper that John Knox and family moved north in the winter of 1813-1814 as perhaps the travelling was easier at that time of the year via ice covered lakes and rivers rather than on the rough highways. If George, his son, had been 4.5 years old when he arrived in Elizabethtown, his father would have not been there to participate in the Battle of Plattsburgh. Their arrival in the winter of 1813/1814 brought John Knox to his new home in time to join the local militia and participate in the Battle of Plattsburgh, under his brother-in-law, Capt. John Calkin, in September, 1814. His participation in that event is engraved on his tombstone, and identified in other documents. He appears to have been very proud of fighting for his country at the Battle of Plattsburgh.

Betsy's Death After Betsy's death of unknown causes c 1812 in Hillsdale, John & his children moved north, probably in the winter of 1812-1813, to live near his Calkin in-laws, who had settled 2 miles west of Elizabethtown, Essex County, NY. The Calkins & Knox families lived on the lower slopes of Mt. Hurricane, one of the many eastern peaks of the Adirondacks. Mt. Hurricane peak is 3694 feet above sea level. The Calkin and Knox families settled along what is now [in 2013] called the Hurricane Road. This road branches off Route 9N, about two miles west of Elizabethtown. John Knox and his family made this move in time for him to join Capt. John Calkin's company, Company 5, 37th Regt., NY Militia, and participate in the Battle of Plattsburgh on September 8 -12, 1814. Company 5 of the 37th Regiment was from the Elizabethtown area. In this company were five Calkin brothers and three of the Calkin's brothers-in-law. The Calkin brothers were Capt. John, Calvin, Elijah, Isaac, and Benjamin. The Calkin brothers-in-law were two sons of Elijah Kellogg, i.e. Orson and William Kellogg, and John Knox. Source - Glenn's History of the Adirondacks, Volume 8, Chapter 2, page 5 by Morris F. Glenn. For his military service. John Knox received land grants which were taken up by his son George in 1851 in the town of Dell Prairie, Adams Co., Wisconsin.

Family Help When the Knox family arrived in the Elizabethtown area the oldest, Henry, was approximately 10 years of age. Keziah was about 9, Sabra was approximately 6. Ann Eliza was 4, and George, the youngest, was perhaps two and one-half years of age. There isn't any record of a school nearby at that time Later a one-room school, known as the Pine Grove School, was built in the area where the Hurricane Road branches off from the road [now Route 9N] from Elizabethtown to the Keene Valley. One supposes that the Knox family lived with their grandparents and / or their Calkin Aunts and Uncles for a time. Constructing a log cabin would have been the immediate task. It is probable that Henry & Keziah Knox, they being the oldest children, were the most helpful and given the greatest responsibilities. It is expected that expanding the acreage of cleared land on the Knox farm was a priority and probably went on for many years.

Baptist Influence The Knox family began its years in New England as members of the Presbyterian Church. This changed for the family of John Knox, perhaps due to the influence of Elizabeth Calkin, John's wife, and the later influence of the Calkin family in Elizabethtown. Both Amy's parents had been involved for many years in the Baptist Church in Dutchess County in Rombolt, and North-East. There was also a Baptist Church in Hillsdale, although there isn't any record of membership or involvement of the Knox family in that congregation. Later when John Knox's family moved north to Elizabethtown the most active church group in the area seems to have been the Baptists. George Knox, John's son, joined the Baptist church on on July 13 1834 and his marriage to Julia Ann Jackson brought him in-laws from the Jackson, Finch, and Cady

families. All of these families had a long record of involvement with the Baptist Church in Peru, Clinton Co., and Charleston, Montgomery county, NY.

Ancestry of Knox Family – George⁵ Knox, John⁴, James³, John², William¹ Knox). William Knox is believed to have arrived in New England from County Antrim Ulster, Ireland, by 1730. He lived briefly in Hopkinton, Mass., then the family settled in Blandford, Mass. The Knox family were part of the group of Scotch-Irish settlers who moved to Glasgow, later renamed Blandford, in Massachusetts, c 1736 or 1737. "....On April 1st, 1837, William Knox of Hopkinton, Mass., weaver, buys of Christopher Jacob Lawton and wife, of Leicester, Mass. 300 acres of land in a place called Glasgow (now Blandford); consideration £ 300 pounds..." Source – William Knox of Blandford, Mass., pg 2.

Ancestry of Sabra Huntley, Wife of James Knox – Sabra⁶ Huntley Knox, "John⁵, Joseph, John, Aaron, John) – "The Aspinwall records of Boston have the first record of John Huntley in 1647..." [and who was in Boston as early as 1640 and settled in Lyme, Conn., about 1660.] The family may have originated in Aberdeenshire, Scotland; or Gloucestershire, or London, England.

Ancestry of Amy Calkins, wife of John Knox – Elizabeth⁸ /Amy Calkins Knox, Elijah⁷ Calkin Jr., Deacon Elijah⁶, John⁵, John⁴, John³, Deacon Hugh², Rowland¹ Calkin). Note: Deacon Hugh² Calkin was christened 8 Apr 1603 in Waverton, Cheshire, England. He died Jun 1690 in Norwich, New London, Connecticut. Hugh married Ann on 1626 in Waverton, Cheshire, England.

JOHN KNOX – WAR OF 1812. There isn't any record of how much training the Elizabethtown militia had experienced prior to the Battle of Plattsburgh. There are brief records relating to the training of the "Silver Greys" nearby in the town of Chesterfield. That militia company trained each year in September, in a field near Bosworth's Tavern. However, nothing has been found about the training of Capt. John Calkin's company. Living in the Adirondack Mountains, as they did, one assumes that all male residents had. a musket, which was used to supply each family with food, i.e. deer and other game, and to hunt predators sometimes destroying crops and livestock.

"In Pleasant Valley and contiguous territory men were trained to shoot. The fact that large and fierce wild animals such as panthers, wolves and bears, were still plentiful kept residents of this section in touch with shooting and straight shooting at that. So when the War of 1812 broke out most of the able bodied men were "in good trim" for effective and military service." Pg. 254, Pleasant Valley, a History of Elizabethtown, Essex Co., N.Y., by George Levi Brown, published by Post and Gazette Print, 1905.

Land Grant Application Lucinda Knox, as the widow of a veteran of the War of 1812, applied for a land grant in 1855. Her application was signed under oath. Files from the National Archives, Washington, for the State of New York, County of Essex include the following record:

"On this Twenty Second day of March, A. D. One thousand Eight hundred and Fifty-five, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace duly authorized by law to administer oaths within and for the County and State aforesaid,

Lucinda Knox aged Sixty four years, [born c 1791] a resident of the town of Elizabethtown in the County of Essex and State of New York, who, being duly sworn according to law declares that she is the widow of John Knox, deceased, who was a private in the Company Commanded by Captain John Calkins, in the 37th Regiment of New York Militia called out at the Invasion of Plattsburgh in September 1814 in the War with Great Britain declared by the United States on the 18th day of June, 1812.

That said Company belonged in Elizabethtown aforsaids; and that her said husband was drafted or called out at Elizabethtown aforesaid on or about the First day of September, A. D. 1814 and went with his said Company to Plattsburgh aforsaid and continued in actual service in said Company at Plattsburgh at the Invasion of Plattsburgh in September 1814, in said War for the term of fourteen days and was honorably discharged at Plattsburgh on or about the 15th day

of September 1814, but never received any written discharge. She further declares that her said husband was at the battle at Plattsburgh on the 11th day of September in said War, 1814, and was actually engaged in said battle.

She further states that she was married to the said John Knox in Chazy, in the County of Clinton and State of New York on the 12th day of March, A. D. 1820, by one Joel Boynton, a Congregational Clergyman and that her name before her said marriage was **Lucinda Ransom**; that her said husband died at Elizabethtown in the County of Essex and State aforesaid on the 10th day of January, A. D. 1849, and that she is now a widow, and the widow of the said John Knox, deceased. She further declares that there is no public or private record of her said marriage with the said John Knox, deceased in Existence.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the bounty land to which she may be entitled under the "Act Approved March 3, 1855." She also declares that she nor her said husband has not received a Warrant for bounty land under this in any other Act of Congress nor made any other application therefore."

[Signed] Lucinda Knox [signature written in an unsteady handwriting]

The above document was backed up by the sworn statements of Hosea Blood and Philip S. Miller "that they were well acquainted with John Knox, Lucinda Knox and their families for many years and that they were present at the funeral of John Knox and saw him buried... " [Philip S. Miller, 48, and his wife, Ann Eliza Miller, 46, were neighbours. Ann Eliza [Knox] Miller, 46, born in Columbia County, was John Knox's daughter; Philip, his son-in-law.

The document was witnessed by Charles W. Williams and Oliver Abel Jr., residents of Elizabethtown, and signed by Robert W. Livingstone, Justice of the Peace.

Note: Lucinda Ransom's background John Knox remarried on 12 March, 1820. Since Lucinda's sister, Sophia, was married to James Thomas, and they were living in Chazy, it is reasonable to suppose that Lucinda & John were married at the Thomas home in Chazy, or nearby in that community.] Lucinda was born c 1791, the daughter of Luther Ransom of Halifax, Windham Co., Vermont. Source - Genealogical and Family History of Northern New York, by William Richard Cutter, published by Lewis Historical Publishing Co., New York,

John Knox's Militia Company John Knox, farmer, was a Private and volunteer in the Battle of Plattsburgh; he was a member of John Calkin's Company of Foot Soldiers, the 37th Regiment of the New York Militia, 40th Brigade, and served in the Battle of Plattsburgh on the 11th day of September, 1814. The Company Muster Roll gave him credit for the period of September 2 to Sep. 13, 1814. The Company Pay Roll, dated Sep. 15, identified the commencement of his service on Sep. 8, 1814 – the expiration of his service as Sep 14, 1814. Privates were paid at the rate of \$8.00 per month, and for these seven days John Knox was paid one dollar and eighty six cents; this included two days for travel to and from Plattsburgh.

The Calkin brothers and their in-laws were well represented in the Battle of Plattsburgh. Their company was under the command of Capt. John Calkin. Four other Calkin brothers were also present – Isaac, Calvin, Elijah, and Benjamin. The three in-laws of the Calkin family in the Elizabethtown company included John Knox, William and Valentine Kellogg.

Capt. John Calkin's company consisted of 45 members – these included 4 Sergents, 4 Corporals, 1 drummer, and 1 fifer. A list of names of members of this company can be found on pages 273, 274, Pleasant Valley, A History of Elizabethtown, NY, By George Levi Brown, and pg 5, 6, of Glenn's History of The Adirondacks, (Essex Co., NY, Volume 8, by Morris F. Glenn.

There isn't any record of John Knox's personal participation in the Battle of Plattsburgh. There are, however, general accounts of the Essex County Militia on September 11, 1814. These accounts suggest John Knox & his neighbours were in the thick of the battle, attempting to prevent the British soldiers from advancing southward across the Saranac River.

Memories of The Battle of Plattsburgh While there isn't a record of John Knox's precise role in the Battle of Plattsburgh, it is known that the Essex county Militia, including Company 5, were involved in the battle when the British army attempted to ford the Saranac River near "Pile's

cantonment," on their march south. A letter from Dr. M. E. Bishop, in The Elizabethtown Post & Gazette, September 24, 1903 recalls:

"My uncle Jonathan Post was another of Capt. Calkin's Co., and his talk about the Battle of Plattsburgh was very interesting to me when I was a boy. He told me how Ansel Holcomb was shot through the body near his suspender button. If I remember rightly, the button was driven into his body.

Before the battle Uncle told how the Americans took up the plank on the bridge. When the British came, part of them started to cross the river on the stringers and part tried to wade the river, and then the Americans opened fire. As Uncle Jonathan expressed it, "a good many poor fellows were seen to tumble off the bridge, and one here and there who were wading fell and floated down stream...." Source – Letter from Dr. M. E. Bishop, The Elizabethtown Post & Gazette, September 24, 1903.

Casualties, the Battle of Plattsburgh "...Isaac Toms of Captain John Calkin's Company of infantry was killed while heroically facing the British veterans on the south bank of the Saranac that fateful Sunday. The mortal remains of this man were brought back to Elizabethtown and buried in the old cemetery. Ansel Holcomb, also of Captain John Calkin's Company, was shot in the side September 11th, standing beside his cousin, Jonathan Post, when struck. He died September 13th and his body was brought home and buried in the Boquet Valley cemetery." Source - page 282, The History of Elizabethtown.

Pay records for the War of 1812, received from the U. S. National Archives, for a Company Pay Roll dated September 15th, 1814, provide information that the payment for the Commencement of Service for Private John Knox began on September 8, 1814 and the Expiration of Service of his service occurred on September 14, 1814, a total of seven days.. The amount of pay earned by military members who were privates was based on 8 dollars per month and for his seven days of military service, John Knox was paid \$1.86. This payment included two day's pay for his [march with his company] a distance of 36 miles each way from Elizabethtown to Plattsburgh and return..

One of John Knox's neighbours in the 1820s was his brother, James Jr., Lydia [Kellogg] Knox, his wife, and their young family. James Jr. bought land near where his brother lived in 1824 and 1828, but unfortunately the land was sold to pay debts about 1829. In the 1830 census, James Knox Junr. and his family were still living in the Elizabethtown area.

John Knox's War Record

Records from the US National Archives provide the following information on John Knox's military service.

N Y Militia

JOHN KNOX

Private [in] Captain John Calkin's Company, 37 Regiment, New York Militia

(War of 1812)

Appears on

Company Pay Roll

for part of Sep, 1814

Roll dated Sep 15, 1814.

Commencement of service, or of this settlement, Sep 8, 1814. Expiration of service, or of this settlement, Sep 14, 1814.

Term of service charged,......months 7 days.

Pay per month, 8 dollars..... cents.

Amount of pay, 1 dollars 86 cents.

Remarks; Discharged 12th, Volunteer.

It is also reported that John Knox, Private, Captain John Calkin's Company, 37 Regiment, New York Militia, War of 1812 Appears on Company Muster Roll for Sep 2 to Sep 13, 1814.

Other records include the information that John Knox's payment included two day's pay for his travels.

Elizabethtown Temperance Society On "February 28, 1837, a meeting of the inhabitants of Elizabethtown was held at the Brick School House for the purpose of forming a temperance society. As a result of that meeting the Total Abstinence Temperance Society of Elizabethtown was formed..." Male members of this society included - George Knox, Daniel Jackson, Elijah Calkin, Luther Knox, John Knox,.... Female members included - Mrs John [Lucinda] Knox, Theodocia Knox,, ..." Source - Pleasant Valley by George Levi Brown, History of Elizabethtown, p 354

The Knox Farm, 1850 The 1850 census of the Knox family provides some details about their farm. It included 60 acres of improved land and 30 acres of unimproved land; its value was estimated to be \$800; the farm implements were valued at \$40.: Livestock included 2 milch cows. 2 working oxen, and 5 other cattle. Other stock listed were 15 sheep and 3 swine; livestock was valued at \$200; The farm grew or produced - 20 bu wheat, 25 bu oats, 30 pounds wool, 100 bushels potatoes. \$10 worth of orchard produce, 150 pounds butter, 10 tons hay, and the value of animals slaughtered was \$60. It appears that John and his family spent many years clearing land and developing this farm with the help of his sons. In January, 1849, John Knox died without a will and Lot No. 8 was eventually put up for auction to pay his debts. According to an 1876 map of the Old Military Tract the road up Mt. Hurricane went almost diagionally across Lot No. 8, travelling from the south-east corner to the north-west corner of this property. On the western side of the Knox property, in Lot No. 56, ,was a steep gully and brook which formed a long arc just beyond the western and southern borders of John Knox's land. Later, this stream was named the "Jackson Brook," named for Daniel Jackson who farmed nearby. The Calkin Cemetery, was established at the southern end of Lot No. 8. This is where Elijah & Keziah [Rogers] Calkin were buried in 1838, and the cemetery name continues to be associated with John Knox's father & mother in law- the parents of Elizabeth Calkin, his first wife. When John Knox purchased Lot No. 8 isn't known.

The land which John Knox's sons, Luther & Lyman farmed in the 1850s and later, appears to have been located in the upper, i.e. northern part of Lot No. 3, which was located directly south of Lot No. 8. The Jackson Brook, according to the map, went diagonally across the northern one-half of Lot No. 3, from the North-west to the south-east. Many years later J. D. Shattuck, a Philadelphia businessman bought a 58 acre property from the Knox family. This block of land appears to have been located at the northern end of Lot No. 3 and may have been the location of John Knox's original homestead & farm. Mr. Shattuck built a summer home on this property, planted trees, built dams and transformed the Knox farm and other adjacent properties into a park for the use of his family and guests.

John Knox's Death John Knox died Intestate on 10 January, 1849, "after a chilling ride in winter..." and is buried in the Calkin Burying Ground, which is sometimes called "The Lord's Cemetery, on Hurricane Mountain, near Elizabethtown. The land for this cemetery was once part of Lot # 8, Thorn's Survey, Old Military Tract, and Lot No. 8 was owned by John Knox at the time of his death. John Knox died without a will and had significant debts which amounted to "...six hundred & twenty four Dollars & twenty-nine cents to this Date interest added... &... the personal Estate of the said Deceased is insufficient for the payment of such Debts." His land in these documents was described as: "All that certain piece or parcel of land Situate in the County of Essex and distinguished as Lot number Eight of Thorns Survey of Township No. One in the old military tract [amounting to 160 acres] and is bounded and described in the field Book & maps of said tract filed in the Secretary of State's Office.." was put up for sale by auction. Lucinda and his 2nd family continued to live on the lower slopes of Hurricane Mountain in the same community. They lived lived on the family farm at the northern end of Lot No. 3 which was just south and adjacent to Lot No. 8, which had been sold at auction..

John Knox's Tombstone It appears that the Knox family were in poor financial circumstances at the time of John Knox's death and a marker or tombstone was not placed to

mark his grave or to later mark the graves of several other members of the Knox family. Many years later action was taken to correct this situation as described in the paragraph below from the Lake Placid News of May 29, 1925.

"C. C. Witherbee of Moriah Center on last Thursday, set up two marble headstones in the Lord cemetery, so called, one for **John Knox**, one for **Benjamin Calkins**. These old soldiers of the War of 1812 have been lying there all these years without even a marker till a year ago when our townsman W. Scott Brown, interested himself and others in the soldiers with unmarked graves, in fact he looked up all the old, neglected cemeteries and had them cleared, and markers procured for the soldiers. Now the government is paying tardy tribute to those who should have been so honored years ago..."

Calkin Cemetery / God's Acre / Lord's Acre – The writer of this paper & his wife visited the Elizabethtown area for the first time, briefly, on April 30th, 1996. To the west of Elizabethtown, the road goes up-hill for about two miles - no doubt why the local history refers to the Knox family settling "up west." We turned off route 9N onto the Hurricane Road - a graveled side road. It is an uphill road, climbing to the base of the trail leading to the top of Hurricane Mountain, elevation 3687 feet. The area seems to include many scattered cottages and summer homes. The mountain is forested with a few clearings, the hillside farms of long ago having grown back to nature, some having been reforested by their new owners. After one unsuccessful try we found a side road, to the left which leads to and past the "Calkin burying ground." The cemetery is a flat area, surrounded by tall pine trees and a rusting page wire fence. The surface of the ground is mossy, a lot of the space being vacant or unmarked. Many of the tombstones [which appear to be of white marble or stone] are eroded and illegible. The cemetery is surrounded by woods; the only sounds are from birds and the wind moving through tall pines. It is a truly peaceful place.

John Knox's tombstone is a heavy, dark grey stone on a slightly larger base. It stands almost in the middle of the cemetery - the stone is about three feet high and eight inches thick with a rounded top and large, deeply carved letters: - the inscription reads:

"John Knox, 1780-1849, Soldier in War of 1812. Pri. In Capt. John Calkin's Co. 37 Regt., NY Militia."

Next to the gravestone is a round, iron marker, placed by the Veterans Assn., marking and recognizing the graves of veterans of the War of 1812.

ADMINISTRATORS SALE Essex County Republican Advertisement dated May 6th, 1851. By virtue of a decree of the Essex County Judge acting as Surrogate in and for the County of Essex, the administrator of all and singular the goods & c of John Knox, deceased will sell at public auction on the 24th day of June next at 12 o'clock at noon of that day, at the residence of said administrator in the town of Elizabethtown in said County, the following real estate, to wit: "All that certain piece or parcel of land situate in the County of Essex, and distinguished as Lot No. 8 of Thorn's Survey, Township No. One, Old Military Tract, and is bounded and described in the field book and Map of said Tract filed in our Secretaries office as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stake marked 8, 55, 56, in the east bounds of lot No. 56; thence along part of the same south 40 chains, to a stake marked 8, 56, 60, in the north bounds of lot No. 60, thence along part of the same and along the north bounds of lot No. 3, east 40 chains to a stake in the west bounds of lot No. 7, thence along part of the same, and along the part of the west bounds of lot No. 54, north 40 chains to a beech tree in the west bounds of lot No. 54, thence along the south bounds of lot 55, west 40 chains to the place of beginning containing one hundred sixty RANSOM KNOX Admr. acres.

John Knox's farm appears to have been at the north [upper] end of Lot No. 3, in the Old Military Tract, Thorn's Survey. These lots are on the lower levels of Mt. Hurricane, about 2 miles west of

Elizabethtown, NY. By 1849, John Knox was also the owner of Lot No. 8, 160 acres, which was directly to the north of Lot No. 3. This lot was offered for sale in 1851 in order to pay John Knox's debts, after his death in January 1849. It has not been determined whether Lot No. 8 was sold at auction or acquired by the Knox family, i.e. Luther & his brothers. It was advertised for sale by auction but whether this was carried out is currently unknown. According to the census of 1865 Luther Knox was the owner of 80 improved acres as part of a property totalling 160 acres.

In 1923 or 1924, J. D. Shattuck, of Ridley, Pennsylvania, bought 58 acres of land at the north end of Lot No. 3, which previously had been owned by John Knox and his sons. This property was used as a summer home and nature preserve.

The AuSable Record-Post on September 25, 1924 included the following note: "J. D. Shuttuck and party of Chester, Pennsylvania, were here for a few days last week, occupying their newly erected bungalow."

Over many years Mr. Shattuck acquired additional land which enlarged the area of his park property. The total acreage of these combined properties is unknown. An advertisement in the Ausable Forks Record Post dated October 2, 1924 identifies J. D. Shattuck as the owner of what is known to have been the Knox property and restricts the use of this land to anyone but the owner...

Lucinda [Ransom] Knox died on June 26, 1874, age 84. The census of 1855 for family 147, noted that Lucinda Knox, age 63, was born in Vermont and had lived in her current town for 35 years.

Death "In Elizabethtown, June 25, 1874, Mrs Lucinda Knox, widow of John Knox, age 84 years. For nearly 60 years she has been a resident of Elizabethtown. In her 18th year she made a public profession of religion and united with the Congregational Church, and for sixty-six years she has by a cheerful and Godly life borne good testimony of the religion of Jesus Christ.

Though she lived to an unusual age, yet she retained her faculties to the last - being able to read without glasses until a short time before her death. She suffered greatly from bodily ailment during the last year of her life, but this only seemed to make her faith and hope in God shine out in a purer light than ever before. Long before the death summons came she prayed for patience to wait God's home. Thus peacefully a life went out here, to live evermore in the brightness of the "Better Country." Source - Elizabethtown Post, July 2, 1874.

JOHN KNOX'S CHILDREN - 1st family:

- 1. Henry
- born Hillsdale, Columbia Co., c 1803 died 1896. b Hillsdale, Columbia Co., Nov. 12, 1804;died Feb. 2, 1881. 2. Keziah Knox
- 3. Sabra Knox b Hillsdale, Columbia Co., Feb. 5, 1807 died April 18, 1902.
- 4. Ann Eliza Knox b Hillsdale, Columbia Co., May 3, 1809 died Oct. 4, 1908.
- 5. George Knox b Hillsdale, Columbia Co., July 18, 1811 died Nov. 4, 1902.

2nd family:

- 6. Ransom Knox born nr. Hurricane Mtn, Elizabethtown, c 1821:died before 1880
- 7. Lyman Knox born nr. Hurricane Mtn., Elizabethtown, c 1823: d Dec. 20, 1887
- born nr. Hurricane Mtn., Elizabethtown, c 1826: d July 15, 1896. 8. Luther Knox
- Theodosia Knox born nr. Hurricane Mtn., Elizabethtown, c 1829: d before 1900.

John Knox's 2nd Family: There doesn't appear to be any record of the date of births, deaths or burial places in Elizabethtown of Ransom, and Theodocia Knox. One possibility is that their burials were in the Calkin Cemetery on the slopes of Mt. Hurricane.

Henry, & Perlina [Pitcher] Knox Henry Knox was born in North Hillsdale, Columbia Co., NY c 1803: he moved with his family to Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY about 1813. Details of his early life are unknown, but as the oldest son of John Knox, it is expected that he spent his early years helping to establish the family farm on Mt. Hurricane. He married Perlina Pitcher, about 1828; she was born c 1811 in Warren Co., the daughter of Alfred Pitcher from whom Henry Knox purchased his first property in Glens Falls, NY. The sale was dated April 29, 1830; it consisted of 250 acres on the Hudson River at a price of \$1200, [Liber F, page 91.] Henry Knox is found living next door to Alfred Pitcher in the 1830 Census of Warren County, town

of Queensbury. Henry Knox spent most of his adult life in Glen's Falls, Warren County, NY except for several years in the 1830s. Mary E., Henry's daughter, was reported to have been born in Elizabethtown, NY in 1833 and in the 1840 census their family was living in the town of Jay, Essex Co., NY. On November 17, 1838, Perlina Knox joined the Baptist Church in Elizabethtown by letter from Queensbury. In the 1840s Henry & his family moved back to the Glen's Falls area where he and three of his sons were listed as "Boatman." Later census data refers to Henry Knox as labourer and farmer. Henry Knox died on March, 16, 1896, age 93, Perlina Pitcher Knox died in 1874, ae 63 years, (1811 – 1874). Both are buried in the Glens Falls Bay Street Cemetery near other family members.

Henry & Perlina [Pitcher] Knox's Children

Alfred P Knox died in 1852 ae 23 years	1829 - 1852
Albert Knox died 1849, ae 18 years	1831 - 1849
Mary E. [Knox] Ferguson, died 1927	1833 - 1927
Archibald H. Knox died at 12:30, Nov 23, 1921, ae 86 years	1835 - 1921
Charles T Knox died on 23 March 1896, ae 60 years	1836 - 1896
Lourina T Knox, died 1874, wife of Charles	1844 - 1874

2. Keziah [Knox] and Thomas C. Stafford

Keziah Knox (John James John William Knox). was born November 12, 1804 in the town of Hillsdale, Columbia County, N. Y., the daughter of Elizabeth [Betsy] Calkin (Elijah Calkin Jr., Deacon Elijah John John John John Knox; she died February 2, 1881, age 76, in the town of Lewis, Essex County, NY. Keziah married Thomas Stafford (Thomas Thomas Stafford and Lydia Corey. Thomas died, aged 77, on June 15, 1871, in the town of Lewis. He & his wife are buried in the Old Burt Cemetery, Essex County, Keziah & Thomas lived and farmed in the Willsborough, Elizabethtown, and Lewis, all towns of Essex Co., NY. Thomas was a veteran of the War of 1812, a member of Capt. John Richardson's Militia Company.

Family of Keziah [Knox] & Thomas Stafford

James Thomas, b 1821; Mary Elizabeth, b c 1822; Armanda, b c 1824; Harmon, b 14 May, 1827; Lucy, b 2 June, 1831; Cyrus Warren, b 2 July 1834; Cordelia, b 3 April, 1837; Arrieta Howard, b 19 February, 1840; Almon Almeron, b. November 5, 1844; Franklin Perry b. November 17, 1847.

FAMILY OF THOMAS AND KEZIAH STAFFORD:

James Thomas b c 1821, died 1893 in Brooklyn, NY, married Patience Perry, c 1848. She was born in Keeseville, Clinton County, NY. c 1824. In the census of 1850, James, occupation Carpenter, was living in the Town of Chesterfield with his wife, Patience, age 26, and children Fred, age 2, and Clara, two months old. In 1870 James, 49, occupation-Builder; his wife, Patience, 46; and son & daughter, Frederick, 22; and Clara, 20, were living in Westchester co., NY. J. T. Stafford, 54, is listed as a Builder in the census of 1875, living in King County, NY. Family members were Patience, 50, his wife; Eddie, 27, son, Physician; Clara Day, 25, daughter, and her husband, John Day, 26, son-in-law, born England, Occupation-Traveling Agnt; and the Day's son, John, age 5 months. In 1892 James T. Stafford, 71, occupation Jeweller; Patience H, age 68; and Fred E. Stafford, 43, Physician, were living in Brooklyn, King County, NY.

Mary Elizabeth b c 1822, died at the age of 22 about 1844.

Armanda b c 1824, she died young. No further details on her life have been found

Harmon born 14 May, 1827; died 22 June, 1912, married Lucinda Sheldon, born 19 February, 1839, died 28 January, 1902. Harmon lived and farmed in the town of Willsboro. Burials in Old Burt Cemetery, Town of Lewis, Essex County, NY. One son, Rowell D., b c 1870.

Norman b c 1828, died 4 January, 1891 at Fort Dodge, Iowa, burial in the Oakland Cemetery, Fort Dodge. He married Lydia Jane Dibblee, born January 4, 1828, in the town of Keene, Essex co., NY. Lidy Jane, January 4, 1828 – May 2, 1887, is also bruied in the Oakland Cemetery, Fort Dodge. They were married c 1850/1851. Their marriage date is based on the ages of their children as found in the census of 1855 where Norman Stafford, 29, & his wife, Lidia Ida, 25, were the parents of Charlotte I, age 3, and John, age 2, and were living close to the Calkin, Miller, & Knox families on Hurricane Mountain, near Elizabethtown. in the census of 1880, Norman Stafford, age 57, occupation farmer, and his wife Jane, 51, were living at Deer Creek, Webster, Iowa, close to Norman's sister, Lucy and her husband, Hiram Reynolds. Children: Charlotte Ida, b November, 1851, who married Andrew W. Snodgrass c 1868 in Iowa, and John Hurlbut, b May 1, 1853, who married Augusta Dibble, who was born in Canada on April 8, 1875.

Lucy b 2 June, 1831; married Hiram N. Reynolds, lived in Adair, Iowa; died 18 July, 1914. Hiram N. Reynolds – b 21 February, 1823, died February, 1914, burials Evergreen Cemetery, Anita, Cass County, Iowa. Hiram's occupations included Blacksmith, and Hotel Owner.

Cyrus Warren

b 2 July, 1834, died 18 March, 1916, age 81, at Lyle, Mower Co., Minnesota. In the 1870 census, C. W. Stafford was living in Jackson, near Fort Dodge, Iowa. He was a farmer, age 35, owning property worth \$2000. His wife, Amanda, 31, was born in Ohio, and their children were Lettie, age 7 and Amie, age 4. Both children were born in Iowa. His wife, was nee Amanda Jane Miller. Cyrus W. Stafford, 45, b NY, occupation "Agr. WareHouse Cl.", his wife, Maude, 42, born Ohio, Keeping House; and children, Etta, 17; Ann K, 14; Eddie D., age 9; Charles A., age 7; and Baby Walter?, age 4 months; were living in the 3rd & 4th Ward, Fort Dodge, Webster County, Iowa in the census of 1880. The gap in the children's ages between Ann K and Eddie, perhaps suggests that Amanda died and Cyrus remarried. All the children were born in Iowa, which suggests that Cyrus moved to Iowa by the early 1860s. Source – familysearch.com

Cordelia b 3 April, 1837; died 22 October, 1923. She married Jonathan J. Merriam, born September 1, 1835, died February 7, 1884. Both are buried in the Old Burt Cemetery, town of Lewis, Essex co., NY

Arrieta Howard born 19 February, 1840 - she married James Monroe Fish on 30 October, 1860. He was the son of Thomas and Lavina [Ballou] Fish of the town of Lewis, Essex County, NY She died on 15 December, 1932, age 92. Her husband was born 26 June, 1833; he died February 1, 1918. They lived at Glens Falls, Warren Co., NY Children - Eva Lula, born 25 June, 1864; and Lila May, born 9 August, 1873 - died 16 October, 1882.

Almon Almeron born November 5, 1844, in Elizabethtown, NY. His first employment was on a farm in 1862 and after one year he worked with his brother in Nevada furnishing timber for mines. In December, 1869 he returned to New York State and purchased a farm of 140 acres. Three years later he was occupied with teaming at Westport, NY. He arrived in Chicago in the spring of 1874 and was employed by the Chicago City Railway Company as foreman in charge of all teams and later was a driver and conductor until 1877. From 1877 to 1882 he was employed with Wilson Sewing machine Company as a driver of their six horse team. From 1883 until 1899 he was in an Express Business at Grand Crossing contracting for teaming and doing expressing in General. He ws married on May 2, 1871 to Esther Jane, daughter of Enoch & Susana (Bard) Gregory. Almon was in the teaming business. In Chicago. Almon & Esther were the parents of two sons, Burt Thomas, b April 30, 1873 and Reynor, born October 30, 1879. Both sons died at a very young age. Almon died on 29 October, 1912 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Chicago. He was six days short of his 69th birthday. Other information on his death certificate included that he had been a resident of Chicago for 37 years, and had been involved in the express business from 1881 – 1912.

Franklin Perry b November 17, 1847 near Elizabethtown, NY. On October 9, 1879, he married Florence Arnold, daughter of Gilbert and Sarah (Quackenbush) Arnold. He worked on his father's farm until 22 years of age. He then moved west in 1870, working in Chicago, lowa, and was involved in several businesses in Chicago, the last known was contracting for heavy teaming and grading with the Calumet Railway Company. Children: Edwin Everett, b June 21, 1880 – died May 12, 1881; Edith Evelyn b August 14, 1881; Harry Adelbert, b January 23, 1883 – died December 31, 1891; Elisie Grace, born April 20, 1884 died June 30, 1884; Percy Burbank, b April 24, 1886; Arnold Earl, b September 8, 1889 and died August 19, 1896; Henrietta Isabella, b April 4, 1891; James Thomas b June 23, 1893; Warren Lee, b August 31, 1894; and Jessie Louise, b August 28, 1896. Frank Stafford died in Chicago on January 12, 1926, age 78, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Information on his death certificate via familysearch.com indicated that his most recent occupation was that of janitor. Sources - Ancestral Trails Genealogy Website – Corey Family. And Album of Genealogy and Biography, Cook County, Illinois, 1899.

3. Sabrah [Knox] and Levi C. Gofff

Sabra [Knox] Goff was born in Hillsdale, N. Y., February 5, 1807, and came from Colombia County to Elizabethtown in 1813...Mrs Goff's memory was singularly retentive and she could easily recall the stirring scenes of local preparations for the war of 1812 - 1814. She grew to womanhood as a neighbour of the late Capt. John Calkins whose company of "foot soldiers" did such brave work at the Battle of Plattsburgh, September 11, 1814. Source – Elizabethtown Post, April, 1902

Mrs Goff was married to Levi C. Goff, on December 21st, 1824 at Elizabethtown. Her husband, Levi C. Goff, was for many years the village blacksmith at Keene Center. He is believed to have *died on March 17, 1876, age 74 years, and is buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Keene. Levi C Goff, was born in Vermont c 1804, and he purchased a farm in the town of Elizabethtown on 13 November, 1828. This property, for which he paid \$200.00, included 46 & 5/10th acres and appears to have been part of Lot # 3, which was just to the south downhill] from his father-in-law's farm. Source - Book I, page 349, Essex County Deeds. "It being a part of said Lot No. 3, Old Military tract township..." On 2 March, 1839, Levi C. Goff, of Keene, Essex County, purchased 129 acres of land in that community for the price of \$225.00. He & Sabra lived in Keene for the remainder of their lives. Sabra Knox Goff died on April 18th, 1902, in her 96th year, and is buried in the Keene [Fairview] Cemetery. Source - Obituary, Elizabethtown Post, April, 1902.

Children of Sabra & Levi. C. Goff were the parents of twelve children, - six predeceased her. "The living [at the time of her death] were Helen M Sommers [wife of Lewis Sumners?] of Lake Placid, George H. Goff of Saranac Lake, [b c 1832] Alphonzo A. Goff [b c 1833] of [Billings?] Montana when last heard from, Mrs Perlina M. Hinds [b c 1838] of Keene Center, widow of the late David Hinds, Florette V. Hubbard [b c 1842] of Springfield, Mass, and Charles A. Goff [b c 1854, died July 8, 1922] of Cascadeville with whom she made her home.

Deceased children [at the time of Sabrah's death] were: **Sarah E Rork**, [b c 1826?] wife of John Rork of Saranac Lake who survived her; **Esprella Goff**, **Roxana Goff**, **Eliza K Goff**, **John S. Goff**, [b c 1846, died April 3, 1900] who was a resident of Keene and died two years ago, and **Mary Goff**.

Fairview Cemetery, Keene, NY Several members of the Goff family are buried in the Fairview Cemetery, Keene. This cemetery is on a small hill, just to the south at the point where Route 73 makes a sharp turn westward to Lake Placid in the village of Keene. There are five Goff graves at the very back of this cemetery; some appear to be dated from the 1840s. The stones appear to have been erected from left to right. From the left side the first three stones are small, light grey, rectangular, much weathered, with inscriptions very difficult to read accurately. These appear to be the gravestones of three children of Levi & Sabrah Goff's family who died young. Next to these is a large flat, rectangular, grey, broken stone, lying on the ground, with only the bottom half legible. It reads: "died Mar. 17, 1876, AE 74." It is assumed that this is the gravestone of Levi C. Goff, who died between 1870 and 1880. To the right of this stone is another large flat, grey,

rectangular stone, it stands upright, & is weathered, and inscribed:: "Sabrah Goff, died April 18, 1902, age 95 years, 2 mos, 12 days."

Census of 1850 Levi C. Goff Sabra	58 43	town of m f	Keene, Essex (Blacksmith	County, NY b VT b NY	page 182	family 2682	
Children not listed in 1850 census and assumed to have died or married before the 1850 census.							
Mary Rosina		f	born 28 Jan., 1 Cemetery, Kee	848; died Augus ne.	t 16, 1849, burie	d Fairview	
Helen		f	b c 1826, married Lewis Sumners/Somers,, Lake Placid.				
Sarah E.		f	b 1826? Mar. 1. Reuben Reynolds, 2. John Rork, Saranac Lake				
Esprella Goff,		f	dates of birth & death unknown.				
Eliza Keziah Go	off,	f	born October 1	5, 1843; died Ja	nuary 28, 1844,	burial Fairview	
			Cemetery.		-		
Children living with Levi & Sabra Goff in 1850 census:							
George H	18	m	labourer	[b c 1832]	Saranac Lake		
Alphonzo	17	m		[b c 1833]	Billings, Montai	na, 1906.	
Roxana	15	f		[b c 1835]	died July 16, 18	368?, burial	
					Fairview Ceme	tery, Keene	
Pauline	12	f	in school	[b c 1838]	m David Hinds	, Keene.	
Loretta	10	f	in school	[b c 1840]	m Darius Hubb	ard, Mass.	

In addition there was one child, **Charles A. Goff, who** was born c 1854, died July 8, 1922, He lived near Keene in Cascadeville

[b c 1847]

m Mary Gilmore

4. Ann Eliza [Knox] and Philip Smith Miller,

m

03

John S.

Ann Eliza was born in the town of Hillsdale, Columbia Co., on May 3, 1809; she died Oct. 4, 1908 at Brainard's Forge, Essex County, NY. "Ann Eliza Knox Miller was between five and six years old in September, 1814, and remembers well the hasty preparations made by the men in the Hurricane section of this town in those stirring days of September, 1814, and also the proud homecoming of the conquering heroes a few days later when John Knox [her father] went to fight as a soldier in Capt. John Calkins' Company of Infantry at the Battle of Plattsburgh…". Source – Elizabethtown Post, May 3, 1906, and May 9, 1907.

Previous to 1813 John Knox and family lived in Hillsdale, Columbia County, NY and it was there that his daughter Ann Eliza was born **May 3, 1809**. When about four years of age she travelled north with her father to reside in Elizabethtown. In the month of March, 1829, Ann Eliza Knox was united in marriage with Philip Smith Miller, of Miller Settlement, the ceremony being performed by Rev. John Stearns, the local Baptist preacher.... Phillip Miller & his brother, Manoah Miller came from Shoreham, Vermont, and settled west of Elizabethtown village during the War of 1812, their locality having ever since been known as the Miller settlement. Mr & Mrs Miller lived happily together until the death of the former, on February 21, 1884... [age 77 yrs & 6 mos. Burial in Brainerd's Forge Cemetery.]

After her husband's death, Ann Eliza lived with her son, John K. Miller and his family on their farm. Later they moved to the Brainard's Forge area where Ann Eliza died on October 4, 1908.

Children of Ann Elisa [Knox] and Philip Smith Miller. In the census of 1865 Ann Eliza reported that she was the mother of four children. It is assumed that two died young and two lived to maturity and married. They were:

Their daughter **Minerva Lavinia,** born 02 Sept., 1829 – died 04 June, 1892. She married Leander A. Blood, born 05 February, 1829. Leander was the son of Hosea Blood & Nancy Newell Woodruff. They were farmers and neighbours of the Knox family. Leander died in Wakarusa, Shawnee County, Kansas, on 23 June, 1903. Minerva & Leander were married c

1850? in Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY, and farmed near his father from 1850 to 1858 on the lower slopes of Hurricane Mountain near Elizabethtown. After Daniel Jackson moved to Wisconsin in November, 1858, Leander bought the Jackson farm – the deed was dated 7th day of March, 1859. He farmed there for about 20 years, then moved with his family to Wakarusa, Shawnee County, Kansas in late 1868 or early 1869. Many of their family lived and died in that area, just south of Topeka. Leander and Minerva are buried in the Shawnee Center Cemetery, Shawnee County, KS.

Children included: Rinaldo L, 1849 – 1882; Hortense A., 1851 – 1868; Dorr A., 1853 - 1935; J. C., 1857 – 1936; Frederick Orrin, 1859 – 1929; Herbert Carlin, 1860 - 1939; Elmer C., 1865 – 1879; Rupert S., 1869 – 1889, born NY; born Kansas; Frank Ernest, 1871 – 1935, born Kansas. Hortense Blood died on Oct. 18, 1868 and is buried in the Roscoe Cemetery, Lewis, NY. Her brother, Rupert, was born in July, 1869 in Kansas.

The only son of Phillip Smith and Ann Eliza [Knox] Miller was **John Knox Miller**. He was a, farmer, born December 26. 1837 and died February 19, 1915. He was born and lived under the shadow of Mt. Hurricane in a community called Miller Settlement. He attended school in the Pine Grove School – and later farmed with his parents in Miller Settlement and later in the Brainard's Forge area of the town of Lewis. He married Amanda Dwinnel, born April 3, 1842, died May 15, 1920. They were the parents of two sons, – Albert E., 1871 – 1940; and a second son whose name is unknown. Ann Eliza and Philip S. Miller are buried in the Brainard Forge Cemetery, Essex County, NY. Nearby are the graves of their son, John K. and his wife, Amanda.

5. George & Julia Ann [Jackson] Knox

George Knox, farmer and merchant, - born July 18, 1811, North Hillsdale, Columbia Co., NY; moved "up west" to his father's farm on the lower slopes of Hurricane Mountain, near Elizabethtown, Essex County, NY by 1813 when he was two and one-half years old". "... George, like his father, was also decidedly Temperate, using neither drinks or tobacco. When grown he united with the Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, much to the grief of his Father, who claimed to be descended from the same family of the noted Scotch Presbyterian, John Knox. George Knox was chosen Captain of the Militia in Elizabethtown, and his commission was one of his treasures to old age, and left to his son George..." Source – Knox Family History by Sarah Jane [Knowlton] Knox.

The Second Baptist Church of Elizabethtown, NY records that this church was organized on January 8, 1834 with 19 members. Julia Ann Jackson and her sister, Sarah J. Jackson, joined this congregation by means of Baptism on June 1, 1834; George Knox was Baptized about six weeks later, on July 13, of that year. Daniel & Rhoda Ann [Cady] Jackson's family had moved to the Elizabethtown area in the very early 1830s and lived in various places nearby until purchasing a farm near that of John Knox. It is quite possible that Julia Ann Jackson and George Knox met through their affiliation with the Baptist church in that community.

George Knox married Julia Ann Jackson, the daughter of Daniel & Rhoda Ann [Cady] Jackson near Elizabethtown, on April 6, 1837. She was born Mar. 28, 1817 in the town of Chesterfield, Essex Co., NY. George was identified as a farmer in the town of Chesterfield in the census of 1840, possibly farming land cleared by his wife's grandfather, Samuel Jackson, one of the pioneers of Peru & Chesterfield, NY. By 1845 George and Julia Ann, were the parents of a family of three, i.e. Lafayette, Clifford Cady, and Sarah Jane. On October 1, 1845 they started their move west to Wisconsin via the Erie Canal, spending the winter of 1845-1846 in the village of Chicago. After living near Beloit and Baraboo for the next several years, they settled in Dell Prairie, Adams co., Wisconsin, on March 1, 1851 where they homesteaded.

All of Julia Ann's siblings and her parents eventually moved to Wisconsin where they prospered as merchants in Beloit, Sparta and Eau Claire. Julia Ann's parents retired to Sparta in 1858 where they are buried in the Mt. Hope Cemetery. George & Julia Ann retired from farming to Kilbourn City [now Wisconsin Dells] about 1879. George Knox also identified himself as "retired merchant" in the Grand Rapids, Mn. census of 1895, although the type of business he carried on in Kilbourn City is unknown. George & Julia Ann were cared for by their daughter, Sarah Jane Knowlton, in Kilbourn City for two years just prior to 1900. In 1900, with the encouragement of their daughter, Sarah Jane [Knox] Knowlton. George & Julia Ann moved to

Grangeville, California, to live with Sarah Jane and her family. George Knox died in Grangeville, Ca., on November 4, 1902; Julia Ann died on January 11, 1910 in Orosi. Both are buried in the Grangeville Cemetery near their son, Joseph Carpenter Knox and their daughter, Sarah Jane [Knox] Knowlton.

Children of George and Julia Ann [Jackson] Knox -

LaFayette, born June 16, 1838; **Clifford Cady**, b February 13, 1840; **Sarah Jane**, b May 31, 1842; **Julia Elizabeth**, b March 3, 1846, Chicago, II.; **Daniel Jackson**, b August 26, 1849, Beloit, Wi.; **George Whitfield**. born Nov. 20, 1852 town of Dell Prairie, Wi.; and **Joseph Carpenter**, born July 22, 1860, Dell Prairie Corners, Adams County, Wi.

John & Lucinda [Ransom] Knox's Children

John & Lucinda [Ransom] Knox's family, all born near Elizabethtown, were: **Ransom**, b c 1821, **Lyman L**., b c 1823/24, died Dec. 20th 1887, age 63 years, **Luther**, b May 4, 1826 – July 15, 1896, and **Theodocia**, b c 1829/30. Luther was the only member of John's second family to marry and have a family. There isn't any record of the precise dates of births, deaths or burial places in Elizabethtown for Ransom, and Theodocia Knox. One likely possibility is that their burials were in the Calkin Cemetery on the slopes of Mt. Hurricane where John Knox is buried, and their graves, like that of John Knox, were unmarked.

6. Ransom Knox was born near Elizabethtown c 1821, the oldest child of John and Lucinda [Ransom] Knox. He was probably named for his grandfather, Luther Ransom. There appears to have been very little opportunity for work in the Elizabethtown area other than farming and so he probably worked on the family farm from an early age, first with his father, and later with his brothers. There is very little information available about Ransom Knox other than what is found in census reports. He remained single throughout his life and he is listed in town of Elizabethtown census from 1850 to 1870, inclusive. In the 1870 census he was 48 years of age; occupation - "farmer", and he was living with his mother, Lucinda, age 79, and his brother, Lyman, age 47. He probably worked with his brothers Luther [& Lyman] on what had been his father's farm.

A List of Commissioned Officers of the 37th Regiment for the years 1840 and 1841. was found in the Record Post Newspaper of May 7, 1925. In this report, Ransom Knox is listed as a Corporal in the Company of George Wescott of the town of Lewis. No further information has been found relating to his military service.

Following John Knox's death Ransom served as the administrator of his father's estate, and his name appears many times in newspapers associated with the court proceedings.

Ransom's name is found in a list of men drafted from the town of Elizabethtown for service in the Civil War. His name is also found in a "List of Exemptions From Draft in Essex county." The reason listed for his exemption from military service was: "general debility." One definition of debility is "the state of being weak or feeble."

There isn't a record of Ransom's death – nor where he was buried. Since his name isn't found in the Town of Elizabethtown 1880 census, it is assumed that he died before that date, i e. between 1870 and 1880. The Essex County Newspapers now available on the Internet pages: "Northern New York Historical Newspapers" do not record Ransom's death. The closest cemetery to the Knox homes on Mt. Hurricane was the Calkin or Lord's Cemetery, where his father was buried in January, 1849. Since the family didn't have enough money for a tombstone for his father's grave, it is probable that he was buried nearby, the location of his grave being unmarked and subsequently forgotten.

7. Lyman L. Knox [1824-1887] Not much information is known about Lyman Knox and his life and death in Elizabethtown. He appears to have farmed all his life – working with his father and brothers before his father's death in January, 1849. After his father's death he may have shared in the ownership of the family farm with his brother, Luther.

Death - "I only found the following information: Death information on Lyman L. Knox 63 years old died on Dec. 20th 1887, Father-John Knox, Mother Lucinda Ranson Knox, He was buried in Lewis NY.... Sincerely, Debra Brooks Town Clerk's Office, Elizabethtown, NY. by e-mail, November 1st,

2012. Source of this information was a review of the Death Records of the town of Elizabethtown.

"DIED: KNOX. – In this town on the 20thth inst., Lyman L. Knox, aged 63 years." Source – Post & Gazette, December 22, 1887

8. Luther Knox [May 4, 1826 – July 15, 1896] was the only member of John & Lucinda Knox's family who married and had a family. He was born on 04 May, 1826 and he died July 15, 1896; both events took place in the Town of Elizabethtown, Essex Co., NY.

Census of 1865	Town o	of Elizabethtown	n Knox family,	Framed House	
Luther Knox	38,	male,	Farmer,	Owns land,	
Susan Knox	22,	female wife,	2 children, marr	ied once, now married.	
Fred Knox	2 4/12	male, child, born Essex Co.,			
Lyman Knox	41,	brother, born Essex Co., farmer, owns land.			
Ransom Knox	44,	brother, farmer, doesn't own land,			
Theodosia Knox	35,	sister, female,	single.		
Lucinda Knox	75	female, mother,	born Vermont, 4	4 children, married once, single,	
All members of this family were born in Essex County, NY except Lucinda, who was born in					
Vermont					

Marriage: Luther Knox married Susan Pulsifer c 1862. This is based on the 1870 census whereby Luther, 44, Susan, 28, and children, Fred C., 7, Frank L., 4, and Elizie, 2, were listed as family 268, in the Elizabethtown census. At that time Luther, occupation - farmer; owned property valued at \$1200; and personal property valued at \$400. Living next door was family 267, the family of Lucinda Knox, 79, Keeping House; with her sons, Ransom, 48, farmer; and Lyman, 47, farmer. By the census of 1880, two additional children had been born into Luther's family. They were: Carrie F., born c 1871, and Adelbert, age, 9 months. Living close by were Lyman L. Knox, single, 55, farmer; and Theodocia, sister, single, age 51, who was Keeping House.

Death of Luther Knox "Luther Knox, a lifelong resident of Elizabethtown, died yesterday morning [July 15, 1896] at his home just west of this village, aged 71 years. Funeral Service will be held at two o'clock this afternoon, July 16, 1896." Source - The Elizabethtown Post, July 16, 1896. [It is assumed that Luther Knox was buried beside his wife, see death notice below.] DIED: — Mrs. Susan Knox, **Mrs Susan (Pulsifer) Knox** was born in Lewis 67 years ago and died at the home of her son, Dell, on the Keene Road, December 18, 1909.... Nearly all her life was spent in Elizabethtown... She is survived by three brothers, two sons in Elzi and Dell, by several grandchildren and by other relatives.... Interment was in the Calkin Cemetery. Source — The Elizabethtown Post, December 23, 1909

9 Theodosia Knox Very little is known about Theodosia Knox. She was born c 1829/1830 near Elizabethtown, and appears to have lived with members of her family throughout her life. In her later years, i.e. the census of 1880, she was keeping house for her brother, Lyman. He died in 1887 and no record has been found of Theodocia after that date.