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SIDELIGHTS ON MARYLAND HISTORY

SOUTHERN BOND
MADE IN U.S.A.

THE KEY FAMILY AND COAT-OF-ARMS

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SIDELIGHTS ON MARYLAND HISTORY

Anniversary of North Point

A Great and Glorious Day

THE KEY FAMILY AND COAT-OF-ARMS

Ninety years ago to-day, Sunday, September 11, 1814, Baltimore was in a high state of anxious expectancy. The night before the British had entered the mouth of the Patapsco with the intention of bombarding the city. Two weeks before the enemy had, after its successful attack on Washington, declared its intention of next moving on Baltimore. But while the British were waiting for their reinforcements the Americans were preparing to give their self-invited guests a warm reception. On September First general orders of preparation were issued by Major-General Smith, and the exciting announcement was made that "no time is now to be lost, for the enemy has reinforcements, declaring his next object Baltimore.

That the Maryland biscuit played its part in the defence of the city is evident from a paragraph in the orderly book of the Third Brigade, where we learn that on September 2, 1814, "the contractor will employ all the bakeries that he may require

and set them to baking biscuit immediately. General Stricker will excuse from military duty all the bakers necessary for this purpose. The contractors will deposit at the meeting house on the road to North Point 3,000 rations without delay.

We find among other interesting orders in preparation those addressed to Captain Henry Thompson, the original having been presented to the Maryland Historical Society by his grandson, Mr. Oliver H. Thompson, of Baltimore. This order, dated at headquarters, September 5, 1814, reads as follows:

"Brigadier-General John Stricker will detach 10 troopers under a capable officer from the troop commanded by Captain Henry Thompson from hence to North Point, for the purpose of giving accurate information of the approach of the enemy. The officer will station his men on the road in such manner that information may be obtained in the earliest manner. Forage, etc., to be obtained at the meeting house. The officer will provide himself with a good spyglass.

SIGNED by order of Major-General Smith,

"Isaac McKim

"First Aide-de-Camp".

All business was practically suspended in Baltimore. The Third Brigade of Maryland Militia had been called into actual service and under pay of the Governor since August 19.

Daily drills and parades had been in order for weeks.

On the ninth morning drills were ordered to be suspended. On the eleventh the guard from the powder magazine on Federal Hill was transferred to the Commissary Department.

No sooner had news of the British in the Patapsco been received than General Stricker requested to be sent to repulse their attempted advance. It was Baltimore's desire to take care of her own. Other States had sent troops to aid the "doomed city", but while glad of the practical reinforcements. Baltimore's sons led eagerly and gallantly in the defense of their city. That General Stricker with command composed of the flower of Maryland's old blood lost no time in pressing forward to meet the enemy is very certain from the orders issued on Sunday morning, September 11, 1814, as follows:

"Brigadier-General Winder's command having been concentrated at the farm branch, and General Stricker's moved in advance of the whole army on the road to North Point, they will furnish their own guards from General Stansbury's and General Forman's commands, and from the Pennsylvania troops will be a guard of twenty men detailed daily with orders.

Lieutenant-Colonel Moore will detach from his command one troop which will parade this evening at 5 o'clock in the rear of Battery M on the extreme right of the army, and proceed from thence to the mouth of Bear Creek, where they will be commanded by a guard from Colonel Street's command at the same hour to-morrow.

Lieutenant-Colonels Moore and Street will furnish this guard daily, until other wise directed.

By order of

Major General Smith

The absence of entries in the orderly book from September 11 to the 14th is more eloquent than pages would have been.

The battle of North Point was on. The bombardment of Fort McHenry was raging. History was being made, and while Maryland men were saving the nation a son of Maryland was writing the national song.

O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation,
Blest into victory and peace may the heav'n-rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

Then conquer we must when our cause it is just
And this be our motto: "In God be our trust".
And the Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

September 14 the following general orders were issued from headquarters :

"The enemy have retired--not departed. Their retiring may be a stratagem to throw us off our guard. Therefore ordered that the commanders of brigades and corps be careful to keep their men together, ready to march at a moment's warning. The baggage may be ordered back and great care must be taken that all be amply supplied with rations and every comfort possible

To effect this will require the careful attention of every officer on which the Commanding General absolutely relies. Returns will be immediately made by General Stansbury and Foreman of their deficiency in cartouch boxes. Those deficiencies will be supplied by Colonel Richard Waters and State Quarter Master

By order of General Smith,

Signed by William Bates
Assistant Adjutant General

Although the British failed to reach Baltimore and had for the moment been repulsed, the feeling of danger was not passed, and on the 17th General Stricker, through his assistant, Brigadier-Major L. Frailey issued the following:

"The possibility of a second visit from the enemy as soon as he shall have recovered from his late repulse imperiously requires commanding officers of regiments and independent corps to redouble their vigilance for the safety of the city. No time must be lost in placing their arms and equipments in the most complete order for the field, minutely inspecting every part. They are required to furnish each man with a spare flint and a supply of ammunition which must be drawn for immediately and distributed. The regimental drill must be resumed once a day and every exertion made to improve their discipline.

"The Brigadier-General relies confidently on the vigilance of the commandants of regiments and corps so as to be enabled to meet the enemy on terms honorable to freemen and glorious to American arms."

Then came the order that 100 men from the Third Brigade be detailed to attend the laboratory at the lower end of McElderry's Wharf to aid Captain Barry in making cartridges.

Those were the strenuous days of war when the soldiers had to make as well as fire their ammunition.

Renewed hope was put into the hearts of the citizens of Baltimore when on the morning of September 18 a Federal salute in honor of the complete victory over the enemy's fleet at Lake Champlain was fired at noon. The salute which began at Fort McHenry, was answered by Commodore Rogers' battery, Captain Stiles and the guns under Colonel Harris, and terminated by Fort Covington and the Six-Gun Battery. Thus this thundering note of victory leaped from shore to shore and echoed round the rescued city.

This shout of triumph must have sounded a fatal note of warning to the enemy, who never again tested Baltimore's ability to defend herself.

The following official account of the bombardment of Fort McHenry, as reported by Lieutenant-Colonel Armistead to the Secretary of War, has kindly been placed at our service by Mrs. Edward Shippen, a granddaughter of Captain Joseph Hopper Nicholson, who, with his gallant company of of Artillery Fencibles aided so materially in the defense of Fort McHenry.

The official account of the bombardment of Fort McHenry: Lieutenant-Colonel Armistead to the Secretary of War. dated Fort McHenry, September 24, 1814.

"A severe indisposition, the effect of heat, fatigue and exposure, has prevented me heretofore from presenting you with an account of the attack on this post. On the night of Saturday, the 10th instant, the British fleet consisting of ships of the line, heavy frigates and bomb vessels amounting in the whole, to 30 sail, appeared at the mouth of the river Patapsco, with every indication of an attempt on the city of Baltimore. My own force consisted of one company of United States Artillery, under Captain Evans, and two company of sea fencibles, under Captains Bunsbury and Addison. Of these three companies 35 men were unfortunately on the sick list and unfit for duty. I had been furnished with two companies of volunteer artillery from the city of Baltimore under Captain Berry and Lieutenant-Commander Pennington. To these I must add another very fine company of volunteer artillerists under Judge Nicholson, who had proffered their services to aid in the defense of this port whenever an attack might be apprehended, and also a detachment from Commodore Barney's flotilla under Lieutenant Redman. Brigadier-General Winder had also furnished me with about 600 infantry and Major Lane, consisting of detachments from the Twelfth, Fourteenth, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-eighth Regiments of United States troops, the total amounting to about 1,000 effective men. On Monday morning (12th). very early, it was perceived that the enemy was landing troops on the east side of the Patapsco,

distant about 10 miles. During that day and the ensuing night he had brought 16 ships (including five bomb ships) within two miles and a half of this fort. I had arranged my forces as follows: The regular artillerists under Captain Evans and the volunteers under Captain Nicholson manned the bastions on the Star Fort. Captains Bunsbury's, Addison's, Redman's, Berry's and Lieutenant-Commandant Pennington's commands were stationed on the lower works, and the infantry, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart and Major Lane, was on the outer ditch to meet the enemy at his landing should he attempt one. On Tuesday morning (13th) about sunrise the enemy commenced the attack from five bomb vessels at the distance of about two miles, when finding that his shells reached us, he anchored and kept up an incessant and well directed bombardment. We immediately opened our batteries and kept a brisk fire from our guns and mortars, but unfortunately our shot and shells all fell considerably short of him. This was to me a most distressing circumstance, as it left us exposed to a constant and tremendous shower of shells, without the most remote possibility of our doing him the slightest injury. It affords me the highest gratification to state that although we were left exposed and thus inactive, not a man shrunk from the conflict. About 2 o'clock P.M. one of the 24-pounders on the southwest bastion under the immediate command of Captain Nicholson was dismounted by a shell, the explosion of which killed

his second lieutenant and wounded several of his men. The bustle necessarily produced in removing the wounded and remounting the gun probably induced the enemy to suspect that ^{we} were in a state of confusion, as he brought three of the bomb ships to what I believed good striking distance. I immediately ordered a fire to be opened which was obeyed with alacrity through the whole garrison and in half an hour these intruders again sheltered themselves by withdrawing beyond reach. We gave three cheers and again ceased firing. The enemy continued throwing shells with one or two slight intermissions, till 1 o'clock in the morning of Wednesday (14th) when it was discovered that he had availed himself of the darkness of the night and had thrown a considerable force above to our right. They had approached very near Fort Covington when they began to throw rockets, intended, I presume, to give them an opportunity of examining the shores, as I have since understood they detached 1,250 picketsmen with scaling ladders for the purpose of storming this fort. We once more had an opportunity of opening our batteries and kept up a continued blaze for nearly two hours, which had the effect again to drive them off. In justice to Lieutenant Newcomb of the United States Navy who commanded at Fort Covington with a detachment of sailors and Lieutenant Webster of the flotilla who commanded the six-gun battery near that fort, I ought to state that during this time they kept up an animated, and I believe, a very destructive fire, to which I am persuaded, we are much indebted

in repulsing the enemy. One of his sunken barges has since been found with two dead men in it. Others have been seen floating in the river. The only means we had of deflecting our guns was by the blaze of their rockets and the flash of their guns. Had they ventured to the same situation in the daytime not a man would have escaped. The bombardment continued on the part of the enemy until 7 o'clock on Wednesday morning, when it ceased, and about 9 their ships got under way and stood down the river. During the bombardment which lasted 25 hours (with two slight intermissions), from the best calculation I can make from 1,500 to 1,800 shells were thrown by the enemy. A few of these fell short. A large proportion burst over us, throwing their fragments among us, and threatening destruction. Many passed over and about 400 fell within the works. Two of the public buildings are materially injured--the others but slightly. I am happy to inform you, wonderful as it may appear, that our loss amounts only to 4 men killed and 24 wounded. The latter will all recover. Among the killed I have to lament the loss of Lieutenant Clagget and Sergeant Clemm, both of Captain Nicholson's volunteers, two men whose fate is to be deplored, not only for their personal bravery, but for their high standing, amiable demeanor and spotless integrity in private life. Lieutenant Russel, of the Company under Lieutenant Pennington, received early in the attack a severe contusion in the heel, notwithstanding

which he remained at his post during the whole bombardment. Were I to name any individual who signalized himself I would be doing injustice to others. Suffice it to say every officer and soldier under my command bravely did their duty to my entire satisfaction."

"I have the honor to remain, respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

George Armistead,

Lieut.Col. U.S.A.

Hon.....Secretary of War.

Following this graphic report the following war news appears in the same old edition of the Baltimore Patriot in which the official account was made public in the year 1814:

Lieut. George Armistead is appointed by the President of the United States a colonel by brevet for his gallant defense of Fort McHenry.

Names of the killed and wounded officers, non-commissioned officers and privates belonging to the First Regiment of Artillery under the command of Lieutenant Colonel D.Harris, on detachment at Fort McHenry, September 13, 1814:

In Captain Nicholson's Company :- Killed:

Levi Clagett, third lieutenant,
John Clemm, second sergeant, slightly wounded
Samuel Harris, third sergeant, severely wounded,
Abram Lerew, private; James Granger, private;
Slightly wounded:
James L.Hawkins, private, Henry Bond, private,
Samuel Etting, private.

In Captain Berry's Company : Killed:

Thomas V.Henson, private; Severely wounded,
Samuel Foy, Emery Lewman,
Slightly wounded: John Cretzne,
Cornelius Collins, Samuel Gray,
Jacob Besser, Derrick Wahnestock.

In Captain Hughes Company: Commanded by
Lieutenant Pennington :

Slightly wounded, Thomas Russell, third lieutenant
Severely wounded, Geirge Greer, private,
Emanuel Kent, Jr., private;
James McNeil, Jr., private.
Slightly wounded: Marmaduke Wyvil,
and James Lambie.

Recapitulation: killed : 1 lieutenant;

1 sergeant; 1 private.
Slightly wounded: 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant;
10 privates,
Severely wounded: 7 privates, Total 22.

Nath'l Pierce

Sergeant-Major First Regiment A, Third Brigade, M.M.

List of killed and wounded in the Marine Battery,

under the command of Sailing Master Rodman, on the 13th of
September, 1814:

Killed: Charles Messenger
Wounded : William Jenkins, Joseph Baily, Joseph Hardy

In the Company of Sea Fencibles, commanded by
M.S.Brenbury, at Fort McHenry on the 13th September, 1814 :

Killed: None
Wounded dangerously--Charles Bhare,
Wounded slightly, Robert Green.

(Signed) M.S.Brenbury,
Wm. Bates
Assistant Adjutant-General D.M.M.

A roll of the Artillery Company of Fencibles, immediate-
ly after the bombardment of Fort McHenry, on the 13th of September,
1814:

Joseph H.Nicholson,	Captain
Jesse Eichelberger,	First Lieutenant
Andrew Clapper,	Second lieutenant
David Fulton	Third lieutenant
Samuel Harris	First sergeant,
William Douglass,	Second Sergeant,
John Ready,	Third Sergeant,
Joseph A.Wallace,	Fourth sergeant
Henry Armstrong,	First corporal
Ralph Smith,	Second Corporal
John E.Floor,	Third Corporal
William Child	Fourth Corporal
Joshua Dorsey,	Fifth Corporal
William S.Fulton,	Sixth corporal
<u>Privates:</u>	
Walter Y.Athey	Thomas Alexander
John C.Bucklin	John W.Beale
John L.Brune	Henry Bond
Horatio Perry	James Brice
Jarret Bull	Andrew Boyd
Charles W.Johns	Thomas Conklin
William S.Cooper	J.I.Cohen
Thomas Claggett	C.H.Dannaman
John Diffenderffer	George Douglas
Grafton Dulany	George Dalrymple
Louis Eichelberger,	William Eichelberger
Samuel Etting	Walter Fernandez

Privates:

Philip Graybele
 Charles Guildenier
 Thomas Hutchins
 Thomas Hennessey,
 James Hindes
 Brice Howard
 Edward Jones,
 John Keller,
 Jacob Lindenberger
 John Larew
 Moses McCubbin
 Edward Morgan
 John G. Neale
 James B. Pallitt
 Philip Riegart,
 John Shoret
 Henry Stickney
 Thomas Spicer
 Andrew Snyder
 John C. Van Wyck,
 George Williams,
 Nathaniel F. Williams,
 John Yates

James Grainger
 James L. Hawkins
 Frances Horner
 John H. Heidelberg
 William Hughes
 John Higinbotham
 John Kennedy
 George Lawson
 Robert Carey Long
 Philip Mauro
 Isaac Munroe
 Charles F. Mayer
 Andrew Price
 Thomas Rogers
 John E. Rigden
 Benjamin N. Sands
 Henry Schwartz
 Samuel Sylvester,
 Patrick Tiernan
 William Vance
 C. D. Williams
 Thomas Watkins

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THE KEY FAMILY

The crest and coat-of-arms used by the early Keys of Maryland show descent from John Kaye, of Woodsome, whose lineage is both ancient and honorable. From this family was Robert Kaye, justice of the peace in the time of Queen Elizabeth and her Majesty's treasurer for lame soldiers. His son, John Kaye, filled the same responsible offices. The latter married Anne, daughter of Sir John Ferne, Knight of Temple Belwood, in the Isle of Axholme. He was secretary to the Council in the North during the reign of Charles I. He was succeeded by his son, John Kaye, of Woodsome, knight, who was advanced to the dignity of baronet by King Charles I, February 4, 1641. Like his father and grandfather, he was treasurer to the King for lame soldiers. As colonel of a regiment of horse he was in the King's service in the civil wars, when he suffered greatly in both body and estate. He lived to see the Restoration, and died July 25, 1662.

This distinguished gentleman married three times. His first wife was Margaret Moseley, grand daughter of Thomas Moseley, Lord Mayor of London, by whom he had three children, the first of whom was Sir John Kaye, baronet, who served for many years as Knight of the Shire for County York, and died in the year 1706.

The second wife of Sir John Kaye's father was Elizabeth Leigh, daughter of Sir Ferdinand Leigh, knight of Middleton, by whom he had two sons and three daughters.

The Maryland Key family is thought to descend from John Key, the first poet laureate, 1641. Richard Key of St. Paul's Parish, London, the father of the first emigrant to Maryland, may have been his descendant.

Hon. Philip Key was born in London in the year 1696. He was educated in the Temple and when yet a young man emigrated to Maryland and settled in St. Marys County, on the estate known as Bushwood Lodge, where, about 1730, he built a mansion as elegant as Bushwood, the home of Robert Slye, on St. Clement's Manor, adjoining the Key home.

Bushwood Lodge, the birthplace of many of Maryland's distinguished sons of the Key family, was burnt in the early nineteenth century. Here it was that Hon. Philip Key, member of the Privy Council, High Sheriff, and member of Assembly, lived in great elegance, traditions of which have been transmitted for nearly two centuries.

The Hon. Philip Key was an important member and benefactor of old Chaptico Church, where the high sheriff worshipped and for whose arrival, it is said, the rector would delay the opening of the service.

This distinguished councilor married twice, his first wife being Susannah Gardiner, descendant of Capt. Luke Gardiner and his wife Elizabeth Hatton.

Their son Richard Ward Key, held the dignified office of Clerk of the Court in St. Marys county during the pre-Revolutionary days.

The second son,^{of} Hon. Philip Key and Susannah Gardiner was Hon. Edward Key, one of the most distinguished men of his name in Maryland. He was attorney General of Maryland, and an enthusiastic patriot, was a member of the committee which drew up the instructions for the famous Stamp Act Congress. This brilliant lawyer and statesman was born at Bushwood Lodge, as were several notable members of this gifted family.

Other sons of Philip Key were Dr. John Key, who married Miss Cecelia Brown, one of the nine daughters of Dr. Gustavus Brown, which noted beauty married for her second husband Major Thomas Bond, of the distinguished St. Marys family.

Francis Key, the youngest son of Hon. Philip and Susannah Key, removed to Cecil County, where he was Clerk of the Court. His oldest son, John Ross Key, second Lieutenant in General Otho Holland Williams' rifle battalion of Maryland troops, was the father of Francis Scott Key, that gifted son of Maryland, who, in setting to work the soul-stirring emotions experienced as

a witness to the bombarding of the ramparts of his loved city, touched the universal chord of patriotism with a thrill that has never been equaled in the world's history.

"The Star Spangled Banner", born in the throes of the city's suffering, attained a vital human spot which sets it apart from all other national songs.

Chief Justice Taney, who married the sister of Key, has left the only account ever given of the writing and publishing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by one who was contemporary with the author, and a member of his family.

Francis Scott Key married Mary Taylor Lloyd, whose sister Rebecca was the wife of Joseph Harper Nicholson. These charming belles were daughters of Hon. Colonel Edward Lloyd IV, of Wye House, and his wife, Elizabeth Tayloe, daughter of the John Tayloe II of Mt. Airy, Va. and his wife Rebecca Plater of Sotterly, Md. Thus it is seen that Francis Scott Key, Judge Joseph Hopper Nicholson and Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney were brothers-in-law which accounts for the part Judge Nicholson had in the publication of Key's masterpiece. The story of Key's efforts in the interest of his friend Dr. Beans is well known, and also the fact that he was detained until after the bombardment of Fort McHenry, which Key could see from the deck of the British vessel on which he was an uncomfortable guest.

The words of the great national song were written on the

back of an envelope in lieu of better material and it was in its original state that the poet, upon his release the morning after the victory, showed it to his brother-in-law, Judge Nicholson, This gallant officer who had himself passed through the terrible ordeal as commander of his personally equipped company of artillery Fencibles at the defense of Fort McHenry was naturally thrilled with the words, and realizing their national significance, wrote above the poem a few words explaining how Key happened to be a witness to the bombarding and adding, the words, "Tune, 'Anacreon in Heaven'" (a well known tune at that time). Captain Nicholson sent them at once to Mr. Samuel Sands, a printer living not far from the old Fountain Inn, where he and Key joined each other that morning. The song was struck off in hand-bill form and within an hour was being sung all over town.

Both the original and one of the first handbills have descended to the grand daughter of Judge Joseph H. Nicholson, to whose appreciation of Key's poem, we are indebted for the prompt publication of our national hymn.

Francis Scott Key was a volunteer in the Light Artillery under Major Peters' command, organized for the defense of Washington, and in active service from the time the British appeared in the Patuxent.

The Hon. Philip Key, born in St. Marys County in the year 1750,

was the founder of the Tudor Hall branch of the Key family. He was sent to London to be educated in the law, and at the age of 19, we learn he was presented at the Court of St. James, where he was voted one of the handsomest young men of the day."

Upon his return to St Marys County he took an active part in the stirring questions of the times. He was a member of the Maryland Assembly for many years and served actively on the Committee of Correspondence in the Revolution.

Hon. Philip Key of Tudor Hall was member of Congress from October 24, 1791, to March 2, 1793, and was Speaker of the House.

It is said that he refused a place in President Munroe's Cabinet, and at the period of our history when the Governor was appointed by the Electoral College he declined that honor also.

Among the many descendants of the first Hon. Philip Key of Bushwood Lodge, the first of this eminent family in Maryland, may be mentioned Mr. Joseph Key, of Tudor Hall, Leonardtown, St. Marys County; Mr. Edward Lloyd Key and the Misses Key.