UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ROBERT VAN PELT BENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE 566 FEDERAL BUILDING LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68508 when the copy

August 24, 1977.

Mr. Norman H. McClary #11, 2920 Cliffe Ave. Courtenay, B. C. Canada V9N 2L7

Dear Norman:

I have enjoyed reading your recent letter and the brochure. I am sorry that you will not be able to make the trip to Nebraska.

I have just received the dates of my assignment in 2. Seattle. I will probably go to Portland, /where I will be sitting with the court on October 3 and 4, and to Seattle on Tuesday October 4. I will be sitting with the Court of Appeals in Seattle on Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th and 6th. If convenient to you I will stay over on the 7th so that I could meet you at that time.

I have not yet made hotel reservations. I have today written to find out about hotels near the federal courthouse. I will write you just as soon as I know the name of my hotel. I will accept your father's records if you care to deliver them to me with the understanding that I will deliver them to the Nebraska State Historical Society immediately upon my return to Lincoln.

A letter from Bill Shelley calls to my attention that Ena McClary is buried at Sunset Point Cemetery, located on Medicine Creek between Stockville and Moorefield. Bill thinks that she and the baby were buried in one casket. He also calls to my attention that the Moorefield road instead of going north out of Stockville, as it did during my boyhood, went west, then north to the Berry ranch.

You will hear from me again as soon as I have a confirmed hotel reservation, which will probably be within the next two weeks.

Very truly yours,

Bar V A

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

ROBERT VAN PELT SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE 566 FEDERAL EUILDING LINCOLN, NEBRASKA 68508

October 28, 1977.

Mr.Marvin F. Kivett Director, Nebraska State Historical Society 1500 R St. Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Dear Marvin:

Lest I overlook it when I deliver to you the McClary diaries, I would call to your attention that one volume covers the summer and fall of 1893. I was always led to believe that was the driest year Frontier County ever had. I believe every day he makes some mention of the weather. In fact this is true of almost every day of the books I have examined.

Very truly yours,

Ber

#11 - 2920 Cliffe Ave., Courtenay, B. C. V9N-2L7

Nebraska State Historical Society, 1500 R St., Lincoln, Nebraska, 68508

Aug. 23rd, 1980

Attn: Andrea I. Friedman, Manuscript Curator.

Dear Friends:

Your memo acknowledging receipt of the biographical data related to W.L. McClary has been received, this together with a copy of your transcript of the data and listed inventory. Thank you very much for a job well done.

However, there are two points or items of information that I feel you would wish to know and might possibly wish to include in your biographical data. These are based on my memories of in-family exchange of information during bygone years and should therefore be fully checked before projection as factual data. These are; -

- (a). Paragraph #4 of your data section you indicate W.L McClary married Anne Ballantine in 1884, and states: "She died a year later probably in childbirth." My memory of inter-family information re this incident indicates that Mr. McClary and Mrs. Ballantine drove down to a nearby town to be married, and after this had been accomplished and while driving home, (and doubtless when McClary was opening a gate), the team ran away and the bride was thrown from the carriage and killed! I have no positive record of this occurence, but it would seem worth full research.
- (b). My memory carries a firm impression that W.L. McClary was the basic founder of the town of Stockville, Nebr., and also that all or most of the land involved in the allocation was owned by him. In fact, it was planted in my mind that he had laid out the town (subdivision) using a lariat rope as his measuring "tape". Since I grew up and became a surveyor and proflessional engineer I often recalled the latter item with humour, since, in view of the era of time and the locale, the method might well be satisfactory. Another family memory has it that "the area to be occupied by the courthouse and other public buildings was donated free of cost for so long as it was utilized for public service. Should such requirement or use expire fully, the ownership of this land would revert back to the McClary family." Factual existence of such conditions or actions are unknown nor should cause concern of any nature. They are only submitted for what interest they may contain.

I would suggest that Judge Robert Van Pelt can provide you or anyone with a great deal of information regarding W.L.NcClary and his life and role in Western Nebraska.

Extending many thanks for your interest and your efforts, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

H. Mc Clary.

In your letter you spoke relative to Fathers education. Regarding this I can assure you that it was somewhat limited. He attended elementary school in Illinois. His father died when Dad was two years old; his mother died when he was nine. His older sister Lide then endeavored to raise and guide the family. Father clashed with his teacher and left school and home at thirteen years in age, and he then fumbled his way West to - I believe- St. Joseph, Missouri. At that time he would be as stated, thirteen, and the year 1866. His school grade is unknown, but that ended his formal education. His first job, gained after reaching Kansas, was as stable-boy in Kansas at a "Pony Express" station. From then on he was a Western pioneer. In a future letter I will provide you with a resume of his life as I know of it, prior to his diaries. You will be able to fill in the voids relative to and prior to Stockville.

Father and I shared many similarities. I too left school (Lewellen) at the beginning of the fourth grade and never had any formal schooling after that. There was none within reach from the ranch in the Cariboo at the time. Everyone was too busy to give me any "home" style tuition so I had to plow my own way through the maze of basic education. When I got stuck I could always get assistance from Father. I was always an avid reader as was Father, and through the years he had collected a vast library covering a broad scope. I plowed through these with an insatiable appetite for knowledge, history, geography, the Bible, math', science, astronomy, physiology, zoology, poetry, archaeology, any thing that could be brought to mind. If it had composition and was related to life, principle and purpose or of any use, I had to find out all I could about it. In impersonal self-analysis, I find I have been compelled throughout my life by the desire to learn the "why" of human nature and all related thereto of any nature or description, and the "how" if the initial findings indicate a value in use towards general benefits. I feel this was also one of Fathers characteristics. He was deep-natured and some what reserved with an understanding and quiet compassion for the weakness and frai lities of mankind, and with rigid and unveilding personal codes, ethics and principles. Mother held this side of his nature in high respect and esteem, and exemplified it to me one time by telling me that during the '90s and up to 1905-6, Father had been a very heavy drinker, (a fact which he had also mentioned to me as "at one time"). It was indicated that in the latter stages, he would consume the greater part of a bottle of brandy before breakfast, and follow with many others through the day. One evening while walking home, he stumbled dizzily and nearly fell. In full recognition of the reason, he quit cold, and I have never known him to take a drink during my life. This fact and opinion was shared by all others in the family. His own reason was; "If I cannot control it, I neither need nor want it". And so it was. We children were never forbidden to use or do anything. We were simply and gently told the effects, risk, and possible consequences of experimentation and/or improper, unapproved action, then left to our own choice. But we were all effected by one powerful governing influence, Mother and Dads attitude towards us. We were very rarely punished physically, and never by Mother. But realization that we had hurt and/or disappointed Mother, -!!!! No conceivable punishment could have the effect or impact of our uwareness that we had caused her mental pain or tears! Nothing on earth had more importance than our need to restore and maintain her quiet loving smile. Fathers attitudes and reactions were quite parallel as were ours toward him. With him, if punishment were necessary we were quietly and clearly

advised of the reason, it was done in direct proportion to the deed and without any show of anger (but rather, in a sad regretful manns), and the matter was never mentioned again nor was their ever any indication in our parents manner afterwards that the incident had ever occured! Believe me, we walked the trail of life with care, not through fear, but rather that the value our parents pride and confidence held for us far outrated any of lifes attractions. They were two wonderful and well-matched people! Enough of this rambling for now!

It is tragic indeed that the greater part of Fathers large collection of memorabilia was lost and wasted away after his death. I can remember so many, many things that have disappearred without trace.

However, there is one item in particular that still exists. At the present time it is held by my younger brother Wayne and it is felt it would be difficult to obtain it from him. He took possession of it in the '40s and guards it jealously. It is felt that I had this in mind when I mentioned "vintage books" in one of my letters to you.

As you probably know, Father was adopted into the Sioux Tribe or "Nation" as a member, having gone through the "blood rituals". He spoke the Sioux tongue fluently and, I believe, read it as well. The item referred to above is a hard-cover copy of the Holy Bible written throughout in the Sioux language. I do not have much knowledge of these things, but I doubt if there are many of these in existence. From Fathers comments I have always had the impression that there were very few ever printed and few indeed that remain. Your opinion would be appreciated.

I sincerely hope you are enjoying a review of the '90s in Dads diaries. Remember, I mentioned in an early letter that Vol.#3 was difficult in that it, chronologically, commences on Page #50 on Dec.lst/'96, continues on to the end of the book, then returns to Page #2 and continues from there! I had a heck of a time trying to establish some continuity and never did have a chance to check beyond the latter 'ninties.

Well, I guess I better close now. I hope this finds you well and all well with you. I am sorry, very sorry, that we did not get to meet and I hope the future holds an opportunity once again, and this time will permit a longer period of contact.

In deepest appreciation of your patience and a sincere hope that you were not too disappointed in the diaries. I shall do my best to check over what little is left and will forward anything felt to have any value.

With sincerest regards, .

Homan

- McClary, W.L., male, over 21
 1874 Cen. (Apr.) Neb. Frontier Co., p.4
- McCleary, William, stock grower, 27, b.Ohio, pts.b.blank 1880 Cen. Neb. Frontier Co. T5&6N R27W, p.16
- Shelley, Ambrose S. & McClarey. Land owner. 140 acres, permanent meadow. 20 acres woodland. 20 acres unimproved land. \$500 val. farm & bldg. \$20 val. farm equipment. \$2000 val. livestock. \$75 cost bldg. & repairs, 1879. 25 acres mown hay, 50 ton. 20 horses. 3 milk cows. 98 other cattle. 40 calves dropped. 34 cattle purchased. 6 sold. 2 slaughtered. 4 stolen or died. 12 barnyard poultry, 50 doz. eggs.
- 1830 Ag. Cen. Neb. Frontier Co. T6N R27W, p.13
- Hopton, William, 40, farmer, b.Ohio, pts.b.Ohio, Eliza, 40, b.Ohio, fb Fa, mb Va sirky of McClary
- McClay, W.L., 32, bro in law, ranchman, b.Ohio, fb Pa, mb Va, Ada, 42, sis in law, b.Ohio, fb Pa, mb Va
- Lewis, Barton, 42, boarder, laborer, b.Ohio, pts.b.Ohio 1835 Cen. Neb. Frontier Co. Stockville Vil., p.2
- McClary, Anna E., 33, b. Florida, fb blank, mb Ga. Died July, abortion; resident of county 13 years; Dr. Gunn attending. [1] 1885 Mort. Cen. Neb. Frontier Co. Stockville Pre., p.1
 - [1] Wife of Washington L. McClary, widow of David Colter Ballantine; daughter of Dempsey B. Palmer, sister of William Herbert Miles. Known as Ena Raymonde.
- McClary, Anna (Estate of). Land owner. 90 (40) &cres tilled. 440 acres meadow. 60 acres woodland. \$2400 val. farm & bldg. \$50 va. farm equipment. \$400 val. bldg. & repair. \$500 pd. wages, \$0 wks. work. \$1200 val. livestock. 100 acres mown hay, 300 ton. 16 horses, 1 mule. 88 fowl other than barnyard, 50 doz. eggs. 20 bushel potatoes.
- 1335 Ag. Cen. Neb. Frontier Co. Stockville Pre., p.13

'Mac' McClary, 83, of Courtenay, died June 1 at St. Joseph's Hospital after a brief illness.

Born at Stockville, Nebraska, he came to Canada in 1915 and to this district in 1951. He worked as a civil engineer before retiring in 1966.

He is survived by his wife Heather McClary, of Courtenay; daughters Sandra Gallaway and Cheryl Bickle, both of Courtenay, Barry Ann Bury, of Prince Rupert, and their husbands; also six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

No service. Piercy's Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Services were new same 3.

McCLARY - Norman Harold

W.L. Mc CLARY .. - HIS EARLY HIS TORY .

At this point in time there can be only one source of information in this regard, and that from a care review of memories of relative details derived from years of family discussions and exchanges with and from the parents. It will be appreciated that, in the codes of that era, one never questioned another regarding personal matters and incidents or details had to be voluntarily provided. In example, we children never knew of Fathers previous marriages. Although vaguely aware of some previous circumstance, no details were known and in no way would we be so rude as to enquire. Nother made one mention to me of a previous wife and though curious, I would not be excused if I asked for further information. Enquiries as to detail could only be made after a general outline of the subject had been voluntarily given to an extent that made queries in order. Another enigma remains unanswered to this day. My Nother was a member of the proud, conservative Bannerman family residing in the elite area of Bruce County, Ontario, Canada. Question: How in hock did a sheltered virgin maiden come into emotional contact with a "lone wolf" representative of the Wild West whose home range was nearly two thousand miles away? No one can be found in either family today who has the answer. A lovely, demure and quietly-cheerful lady, best described by a son-in-law, who said; "She could not be described as religious, she was all that Christianity means or teaches and what all markind should be to make this earth a Heaven".

Father was a quiet, reserved man, stern but kindly, and in no way given to voluntary recall and elaborate disclosure of past experiences or history. However, we older children became adept in ways of getting him started, such as starting an argument over some interesting incident or place, and then appealing to him for clarification. With astute and careful questions we could sometimes keep him going for quite a time and a lot of information. It also left the door open where, after a period of consideration, (and at an appropriate time and place), we could reopen the case for further "clarification" (and for our entertainment! After all, living on a ranch, and long before radio or TV and rarely seeing a newspaper, we had to have some means of entertainment!!!). Foreover, in listening style and references in delivery, to psychologically absorbed many values in the proper conduct and true maanings and ways of life.

Born in Ohio, his mother died not long after his birth. His father died when he was nine years old and it is understood that his older sister raised the family. After quarreling with his teacher he left home and went to St. Josephs, Missouri. He was then thirteen years old. Shortly after, he got his first job working as a "stableboy" at a station on the "Fony Express" line, this somewhere in Kansas. As he grew older he ranged throughout the Mid-West, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, S/Dakota and Nebraska. He worked as a buffalo hunter, trapper, guide, and in the many various activities of the period. He held a high regard and deep respect for the Indians and spoke, read and wrote the Sioux language fluently. He was adopted by the Sioux Nation as a "blood member" and through the blood-ritual. He was a close friend of the Sioux Chief "Red Cloud", and,-using todays terms, regarded him as what might be termed as the "Henry Kissinger" between the white and red men of that period. He was also a close associate of "Wild Bill" Hickock, well known law-enforcer of that time. On the instigation of "Wild Bill" Hickock, well known law-enforcer of that time. On the instigation of "Wild Bill" Hickock, well acquainted with many of the people and incidents of that time. Many he held in high esteem, such as "Bat" Masterson, Doc. Carver, etc., and many others ("Buffalo Bill", General Custer, etc.) undeserving of the records credited to them.

There was a period in his life in Western Nebraska when he acted as (or with) a purchasing agent for Chicago packing plant, buying and shipping cattle to the market in that city. During this period it has been passed down (and corroborated by my mother) that he won a wager and \$2000.00 by organizing and conducting a buffalo drive that resulted in two boxcars being loaded and shipped to Chicago. He finally settled in Western Nebraska and played a part in founding Frontier County and the town of Stockville. The rest is part of todays records.

ANALYSIS OF THE OUTLINE & RECORDS.

The outline and possible connection between Links Nos. 1 & 2, and between Nos. 3 & 4 are clearly perceptible. However, that between 2 & 3 requires further definition.

The history preceding Joshua McClary was passed to me (and supported by my mother), was that Joshua was born on a plantation in Virginia(or W/Virginia), that was operated by slave labor. Quarreling with his older brother over the ethics and principles of slavery, as the dissident, Joshua left home and in keeping with the codes of the period, severed all ties, bonds and connections with his family. That fits in with the vague theory found by the compiler of the family chart of link #3. It also leaves a strong and almost compelling feeling that, - by time, circumstance and location, there can be a connection here between Links Nos. 2 & 3.

---- A TENTATIVE OUTLINE OF HIS FAMILY TREE

Tracing a family tree back to its roots is never an easy task and usually takes many years of patient and widespread effort. Many trails lead only to a blind end or fade out as having little or no relationship to the main route. In this case a positive course has been established backward for nearly one hundred and fifty years, then it would appear that the researcher could find no indication or direction as to where the next link backward was to be found. The writer, being one of the McClary family, has assembled together the known facts pertaining to his own section, and together with results researched and set forth by a member of another branch of the tree and we have covered the backward path in detail to a point very early in the past century. It would seem that no indication could be found at that point as to where the backward. trail led into the past. Only hints of possible reasons were quoted to the writer.

However, the reasons given, when put together with items from my fathers diaries and memories of details of many discussions of family backgrounds and patterns as expressed by my parents, and vague but quite plausible image appears that could well lead to the next link in the chain on the backward trail. Then, from the files of memory comes two other items gained from widely divergent sources which, when reviewed together with known facts, seem in context, pattern and location to have possible and reasonable relationship to known facts and when so used, form a chain leading to a point far distant in time and place.

In the following I have taken the liberty of referring to each segment of information as a "link", (i.e., a link in a chain), and numbering each one sequentially as they would appear in a chain leading from a point of origin down to the present date. An imaginative chain, of course, and assuming that there could be a connection between Links Nos. 1, 2, & 3. Each link contains the source of its information, the subject matter, and both where and how it might seem to be connected with the preceding and/or following link. These are as follows: -

No other data attached

- Voluntarily obtained and supplied to the writer some years ago by a scholarly friend who was doing some research on Scottish names and Clans. He had found that the "KcClary" name originated in Scotland, and in early Gaelic was spelled as "KcClarighe", altering in time to its present form. They were members of the Campbell Clan. It is understood that migration to Ireland took place where in time the spelling altered to "McCleary" and "McCleary" which is more in keeping with the Celtic pattern.
- 2:- At one time I was contacted by a "McClary" belonging to a wirnipeg(central Canada) branch of the family who was seeking family history. No connection was found, but he provided some interesting facts relating to his own branch. It seems that three McClary bro-No other hed: thers had at one time migrated from Scotland to Eastern Carada. After an exploratory period, one brother continued West to the Winnipeg area and settled. (My informants branch). One stayed in the East and eventually settled in Guelph, Ontario, where he established a foundry manufacturing household appliances bearing the "LcClary's "Femous" trademark and still a leading produces although now known as Canada Steel Wares Ltd. The third brother went South to the central Eastern States where family contact was lost and never regained. ???? ?????. Could there be a connection here with Link #3?????

Attached hereto

- The family chart and related information was supplied to me by Abbie L. Watkins of Fallon, Nevada, a grandaughter of Thomas D. Mc-Clary. She had personally researched and obtained the information, but had come to a "deadend" with Joshua McClary. History prior to him was unknown. It seemed that a severe family breach had occured that was related to the basic factors causing the Civil War. Her grandfather, T.D. EcClary is shown as child $\pi 3$ on the chart, and cur subject, Washington Lafayette McClary, is child #8.
- The chart projection and relevant data are based on fathers effected hereto diary records, personal knowledge and family history supplied by parents to the writer, who is child #3 on the family chart. Further information is given on an attached sheet; - "History of W.L. McClary & Analysis of the Records" attached hereto.

Prepared by; A.H. Eccyary

| LINK 3 | 1 | CHART |
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| | ried 12 Az16 1828 | Place ST. CLAIRSVILLE, BELMONT Co. OHIO | | | | | | | |
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| Othe | r Wives | | | | | | 2. MONROE | Co. OHIO DEEDS VOLGES, | |
| MIE | E ELIZA COBB | | | | | | | OF COMMON PLANS | |
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| | | Ì | | | | | 7. MARRIA | AGE RECORDS ST CLHIPSVILL UT CO., OHIO. | |
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| F | | Day Mo. rear | LOWIL | County | Country | First Sp | ouse | Place | |
| E | 1 MARTHA AleCLARY | adt 1832 | 57 CLAIRSVILLE | e Bermon | 0410 | J.SAAC BROW | ~/ | | |
| F | 2 AGATHA S. " | alt 1834 | 10 | 10 | " | | | | |
| M | 3 THOMAS DYGHTON " | 31 MAY 1836 | " | /- | ", | 1) PHEBE M | | FRINCETON MERCER, MO | |
| F | 4 JOANNE " | Let 1838 | | /1 | ', | | | | |
| F | 5 ELIZA LYDIA " | 1841 | WOODSFIELD | HONROE | 11 | WILLIAM H | | STOCKVILLE FRONTIER NEB | |
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| F | 7 SARAH ISABELLA " | SCPT 1849 | 177 | " | 1 | JAMES OP | | | |
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| 1 | 8 MASHINGTON LAFAYETTE " | 2 APR 1851 | (1 | 11 | -11 | (1) MRS. ANNA | | | |
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| | inber is also on the | | | | | | | | |
| | gree chart. | | | | | Name of Husbar | nd | | |

PANILY OUTLINE.

Subject: - WASHINGTON LAFAYETTE McCLARY.

Born; Woodsfield, Ohio. April 18, 1853. (See note).

Died; Lac La Hache, d.C. Canada, Apr. 6, 1938

WIVES.

BALLANTINE Mrs. Anne Branch. (Widow). Stockville Nebr. 1884. (Killed in accident) (1).

Indianola, Nebr. Oct.28 1885. Divorced in Broken (2). Lillian J. Rummel. Bow, Nebr. Jone 21, 1892. No children.

Born: 1873(or74) in Walkerton, Ont. Canada. (3). Jeanette Bannerman.

Died: 1946 in Lac La Hache, Canada. (British Columbia)

(Born as "Jeanette McPhail", and upon her (mothers early death, she was adopted and (raised by her mothers parents, the (--- Bannerman family of Chesley, Bruce

(County, Ont. Canada.

CHILDREN.

(1). Daughter: Irica Born: April 26, 1895, in Stockville Nebr. USA.

Died: Nov. 3, 1920, in Forest Grove, B.C. Canada.
Died in childbirth and daughter, June, was raised by mothers parents, W.L. McClary. June married J.W. Johnston, Hedley, B.C.

(2). Son; Ivor Bryan Born: Aug. 21, 1895 in Stockville, Nebr. USA.

Died: Jan. 1968 in New Westmirster, B.C. Canada. Unmarried.

(3). Son; Korman Earold

Born: Earch 25, 1904 in Stockville, Nebr. USA.

(1) Married; 1929 in Vancouver, B.C. Canada. Divorced. Two children; (1) Norman. (2) Maureen.

(2) Married; (Widow). Three stepdaughters. Now resides in Courtenay, B.C. Canada.

(4). Twins = Son & Daughter.

Born: April 16, 1909. in Lewellen, Nebr. USA.

Wayne Robert

(Wife - Laura, deceased). Two children, sons.

(a) Marvin, Can. Armed Forces. Germany.

(B) Jim, "" Holberg, B.C. Ca Holberg, B.C. Canada.

Dorothy

<u>Karried.(1). Howard McNeil, Canim Lake, B.C.(Deceased One daughter, Sonia. Pr. George, B.C.</u>

(2). J.T. Dixon. Hope, B.C. No children.

In Chart #1 (Joshua McClary) the birthdate of #8, W.L. McClary, is shown as being "April 2nd 1851" and therefore raises a question of doubt. It can only be offered that in his personal NOTE: diaries, W.L. McClary has made an: entry on April 18, 1893
where he states; Luote, - "Today I am 40 years old. No one here
knows it and I would not have them for the world. They would be
sure to make some demonstration in favour of it for my benefit". Unquote. While the possibility of an error might be assumed, it is felt likely that he would know his own birthdate.

EDUCATION: Due to circumstances and locales of their lifetime locations, education was not easily gained not often available. W.L. McClary had a few years of elementary schooling in early boyhood in Ohio. Otherwise by self-tuition and experience. Mrs. Jeanette McClary was a highschool grad in Ontario, Can.

CHURCHES - For the same reasons given above, these were rare, few and far between.

W.L. McC-- might possibly be classed as a "bush baptist":

Mrs. "" in her girlhood would belong to the Agglican Church.

In definite classification they and family would be Protestant.

ORGANIZATIONS: At one time (Stockville(?)), it is believed that Mr. McClary belonged to the Masonic Order.

OCCUPATION: This can only be classed as; pioneer, cattleman, rancher, businessman. Vert (Stockville)

Prepared by:

N.E. NoClary.

MILITARY SERVICE: Nil.