

Biographies of West Virginia statehood leaders were prepared by Marshall University Humanities Program graduate students enrolled in Dr. Billy Joe Peyton's Fall 2010 "Historical Studies" class at Marshall's South Charleston campus.

By Andrew J. Wood

John R. McCutcheon, the son of James Franklin McCutcheon and Rosanna Rodgers was born in 1810 at Mt. Cove, Fayette County, Virginia. Early in life he worked in a store and tavern operated by Clement Vaughan. His education was of the practical kind. He moved from Mt. Cove to Kesslers Grove in Nicholas County near 1840, when he married his first wife Sarah "Sallie" Kesler, daughter of Fredrick Kesler and Elizabeth Hutsonpiller on April 23, 1840. During their marriage, they had nine children: Henry, Rufus, Elizabeth, Bina, Allen, Lucy, Nannie, Newton, John L., and Sally. After his marriage to Sarah he acquired 200 acres of land and spent his life as a farmer and as a mechanic. In 1841, he was associated with the Zoar Baptist Church and later served as a clerk, treasure, and deacon. After the death of Sarah, John married his second wife, Lucy Ann Thurmond of Fayette County, Virginia but they had no children. He served as a delegate to the Constitution Convention by the petitions of 159 members of the community.

Bibliography

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