

Individual Narrative of Joseph⁴ Reeder III (15) Son of Joseph Reeder and Eleanor³ Leverich [7]

Joseph Reeder III (15)^{1,2,3} was born on 24 Apr 1716 at Newtown, Queens Co, New York. Documentation that Jacob, Joseph, and Benjamin Reeder were brothers is found in the will of Jacob Reeder, proved 1777, Amwell, Hunterdon Co, NJ. No direct evidence has been found to confirm that these three brothers were the children of Joseph Reeder and Eleanor Leverich [7]. Circumstantial evidence, i.e. repetition of given names Jacob and Joseph, location in Hunterdon Co, NJ, suggests that they were. Consuelo Furman's *The Reeder Family in America* adopts this position, but does not provide sources. Various other Reeder family researchers attribute other children to this couple, but there is no supporting evidence.^{4,5,6,7}

Joseph married Mary Jobs before 1735 at Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. Mary Jobs was the niece of William Jobs of Amwell, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. In his will dated 18 March 1736, William Jobs makes the following reference: "as to Mary Reeder's part, if Joseph Reeder will give up deed of lands from testator to him, etc." The will was proved 28 April 1737.⁸ On 9 October 1738, a pole of the Freeholders of the County of Hunterdon for Representatives to serve in the General Assembly of the Province of New Jersey for the County of Hunterdon was taken per Christopher Search, one of the clerks before David Martio, Esq. High Sherriff. The list of voters included: Joseph Reeder, Amwell; Isaac Reeder, Trenton; Josh. Reeder, Amwell. This would appear to be Joseph Reeder Jr and his son Joseph III.⁹

Mary Jobs Reeder died before 1740, probably in Hunterdon Co, New Jersey.¹⁰ Joseph married his second wife Susannah Gano, daughter of Daniel Gano and Sarah Britton, circa 1740 at Hunterdon Co, New Jersey.¹¹ A Census of the Province of New Jersey in 1741 records a Joseph Reeder in Maidenhead Township, Hunterdon County. This could be either Joseph Reeder Jr, age about 54, or his son Joseph Reeder III, age about 25.¹² On 29 May 1756, Joseph Reeder was named an executor of the will of John Everitt of Bethlehem, Hunterdon Co, New Jersey.¹³

By 1763, Joseph Reeder III, and his children with the possible exception of eldest William, had relocated to Virginia. On 12 January 1763, a land grant was made to Joseph Reeder of Frederick Co, Virginia, 414 acres on Long Marsh and Opeckon in said County. The surveyor was Mr. Thomas Rutherford. The adjoining land owners were Patrick Rice, George Neavill, John Maddin, William Beasley, John Warford. However, Joseph may not have lived on this property, but may have leased a farm in neighboring Loudoun County, to the east of Frederick County.¹⁴ Joseph Reeder "Senior" was included on the list of "tithables" in Loudoun Co in the years 1763, 1765, 1768, and 1770. Joseph Reeder III is now referred to as Joseph Reeder Sr.¹⁵ In 1764 Joseph Reeder is listed on the Rental Rolls for Frederick County, Virginia.¹⁶ On 11 June 1767, Joseph Reeder of Loudoun Co, was the recipient of a land grant of 420 acres on Opeckon in Frederick County. The surveyor was Thomas Rutherford. The adjoining property owners were John Regen, Gidieon Richey, widow Siars, John Ballendine, William Snoddy, and John Logen.¹⁷

Susannah Gano Reeder died in August 1765, probably in Loudoun Co, Virginia.¹⁸ Joseph married for a third time Elizabeth (Widow) Thomas after Aug 1765 at Loudoun, Virginia.¹⁹ On 26 June 1770 William Cooke of Prince William Co, Gentleman, leases 630 acres of land in Loudoun Co, Virginia on and about South Run, a branch of Broad Run of the Potomac to Joseph Reeder, Jr. (Joseph IV) for a period of one year. One day later, Joseph purchases the same tract of land for £200 <deed book G-338>. This suggests that Joseph Reeder Sr (Joseph III), who was likely sick at the time, making his will in August, might have been leasing the tract, and arranged for the lease and sale to his son Joseph Jr. as part of settling his affairs. Joseph Jr may have been the oldest son living in Virginia; eldest son William may still have been in New Jersey, where letters of administration on his estate were granted to his brother Daniel in 1783.^{20,21,22} Joseph Reeder Sr (Joseph III) died between August 17 and October 8, 1770 at Loudoun Co, Virginia. His will was dated 17 August and was proved 8 October. The will mentions Evan Thomas, son of wife Elizabeth; sons William (eldest), Joseph, Daniel, and David Reeder; daughters Elizabeth Lake, Mary Reeder, Elener Reeder; and "youngest sons" Elijah, Jacob, and Stephen Reeder.^{23,24}

On the 2nd and 8th of October 1770, subsequent to the death of Joseph Reeder Sr between August and October 1770, Joseph Reeder Jr. and his wife Anna allocated and sold a large portion of the 630 acre tract in Loudoun Co as follows:

- 150 acres to John Huff his father-in-law for £75. <G-340>;
- 150 acres to Nathaniel Pegg for £75. <G-347>;
- 127 acres to David Reeder (brother) for £73. <G-342>;

100 acres to Daniel Reeder (brother) for £50. <G-345>;
a total of 527 acres for £273, apparently retaining 103 acres.^{25,26}

Joseph Reeder had one child, William Reeder, by his first wife Mary Jobs. William was born 31 August 1735 in Hopewell, Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. He was married to Jemima Howell. Letters of Administration on the estate of William Reeder of Hunterdon County were granted 2 August 1783 to Daniel Reeder. Daniel Reeder was a half brother of William Reeder. Consuelo Furman in *Reeder Family in America* states incorrectly that this William Reeder died almost 100 years old in Centerville, Montgomery County, Ohio on 26 February 1833. William Reeder, son of Joseph Reeder and Mary Job, has also been erroneously confused with the William Reeder of Bethlehem, Hunterdon Co who served in the militia during the revolutionary war. The revolutionary war William Reeder died 29 February 1833 in Hunterdon Co age 83, born 21 August 1750, according to his military pension application.^{27,28,29,30}

Joseph Reeder and his second wife Susannah Gano had twelve known children:

- I. Elizabeth Reeder was born 6 August 1741 in Hopewell, Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. She was married to Thomas Lake. She died in Newberry Co, South Carolina in 1814.
- II. Joseph Reeder IV (aka Junior) was born 6 May 1743 in Hopewell. He was married to Anne Huff. He died 16 October 1829 in Hamilton County, Ohio.
- III. Mary Reeder was born 10 April 1745 in Hopewell. She was married to Thomas Hubbel. She died in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1843.
- IV. Daniel Reeder was born 18 June 1747 in Hopewell. He was married to Rebecca Foster 16 October 1766. He died 6 September 1813 in Warren Co, Ohio.
- V. David Reeder was born 14 March 1749 in Hopewell. He was married first to Mary Adams, second to Katherine Voorhis. He died in May 1824 in Warren Co, Ohio.
- VI. Susan Gano Reeder was born 7 July 1751 in Hopewell, and died young.
- VII. Elenor Reeder was born 4 March 1753 in Hopewell. She was married to William Groves.
- VIII. Elijah Reeder was born 4 March 1753 in Hopewell, and died there as an infant.
- IX. Elijah Reeder was born 6 December 1756 in Hopewell. He was married to Jemima (?).
- X. Cornelius Reeder was born 27 October 1758 in Hopewell, and died at the age of 20
- XI. Jacob Reeder was born 16 November 1760 at Hopewell. He married for his second wife widow Elizabeth Faris.
- XII. Stephen Reeder was born 20 July 1762 in Hopewell.

Most of the dates cited above are from indirect or secondary sources, which cite unspecified "family records", perhaps a missing family Bible record.^{31,32,33,34}

On 7 March 1777, Joseph Reeder Jr. sold 170 acres in Loudoun Co, Virginia to Thomas Rookard <L 225-227>.^{35,36} On 8 March 1779 David Reeder sold 127 acres of land in Loudoun Co, Virginia to Philip Brown <M 219-221>.^{37,38} On 14 October 1782 Daniel Reeder and his wife Rebecca of Cameron Parish, Loudoun Co, Virginia sold 100 acres of land in Loudoun Co to Thomas Lake <N-391>. Thomas Lake was the brother-in-law of Daniel Reeder, the husband of Daniel's sister Elizabeth Reeder.^{39,40}

On 15 August 1785 (recorded 4 April 1787), Elijah Reeder and Jemimah his wife of Fauquier county, Jacob Reeder, Stephen Reeder, Thomas Lake and Elizabeth, his wife, Thomas Hubble and Mary, his wife, William Grove and Eleanor, his wife, of Loudoun county, leased to Josiah Hubert 414 acres in Frederick Co "Lying in the drains of the Long Marsh of Opeckon."⁴¹ 1785 and 1786 Tax Lists for Menallen Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania include Daniel, David, Jacob and Stephen Reeder.⁴² On 16 May 1791 (recorded 6 December 1796), Elijah Reeder and Jemimah his wife, Jacob Reeder, Stephen Reeder, Thomas Lake and Elizabeth, his wife, Thomas Hubble and Mary, his wife, William Grove and Eleanor, his wife, of Loudoun county, sold to William Smith 414 acres in Frederick Co "Lying in the drains of the Long Marsh of Opeckon." The consent of Elizabeth Lake was dated 16 May 1791 in Newberry county, S. C. This 414 acres lies about 5 miles north of Berryville, Va., and would now be in Clark County, Virginia. This would appear to be the same tract of land granted to Joseph Reeder III (aka Joseph Reeder Sr) in 1763.⁴³

Sometime about 1790-1793 it is known from family data that several of the Reeder family removed to Ohio and, fortunately, we have proof of this from an eye witness. About 1850, Dr. Ezra Ferris wrote a series of letters to Oliver B. Torbet, Editor of the "Independent Press" of Lawrenceburg, Indiana, one of the earliest papers published in the vicinity on "The Early Settlement of the Miami Country," based on his personal recollections of events. In Letter 14, dated March 17, 1851, Dr. Ferris says: "Among the arrivals which were daily taking place at the stations along the river were.....and many

others. I recollect one arrival of nine families, viz: David, Joseph, Daniel, Jacob and Stephen Reeder, who were brothers: Thomas Hubbell, who was brother-in-law, and William Harper, Jeremiah Brann and Mr. Tingle, who had married daughters of the Reeders." The "Miami Country" encompassed contemporary Hamilton County, Ohio, and includes the cities of Dayton and Cincinnati.⁴⁴

A Joseph Reeder is documented owning land in Hampshire County, Virginia/West Virginia in the years 1793, 1798, and 1800, associated with a William Reeder Sr and Jr. A Joseph Reeder is also documented in Hamilton County, Ohio in 1790, 1792, and 1801. Some on-line family trees, as well as the DAR ancestry records, state that these two Joseph Reeders are the same individual, i.e. Joseph Reeder IV. However, it is unlikely that he would have been living in both places at the same time. The Ohio individual is likely our Joseph Reeder IV. The Hampshire Co, Virginia/West Virginia individuals are more likely to be Joseph and William Reeder of Bucks County Pennsylvania. Consuelo Furman's *Reeder Family in America* states that 4-William Reeder <3-Joseph, 2-Isaac, 1-John Reeder> left Bucks Co, Pennsylvania about 1770 to settle in Loudoun Co, Virginia. 4-William Reeder and Joseph Reeder IV would have been second cousins.^{45,46,47}

Joseph Reeder IV died 18 October 1829 and is buried at the Pleasant Ridge Cemetery, Hamilton County, Ohio. His grave is marked as a Revolutionary War Veteran. DAR Ancestry Database identifies Joseph Reeder IV with Revolutionary War Soldier Joseph Reeder, 5th Regiment NY Continental Line, commanded by Col Lewis Duboy, enlisted 10 March 1777 for the duration of the war. The evidence cited includes: *New York in the Revolution as Colony and State*, page 58; *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of NY*, Volume 15, page 224; *Official Roster, Soldiers of the Revolution buried in Ohio*, page 303. However, none of these documents provide direct evidence that Joseph Reeder IV who died 1829 in Ohio was the same person as the Joseph Reeder of the 5th Regiment NY Continental Line. There is no record that Joseph Reeder IV was ever in New York State. He was born in Hunterdon Co, New Jersey. In 1777, Joseph Reeder the IV was documented to be in Loudoun County, Virginia. If Joseph Reeder IV served in the Revolutionary War, it is more likely that he served in a military unit from Virginia, not New York. Joseph Reeder of the 5th Regiment New York line was more likely the Joseph Reeder documented to be living in Orange County, New York in 1777. Joseph Reeder of Ohio (3-Joseph, 2-Jacob, 1-John) and Joseph Reeder of New York (3-Josiah, 2-Jacob, 1-John) were first cousins.^{48,49,50,51,52}

The Wright Brothers, Orville and Wilbur, were descendants of Joseph Reeder and Eleanor Leverich, who were 4th great grandparents.

Orville and Wilbur Wright
Bishop Milton Wright (1828-1917) and Susan Catherine Koerner
Catherine Reeder (1800-1866) and Daniel Wright
George Reeder (1767-1845) and Margaret Van Cleve
Joseph Reeder IV (1743-1829) and Anne Huff
Joseph Reeder III (1716-1770) and Susannah Gano
Joseph Reeder Jr. and Eleanor Leverich

Bishop Milton Wright's papers, included in Special Collections and Archives of Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, include genealogical notes regarding the Reeder Family.⁵³

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