



Mountain State Genealogy
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Elizabeth Castle Research Project

Prepared For: [Redacted]

Subject: Elizabeth Castle

Date: 12/28/2020

Contract: Up to 4 hours for analysis, research, and reporting.

Objective

The objective of this research project is to identify the maiden name and parents of Elizabeth who married Zephni Castle as shown on the 1880 census of Ridge, Menifee County, Kentucky.¹ According to her age of 36 on the census, Elizabeth was born circa 1844 in Kentucky; her parents may have also been born in Kentucky as shown on the 1880 census.

Background Information

Little is known of Elizabeth beyond what is shown in the 1880 census. She and Zephni Castle had the following children listed on the 1880 census: Francis (female) age 12; Cheklistler [sic] (female) age 9; Harmin, age 6; Dorcas, age 4; Harlin age 4/12. The children were all born in Kentucky.

Limitations

- The project was limited to 4 (four) hours for research, analysis, and reporting.
- Due to time and geographical limitations, only online repositories were consulted.

Summary of Results

- Located and examined the marriage record of Elizabeth Fitch Patrick [sic] and Zephaniah Castle. It did not contain the names of Elizabeth's parents.
- Searched and examined census records to locate probable parents of Elizabeth Fitzpatrick. There are two possible Elizabeth Fitzpatrick's in the 1850 census for Johnson County, Kentucky. Further research is needed to ascertain whether these are the same person or two different people.
- Examined and analyzed the will of Thomas Conley, in whose home an Elizabeth Fitzpatrick was enumerated in 1850. This man did not leave a bequest to an Elizabeth.

¹ 1880 U.S. Census, Menifee County, Kentucky, population schedule, Ridge Precinct 1, enumeration district (ED) 74, sheet 42B (penned), dwelling 350, family 359, Zephni Castle household; image, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020); citing National Archives and Records Administration microfilm T9, roll 433.

Working Hypothesis

- Since Elizabeth Castle was born circa 1844, it is possible that she lived long enough to leave a death record which might give her maiden name and/or her parents' names. Some Kentucky birth records started in 1852.
- Some of Elizabeth Castle's children most likely lived long enough to have death certificates which may give her maiden name. Some Kentucky death records started in 1852; statewide compliance started in 1911 with general compliance in about 1920.
- A marriage record between Elizabeth and Zephaniah Castle should also list her maiden name. Some Kentucky marriage records started in 1785 with statewide compliance in 1958; however, counties hold marriage records from county inception date.
- Once Elizabeth's maiden name is known, a search for earlier census records may show her in her parent's household.

Findings & Analysis

Marriage

Elizabeth Fitch Patrick [*sic*] married Zephaniah Castle on 21 February 1868 in Johnson County, Kentucky.² As shown on her headstone, Elizabeth Castle died 28 December 1905 and was buried in the Back Cemetery in Wellington, Menifee County, Kentucky.³ An obituary was looked for in hopes of it naming her parents, but that search came up empty.⁴

Death Records

Death records were searched on Ancestry in hopes that a record would name Elizabeth's parents, but no record was found.⁵

² "Kentucky, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1783-1965," Johnson County, 1843 - 1875, p. 111, Zephaniah Castle-Elizabeth Fitch Patrick, 21 February 1868; database with images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020); citing "Marriage Records," microfilm, Madison County Courthouse, Richmond.

³ *Find A Grave*, database with images (<http://findagrave.com> : accessed 28 December 2020), memorial 19155925, Elizabeth Fitzpatrick Castle (1843-1905), Back Cemetery, Wellington, Menifee County, Kentucky; gravestone photograph by Kendel Culbertson.

⁴ Negative search for "Castle," 29 December 1905-8 January 1906; digital images, *Newspapers* (<http://newspapers.com> : accessed 26 December 2020).

⁵ "Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965," negative search "Castle," 1905 +/- 2 years; database with images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020).

Census

A search for an Elizabeth FitchPatrick in the 1860 Kentucky census showed her in the household of James and Sarah Fitchpatrick.⁶ A search in the 1850 Kentucky census showed two Elizabeth's who were born in about 1842-1843. One lived in the Thomas Conley household and the other in the James Fitzpatrick household.⁷ Since both families lived in Johnson County, is it possible that these two Elizabeth's were one and the same? Or were they two different people?

The marriage index for Thomas Conley shows that he married a Sally Fitzpatrick on 8 January 1824 in Floyd County, Kentucky. So, Sally may have been an aunt to Elizabeth Fitzpatrick who may have been visiting the Conley household on the day the census taker visited. Further research would need to be done to prove that Sally Fitzpatrick and James Fitzpatrick were siblings.

Probate

Probate records were searched to see if Elizabeth Fitzpatrick Castle was named in a will or probate for Thomas Conley or James Fitzpatrick. Thomas Conley died before 4 March 1872 when his will was proven.⁸ The will copy is very faded and almost impossible to read. No names could be deciphered. The will of James Fitchpatrick identified him to be 51 years old in 1904, so he could not have been Elizabeth's father.⁹

Conclusion

The objective of this research project was to identify the maiden name and possible parents of Elizabeth who married Zephnih [Zephaniah] Castle as shown on the 1880 census of Menifee County, Kentucky. The marriage record for Zephaniah Castle in 1868 identified his wife as Elizabeth Fitch Patrick. The name was probably Fitzpatrick, although the 1860 census identified an Elizabeth in the household of James Fitchpatrick, and the 1850 census showed an Elizabeth in the household of a Thomas Conley, and a James Fitzpatrick. All three

⁶ 1860 U.S. Census, Johnson County, Kentucky, population schedule, p. 88, dwelling 559, family 559, James Fitchpatrick household; image, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020); citing Family History Library microfilm 803378.

⁷ 1850 U.S. Census, Johnson County, Kentucky, population schedule, p. 101b, dwelling 292, family 292, Thomas Conley household; image, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 208.

1850 U.S. Census, Johnson County, Kentucky, population schedule, p. 85 (stamped), p. 169 (penned), dwelling 73, family 73, James Fitzpatrick household; image, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 208.

⁸ Johnson County, Kentucky, "Kentucky, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1774-1989," Wills, Vol B, 1844-1984, p. 11, Thomas B. Conley; database with images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020).

⁹ Johnson County, Kentucky, "Kentucky, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1774-1989," Wills, Vol B, 1844-1984, p. 185, James Fitchpatrick; database with images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 28 December 2020).

censuses were in Johnson County, Kentucky. At this point it has not been concluded if this is the same Elizabeth or two different persons, but since Thomas Conley married a Sally Fitzpatrick, it is possible that this is the same Elizabeth in both households.

Suggestions for Future Research

- Continue searching for the marriage record of James Fitzpatrick and Sarah Caudill; time ran out before a search of all 1014 images could be finished.
- Search church records - a Baptist minister married Elizabeth Fitzpatrick and Zephaniah Castle. Church records may identify Elizabeth Fitzpatrick's parents.
- Search census records for the purported siblings of Elizabeth Fitzpatrick to compile a family group sheet.
- Search death records for the purported siblings of Elizabeth Fitzpatrick to find the names of their parents.
- Search for obituaries of the purported siblings and parents (if located) to see if any name Elizabeth Castle.
- Search for probate records of an elder Fitzpatrick to see if James Fitzpatrick and Sally Fitzpatrick Conley were siblings. This would explain why Elizabeth Fitzpatrick was in both households in 1850.