

who died in infancy and was buried near her father at that place. The widow, a daughter to George Mills, Esq., married my father, in 1813. Thaddeus and Joseph came to Portsmouth, Ohio, with Ephraim in 1818, the latter marrying Rachel, daughter to Judar Mead, from New York State, by whom he had a large family, most dying in childhood, Thaddeus was a Baptist minister as was also Joseph, the first dying in 1834. Joseph served in the war of 1812, under a Captain Nobles, company and regiment unknown, as a substitute for his brother Benjamin, dying at Harrisonville, Ohio, in 1868, his wife having passed away in 1862. His eldest son, Thaddeus, is living at eighty-three, the youngest, the writer, is seventy. Sarah, married name Smith, is seventy-two, living in Greenup county. Levina H. married Lantz, P. O. address Sciota, Ohio." The remainder of the letter relates to his personality and in whose mind the currency question is raised by the *Beaver transaction*, of Bennett and Dowty. It simply confirms the grand story of our race:—

"They know the right, and knowing, dare maintain."

"I gather that you are a *gold bug*. If so, we agree on the currency question. Government may stamp and compel its citizens to accept paper as a legal tender, but its ultimate value is governed by the ability to redeem it in the currency of equal value to all nations. I am one of the Bennetts in the South who is a Republican. I served in the Federal Army, in the Fifty-sixth Ohio, and since have always voted as I shot. I knew several of our name who served on the other side who were good men. I was in business and what was called a *mill man* until the war, in which I lost my health. At its close I read law and have been a practicing attorney since. I was elected delegate to our Constitutional Convention in 1890, and in 1892 re-elected to the Legislature that made the laws conforming to the Constitution previously adopted. Was returned in 1894 and had held several minor offices in my county. While in the army I was second and first Sergeant and Trainmaster in the field. I was at taking of Fort Donelson and the battle of Shiloh. Later in the Provost Department, enforcing the draft and recruiting niggers until the close of the war. More power to the arm of our "Kentucky Colonel."

My task nears completion. It is a proper and worthy ambition to preserve the record of an ancient and honorable lineage from oblivion. In this I have at least succeeded partially. It is hoped that each one into whose hands this book may come will seek to add something to our knowledge of the subject while there is yet time, and at least to preserve our imperfect history for those who come after.

Our ancestors, though not perfect nor infallible in many respects, were a brave and virtuous race, whose love of liberty prompted many sacrifices and sustained them under severe trials. To let the memory of these men die is injurious to posterity by depriving it of what might contribute to promote their steadiness to the principles we retain, even under hardships and severities.