

LOGAN ESAREY

HIS

ANCESTORS

AND THEIR

DESCENDANTS

**Genealogical Material
Related to the Esarey Family
Collected and partially edited by
Logan Esarey
During his lifetime**

2010 reprint of

**Second Edition
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Myra Esarey Evans**

**2010 reprint for Bicentennial Celebration
of the Esarey Family migration to Perry County, Indiana
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The Esarey, Essery, or Essary family in the United States is of English origin. The name is not now uncommon in many parts of England but it seems that those of American are principally from Devonshire. All so far as known were commoners and content at present to remain so. As would be expected the name appears in America first in New England, whither most of the early emigrants from Plymouth came.

Among the list of soldiers in King Philip's War is the name John Essery, who served in Captain Daniel Henschman's company and who was paid two pounds and seven pence, August twentieth, 1675. Again on the 24th of June 1676 he was paid L-4:10:10 for services in Captain Samuel Mosely's Company. December 20, 1675 he was paid for his service in the garrison at Billerica; August 24, 1676 he was paid for services at Charles-Towne and October 9, 1675 he was paid for services in Captain Mosely's Company of Dedham. This would indicate that he lived near the present souther Limits of Boston, though the places names were only those where the militia were paid off. No further records of this individual have been found.

In point of time the next reference is in the Pennsylvania Archives Series V, Vol. 1, p. 12. James Essary enlisted in the provincial troop of Pennsylvania. Captain John Shannon's Company, September 1748.⁴⁶ He gave his birthplace, England; occupation, a laborer; date of birth, August 2, 1715, age 31.

Whether this James Essary is the founder of the Pennsylvania family or whether there were more than this one emigrant is not disclosed by the records. The family lived in Radnor township around Chester and by the days of the Revolution was quite numerous. John Esrey is frequently listed as a laborer in Chester county 1766, 1767, 1768, 1769. Jonathon Essery was a freeman in Chester county, 1768. John Essery enlisted in Captain Thomas Paxton's company of rangers Sept. 16, 1776, and served 13 days. This was in Bedford county on the frontier, August 7, 1798, John Essary was a lieutenant in the Delaware county militia. During the year 1781 John Essery entered four different tracts of land in Jefferson county, Kentucky. In the census of 1790 a Jonathan Esarey was listed in Georgia and a Thomas Esiry and family of four were listed in North Carolina. Nathan Esry and Joseph Essery were reported in the Chester county, Pennsylvania militia, the former in 1780 and the latter in 1781 and 1783. John Essary served in the Jefferson county, Kentucky, Virginia militia with Captain James Samuel's, October 21, 1782 to Nov. 25, 1782, under George Rogers Clark. This was on the Shawnee campaign into Ohio after the Battle of the Blue Licks in Kentucky.

Of these latter only the John Essery of Kentucky has been isolated and identified. He married Sarah Hester Clark at the "forks of the Yough" as the tradition has been handed down. This was most probably the junction of the Monongahela dn the Youghiogheny, but may have been at the place farther up now known as the Confluence, the record in his Bible says that they were married in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, June 17, 1776. This would suggest strongly that the man who migrated to Kentucky and the militiaman and the ranger of Bedford county were the same man.

The eldest child, Sarah, was born January 9, 1778. The tradition is that Sarah and James, born February 29, 1780, were both born in Pennsylvania. No record establishes the date when the family migrated, nor by what road. From March 1, to June George Rogers Clark was recruiting troops for his western army at his headquarters at the "crossing of the Yough", then in Virginia, now in Pennsylvania. It may be John Essery came down the Ohio at this time. I have not seen the muster roll of these troops. On the other hand, the family may have passed down the Great Valley of Virginia and through Cumberland Gap. The Essarys of southwest.

Virginia seem to have established themselves in the neighborhood of Old Fort Chisholm on the head of Clinch river about this time and all may have traveled so far together.

There seems to be a tradition among the Tennessee Essarys that the family parted at Cumberland Gap. The oft recurring names in both branches indicate a common ancestry. The fondness of the Kentucky Esserys for horses might be suggested here. All, however, is mere conjecture and leaves with the fact only that about 1780 John Essery, his wife Sarah Hester Clark, she sometimes signed her name "Easter", and one or two children landed at or near Louisville.

John Essery seems to have been somewhat of a land owner while in Kentucky, almost a speculator. From John Griggs, he obtained a warrant for 113 acres, dated August 7, 1781. This he located in Nelson county on "Froman's Trace" wherever that may have been, May 6, 1800. Another purchased from John Carr, a Virginia warrant issued Dec. 13, 1784, for 150 acres, he located on Wilson's Creek in Bullitt county, May 5, 1800. By a similar warrant he located 200 acres on Cane Run in Bullitt county May 6, 1800. By a similar warrant he located 200 acres on Cane Run in Bullitt county November 3, 1797. Under Land Office Treasury warrant Number 1660 issued by Virginia, November 7, 1779, to John Essary himself he located 325 acres on Short Creek in Jefferson County, July 23, 1784. Title to this was completed February 20, 1789. Under warrant 1639 of the Virginia Land office he surveyed, January 2, 1786, 125 acres on Rolling Fork of Salt River in Nelson county and perfected his title May 15, 1790. Under a like treasury warrant of 1781 he surveyed 200 acres on Bee Knob Grove in Hardin County, September 20, 1798, perfecting title May 5, 1800. June 14, 1800 John Essary and James Shanks completed to a 700 acre tract on "Froman's Trace" Hardin county, the survey having been made September 10, 1798, warrant bearing date June 17, 1785. On the same warrant and adjoining, 31 acres were located at the same time. Under the same warrant, September 6, 1798, another tract of 207 acres was located in Bullitt county, June 14, 1800. Between 1784 and 1798 he had thus located upwards of 1700 acres, supposing that he and Shanks divided equally the 700 acre lot. His holdings were in four counties, though they may have been closer together than this would indicate.

The family settled on Doe Run in Hardin County. In 1797 he sold the Short Creek Tract of 325 acres for sixty pounds current money. If this is taken as the full compensation it would indicate about one dollar per acre as the price. The two hundred acre tract on the Bee Grove he sold May 5, 1800 to Philip Jenkins for \$450. Between that date and 1805 he seems to have sold or otherwise disposed of his land. A number of law suits in the records of Hardin county lead one to suspect there were other reasons for his going. April 25, 1802, he sold his home farm apparently of 443 acres, on Mill Creek for £150, his wife, "Easter" not signing the deed.

Whatever the motive, by 1810 the old pioneer was ready to move on. A rather clear tradition is that he arrived in what is now Oil township Perry county, Indiana, during the early spring, March 1810. There is a tradition that he crossed the Ohio at Brandenburg, Mauck's Ferry; another that he crossed at Fredonia, 25 miles lower down, and still a third that he crossed at Concordia, at Borer's Ferry. The traditions agree that the family came horseback, the horses swimming the icy Ohio. On the headwaters of Oil creek near a large spring, where apparently the chief attraction was hunting, a cabin or cabins were built and the family home was established.

In the spring of 1814, the elder Esarey and perhaps the four youngest children, Hannah, Nancy, Hester and Jesse, moved on to the Wabash above Vincennes. The War of 1812 was

going on and it was deemed dangerous to go farther. The following year, 1815, he washed the Wabash and located in Clark county, then known as Walnut Prairie, Darwin township, Illinois. Although there is a tradition that he later moved to Missouri with his youngest son, it seems clear that this is the period of his "moving". He died November 27, 1828 and most likely was buried at or near Paris, Edgar county, Illinois.

Such are the meager details that have survived. Sarah Hester, his wife, died October 16, 1818, apparently soon after they settled in Illinois.

-- Logan Esarey

Title to Lands Secured from Indians, 1803, by Treaty of Fort Wayne

John Essary,
325 Acres
Jefferson

February 20, 1789

Beverly Randolph Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to all to whom these present shall come Greeting. Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of Land office Treasury Warrant No 1660 issued the seventh day of November 1779 There is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary a certain tract or parcel of Land containing three hundred and twenty five acres by survey bearing date the 26th of July 1784 lying and being in the county of Jefferson on Short Creek, and bounded as followeth to wit, beginning at a Sycamore on the Creek marked J. C. & J. E. thence north forty five degrees East seventy poles to three white oaks thence south forty five degrees east one hundred and forty poles to a sugar and ash thence north forty five degrees East forty poles to two sugar trees and an Elm thence south forty five degrees east one hundred and eighty poles to a poplar and maple and thence south forty five degrees west one hundred and sixty three poles to a Dogwood ash and white oak thence forty poles to a gum and Dogwood thence north forty five degrees No 45° W. 140 poles to a sugar tree and buckeye No 45° East ninety three poles to the beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and his heirs forever. In witness whereof the said Beverly Randolph Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia hath hereunto set his hand and caused the lesser seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the twentieth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty nine and of the Commonwealth the Thirteenth.

* * * * *

Copied from Virginia Land Grants, Book 14 page 109 which are to be found in the land office at the Capitol at Frankfort, Kentucky. Copied by Mrs. Alice Hines Walcott, Clerk Kentucky State Library, Frankfort, Ky. Nov. 22, 1929.

Title to these lands was obtained from the Indians 1803 by Treaty of Ft. Wayne.

Book C p. 125 Hardin County, Kentucky, Elizabethtown:

"John Essery and Easter his wife of Hardin County to Moses Carr of Shelby County Sixty pounds currency of Kentucky 200 Acres in Hardin County on Flat Lick run part of land entered in name of John Carr containing 537 3/4 acres October 25, 1805. John and Easter both signed.

Book 7 Nelson County Deeds p. 254-5 Bardstown, Kentucky. "This indenture made this 25th day of September in the year of our Lord 1797 between John Essrey and Esther his wife of the county of Nelson and Commonwealth of Kentucky of the one part and Jacob Yoder of the county of Nelson and Commonwealth of Kentucky aforesaid of the other part witnesseth that the said John Essrey and Esther his wife for and in considerations of the sum of sixty pounds current money of Kentucky to them in hand paid by the said Jacob Yoder, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge have granted bargained and sold and by these presents do bargain and sell alien and confirm unto the said Jacob Yoder a certain tract or parcel of land containing 325 acres by survey bearing date 22nd day of July 1784 situate lying and being in the county of Washington formerly Jefferson on Short Creek and bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at a sycamore on the creek marked IC & FC thence North 45° East 75 poles to three white oaks thence south 45° East 140 poles to a sugar and ash thence North 45° East 40 poles to two sugar trees and an elm thence south 45° east west 180 poles to a poplar and maple thence south 45° W 163 poles to a dogwood white oak and ash, thence North 45° W 180 poles to a white oak and elm, thence South 45° W 40 poles to a gum and a dogwood thence North 45° East 93 poles to a Sugar and Buckeye from thence North 45° East 93 poles to the beginning (which said and described trace of land the Commonwealth of Virginia by patent under the hand of Beverley Randolph Esq. Governor of the said Commonwealth of Virginia and lesser seal of the same bearing date of the 20th day of February in the year of our Lord 1789 granted to the said John Essery in fee simple) together with all and singular appurtenances thereunto belonging to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said Jacob Yoder and his heirs and assigns forever to the only proper use benefit and behoof of him, the said Jacob Yoder and his heirs forever and the said John Essery and Easter his wife for themselves and their heirs do further covenant and agree to and with the said Jacob Yoder and his heirs to warrant and forever defend the aforesaid tract of land with all and singular appurtenances unto the said Jacob Yoder and his heirs against themselves and their heirs and against the claim or claims of all and every other person or persons whatsoever. In witness whereof they the said John Essery and Esther his wife have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals the day and year first within written. Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of Thos. Purcel, David Grable. John Essrey (seal) Esther Essery (seal) We the subscribers, having examined the above Esther Essrey, wife of John Essrey do certify that she acknowledged the above by her free and voluntary act and deed without threats or persuasions of her said husband John and that this day she executed in the presence of the above named Thomas Purcell and David Grable.....our hands this 25th day of September 1797. Armd. Moreland. James Caldwell. Bairdstown Dist. to wit, to all whom it may concern, I Benjamin Grayson, clerk of the Supreme court for the district aforesaid do make known that on the 17th inst. John Essrey part of this indenture did in my presence in due form of law acknowledge and deliver the same for the parties therein expressed and that I have recorded the same together with the certificates annexed as required by laws of this state. As witness my hand this 30th day of Nov. 1797. Benjamin Grayson."

Essery, John and Jonathan Essery, Aug. 20, 1806 vs. John Blanton; fine 150 lb. of tobacco \$11.94. Writ filled Co. Hardin. Return day Sept. to whom delivered, N. Miller #24 Execution Book C Hardin Co. Circuit Court 1806, Elizabethtown, Ky.

Kentucky Grants Book 12, p. 541
Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.

Sept. 20, 1798

John Essary 200 acres Hardin County, No. 1547
Exd. Del. per order 25th June 1800,

James Garrard Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all to whom these presents shall come Greetings: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of part of a Treasury Warrant No. and entered the second day of August one thousand seven hundred and eighty one there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary a certain tract of land or parcel of land containing two hundred acres by survey bearing the date of the twentieth day of September one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight lying and being in the County of Hardin on a Grove known by the name of Bee Knob about three miles westwardly from Otter Creek about three or four miles eastwardly from the hill grove and bounded as followeth to wit: beginning at the three black Oak bushes on a hill near the southwest end of said grove running thence north fifteen degrees west two hundred poles to three hickory bushes on a high barren ridge near the northwestward end of the grove thence north seventy-five degrees east one hundred and sixty poles to three black oak saplings in the Barrens near the northwestwardly end of the said grove thence south fifteen degrees east two hundred poles to a stake in the barrens thence south seventy-five degrees west one hundred sixty poles to the beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and his heirs forever in witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the sixth of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and of the Commonwealth the eighth.

JAMES GARRARD

By the Governor, Harry Toulmin, Sec.

Book 15 Kentucky Grants p. 67 Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.
June 14, 1800

John Essry and James Shanks 207 acres Bullitt county No. 1799 Exd. Devd. to John Essary the eighth of December one thousand eight hundred.

James Garrard, Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of part of a Treasury Warrant No. 19,900 and entered on the seventeenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty five there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary and James Shanks, said Shanks assee of John Essary for one half who was assignee of Benjamin Pope a certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred and seven acres and by survey bearing date the sixth day of September one thousand seven hundred and ninety eight lying and being in the county of Bullitt bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at a beech on the bank of the Rolling Fork on the north side at the upper side of the mouth of Indian run thence east twenty poles to another beech thence north two hundred sixty-three poles to a black Oak in Jacob Myers line on a knob thence with Myers line south fifty-seven degrees west ninety poles to Myers corner a walnut and red oak on the top of a knob thence north thirty poles to three dogwoods and two beeches on a knob corner to Benjamin Brown's lower five hundred acre survey thence with Browns line south eighty degrees west two hundred sixty poles to a sycamore on the

south bank of the rolling fork thence by the rolling fork and binding thereon with its meanders three hundred and fifty poles to a beech on the south bank thence east twenty poles crossing a rolling fork to the beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essery and James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and of the Commonwealth the ninth.

By the Governor James Garrard

Harry Toulmin, Secretary

Book 15 Kentucky Grants p. 69 Land Office Frankfort, Ky.

June 14, 1800.

John Essrey thirty-one acres Hardin Co. No. 1801 Exd.

James Garrard Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of part of a Treasury Warrant No. 19900 and entered the seventeenth of June one thousand eight hundred (1785) eighty five there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essrey assignee of Benjamin Pope a certain tract or parcel of land containing thirty one acres by survey bearing date the ninth day of September one thousand seven hundred ninety eight lying and being in the county of Hardin and bounded as followeth to wit Beginning at E. Brown's corner of three beeches on a knob thence with Brown's line north forty-three degrees east ninety poles to Jacob Froman's line thence with Froman's line north sixty degrees west one hundred thirty five poles to John Carrs corner of poplar and on the side of a knob thence with Carrs line south twenty-six degrees east one hundred thirty four poles to the beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essrey assignee of Benjamin Pope and his heirs forever in witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and of the Commonwealth the ninth.

By the Governor James Garrard

Harry Toulmin, Secretary

Book 15 Kentucky Land Grants p. 68 Land Office, Frankfort, Kentucky

June 14, 1800

John Essrey 700 acres Hardin County No. 1800 Exd. Devd. to John Essary eighth December one thousand eight hundred.

James Garrard Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of part of a Treasury Warrant No. 19,000 and entered the seventeenth day of June one thousand seven hundred and eighty five there is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary and James Shanks and Shanks Assignee of John Essary for one half who was assee of Benjamin Pope a certain tract or parcel of land containing seven hundred acres by survey bearing date the tenth day of

September one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight lying and being in the county of Hardin and bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at an elm and sycamore at the corner of John Carr's five hundred eighty seven and three fourths acre survey thence which Carr's line north fifty degrees west one hundred sixty four poles to an ash and sugar tree on the side of a knob thence north forty degrees east eighty six poles to a walnut and beech at the foot of a knob thence north thirty degrees west one hundred thirty poles to a sugar tree on the side of a knob thence north ten degrees west eighty poles to a sugar tree on the side of a knob thence north ten degrees west eighty poles to a large black oak on the side of a knob thence north forty degrees east one hundred sixty two poles to Froman's line thence with said line north sixty degrees west and passing Froman's corner at one hundred and thirteen poles making all three hundred sixty seven poles to a sugar tree beech ash Dogwood hickory and black oak thence south five hundred forty eight poles to a black oak on a knob thence east two hundred fifty poles to the Beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and James Shanks and their heirs forever in witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort on the fourteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and of the Commonwealth the ninth.

By the Governor James Garrard

Harry Toulmin, Secretary

Virginia Grants ^{Vol} Book 15 p. 254 Frankfort, Ky. Land Office

May 15, 1790

John Essary 125 acres Nelson County

Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of part of Land Office Treasury Warrant No. 1639 there is Granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary, a certain tract or parcel of land containing one hundred and twenty-five acres by survey bearing date the 2nd day of January 1786, lying and being in the county of Nelson, on the south side of the Rolling Fork of Salt river where the Valley Road crosses the said fork and bounded as followeth, to wit: Beginning at a Buckeye and Hoop ash on the bank of the river about thirty poles below the mouth of Wilson's Creek turning thence south forty-five degrees west one hundred and eighteen poles to a White Oak, Black Oak and Hickory, thence North eighteen degrees west two hundred and thirty-four poles to a White Oak and hickory, North forty-five degrees East eighty-four poles to three Maples on the river bank, thence with meanders of the River up to the Beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and his heirs forever. In witness whereof the said Beverly Randolph Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia hath hereunto set his hand and caused the lesser seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the Fifteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety, and of the commonwealth the fourteenth.

Beverly Randolph

Kentucky Grants Book 13 p. 495-7 Land Office Frankfort, Ky.

December 13, 1784

John Essary 150 acres Bullitt County N. 1554; E.d.

James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of a treasury warrant No. and entered the thirteenth day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four there is granted by the Virginia Commonwealth unto John Essary assigner of John Carr a certain tract or parcel of land containing one hundred and fifty acres by survey bearing date the fourth day of September one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight lying and being in the county of Bullett on the waters of Wilson's Creek and adjoining Peter Sheperds one thousand acre survey and bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at Sheperd's North easterly corner of two white oaks thence with Sheperds line south seventeen degrees west one hundred one eighty poles to a corner of a forked beech and poplar thence north thirty three degrees west one hundred and thirty-four poles to two Beeches and a White Oak at a small Run thence north seventeen degrees east one Hundred and eighty poles to two dogwoods and hickory thence south thirty-three degrees east one hundred and thirty-four poles to the Beginning with its appurtenances to have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and his heirs forever. In witness whereof, the said James Garrard Esquire, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky that hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth of Kentucky to be affixed at Frankfort on the sixth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and of the Commonwealth the eighth.

By the Governor James Garrard

Harry Toulmin, Secy.

Kentucky Grants Book 13 p. 500 Land Office, Frankfort, Ky.

December 13, 1784

John Essary 200 acres Bullett County No. 1557 Ed. Deld. pr order the twenty-fifth of June 1300.

James Garrard, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky to all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting: Know ye that by virtue and in consideration of a part of a treasury warrant No. 10275 and entered the thirteenth day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four is granted by the said Commonwealth unto John Essary assignee of John Carr a certain tract or parcel of land containing two hundred acres by survey bearing the date the eighth day of November one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven lying and being in the county of Bullitt on Cane Run on Macher's line and bounded as followeth to wit: Beginning at two white Oaks on Macher's line and running thence north thirty degrees west two hundred and forty-six poles to a white oak and poplar thence South fifty-three Degrees west one hundred and thirty-three poles to a stake thence south thirty degrees east two hundred and forty six poles to a stake in Macher's line thence with Macher's line north fifty-three degrees east one hundred and thirty-three poles to the Beginning with its appurtenances to hand and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with its appurtenances to the said John Essary and his heirs forever. In witness whereof the said James Garrard Esquire Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky hath hereunto set his hand and caused the seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Frankfort