

DESCENDANTS
OF
ARCHIBALD McALLISTER,
OF
WEST PENNSBORO TOWNSHIP,

Cumberland County, Pa.

1730--1898.

BY
MARY CATHARINE McALLISTER.

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1898.

38—JOHN BOWES COX McALLISTER, ⁵, b. 1828, d. 1858, at Fort Hunter, went to Captain Partridge's military academy, at the corner of Second and State streets, Harrisburg, Pa. When about twelve years of age he fell from a cherry tree and broke his thigh, which lamed him slightly for life. His father started him in the livery business in Harrisburg, but he was such a ladies' man and so devoted to their enjoyment, that it was impossible for the public to hire a team when it was wanted, and the venture necessarily ended in a pronounced failure.

In February, 1849, he went with Walker, the chief of the filibustering expedition to Nicaragua, and was one of the 375 men who entered the town of San Juan del Sur and carried off all the military stores that could be found. When the expedition became a failure, it was of course disbanded, and the survivors suffered great hardships in their efforts to reach the

Pacific coast. The provisions ran out, and depending upon what the country afforded, the bill of fare was reduced to ragouts of monkey and lizards, with an occasional parrot as a luxury.

On the Pacific coast, at San Juan del Sud, he was enabled to procure a passage in the second cabin of the steamship "Uncle Sam," bound to San Francisco, and naturally got the gold fever and went to the mines, where every body else was going.

Having saved some good suits of clothes from the expedition, he applied for work in the diggings, but was unsuccessful from the fact that he was looked upon with suspicion, being so well dressed. He eventually bought the tailings of a mine, and with the assistance of a couple of Indians commenced washing gold. He was successful and was making money, when he contracted a fever, and would have died had it not been for a fellow miner who nursed him. In the mean time his money had vanished, and he had to send home for the necessary funds to get back. This sickness was the commencement of an affection of the lungs, which finally developed into consumption, of which disease he died.

In 1852 he was appointed an aid on the staff of Governor Bigler, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In May, 1857, he went to Keokuk, Iowa, to buy a farm and start farming, but on arriving at his destination he found land so high in price, that he could not make a purchase. Here he was again taken sick, and spent all his cash in hotel and doctors' bills. He came home sick, and died at Fort Hunter in 1858, at the early age of thirty years, and unmarried.

He was of a genial and happy disposition, took the world as it came, and was liked by his friends and associates.
