

was a blacksmith and his son, William McNabb, Jr., was married to Betty Aiken whose father was probably Gideon Van Aken, a member of a well known French family of the Delaware River Valley. There is a record of the marriage of Niclaes Westvaal to Sara Van Aken on 20 October 1712 at Kingston. Possibly a sister of Betty Aiken, whose name, I believe, was not "Betty" but Elizabeth Van Aken, with "Betty" being the familiar form of the proper name Elizabeth. Thus, when Wm. McNabb, Jr., married Elizabeth Van Aken ca. 1720, it would not be outside the Dutch naming pattern for them to name their first born son, Babtist, a French name in honor of a French grandfather. The connection established by this marriage and birth, is of no small import. For the first time in some 48 years of McNabb family research, there is now a link between William the father and Babtist the son. Before now the only established link was based on rumor, habit and an absolute void when it came to written, documented evidence.**The Draper files established a documented relationship between William and his son, James, but even the numerous references to Babtist McNabb contained in Lyman Chalkley's official records, fail to mention any, and I mean, any, relationship between William and Babtist. ALSO, we can now put to rest, the endless verbal expressions of bafflement as to the origin of what appeared to be a name connected with a religious body.

Of further importance, this linkage opens a whole new geographical area for McNabb family research. Containing, as it does, the legal and religious records dating back to the early 1600's, perhaps we can more fully and completely document the Clan members and activities.

For the Kuykendalls, the Van Akens and the MCNABBS, the melting pot syndrome that is the essence of America, began exceedingly early.

** I believe the prepondance of evidence indicates that, as stated in an earlier essay, Babtist had no son named William, thus the William McNabb who witnessed Babtist's will was most certain to have been Babtist's father.