## The Lost Page In The Allen County, Indiana, 1850 Census

George Fitzgerald

have been doing research on Hugh McCulloch for several years. About a year ago the Allen County Histor Society asked me to review a book that had been written about him. In the book it mentioned his brother-ir George Little. I learned he had a son. I went to the 1850 census to find Hugh, George, and George's son. re are two indexes for the Indiana census, Allen County. One was prepared at the Indiana Historical Societ the other in Salt Lake City. Hugh and George were mentioned in the Indiana Historical index but not the Lake City index. They were both on page 159 of the census. There is no page 159 on the microfilm at the en County Library. Page 159 should have been the first sheet for Allen County.

I remembered a lady who put out a newsletter on the Clan McCullough/ McCulloch; she mentioned the census in one of her newsletters, but, of course, didn't mention George Little. I emailed her asking whether she had kept a copy of this page; she responded she had not.

I was in Salt Lake about a year ago and searched the CD and their microfilm; page 159 was missing on both. About a month later I was in Indianapolis and went to the Indiana Historical Library and no page 159 on their microfilm. I was in Kansas City several months ago and went to the Mid-Continent Library in Independence, no page 159 on their microfilm. I then proceeded to Kansas City branch of the archives; no page 159 on their microfilm or CD. I was in Los Angeles over the holidays, and I went to the Los Angeles branch of the Archives in Laguna Niguel about a mile from my brother's house. No page 159 on their microfilm. I was recently in New York City, and I went to the New York Public library; they did not have the Indiana census for 1850.

Several days later I was in Washington D.C., and I went to the National Archives. Their microfilm did not have page 159. The clerk told me they had the originals down the hall. I proceeded to get a researcher's card to get into that room. The clerk filled out the paper work to give to the clerk in the research room. I went into the research room and, in less then two minutes, I had the original 1850 Indiana census in my hands. When I saw the book I thought the page would have been water stained or had other damage, but I opened the book and found the page. I was elated! After all the time I spent finding this page, I got a copy and I'm putting the information in *Lines* so other people who are looking for people on this page can find them.

Editor's Note: The moral of this story is definitely, "Don't give up!" Thanks, George. Since the photocopy of the actual page would not reproduce well for this publication, the Editor and the author George Fitzgerald, have transcribed the page and it is reprinted on page 105 for future researchers.

At the top of page 159 is written: SCHEDULE I. - Free Inhabitants in Wayne Township in the County of Allen, State of Indiana enumerated by me, on the 24th day of July 1850. G. W. Wood, Ass't Marshall

In the 1850 census, there were thirteen questions for each entry on a page. On the missing page 159, no information was recorded in columns 6, 10, 12, and 13 so these columns have not been listed on the following page.

The thirteen questions asked in the 1850 census are:

- 1 dwelling houses numbered in the order of visitation
- 2 families numbered in the order of visitation
- 3 the name of every person whose usual place of abode on the first day of June, 850, was in this family
- 4 age
- 5 sex
- 6 color: white, black, or mulatto
- 7 profession, occupation, or trade of each male person over 15 years of age
- 8 value of real estate owned
- 9 place of birth, naming the state, territory, or country
- 10 married within the year
- 11 attended school within the year
- 12 persons over 20 years of age who cannot read and write
- 13 whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict

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