

INTRODUCTION

The compilation of this book was started inadvertently in July 1976. As I was researching the origin of the KANE-GOUGH family of St. Mary's County, Maryland at the Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland, I used the reference SLAVE STATISTICS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, 1864, COMMISSIONER GEORGE B. DENT.

Use had been made of the census, marriage, death, tax assessment, wills, deeds and land records seeking information that pertained to the surname under investigation. My parents Philip Moten Kane (1896-1983) and Mary Priscilla Gough Kane, (1897-1979) told me that his father told him that the Kane (surname of Cane had various spellings) family was owned by a doctor. He did not recall hearing his father speak the name of the doctor. I kept this information utmost in mind when I was researching in St. Mary's County records.

The book SLAVE STATISTICS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND has 19 columns with 13 topic headings. The topic headings are: Date, Name of Owner, Name of Slave, Sex, Age, Physical Condition, Term of Servitude, Emancipated by the State, Left With or Taken by the Military, Enlisted in U.S. Service, Regiment, Compensation Received and Remarks. The heading Emancipated by the State is divided into three columns, day, month, year; Left With or Was Taken by the Military is also divided into day, month, and year; as is the heading, Enlisted in the U.S. Service. At the top of each page is the title: "Record of Slaves in St. Mary's County, At the Time of the Adoption of the Constitution in 1864."

However, the book did not have an index, so I started my search for the Kane-Gough Family on page one. I noticed that every slave had a surname and it was not necessarily the name of the slave owner. I turned page after page after page. I read surnames that I had heard my parents mention. The Barnes, and Dysons, the Prices, and the Gordons were familiar names to my ear. It was at that time that I thought that I should write down some of these names. If I came into contact with someone researching a particular name I could show them what I had on file and direct them to where they could find further information.