

OUR KINSMEN

A Record of the Ancestry and
Descendants of

GRIFFITH THOMAS

A Pioneer Resident of
Orange County, North Carolina



BY
GRACE HARPER WINGERT

Foreword

This modest and unpretentious volume is the result of four years work by an amateur in genealogy with only a limited means of research.

In the compiling of the record of our Thomas family, much of the material had to be gathered from incomplete family records and from the memory of those now living.

There has been a diligent endeavor to include something of interest and personal value to all who care to read, but with the lack of vital records in the early days of our country and the yet unawakened interest in genealogy among many members of the family, it has been impossible to accomplish all that was desired. So few records have been kept and there is yet such a lack of regard for family history that one can not hope to have a full and complete "mosaic of the long-forgotten past."

The genealogy of our Thomas family affords no occasion for vain intoxication on wine of ancestor worship, but there is a certainty that the character and worth of the family has been found to be up to the level of the average man and woman.

It is reasonable to suppose that the pioneers of our Thomas family possessed the essential attributes necessary to endow their posterity with the strength to build ourselves out of the material of this world by esteeming what is right, perpetuating what is beautiful and exalting what is good.

Our courageous forbears should receive from us our most profound admiration and respect. Those staunch and sturdy men and women who braved the perils of mountains and rivers to establish homes in a wilderness, who dared all things, whose courage was invincible and whose valiant hope and endeavor gave us a name and home, are too fine to be forgotten. The vibrations of their energy should still cause us to tingle with desire to

accomplish. Our heritage is richer by the knowledge of their endurance and achievements.

There has been, of necessity, a burden placed upon various members of the family who have been called upon for assistance regarding lateral lines. Their efforts and interest are deeply appreciated, but where so many are concerned space does not permit personal mention. There is, however, special acknowledgement due our kinsman, Fred Thomas of Monon, Indiana, since he has in truth made this history possible by his outstanding services. Whatever degree of success this record may merit is mainly due to his unlimited generosity, and his willingness to give of his valuable time. His tireless efforts to obtain information and his enthusiasm and faith in the venture have been most important factors in bringing this work to what the author hopes is a reasonably successful conclusion.

GRACE HARPER WINGERT,

Springfield, Ohio.

September, 1938.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME OF THOMAS

The name of Thomas ranks seventh in the sixty most common of Welsh and English names and is of great antiquity in Wales, the family claiming descent from the Ancient Kings of Britain. Its authentic history begins with Uryan or Urien Rheged, a British Prince who lived in the sixth century after Christ. Urien is said to have been the son of Cynvarch Oer ap Meirchion Gul, a Prince of North Britain, who was expelled from his principality by the Saxons and took refuge in Wales.

Urien drove the Gwyddelians or Irish Scots from Rheged, a district lying between the Towy and Tawe rivers in Carmarthen, and was granted the sovereignty of that principality as a reward. He married Margaret La Fay, daughter of Gorlois, Duke of Cornwall, and had two sons, Owain and Pasgen. Through the latter the line descends to Sir Rhys, a grandson, whose son Thomas was the father of Gruffyd.

As a means of designation, men began at that time to use the word "ap," meaning "son of" or "descended from." Prior to that, men had borne but a single name. It was at this period that we first find the name of Gruffyd ap Thomas which in time came to be Griffith Thomas.

Sir Rhys ap Thomas, who lived in the reign of Henry VII and Henry VIII of England, according to Welsh historians, had an extant pedigree going back to Adam. Sir Rhys was a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. His name was later spelled Rees and it is both natural and reasonable to assume that his descendant was one Rees Thomas who, as leader of the Welsh people in Pennsylvania, founded in 1691 the Merion Colony on the Schuylkill River in what is now Montgomery County.

In 1750 there was a Griffith Thomas living in Plymouth Township of this county. His will was proven in 1751. We are inclined to believe that this Griffith was a son of Rees Thomas.

It is difficult to arrive at a definite conclusion owing to the lack of authentic records, but the continuity of these similar and unusual given names will lead one to believe they were used by our family from generation to generation.

GRIFFITH THOMAS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Griffith Thomas, the common ancestor of all whose names are contained in this record, was of Welsh parentage. It has long been believed by past generations of our family that he was born in Wales and came to America while he was a very young man. This, of course, may be true, but the source of their information has never been determined, and in the absence of more authentic data, we have come to accept the statement contained in the diary of the White Pilgrim that his parents "were natives of Pennsylvania."

Griffith Thomas was married in Pennsylvania to Charlotte Huffman or Hoffman. We do not know just when they left that state, but according to the Pilgrim, it was "soon after their being wedded together" that they migrated to North Carolina. There is a record of Griffith Thomas' having purchased three hundred acres of land in Augusta County, Virginia in the year 1753. There is also a record of his having served in the Fifth Company of Augusta County Militia in the year 1742.

There is in the Pennsylvania Historical Society in Philadelphia a will of one Griffith Thomas of Plymouth Township, Philadelphia (now Montgomery) County, written in 1750 in which he names his son, Griffith, as chief beneficiary and executor.

From the diary of the Pilgrim we learn that in 1791 Griffith Thomas lived near the village of Haw River in Orange (now Alamance) County, North Carolina. There are records of two deeds dated 1794 and 1795 on record in Hillsboro, North Carolina in which we learn that the land (some three hundred and eighty-eight acres) had been conveyed to Griffith Thomas by land grant from the state in the year 1788, "the tenth year of Independence." This land lies adjacent to Hawfields. In 1791, the year of the Pilgrim's birth, the family consisted of nine living children, seven sons and two daughters. At that time most of them were grown men and women according to the Pilgrim, who was the youngest child. The other children were Mary, Moses, John, Noah, Griffith, Jacob, Betsey, and James.

This family, being among the first to settle in that part of the country, had by frugality and industry obtained a considerable share of honest wealth. Then the

Revolutionary War came on, spreading devastation and death over that section. The British, commanded by Lord Cornwallis, plundered and devoured the last remains of the property of Griffith Thomas, leaving nothing but the land. After the war the family attempted to repair their fortunes, but the day of prosperity had passed away, leaving storms of adversity, affliction, and distress. Soon the family was scattered. The sons left the parental home. John went to Missouri and nothing is known of him except that one of his daughters married a man named Shepard. Noah went to New York State and nothing is known of him. Moses and Griffith, Jr. went to Virginia, married sisters, lived there many years and later came to Ohio. Jacob moved first to Pulaski County, Kentucky, then to Ohio. James remained in North Carolina as did Mary, who married Henry Trolinger. Betsey married a man named Davis and moved to Mississippi and was never heard from afterward. Joseph, the Pilgrim, later came to Ohio.

We draw conclusions from the Pilgrim's writings that the death of his father occurred in 1800. This is substantiated by statements of the kin at Haw River. They also tell us that the mother, Charlotte Huffman Thomas, died in 1813 and was buried in the Trollinger Cemetery at Haw River. The father, Griffith Thomas, was buried at Hawfields Cemetery near Haw River. No stone marks his grave today but there is an aged woman living near Graham, North Carolina who can recall having seen many years ago a gravestone at Hawfields bearing the name of Griffith Thomas.

These children of Griffith and Charlotte Thomas, together with their descendants, have been placed in this history in the order of their birth, as nearly as could be determined. The matter has been given most careful consideration and every effort has been made to be fair and impartial as to sequence. It is hoped that the arrangement will meet with the approval of the family.

MARY THOMAS TROLLINGER (North Carolina)

Mary, daughter of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was born in 1769 according to the inscription on her gravestone which reads, "Deceased October 1, 1851, aged 82 years." She was married shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War to Henry Trollinger whose gravestone bears the inscription, "Deceased February 29, 1844, aged 83 years." Both are buried in the Trollinger Cemetery at Haw River, North Carolina.

Great effort has been put forth to secure a more complete genealogy of this family but only a meagre amount of information is available. In the history of Alamance County, N. C., we find mention that "shortly after Henry Trollinger returned from service in the Revolutionary Army, he married Mary Thomas, a sister of Joseph Thomas the evangelist who was called the 'White Pilgrim'."

Their oldest son was John Trollinger. He was born in 1790 and grew to manhood at his father's home. He was a great advocate of education all his life.

General Benjamin N. Trollinger, oldest son of John, was born in 1810. Other children were William, Henry, Betsey, and Mary.

Betsey Trollinger married Johanthan Gant.

Mary Trollinger married John Roney. Their daughter Artelia (born June 28, 1829 and died August 20, 1858), married Washington Duke, the founder of the famous tobacco industry bearing that name, and for whom Duke University at Durham, N. C. is named. The two sons of Washington and Artelia Roney Duke were Benjamin N. and James B., who have erected various magnificent memorials in the memory of their mother, chief among them being the beautiful Science Hall at Elon College near Graham, N. C. and the stone enclosure and gate at the old Trollinger Cemetery at Haw River which bears the inscription, "This enclosure was erected by Benjamin N. Duke and James B. Duke in loving memory of their mother, Artelia Roney Duke, 1829-1858."

It has been impossible to obtain a more complete genealogy of this family and we know of only two younger members, namely: Angier Duke and Doris Duke who married James H. C. Cromwell. They have an estate at Somerville, N. J., and Honolulu, H. I.

MOSES THOMAS **(Fayette County, Ohio)**

Moses, son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was born in Virginia, as far as can be determined. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania and lived there a short time after they were married and then moved to Virginia and later to North Carolina.

Very little is known of Moses Thomas, and what is presented here is for the most part family tradition and information contained in the writings of the White Pilgrim. We do know, however, that he married Catherine Williams, daughter of John Williams. Before coming to Ohio this family lived on Chestnut Creek in Grayson County, Va. where all of their children were born and reared.

There is reason to believe that Moses was the eldest son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas from the fact that Moses was the second of the family to marry and also that he assumed charge of the Pilgrim when the lad was left fatherless at the age of nine. This is brought out in the Pilgrim's book when he speaks of being removed from most miserable surroundings where he had been for two years to the more pleasant and cheerful atmosphere of the home of Moses in Grayson County. Here he was sent to school and Moses continued to assist in every possible way all through the Pilgrim's life.

We have no written record of the birth and death of Moses and Catherine Thomas, but we are fortunate in having two living members of our family who have a memory of "little Granny Thomas." These two are Jason Hoffman of Iowa and his sister, Mrs. Ida Frances Hidy of Bookwalter, Fayette County, Ohio. According to their version, Moses died first and his widow went to live with her daughter, Nancy Hoffman, near Grassy Point Church. Both Jason Hoffman and Mrs. Hidy have fond memories of "Granny" Thomas. As far back as they can remember her, she was an invalid, although she spent her days in bed piecing quilts and doing other work with her hands. She was so dainty and diminutive that she could be lifted about by the family with no effort. She possessed a singing voice of rare beauty. In her earlier days she was a tailoress. Her death occurred while she was on a visit to the home of her son Benjamin. She had expressed a desire to go to Ben's and the family

had complied. Placing her as comfortably as possible on an improvised bed in a wagon, they took her to her son's home, and while she was there she became ill and passed away. This was about 1865 or 1866.

Both Moses and Catherine Thomas were buried in the old Camp Ground Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio. There is a tradition in the family that Moses and Catherine were married in Virginia, but so far there have been no records found to verify this. Children of this marriage were Mary (Polly), John, Griffith, Infant daughter, Catherine, Elizabeth, Benjamin, William, Nancy, and Isaac Newton. The infant daughter died in Grayson County, Va. This family came to Ohio in 1823. They first went to the home of the daughter Mary, who had married Robert Porter and had preceded them to Ohio. Later Moses located in a home nearby where he opened a blacksmith shop in the Hidy neighborhood. In after years they lived nearer Jeffersonville on the Chaffin land where he again operated a blacksmith shop and farmed. The knowledge has come to us through descendants of his neighbor, Joseph Hidy, that Moses Thomas was a quiet, solemn man, kindly and deeply religious. There is, in this alone, ample justification for pride in our ancestry.

MARY THOMAS PORTER

Mary, oldest child of Moses and Catherine Williams Thomas, was born July 1, 1798 in Grayson County, Va. She died October 20, 1861 in Fayette County, Ohio. She was married to Robert Porter. Both are buried in the Hidy Cemetery near Bookwalter, Ohio, near where they had lived. There is a family tradition that she was the second wife and that they were married in Virginia, but there are no records to verify this. They were the parents of nine children as follows: John Milton, Lucinda, Rebecca, Mary, Griffith, William, Robert, Jr., Isaac, and Daniel K.

John Milton, son of Mary and Robert Porter, married first Eliza Ann Collins. Two weeks after their marriage, the wife died suddenly of cerebral hemorrhage. The second marriage was to Mary, daughter of Amos and Delilah Hoffman. Their twelve children were Emma, who married William Hurless and had one child, Harry. Curtis, unmarried; Oliver, Ida (Brown) May,

Sherman, Albert, Alvin, Elva, Frank; and two children who died in infancy. This family lives in and around Ogden and Boone, Iowa, and are quite prominent and prosperous.

Lucinda Porter was married November 12, 1846 to Jackson Rader. Their children were Mary, Anthony, Sarah, and Henry Ervin.

Mary Rader was born August 16, 1847 and died December 18, 1884. She was married February 26, 1867 to Robert Powell.

Anthony Rader was born September 6, 1849 and died December 25, 1929.

Sarah Rader was born July 9, 1851 and died in 1916. She married Hunter Keller.

Henry Ervin Rader was born December 28, 1854. He was married September 29, 1888 to Mary Manuel. They live in Fayette County, Ohio. Their children are Corinne Frances, Reuben Willis, Henry Byron, Floyd Newton, Ancil Jackson, and an infant son born and died June 5, 1902.

Corinne Frances Rader was born November 5, 1889. She married J. F. Jeffries. They live at R. R. No. 3, Dayton, Ohio. They have a son, Joseph F. Jeffries, Jr.

Reuben Willis Rader was born March 12, 1891.

Henry Byron Rader was born May 30, 1895.

Floyd Newton Rader was born July 30, 1898.

Ancil Jackson Rader was born October 17, 1900.

Rebecca Porter married Caleb Thomas. Further mention of them will be found in the Jacob Thomas genealogy.

Mary Porter married Wesley Cox. They had one son, Almer Cox who married Gertrude Carnes.

Griffith Porter married Jane Collins. Their children were Angenetta, Thomas M., Samantha Belle, and Cassius.

Angenetta Porter married Luther Custer.

Thomas M. Porter died unmarried.

Samantha Belle Porter married Creighton Blue.

Cassius Porter married Pearl Yates.

William, son of Robert and Mary Thomas Porter, married Sarah Mocn, daughter of Aaron and Rosana Powell Moon. Their children were Aaron, Nebraska, Viola, Flora, Adda, and John.

Aaron Porter first married Amy Hayes and later Dollie Baughn.

Nebraska Porter married Anna Hayes.

Viola Porter and Lincoln Hidy were married February 12, 1881. Their two children were Vira and Logan. Viola Porter Hidy later married Simeon Eads.

Vira Hidy died unmarried.

Logan Hidy is married and lives in Akron, Ohio.

Flora Porter married first Elmer Divens, and later Homer Bowman.

Adda Porter married Frank Coe.

John Porter married Josie Reese. Further mention of them will be found in the Jacob Thomas genealogy.

Robert Jr., son of Robert and Mary Thomas Porter, was born June 22, 1819, and died August 7, 1865. He married Elizabeth Simmerman. Their children were Eliza Jane, Alexander, Albert, Griffith, Granville, Joseph, Herbert, Charles, and Anna.

Eliza Jane Porter was born December 2, 1847. She died June 29, 1895. She married William Steele. They had two sons.

Alexander Porter married Rena Hayes, daughter of Coleman Hayes, and had one son, Crosby.

Albert Porter married Angeline Griffith.

Griffith Porter married Mary Eyler and had four children, Stella, Bessie, Anna, and Robert.

Stella Porter married Harry Black. She now lives in Jamestown, Ohio.

Bessie Porter married George Thomas, the adopted son of Jasper Thomas. She was fatally injured in an accident. She left six children, Pauline, Blanche, Donna, Auburn, Keith, and Cecil. Pauline Thomas is a teacher of Home Economics in the Jeffersonville, Ohio, schools.

Anna Porter married Clinton Dickerson. They live in South Charleston, Ohio.

Robert Porter. No information available.

Granville Porter was born July 12, 1853 and died February 11, 1935. He married Mary Catherine Linson.

Joseph Porter married Rennie Groff in January, 1892. Their children were Emil and Grethel.

Emil Porter married Irene Gault.

Grethel Porter married Robert McMahon.

Marion Herbert Porter was born March 6, 1862 and died January 3, 1935. He was married January 27, 1889 to Cora Gault who was born October 8, 1867. Their children are Audrey M., Lee, Howard, and Nellie.

Audrey M. Porter was born December 2, 1891. She was married November 6, 1910 to Ralph O. Horney, born September 9, 1888. They live in Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Lee Porter was born October 25, 1893. He was married February 18, 1915 to Edna May Weimer, born December 14, 1894. They have one child, Donna Ludene.

Howard Porter (deceased) was born December 14, 1895.

Nellie Porter was born March 23, 1898. She was married September 18, 1918 to Hayes Allen. They live in Washington C. H., Ohio.

Charles Porter married Bertha Groff, January 12, 1890. Their children are Harvey and Margaret.

Harvey Porter married Bernice Foster.

Margaret Porter married J. A. Davis.

Anna Porter married Oscar Horney and had one son, Ralph, who married Mary Donohue. They live near Xenia, Ohio.

Isaac, son of Robert and Mary Thomas Porter, married Robinson. The names of their children are unknown except one, Wilda.

Daniel K., son of Robert and Mary Porter, died July 5, 1865, aged 32 years, 4 months, 4 days, according to his gravestone in the Hidy Cemetery. He was unmarried.

JOHN THOMAS
(White County, Indiana)

John, son of Moses and Catherine (Williams) Thomas, was born July 4, 1800 in Grayson County, Virginia and died in White County, Indiana in 1889. He was married in Fayette County, Ohio, on May 4, 1826 to Hannah Horney, daughter of James and Esther Anderson Horney. Both are buried in West Point Cemetery near Wolcott, Indiana. Their eight children were James, Elizabeth, Sarah C., Moses, Esther, John A., Kate, and David.

John Thomas was a blacksmith and farmer. He removed from Madison County, Ohio, to White County, Indiana in 1855. All of his children accompanied him except two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah C., who were married.

James, son of John and Hannah Thomas was born in 1827 in Madison County, Ohio. He died in White County, Indiana. He was married January 17, 1866 to Anna Eliza Farley. They resided near Wolcott, Indiana and had three children, William Butler, Alonzo, and Arthur.

William Butler Thomas was born December 31, 1866 and died September 27, 1929. He was married February 25, 1900 to Myrtle Elizabeth Snyder who was born January 22, 1881 and died September 27, 1929. Their six children were Eva Leverna, Ora Eliza, Mildred May, Floyd Harold, Dorothy Ellen, and Dorence Delbert.

Eva Leverna Thomas was born February 1, 1901 and died March 9, 1908.

Ora Eliza Thomas was born October 28, 1903. She is now a teacher in the schools at Donovan, Ill.

Mildred May Thomas was born September 3, 1906. She was married July 24, 1933 to Harley Foster. They live at Lamoille, Ill.

Floyd Harold Thomas was born February 18, 1911 and died April 7, 1918.

Dorothy Ellen Thomas was born September 2, 1912. She was married October 9, 1937 to Howard Smith. They live at McComb, Ill.

Dorence Delbert Thomas was born August 12, 1914. He lives at Des Moines, Iowa.

Alonzo Thomas lives in Jump River, Wisconsin. He is married and has two children, Edith and James. This is all of the information available concerning them, as letters to them remain unanswered.

Arthur Thomas died September 27, 1929, unmarried. He, his brother James, and James' wife were killed in an automobile accident near Kentland, Indiana. All are buried in West Point Cemetery.

Elizabeth, daughter of John and Hannah Horney Thomas, was born July 11, 1829 and died August 22, 1922. She was married September 25, 1851 in Madison County, Ohio, to Alex Latham. Both are buried at South Charleston, Ohio. Their five children are William T., Mary Alice, Georgianna, Belle K., and Hannah Etta.

William T. Latham was born in 1852 and died in 1927. He married Rebecca Chandler and had four children: Maude (Powell) of Utah, Lloyd of Dayton, Ohio, Harry and Lee.

Mary Alice Latham was born in 1854. She is deceased. She married Frank Hedrick and they lived in South Charleston, Ohio, where she is buried. They had no children.

Georgianna Latham was born in 1856 and died in 1915. She married Charles F. Marshall and is buried at Xenia, Ohio.

Belle K. Latham was born July 5, 1858. She was married in 1896 to William Atchison. They reside at the Masonic Home in Springfield, Ohio.

Hannah Etta (Hattie) Latham was born in 1862. She was married February 28, 1911 to Herbert Reed. She resides on North Oak St., London, Ohio.

Sarah C., daughter of John and Hannah Horney Thomas, was born March 4, 1834 in Madison County, Ohio and died July 27, 1916 at Wolcott, Indiana. She is buried in West Point Cemetery. She was married twice; first in Madison County, Ohio to Harvey Huffman (son of Amos and Delilah Huffman) on August 21, 1851. Children of Harvey and Sarah C. Thomas Huffman were John Calvin, Malissa, and Isaac Fred.

Sarah C. Thomas Huffman, after the death of her husband in 1862, moved with her children to White County, Indiana to live with her parents, John and Hannah Thomas. Here she married Richard Evans in 1869. Their first child, William, died in infancy. The

second son was Oliver. Then followed Frank, Julius, and Clark.

John Calvin Huffman was born August 22, 1852 in Madison County, Ohio and died in March 1936, unmarried. He is buried at West Point Cemetery.

Malissa Huffman was born May 22, 1854 and died March 8, 1927. She was married in White County, Indiana in October, 1879 to Nathan Compton. Both are buried in the K. P. Cemetery at Chalmers, Indiana. Their four children are Ethel, Archie, Gertrude, and Delbert.

Ethel Compton was born July 22, 1880. She was married first in December, 1900 to Oliver Henry (deceased). Their only child, Carmen, was born November 11, 1901. The second marriage was in October, 1935 to C. D. Merchant (deceased). Ethel Merchant now lives with her daughter, Carmen Marshall, in Chalmers, Indiana.

Archie Compton was born September 8, 1881. He is unmarried and lives at Tuscon, Ariz.

Gertrude Compton was born August 23, 1885. She married Clifford Adelbert Moore. They live seven miles north of Chalmers, Indiana and have two children, Jessie (Faker), and Kenneth.

Delbert Compton was born June 30, 1892 and died June 20, 1927.

Isaac Fred Huffman was born February 22, 1856 in Madison County, Ohio and died in Monticello, Indiana on April 9, 1937. He is buried at Monon, Indiana. He was married in 1889 to Mary Stanfield who died in 1924. Their five children are Bessie M., wife of John Oltop of near Logansport, Ind.; Ruth Arlette Stevens of Hammond, Ind.; Glen of Vienna, Mo.; Charles of Monticello, Ind.; and Marietta Frances Shaw of Tulsa, Okla.

Oliver Evans was married in 1890 to Julia Heffley. She died July 5, 1902 and is buried at Wolcott, Ind. Oliver Evans died December 12, 1927. Their five children are Everett, Lloyd, Alta May, Mattie, and Isabel.

Everett Evans lives in Perry, Ia.
Lloyd Evans lives at Rossville, Ind.
Alta May Evans Forgey lives at
Gettysburg, South Dakota.

Mattie Evans Teeter lives at Portland, Ore.

Frank Evans lives at Firesteel, South Dakota. He married Minnie Leota Huntley, a native of Marion County, Ohio.

Julius Evans died in February, 1924. He married Ida May Heffley, who now lives in Wolcott, Ind. Their children are Clarence, Ernest, and Forrest, all of Wolcott, Ind.; Sarah Elizabeth (deceased), and Eileen.

Clark Evans died in infancy.

Moses, son of John and Hannah Thomas, was born September 4, 1837 and died February 4, 1926. He was unmarried. He served three years in the Union Army during the Civil War. The last years of his life were spent at the home of his niece, Mrs. Ida Roadifer of St. Cloud, Fla., and he is buried at Mount Peace Cemetery.

Esther, daughter of John and Hannah Thomas, was born in 1839. She was married April 14, 1857 to James R. Woods. They are both buried in West Point Cemetery near Wolcott, Ind. Their two children were Erasmus M. and Wallace.

Wallace Woods married and had one son, Gary. After the death of Wallace, his widow married Erasmus.

Gary is married and has three children, James, Donald, and Joyce all living in Wolcott, Ind.

Erasmus and Wallace Woods are buried in West Point Cemetery.

John A., son of John and Hannah Thomas, was born February 29, 1840 and died April 25, 1931. He was married to Anna Maria Thomas, a second cousin (daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas). John A. Thomas is buried in Mount Peace Cemetery at St. Cloud, Fla. His wife is buried in West Point Cemetery near Wolcott, Ind. Their two children were Harry O., and Ida V.

Harry O. Thomas was born April 13, 1867 and died October 6, 1894, unmarried. He is buried at West Point Cemetery.

Ida V. Thomas married Warren Roadifer. They live in St. Cloud, Fla., and have two children, John

O., and Clara Anita, who married Carson Hunt and lives in St. Cloud.

Kate, daughter of John and Hannah Thomas, married Robert Galbreath. About 1887 they moved to Black Rock, Ark., and later to Searcy and Beebe, Ark. They had four children, two sons and two daughters. After moving to Arkansas, Kate died. The elder son and one of the daughters also died. All efforts to learn more of this family have failed.

David, son of John and Hannah Thomas, was born in 1844. He died in Wolcott, Ind., unmarried, and is buried in West Point Cemetery.

GRIFFITH THOMAS (Allen County, Ohio)

Griffith, son of Moses and Catherine (Williams) Thomas, was born in Grayson County, Virginia, July 2, 1802, and died in Van Wert County, Ohio, May 11, 1879. He was married in Madison County, Ohio, July 22, 1830 to Eleanor McCafferty who was born October 16, 1811 and died April 26, 1882. Their twelve children were John H., Samuel, Jane, Mary C., Moses, William, Sarah, Amanda, Griffith, Ellen Scphronia, Nancy R., Anna, and two infants who died at birth.

Griffith and Eleanor Thomas and seven of their children are buried in Ward's Cemetery near Lima, Ohio.

Griffith Thomas moved from Madison County to Allen County in 1836. The land upon which he settled was purchased from the U. S. Government and was situated about two miles west of Lafayette along the Pittsburg railroad. Here he built a blacksmith shop which he operated in connection with his farm. In time he became quite prosperous. The large family subsisted almost entirely from the resources of the farm. They grew wheat, corn, and flax. They raised cattle and sheep. Clothing and household linens were made from the wool and flax by the two daughters, Jane and Mary, who spun and wove the cloth and linen and then fashioned it into the various necessary articles of apparel and household use. The sewing was all done at the hands of these two daughters.

The older sons cared for the farm and sugar camp. There were extensive vegetable gardens and the father

maintained a large apiary, from which he procured sufficient honey to supply his own table as well as those of his married children. He was a generous provider for his large family and as the children married and started their new homes, he assisted each one financially.

Griffith and Eleanor Thomas were kindly and con-



GRIFFITH THOMAS

genial. She was a remarkable homemaker, a splendid cook, and an excellent breadmaker. In those days it was customary to eat considerable corn bread, and the family was delighted when bread made from wheat flour appeared on the table. Eleanor Thomas was of a happy and joyful disposition, although she experienced many heartaches in the watchful dreary hours when a sickness swept through the country, claiming her young children

as its victims. The pathetic story is told by the tiny graves, all neatly marked, in old Ward's Cemetery.

During the Civil War, the oldest daughter, Jane, attempted to carry on alone while her husband was serving in the Union Army. Their newly built cabin was in the dense woods. The husband and father having gone to war, she was left with only her two small children, Griffith A., and Mary Eleanor, aged six and three. They were lonely but brave, and were finally forced to leave their home because of the depredations of a band of nightriders who terrorized women and children where the menfolks had gone to fight for their country. Jane Rumbaugh's father, Griffith Thomas, came to her rescue. He moved her household possessions and livestock to his home, and she and her children lived there until Harvey Rumbaugh, honorably discharged, returned to his loved ones. This is but one of the many kind deeds of Griffith Thomas.

(Note: The data for this biography was furnished by Mary Eleanor Rumbaugh Verhees, a granddaughter).

John H., son of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born in Madison County, Ohio, May 23, 1831 and died in Paulding County, Ohio, September 5, 1881. He was married twice; first in Allen County, Ohio, November 25, 1857 to Anna Jane Rumbaugh, and later in Shelby County, Ohio to Lavina Ragen. Children of the first marriage were William Hamilton and Albert, the latter dying at the age of four months. He is buried beside his mother in Ward's Cemetery near Lafayette in Allen County, Ohio. Children of the second marriage were Ellen Elizabeth, Franklin Walter, and Laurabelle (twins), and twins who died in infancy.

William Hamilton Thomas was born October 11, 1858 and died December 3, 1937 at his home near Dupont, Ohio. He was married June 2, 1883 to Laura Ann Alexander who was born April 22, 1861. Their six children are Zoe Leona, Clyde Hamilton, William Wayne, Orville Lee, Wayland Edgar, and Lloyd Leon.

Zoe Leona was born October 21, 1886. She married Edgar Rey. They have two children, Alois A., born September 22, 1911, and Virginia Jane, born July 20, 1918.

Clyde Hamilton was born May 18, 1889.

He married Marie Evelyn Dietler. They have one daughter, La Donna Mae, born May 22, 1922.

William Wayne was born June 15, 1893. He married Mary Ellen Hubbard.

Orville Lee was born April 24, 1895. He married Bertha Ann Beucher. Their two children are Evelyn Marie, born August 20, 1920, and Doris Ann, born January 13, 1926.

Wayland Edgar was born September 9, 1898. He married Geraldine Kohn. Their two children are Arlene Elza, born September 19, 1923, and Billie E., born July 2, 1927.

Lloyd Leon was born September 15, 1902. He married Florence Kohn.

All of the above reside in Toledo, Ohio with the exception of Wayland Edgar who lives in Ottawa Lake, Mich.

Ellen Elizabeth, daughter of John H. and Lavina Ragen Thomas, was born in Fort Wayne, Ind., March 4, 1871, and died in Van Wert, Ohio, February 18, 1936. She was married July 25, 1889 to Sherman Hart. Their children are Ora Lee, Lora Ann, Wilda S., Bryan V.

Ora Lee Hart was born August 4, 1890.

Lora Ann Hart was born September 4, 1892. She married Vernon Hulbert. They live in Marshall, Mich., and have five children.

Wilda S. Hart was born October 9, 1894. She is married and lives in Van Wert, Ohio. Their five children are Joan, Virginia, Dorothy, Wayne, and Richard.

Bryan V. Hart was born May 10, 1896. He is married and lives at 348 Hillside Ave., Jackson, Mich. He has one daughter, Shirley.

Franklin Walter, son of John and Lavina Ragen Thomas, was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, September 1, 1874. He was married February 13, 1904 to Ora Belle Epps who was born January 29, 1885. They live at 635 Center St., Van Wert, Ohio, and have two children, Lester Leo, and Esther Belle.

Lester Leo was born August 20, 1905. He was married November 8, 1936 to Sarah Elizabeth Herst.

Esther Belle was born July 5, 1907. She was married June 24, 1937, to Millard Robert Kear.

Laura Belle, daughter of John H. and Lavina

Ragen Thomas, was born September 1, 1874. She married William Baldwin. They live at Convoy, Ohio, and have a daughter, Dorothy Madeline.

Samuel, son of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas was born in Madison County, Ohio, January 2, 1833 and died September 14, 1922 in Grenville, New Mexico. He was married twice; first, in Fayette County, Ohio, April 31, 1854, to Ana Bloomer (daughter of John and Anna Bloomer) who was born May 27, 1837 and died June 26, 1870. She is buried in the old cemetery at Jeffersonville, Ohio together with two of her children. The second marriage was to Ella Saltzgaber, November 29, 1882 in Van Wert County, Ohio. After the death of his second wife, Samuel Thomas made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Ida Jane Gusler. In 1913, while living at Manitou, Col., he was appointed Deputy Sheriff at the age of eighty. Later the family moved to Grenville, New Mexico where the aged man was suddenly stricken and died. He is remembered as a man of strong personality, his mind clear to the last. He was the soul of honesty and honor. He is buried at Grenville, New Mexico. Samuel and Ana Thomas were the parents of five children, an infant, stillborn February 20, 1853, Almer G., Ida Jane, William F., and Carey Lee.

Almer G. Thomas was born October 24, 1857. When quite a young man he went to Kansas City, Mo. There he married Maggie Addison. Their three children are Arthur Lee, Bessie, and Flossie. Almer G. Thomas died in Kansas City and is buried there.

Ida Jane Thomas was born June 22, 1861. She was married October 31, 1884 at Lima, Ohio to Louis Jared Gusler. They live at Siloam Springs, Ark. Their four children are George Thomas, Louis Glen, Hazel, and Nell.

George Thomas Gusler was born June 26, 1887 at Grover Hill, Ohio. He married Lela E. Wade, February 22, 1909 at Van Wert, Ohio. They live at 3615 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio. Their four children are George Wade, Mary Elizabeth, Jane, and Robert Louis.

George Wade Gusler was born January 24, 1911. He lives in Chicago, Ill.

Mary Elizabeth Gusler was born December 23, 1912 at Winner, So. Dakota. She was married

June 6, 1932 to Bert Davis. They live in Columbus, Ohio and have one child, Jane Ellen, born December 17, 1935.

Jane Gusler was born October 27, 1914 at Richmond, Va. She was married May 30, 1936 to Thornton Mosier. They live in Columbus, Ohio and have one child, Margaret Elizabeth, born April 24, 1937.

Robert Louis Gusler was born April 26, 1926.

Louis Glen Gusler was born October 22, 1894 at Grover Hill, Ohio. He was married March 19, 1917 to Dollie Lucinda Leslie. They live at Fort Sumner, New Mexico. Their five children are Leslie Glen, born January 29, 1918; Paul Sherbourne, born December 8, 1919; Frank Wayne and Forest Gene, born September 14, 1928 (twins); and Jack Sumner, born May 25, 1930.

Hazel Gusler was born May 21, 1889 and died October 20, 1889.

Nell Gusler was born January 24, 1892 and died April 20, 1894. Both are buried at Oakwood, Ohio.

William F. Thomas, son of Samuel and Ana Bloomer Thomas, was born November 1, 1863 and died August 15, 1866. He is buried beside his mother in the old cemetery at Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Carey Lee, son of Samuel and Ana Bloomer Thomas, was born August 26, 1867. He married Gertrude Schroeder. Their two children are Theodore and Barbara (Cogdill) of Grenville, New Mexico.

Jane, daughter of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born July 19, 1855. She died in Allen County, Ohio, January 5, 1918. She was married September 9, 1857 to Harvey Rumbaugh. Their two children are Griffith A., and Mary Eleanor.

Jane and Harvey Rumbaugh began their married life on a farm one mile east of Harrod in Allen County, Ohio, clearing a site for a hewed cabin in which they lived while the timber was removed and the land made ready for farming. Later they built a frame house where they reared their two children. The original buildings are still standing, solid and intact, serving as a home for the present owner. After the children married, Harvey and Jane Rumbaugh purchased a farm one mile north of their first home and there built a brick house in keeping with the times. This property is now owned by the daughter, Mary Eleanor Vorhees. After the death of

her husband Jane Thomas Rumbaugh lived in her home in Lima, Ohio. She was ill only a few days with pneumonia when death came. Thus passed the beautiful and useful life of a grand lady of very high principles. She is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery at Lima, Ohio.

Griffith Alfred, son of Harvey and Jane Rumbaugh, was born September 11, 1858. He was married November 13, 1879 to Emma J. Johnson (deceased). His second marriage was to Mrs. Dora Huber. They live at 1005 East Elm St., Lima, Ohio.

Mary Eleanor, daughter of Jane and Harvey Rumbaugh, was born October 21, 1861. She was married April 12, 1879 to Isaac O. Vorhees. Their children are Cora B., Thaddeus W., Thomas O., and Jo Anna.

Cora B. Vorhees was born March 2, 1880. She was married November 21, 1898 to Del Ellis. Their daughter, Hesper Ellis Copp, born February 6, 1909, has a daughter Maxine Myrtle, and a son Elsworth Eugene.

Thaddeus W. Vorhees was born September 25, 1882 and died February 15, 1898.

Thomas O. Vorhees was born January 26, 1884 and died October 4, 1919.

Jo Anna Vorhees was born April 17, 1889 and died June 9, 1925. She was married September 15, 1908 to George Mather. Their son, Charles V. Mather, born April 17, 1915, was graduated June 7, 1937 from Ohio Northern University and is now teaching school in eastern Ohio.

Mary C., daughter of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, died February 16, 1856 aged 19 years. She is buried in Ward's Cemetery.

Moses, son of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born February 3, 1838 and died November 5, 1886. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm near Lafayette, Allen County, Ohio. In 1863 he enlisted in the Union Army and was sent to Virginia, where he served his country until the end of the war. On May 28, 1868 he married Elizabeth Herring who was born October 4, 1850. The first years of their married life was spent with his parents. Later they bought a farm ten miles west of Lima in Amanda Township where they lived until his death. He was ill for seven years, a victim of cancer. He was laid to rest in the Allentown Cemetery. Elizabeth Herring Thomas survived her husband

forty-three years, spending part of that time on their farm. Her later years she spent with her children. She died July 10, 1929 after an illness of two days. She is resting in the mausoleum at Maple Grove Christy Cemetery. Moses and Elizabeth Thomas were the parents of three children, Lula Annetta, Ida Viola, and William Franklin.

Lula Annetta was born April 12, 1869. She was married January 1, 1886 to John W. Poling. They live on their farm near Spencerville, Ohio. Their only child, Carrie Elizabeth, married Howard Montfort and had two children, Harold and Lowell. Carrie Elizabeth died at the birth of Lowell, and both are buried in the mausoleum at Maple Grove Christy Cemetery. The surviving child, Harold, married Ruth Dingleline. They live near Spencerville, Ohio and have a daughter, Grace.

Ida Viola, born October 31, 1879, married George Brenneman. They live on a farm ten miles west of Lima, Ohio. To them were born five children, three dying in infancy. The two living are Esta Dolores and Treva Jean. Esta Dolores married Dr. Henry Brunk. One son, Billy, was born. Esta later married Lloyd E. Brooks. They live in Lima, Ohio. Treva Jean Brenneman lives with her parents.

William Franklin, born January 20, 1875 was the youngest child of Moses and Elizabeth Thomas. He married Jeannette Jane Miller. They live near Elida, Ohio and have five children. The first, Lela Esther, married Elden Carl. They live near Delphos, Ohio. The second, Ray Harold, died at the age of two. The third, Clyde, married Estella Strayer. They live on the home farm of Moses and Elizabeth Thomas and have two children, Norman and Janice. The fourth child of William and Jeanette Thomas, Eunice, died at the age of five. The fifth, Virgil, lives with his parents.

On January 3, 1879, Griffith G. Thomas was born to Sophronia Thomas Bresler, who died when the child was six weeks old. He was taken immediately into the home of Moses Thomas and became the fourth child in their family. On March 16, 1900, Griffith married Bessie Belle Miller who was born March 10, 1882. They live near Lima, Ohio and have five children, Lloyd, John, Chloie Beatrice, Ada Elnoree, and Forest Murlin.

Lloyd Thomas was born September 14, 1901.

He married Myrtle Marie Meyer. They live in Detroit, Mich. and have one child, Mary Lee.

John Thomas was born November 3, 1902. He married Mable Kariakuff. They live in Detroit, Mich. and have one son, Harold Leslie.

Chloie Beatrice Thomas was born December 19, 1903. She married Garry Phillips. They live in Lima, Ohio and have two daughters, Betty Lou and Margaret Jean.

Ada Elnoree Thomas was born August 29, 1913. She married Ralph Neely. They live in Lima, Ohio.

Forest Murlin Thomas was born February 1, 1915. He lives in Chicago, Ill., and is unmarried.

William, son of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born December 12, 1840 and died in Paulding County, Ohio, November 1, 1894. He was married April 6, 1884 to Lydia Margaret Kohn, born August 26, 1864 and died July 28, 1934. Both are buried in Middle Creek Cemetery near Grover Hill, Ohio. They were the parents of seven children, Walter Franklin, Nettie Jane, Maggie Edith, Orpha Dema, William McKinley, Lona S., and Noble Noel.

Walter Franklin Thomas was born February 28, 1885. He married Mary Alice Hunsaker March 16, 1913. They live near Lima, Ohio and have two children, Amos Walter and Noble William.

Nettie Jane Thomas was born April 18, 1886. She was married December 23, 1905 to Herbert Girod. They live at 668 North Washington St., Van Wert, Ohio and have one daughter, Wanda Ilo.

Maggie Edith Thomas was born September 25, 1887. She was married May 1, 1904 to Oran Lee Chilcoat. They live at Yoder, Ind. and have four children, Norma Fay (Baker), Edith, Velma, and Dorothy.

Orpha Dema Thomas was born April 11, 1890. She was married May 26, 1912 to Amos Hunsaker.

William McKinley Thomas was born October 4, 1891. He was married December 19, 1916 to Leona Belle McClure. Their children are Olive Louise, Reba, Betta May, Dona Rae, and Billy Rex.

Lona S. Thomas was born April 23, 1893. She was married August 17, 1912 to Isaac Blythe. Their children are Kenneth Thomas, Kathryn M., and Konetta.

Noble Noel Thomas was born March 21, 1895, four months after the death of his father. He was married April 16, 1924 to Vernie Busick. Their children are Noel Edsel, and Margaret Isabel.

(Almost all of the above named families live in or near Grover Hill, Ohio).

Amanda, daughter of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, died July 3, 1847, aged five years. She is buried in Ward's Cemetery.

Sarah, daughter of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born April 3, 1842 and died December 24, 1920 near Grover Hill, Ohio. She was married August 4, 1863 to Amos Stukey, born November 15, 1838 and died January 2, 1919, son of John H. and Kathryn Bresler Stukey. Their children are William Cornelius, Ana Idora, Griffith Alfred, John Oscar, and Elnora Jane. These children were born in Allen County, Ohio about two miles west of Lafayette. In 1877 the family moved to York Township in Van Wert County. In 1880 Sarah Thomas Stukey inherited from her father 82 acres of land in northeastern Hcaglin Township, Van Wert County. At that time there was only one road cut through the vast forest, a "corduroy road" from the Defiance Trail to Gilberts Mills. From there this pioneer family cut their way through the woods to the banks of Maddox Creek where they built their home. Here they lived, and with other settlers helped to establish and improve their community. Several years later another road was built through the west part of their farm and they moved the house out to this road. The school being to the north, the children had to follow a path through the woods, thence across West Branch Creek. Since there was no bridge or footlog, they crossed on the flood-gates. This school was known as West Elm School. The Stukey family inherited musical talent and owned one of the first organs in that locality, paying \$150.00 for it on the twelfth birthday of John Oscar, the third son. About this time they formed what was known as the Stukey Orchestra. They would take the organ to play for Sabbath School picnics and Fourth of July celebrations, sometimes going as far as twelve miles from home. Sarah and Amos Stukey helped build the Methodist Church that was later moved to Grover Hill. They also gave support to the Radical Brethren Church south



FAMILY GROUP OF AMOS AND SARAH (THOMAS) STUKEY, OF VAN WERT COUNTY, OHIO

of that town. In their last years they purchased a home in Grover Hill where they both died and were laid to rest in the mausoleum at Middle Creek Cemetery.

William Cornelius Stukey was born February 18, 1865. He was married in Van Wert County to Rachel Ann Kohn. Their six children are Alie (died young), Odus William, Charles Waldo, Flossie (died young), Nolen Emmet, and Burl.

Odus William Stukey was born May 17, 1887 and married Mamie May Bryan. Their three children are Doyle Bernard, Vida Oleta, and Harold Leroy.

Doyle Bernard and Jennie Mefferd Stukey are the parents of a daughter, Delores Ann, born April 10, 1938.

Charles Waldo Stukey was born August 11, 1889. He died April 4, 1936. He married Eva Lecta Michael. Their children are Leland, Iona, Wilma Ruth, Wanda Rose, Wilda R., and Wilva Rosalie.

Nolen Emmet Stukey was born September 5, 1894. He married Leona Bowersock. Their children are Nolen Jr., John William, and Roger Lee.

Burl Stukey was born December 30, 1896. He married Muriel Crates. Their children are Thelma Hazel, Dorothy Helen, and Royal Robert.

Ana Idora Stukey was born September 4, 1866. She was married to Charles T. McClure. Their five children are Guilford Oscar, Clifford Austin, Hazel Leona, Clyde Earl, and Ted B.

Guilford Oscar McClure was born August 22, 1890. He was married first to Alta Savilla Lake. They had one daughter, Lilyan Eileen. His second marriage was to Jessie M. Horney.

Clifford Austin McClure was born April 29, 1892. He married Phoebe Amanda Beard. Their children are Treva, Lavona, and Helen Idora.

Hazel Leona McClure was born July 25, 1894. She married Harry Gattshall. Their children are Burman Lavid, Charles Olin, Betty Gene, and Glen Owen. Burman and Dorothy (Pearl) Gattshall have a daughter, Romona Karleen, born November 8, 1937.

Clyde Earl McClure was born December 13, 1897. He married Loma Ella Endsley. Their children are Antha Rose, Bessie Corinne, and Marilyn Ruby.

Ted B. McClure was born November 4, 1907.

He married Dora Morraine Mumma. They have one daughter.

Griffith Alfred Stukey was born December 12, 1869. He married Etta Angeline Martin, born January 13, 1877, died July 28, 1916. Their daughter, Olive Carmon, born August 11, 1910, married Michael Spahr. They live in Portland, Ore. Griffith Stukey lives at Grover Hill, Ohio.

John Oscar Stukey was born June 12, 1871. He was married first to Harriet Woodward, born February 15, 1887, died December 12, 1906. Two children were born, Lucille, and Rollin Amos. The second marriage was February 18, 1911 to Debby Gertrude Myers, born December 23, 1887 (daughter of Daniel and Ettie L. Beacon Myers). They reside at Grover Hill, Ohio.

Lucille Stukey was born August 24, 1897.

Rollin Amos Stukey was born July 14, 1901. He married Ruth M. Powell, born February 18, 1902 (daughter of Charles and Lovina Kohn Powell). They have four sons, David Powell Stukey, born December 19, 1928; Jack E. Stukey, born February 19, 1931; John Charles Stukey, born February 5, 1936; and Elmer Denniston Stukey, born April 3, 1938. Rollin Amos Stukey lives on North Walnut St., Van Wert, Ohio.

Elnora Jane Stukey was born May 6, 1875. She married Elwood M. Gilbert. They live at Grover Hill, Ohio. Their three daughters, all deceased, were Mildred Helen, born October 9, 1903, died April 9, 1904; Carola Bernice, born July 11, 1905, died January 31, 1906; and Eva Nadine born June 1, 1907, died December 1, 1908.

Griffith, son of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born February 14, 1844. He died September 25, 1911. He was married in Allen County, Ohio, February 2, 1871 to Elizabeth Custer, born January 9, 1851, died November 20, 1920. They are buried in Maple Lawn Cemetery in Amanda Township, Allen County, Ohio. Their monument is a log cabin. Their five children are Charles Newton, Moses Henry, Sarah Ellen, Griffith O., and Stella Jane.

Charles Newton Thomas was born August 6, 1871. He was twice married; first to Minnie Sanders who died in 1896 leaving one son, Orval Glen. The second marriage was to Barbara Roeder, September 4, 1898. They live in Amanda Township, Allen County. Their

five children are Elizabeth Katherine, Bessie Viella, Lena Marie, Bertha Caroline, and Charles Frederick.

Orval Glen, son of Charles and Minnie Thomas, was born June 6, 1894. He was married March 5, 1921 to Hazel Grace Bitters. Their six children are Donald Eugene, born August 9, 1921; Betty June, born December 19, 1922; Helen Marie, born September 25, 1924; Charles Franklin, born September 9, 1927; Alice May, born December 9, 1928; and Orval, born November 22, 1929. Hazel Grace Bitters Thomas died November 22, 1929. The three oldest children, Donald, Betty June, and Helen Marie, were taken into the home of their grandfather, Charles Newton Thomas. Charles Franklin was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Morris of Allen County. Alice May was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Bowsher of Auglaize County. Orval was adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lee of Allen County. Orval Glen Thomas was again married December 20, 1930 to Edith Zereda Hecker. They live in Miami County, Ohio, and have five children, Orval Glen, Jr., born September 2, 1931; Norma Jean, born December 26, 1932, died December 30, 1932; James Vallee, born January 20, 1934; Barbara Joan, born September 23, 1935; and Robert Burl, born October 11, 1937.

Elizabeth Katherine, daughter of Charles and Barbara Thomas, was born September 22, 1900. She was married November 23, 1921 to Chester Wayne Copus. They live in Amanda Township, Allen County and have two sons, Robert William, born July 20, 1924, and Charles Wayne, born June 7, 1931.

Bessie Viella was born November 15, 1905. She was married April 11, 1929 to Harry Edward Klingler. They live in Amanda Township, Allen County.

Lena Marie was born October 12, 1907. She was married July 5, 1931 to Ross V. Crites. They live in Amanda Township and have two children, Clair Chester, born March 17, 1934 and Ross Harry, born November 22, 1936.

Bertha Caroline, born February 11, 1909, married Burl G. Jackson, October 30, 1932. They live in Shawnee Township, Allen County.

Charles Frederick was born August 24, 1916 and died September 11, 1918. He is buried in Maple Lawn Cemetery.

Moses Henry, son of Griffith and Elizabeth Custer Thomas, was born February 11, 1873, and died November, 1914. He was first married to Rosa Bowers. Their son, Paul, lives in Mansfield, Ohio. Moses Henry Thomas later married Emma Hunsaker. He is buried in Maple Lawn Cemetery in Allen County, Ohio.

Sarah Ellen, daughter of Griffith and Elizabeth Custer Thomas was born October 28, 1874. She was married November 9, 1895 to Bert Bice. They live near Spencerville, Ohio and have two sons, Hobart F., and Clarence G.

Hobart F. Bice was born August 4, 1896 and was married May 18, 1915 to Lela Mumaugh, who died November 17, 1933. Their two children are Helen Fay, born April 18, 1917, and Lois May, born December 11, 1919.

Clarence G. Bice was born June 13, 1901. He was married May 28, 1923 to Eva M. Rinehart. They live in Allen County, Ohio and have three children, Judith Eleanor, born August 4, 1926; Shirley Ann, born December 8, 1927; and Nellie Irene, born April 28, 1931.

Griffith O., son of Griffith and Elizabeth Custer Thomas, was born October 1, 1879. He was married August 30, 1906 to Lydia Ellen Hunsaker who was born September 11, 1882, the daughter of Samuel and Nellie Hunsaker. They live on Richie Ave. in Lima, Ohio, and have two daughters, Nellie Elizabeth, and Mary Emma.

Nellie Elizabeth was born February 21, 1913. She was married October 10, 1934 to Roscoe Thompson. They have one daughter, Margaret Ellen, born May 27, 1936.

Mary Emma Thomas was born January 4, 1920. She lives at home with her parents.

Stella Jane, daughter of Griffith and Elizabeth Custer Thomas, was born May 12, 1891. She was married March 16, 1912 to Ora S. Sawmiller. They live in Allen County, Ohio, and have two children, James Edward, born January 3, 1913, and Mary Elizabeth, born April 19, 1917.

Ellen Sophronia, daughter of Griffith and Eleanor McCafferty Thomas, was born May 4, 1848. She was married January 1, 1872 to Marion Bresler. Their two children are Nolan and Griffith G. Ellen Sophronia

Bresler died February 16, 1879 and was laid to rest in the Ward Cemetery near Lafayette, Allen County, Ohio.

Nolan Bresler was born August 9, 1872 and died May 5, 1920. He was married April 26, 1896 to Alice Eagy. Their three children are Albert Lawrence, Helen, and Margaret. Nolan Bresler is buried in the Van Wert Cemetery.

Albert Lawrence Bresler married Isla Pearl Redmon. They have four children, Norma Jean, Peggy Lou, James Wendell, and Glen Everett. They live in Allentown, Ohio.

Helen Bresler married Frank Reier. They had one child, Alice Ann. Helen later married Earl Morton. They live in Lima, Ohio, and have two children, Thomas Robert, and Pearl Carrol.

Margaret Bresler married Clarence Burkholder. They live in Lima, Ohio, and have three children, Richard Lee, Thomas Arthur, and David Rodney. A son, Jack Nolan, died at the age of five months.

The genealogy of Griffith G., son of Ellen Sophronia Bresler, will be found in the Moses and Elizabeth Thomas line.

The gravestones of the deceased children of Griffith and Eleanor Thomas in Ward Cemetery bear the following inscriptions:

Infant daughter, died January, 1846.

Amanda, died July 3, 1847, aged 5 years.

Nancy R., died July 25, 1854, aged 4 years.

Infant daughter, died July 10, 1855.

Mary C., died February 16, 1856, aged 19 years.

Anna, died July 28, 1860, aged 4 years.

Sophronia, died February 16, 1879, aged 30 years.

CATHERINE THOMAS HORNEY

Catherine, daughter of Moses and Catherine Williams Thomas, was born about 1807 in Grayson County, Virginia. She died about 1828, but there is no known record of the exact time of death or place of burial. She was married in Fayette County, Ohio, September 4, 1825 to William Horney who was born October 15, 1807, the son of James and Esther Anderson Horney. They had one child, Lydia.

Lydia Horney was born August 22, 1826 and

died July 17, 1916. She was married January 26, 1845 to Jesse Rakestraw in Madison County, Ohio. Jesse Rakestraw was born May 23, 1824. Both are buried in the Whiteman Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio. Their children were an infant son, born August 4, 1846, Malissa, Mary Ellen, Emily Alice, Hulda, and Ada Lee.

Malissa Rakestraw was born June 17, 1851. She married Elisha Baughn. Their daughter, Mrs. Elva Armentrout, lives in London, Ohio.

Mary Ellen Rakestraw was born April 1, 1854. She was married December 15, 1875 to Samuel Griffith. Their children are Charles O., and Mattie Lee.

Charles O. Griffith was born July 28, 1876 and died October 1, 1921. He was married January 5, 1911 to Osa Lena Stewart. Their only child was Dorothy Doris.

Dorothy Doris Griffith was born June 4, 1920.

Mattie Lee Griffith was born September 4, 1878. She was married March 11, 1915 to Benjamin Edgar Martin who was born March 23, 1874 and died in 1922. Their only child was Margaret Thelma. Mattie L. Martin lives in Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Margaret Thelma Martin was born March 15, 1916. She was married June 19, 1935 to Luther M. Dillard.

Emily Alice Rakestraw was born July 30, 1856. She married Silas Barnhart. Their children are Wilbert, Walter, Bessie, Clyde, and Cecil.

Wilbert Barnhart lives in Columbus, Ohio.

Walter Barnhart lives in Steubenville, Ohio.

Bessie Barnhart married George Lee. They live at 455 North Yellow Springs St., Springfield, Ohio. They have three children, Emily (Eggles-ton), Virginia (Rust), and Eugene.

Hulda Rakestraw was born August 2, 1858. She married David Martin. They had but one child, Alma (deceased).

Alma Martin married George Wolfe. They have three children, Goldie, Roxie, and Audrey.

Goldie Wolfe married Ernest Brewer. They live in Yellow Springs, Ohio.

Audrey is married to a man named Swabey.

Ada Lee Rakestraw was born January 8, 1864. She married Samuel Coil. Their children are Ralph, Cora Lee, Samuel Jr., Mayme, Susan, Ethel, Emmett, and Hazel.

Ralph Coil was born May 9, 1888 and died at the age of three months.

Cora Lee Coil was born June 2, 1889 and died at the age of thirteen.

Samuel Coil, Jr. was born May 28, 1892. He married Catherine Happeney. Their children are Edwin Lee, Mary Elizabeth, Jessie Isabel, Mildred Louise, Samuel Jr., William Ray, Ruth Maxine, Larry Louis, and Robert Carol.

Mayme Coil was born October 11, 1894. She married Byron L. Jenks. They live at South Solon, Ohio and have one daughter, Betty Lee.

Betty Lee Jenks was born October 31, 1921.

Susan Coil was born August 9, 1897. She married Carl Miller. Their children are Dale Eugene, Samuel James, Donna Frances, Carl Jr., and Annabel.

Ethel Coil was born February 23, 1900. She married Forest Smith. Their children are Forestine, Alpha Lee, Robert Lewis, and George W.

Emmett Coil was born July 18, 1904. He was married November 23, 1929 to Loretta Ruth Clemans. Their only child is Nancy Jane.

Hazel Coil was born May 7, 1906 and died at the age of eleven.

ELIZABETH THOMAS HORNEY

Elizabeth, daughter of Moses and Catherine (Williams) Thomas, was born in 1809 in Grayson County, Virginia. There is no known record of the date of her death or place of burial. She was married May 24, 1825 in Fayette County, Ohio, to John Horney (son of James and Esther Anderson Horney). They had one daughter, Esther, who was born June 12, 1831, and died August 31, 1900. She is buried in the White-

man Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio. Esther Horney first married a man named Cummings, and had one daughter, Edith, who married Archibold Poor. They at one time resided in Newton, Illinois. They had five children. Efforts to locate this family have been unsuccessful. Esther Horney Cummings later married George Alexander at Louisville, Kentucky. They had no children.

BENJAMIN THOMAS

(The following sketch was copied from pages 1004-5 of W. H. Beers and Co. History of Madison County, Ohio. Published in 1883).

Benjamin Thomas, deceased, was born in Grayson County, Virginia, September 15, 1811. He was the son of Moses and Catherine (Williams) Thomas, the former born in North Carolina, the latter in Virginia. They were married in Virginia and emigrated to Fayette County, Ohio.

Our subject was twenty years of age when he engaged in farming. Four years afterward, he bought one hundred acres of land, lost it by signing his name as security on notes, but never discouraged, he purchased again, and had at his death, two hundred and twenty-three acres of land, all in a high state of cultivation.

Mr. Thomas engaged in farming and stockraising all of his life. He was deputy United States Revenue Collector for four years, and also held the office of Township Assessor of Stokes County for thirty-three years. These offices he filled with credit to himself and to his constituents.

He was united in marriage January 9, 1830 with Malinda Bosarth, who was born in Madison County, Ohio, October 14, 1814. To this union have been born thirteen children of whom Nancy Jane, Amanda, John Milton, William D., Mary E., Elihu, Joseph, and Daniel grew to maturity, the other four dying in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were members of the Christian Church for thirty years. Mr. Thomas died in 1882, loved and respected by all who knew him.

(Note: The gravestone of Benjamin Thomas in South Solon, Ohio cemetery bears the following inscription: Benjamin Thomas. Born in Grayson County,

Virginia, September 15, 1811. Died September 9, 1882).

Malinda Thomas died December 2, 1901.

Nancy Jane, daughter of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born January 12, 1831 and died August 12, 1858. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. She was married February 22, 1852 to James Walton Thomas, a second cousin (the son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas). Their three children were Sarah Ellen Stroup, Smiley, and Charles. Further mention of this family will be found in the genealogy of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Thomas.

John Milton, son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born October 20, 1833 near South Solon, Ohio and died June 19, 1906 near Rosedale, Ohio. He was married March 28, 1861 to Margaret Carr (daughter of Michael and Mary Lohr Carr), who was born January 31, 1845 and died September 5, 1904. Their seven children were born in the following order: Mary Florence, Luella Forest, Malinda Olive, Samuel Franklin, Milton Eugene, Minnie Maude, and Howard Carr.

Mary Florence, daughter of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born February 28, 1862, and died March 28, 1908. She was married to Alfred Reed on June 14, 1882. Their four children were Frank J., Bertha, Ethel Margaret, and Inace Marian.

Frank J. Reed was born March 23, 1883. He was married February 2, 1908 to Hannah Dry. They have one son, Roy Richard, born October 3, 1915.

Bertha Reed was born March 28, 1885. She was married March 9, 1905 to Ross Smith.

Ethel Margaret Reed was born March 19, 1888. She was married June 22, 1917 to Fay James Sherwood (deceased June 8, 1935). Their son, Reed Hamilton Sherwood, was born December 17, 1929.

Inace Marian Reed was born March 22, 1902.

Luella Forest, daughter of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born November 3, 1864 and died July 15, 1932, unmarried.

Malinda Olive, daughter of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born July 29, 1866 and died February 13, 1891. She was married August 17, 1887 to Clark Wilson. Their two children are Blanche (deceased), and Coen, who married May Mitchell. They

have four children, Eugene, Virginia, Martha, and Max.

Samuel Franklin, son of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born May 22, 1868 and died January 26, 1882.

Milton Eugene, son of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born July 29, 1873 and died January 10, 1932. He was married March 6, 1900 to Nell Williams. Their two children are Lohren Williams, and Margaret Adelia.

Lohren Williams Thomas was born February 11, 1901. He was married June 12, 1924 to Eva May Peters who died January 15, 1930. On May 28, 1932 he married Leota Liles.

Margaret Adelia Thomas was born September 25, 1908. She was married June 12, 1927 to Millard F. Stillings. Their two sons are Millard Duane, born June 26, 1928, and Charles Milton, born November 28, 1929. They live near Grove City, Ohio.

Minnie Maude, daughter of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born January 5, 1876. She was married November 23, 1898 to Charles A. Arganbright. Their two sons are Marion Thomas, and Charles Emerson.

Marion Thomas Arganbright was born August 7, 1902. He was married June 30, 1926, to Helen Mitchell Holden. They have two children, Marion Thomas Jr., born August 28, 1930, and Nancy Jane, born February 3, 1937.

Charles Emerson Arganbright was born April 24, 1910. This family resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Howard Carr, son of John Milton and Margaret Thomas, was born December 6, 1882. He was married March 30, 1910 to Lottie Lee Gilbert. They have two children, Sarah Eleanor, and Gilbert Carr.

Amanda, daughter of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born in 1836 and died in 1860. She married John Latham. Their only child, Emma (Lewis), is deceased. Amanda and John Latham are buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born in 1839. She married Edward Rowand, and moved to the West many years ago. All efforts to contact their descendants have been unsuc-

cessful. Many letters have been written, but all have remained unanswered.

William D., son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born May 29, 1842, and died June 15, 1898. He was married first on June 1, 1865 to Elizabeth Moon (twin sister of Asbury Moon) who died July 25, 1867. Their son, Walter, died September 24, 1867, aged four months and eight days. Mother and son are buried in the South Solon Cemetery. The second marriage of William D. Thomas was on September 12, 1869 to Elizabeth Brock, daughter of Francis Asbury and Louvina Kelly Brock. Their children are Louvisa May, Francis B., and Ethel Lee.

Louvisa May was born May 14, 1872. She was married November 25, 1891 to George Alfred Stringfield (deceased). Their daughter, Aleta (Gee) has two children, Betty, and Jimmy. Louvisa later married Louis Vockel. They live at the Crest Hotel, 6724 Stony Island Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Francis B. Thomas was born July 9, 1875 and died March 7, 1938. He was married March 12, 1895 to Anna Peters, who was born October 20, 1875. They live at 1026 South Center St., Springfield, Ohio. Their one daughter, Nina, born April 14, 1896, married Paul Thomas. They have two children, William, and Elizabeth Ann.

Ethel Lee Thomas was born January 27, 1887. She was married May 17, 1901 to J. C. Stephenson. They live in San Francisco, California, and have one daughter, Olive Lee, born November 23, 1911.

Benjamin E., son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born September 10, 1847 and died June 10, 1866. He is buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Elihu, son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born in 1850. He married Elizabeth Martin. They moved many years ago to Kingfisher, Oklahoma where they died and are buried. They had no children.

Joseph, son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born May 6, 1852. He died in 1935. He was married first to Ruth E. Gordon, (daughter of Frederick and Hulda Barrett Gordon. They had four children, Gordon, Frederick, Anna (Jordan), and Barrett E. All are deceased but Barrett who resides in Plain City, Ohio. Ruth Gordon Thomas died and Joseph married Alice

Stinson. They had two children, Ada, who died at the age of one year, and Frank Leroy who now lives at Peoria, Illinois. He was born April 15, 1886. He moved with his parents in 1902 to Kingfisher, Oklahoma where he attended college. He has occupied various important positions in the musical profession, also singing in grand opera, and is now a teacher of voice and organ. He is unmarried. Joseph Thomas and his first wife are buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Daniel, son of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas, was born in 1858 and died in 1909. He married Annie Scovill. They had three children, all deceased. This family is buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

WILLIAM THOMAS **(Madison County, Ohio)**

(Note: This sketch was copied from "A Portrait and Biographical Record of Fayette, Pickaway, and Madison Counties." Published in 1892 by Chapman Bros. of Chicago).

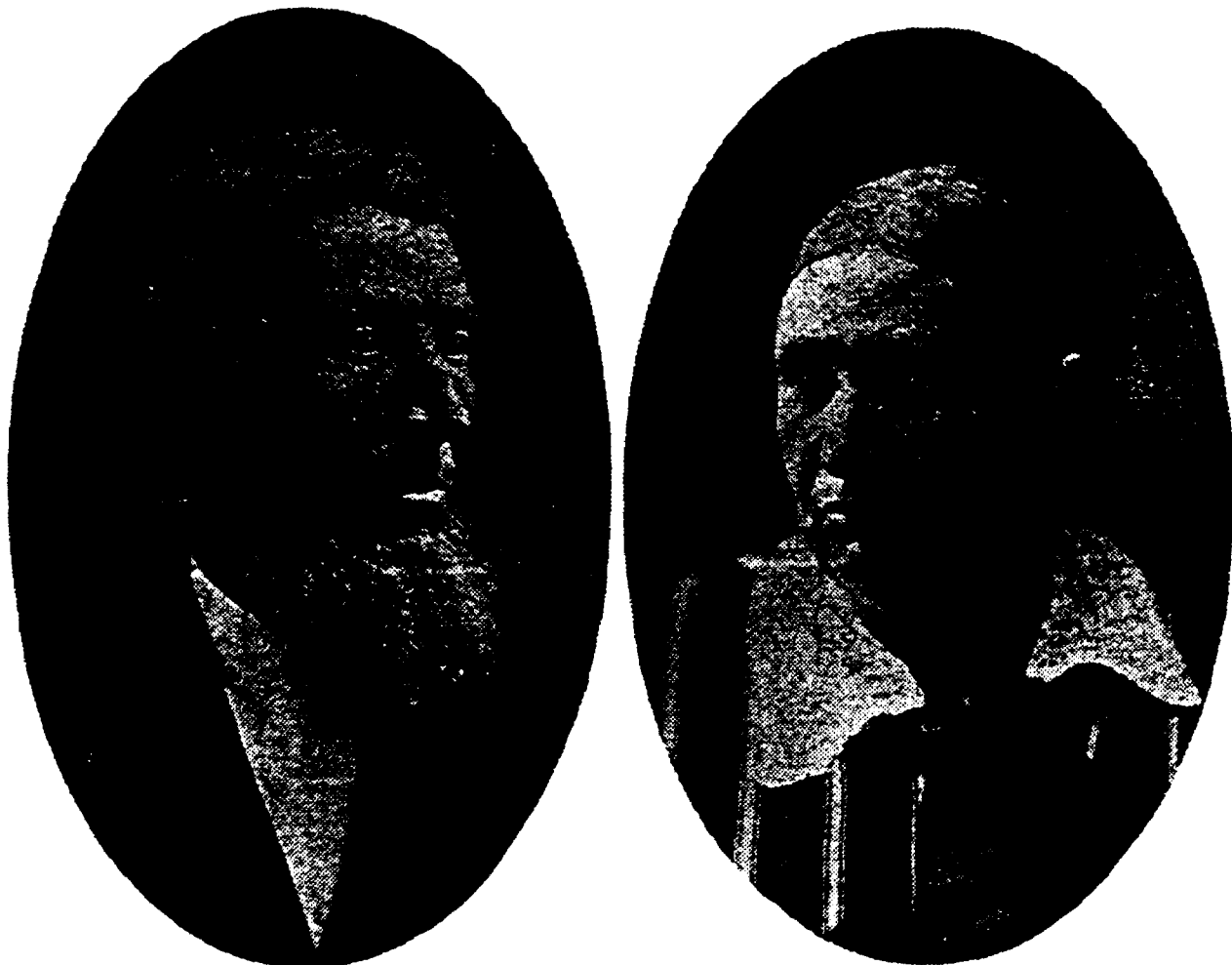
William Thomas, one of the self-made men of Madison County, who is engaged in farming and stock-raising in Stokes Township, was born in Grayson County, Virginia, December 18, 1813, the son of Moses and Catherine Thomas. His father was a native of North Carolina, and when a boy went to Virginia, where he met and married Miss Williams, a native of Grayson County. Our subject was the eighth of ten children who were born to them in that county. With one exception, all grew to mature years, but he has only one sister now living, Mrs. Nancy Huffman, of Stokes Township.

The family migrated to Ohio in 1823, locating in Fayette County where the father, Moses Thomas, leased two hundred acres of land and built a blacksmith shop. He worked at his trade while his sons operated the farm, and there resided until his death.

Our subject was early inured to the hard labor of the farm, and in his youth he also learned blacksmithing. At the age of twenty he started out for himself, and soon afterward married Lavina Beauchamp, daughter of Dr. William and Milly Anna (Willis) Beauchamp.

Lavina Beauchamp Thomas was born in Clark County, Ohio, January 20, 1815. They were married in

Clark County, October 10, 1833, and began their domestic life upon a rented farm. Five years later, Mr. Thomas purchased one hundred and fifty acres of wild land, upon which not a furrow had ever been turned or a tree cut. Here he built a log house of two rooms and began improvement of his farm which is now in a high state of cultivation. A pleasant residence has long since replaced the cabin home. From time to time Mr. Thomas has



WILLIAM AND LOUVINA (BEAUCHAMP) THOMAS

extended the boundaries of his farm until he now owns three hundred and twenty-seven acres of valuable land which yields to him a golden tribute.

He cast his first vote for General Harrison in 1840, supported John C. Fremont in 1856, and has since been a Republican. He served as Township Treasurer for six years, but has never been an office seeker. For forty years he has been a member of the Christian Church, and his upright, well-spent life has been in harmony with his profession.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were born thirteen children, and with the exception of one, Mary Anne, who died at the age of five, all grew to manhood and womanhood. Their children were born in the following order:

Noah, Moses, William, Jephtha, Sarah Catherine, John Wesley, Robert L., Mary Anne, Huston, Jasper, Elijah S., Oscar B., and Florestine.

(The above sketch is used due to its complete and concise form).

William Thomas died March 9, 1895 at his home east of South Solon, Ohio. His funeral was held in the Christian Church, and burial was made in the South Solon Cemetery. Lavina Beauchamp Thomas died February 20, 1890. She is also buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Noah, son of William and Lavina (Beauchamp) Thomas, was born August 1, 1834, and died December 23, 1914. He was married first on February 20, 1866 to Genevra Smith. Their one child, Maude, married George Thompson. The second marriage was to Alice Doris. Children born to this marriage are Alice (Brown), Helen (Thomas), Infant (deceased), John Doris, and Noah Jr. The deceased members of this family are buried in Kirkwood Cemetery near London, Ohio.

Moses, son of William and Lavina Thomas, was born in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio, December 30, 1835 and died near London, Ohio, July 3, 1905. He was married in Fayette County Ohio, November 12, 1862 to Phebe Catherine McHenry (nee Blessing) who was born September 20, 1840 near Spring Valley, Greene County, Ohio and died August 19, 1903 near London, Ohio. Both Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas are buried in Oak Hill Cemetery near London, Ohio. They were the parents of nine children, born in the following order: Lydia Eldora, Amy, Amanda, Lavina, Austin Blessing, Gwen, Phebe Cary, Ralph William, and Reid Abram (twins). Moses Thomas was in every sense of the word a master farmer. While not an extensive landowner, his methods of maintaining a high standard in the quality of his crops and livestock placed him far above the average farmer of his day. His orchard was one of outstanding excellence, in which he loved to conduct his own experiments in propagation and grafting. He was for thirty years a member of the Board of Education in the Harrod school district in Stokes Township, and was for ten years assessor of that township. For many years he was a member of the Board of Agriculture in connection with the Jamestown Fair, a tricounty event held annually at Jamestown in Greene County, Ohio.

Politically, he was a Republican, and for many years was a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge at South Charleston, Ohio. Before his marriage he was united with the Grassy Point Christian Church. Later he and his family were members of the South Solon Christian Church. Possessing a bass voice of unusual quality, he took a prominent part in all musical activities of the church and community. His voice retained its vibrant beauty to the end of his life. As the years advanced, his rugged strength was weakened and destroyed by a dreadful and incurable malady, Bright's disease. The home of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas was one of gracious hospitality. Guests were assured of a warm and sincere greeting and of abundant refreshments. There was also a ready welcome for numerous needy and homeless children of relatives, one of whom was the writer of this article.

Phebe Catherine Thomas was the daughter of Abram and Phebe (Mock) Blessing, pioneer residents of Greene and Fayette Counties. Her first marriage was October 16, 1856 to David McHenry, who died November 10, 1859. Their child, Henry Darius, was born October 30, 1857 and died February 8, 1860. Father and son are buried in a small cemetery south of Sedalia, Ohio. Phebe Catherine Thomas was descended from Mayflower stock through John Howland and John Tilley. Other pioneer forebears were John Blessing, Perez Chipman, William Horney, Devault Mock, and Col. Abram Bird. All of these men served in the American Revolution. From this ancestry she inherited self-reliance, keen intelligence, and high moral courage. She possessed rare ability as a nurse, and ministered generously to the sick and afflicted in her community. Her exceptional gift of applying home remedies brought results which far exceeded those obtained from medications scientifically prepared. Her strong, beautiful hands, which years of household duties had failed to harden, were never idle. Her deft and diligent fingers were proficient in many domestic arts. Her skill in knitting was ever a source of wonder. Her last illness was caused by a heart ailment and dropsy. She passed to her reward on a cool autumn morning after a long period of suffering which she bore with great fortitude and resignation.

(The above biography was written by Grace Harper Wingert, a granddaughter).

Lydia Eldora, daughter of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born in Madison County, Ohio, February 11, 1863. She died in La Fayette, Madison County, Ohio, January 19, 1929. She was married July 11, 1883 to George Calvin Adams (son of Calvin Legrande and Lydia Brock Adams). Their three children are Flo M., Moses Legrande, and George Russell.

Flo M. Adams was born April 18, 1885. She was married June 6, 1911 to Robert A. McMurray. They reside near La Fayette in Madison County, Ohio and have three children, Sarah J., born July 11, 1912; Robert Auburn, born April 13, 1917; and George Legrande, born May 25, 1922.

Moses Legrande Adams was born September 3, 1892. He was married June 14, 1923 to Estel Evans. They reside at La Fayette, Ohio, and have three children, Virginia Louise, born March 19, 1924; Kenneth, born September 4, 1925; and Donald, born March 31, 1927.

George Russell Adams was born May 21, 1903. He was married August 15, 1925 to Helen Adams. Their one child is Richard Douglas, born March 24, 1927. George Russell Adams later married Mildred Kirby. They reside in Marietta, Ohio, where he is connected with the Ohio State Highway Patrol.

Amy, daughter of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born February 13, 1865. She was married December 18, 1881 to Oliver W. Harper (son of Hiram and Elizabeth Powell Harper), born March 23, 1856 and died July 22, 1886. Their only child, Grace, was born January 6, 1883. She was married first to Arthur W. Wilbanks (deceased) and later, on July 17, 1919, to John A. Wingert. They live at 1789 Woodward Ave., Springfield, Ohio.

Amanda, daughter of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born January 6, 1867 and died January 30, 1937 at Kansas City, Missouri. She was married August 31, 1886 to Robert Chapman (son of Joseph and Anna Cunningham Chapman), who was born February 7, 1852. Their four children are Garnet, Darwin, Bliss, and Eleanor.

Garnet Chapman was born January 21, 1888. She was married first to Otis White. She later married

Fred Young on February 14, 1929. They live at Independence, Missouri.

Darwin Chapman was born April 29, 1891. He was married November 28, 1917 to Sue Obermiller. They live in St. Louis, Missouri and have two sons, Darwin Jr., born October 7, 1918, and Wilbur, born March 8, 1921.

Bliss Chapman was born June 20, 1893. She was married first on November 6, 1916 to Loren Borden Thomas. Their daughter, Uarda Lee, was born November 3, 1917. The second marriage was July 25, 1923, to Allen Brundage. They live at 1843 Drumm Ave., Independence, Missouri.

Eleanor Chapman was born December 9, 1898. She was married January 12, 1921 to Dale C. Meade. They live in Kansas City, Missouri, and have one daughter, Ila Delean, born May 1, 1922.

Lavina, daughter of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born January 29, 1869. She was married November 14, 1887 to David Selsor McHenry (son of William H. and Sarah Jane Hornbeck McHenry) who was born June 21, 1867. They reside in South Solon, Ohio. Their six children are Flossie Fern, Floyd Mason, Dora Belle, David Lawrence, Loretta Catherine, and Teddy Cleon.

Flossie Fern McHenry was born July 4, 1889. She was married December 8, 1909 to Homer Straley. Their four children are Dorothy Lorene, born March 17, 1915, who was married May 28, 1937 to Harold Barnett; Marion Lucille, born October 2, 1917, who was married May 28, 1937 to Alvin Armitage; Lauris Selsor, born May 15, 1920; and Roger Ray, born October 2, 1923.

Floyd Mason McHenry was born June 8, 1891. He was married June 4, 1919 to Bessie Waugh. They reside in Madison County Ohio, and have three children: Cyril W., born May 9, 1920; Mildred Jean, born September 10, 1925; and Maxine, born July 25, 1930.

Dora Belle McHenry was born January 8, 1895. She was married first on June 12, 1916 to John Sidlo. Their children are Eloise, born December 8, 1917, and Harold Elton, born September 2, 1920. The second marriage was August 18, 1928, to George Beard. They reside in Springfield, Ohio, and have one son, Don Carroll, born June 22, 1930.

Eloise Sidlo was married July 3, 1937 to William D. Barclay. They live in Springfield, Ohio. Their son, William S., was born August 29, 1938.

David Lawrence McHenry was born March 22, 1898. He was married December 29, 1930 to Opal Ryan. Their daughter, Jo Ellen, was born November 29, 1931. David Lawrence McHenry was mysteriously murdered on November 8, 1937.

Loretta Catherine McHenry was born October 11, 1901. She was married October 19, 1921 to Ernest Walter Kiger (deceased). Their three children are Donald Lee, born April 22, 1925; Richard Lamar, born April 7, 1929; and Patsy Lou, born October 2, 1932.

Teddy Cleon McHenry was born August 25, 1904. He was married June 22, 1927 to May Carle. They have two children, Robert Carle, born May 7, 1933, and Carolyn May, born November 23, 1936.

Austin Blessing Thomas, son of Moses and Phebe Thomas, was born February 19, 1871. He was married December 18, 1893 to Coral Linson (deceased). He resides in Portland, Oregon. Their daughter, Catherine, born September 30, 1895, was married February 1, 1919 to Harold Berry. They reside in Cleveland, Ohio, and have one son, David Linson Berry, born July 10, 1924.

Gwen, daughter of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born December 30, 1872. She was married March 15, 1899 to Oscar Wallace Finley (son of Horace Taylor and Ada Dillow Finley) who was born October 25, 1878. Their daughter, Ada Catharine Finley, was born August 31, 1904 and was married August 26, 1928 to Fred Van Schoyck. They live at Mount Sterling, Ohio.

Phebe Cary, daughter of Moses and Catherine Thomas, was born June 25, 1875. She was married November 30, 1892 to John Michael Horney (son of Charles and Susan Carr Horney), who was born September 24, 1866. They reside in Springfield, Ohio, and have one daughter, Nana Gretchen Horney, who was born June 14, 1893, and was married October 24, 1928 to John M. Geese. They live in Springfield, Ohio.

Ralph William, son of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born September 4, 1878. He was married December 23, 1907 to Ada Burnham (daughter of Lucius and Anna Longbrake Burnham), who was born October 25, 1880. They have two sons, Ralph Harold,

born April 30, 1911, and Robert Burnham, born November 29, 1915.

Reid Abram, son of Moses and Phebe Catherine Thomas, was born September 4, 1878. He was married September 20, 1905 to Ella Bayer (daughter of Joseph and Catharine Cook Bayer), who was born April 6, 1879. They live in Pender, Nebraska, and have three children, Eugene, Katherine Harriet, and Josephine.

Eugene was born October 16, 1906 and was married May 24, 1931 to Margaret Warner. They have a son, Donald Reid, born March 19, 1932.

Katherine Harriet was born January 17, 1910 and was married June 3, 1934 to Leo Anderson.

Josephine was born December 25, 1912, and was married May 8, 1932 to Raymer O. Blackstone. They live in Pender, Nebraska and have two children, Kathryn Jane, born May 7, 1934, and Thomas Leroy, born September 3, 1936.

William, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born December 11, 1837 and died July 24, 1914. He married Lucinda Green. They lived in Columbus, Ohio. He is buried in Kirkwood Cemetery, near London, Ohio. William and Lucinda Thomas had four children: Harry H., of Seattle, Washington; Eben, of Fayette County, Ohio; Bessie, and William Jr., both of the latter deceased.

Jeptha, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born November 26, 1838 in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio, and died December 25, 1887 in the same county. He was married February 27, 1861 to Deborah Robinson (daughter of Chipman and Hannah Robinson), born August 26, 1842, and died May 15, 1921. Their children were Albert, Colonel, Mervin, Josephine, Lucy (died in infancy), Emma, and Grace.

Albert Thomas was born November 23, 1862. He is deceased. He married Della Bainter and had two children, Odessa, and Orville.

Odessa married Warren Bryan. Their two sons are Gale, and Leon who live near Jamestown, Ohio.

Orville is married and has two sons, Jack and Leroy.

Colonel Thomas was born December 31, 1863. He was married July 7, 1875 to Malena Gibson.

They live in Paulding County, Ohio, and have three children, Clarence, Emma, and Nancy.

Mervin Thomas was born January 8, 1867 and died March 24, 1903. He was married July 28, 1888 to Fannie Ritenour. Their two daughters are Lucille (Riley), and Muriel (Hayes).

Josephine Thomas was born September 8, 1870. She was married February 14, 1890 to Fred Ritenour. Their two children are George (died young) and Maude, who married John Fitzer and has two children, Fred, and Joan.

Emma Thomas was born February 26, 1876 and died July 30, 1880.

Grace Thomas was born February 6, 1884. She was married September 1, 1901 to Walter Zoll. They reside near Springfield, Ohio, and have four children, Phyllis, Thelma, Dorothy, and Joseph.

Phyllis was born February 2, 1903 and died July 4, 1903.

Thelma was born July 12, 1904 and was married March 28, 1934 to Ralph Minnick. They live in Springfield, Ohio.

Dorothy was born November 3, 1909 and died February 28, 1938. She was married March 18, 1930 to Raymond Knable.

Joseph T. was born July 19, 1915 and married Lavon Miller on February 20, 1937. They reside in Springfield, Ohio.

Sarah C., daughter of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born December 31, 1842 and died March 11, 1877. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. She was married February 11, 1862 to Henry Huffman. Their three children were Urban Thomas, William S., and Horace Elster.

Urban Thomas Huffman was born March 2, 1864. He married Corda Morris.

William S. Huffman was born February 18, 1866 and died January 25, 1936. He first married Rae Sinsabaugh. Their one child, Margaret, died in infancy. The second marriage was to Fannie Ritenour Thomas. They are buried at Bloomingburg, Fayette County, Ohio.

Horace Elster Huffman was born April 4, 1869 and died October 1, 1934. He married Maude Noble. He is buried at Bloomingburg, Ohio.

John Wesley, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born June 2, 1843. He died August 10, 1886. He was married March 23, 1865 to Cynthia Gordon (born January 8, 1848, and died December 23, 1902). Both are buried in the South Solon Cemetery. Their ten children are Dicella, Robert Raymond, Effie May, Sarah L., Minnie, Jennie, Warden Emery, Walter Howard, Infant (deceased, 1881), and Hilton Lester.

Dicella Thomas was born March 6, 1866. She died November 5, 1892, unmarried.

Robert Raymond Thomas was born May 10, 1868 and died December 11, 1871.

Effie May Thomas was born September 29, 1869 and died November 27, 1870.

Sarah L. Thomas was born April 6, 1871. She was married September 7, 1895 to Willis Higbee (deceased). She now resides in Jeffersonville, Ohio. Their three living children are Geneva Dicella Higbee, born November 28, 1896 (unmarried); Freda Elizabeth Higbee, born July 18, 1898 (unmarried); and Nellie Corwin Higbee, born March 18, 1901. Nellie was married December 11, 1937 to W. S. Heverly. They live at 650 Grasser St., Toledo, Ohio. There were also infant twins who died September 7, 1906.

Minnie Thomas was born January 6, 1872 and died September 9, 1872.

Jennie Thomas was born August 21, 1874. She was married September 7, 1894 to David Daugherty. They live in South Charleston, Ohio.

Warden Emery Thomas was born July 1, 1877. He died October 31, 1930. He was married December 24, 1900 to Effa D. Ferguson. Their daughter, Pauline (Luthi), was born August 12, 1915 and now resides at 427 South Sixth St., Osage City, Kansas. Warden Emery Thomas is buried at Milford, Ill., where his widow now lives.

Walter Howard Thomas was born November 5, 1879. He lives at 312 Halliday St., San Antonio, Texas.

Hilton Lester Thomas was born May 2, 1884 and died March 13, 1920, unmarried. He is buried at South Solon, Ohio.

Robert L., son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born near South Solon, Ohio, April

29, 1845 and died near Edna, Kansas, July 5, 1911. He was married April 16, 1872 at Pontiac, Illinois to Nellie C. Wagner (daughter of W. H. Wagner), who was born January 10, 1850, and died May 23, 1911. Both are buried at Edna, Kansas. Their four children are Robert Lowery, Oscar, Arden I., and Jessie Maude.

Robert Lowery Thomas was born January 19, 1873 near Pontiac, Illinois and died April 2, 1927 at Tulsa, Oklahoma. He married Nora Travis of Pocahontas, Iowa. Their daughter, Mrs. Paul Brown, resides at 134 East Independence St., Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Oscar Thomas was born August 7, 1874 near South Solon, Ohio. He was married October 12, 1910 at Independence, Kansas to Blanche Christmore (born September 16, 1888 in Indian Territory). Their two sons are Harry Reed, born January 16, 1911, and Ralph Raymond, born November 20, 1912. Both children were born in Edna, Kansas where the family now lives.

Arden L. Thomas was born April 7, 1876 near South Solon, Ohio and died June 25, 1907 at Minto, North Dakota, unmarried.

Jessie Maude Thomas was born May 6, 1878 near South Solon, Ohio. She married Willis Travis of Linden, Iowa. They live at Lewiston, Idaho.

Robert Lafayette Thomas was a teacher of music, both vocal and instrumental. He was quite successful as an organizer of bands and orchestras in the various places where he lived. His four children and he comprised an orchestra which was considered much above the ordinary. In October, 1892 the family moved from Pontiac, Illinois to Pocahontas, Iowa, making the journey in two covered wagons. The roads were unimproved and their progress was slow. Wild game for meat was plentiful and the other expenses were met by funds obtained from concerts which the family presented at the various stopping places. They arrived at their destination in February, 1893. In 1903 they moved to Coffeyville, Kansas, and in 1908 to Edna, Kansas.

Mary Anne, daughter of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born August 25, 1847 and died September 21, 1852. She is buried in the old Camp Ground Cemetery east of South Solon, Ohio.

Huston, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born October 19, 1848, and died January

19, 1909. He married Mary Bozarth. Both are buried in the cemetery in South Solon, Ohio. Their two sons are Leon, and Lewis, both deceased.

Jasper, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born March 16, 1852 and died June 26, 1918. He was married first to Maria Elizabeth Hornbeck on March 3, 1872. His second marriage was December 24, 1878 to Emma F. Heaton who was born March 16, 1856 and died March 15, 1925. To the first marriage one daughter, Alwilda, was born. To the second, four; Noah Heber, Mary Anne, Osa May, and Byron Lytel.

Alwilda, daughter of Jasper and Maria Elizabeth Hornbeck Thomas, was born April 22, 1873. She was married July 4, 1895 to William Henry Nicelley (born August 29, 1861). They live in Paulding, Ohio and have eight children: Mary Ann, Ruth Pauline, Seymour Ralph, Emma Anna, Robert Freeman, Esther Lee, Helen, and Isabelle Ellen.

Mary Ann Nicelley was born May 11, 1896.

Ruth Pauline Nicelley was born July 15, 1898. She was married December 25, 1924 to Fred M. Albert. They reside in Paulding, Ohio.

Seymour Ralph Nicelley was born December 28, 1900. He was married January 31, 1920 to Hazel Irene Butts. They live in Paulding, Ohio, and have two children, Hazel Eleanor, born January 16, 1921, and Ralph Leon, born August 12, 1928.

Emma Anna Nicelley was born February 20, 1905.

Robert Freeman Nicelley was born February 12, 1908. He died August 2, 1908.

Esther Lee Nicelley was born September 17, 1909, and died January 13, 1922.

Helen Nicelley was born March 28, 1911, and died June 27, 1913.

Isabelle Ellen Nicelley was born January 24, 1913, and died September 24, 1919.

Noah, son of Jasper and Emma F. Heaton Thomas, was born November 30, 1879, and died February 25, 1880.

Mary Ann, daughter of Jasper and Emma F. Heaton Thomas, was born April 15, 1881. She is a graduate of Cedarville College at Cedarville, Ohio, and

a graduate nurse of the Springfield, Ohio, City Hospital. She is now connected with the Clark County Tuberculosis Sanitorium in Springfield, where she resides. She was married March 19, 1920 to William Hildebrand (deceased).

Osa May, daughter of Jasper and Emma F. Heaton Thomas, was born December 11, 1883. She married Walter Huffman. They live near Bloomingburg, Ohio.

Byron Lytel, son of Jasper and Emma F. Heaton Thomas, was born July 10, 1890. He was married April 13, 1912 to Katherine Davis. They live in Springfield, Ohio, and have one son, George, born July 3, 1913, who married Mary Rutherford. They have one daughter, Katherine Louise, born July 21, 1936.

Elijah Scott, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born January 9, 1855. His death occurred in 1929. He married Fannie Tracey. Their one son, Frank, married Osa Shepard. They have two children, Esther (Dorn), and Lee. Elijah S. Thomas is buried in the Sedalia, Ohio Cemetery.

Oscar Bell, son of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born January 28, 1862, and died September 14, 1920. He married Adaline Kahn in New York City. Their three children are Thelma, Eleanor, and Sylvia.

Florestine, daughter of William and Lavina Beauchamp Thomas, was born December 21, 1862, and died March 19, 1918. She was married December 19, 1887 to William Blessing. Their only child, Dorothy, born May 3, 1889, was married December 6, 1905 to Arthur Clemans. They reside in South Solon, Ohio, and have five children: Helen Louise, Loretta Ruth, Dortha Ann, Theodore William, and Arthur Clifford.

Helen Louise Clemans was born April 13, 1907. She was married February 15, 1935 to Luther Rehm. They live near South Solon, Ohio.

Loretta Ruth Clemans was born October 4, 1909, and died February 27, 1937. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. She married Emmet Coil. Their child, Nancy Jane, was born August 8, 1931.

Dortha Ann Clemans was born February 14, 1910. She lives in South Solon, Ohio with her mother and teaches in the Lawrenceville, Ohio high school.

Theodore William Clemans was born August 30, 1912.

Arthur Clifford Clemans was born November 8, 1915. Both sons are associated with their father in the contracting business.

NANCY THOMAS HUFFMAN

Nancy Thomas, daughter of Moses and Catherine Williams Thomas, was born May 18, 1815 in Grayson County, Virginia. She died August 8, 1914, in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio. She was married



NANCY THOMAS HUFFMAN

March 11, 1841 to Amos Huffman (Hoffman). Their nine children were Barbara Catherine, William, Daniel, Isaac N., John W., Lydia Ellen, Amanda Jane, Frederick Jason, and Ida Frances. Four of these children, Wil-

liam, Daniel, Isaac N., and Amanda Jane, died in infancy.

(The following biography of Nancy Thomas Huffman was written by her granddaughter, Lora Hidy Smith. 1938).

Nancy Thomas Huffman, daughter of Moses and Catherine Williams Thomas, was born May 18, 1815 in Grayson County, Virginia. The first years of her life were spent in the locality of her birth. In 1823 her parents decided to move to Ohio, making the long, tedious journey by covered wagon and on horseback. Nancy Thomas Huffman remembered that she wore on this journey one of her brother William's suits and rode behind him on a horse much of the way. She also remembered that they forded the river at Harper's Ferry. This would indicate that they came by the way of the Shenandoah Valley, and the National Trail. The family first came to the home of Robert Porter, who married Mary (Polly) Thomas, daughter of Moses and Catherine (Williams) Thomas. Robert Porter lived on the old Prairie Road near what is now known as Cozy Corner in Fayette County. After their arrival, the father, being a blacksmith, opened a shop at the roadside below the residence of Joseph Hidy, Sr. In a few months they moved farther on and settled in the Blessing's Chapel neighborhood, where he opened another shop. Later they moved eastward toward Bookwalter and he built his shop near what is known as the Heironemous Lane. Here, by hard work and the most rigid economy, he accumulated enough money to buy a farm. Not much is remembered of Moses Thomas, except that he was a quiet, solemn man by nature, industrious, and deeply religious. Next to his kindness to his own family was his tender solicitude for his youngest brother, Joseph Thomas, the White Pilgrim, who, without the interest and help of Moses Thomas, would never have obtained an education. After the death of Moses Thomas, his wife spent her remaining years with her daughter, Nancy. She did not die there, however. She had gone over to visit her son, Benjamin, and took cold and died there.

Nancy Thomas was married first to Noah Ervin, January 31, 1839. This marriage ended in separation and divorce. Later on, she married Amos Huffman, (son of Peter and Barbara Peterson Huffman). Mr. Huffman was a widower with six children, and the new mother

soon won the love and respect of these children, which lasted as long as they lived. Amos and Nancy Huffman were the parents of nine children, four of whom died young. Their home was near the Grassy Point Church to the east and on the left side of the road near the large sycamore tree that was planted by the White Pilgrim. After the death of her husband in 1869, Nancy Huffman continued to live in the old home with her children. She was a woman of remarkable poise and strength of character. In a day of parental sternness, she maintained the discipline of her home with kindness. She and her husband were very careful to preserve good decorum, and never tolerated profanity in their house. Their home was indeed a Christian home. She loved the Lord and His Church and was very hospitable to His ministers. She was patient, tolerant and forgiving toward her fellowman, and could always see the redeeming virtue among the most flagrant faults. She was very industrious, and in her day was expert in spinning, weaving and knitting. She could make sewing thread that excelled the manufactured articles. She liked to raise a good garden and cultivated flowers extensively. Strangers often stopped to admire the two long flower beds along the front path. She remained in the old home until the end. Her son, John, a bachelor, lived with her and no one could have been more devoted than he. A niece, Esther Horney Alexander, also lived with her for many years. She passed to her reward on August 8, 1904 at the age of 89 years. Her frail body, weary of the struggles of life, had anxiously awaited the coming of the Heavenly Messenger. She is buried with her husband and children in the Whiteman Cemetery on Paint Creek, a mile or so from her lifelong residence. It is impossible in a few short paragraphs to sum up the life of such a noble woman and what she meant to her children, grandchildren, and friends. We must be content to say that the memory of one so dear is a priceless heritage.

John W., son of Amos and Nancy Thomas Huffman, was born July 20, 1850, and died December, 1926, unmarried.

Barbara Catherine, daughter of Amos and Nancy Thomas Huffman, was born February 2, 1843, and died March 30, 1924. She was married December 11, 1866 to Robert Gossard. They resided on a farm east of

South Solon, Ohio. Their nine children are John Amos, Elva, Lora Lydia, Mary Gertrude, Emma Artless, Ida, Osa, Grace, and Blanche.

John Amos Gossard was born October 9, 1867. He was married April 4, 1895 to Sarah Brock. They live near South Solon, Ohio, and have four children, Marguerite, Robert, John Jay, and Tressa (Neer).

Elva Gossard was born August 7, 1869. She resides at the Gossard homestead.

Lora Lydia Gossard was born March 7, 1871. She was married November 30, 1895 to Orris E. Duff. They reside in Columbus, Ohio, and have two children, Robert (deceased), and Edwin.

Mary Gertrude Gossard was born April 10, 1873. She was married February 19, 1896 to William J. Neville. They live in Springfield, Ohio, and have six children: Winston (deceased), Marian (Kay), Grace, William, Alan, and Neil.

Emma Artless Gossard was born January 18, 1875. She was married May 26, 1909 to Alvin Duff. He is deceased. Mrs. Duff is now Postmistress at South Solon, Ohio. Their four children are Alvin, Max, Marian, and Ruth.

Ida Gossard was born November 30, 1877. She married Ernest Klever (deceased). Mrs. Klever resides near South Solon, Ohio. Their two children are Henry, and Renold.

Osa Gossard was born March 28, 1880. She married Scott Rowe. They live in Columbus, Ohio.

Grace Gossard was born December 18, 1883. She married Leo Hartman. They live in Columbus, Ohio.

Blanche Gossard was born December 12, 1887. She married Harry Vent. They live in Columbus, Ohio, and have two children, Ruth, and Jane.

Lydia Ellen, daughter of Amos and Nancy Thomas Huffman, was born June 9, 1852, and died July 15, 1934. She was married October 31, 1872 to Marcellus Gossard. They lived at Sedalia, Ohio. Their four children are Ralph, Frank, Bessie, and Mae.

Ralph Gossard married Bertha Faudree. Their three children are Foster, Elden, and Auburn.

Frank Gossard is unmarried and lives at London, Ohio.

Bessie Gossard married Charles Klever. They live at London, Ohio, and have two children.

Mae Gossard married Wilbur Saylor. They live in Dayton, Ohio.

Frederick Jason Hoffman, son of Amos and Nancy Thomas Huffman, was born October 17, 1855. He was married August 26, 1880, to Mollie Kinsella in Chicago, Illinois. They reside in Boone, Iowa, and have three sons, Thomas Howard, Frederick William, and Robert Joseph.

Thomas Howard Hoffman was born July 1, 1882 at Boone, Iowa. He resides at Des Moines, Iowa, where he is manager of the Hotel Savory.

Frederick William Hoffman was born May 6, 1890 at Boone, Iowa. He is a graduate of Iowa State University. He now lives in Columbus, Ohio, where he is a Doctor of Dental Surgery. He is married.

Robert Joseph Hoffman was born March 9, 1905. He attended Creighton University. He is married and has three sons. He lives in Des Moines, Iowa, where he is a Doctor of Dental Surgery.

Ida Frances, daughter of Amos and Nancy Thomas Huffman, was born in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio, August 27, 1858. She was married April 13, 1878 to Alfred Hidy. They live on their farm near Bookwalter, Ohio, and have eight children, Lora Frances, Louisa Vina, John Humphrey, Edna May, Lena Maude, Albert Stanley, Laura Corinne, and Helen.

Lora Frances Hidy was born January 11, 1879. She was married July 12, 1897 to Herman J. Smith. They live in Jeffersonville, Ohio.

Louisa Vina Hidy was born May 26, 1880. She was married in 1904 to L. A. Thoroman (deceased). She lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with her three children, Wilfred, Elliot, and Pauline.

John Humphrey Hidy was born January 12, 1882. He was married in 1904 to Bessie L. Linson. Their one child, Louie Corinne, was born June 26, 1909, married July 12, 1936 to Ted Beach, Jr. They live in Binghamton, N. Y. John H. Hidy was again married July 12, 1937, to Bernice Buchanan. They live near Urbana, Ohio.

Edna May Hidy was born March 26, 1884. She was married in 1912 to George Heironimus (deceas-

ed). In 1916 she was married to A. F. Belles. They live near Lewiston, Penn., and have three children, Ida Marian, Alfred, and Edna Mae.

Lena Maude Hidy was born April 9, 1886. She was married in September, 1922 to E. M. Phillips. They live in Springfield, Ohio, and have three children, Edwin, Norma Jane, and Virginia Ann.

John Hidy, son of Lena M. Hidy, married Elizabeth Hughes, November 19, 1937. They live at Bookwalter, Ohio, where he operates the grain elevator. He is a young man of unusual ability and integrity.

Albert Stanley Hidy was born June 14, 1888. He was married August 4, 1913 to Annabel Stanford. They live in Buckingham Valley, Penn., and have three children, Vernon, Ross, and Albert Stanley, Jr.

Laura Corinne Hidy was born May 6, 1890 and died September 13, 1892.

Helen Hidy was born May 23, 1892. She was married June 7, 1918 to Frank Day. They live near Woodstock, Ohio.

ISAAC NEWTON THOMAS

Isaac Newton, youngest child of Moses and Catherine Williams Thomas, was born August 8, 1817. He died March 7, 1865 in Madison County, Ohio. He is buried in the Whiteman Cemetery about four miles southeast of South Solon, Ohio. He was married in Logan County, Ohio, March 17, 1843 to Mary Watt who was born January 13, 1826. She is buried in the De Graff, Ohio Cemetery beside her two sons, William L., and Daniel G. Isaac and Mary Thomas were the parents of nine children, born in the following order: Elizabeth Catherine, Nancy, Francis Marion, William Lemon, Ira, Daniel Griffith, Lorena Belle, Mary Jane, and Louvina. This family lived on their farm in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio, near Grassy Point Church. All of their children were born there. The youngest child, Louvina, was born three months after the father's death from typhoid fever. About 1879 the mother, with her unmarried children, moved to Logan County, Ohio to make a home for the son, William L., who was at that time assisting in church activities at De Graff, Ohio. He had

become interested in evangelistic work during a revival held at Pancake Chapel, near South Solon, which had been conducted by a Mrs. Sparks. William L. Thomas possessed a voice of unusual beauty and in these services he assumed charge of the music. He followed this work for many years, and for a time sang with his brother Daniel at a church in Columbus, Ohio.

Elizabeth Catherine, daughter of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born March 17, 1844, and died February 28, 1908. She was married in Madison County, Ohio, March 23, 1860 to Bentley Williams who was born January 3, 1836 and died in 1917. Both are buried in the De Graff Cemetery. They were the parents of eight children, Anna, Lillie, Isaac N., Olive, Frank, Edna, Arthur H., and Elza P.

Anna Williams was born December 26, 1860 and died June 20, 1886. She was married June 25, 1883 to Reuben Foulk.

Lillie Williams was born May 3, 1863. She was married March 19, 1881 to George Young (deceased). Their ten children are Bertha (Hartzler), Raymond, Walter H., Grace (Bishop), Anna M. (Murphy), Christine (Smith), Thelma R. (Jackson), Olive (Holdren), Bentley, and Ellen G. (Dipple).

Isaac Newton Williams was born July 25, 1866 and died October 19, 1925. He was married in North Carolina, May 10, 1916 to Maude Viola Thomas, a third cousin (the daughter of William James and Jennie Ann Pickett Thomas). Their two daughters are Bessie Viola, born May 15, 1920, and Virginia, born September 16, 1922. Isaac Newton Thomas was a teacher and composer of music. He conducted a music store in Bellefontaine, Ohio. He was a member of the Disciples Church. After the death of her husband, Maude Viola Thomas with her two children returned to her former home in Burlington, North Carolina, where they now reside.

Olive Williams was born October 13, 1867. She was married February 15, 1901 to Reuben Foulk, widower of her deceased sister, Anna.

Frank Williams was born January 10, 1870. He married Ada Helfrick.

Edna Williams was born August 26, 1875. She was married May 19, 1890 to Edgar Johnson. They live on a farm in Logan County, Ohio, and have four

children, Paul Johnson, born October 10, 1897, who married Mary Grimm and lives in Dayton, Ohio; Martha (Beason), born April 10, 1904; Lucille (Perkins), born March 28, 1906; and Maurice (deceased) born January 12, 1896.

Arthur Williams was born August 18, 1878. He married Viola May Cripps (daughter of Porter and Nancy Cripps), who was born July 17, 1879, on November 27, 1901. They live at 163 West Ninth St., Columbus, Ohio. Their five children are Opal Catherine, born April 10, 1904; Ercel Ruth (Corkwell), born May 5, 1905; Twyla Orpha (Nabergall), born January 18, 1912; Dorvibel, born December 8, 1914, and Melba Ardeth, born November 3, 1916. Arthur Williams is a merchant and musician. He and his five attractive daughters form a most unique and excellent orchestra. Mrs. Williams serves this organization in the capacity of business manager.

Elza Pittinger Williams was born May 5, 1889. He was married July 20, 1907 to Hazel Cassie Loudon (daughter of Lewis and Anna M. Wirick Loudon) who was born November 25, 1888. They live at 13606 Horner Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, and have three children, Carl M., born July 1, 1908; Earl Preston, born October 30, 1909, who was married April 10, 1933 to Mildred Priest, and has two children, Rita May and Alfred James; Florence Maxine, born July 4, 1911, who was married June 26, 1929 to Joseph T. Jeffrey and has two sons, Eugene Lloyd, born April 29, 1930, and Leroy Vernon, born June 17, 1932.

Nancy, daughter of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born June 14, 1846 and died June 16, 1890. She was married October 8, 1868 to William Bethard. Their four children were Newton (who died young), Ida, Louella, and Frank.

Ida Bethard married Jasper Hall, of Lima, Ohio. Their daughter, Mrs. Opal Crutcher, lives at 425 Warwick Blvd., San Antonio, Texas.

Louella Bethard (deceased), married Rel Potee.

Frank Bethard resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Francis Marion, son of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born December 23, 1848 and died February

17, 1851. He is buried in the old Camp Ground Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio.

William Lemon, son of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born July 10, 1851 and died August 1, 1928, unmarried. He is buried in the cemetery at De Graff, Ohio.

Ira, son of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born February 16, 1854 and died November 20, 1880, unmarried. He is buried beside his father in the Whiteman Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio.

Daniel Griffith, son of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born December 15, 1856 and died January 29, 1920, unmarried. He is buried in the De Graff Cemetery.

Lorena Belle, daughter of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born July 26, 1859. She was married November 28, 1879 to John Williams (son of Hugh and Rachel Johnson Williams) who was born August 15, 1854 and died April 11, 1926. Mrs. Williams resides at 109 Water St., Bellefontaine, Ohio. Their three children are Homer A., Mabel, and Walter.

Homer A. Williams was born February 20, 1881. He was married January 31, 1903 to Esta Beightler. They live near Swanton, Ohio, and have three children, Lawrence, born November 21, 1906; Ronald, born May 6, 1910 (who was married May 10, 1933 and lives in Columbus, Ohio. He has one son, Jon Homer, born December 29, 1936); and Lora Belle, born December 11, 1918.

Mabel Williams was born May 8, 1883. She was married December 28, 1920 to Samuel Hanks who died October 29, 1929. Mable Hanks lives at 109 Water St., Bellefontaine, Ohio. Her son, Kermit, lives in Columbus, Ohio and has three children, Billy Gene, born January 16, 1923; Phyllis Joan, born September 13, 1925; and Patricia June, born April 23, 1927.

Walter H. Williams was born November 23, 1889. He was married October 12, 1912 to Leona Caverder. They live near Bellefontaine, Ohio, and have one child, Weldon, born August 24, 1914, who was married October 17, 1936 to Grace Etta Littler. They live in Columbus, Ohio.

Mary Jane, daughter of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born April 24, 1861. She was married Jan-

uary 12, 1885 to Benjamin Short who was born December 9, 1863 and died August 14, 1924. They lived at West Liberty, Ohio, where Mr. Short is buried. Mary Jane Short lives with her son at 212 South Main St., Bluffton, Ohio. Benjamin and Mary Jane Short had three children, Cora A., Chester A., and Elmer L.

Cora A. Short was born August 25, 1886. She was married August 23, 1905 to Daniel Comer. They live at West Liberty, Ohio, and have nine children, Benjamin Willard, Thomas Earl, James Russel, Anna Belle (Kline), Mary Roberta (Kuba), Joseph Howard, Martha Ann, Billy Gene, and Bobby Dean (twins).

Chester Short was born April 15, 1889 and died January 8, 1916.

Elmer L. Short was born July 23, 1893. He was married April 19, 1920 to Elizabeth Herman. They live at 212 South Main St., Bluffton, Ohio and have one son, Ralph Herman.

Louvina, daughter of Isaac Newton and Mary Thomas, was born May 4, 1865, three months after the death of her father. She was married November 10, 1896 to Harvey Stiles who was born August 17, 1862, son of Andrew Stiles. They live in De Graff, Ohio, and have three children, Marion, Louvina Pearl, and William Harbert.

Marion Stiles was born November 5, 1897. He married Nellie Baurthauer. They live on Glendale Ave. in Toledo, Ohio, and have two children, Thelma Eileen, and Charles William.

Louvina Pearl Stiles was born January 26, 1900, and died of burns April 4, 1902.

William Harbert Stiles was born October 24, 1902 and married Iris Stewart. They live in De Graff, Ohio.

GRIFFITH THOMAS **(Madison County, Ohio)**

Griffith, son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was, according to family tradition, born in Orange (now Alamance) County, North Carolina. There are documental proofs of his parents having lived in that county near the town of Haw River, in the year 1794. There are other records, however, of the family's having

lived in Augusta County, Virginia at an earlier date. Therefore there is a possibility that some of the children were born in Virginia or Pennsylvania. No records are known to exist, as far as can be ascertained, which would give more definite information.

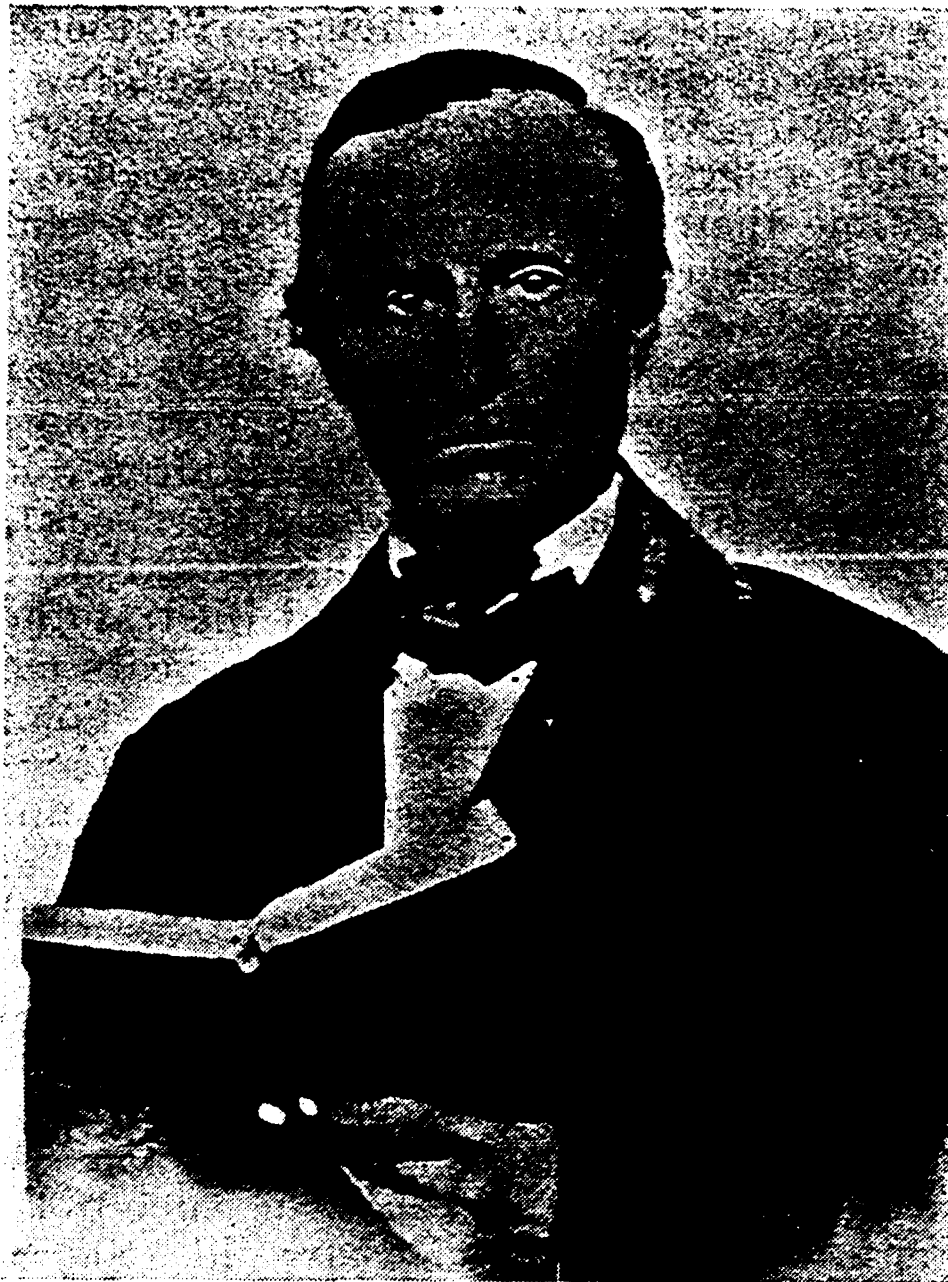
Griffith Thomas married Mary Williams, daughter of John Williams. Various written records left by the former generations of the family state that she was a native of Virginia. She was a sister of Catherine Williams Thomas, wife of Moses Thomas. Brothers married sisters. Before coming to Ohio both families lived in Grayson County, Virginia.

Griffith and Mary Thomas came to Ohio in 1815. At that time their family consisted of two children as far as can be ascertained. The trip was made by wagon and on horseback. They settled in Stokes Township, Madison County, near the Fayette County line on a farm of two hundred acres. The will of Griffith Thomas, probated October 22, 1852, mentions his children, Johnathan, Joseph, John, George W., Lydia (Hornbeck), Nancy (Anderson), Polly (Currey) and his wife, Polly (Mary). A son, Zeno, was born in 1828 and died at the age of seventeen. His gravestone stood some years ago in the old Camp Ground Cemetery near South Solon, Ohio. The exact date of the death of Griffith and Mary Thomas is not known. They were buried in the Camp Ground Cemetery directly across from their home. This cemetery had no care for many years and the gravestones have now been destroyed by the elements and vandals.

The White Pilgrim writes of having visited his brother Griffith in Ohio during the month of May in 1817. The time of their coming to Ohio can be reckoned by a story handed down by Nancy Thomas Anderson to her descendants. She said that she came to Ohio with her parents when she was ten years old. She was born in Grayson County, Virginia, May 22, 1805.

REVEREND JOSEPH THOMAS

Joseph, son of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas was born in Grayson County, Virginia in 1805 according to the inscription on his gravestone. He died October 19, 1873 in Livingston County, Illinois. He was married in Madison County, Ohio, January 6, 1830 to Sarah Ann Price who was born in Ohio, November 17, 1811 and died



REV. JOSEPH THOMAS

in White County, Indiana, January 17, 1863. Both are buried in West Point Cemetery near Wolcott, Indiana. They were the parents of twelve children born in the following order: James Walton, Joseph Smalley, Cicero Franklin, Yensi, John Price, Griffith Marion, Charles Caharn, Anna Maria, Mary Elizabeth, Sarah Catherine, Lydia Jane, and Emma Aquilla. All grew to maturity

except Mary Elizabeth who died of burns received while making sorghum. Joseph Thomas came to Ohio with his parents about 1815. At the early age of twenty he was ordained into the ministry of the New Light Christian Church and continued in that profession for forty-nine years. His many sacrifices and hardships as a circuit rider in the early days lead one to believe that the mantle of his uncle, the White Pilgrim, must have fallen upon his



SARAH ANN (PRICE) THOMAS

shoulders. Many interesting incidents in the life of Rev. Joseph Thomas, which, in the author's opinion, deserves a place in this history, have been contributed by his descendants. Possibly the most singular has to do with an experience which occurred while he was riding on his circuit. First it must be explained that Rev. Thomas was fairly well-to-do, and, being so situated, made no

charges for his services as a minister, but accepted whatever the congregation had to offer. He always rode horseback to his appointments and many times the way led through dark and dangerous places which were often frequented by desperate men and a few Indians, although the latter were not troublesome. On this particular night he had delivered his sermon at a log school house and had waited for the usual response from the congregation but nothing was offered. Now it so happened that at the time Rev. Thomas was in dire need of ten dollars but had no money with him. He, however, did not make this fact known to anyone, but after the meeting mounted his horse and started to his next appointment which was a considerable distance away. He rode along wondering how he would meet his obligation of ten dollars which he knew would face him at his next stopping place. Suddenly a man stepped from behind a bush and grasped the horse by the bridle. The first thought of the rider was to expect violence, but before he could say or do anything the man on foot placed in the rider's hand what he later found to be ten dollars. Then the man disappeared into the darkness as quietly as he had appeared. The fact that there was little money in those days and that people usually paid in grain or other farm produce makes this occurrence all the more miraculous.

Another incident which proves the resourcefulness of this man and reveals him to have been able not only to expound God's Word but also to defend himself, is related by a grandson, Frank L. Thomas, of Parma, Idaho. "Grandfather, in one of his sermons, had spoken uncomplimentarily of two men in the community. One day soon after, as he was mounting his horse to fill an appointment, these men approached him and announced their intention of giving Grandfather a thrashing for what he had said about them. They then pulled him off his horse. Grandfather was tall and raw-boned, with such long arms that he could easily hold his assailant at arm's length. After striking the nearer man a blow that rendered him unconscious he grasped the second man by the throat and proceeded to pound his face until he begged for mercy. Grandfather then mounted his horse and rode to his preaching place where the congregation was waiting. He arose and told what had happened and said

he would not preach to them until the elders held a meeting to decide whether he was right or wrong. The elders met immediately and after discussing the matter declared Brother Thomas to be in the right, so Grandfather proceeded with his sermon.

“In the early days Grandfather lived near South Solon on a timbered farm which he cleared for cultivation. Of course he did not do all the work, in fact he did very little as he was away most of the time on his circuit. He had six boys, all large enough to do farm work, and it was their task to clear the land of the timber. These trees were mostly walnut. After cutting an acre or so they would have what was then known as a log rolling. All the neighbors would come in and the men with oxen, canthooks, and chains would pile these logs in high heaps and set fire to them. Then, while they rested and drank cider, they would watch the great logs disappear in the flames. Think of it! Burning walnut logs to get rid of them. And in a few years those logs would have been worth a great deal more than the land which they cleared. They also made rails out of the harder wood such as white and burr oak, and the men would have rail splitting contests in which my Uncle Joe Thomas usually carried off the prize.

“My Grandfather Thomas was a good manager and provider and became quite well-to-do, but, tiring of such hard labor for himself and his family, he decided to locate some place where there was no clearing to be done. He sold his land in Ohio and moved to White County, Indiana where he not only avoided the drudgery of stump pulling, but also multiplied his acres, as land at that time in Indiana could be bought for one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre. After purchasing two hundred acres of mostly prairie land, he built a log house at the edge of what was known as West Point Timber on a sandy ridge that faced the south and most of his grazing land. With his surplus cash he stocked this farm with several hundred head of cattle. The sons continued caring for the farm and Grandfather kept on with his preaching.

“Shoe leather was prepared by tanning cowhide, using oak bark. The process required about nine months. Grandfather Thomas would then make each of his children a pair of shoes. One pair a year was all they were allowed. The women carded, spun, and wove all the cloth

that went to make their clothing. They retted the flax straw which was made into linen garments. My Dad, Cicero Thomas, told me that he helped his mother do this work on several occasions.

“Those were the days when men dealt with each other upon a basis of honesty and honor, but Grandfather had unfortunately signed his name as security for a cousin to the sum of \$8,000. The cousin failed to pay and Grandfather was forced to sell his land, all of his cattle and his household goods to meet the obligation. He was then about seventy years of age, but he moved to Illinois. Grandmother had died. He married again and accumulated enough to buy about forty acres of land before he died. I was only about four years old but I can clearly remember seeing him in his coffin in our front yard, where the funeral was held. I can still see his face as my Dad lifted me up, as plainly as if were but yesterday.”

In the year 1850, Reverend Thomas, together with all his family except one son, James Walton, moved from Ohio to White County, Indiana, where he was the seventh voter in the township of his new home when the township was formed. In the years that followed he became a successful farmer and stock-raiser. In 1863, after the death of his wife, he moved to Livingston County, Illinois. Here he married Hanna Harder.

Rev. Joseph Thomas claimed kinship with Jefferson Davis and told of having been a childhood playmate of the future President of the Southern Confederacy. He said that Davis was always a leader among the boys at play.

Sarah Ann Price Thomas was born on the same day that the battle of Tippecanoe was fought between General William Henry Harrison and Tecumseh, who with his brother, the Prophet, commanded the Pottowatomie Indians.

James Walton, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born December 23, 1830, in Madison County, Ohio. He died in West Plains, Missouri. He was twice married; first on February 22, 1852 to Nancy Jane Thomas, a second cousin, born January 12, 1831 (daughter of Benjamin and Malinda Thomas). Nancy Thomas died August 12, 1858. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. The second marriage was

March 17, 1863 in Madison County, Ohio to Sarah Elizabeth Gordon. Soon after the second marriage the family moved to Tipton County, Indiana, and later to Cherryvale, Kansas. Children of the second marriage were James, Gordon, Joseph, Emma (Behner), Mary, Letitia, and one child, who died in infancy. James Walton Thomas died of apoplexy at West Plains, Mo., and is buried there.

Children of James Walton and Nancy Thomas were Sarah Ellen, Smiley, and Charles.

Sarah Ellen, daughter of James and Nancy Thomas, was born November 25, 1852 and died September 17, 1928. She was married October 31, 1872 to John Stroup (son of Joseph and Sarah Ann Hanson Stroup). They lived on a farm a short distance north of South Solon, Ohio. Both are buried in the cemetery at South Solon. Their four children are Bertha May, Joseph Walter, John Milton, and Charles Forrest.

Bertha May Stroup was born September 8, 1873. She is unmarried and lives near South Solon.

Joseph Walter Stroup was born January 7, 1875. He married Bertha Gordon.

John Milton Stroup was born March 27, 1877.

Charles Forrest Stroup was born May 24, 1879.

Smiley, son of James and Nancy Thomas, was born September 15, 1854 and died December 16, 1926. He married Ella Brock. Their only child died at birth.

Charles, son of James and Nancy Thomas, was born December 21, 1856. He married Mary Charles. Their three children are Eva (who married Madison Cooper), Harry, and Margaret Carver. Charles lives in Columbus, Ohio, with his daughter, Eva.

The children of James and Sarah Thomas live in Kansas and Missouri but all efforts to communicate with them have been unsuccessful.

Joseph Smalley, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born in Madison County, Ohio, August 15, 1831 and died March 15, 1914, near McDowell, Livingston County, Illinois. He was married three times; first, in Greene County, Ohio, December 10, 1857 to Mary A. Snodgrass. She died in February, 1862 and is buried in the Bethel Cemetery near Gladstone, Greene County,

Ohio, with two children, Alice, who died March 4, 1862, aged three years, and an infant son who died December 10, 1860. His second marriage was July 4, 1865 to Martha Houder. The third marriage was to Mrs. Frances Wesley, a widow. Joseph and Martha Houder Thomas are buried near McDowell, Ill.

The following sketch, copied from "A Portrait and Biographical Album of Livingston County, Illinois," was published in 1888 by Chapman Bros. of Chicago. It seems worthy of mention.

"Joseph Smalley Thomas. This gentleman comes from a family celebrated for the longevity and stature attained by its members. The age of some of the ancestors has averaged one hundred and three years, and several of them were veritable giants.

"The ancestors of Joseph S. Thomas were men and women who were leaders in their day and generation and attained to prominence in whatever field in the vineyard of life they chose to work.

"Joseph S. Thomas is a farmer and stock raiser and owns over two hundred acres of land in Eppard Point, Avoca, and Oswego Townships. He is a native of Madison County, Ohio where he was born August 14, 1831. He is the son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, the former a son of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas who was born in Grayson County, Virginia and claims relationship to Jefferson Davis. Mary Williams Thomas was the daughter of Col. John Williams of Revolutionary War celebrity and a man who lived to be one hundred and nine years, nine months and seventeen days old, and retained his reason to the last. He was six feet two inches in height and weighed two hundred and twenty-five pounds. During his life he was a leader among men, always standing at the front of any enterprise in which he might be engaged. He was of Welsh descent and died in Madison County, Ohio. He was the father of a large family, the ages of whom averaged 103 years at their death. They were members of the Quakers or Friends Society and the father of our subject was reared in that faith, but he later became a member of the Christian Church.

"To the parents of Joseph S. Thomas were born twelve children whose record is as follows: James W. is married, has eight children and is engaged in farming

in Cherryvale, Kansas. Joseph S. is the subject of this sketch. Cicero L. is married, has a small family, and is a successful farmer in Indiana. Yensi was the wife of Warren Chamberlain. She died leaving five children. Griffith M. was killed by guerillas in Kentucky while serving in the Union Army. He left a wife and one child. Anna Maria is the wife of John A. Thomas, a dealer in farm implements in Jasper County, Indiana. Sarah Catherine is the wife of Harvey Hillis. Mary was burned to death at the age of fourteen. John P. is married and has two children. Charles Caharn was in an Indiana Cavalry Regiment for four years during the Civil War. Soon after his return from the service he married and met death two weeks later from an accident with a threshing machine. Lydia Jane is the wife of Milo Gilkerson of Kankakee and has three children. Emma was the wife of Austin Cotton. Her death was caused by exposure.

“The father of Joseph S. Thomas — the Rev. Joseph Thomas — died in Livingston County, Illinois, on what is known as the Ively Pillsbury farm. He was a minister in the Christian Church for 49 years beginning when he was twenty years of age. He lived in various states, moving from Ohio to Indiana in 1851, thence to Illinois in 1863.

“Joseph Smalley Thomas was married on July 4, 1865 to Martha M. Houder who was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, on September 16, 1833 (the daughter of Jacob and Barbara Kertz Houder). To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas five children have been born, Jennie Almeda, Ulysses Smalley, Mary Anne, Cicero L., and Manette.

“The eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas was in the Chatsworth disaster but fortunately came out unharmed. The family are members of the Christian Church in which Mr. Thomas holds the office of clerk. They are respected members of society and the family enjoys the esteem of their neighbors.”

Jennie Almeda, daughter of Joseph S. and Martha M. Thomas, was born May 20, 1866. She was married March 15, 1888 to Everett Teach. They live in Frankfort, Indiana.

Ulysses Smalley, son of Joseph S. and Martha M. Thomas, was born November 19, 1867. He was married February 1, 1900 to Cora Fry. Their two

children are Etta Almeda, and Helen Inez. Ulysses S. Thomas later married a Mrs. White. They now live in Plymouth, Indiana.

Etta Almeda Thomas was born in 1902. She married C. A. Kuntz and lives in Abilene, Kansas.

Helen Inez Thomas was born in 1904. She married Irvin Schaffer and lives in Granite City, Illinois.

Mary Ann (Molly), daughter of Joseph S. and Martha M. Thomas, was born November 18, 1870 and died June 26, 1907. She was married November 18, 1891 to Charles W. Moore. Their two children are Gordon, and Joseph W.

Gordon Moore was born August 6, 1893. He married Eva Beard in June, 1919. They have three sons and one daughter.

Joseph W. Moore was born November 12, 1895. He is married and has one son, Delos. He lives in Monticello, Indiana.

Cicero Leontine, son of Joseph S. and Martha Thomas was born October 17, 1873. He was married in 1905 to Anna Huber who died in 1927. They had one daughter, Luella Rose. Cicero Leontine Thomas now lives on a farm near Columbia City, Indiana.

Luella Rose Thomas was born February 23, 1906. She married Edwin J. Hinen. They have a daughter, Rosina, born October 10, 1934.

Manette, daughter of Joseph S. and Martha M. Thomas, was born in Livingston County, Illinois, April 25, 1876 and died in 1897. She married William King. Their two daughters are Nellie, and Zella.

Nellie King lives in Pontiac, Illinois.

Zella King married Louis Post. They live near Cullom, Illinois. Their two children are Jean (deceased), and Claranell.

Cicero Franklin, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born February 5, 1832 in Madison County, Ohio. He died March 1, 1918 in White County, Indiana. He was married near Wolcott, Indiana, July 4, 1852 to Eliza Jane Halstead who was born October 19, 1834 near Mt. Sterling, Ohio. Her parents moved to Indiana in the spring of 1851. Cicero and Eliza Jane Thomas were the parents of five children, born as follows:

Sarah Ruan died in infancy.

Josephine married Irvin Phipps. After one year of married life he died. Josephine died two years later leaving no children.

John lived to be 13 years old.

Evangeline was born February 5, 1857 and died December 28, 1935. She married William C. Jackson on March 20, 1879. They had three children, two dying in infancy. The third child was Cicero Floyd.

Cicero Floyd Jackson married Alma Drayer. They live in Durham, New Hampshire and have one son, Herbert. Cicero Floyd Jackson is Dean of the University of New Hampshire.

Franklin Leontine Thomas was born October 29, 1868 near Wolcott, Indiana. He was married December 21, 1889 to Amie Alice Wright. This marriage was dissolved in 1898. In 1903 he was married to Margaret Jacoby in Sedalia, Missouri. They had a daughter, Leona Marie, who was born in 1904 but who lived only three months. She is buried in Grandview Cemetery at West Lafayette, Indiana. In 1917 Franklin L. Thomas married Mrs. Julia Hazel Condo Gilkerson at Monticello, Indiana. She died in 1927. Franklin Thomas now lives alone on the north fork of the Boise River about two miles from where it joins the Snake River. He is a color artist, decorator, refinisher, manufacturer and repairer. His address is Parma, Idaho.

Cicero Franklin and Eliza Jane Thomas are buried with their two children, Sarah Ruan and John in West Point Cemetery in White County, Indiana.

Yensi, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born February 4, 1836 in Madison County, Ohio. She died March 10, 1872 and is buried in West Point Cemetery. In the same coffin is her infant child. She was married April 23, 1852 to Warren Chamberlain. Their five children were Frances, Griffith, Charles, James, and the infant mentioned above.

Frances Chamberlain married Martin L. Carr, son of Joab Carr. They live somewhere in the southwest.

Griffith Chamberlain left home when he was about 15 years old and was never again heard from.

Charles Chamberlain is supposed to be living in Peoria, Illinois, but the address is unknown.

James W. Chamberlain lived for many

years at Beardstown, Pulaski County, Indiana. He married Mary Heilman. Their four daughters are Dulcie (Murphy), Anna Smith of Renssalear, Ind., Mayme, who married Wesley Taylor, and Josie. Mayme Taylor died in 1926. Her son, Cecil, lives in Chicago, Illinois.

John Price, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born August 9, 1838 and died February 6, 1908. He was married April 10, 1861 to Sarah A. Allison who was born November 11, 1837 and died April 15, 1878. They were the parents of two daughters, Flora May and Lanora B.

Flora May Thomas was born September 29, 1862 and died June 4, 1887. She was married in 1886 to Samuel Calloway. Their only child was stillborn May 23, 1887.

Lanora B. Thomas was born January 2, 1865 and died October 30, 1924. She was married August 14, 1888 to Robert J. Million. They had four children, Lloyd Thomas, Cloyd Basil, Flota Beth, and Lora Faith.

Lloyd Thomas Million was born July 12, 1889. He married and had one daughter.

Cloyd Basil Million was born October 21, 1891. He was married September 1, 1913 to Gladys Williams who was born January 4, 1891. They live in Monticello, Indiana, and have six children as follows:

Thomas was born December 4, 1914.

Keith was born November 27, 1915.

Robert was born November 20, 1916.

Cloyd Jr. was born February 7, 1920.

Cathleen was born August 30, 1922.

Eugene was born July 30, 1928 and died in 1934.

Flota Beth Million was born July 17, 1899 and died April 28, 1902.

Lora Faith Million was born March 31, 1904. She was married December 3, 1923 to William Fowler. They live in Monticello, Indiana, and have eight children as follows: Donna Ardell, Robert James, Bethel Joyce, Lyle Jean, Wayland Dean, Gary Warren, Larry M., and Patricia Kay.

Griffith Marion, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas was born January 18, 1840 and died January 2, 1865 at West Point, Kentucky, while serving

in the Union Army. As he was moving army horses from one camp to another he was killed by guerillas or booty hunters. He was married in 1862 to Charity McDowell. Their only child, Herman E., died September 18, 1865 at the age of one year and five months. Father and son are buried in West Point Cemetery in White County, Indiana.

Charles Caharn, son of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born August 22, 1845 in Madison County, Ohio. He died September 1, 1866 in White County Indiana. He was married August 12, 1866 to Mary Allison. He served in an Indiana Cavalry Regiment for four years during the Civil War. Soon after his return home he was married and two weeks later was killed in an accident with a threshing machine. He is buried in West Point Cemetery near Wolcott, Indiana.

Anna Maria, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born February 23, 1842 in Madison County, Ohio, and died in White County, Indiana, July 5, 1918. She was married April 16, 1866 to John A. Thomas, a second cousin (the son of John and Hannah Thomas). Their two children were Harry O., and Ida V.

Harry O. Thomas was born April 13, 1867, and died October 6, 1894 unmarried.

Ida V. Thomas married Warren Roadifer. They live in St. Cloud, Florida, and have two children, John Oriel, and Clara Anita, who married Carson Hunt.

Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born in 1848 and died in 1862 of burns received while helping make sorghum molasses at her father's home. She is buried beside her parents in West Point Cemetery.

Sarah Catherine, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born October 13, 1849 and died January 24, 1872. She was married September 20, 1867 to James Harvey Hillis, who was born April 22, 1845, and died February 22, 1872. Both are buried in West Point Cemetery. They had one daughter, Sarah (Sada) Jane.

Sarah (Sada) Jane Hillis was born December 23, 1871. After her parents death she was adopted and reared by her mother's sister, Lydia Jane Gilkerson. She was married at Manteno, Illinois, December 11, 1889 to Sherman G. Atherton. They now live near Monticello;

Indiana, and are parents of eight children, Herbert Milo, Harvey Amasa, Lillian Evalena, Hazel May, Ruth Marie, Mildred Corinne, Ruby Viola, and Walter Harold.

Herbert Milo Atherton was born June 18, 1891 at Cherryvale, Kansas. He married Drusilla Sheets. They live in Houston, Texas, and have one son, Jay Wendell.

Harvey Amasa Atherton was born February 26, 1893 at Manteno, Illinois. He married Irma Rogers. They live at Watervliet, Michigan, and have three sons, Robert, Jack, and William.

Lillian Evalena Atherton was born October 9, 1895 at Monticello, Indiana. She married Wilbur Wakeland. They have two sons, Donald Eugene, born October 10, 1924, and Dean Milo, born October 27, 1920.

Hazel May Atherton was born November 14, 1897 at Cherryvale, Kansas. She married John Cooper. They have two sons, Donald, born November 20, 1928 and Gerald Wayne, born May 13, 1934.

Ruth Marie Atherton was born June 10, 1900 at Cherryvale, Kansas. She married Herbert Prugh in December, 1914.

Mildred Corinne Atherton was born February 4, 1905. She is the Assistant Superintendent of General Electric Shop at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Ruby Viola Atherton was born October 7, 1908 at Cherryvale, Kansas. She is a stenographer in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Walter Harold Atherton was born January 22, 1914 in Monticello, Indiana. He is employed in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Lydia Jane, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was born March 5, 1852, and died February 14, 1922. She was married January 2, 1871 to Milo James Gilkerson, born April 28, 1843, and died October 6, 1918. Both are buried near Monticello, Indiana. Their four children are Milo, John Herbert, Leslie, and Byrda Annetta.

Milo Gilkerson died in infancy.

John Herbert Gilkerson was born in 1874, and died June 9, 1938 at Monticello, Indiana. He is buried there. He married Anna Austin. Their three children were Milo Virgil, Dorothy Mae, and Gladys.

Milo Virgil Gilkerson died young.

Dorothy Mae Gilkerson died young.

Gladys Gilkerson married Hansel Carlson and lives near Lafayette, Indiana.

Leslie Gilkerson was born April 15, 1887, and died July 18, 1912. He married Julia Hazel Condo. Their two sons are Milo Samuel, and Leslie. Leslie, Jr. lives at Miamisburg, Ohio.

Byrda Annetta Gilkerson was born August 21, 1883, and died April 10, 1903. She was married May 1, 1901 to Benjamin Price.

Emma Aquilla, daughter of Rev. Joseph and Sarah Ann Price Thomas, was married to Austin Cotton. Their only child, Lula, died at the age of six years. Mother and daughter are buried in West Point Cemetery in White County, Indiana.

NANCY THOMAS ANDERSON

Nancy, daughter of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas, was born in Grayson County, Virginia, May 22, 1805, and died near Frankfort, Clinton County, Indiana, September 17, 1887. She was married January 10, 1828 in Madison County, Ohio, to Samuel Anderson who was born February 19, 1805 in Highland County, Ohio, and died May 31, 1887. Both are buried in Jefferson Cemetery five miles west of Frankfort, Indiana. Their eleven children were born in the following order: Jeremiah, James, Elijah, Griffith, Samuel, John, David, and Nancy (twins), Almeda, Amanda, and Joseph. Samuel and Nancy Anderson removed from Madison County, Ohio to Clinton County, Indiana with their two small sons, Jeremiah and James, in the early spring of 1830. The journey was made by wagon and on horseback. Their cousins, the Clarks and Kilgores, had settled in the neighborhood of Jefferson, so the Andersons entered on sixty acres near the village of Manson. Later Samuel Anderson acquired land to the amount of 700 acres. While waiting for their new home to be built they lived with a cousin, David Kilgore, who lived nearby. In this home all of their children were born except the two eldest. This same homestead was occupied many years later by a granddaughter, Mrs. George Galvin, and her family. Politically the Andersons were Democrats and as such

were prominent pioneers of Clinton County. Nancy Thomas Anderson's grandfather was Griffith Thomas, Sr., one of the first settlers of North Carolina.

(Note: Most of the foregoing sketch was taken from a history of Clinton County, Indiana, published in 1886. The other part of the genealogy of this family was contributed by Miss Grace Orb, of Lafayette, Indiana).

Jeremiah Anderson was born October 26, 1828. He married Sarah Ann Miller. They had no children.

James Anderson was born February 19, 1830. He married Catherine Young. Their children were Frank, Annie, Jerry, Lloyd, Marion, William, James, Katie, Jennie, and Carrie.

Elijah Anderson was born October 27, 1831. He married Nancy Ann Ball. They had no children.

Griffith Anderson was born March 15, 1834. He married Lizzie McDonald. Their children were William, May, and Claude.

Samuel Anderson, Jr., was born February 4, 1836. He married Elizabeth Stafford. They had no children.

John Anderson was born March 19, 1838. He married Jane Timmons. Their children were Edith, Emma, Samuel, and Albert.

David Anderson was born December 7, 1841. He married Rachel Ross. Their children were Maude, Ivy, Jeanette, William, Jay, and Ross.

Nancy Anderson was born December 7, 1841. She married Edward Cunningham. Their children were Anna, Charles, Pearl, Daisy, and Griffith.

Almeda Anderson was born April 26, 1843. She married William DeHart. Their only child, Eva (Mrs. W. C. McCullough), lives at Stockwell, Indiana, RR, Lafayette, Indiana.

Amanda Anderson was born October 29, 1845 and died April 11, 1935. She was married October 25, 1874 to Ferando C. Orb. Their children are Paul (deceased), Grace, who resides at Shady Springs, Route 3, Lafayette, Indiana, and Rush, who has a daughter, Mrs. Charles Bible, of West Lafayette, Indiana. Amanda and Ferando Orb are buried in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery at Frankfort, Indiana, together with their son, Paul.

Joseph Anderson was born March 25, 1850 and died June 19, 1858.

JOHNATHAN THOMAS
(White County, Indiana)

Johnathan, son of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas, was born in 1817 and died in 1887 in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. He was married December 8, 1839 in Madison County, Ohio to Elizabeth Carr (daughter of Solomon and Rebecca Price Carr), who was born



JOHNATHAN and ELIZABETH (CARR) THOMAS

January 13, 1823 and died February 8, 1899. They were the parents of six children, John Marion, Martin L., George Washington, Wallace W., Olivia, and Milton A.

Jonathan and Elizabeth Thomas moved from Ohio to Indiana about 1860, settling on a farm five miles southeast of Chalmers. A brother of Mrs. Thomas, John P. Carr, lived nearby. Here they lived for a number of

years, then they sold their land and bought a farm three miles northeast of Battle Ground in Tippecanoe County. About 1882 they bought a residence in Battle Ground where they were living at the time of the death of Mr. Thomas which occurred at the home of a daughter near Monticello, Indiana, while he was on a trip to purchase cattle. Some years after the death of her husband Elizabeth Carr Thomas went to live with her son, Martin L. Thomas, later going to live with her daughter, Ollie Spencer, near Monticello, Indiana, where she died. Jonathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas are buried in the Battle Ground Cemetery.

John Marion, son of Johnathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born in 1841 near South Solon, Ohio, and died in 1906 at Sumas, Washington. He is buried in the I. O. O. F. Cemetery there. In 1863 he was married to Rachel Barcus who died in 1873 at Linden, Indiana. John Marion Thomas was a Civil War soldier and a member of the Methodist Church. Their four children are Hubert U., George W., Frank G., and Olive E.

Hubert U. Thomas was born March 4, 1864 and died in 1924. He married Daisy V. McCore. Their children live in Machias, Washington, where Hubert is buried.

George W. Thomas was born in 1867 and died in 1884 unmarried.

Frank G. Thomas was born November 9, 1869. He married Millie Hopkins. They live in Union City, Indiana, and have four children, Lula, Bernice, and Blanche (twins), and Charles.

Olive E. Thomas was born December 19, 1872. She married George L. Beeker. They live in Hebron, Indiana, and have five children, Gladys (Klinger), Natalie (Gidley), Lloyd, Frances, and Kathryn.

Natalie Beeker Gidley has two children, John, and Mary Catherine.

Gladys Beeker Klinger has two children, Betty, and Billy.

Lloyd Beeker has two children, Bruce, and Leona.

Martin L. Thomas, son of Jonathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born December 6, 1842 in Madison County, Ohio, and died in Monon, Indiana, January 22, 1919. He was married August 17, 1861 in Indiana to

Anne Elizabeth Jaynes who was born October 30, 1842 and died October 1, 1916. Both are buried at Monon, Indiana. Their ten children are John P., William, Elmer E., Fred, Harry, Emma, Alva Milton, Cooper, and Ida and Lucy (twins). In 1862 Martin Thomas moved his family to Des Moines, Iowa. Here he was in charge of a construction crew of 1,800 men engaged in the building of the Great Northern Railroad west of Des Moines. In this wild country were many Indians who caused great trouble, stealing everything in sight. As the work progressed, the Thomas family moved westward, sometimes living in log shacks near the railroad where the Indians annoyed and frightened Mrs. Thomas as they constantly begged for food. Many of the bolder squaws would enter the house and take anything they wanted. To this Mrs. Thomas did not dare object. Martin Thomas was one of the first men to cross the Des Moines River on a locomotive going west on the Great Northern Railroad. Soon afterward he gave up his work and returned to White County, Indiana. In the spring of 1864 Martin Thomas enlisted in the Union Army but was rejected because of an injured ankle. Later he enlisted as a teamster but the war ended before his company was called for service. For the next few years he farmed in White and Tippecanoe Counties and in the winter of 1878 he moved his family to Hope, Hempstead County, Arkansas, arriving there the day before Christmas. The following spring he rented a farm about five miles from town and planted sixty acres of cotton. The first day they worked he took the Negro women to the house at noon where his wife set dinner for them in the smokehouse which was at least twenty feet from the house. That evening about sundown three men rode up on horseback with rifles strapped across their saddles. They called Mr. Thomas out and informed him that he was not permitted to allow Negroes to eat at his table and that they would give him five days to leave the neighborhood. In order to do this, avoiding trouble, he was compelled to sell his crop for \$60 although it was worth \$300. He then moved back to town and later bought 80 acres of land without improvements for \$2,000 cash from a man named Hannegan, who, when the sale was made, claimed to be too busy to go to the county seat to make out a deed, but promised that it would be all right for Mr. Thomas to build his house

and take possession of the land. A five room house was built and five acres of ground was cleared. Then, when Mr. Thomas demanded the deed he was ordered to vacate the land. An attorney advised Mr. Thomas that the land was in the name of Mr. Hannegan's wife who was in no way accountable for any contract made. About five days later four men rode up to the Thomas home and announced that they had been informed of the trouble and declared that they would not allow anyone to come down from the north and make trouble for their citizens. They warned him to take his family and leave that locality at once or suffer the consequences. The family then moved to a log house three miles south of the county seat where Mr. Thomas secured work from a man who wanted some land cleared. He had agreed to pay \$60 for the work. When the clearing was about half done Mr. Thomas asked for some money. The man claimed to have no cash, but gave him five pounds of salt bacon and twenty-five pounds of flour. When the work was finished the man again had no money and when an attorney was consulted, it was found that this land was in the wife's name and it would be impossible to collect. By this time there was no money for the family to live on so Mr. Thomas wrote to his mother in Indiana to send money to bring the family back home. In the meantime Martin Thomas started to look for work. He walked eight miles before he found anything to do. His employer offered him a mule to ride back and forth to his work and told him to fill the "pill bags" with corn for the mule to eat night and morning. That evening Mr. Thomas took half of the mule's corn. His wife parched it and the family lived for three days on the corn taken from the mule. In about ten days the money arrived and they started at once by train to Indiana, arriving at Battle Ground in August of 1879 with only 50 cents left of the money sent. That evening Martin's brother, George, asked to borrow 50 cents to go to a camp meeting then in progress at Battle Ground; freely was this last money given. Mr. Thomas then went to work on his father's farm and soon after rented a farm nearby. During the winter he trapped for muskrat, skunk, mink, raccoon, and opossum, selling the furs to support his family. Later he bought 80 acres of unimproved land upon which was considerable timber. He bought a saw mill and soon the timber was made into

lumber for a house and barn. Here the family lived five years. Then they moved into Battle Ground when he sold the land. In 1894 he moved to a farm three miles west of Monon and remained there until he went into the real estate business in Monon. He continued in this business until his death in 1919. Martin Thomas was a hard working man who never recognized defeat or looked for soft jobs. He had a host of friends among his business associates. He regarded his word as good as his bond, and he would keep his promise if it took everything he had on earth.

(The above biography was contributed by Fred Thomas).

John P., son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born June 9, 1862. He married Malinda Brewer, born in 1856 and died January 4, 1935. Their only child died in infancy. John P. Thomas lives near Battle Ground, Indiana.

William, son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born in 1863. He died in infancy.

Elmer E., son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born February 4, 1865. He was married in 1890 to Minnie E. Rcse, who was born July 5, 1873 and died February 5, 1929. Their two daughters are Velma Pearl, and Rosemarie. On September 3, 1931, Elmer E. Thomas married Virinda R. Ranier. They live at Brookston, Indiana.

Velma Pearl Thomas (Weaver) was born Sept. 26, 1894. She lives in Englewood, N. J.

Rosemarie Thomas (Garret) was born October 14, 1896. She lives at Hammond, Indiana.

Fred, son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born May 1, 1868. He was married September 13, 1893 in Park County, Indiana to Rcse E. Warren who was born June 22, 1871, the daughter of Clark and Cordelia Warren. They live in Monon, Indiana, where Mr. Thomas is a prominent citizen. He is the head of the Thomas Land Company and numerous other local enterprises. They have three children, Leslie E., Luther Warren, and Dorothy M.

Leslie E. Thomas was born in Boone County, Indiana, August 17, 1894. He was married April 12, 1918 to Aldyth M. Andrews. They live at 5237 Parker Ave.,

Chicago, Illinois, and have one daughter, Marjorie Jean, born October 5, 1935.

Luther Warren Thomas was born in Monon, Indiana, April 27, 1901. He was married September 4, 1937 to Kathryn Arrick. They live at 333 Grant St., West Lafayette, Indiana. Mr. Thomas is a member of the instruction staff of Purdue University.

Dorothy M. Thomas was born March 26, 1910 in Monon, Indiana. She was married August 15, 1936 to Richard Baines, born June 13, 1905, a native of Birkenhead, Cheshire, England. They live at West Lafayette, Indiana, where Mr. Baines is connected with Purdue University.

Harry, son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born September 12, 1869. He was married November 2, 1910 to Eva Zellers of Martin County, Indiana. They live on a farm near Shcals, Indiana. They are the parents of six children, five of whom died in infancy. The living child is Loue Bertha.

Loue Bertha Thomas was born January 5, 1913. She was married February 26, 1933 to James Delmar Williams. Their two daughters are Doris Olive, born June 9, 1935, and Naomi Jean Williams, born November 6, 1936.

Emma, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born February 15, 1873. She was married to Dean Smith. She died December 6, 1905.

Alva Milton, son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born January 12, 1875. He was married November 22, 1899 to Emma Ellen Garwood, born May 16, 1878. They live near Battle Ground, Indiana, and have three children, Arthur Carson, Lucille Elizabeth, and Chester Washington.

Arthur Carson Thomas was born October 26, 1900 at Monon, Indiana. He was married September 27, 1922 to Mary Blanche Cadwallader. They have two children, Mary Ellen, born October 5, 1927, and Dwight A., born June 27, 1930.

Lucille Elizabeth Thomas was born August 19, 1904. She was married October 5, 1928 to Carl Jennings Stonebreaker. He was born March 19, 1909. They have four children, Marilyn Jane, born September 25, 1929; Mary Elizabeth, born August 30, 1931; Patricia

Faye, born November 12, 1933; and Carl James, born November 4, 1934.

Chester Washington Thomas was born February 22, 1912. He was married October 3, 1936 to Agnes E. Haley of Monticello, Indiana. They live in Marion, Indiana.

Cooper, son of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born March 11, 1877 in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. He was married August 8, 1900 to Alice Louther, born June 17, 1875, a native of Yorkshire, England, the daughter of James and Elizabeth Miller Louther. They live near Monon, Indiana, and have two sons, Clarence Walter, born July 1, 1901, and Howard.

Ida, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Thomas, was born April 22, 1880. She was married August 10, 1929 to Carl Radner who was killed in an automobile accident October 28, 1929.

Lucy, twin sister of Ida, died at the age of thirteen months.

George Washington, son of Johnathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio in 1845. He died in Sumas, Washington, February 10, 1926. He was unmarried.

Wallace W., son of Johnathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born near South Solon, Ohio, March 22, 1848 and died December 12, 1912 at Long Beach, California. He was married June 15, 1876 at Indianapolis, Indiana to Mary E. McCray, born April 17, 1851 and died July 13, 1915. Both are buried in Los Angeles, California. They were the parents of five children, Percy A., John W., Max M., Frank Dale, and Helen.

In this brief summary of the life of Wallace W. Thomas which has been constructed from the interesting material contributed, one is constrained to form a rare mental image of a picturesque and dignified man who was ever identified with vanguard of western development. There comes an irresistible and overpowering admiration for this man, who, in our opinion, merits special mention in the annals of the family. In the romantic and history-making days of our western frontier his character was outstanding. His staunch stand for law and order was rewarded by recognition from the President of the United States. Wallace W. Thomas an-

swered the call of the West when he moved from Indiana to Kansas in 1877. He was elected to the office of Probate Judge as a Democrat in the strongly Republican Sedgwick County, of which Wichita is the county seat. He held this office for eight years. At the opening of the Indian Territory he moved to Guthrie where he and his partner, Judge Dale, opened law offices and were considered the leading criminal law firm in the entire territory. On September 16, 1894, when the Cherokee Strip was opened, he drove and took a claim in that celebrated land settlement. At this time he maintained a branch law office at Perry, Oklahoma. These were the days when claim jumping and lawlessness were general, and the firm of Thomas and Dale was universally employed as defense counsel. This necessitated their frequent appearance in Washington D. C. where they became quite friendly with President Grover Cleveland, who later appointed Mr. Thomas to the office of United States Commissioner for Oklahoma. The following poem, an ode to Uncle "Walt," written by a nephew, Byron M. Jones, tells in unusual and charming style the life story of Wallace W. Thomas:

"UNCLE WALT"

Not what you'd call a pioneer,
Or a man who'd care to flip
A flap-jack.—likely never known to gear
And saddle a pony, swing and clip
Off a sagebrush mile—
Not that, but all the while
With heart and soul set to sense a boom,
Out along the frontier's elbow-room.

Back in Indiana, early took to law,
But never just exactly satisfied,—
Sort of listening to the call of the wide
Open spaces. Then came Wichita,
And he was away. Earliest thing I recall
As a boy, his selling town lots there
That are now in corn.
And that was in the fall
Of early eighties. Heard the summoning horn
Of Cherokee strip, drove and took a claim.

And so on West, and in her early boom days came
To Los Angeles, and owned a ranch
That unless I'm staunch
Insane, would now buy half of Ford or Standard Oil.
Yet couldn't be content to work the soil.
Harbored on, that native nameless boom-town zest.
Last saw him alive, one day
With wistful distant eye, still looking West
Out over Santa Monica Bay,
And there I left him,—in his greening swallow-tail
His iron-grey locks streaming under a five gallon hat,
His grizzled Van Dyke arrow-straight,—a soldier,
steadfast, at
Attention, waiting command, breasting the salt sea
gale.

Percy A., son of Wallace W. and Mary McCray Thomas, was born July 11, 1878 at Wichita, Kansas and died December 16, 1933 at Los Angeles, California.

John W., son of Wallace and Mary Thomas, was born July 14, 1881 at Wichita, Kansas. He was married January 10, 1923, to Isabelle La Velle. They live at El Monte, California, and have twin daughters, Virginia and Maxine.

Max M., son of Wallace and Mary Thomas, was born December 22, 1886 at Wichita, Kansas. He was married December 20, 1920, at Toledo, Ohio. He married Bernice J. Rose. They live at Compton, California, and have three children, Betty Helen, Marjorie L., and John Franklin.

Frank Dale, son of Wallace and Mary Thomas, was born in 1894 at Guthrie, Oklahoma. He was married in 1915 to Daisy P. Wilson, who was born in 1896 at Missoula, Montana. They have one daughter, Gail.

Helen, daughter of Wallace and Mary Thomas, was born July 18, 1891 at Guthrie, Oklahoma. She married Frank Buren. They live in Los Angeles, California, and have two daughters, Mary Helen, and Barbara.

Olivia, daughter of Johnathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born August 4, 1850 and died November 6, 1911 at Monticello, Indiana. She was married February 11, 1868 to Solomon Spencer. Both are buried at Monticello, Indiana.

Milton A., son of Johnathan and Elizabeth Carr Thomas, was born March 28, 1858 and died February 3, 1919. He was married May 14, 1884 to Rose E. Chaffin, born January 8, 1863. Milton Thomas is buried beside his parents at Battle Ground Cemetery. His widow lives at Lafayette, Indiana. They had no children.

LYDIA THOMAS HORNBECK

Lydia, daughter of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas, was born in Stokes Township, Madison County, Ohio, August 6, 1821. She died in South Solon, Ohio, August 28, 1913. She was married August 3, 1844 to James Hornbeck. Madison County records show that they were married by Joseph Thomas, Minister of the Gospel. This was a brother. Both James and Lydia Hornbeck are buried in the South Solon Cemetery. They were the parents of the following children: Emma, Maria, Albert, Lewis, Daniel, and George W.

Lydia Thomas Hornbeck was held in highest esteem by the entire Thomas family. Because of her being the oldest member present, she was the recipient of special honors at all the Thomas reunions. We regret to report that her descendants were unwilling to furnish material for a more complete genealogy of this beloved lady. We are certain that if "Aunt Lydia" were living, she would be greatly interested in this record, and would have contributed much valuable and interesting data.

Emma, daughter of James and Lydia Hornbeck, married Wilson Morgan. They had one son, William. This family moved to Muncie, Indiana about 1885.

Maria Hornbeck married Alex Simmerman. Their children are Leon, William, Sarah, and Pansy.

Albert Hornbeck married Nancy Dillion. Their children were Addison, and Warner (deceased).

Lewis Hornbeck married Josephine Ballard. Their only son, Frank, married Lucy Countryman and had one child, Helen (Abbot).

Daniel, son of James and Lydia Hornbeck, married Annie Evans.

George W. Hornbeck married Mary Hardacre. Their three children are Jessie, Hazel, and Guy.

Jessie Hornbeck married Willis Reese.

Hazel Hornbeck married Frank Davis.

Guy Hornbeck is married and lives in Springfield, Ohio, and has one daughter, Rachel.

JOHN THOMAS

John, son of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas, was born about 1823 in Madison County, Ohio, and died near Rensselear, Jasper County, Indiana. The exact date of death is not known. He was married May 24, 1844 in Madison County, Ohio, to Mary Ann Crouch who was born in 1827 in Virginia and died in 1918 near Rensselear, Indiana. John and Mary Ann Thomas were the parents of five children, John Jr. was born in 1845 and died December 26, 1928; Mary Jane was born in 1846 and died in 1920; a daughter was born in 1849 and died in 1910; Louvina was born in 1851 and died in 1918; Leroy was born in 1853 and died in 1933. Little can be told concerning this family. None of the children married and all are dead. Records on the gravestones in Weston Cemetery near Rensselear, together with the information given by the caretaker of the cemetery, is the only knowledge available. John Thomas, the father of this family, must have passed away many years ago, as his grave is in that part of the old original cemetery, and is not marked. The son, Leroy, told the caretaker of the exact location of the father's grave and said he intended to place a marker there. Leroy died shortly after that and this was not done. It is recalled by Fred Thomas, of Monon, Indiana, that he visited this family at Rensselear about the year 1887 and that the above John Thomas, Sr. was an uncle of Martin L. Thomas, Fred's father. The daughter, Louvina, attended the Thomas reunion in Battle Ground, Indiana, some years later.

MARY THOMAS MAHOY CURREY

Mary, daughter of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas was born in 1824 in Madison County, Ohio. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. She was married May 18, 1849 to Huston Mahoy who died September 30, 1848, aged 27 years. Their children were George W., Joseph, and Jane. Mary Mahoy later married Harrison Currey.

George W. Mahoy married a Miss Ballard and later Mary Ellen Chapman Bainter. There were no children by either marriage.

Joseph Mahoy was born April 22, 1842 and died December 30, 1900. He is buried at Pleasant Run Cemetery near Delphi, Indiana. He was married twice. By the first marriage there were two children, Ella Kiger (deceased), and Frank. By the second marriage he had one son, John Mahoy who lives in San Jose, California, and has two children, Patricia, and Keith.

Jane Mahoy died unmarried. She is buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

GEORGE WASHINGTON THOMAS

(Madison County, Ohio)

George Washington, son of Griffith and Mary Williams Thomas, was born December 17, 1826, and died December 7, 1876 near South Solon, Ohio. He was married October 3, 1852 in Fayette County, Ohio, to Delda (Dolly) Frances Simmermon. Both are buried in the South Solon Cemetery. Their six children were Laban Alford, Caroline, Zeno, Marietta, Laura Jane, and Benjamin Franklin.

Laban Alford Thomas was born May 25, 1853. He was married September 21, 1904 to Olive B. Mark of Greenfield, Ohio. She died January 27, 1938.

Caroline Thomas was born August 18, 1854. She was married March 28, 1872 to Elisha S. Gordin. They live at 613 North Detroit St., Xenia, Ohio. Their two children are Louie Belle, and Frederick Pearl.

Louie Belle Gordin was born December 19, 1872. She was married February 14, 1894 to Harry A. Rowand. They live at 277 So. Broadmoor Blvd., Springfield, Ohio. Their two children are Carl Thomas, and Ralph Elisha.

Carl Thomas Rowand was born July 14, 1895. He was married August 27, 1916 to Viola May Games. Their children are Bruce Gordon, and Richard Robert.

Bruce Gordon Rowand was born June 20, 1922.

Richard Robert Rowand was born September 11, 1928.

Ralph Elisha Rowand was born June 5, 1898. He was married February 19, 1920 to Edith Louise Pagett. Their children are Rex Howard, and Ronald Pagett.

Rex Howard Rowand was born October 5, 1928.

Ronald Pagett Rowand was born December 18, 1934.

Frederick Pearl Gordin was born May 30, 1876. He was married November 30, 1899 to Myrtle Belle Earley. They live at 613 North Detroit St., Xenia, Ohio. Their two daughters are Ruth Lorene, and Mary Pauline.

Ruth Lorene Gordin was born October 2, 1900. She was married to Ernest Johnson. Their children are Max Eugene, born December 24, 1929, and Roger Gordin, born April 24, 1934.

Mary Pauline Gordin was born July 7, 1902. She was married May 31, 1935 to Nathan Hugh Chitty. They have a daughter, Janet Caroline, born September 30, 1937.

Zeno, son of George Washington and Delda Thomas, was born December 19, 1855. He died at London, Ohio, August 2, 1937. He was married twice; first to Sophronia Lucas. After her death he married Clara M. Little in June, 1893. Their son, Foster, was born January 30, 1899. He lives in London, Ohio.

Marietta, daughter of George Wasington and Delda Thomas, was born March 10, 1859, and died April 25, 1927 near Sedalia, Ohio. She was married September 25, 1878 to David Wesley Gossard. Their two children are Coral Edythe, and Adda Lela.

Coral Edythe Gossard was born July 10, 1879. She was married December 8, 1909 to Lee Thompson. They have four children, Leo Gene, Dwight L., Mary Helen, and Doris Lucille.

Leo Gene Thompson was born November 13, 1913, and died August 19, 1914.

Dwight L. Thompson was born October 22, 1915.

Mary Helen Thompson was born June 30, 1918.

Doris Helen Thompson was born May 28, 1920.

Adda Lela Gossard was born January

25, 1885. She was married December 23, 1909 to Edgar Case Paullin. Their son is Rodger Lamar.

Rodger Lamar Paullin was born January 1, 1917. He was married August 15, 1934 to Dorothy Eleanor Johnston. They have a son, James Lamar, born July 18, 1935.

Laura Jane, daughter of George Washington and Delda Thomas, was born December 18, 1863. She was married December 28, 1882 to Andrew Jackson Brock. Their children are Floyd Loraine, Glenn Hire, Lowell S., and Delda Eva.

Floyd Loraine Brock was born November 16, 1884. He was married June 30, 1910 to Myrta A. Mowery. Their children are Royal Henry, Arwyn Jackson, Marlyn Jean, and Barbara Joan.

Royal Henry Brock was born June 27, 1911.

Arwyn Jackson Brock was born March 17, 1914.

Marlyn Jean Brock was born October 30, 1923.

Barbara Joan Brock was born June 11, 1926, and died May 24, 1928.

Glenn Hire Brock was born July 31, 1886. He was married February 25, 1909 to Myrtle E. Watkins. Their only child was Phyllis Ann. Glenn Hire Brock was later married at Flemingsburg, Kentucky to Lola Boyer Whitaker on November 4, 1935. They live in Jamestown, Ohio.

Phyllis Ann Brock was born August 10, 1919.

Lowell S. Brock was born April 21, 1889, and died May 2, 1889.

Delda Eva Brock was born July 3, 1892. She was married April 22, 1915 to Edwin F. Hoppes. They live in Springfield, Ohio, and have one daughter, Mary Jane.

Mary Jane Hoppes was born July 15, 1925.

Benjamin Franklin, son of George Washington and Delda Thomas, was born August 2, 1867. He was married December 13, 1894 to Minnie Heath. They live near Sedalia, Ohio. Their three children are Clarence Rexford, Thelma Olive, and Vernon Eugene.

Clarence Rexford Thomas was born September 2, 1895. He was married November 28, 1916 to Mable Blanche McCoy. They live near Jeffersonville, Ohio. Their children are Max Arthur, Anna Lee, an infant son who died at birth February 21, 1928, and Marilyn Jane.

Max Arthur Thomas was born May 9, 1919. He died March 4, 1926.

Anna Lee Thomas was born January 7, 1927.

Marilyn Jane Thomas was born May 31, 1934.

Thelma Olive Thomas was born December 5, 1901. She was married December 19, 1923 to Russell Lee Cook. They have a daughter, Louetta Jean.

Louetta Jean Cook was born June 8, 1927.

Vernon Eugene Thomas was born September 23, 1905, and died June 8, 1916.

JACOB THOMAS

Jacob, son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was born in either Augusta County, Virginia, or Orange County (now Alamance), North Carolina. There are no known records or other means of determining the exact place or date of his birth.

The diary of the White Pilgrim mentions Jacob's living in Orange County, North Carolina, up to the year 1813. About this time Jacob went to Kentucky and later settled in Madison County, Ohio. We know that two of his children, James Monroe and Nancy, were born in Pulaski County, Kentucky, and it is therefore assumed that the family lived there before coming to Ohio.

Jacob Thomas married Sarah Bobbitt, but all efforts to find a record of the date or place of marriage have been unsuccessful.

After coming to Ohio this family lived in a brick house, now razed, that stood near the home of John and Mary Ann (Linson) Blessing, about three miles east of South Solon, Ohio, on the Federal Pike. They also lived on the Shockley land west of that town. Jacob Thomas leased various tracts of virgin timber which he cleared

and put into condition for farming. He was also a blacksmith.

The date of his death is not known. His descendants say that both Jacob and Sarah are buried in the old original part of the South Solon Cemetery near the grave of their son, James Monroe Thomas.

After the death of Jacob, his widow lived a greater part of the time at the home of Benjamin Thomas. She was regarded by all the family as being a most unusual woman. Her kind and gentle ways endeared her to all the kin and neighbors who knew her as "Aunt Sallie."

Jacob and Sarah Thomas were the parents of six children, Caleb, Mary, Lorenzo Dow, Nancy, Rebecca, and James Monroe.

Caleb Thomas was married November 12, 1846 in Madison County Ohio, to Rebecca Porter, a second cousin, the daughter of Robert and Mary Thomas Porter. Their three sons were Josiah, Harlan, and Robert Dudley.

Of Josiah and Harlan nothing could be learned.

Robert Dudley Thomas married and had two daughters, Stella, and Pearl. Stella married Jesse Burns, of Columbus, Ohio.

Caleb Thomas was a minister of the Gospel. He lived at Mount Sterling, Ohio, and later went West. His wife is buried at Mount Sterling. It is said by relatives that Caleb was buried in the West.

Mary, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Thomas, was born in 1825 and died August 16, 1873. She was married January 18, 1846 to Hugh Orr. Their children were Anna, Burton, William, Angeletta, John Brough, and two children who died in infancy. All deceased members of this family are buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Anna Orr married Albert Bush and had two children, Edward, and Frank.

Burton Orr died unmarried.

William Orr married Elvira Insley. Their two children are Leah, and John.

Leah (Orr) Florence lives in South Charleston, Ohio.

John Orr lives in Dayton, Ohio.

Angeletta Orr married Jefferson Banion. Their only child, Eunice (Filer), is deceased.

John Brough Orr was born April 16, 1864. He was married January 20, 1898 to Lulu Worrell. Their two children are Mary Ellen, and Robert.

Mary Ellen Orr was born December 19, 1898 and married Charles Plank. They live in Springfield, Ohio, and have three sons, Charles Jr., Richard Dale, and Donald.

Robert Orr was born October 13, 1900 and died April 8, 1921. He is buried in Ferncliff Cemetery in Springfield, Ohio.

Lorenzo Dow, son of Jacob and Sarah Thomas, went to Missouri while he was a young man to make his home with his maternal uncle, Thomas Bobbitt. He never returned to Ohio and none of the family can tell anything concerning him or his descendants.

Nancy, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Thomas, was born in Pulaski County, Kentucky in 1835. She died near South Solon, Ohio in 1910 and is buried in the cemetery there. She married Hiram Reese. Their three children are James Harvey, David, and Josephine.

James Harvey Reese was born June 2, 1854. He lives in South Charleston, Ohio. He married Mary Scovill. Their children are William, Laura, James, Grace, and Walter.

William Reese married Esther Huston.

Laura Reese married Elmer Edwards.

James Reese married Nettie Roach.

Grace Reese married Pringle Whitt-ridge.

Walter Reese married Ivy Self.

David Reese was born in 1856. He married first Anna McLaughlin, and later Bertha Klever. He is buried in the South Solon Cemetery.

Josephine Reese was born February 6, 1860. She married John Porter. They live in Jeffersonville, Ohio. Their children are Hiram Monroe, John Edward, Flora Bell, Carl S., Addie May, Vera Viola, and Lester Homer.

Rebecca, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Thomas, married John Brathwaite. Their three children are Sarah (wife of Patton Banion), Mina (Fleming) and Cicero (Dick) Brathwaite, who married Bertha Worth-

ington. Cicero and Bertha Brathwaite live at 713 Snowhill Blvd., Springfield, Ohio.

James Monroe, son of Jacob and Sarah Thomas, was born in Pulaski County, Kentucky, and died in Madison County, Ohio. He was a soldier in the Union Army throughout the Civil War. He is buried in the South Solon Cemetery. He married Margaret Ellis who was born April 9, 1826 in Centerville, Kentucky and died April 4, 1894 in St. Marys, Ohio. Their children were James Buchanan, George W., Sarah Ellen, and Hulda M.

James Buchanan Thomas was born in South Solon, Ohio, March 8, 1858 and died in Loogootee, Indiana, July 20, 1920. He married Mattie Shough who was born in McLean County, Illinois, June 20, 1858. The marriage took place in Washington C. H., Ohio, April 22, 1880. They were the parents of eight children, Binea C., Margaret F., Agnes E., Edith A., Hulda M., Charity J., James W., and Francis M.

Binea Charles Thomas was born in Celina, Ohio, January 18, 1882. He married Adaline Johnson, July 28, 1909 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Adeline Johnson Thomas died February 19, 1924. Binea Charles Thomas now lives in Chilton, Wisconsin. Their three children are Mary Mattie, Andrew James, and Alice Adeline.

Mary Mattie Thomas was born May 31, 1910 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She married Fred Shelburne, May 4, 1929 at Chicago, Illinois. Their five children are Barbara Ann, Nancy Adaline, Helen May, Janet Marie, and Charles Fred.

Barbara Ann Shelburne was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, August 13, 1931.

Nancy Adaline Shelburne was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, February 24, 1934.

Helen May Shelburne was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, April 29, 1935.

Jane Marie Shelburne was born in Portage County, Wisconsin, July 20, 1936.

Charles Fred Shelburne was born in Los Angeles, California, May 23, 1938.

Andrew James Thomas was born March 18, 1912 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Alice Adeline Thomas was born January 19, 1917 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Margaret Florence Thomas was born in Montezuma, Ohio, August 23, 1884. She was married April 23, 1905 to Christian Hunsinger. Their four children are Howard H., Raymond R., Le Roy, and Mattie Margaret.

Howard Hamilton Hunsinger was born in Lake Bluff, Illinois, February 7, 1906. He married Helen Kanehl, June 26, 1929 at Chicago, Illinois. Their two children are Helen Margaret, and Phyllis Marie.

Helen Margaret Hunsinger was born in Chicago, Illinois, March 23, 1930.

Phyllis Marie Hunsinger was born in Chicago, Illinois, January 17, 1933.

Raymond Robert Hunsinger was born in Chicago, Illinois, February 12, 1908. He died in Loogootee, Indiana, August 12, 1908.

Le Roy Hunsinger was born in Chicago, Illinois, October 2, 1909. He married Irene Egarter, December 27, 1932 at Chicago, Illinois. Their two children are Ronald LeRoy, and Ruth May.

Ronald LeRoy Hunsinger was born in Chicago, Illinois, November 19, 1933.

Ruth May Hunsinger was born at Chicago, Illinois, May 25, 1936.

Mattie Margaret Hunsinger was born in Loogootee, Indiana, January 3, 1913. She was married to Amos H. Wall, May 2, 1931 at Chicago, Illinois. They have one child, Patricia Rose, born at Chicago, Illinois, July 19, 1932.

Agnes Ellen Thomas was born in Montezuma, Ohio, June 18, 1886. She was married to Michael Barlow, February 5, 1927 at Chicago, Illinois. They have no children.

Edith Alice Thomas was born at Montezuma, Ohio, November 10, 1888. She was married to Nels E. Rasmussen, February 14, 1906 at Chicago, Illinois. They have eight children, Harold E., Marvin N., Helen E., Hazel A., Virginia R., Dorothy J., Donald J., and Robert T.

Harold Eugene Rasmussen was born in Chicago, Illinois, February 4, 1907. He died in Chicago, Illinois, April 30, 1920.

Marvin Nels Rasmussen was born in

Chicago, Illinois, September 27, 1908. He died in Chicago, Illinois, August 10, 1922.

Helen Edith Rasmussen was born in Chicago, Illinois, August 22, 1910. She died at Chicago, Illinois, October 23, 1910.

Hazel Alice Rasmussen was born in Chicago, Illinois, January 20, 1913. She was married to Joseph C. Manka at Chicago, Illinois, April 29, 1935. They have no children.

Virginia Ruth Rasmussen was born at Chicago, Illinois, August 16, 1919.

Dorothy Jean Rasmussen was born at Chicago, Illinois, June 6, 1922.

Donald James Rasmussen was born at Chicago, Illinois, November 21, 1924.

Robert Thomas Rasmussen was born at Chicago, Illinois, March 16, 1927.

Hulda May Thomas was born at Montezuma, Ohio, October 4, 1890. She died there May 9, 1894.

Charity Jane Thomas was born in Montezuma, Ohio, January 3, 1893. She died there August 25, 1897.

James William Thomas was born in Montezuma, Ohio, September 28, 1895. He died at Chicago, Illinois, June 30, 1904.

Francis Marion Thomas was born at St. Marys, Ohio, August 25, 1895. He died at Montezuma, Ohio, April 15, 1901.

George W., son of James Monroe and Margaret Ellis Thomas, was born January 16, 1854 and died January 28, 1930. He is buried at Lisbon near East Liverpool, Ohio. He was married twice but had no children.

Sarah Ellen, daughter of James Monroe and Margaret Ellis Thomas, was born September 11, 1865 at South Solon, Ohio. She was married to Joseph Ellsworth Burlingame, December 8, 1883. Joseph Burlingame was born April 16, 1865 and died November 8, 1929. Sarah Ellen Thomas Burlingame died November 7, 1931. She is buried at Clarkson, Ohio. Joseph and Sarah Ellen Burlingame were the parents of ten children, William H., Stella M., Benjamin F., Ellsworth, Robert L., Chrystal J., Levi K., Helen G., Alice A., and Mary M.

William Henry Burlingame was born April

4, 1884 at St. Marys, Ohio. He married Carrie Bailey. They had eight children, Beulah, Lester, Ruby, Dorothy, Paul, Juanita, Betty Jane, and Martha Ann. William Henry Burlingame died October 11, 1937 at East Liverpool, Ohio.

Beulah Burlingame married Dale Scott. They have two sons, Dale Jr., and Donald.

Lester Burlingame married Jane Boyd. They have one son, William Joseph.

Ruby Burlingame married Rev. O. Anderson. They have two daughters, Martha Ann, and Kathryn Mae.

Dorothy Burlingame married Richard Cameron. They have no children.

Paul, Juanita, and Betty Jane are not married.

Martha Ann Burlingame died at the age of four. She was burned to death, her clothes having been ignited from an open fire place.

Stella May Burlingame was born May 5, 1887 at St. Marys, Ohio. She married Jacob Conkle. They have no children.

Benjamin Franklin Burlingame was born February 12, 1891 at St. Marys, Ohio. He died January 30, 1901 at East Liverpool, Ohio.

Ellsworth Burlingame was born March 13, 1893 at St. Marys, Ohio. He married Rosa Clutter. They have six children, Hilda, Bernice, Louise, Grace, Harold, and a son born January 12, 1938.

Robert Laurence Burlingame was born November 6, 1895 at St. Marys, Ohio. He married Ella Hummel. They have three sons, Robert L. Jr., born March 3, 1918; Grant H., born March 29, 1922; and Bernard Joseph, born May 26, 1925.

Chrystal Jarlina Burlingame was born September 24, 1898 at East Liverpool, Ohio. She married Charles William Jones. They have four sons, Robert Edward, born January 17, 1920; Hilton Hart, born February 21, 1922; Charles William, Jr., born August 28, 1924; and Richard, born November 23, 1930.

Levi Kephart Burlingame was born April 16, 1901 at East Liverpool, Ohio. He married Ida Clutter, a sister of the wife of Ellsworth Burlingame. They have no children.

Helen Grace Burlingame was born October 6, 1903 at East Liverpool, Ohio. She married Andrew Van Fossen. They have three children, Donald, born October 16, 1925; Dorothy, born September 18, 1927; and Nina Jane, born June 1, 1931.

Alice Arvilla Burlingame was born October 12, 1906 at East Liverpool, Ohio. She married Thomas Burson. They have two children, Harry Frederick, born February 8, 1923; and Alice Lucille, born October 13, 1925.

Mary Margaret Burlingame was born July 20, 1909. She married Ralph Burson (a brother of Thomas, Alice's husband). They have four children, Eddie, born May 27, 1930; Howard, born in March, 1932; Ellen, born in March, 1934; and Lenore, born July 22, 1937.

Hulda M., daughter of James Monroe and Margaret Thomas, died August 24, 1910. She was married in Mercer County, Ohio in November, 1883 to David Trippy who died June 7, 1938. They lived for many years in Loogootee, Indiana. Later they moved to Rogers, Ohio. They both are buried in the Carmel, Ohio Cemetery. Their two children are Harvey, and George.

Harvey Trippy married Sylvia Montgomery at Loogootee, Indiana in November, 1914. They have one child, Lorraine, born October 6, 1915. They live at 2105 West Eighth St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

George Trippy died in 1903 at the age of six months.

JAMES THOMAS **(North Carolina)**

James, son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was born in Orange County, North Carolina. The exact dates of his birth and death are not known. The descendants now living state that he died during the war between the states. He is buried at New Providence Cemetery near Haw River, North Carolina. His grave is marked with a boxwood. Beside him rests his wife who was Milly Stevens. Her gravestone, badly weathered, bears the inscription, "Born September 28, 1799. Died September 28, 1857." James and Milly Thomas were married in 1812. Their children were

George, Baker G., John, James, Virginia, Joseph and Benjamin (twins), Emily, and Anderson.

George Thomas married Betsey Isley. They are buried in New Providence Cemetery near Haw River, North Carolina. Their graves are not marked. Their children were Catherine, Millie, James, and Sallie.

Baker G. Thomas was born December 22, 1824 and died July 15, 1854. He was married in March, 1848 to Emily May. Both are buried in New Providence Cemetery. Their children were James, and Cornelia.

John Thomas was born August 10, 1830 and died November 30, 1830.

James Thomas. Of him nothing could be learned.

Virginia Thomas was married to Anderson Horn. No further information concerning them could be obtained.

Joseph Thomas was born October 14, 1827 and died April 4, 1911. While quite young he went to Mt. Pulaski, Illinois and there married Theba Richey. Both are buried there. Their seven children are James David, John A., Nancy Jane, Millie C., Elizabeth, Margaret Anne, and George W.

James David Thomas was born December 15, 1855 and died in May, 1898. He married Tempie McAdams of Graham, North Carolina. Both are buried at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois. Their children are Holton, of Peoria, Illinois, and Ruby (deceased), unmarried.

John A. Thomas was born July 11, 1857. He married Malissa Bost who died five years after their marriage. He then married Victoria McCardy (also deceased). He now lives alone on his farm southeast of Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.

Nancy Jane Thomas was born December 10, 1859. She married James Leonard. They live at 842 W. Elm St., Decatur, Illinois. Their ten children are Gertrude (Fowler), Pearl, Hazel, Ada, Cecil, Anne (Conroy), Maude, John, Lillian (Higgins), and Elizabeth (Carter).

Millie C. Thomas was born January 28, 1861 and died May 6, 1905, unmarried. She is buried at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.

Elizabeth C. Thomas was born September

24, 1864 and died September 6, 1865. She is buried at Mt. Pulaski, Illinois.

Margaret Anne Thomas was born September 11, 1866. She married William Kretzinger. They live at 1097 Monroe St., Decatur, Illinois. Their five children are Marguerite, William F., George L., Paul W., and Helen.

Marguerite Kretzinger was born February 7, 1896. She married Ross Beck. They have four children, Donald, born September 5, 1914; Dorothy M., born February 20, 1916; Richard T., born July 1, 1920; and Betty Jane, born April 24, 1925.

William F. Kretzinger was born September 14, 1898.

George L. Kretzinger was born August 10, 1899.

Paul W. Kretzinger was born October 11, 1902.

Helen Kretzinger was born April 9, 1911.

George W. Thomas was born April 8, 1860. He lives at Kankakee, Illinois.

Benjamin Newton Thomas, the twin brother of Joseph W. Thomas, was born October 14, 1827 and died February 26, 1897. He married Eliza Dixon. Their nine children were Roxanna, Elizabeth, Virginia Estelle, Attie, Lee, William, Charles, and Daniel and George (twins).

Roxanna remained unmarried.

Elizabeth Thomas married William Boone. Virginia Estelle Thomas was born May 26, 1861 and died May 12, 1929. She married James P. King.

Attie Thomas married David R. Barber.

Lee Thomas married Louisa Turner.

William Thomas married Gertrude Self.

Charles Thomas married Ida McPherson.

Daniel Thomas married Emma Pyles.

George Thomas married Pate Hogans.

Emily Thomas was born April 23, 1819 and died September 11, 1885. She married Johnathan Boone. Their twelve children were Peggy, Kate, Rebecca, Nancy, Barbara, Sallie, Benia, Elizabeth, James, Joseph, Sterling, and Calvin.

Anderson Thomas was born January 8, 1832 and died January 28, 1913. He was married September 22, 1853 to Emily Caroline Rippey. Their eleven children are Eliza Jane, William James, Louisa Ann, John, Mary, Frances Isabel, Ada, Emma, Joseph, Adolphus, and Beulah. Anderson Thomas was a soldier in the Confederate Army and was a personal aide to General Robert E. Lee. It was the special duty of Anderson Thomas to accompany General Lee on to the field of battle and, when the General had occasion to dismount, he would conduct the beloved and famous "Traveler" to a place of safety until the General again had need of his horse. Anderson Thomas was a brave and loyal servant in the Southern cause, and his descendants are justly proud of him. The following is taken from his obituary written by his pastor, Rev. P. H. Fleming:

"As a shock of corn cometh into its season, Anderson Reeves Thomas died January 28, 1913 at his home near Haw River, aged 81 years and 20 days. He was a member of the New Providence Christian Church and had been for more than sixty years. A good man has fallen. A loving husband and a devoted father has been taken away. A noble citizen is of earth no more. He lived the religion he professed and when death came he expressed himself ready to go, said goodbye to his family and friends about him and bade them meet him in heaven."

This Thomas family has placed in the Christian Church at Haw River a memorial window to Joseph Thomas, the White Pilgrim. It is a life size picture of the Pilgrim, beautifully wrought in art glass of rich but mellow coloring. It represents the Pilgrim standing in the pulpit, an open Bible in his hand. The saintly expression, the gentle eyes, the long hair of a light brown shade, falling about his shoulders, the white garments, all combine to create a most inspiring picture. In early life the boy Pilgrim preached more than a hundred years ago in a walnut grove at Haw River across the stream from where the Christian Church now stands. At the dedication the Thomas family who placed the window in the church were represented by a great-niece of the Pilgrim. Two great-great nieces and a great-great nephew took part in the dedication services. Shirley Thomas unveiled the window. It is a splendid testimonial of family

and civic pride that they have preserved in such a beautiful manner the memory of our Pilgrim.

Eliza Jane, daughter of Anderson and Emily Thomas, was born June 24, 1854 and died August 16, 1855.

William James Thomas was born August 16, 1855. He married Jennie Ann Pickett who died March 10, 1926. He lives in Burlington, North Carolina. Their six children are Edward Reeves, Selma Ann, Maude Viola, Blanche Kathryn, Eva Pearl, and Bessie Mae.

Edward Reeves Thomas is married. He lives in Burlington, North Carolina, and has a son, Anderson Reeves Thomas.

Selma Ann Thomas married Dr. C. M. Walters. They have five children, Mildred (Mrs. Frank Ervin Gentry), Jennie Frances, Selma Thomas (Mrs. Ural Warren Watson), Charles Manley, Jr., and Ruth (Mrs. Cleveland Eugene Campbell).

Maude Viola Thomas married Isaac N. Williams, of Ohio. Their two children are Bessie Viola, and Virginia. Further mention of this family can be found in the genealogy of Isaac Newton Thomas.

Blanche Kathryn Thomas married Carl Barefoot. They live at Dunn, North Carolina, and have one daughter, Nell Thomas Barefoot.

Eva Pearl and Bessie May Thomas live with their father, William James Thomas, on Union Ave., in Burlington, North Carolina.

Louisa Ann Thomas was born July 23, 1858 and died May 4, 1865.

John Thomas was born August 4, 1860 and died June 21, 1862.

Mary Thomas was born April 4, 1862. She lives near Haw River, North Carolina.

Frances Isabel Thomas was born October 27, 1863. She was married December 26, 1886 to William E. Cooke (deceased). Their children are Callie, who married Lawrence Steele; Thomas; Joseph, who married Ruth Birch; Frank, who married Bessie Jones; Grover, who married Ava Suitt; William, who married Lillian Stanfield; Anderson, who married Beulah Fuller; Knight, who married Mary James; Tate, who married Gladys Thompson; and Walter, who died in infancy.

Ada Thomas was born August 3, 1866 and

died December 30, 1933. She was married November 26, 1891 to Jesse Boone Sharpe (deceased). Both are buried at Long's Chapel Cemetery near Haw River, North Carolina. Their children are Henry, Emma Allene, William Wesley, Caroline, Artis F., and Anna.

Henry Sharpe married Florence Childrey. Their children are Clista Belle, Mable Lee, and Grace Caroline.

Emma Allene Sharpe married William Haywood Crabtree. They have one child, William Isaac Crabtree.

William Wesley Sharpe was born June 27, 1895 and was married March 30, 1929 to Ada Lee Carson. They have one child, Mary Elizabeth Sharpe, born January 30, 1931. They live near Haw River, North Carolina.

Caroline Sharpe is unmarried.

Artis Franklin Sharpe married Ollie Brown. Their two children are Paul Edward, and Marvin Cleveland.

Anna Sharpe married Dane Coble. Their children are Jesse Alford, and Sally Ada.

Emma Thomas was born October 7, 1868. She lives with her sister Mary at the old Anderson Thomas homestead near Haw River, North Carolina.

Joseph Thomas was born February 24, 1871. He was married first to Elizabeth Younger (deceased). His second marriage was to Rosa Best. They live near Haw River, North Carolina.

Adolphus Thomas was born April 14, 1873. He was married December 29, 1901 to Fanny Childrey. Their children are Nellie (deceased), Lilly Mary, and Shirley Elizabeth (Thompson).

Beulah Thomas was born July 16, 1876. She was married November 28, 1916 to Walker L. Garvin.



ELDER JOSEPH THOMAS
(The White Pilgrim)
Memorial window in the Christian Church at Haw River, No. Carolina

ELDER JOSEPH THOMAS

(The White Pilgrim)

Joseph, son of Griffith and Charlotte Huffman Thomas, was born March 7, 1791 near Haw River, Orange (now Alamance) County, North Carolina, and died April 9, 1835 of smallpox at Johnsonburg, New Jersey. He was married April 5, 1812 to Christiana Ritencour, the daughter of Michael and Maria Ritencour, in Frederick County, Virginia. Their five children were Sophronia, Philomela, Lorenzo, Lycurgus, and Plato.

Joseph Thomas left a lasting history which the family regards with pardonable pride. His sacrifice and self denial as a valiant crusader in the cause of Christ, his original creative power which found expression in the composition of many beautiful poems, and his treatise of a proposed Christian Union reveal him as being a philosopher of rare mental development.

From his diary published at Winchester, Virginia in 1817 we learn that the first seven years of his life were under the guardian care of a dear father and the affectionate attention of a fond mother who taught him to read, write, and cipher. In the year 1798 there came to the family an era of adversity, affliction, and distress. Necessity compelled the boy Joseph to be separated from his parents and his once peaceful home. His abode was now in a strange, inhospitable, and cruel family. In this unfriendly place he dwelt almost two years, cruelly treated and suffering the extremes of hunger and cold. In the year 1800 Joseph was removed from these miserable surroundings by an older brother, Moses, who was married and living in Grayson County, Virginia. The boy cheerfully accompanied his brother. Here he was kindly treated and sent to a school, where he made a pleasing proficiency in his studies. In December, 1801, he was taken ill with white swelling in his left knee, and was unable to walk for 18 months. During this illness one of the leg bones was taken out, also some smaller bones, but seemingly by a miracle, he was able to walk again. In 1803 he was moved to the residence of a bachelor brother, John, who lived in Montgomery (now Giles) County, Virginia. In the latter part of that year he went to live with a neighbor, Andrew Johnson, on New River, as a boarder to go to school. In this man he

found a friend and moral preceptor. His teacher also became partial and particularly attentive to the lad, who, after one year's schooling, was far advanced in mathematics and geography. When the year expired, neither Mr. Johnson or the teacher would accept the pay for the boarding and tuition. In November, 1804, Joseph left his benefactor, his teacher, and his youthful acquaintances, and went to Grayson County to the home of his brother Moses, where he hired himself to his brother's father-in-law for a term of one year for the sum of \$90.00. One-third of this time he taught school and the balance he worked out on the farm. In 1806 Joseph journeyed to North Carolina to see his aged mother who lived with a son, James, the next youngest brother of the Pilgrim. A great revival was in progress in that community, and it was at one of these meetings that Joseph Thomas, after days of spiritual distress and condemnation, experienced deliverance from sin and its consequences. His deeply spiritual nature prompted him to seek among the denominations for truth and fundamentals which he found difficult to determine as of the true faith. He offered himself as a candidate for the ministry to the Presbyterians, Methodists, Calvinists, and Free-Will Baptists. He conversed with a Baptist minister concerning that doctrine and asked to be baptized by immersion, but this the minister refused to do unless Joseph would join that faith and order. This was a source of great grief to the young man's soul, and he began to discuss with himself this difficulty. He would either have to sacrifice his conscience and his belief, or, as he thought, stand alone and be opposed by the various sects. About this time he heard of a people who called themselves "Christians" and who professed to take the Scriptures for their rule of faith and practice. He went to see one of their preachers and was informed that they held open and free communion to all Christians, that they owned to no name but "Christians," that there were no Bishops or Presiding Elders among them, and that all had an equal voice in matters that concerned the church. Joseph Thomas rejoiced to hear of such a people, who seemed to him as the most similar to that church established under the Apostles. He was encouraged by the preacher and informed of a meeting to be held in Raleigh, North Carolina, about fifty miles distant, where a number of preach-

ers of this church would be present and where the young man might better offer himself as a candidate for the ministry. Shortly after that he presented himself to the church for membership. They received him as a member and gave him a license as an exhorter. He began to close up his worldly concerns and prepare for an itinerant life in the gospel, but realized that his efforts at exhortation were weak and much ridiculed by many who heard him. His mother and his relatives rigidly opposed the undertaking, but he determined to obey God rather than be intimidated by man or overcome by inferior obstacles. The following quotation is from the Pilgrim's diary: "I now surrendered all pretensions to the advantages of this world and to the gratification of carnal appetites. I bade farewell to ease, to the hopes of honor, to the popularity and friendship of a gain-saying generation, and freely sacrificed them all upon the Cross of Christ, resolving to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, whom I now took to be my only friend. I considered myself starting upon a mission, the most important ever engaged in by man, and on a pursuit which was to occupy my constant and assiduous attention during the remainder of my days.

"On the 19th day of October, 1807, when I was sixteen years, nine months, and twelve days old, I bade farewell to my mother, my relations, and to a sneering world, and started for the meeting at Raleigh, and thence to people and lands unknown. No one commended me to God. No one gave me their blessing or bid me godspeed. I was asked when I would return, and I replied, "as the Lord directs."

"The first day I traveled fourteen miles, staying that night with Elder Debruler, and the next morning went on with him about thirty miles to Raleigh, where the meeting was being held. Here I was called upon to speak. The cross was great. I spake little, and with discouraged feelings I retired and spent most of the afternoon in prayer and meditation."

The next day at meeting, he and four other young men presented themselves as candidates for the ministry. All were received and each was appointed to travel and labor with an Elder until the next Union meeting which was to convene in six months. Later, in company with Thomas Reeves, another Christian preacher, he began to

lose his timidity and to gain courage and strength in the glorious cause he had espoused.

Joseph Thomas, although an eccentric character, was a preacher who viewed himself all through life as a miracle of God's almighty goodness. He dressed in pure white both winter and summer. The popularity of his dress undoubtedly added much to the notoriety which everywhere greeted him; although independent of that, his excellent evangelical gift rendered his services very acceptable. Once, in alluding to his dress, he said in substance, that he found very little inconvenience in its use, and he appeared to be quite content with his choice. Also in his diary the Pilgrim writes, "I was impressed with the duty of preaching, after the example found in Mark 6th and Luke 10th, and that I should deny the present form of dress, as relates to cut and color, and particularly to refuse black. I was impressed to wear white, to represent my traveling in great tribulation, to meet with those who are clothed in white around the throne of God. A white dress, so frequently mentioned in the Scriptures, indicative of the bride having made herself ready for the marriage, and the innocence and purity which should characterize every minister of Christ, was the one evidently dictated for me."

An impressive word picture of the Pilgrim is contained in the following article written by J. E. Brush, of New York. "One beautiful Sabbath morning in the spring of 1825, I was one of a large congregation who gathered in the chapel, then known as the First Christian Church, under the pastoral care of Rev. Isaac N. Walters. Presently a man dressed in white, bearing a modest, mild expression of countenance, arm in arm with the pastor, was seen to ascend the pulpit, and was introduced as Joseph Thomas, the White Pilgrim. This man at once proceeded to address his hearers. His preaching was in harmony with his general appearance—mild, persuasive, and evidently dictated by the love of souls. I never saw a countenance more of what I regarded as the stamp of the spiritual than his. Of his talents as a preacher, I can only speak in general terms. His oratory was of the winning persuasive style. His knowledge of the Scriptures seemed to be remarkably good."

Joseph Thomas was, in reality, the founder of the

Christian Church in the state of Ohio. For many years he conducted services at his home east of South Solon, Ohio in Madison County, and in 1832 organized the Grassy Point Church with a congregation of thirty members.

Before coming to live in Ohio about 1820, he had traveled over much of the states of North and South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, eastern Kentucky, and southern Ohio, preaching the Gospel. These journeys were at first made on foot, but later a horse was purchased to carry him. At one place in his diary the Pilgrim writes, "As my horse was by this time traveled down and could perform no more, my brother Moses gave me a large serviceable horse and kept my poor worn-out one for compensation." At another place in the diary, under the date of December 24, 1809, he writes of traveling all day facing an intense cold wind near Lebanon in Surry County, Virginia. "Being thinly clad and having no great coat, about dark I felt myself growing numb and sleepy. I became alarmed, believing I would freeze. I alighted to walk, but was scarcely able to get along. Sleepiness had almost overcome me. In walking a short distance, I came to a fire by the roadside, which perhaps had been left by wagoners. I kindled it, warmed myself until I felt my strength returning and my drowsiness leave me. I deemed this a providential deliverance from death. I then went on about three miles and came to old brother George's, almost frozen again.

"Shortly after this, being in the neighborhood of Lebanon, the brethren, hearing of my sufferings, bought me a great coat. During the winter I followed my appointments with unremitted zeal, often suffering hunger, cold, persecutions, oppositions, and threats of violence."

On March 29, 1835, while attending the New Jersey conference, the Pilgrim was invited to speak at the home of Elder J. S. Thompson at Johnsenburg, N. J. At this service Elder Thomas preached from the 14th chapter of Luke, the 22nd verse. Later in the evening he complained of feeling ill. In the morning a doctor was called, and at once pronounced the case smallpox. Elder Thompson vacated his home for the sick man and a nurse was provided. On the 9th day of April on a Thursday, between seven and eight in the morning, the Pil-

grim passed away in the triumph of the living faith. Because of the nature of his illness, his mortal remains were that evening committed to a grave remote from that of any other burial place.

Elder Thomas was, at the time of his death, forty-four years of age, near six feet tall, light complexioned, straight, athletic, strong, well-proportioned, and the picture of health. Twenty-eight years of hard labors and suffering had not debilitated him. He was active, brilliant, and cheerful.

In 1850 the body of the Pilgrim was secretly removed from the place of burial on the Commons to a grave within the town cemetery by Rev. J. S. Maxwell. This was done at night owing to the general opposition of the townspeople who feared an outbreak of the plague. Rev. Maxwell describes his experience as follows: "The box containing the coffin, together with the coffin, was entirely decayed, but the skeleton lay there intact. I, myself, took out every bone of the body and placed them in the new coffin. The Pilgrim had worn his hair long, coming down to his shoulders. I found the hair which furnished a pillow for his head all there, and removed it to the coffin, and then laid the skull there-on, and there it will repose until the Resurrection Morn."

Shortly after the removal of the Pilgrim's body, Rev. Maxwell raised a fund of \$100.00 with which he purchased a plain marble column, and placed it at the head of the grave where the Pilgrim rests.

On this journey, his last, the Pilgrim had preached as he traveled through Ohio and New York State, on his way to the New Jersey conference, and at various intervals, sent enthusiastic reports of his activities. Under date of February 2, 1835 he sent a letter to a neighbor Jacob Selsor, in which he speaks of having overcome opposition in eastern Ohio, where the people were scared of his white dress, and, thinking him an imposter, did not wish to hear him preach. Not being dismayed, the Pilgrim preached to a few, tried it again, and the house was full. The next time, more came, and he could not get away from that place for five weeks. He then went on his journey, preaching every day to large congregations. Of his reception he writes, "The name of the White Coat Pilgrim goes before me and hundreds of all sorts meet to hear me preach. I drub the sectarians hard—

the Calvinists murmur, Babylon shakes, sinners weep, Christians get strong in the Lord, and I am glad. There are so many places the people wish me to preach that I get along toward the city of New York but slowly, and I now find if I perform my journey as I intended, it will take me longer than I at first calculated." This letter was addressed to Jacob Selsor, Grassy Point, Ohio, and other writing on it shows that the Pilgrim was the Postmaster there at that time and that he was permitted free postage.

In another letter written under date of March 1, 1835 from Union Vale, Dutchess County, New York, which he wrote to the Christian Palladium, a church publication, he tells of many pleasant and convincing evidences of his journey. Of his experiences at Ballston he writes, "From this place we rode thirty miles, across the Mohawk river on the ice, came into the mountains where the snow was very deep and the wind excessively cold. At night I preached to a very large assembly in a plain and handsome meeting house. The people were attentive and serious and I think many good impressions were felt, but here, for the first time in all my journey, by the many fatigues I have borne, and the chilling winds of the day, I failed in strength and could not finish my discourse."

The editor of the Christian Palladium, in writing of the Pilgrim, says, "We have enjoyed the unspeakable pleasure of spending a week in the company of this distinguished and devoted servant of the most high God. He has a strong constitution and is capable of enduring more fatigue and preaching more sermons than common men. His mind is also strong, clear, and energetic, and his manners purely southern and agreeable. The second Sabbath in March, 1835, he will be in New York with Elder Walters. After attending the New Jersey Conference, we hope he will conclude to extend his mission to the Conferences in New England. We are confident that his visit would be a blessing, and we think he is desirous to accomplish it. If the churches feel disposed to sustain him in his arduous labors, let all the congregations who may be favored with his visits show how much they love the truth he brings."

In the autumn of 1835 Elder Isaac N. Walters drove by stage coach the entire distance from New York to

conduct funeral services at the Pilgrim's home near South Solon. These services were held in the same grove where many camp meetings had been held by the Pilgrim.

Christiana Ritenour Thomas, wife of Elder Joseph Thomas, was born in 1788 and died September 14, 1867. She is buried in the cemetery at Grape Grove near South Solon, Ohio. Many members of the Ritenour family are buried nearby.

Sophronia, daughter of Elder Joseph and Christiana Ritenour Thomas, was born in Frederick County, Virginia, August 12, 1813, and died in Yellow Springs, Greene County, Ohio, January 15, 1897. She is buried in the cemetery there. She was married twice. First, in Madison County, Ohio, January 4, 1835 to William Baker. The second marriage was to William Carr, November 14, 1839. To the first marriage there was born one child, Mary, who married Jeremiah Hiett Little. They had three children, Genevieve (Young), Adelia (Warner), both deceased, and leaving no issue, and Mrs. Ella Humphreys, who lives at Yellow Springs, Ohio. To the second marriage there were two sons born, William Wallace, and Thaddeus Plato.

William Wallace Carr married Mary Ladley. They have five children, Oscar Edwin, George, Charles, Kate, and Alice G.

Oscar Edwin Carr married Alice Derby. He is a nurseryman at Yellow Springs, Ohio. They have three children, Dorothy, Helen, and Donald.

George Carr married Mayme Shumate. They live in Wichita, Kansas, and have two children, Marion, and Leonard.

Charles Carr (deceased) married Edna Garrison. Their three children are Mary, Jean, and Anna.

Mary Carr married Linn Northup.

Kate Carr married George Harris. They live at McRae, Georgia, and have two children, Louise, and Ladley.

Alice Griffith Carr, unmarried, lives in Athens, Greece, where she is Director of the work of the Near-East Relief Society.

Thaddeus Plato Carr was born in 1850 and died in 1920. He married Elizabeth Botsford. Both are

buried in the Yellow Springs Cemetery. Their three children are Hugh Stanley, William B., and Harriet.

Hugh Stanley Carr was born in 1874 and died in 1931. He was unmarried. He lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he was a construction engineer.

William B. Carr was born in 1881 and died in 1914. He is buried in the Yellow Springs Cemetery.

Harriet Carr married Frank Neible. She was killed in 1931 in an automobile accident. She is buried in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where they lived.

Plato, son of Elder Joseph and Christiana Ritenour Thomas, was born in Madison County, Ohio, June 29, 1825 and died in Yellow Springs, Ohio, March 12, 1891. He was married in Madison County, Ohio, July 3, 1851 to Martha McBride, born August 22, 1826 and died April 3, 1892. Both are buried in the Yellow Springs Cemetery. Their four children are Libson, who died in infancy; Sophronia, who died in 1862 at the age of one; Mary Alice (Flagler) who is deceased, and Elizabeth, the wife of Herman J. Schilling. Mr. and Mrs. Schilling live at 435 So. Wittenberg Ave., Springfield, Ohio. Libson and Sophronia Thomas are buried in the South Solon, Ohio, Cemetery.

Of the other children of Elder Joseph and Christiana Ritenour Thomas, Philomela, Lorenzo, and Lycurgus, nothing is known, except that Lycurgus at one time lived in Indiana. It is supposed that the others died young.

Excerpts from "The Life of the Pilgrim, Joseph Thomas." Published by the Pilgrim in 1817 at Winchester, Virginia.

J. Foster, Printer

The first ten pages of the book from which this was copied were missing.

Page 11

My mother lived with her son James, my next youngest brother who followed farming.

Tarried a few weeks among my relations and acquaintances at which time I engaged to raise a crop with my brother the following year.

I thought it profitable to my soul to move my residence from the wild mountains where I had been so long and live where the Gospel was sounding, and sinners converted to God. I then returned to Grayson County (Virginia) and hired to my brother (Moses) with whom I had formerly lived to work at the blacksmith trade, and with him I worked three months.

About the first of March, 1806, I went again to North Carolina to comply with the engagement I had made with my brother James.

This was the time of the celebrated revival, that took place in the Hawfields (near where I lived) and through Guilford, Rockingham, Randolph, Casewell, and many other counties, where hundreds and thousands professed to be converted and brought to a knowledge of the Truth. In this revival, the very singular and unaccountable exercises of the "jirks," dancing, hallooing, shouting, laughing, etc., were prevalent among those who professed religion. In my serious reflections and inquiries after salvation of my soul, the various noise and exercise of the people, would oftentimes stagger me.

Pages 12-13-14-15-16-17

I was sometimes rather doubtful, and almost led to believe that this was all enthusiasm and a strong delusion.

There was a great union meeting (called by some, a camp meeting) appointed to be holden near where I lived, in October, 1806. To this meeting, preachers and people of different societies, were invited to attend, to encamp upon the ground and worship God in fellowship together.

The first day of the meeting, I went early to the place where I saw wagons coming from all directions and the people arranging their tents in different places on the grounds. The sight was very solemn to me. I sat upon a log, to myself, and my meditations were such that drew tears from my eyes, as I felt a deep concern for the salvation of my soul. By twelve o'clock when the preaching commenced, preachers of various societies had gathered, who, with most of the people seemed to be greatly engaged in a spirit of devotion.

The first sermon was delivered by a travelling man from Georgia, who did not profess to belong to any

particular sect or party. He made his discourse upon the seventeen first verses of the fifth Chapter of Second Kings. I soon thought his discourse was intended particularly for me. My distress and conviction for my sinful condition was as much as I could well bear. I was exhorted and prayed for, which added much to my unhappy feelings. I waited untill late in the afternoon, and having seen the conversion of some of my very wicked acquaintances, I started home with the ponderous load of my sin and guilt hanging heavy on my distressed soul.

At candlelight I returned to the meeting. I sincerely desired to be relieved of my deplorable state of condemnation, that I might rejoice with others, in a Savior's love. But my sorrow was only deepened and I began to conclude that there was no mercy for me.

In this wretched state I started home. About midnight I arrived at home by myself, filled with the most horrible apprehensions of torment. I retired to bed and wished to sleep away my misery, but sleep, I found, was far removed from me. My neglected opportunities, my broken promises, the many refusals of offered grace—all my sins rose in dread array and wrought inexpressible anguish against me. Often did I say to myself, and sometimes aloud "O that I had never been born; O, that I had died when I first had the white swelling; O, that I had kept my promise which I had made to God at that time." My mother, hearing me, was somewhat alarmed at my exclamations, asked what was the matter (for my exercises till now, had been concealed from her), to which I answered "my sins condemn me, God condemns me and I expect in a short time to be sent to hell." She told me to get up and read the New Testament. I did so but found nothing to console me. Laying down the Book I left the house and went into the woods intending to pray, but it being very dark, a great fear struck me. I then ran back toward the house. Coming into the field I fell upon my knees and began to pray for God's mercy. Getting no comfort I went back into the house and asked my mother if she thought there was mercy for me. She said yes. I told her she was not acquainted with my sins and transgressions or else she would not answer so. She began to weep and engaged in

prayer but my heart was too hard to feel it. By this time day began to dawn and the earth was illuminated by the morning sun, but my soul was still shrouded with guilt and darkness.

My mother prepared my breakfast but I ate none. While all the others of the family returned to the camp meeting, I went in to the field to plow. My thoughts were painful and melancholy. I thought of myself as the younger son who had left his father's house and wasted his substance in riotous living. I stopped the plow and sat down. Further contemplating the boundless and everlasting goodness of God, the abundance of His grace and mercy, His long suffering and kindness and His willingness to receive sinners, came fresh and conspicuous to my view. I unhitched the plow, fixed myself and went to the meeting. It being about eleven o'clock Saturday. When I arrived at the place the man who I had heard the day before, was preaching on the ninth verse of fifty-first Chapter of Isaiah, "Awake, awake put on strength, O arm of the Lord; Awaken as in the ancient days, in the generations of old." I now began to feel the mighty influence of grace and as in an instant I felt such heavenly power arrest me that I fell to the ground crying aloud "Oh Jesus have mercy on my soul."

I continued to pray and weep for salvation until I was exhausted as into a swoon while Christians gathered round and put up many fervent prayers for me. I continued to mourn, lament, and pray all the afternoon lying in the dust.

When people dispersed, some to their homes, some to their tents to be refreshed, I continued lamenting for mercy where I lay, with two or three who were praying for me.

The people came together again and at candlelight worship commenced. Preaching, exhorting, singing, praying, shouting and crying for mercy continued all night during which time I remained in the same place, incessant in my struggles for salvation, while many around me could arise and declare what great things God had done for them, I had to mourn and remain in sorrow.

In the morning about sunrise, it was proposed that

the mourners and Christians should gather around where I lay and offer up their prayers to God. While they were thus engaged, three of those who mourned were enabled to rejoice in the blood of the Lamb but I still remained weeping and praying.

All Sunday forenoon a Methodist preacher continued with me, sometimes sitting on the ground holding my head on his knees, talking, encouraging and exhorting. About four o'clock in the evening we went to walk in the woods to pray. After walking near a half mile, he fell on his knees and I on my face and worshipped God. We there continued praying till near sundown. About this time I was hungered as I had neither ate bread or drank water since dinner on the Friday previous, which was about forty-eight hours. Then I lay down to rest and sleep.

Early in the morning (Monday) I went home (about three miles) thinking to get to work again, but my mother and brother continuing at the meeting, and I feeling great temptations of mind, sometimes sorrowing, and about twelve o'clock I returned to the meeting and continued at the meeting until it closed. Afterward I continued to seek the Savior of sinners by constantly attending meetings and private prayer, and by a general and attentive reading of His word.

For several months my exercise was such that my flesh was reduced to a mere skeleton and some thought I would never recover.

Page 25

My call to the ministry, as was now manifested to me, gave me much uneasiness for I felt a constant impression that I would have to preach the Gospel not only to those that were nigh but to those that were far off, and that I should have to leave the place of my nativity and travel from place to place and preach the love of God and the Union of His spirit to professors of religion.

Page 26

My extreme youth, my weakness and inability, my bashfulness and my poverty all were formidable impediments. "Why," I thought "should God call a boy like me to dispense His Word, whose natural timidity and shamefacedness would not admit him to express himself, or address a congregation.

Pages 31-32

I now sold what little I possessed, received the money, paid what I owed, reserving the same horse I had bought two years previous, provided what few articles I needed in traveling and having about forty dollars left, I found myself ready and willing to sacrifice what little I had earned by hard labor, in going forward at the Lord's command. My reflections were solemn. I thought of the many unforeseen difficulties to which I might now be exposing myself. On the hardships, dangers, fatigues, and troubles which an inexperienced youth like me would meet in travelling, a stranger, through the world. I not only felt the burden of having to face a frowning, a strange and unfriendly world, but I was pensive and sorrowful to leave my mother and other relations, whose disapprobation for this cause, were against me, but who felt tender and near to my youthful breast.

The nineteenth day of October, 1807 arrived when I was sixteen years, nine months, and twelve days old, I prepared to start, as a lamb among wolves. I bade farewell to my mother, my relations and to all the world.

No one commended me to God. No one gave me their blessing or bid me Godspeed. I was asked when I would be back. I said, "as the Lord directed."

Page 41

June 25, 1808 I arrived at my appointment at Hillsborough (North Carolina) where there were hundreds of my old neighbors and acquaintances gathered, mostly out of curiosity; some to make derision and some to see how I had come on. But thanks be to God for the display of His power at that time. Many who came to laugh were constrained to weep and many who professed religion rejoiced and gave loud praise to God. The Methodist preacher who had once so rigidly opposed me, now joined to encourage me. Oh, what a changeable uncertain creature is man! Here when I was a child too weak to stand alone there were none to take me by the hand and help me along. When all the vain and wicked were against me, the brethren were not on my side. But now that I could walk alone, all were willing to encourage me.

Vain is the help of man, false are his flatteries, and

trifling are his oppositions when the Lord is on our side.

Page 48

Wednesday morning (June 27, 1808). I directed my course toward Haw River, my native place. In the evening held meeting on Haw Creek. Thursday I arrived at my mother's, found her, my brother and relations in the neighborhood well, but very uneasy about me as they had heard I was dead.

I tarried two weeks and preached in the region round about almost every day. I was invited among the Presbyterians, attended some of their sacramental occasions at Hawfields, Cross Roads, Enol, etc., and preached and partook at the Lord's table with them.

Page 49

I then went on and crossed the Blue Ridge at Flour Gap. Here I had the most extensive and delightful prospect of creation I ever had before. From thence I could see the distant hills and mountains, thrown at it were by a careless hand, yet in beauteous order, over distant lands below. Numerous farms with many a rural scene rose into review, watered by purling rills, while distant Yadkin rolled along. Yonder stands great Arrarat (Pilot Mountain), forty miles distant, rising like an awful pyramid crowned with a turret on the lofty mountain's top.

The contemplations of the Mighty Former of all, that arose from this sight, were profitable to me as I was led to adore the Creator, as wise, good, and powerful without parallel, and to view myself as a base particle, insignificant as nothing. I was then in Grayson County, Virginia.

I went on to the home of my brother Moses on Chestnut Creek, with whom I had lived in my great affliction.

As I had not seen him for several years, since the Lord had converted my soul and sent me out to preach the Gospel, he was exceedingly glad to see me, and was much affected when I related the Lord's dealings to my soul.

I now commenced preaching in this neighborhood where many had seen me years before lying on the borders of death. Large congregations met and wept bitterly. Though there was but little religion in these

parts at this time, yet I have reason to thank God for the glorious appearance I saw before I left there. At the iron-works, at the upper and lower forge, in other places around where I attended, and at Grayson Court House, I saw my labor was not in vain in the Lord. A number of hard hearts and careless souls were softened by Divine impressions. Many were brought to pray and seek religion.

As my horse by this time was travelled down and could perform no more, my brother Moses gave me a large and serviceable horse to travel with, and kept my poor worn-out one for compensation.

Page 50

The second of December, 1808, I bade farewell to my brother and his family, praying the blessings of God to rest on them and faced the cold north wind for Poplar Camp. In the evening I crossed New River and about dark came to the home of my brother John Thomas near the Lead Works.

On Sunday I preached to a large congregation at the Lead Works. Here some of the people think they are rich and are extremely proud, haughty and wicked. Some behaved improperly in meeting and I re-proved them sharply which created offense.

On December sixth (1808) I left my brother John and family, not knowing when I should see their faces again.

I crossed Little and Big Reed Islands. In the latter my horse stumbled and wet me considerably. The weather being intensely cold, my clothes were soon frozen and to keep my feet from freezing I had to pull off my stockings and walk with dry leaves in my shoes till my stockings dried.

Being in a thinly settled country, late at night in Montgomery County (Virginia) I found a house, where the man received me in from the pinching winds which blew so bleakly on my thin clothed body. The sufferings of this day are not easily told.

January 28 (1809).

I crossed the James River over a very difficult and dangerous ford, especially at that time as it was much frozen up with ice. In some places the ice would bear the horse and in some places he would break in and by the splashing of the water I soon became wet to the

middle. When I got over, the path led along the north side of a tremendous hill which was mostly sleek frozen with solid ice. Here I walked in my stocking feet, pulling myself along by the bushes and crags of rocks, driving my horse before me, expecting every minute he would slide in the river beneath, but thank God I went safely over the dangerous place—only my bones ached with cold and my clothes rattled with ice.

Page 53

I continued faithful to my appointments seeing considerable success attending my feeble labours, but persecutions seemed almost to surround me, and poured in from every quarter, while temptations were greivous to me. My character was assailed in several places. Some believed and some did not.

Page 55

For some time past my trials have been great from suffering much from cold, hunger, and persecution, but in all, I have great cause to rejoice and be thankful.

Page 74

On the next Sunday I went twelve miles to Reedy Fork, Apples Meeting house in Guilford County where I met J. O'Kelly. We both preached and he administered the Lord's Supper to a large number of dear deciples. This was a glorious and happy day to my soul, and I think to others, as loud hosannahs were given by many, to the Son of David and Him that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Page 97

Brother Barretts's son, Mills, told of the impressions on his mind to preach the Gospel. He had been faithful and somewhat successful in exhortation among neighbors and his acquaintances. He is a young man of quick, bright turn of mind, and if properly encouraged, may be profitable in the church of God.

I was engaged here at this time, above a week in which time we held a two days meeting in Brother Barret's meeting house.

Page 98

On Sunday morning about sunrise a number collected at the meeting house to put up their morning prayers to the Great Author of their existence and the Giver of all their blessings.

This was a time of joy and comfort to the children of God who had met together.

At ten o'clock an extensive congregation had gathered and preaching began. The people were remarkably attentive and solemn. The Great King, the Lord of Hosts, attended the place with His gracious presence and added His blessings to the people. "The slain of the Lord were many."

Page 99

In the afternoon (Sunday) the congregation (for the convenience of hearing) was divided, and I preached to a large number of them in the woods, while others worshipped in the house. While preaching several fell on the ground, condemned before God, confessing their sins and praying for mercy. One of them rose and rejoiced in a Saviour's pardoning love.

This, thought I, was like unto one of the days of the Son of Man, when the multitude followed Jesus into the wilderness desiring to be taught the right ways of the Lord.

Page 100

On Monday we met again to worship God, and conclude the meeting. This was the last and greatest day of the feast. About the conclusion we learned that several souls, some men and some women, were brought from darkness, since the commencement of the meeting, to marvellous light, being happily converted to God, and several were in mourning, in deepest sorrow, under conviction for their sins.

On Tuesday, near the last of October, I went on fulfilling my appointments in much weakness of bodily strength; as I have for some weeks past, preached and held meeting to average twice every day, and have frequently spent the most, and sometimes the whole of the night in preaching, exhorting, praying or singing with the people. I now felt myself most unable to speak so as to be heard. As the soul and body seem to be so closely allied, the one seems to participate of the infirmities of the other, so that my soul was now burdened with temptations, weakness, fears and doubts. I was also grievously persecuted by false tongues, which for fear these reports might injure my usefulness among the people, gave me much uneasiness and distress of mind. My only comfort was

in God, imploring His assistance, that I might still be enabled to live so holy, harmless, pure and undefiled, that no falsehood reported on me, might be believed. I also felt the necessity of praying to God for a disposition to forgive my persecutors.

Thanks, praise, and honour to my Great Redeemer, I felt resigned under the prospect of the dangers and difficulties which seemed to surround me. I now felt stronger and more willing for the sake of Jesus, to bear the cross of Christ in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation.

Page 263

The way which was evidently marked out for me now, was that I should travel on foot unless some emergency might require a horse. That I should take nothing for my journey, no purse, no srips, etc. See Mark sixth, Luke tenth, and Matthew tenth; and that I should deny the present fashion of dress both as it relates to the **cut**, and the **color**, and particularly to refuse black. A white robe was the covering in which I should appear, to represent my traveling in great tribulation, to meet those who are clothed in white around the throne of God, and that I should be girded about the loins agreeably to the word of God.

I now sold my possessions in Kernstown, sold my horse, put off my fashionable clothing, and dressed agreeably to the impressions of my mind.

Page 265

July 6, 1815. On Thursday I gave up my family to God and the word of His grace. Exhorting my wife to trust in the abundant mercies and the rich and faithful promises of our Heavenly Father.

Page 282

Thursday, 24th. Having been exposed to a hard gust of thunder and rain and being much troubled to cross several creeks and New River, I came to my brother John's near Poplar Camp. Next day I preached at his house to an audience, the most of whom were impressed with the weight of God's presence.

Page 283

Saturday, September 2nd. I crossed the Blue Ridge and came into Surry County, North Carolina and went into the house of J. Williams, who kindly received me and hospitably entreated me, and with whom I was

comforted after a tedious and tiresome days journey over hills, creeks and mountains.

This man lives where romantic nature throws her wildest features round. He is surrounded with the rude spurs of the blue mountains, sometimes infested with bears and hungry wolves. Where he can hear the far distant cataracts and the loud murmurs of the swiftly gliding brook. Here, the stranger is at once pleased and astonished; he wonders and admires, and sees that Art with her ten thousand beauties, can not compare with one rude stroke of Nature.

On the next day at Major Franklin's I proclaimed peace and pardon through Jesus Christ, to sinners, while the attentive congregation felt the Word.

Page 287

Saturday, 19th. I went on to Housertown (one of the Moravian towns). From this place I attended at Mr. Mossmans' on Poplar Camp Mountain at one o'clock P. M. and preached to a small attentive congregation, some of whom appeared to feel the power of the Word. After meeting I went on about seven miles to my brother Johns, where I arrived about twelve o'clock.

Here I saw * * * * and asked him if the circumstance related in second paragraph on Page 262 was a certainty. To this I could get no decisive answer, but as I was led to believe it, I asked him for my note, but this he refused to let me have, saying he intended to be in my country by the time I should get there, and then I should have it.

Page 290

On the twenty-eighth I arrived at home. On this journey I had been absent ninety-two days, walked nearly eleven hundred miles, preached ninety-seven times, suffered much hunger and thirst, endured many hard trials, and difficulties, delivered from some imminent dangers, had much persecution, **saw signs** and **wonders** attend the Gospel, saw some convinced of their errors and of the dangerous nature of false religion. I was generally well received and treated with much Christian affection by the Methodists; despised and rejected by the Presbyterians; generally heard by the Baptists; treated hospitably by and admitted to preach among the Quakers and Moravians.

Page 291

In Frederick County, Virginia, at my father-in-law's and several other places, I was still called "Crazy Thomas." Some now said it was a scandal to hear a man of my garb (though certainly decent as it was white and clean) preach.

The weather becoming cold and the roads impassable in my manner of traveling, I commenced a school for a term of three months, in the house of my abode. During this time I spent Saturdays and Sabbath days preaching to my neighbors.

Page 292

February, 1816, my school expired but as the hard weather had not broken up, I worked some weeks in a blacksmith shop near to my father-in-laws, where the man alluded to in the second paragraph of Page 262, was now working. While here, I asked him for the deed of my land and I would lift my note, and if he would not give me the deed, then would he give me the note which he held against me, but he would do neither.

Page 295

On July 10, 1816, I bought a horse as I found it impracticable to dispose of my books on foot. (I had an edition of the Pilgrim's Hymn Book printed).

Page 300

The note which I had endorsed as mentioned on Page 250, after passing several transfers and which I understood had long since been paid, was now presented to me for payment; which sum I immediately paid and lifted the note, knowing at the same time it would be a final loss to me and it was now also reduced to a certainty that the same man, for whom I had endorsed this note, had safely conveyed my property in North Carolina, away. This taught me a good lesson but it was at a very dear rate.

By the time I had returned to Frederick County at my father-in-laws, I was informed that the man to whom I had given my note for one hundred dollars, as mentioned on Page 250, had sold the same to D. Faucett (of the neighborhood) and was gone to the state of Ohio.

Page 302

On November 29th, I started with my family for the

state of Maryland and on the first of December we arrived at the home of my friend D. Hess in Washington County. By his friendship and by the kindness of my friend Reinhart, who lived near, we were cordially received among them.

At friend Reinhart's I left my family one month while I was absent preaching the Gospel in the region roundabout. On Christmas Day I attended at Keedys Meeting House with the United Brethren.

The following week my family was removed to the home of my dear friend D. Hess, whose affection, attention, kindness, and hospitable service toward me shall ever be remembered with most grateful feelings.

Page 303

Sunday, January 5, 1817, in Hagerstown I preached to an attentive people. Some felt the Word. At candlelight, I delivered my message to a large audience at N's schoolhouse. The presence of the Lord overshadowed us. The entrance of the Word gave light to the hearts of some, while they wept tears of Godly sorrow.

On the next morning, I returned through Hagerstown, where I received a letter sent me by a man who professed religion and lived in that place, which manifested too much of that persecuting spirit which predominates in the hearts of many, who, at the same time set themselves forth as Christians. About the conclusion of his epistle, he said, "but at best, you are a weak man, if not a fanatic and a deceiver. I can hardly persuade myself that you are the latter, but a weak man you certainly are." This did not alarm me, inasmuch as I had met with many previous to him who were as blind as he, and more powerful to oppose.

Thence I went on to Keedys Meeting House, Stone Meeting House, at the widow S's in Frederick County, in Middletown again, thence into Virginia at my father-in-laws, where I met a large congregation attentive to hear the Word, while the Lord blessed the hearts of many. Thence on to Hess's and tarried one day with my family. Then went on again and continue traveling almost every day all winter, until about the second of March, in different parts of Maryland. In this time, from the first of January to the twenty-

seventh of March, I preached seventy-four times and traveled upwards of seven hundred miles, saw some gracious appearances of God's work, met with a kind reception among the Methodists (a few instances excepted where I was by them rejected), much persecuted and opposed by the bigots of different professions of whom I found many.

Many were the evil and erroneous reports raised against me, to prevent the people from hearing me as freely as they had. It was said that I was a backsliding Methodist, but this will be seen to be utterly groundless from the reading of this volume. And though I was often hinted against in the pulpits, and frequently denounced elsewhere, yet I never in the least retaliated or returned reviling for reviling, but suffered my persecutions as a Christian who, expecting to me found blameless in the last day, and felt a heart of pity forgive and pray for those who professed religion and at the same time spake evil of and opposed me. I was sorry they did not manifest their religion in a more becoming and Christian manner, and more like those who walk with God.

Page 305

My wife brought forth a son, and we called him Lorenzo.

Page 309

June 9th, I with my family took leave of those dear kind and ever to be remembered families of D. Hess and A. Reinhart, who had so freely entertained my family three months while I was declaring the Gospel, and were willing to wait for their reward till that time when every man shall receive according to his works.

Page 315

Wednesday, July 30, 1817. I started for the western country accompanied by D. Hess. I went through different parts of Ohio, as far back as Mad River and the Great Miami, and returned to my family on August 27th. On this journey, I saw and experienced many occurrences worthy of a place in this volume, but as I have already far exceeded the bounds first contemplated, I have of necessity to omit them.

Page 317

Wednesday, September 24, 1817, I started with my wife and two children, and went into Shenandoah

County in the neighborhood where I formerly lived. About dark my wife and the children were tossed out of the gig among the rocks, but I was thankful none of them were killed or crippled. On the next day, I left them at H. W's and went on and tarried all night with J. S., and was kindly used. Thence I crossed the mountains and came into the town of Luray, being recommended to a man who was very cool to me. He received me not.

Here I was, a stranger and had no money. To go to the Inn, I could not. A little distance from town I went to the house of J. R. He received me and used me kindly.

Monday, October 20, 1817, I rented a house in Kernstown and situated my family there, where they yet remain.

Pages 320-321

I now come to the close of my present travels which present twenty-six years and some months of my life, nearly eleven of which I have faithfully endeavored to devote to the service of the great God. My life to the present, as the reader may see, has been chequered with disadvantages, trials, losses, persecutions, and difficulties. It has, I confess, been marked with some imperfections and had I the same path to travel again, with my present experiences, I might make some safer steps, but that time is past and gone from me forever.

But this much I can say before the Lord my God, that in all the course of my profession of religion, I have acted and believed according to knowledge and experience. Where I have erred, it has been for lack of one or the other or both, and for such errors the Lord has and will forever forgive me.

Some of my readers say I ought not mention the opposition I have met from men and preachers of different professions, inasmuch as they may say it looks bad. But to those who think so, I only observe that it is the action and not the telling of the action, that looks bad, and if people will do right, I will not tell that they do wrong.

In giving this history of my life to the present, I have of necessity had to give an account of the conduct of societies and individuals toward me, and as I have

mentioned the unrighteous dealings of some, I have not failed to speak of, and give full credit to others for all their kindness and evidence of religion exercised toward me.

In preparing this volume for publication, I have been much exercised in prayer to the Almighty God, to bless it to the convictions and comfort of its readers. And though it may not meet the approbation of some whose interest it is to cry out against everything but what comes from their own mind or party, yet I have faith to believe that it will prove a blessing to many, and to this end I send it out and let it take the rough and smooth; as its author has to do.

This book may be read by many who have, or who may never see my face, and who would wish to know to what society does this man belong? To this I would only answer that he professes to be a Pilgrim and stranger on the earth, a Christian belonging to the church of the first born, whose names are written in Heaven, and that he is striving to save his soul, by denying ungodliness and worldly lusts and living soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, and lives in hopes to share a part in the first resurrection, where he will meet all the faithful of God to what-so-ever society they may belong, and to join in one united number and commence the same song of eternal and unceasing praise to Him who has washed us in His blood and has made us kings, priests and sons of God, and we shall reign with Him forever and ever.

The following comment follows a treatise on Christian Union as proposed by the Pilgrim based upon First Corinthians, Chapter 13, 13th verse (And now abideth Faith, Hope, and Charity, these three; but the greatest of these is Charity).

“The object of this publication, as are all the labors and sufferings of the author, in the Gospel, is to promote the pure and undefiled nature of religion in the souls of my fellow creatures. I write and preach for no sect nor party in particular, but for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God, in general.

That the carnal man may be converted, made anew in Christ Jesus, and cease all sinful practices, and live a

Godly life, and that all professions of religion may cultivate a spirit of love and unity, is what my God has called me forth to proclaim and I now feel a determination to obey the heavenly call; under the auspices of Divine grace I shall continue to travel wherever the Lord may direct, though a host should rise up against me.

I commend my reader to the throne of grace, to pray for the spirit of God to lead him into all truth, and to enable him to love all those who walk in the truth, without partiality, 'For by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another'." January 8th, 1818.

"To be continued, God willing."

The Pilgrim, J. T.

A letter written by the Pilgrim to a Friend:

Cayuga Co, NY, Cato Feb 2-1835

Dear Friend: As a neighbor whom I greatly respect and in whose friendship I repose strong confidence I now take the liberty to inform you something of my journey.

I have generally been well in health with the exception of one week I had the cholera morbus which pulled me down very low but I found kind friends and a gracious God and a skillful physician by whose kindness and mercies I was restored to good health again.

In one place in Ohio I had a hard time to get to preach. The people were scared at my white dress and thought I was an imposter.—But I preached to few and I tried it again. The next time the house was full. The next time there were more. The Lord commenced a good work among the people, several professed religion and many others became mourners, and I could not get away from that place for five weeks. The Lord confounded my enemies and I came out conqueror. I then went on my journey preaching every day to large congregations and I have seen many good seasons in religion. Our society is numerous in this country. We have a great number of large churches, and good meeting houses and a number of excellent preachers here.

The name of the White Coat Pilgrim goes before me and hundreds of all sorts meet to hear me preach. I drub the sectarians hard.—The Calvinists murmur, Babylon shakes—sinners weep, Christians get strong in the Lord and I am glad.

There are so many places the people wish me to preach that I get along toward the city of N. Y. but slowly and I now find if I perform my journey as I now intended it will take me longer than I at first calculated.

I want you to be so kind as to direct and lay out to my boys about getting in my crop of oats. Have the ground cleared off, the ground plowed, the oats sowed in and well harrowed in. You and my wife can plan it. And for all you do and for all the time you spend I will pay you when I get home. If anything should happen my family or they should need any assistance or direction—do you aid them and I and the Lord will pay you.

Knowing my friend, that we all have to die and have to be judged in the last day according to works, I cannot conclude this letter without reminding you of the necessity of preparing to meet God. I would advise to live soberly, to retire and frequently pray to Him that seeth in secret that He may reward you openly. What joy it would give my heart to hear that you had returned to the Lord. Then I would know you would live happy. That you could bear the troubles, trials, crosses and losses of this present evil world with patience, resignation and joy. Then you would die happy and triumphant. In heaven I would hope to meet you, where all our sighs and sorrows would forever cease, where the songs of salvation would be our employ and crowns of never fading glory our reward forever. Give my love to your wife and all inquiring friends.

A few days ago I started a letter to my wife with \$4 in it.

I remain your friend,
Joseph Thomas (Pilgrim)

To
Jacob Selsor,
Grassy Point, Ohio.

(Note: From this journey the Pilgrim did not return, as on April 9 he was stricken and died among strangers. This letter, written to his neighbor, was posted at Lysander. These two towns, Lysander and Cato, are both in northern New York).

GRASSY POINT CHURCH

Grassy Point Church was organized in 1832 by the Elder Joseph Thomas, better known as the White Pilgrim, with thirty members, some of whom are Joseph Thomas, Jr., Samuel Hornbeck, Thomas Green, Margaret Green, James Hornbeck, Catherine Messmore, Samuel Messmore, Sarah Thomas, Maria Hornbeck, and Polly Carr, now a resident of Fayette County, Ohio, John Lohr of London, Ohio, and Sophronia Carr, a daughter of the White Pilgrim, who now lives at Yellow Springs, Ohio.

Preaching services were held for several years at the home of Elder Thomas. Finally under the preaching of Joseph Thomas, Jr., a nephew of the Pilgrim, about 1845 a hewed log house was erected for church purposes, in which services were held for a period of about fifteen years. The church grew in strength, numbers, and usefulness, and about 1860 the present frame house was erected. It was dedicated to the service of God in 1861.

Elder Joseph Thomas, the Pilgrim, who organized the church, was its first minister. He was succeeded by the following: Rev. Enoch Harvey, James McInturf, Joseph Thomas, Jr., John Green, Benjamin Seever, Louis Green, James Hornbeck, Daniel Griffin, Caleb Morse, W. N. Overturf, Jonathan Pugh, and W. B. Fuller.

Since the organization of the church there have been enrolled nearly six hundred members. The church is situated in a fine country, and in a neighborhood of church-going people. They usually have good congregations, and on special occasions, as their yearly June meetings, have immense gatherings. At the present time, in 1883, the church numbers one hundred members with W. N. Overturf as Pastor.

(Note: This sketch was copied from page 721 of W. H. Beers and Co., History of Madison County, Ohio. It was published in Chicago, Ill. in 1883).

Services were discontinued at Grassy Point Church many years ago, and in 1935 the building was razed and removed from the location by a resident of the vicinity.

ROSTER OF GRAVESTONES

**In the Old Camp Ground Cemetery, one mile east of
South Solon, Ohio, as recorded in the Ohio
State Library at Columbus, Ohio**

MILTON, son of J. and E. Thomas, died September 22,
1851, aged 1 year, 10 days.

MARY A., wife of William McMillen, died April 9, 1849,
aged 25 years, 4 months, 5 days.

GRACEY, wife of J. Mahoy, died April 8, 1817, aged 56
years, 7 months, 6 days.

HUSTON MAHOY, died September 30, 1848, aged 27
years.

FRANCIS M., son of I. N. and M. Thomas, died Febru-
ary 17, 1851, aged 2 years, 2 days.

ALBERT, son of Jonas and Margaret Thomas, died
August 13, 1846, aged 10 months.

ELIZABETH, wife of H. M. Houghton, died , 1848,
aged 34 years, 10 months, 28 days.

RACHEL, wife of Stephen Venard, died July 14, 1848,
aged 37 years, 3 months, 14 days.

LYDIA, wife of William Kilgore, died April 8, 1847, aged
21 years, 6 month. "Her three infants sleep with
her."

MARY ANN, daughter of William and Lavina Thomas,
died September 21, 1852, aged 5 years, 27 days.

ZENO, son of G. and M. Thomas, died December 31, 1845,
aged 17 years.

JAMES W., son of James L. Hornbeck, died September
22, 1853, aged 11 months.

SUSAN J., daughter of C. C. and R. Thomas, died Feb-
ruary 13, 1852, aged 1 year, 2 months, 10 days.

MARIA HORNBECK, died March 14, 18-4, aged 30
years, 4 months.

