

A BRIEF RECORD  
of  
FOUR PIONEER FAMILIES  
of  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, INDIANA

YODER  
WEBSTER  
SWAIM  
HUNT



Compiled by  
CHARLES M. YODER  
South Bend, Indiana

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Presented to \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Compiled by  
CHARLES M. YODER  
South Bend, Indiana

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## FOREWORD

*The information contained in this booklet I have gathered over the years from various sources. Some of it was told to me as a boy when many of the pioneer settlers of this area were still alive. The information on the Yoder s was mostly from my grandfather Andrew Yoder, and from data picked up by my father William H. Yoder when he was in Stark County, Ohio to attend the funeral of his Uncle Philip in 1902. He copied the dates from his grandfather's old Bible. The information on the Websters was largely taken from an old account in a St. Joseph County atlas published in 1873. The record of the Swaim family was also recorded in the above-mentioned atlas, but was greatly increased by data taken from an old Bible belonging to John Swaim, the first entry being his birth in 1748. The history of the Hunts was taken almost altogether from a book compiled and published by Beverly Yount of Richmond, Indiana, a descendant of Timothy Hunt. To all the above data I have added from time to time information gathered from old grave stones, correspondence with distant relatives, newspaper clippings, etc. I am recording it here in the hope that it will prove of interest to future generations and will present a brief picture of the part their ancestors played in the great western migration, and preserve, in a small measure, some of the memories of pioneer days in this atomic age.*

*Charles H. Yoder*

**N.B.** The direct line of descent appears in capital italic letters.

## YODER FAMILY

The Yoder family originated in Switzerland and was largely confined to the Mennonite, Amish, Brethren, Moravian and Luthern faiths. Many emigrated to America to escape religious persecution and settled in the Pennsylvania Colony to enjoy the religious freedom offered by William Penn. Many also served in the Revolutionary War, like Captain Jacob Yoder who after the war loaded a flat boat on the Monongahela and floated it down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans--the first one to accomplish this. He later settled at Louisville, Kentucky. We find no direct relation to these early pioneers as ours was a later emigration, but practically all Yoders who know ought of their historical background claim Swiss origin. Our records begin with

I. *CAPTAIN JOSEPH YODER* who was born in 1789 in Switzerland probably in the Canton of Bern. His family moved across the border into France and settled in or near the town of Belfort, which was a military post. Here he joined the army of Napoleon and became a captain of the "Cuirassiers," a cavalry company made up, my grandfather told me, of "big men." His company was a part of Napoleon's force that marched on Moscow in 1812 with such disastrous results. They were obliged to retreat and after many weeks of starvation and loss of many lives the remanent of the army reached safety. (My grandfather told me that he had heard his father tell of their starvation and suffering.) About six years later he married Barbara Weiss who was born 1800 and died August 3, 1877. They came to

America in the fall of 1825 with their family of three children. My grandfather, the fourth son, was born in America or on the ocean (my father often said it was his understanding that his father was born on the ocean). They bought a large farm near Maximo, Stark County, Ohio, where they lived many years and raised a family of seven boys and one girl. In his later years he sold this farm and bought a small place near the home of his oldest son. Joseph, near Alliance, Ohio, where he died May 20, 1874. He spoke both French and German. A letter from my second cousin Mrs. Elizabeth Buchtel of Alliance, Ohio, stated that she could remember our great grandfather Joseph and that he was "very tall, very straight, and always carried a cane." The children of Joseph and Barbara Yoder were as follows:

- I. Joseph Yoder, born Nov. 3, 1818, died--
- II. Christopher Yoder, born Oct. 10, 1820, died--
- III. Peter Yoder, born Oct. 8, 1822, died--
- IV. **ANDREW YODER**, born Oct. 16, 1825, died Aug. 18, 1918.
- V. Eli Yoder, born Jan. 29, 1828, died--
- VI. Daniel Yoder, born Mar. 12, 1831, died--
- VII. Phillip Yoder, born Jan. 13, 1834, died 1902
- VIII. Barbara Yoder, born July 1837, died--

I. **JOSEPH YODER**, oldest son of Captain Joseph Yoder, was born in France November 3, 1818. He was a member of the Amish Church and lived on a farm near Alliance, Ohio. His barn was often used as a meeting place for the Amish. The date of his death is not known, but he did not live to the age attained by his brothers Chris Peter and Andrew. He had five daughters.

- 1. Catherine, whose married name was Klinger, also had five children.

- (1) Joseph Klinger
  - (2) Samuel Klinger
  - (3) Charles Klinger
  - (4) Edward Klinger
  - (5) Elizabeth, whose married name was Buchtel.
2. Barbara, who married Jacob Roth. No children.
  3. Leah, married name not known.
  4. Hannah, married name not known.
  5. Elizabeth, married name not known.

II. CHRISTOPHER YODER, second son of Captain Joseph Yoder, was also born in France, October 10, 1820. He married a French woman and became Catholic. One son Louis who, according to second cousin Elizabeth Buchtel, was still living at Maximo, Ohio in 1953, but very feeble at nearly 100 years. Exact date of Christopher's death not known, but he was well up in the 80's.

III. PETER YODER, third son of Captain Joseph Yoder, was born in France October 8, 1822. He married a French woman and they talked French in the family. He had several children whose names are not known. He lived to be very old, as I remember when my Aunts Matilda and Beryl Yoder visited him on his farm in Ohio they found him up in an apple tree trimming out the limbs. This was in about 1908 and he was in his 86th year.

#### IV. *ANDREW YODER* (see below)

V. ELI YODER, born in Stark County, Ohio, January 29, 1828. He was never married. He was a section boss on the railroad when a young man. He spent one summer with my grandfather about 1903 or '04. He died in Ohio.

VI. DANIEL YODER, born in Stark County, Ohio, March 12, 1831. Married and had several sons. He lived in the northern peninsula of Michigan. His whereabouts was unknown to my grandfather for many years. He served in the War Between the States and was wounded by a bullet which split his scalp but did not penetrate the skull. He was still living in 1903.

VII. PHILLIP YODER, born in Stark County, Ohio, January 13, 1834. Married and lived in Chicago. No children. He started as a foreman on the railroad, but acquired considerable property in Chicago and made a small fortune. He died in 1902 in Stark County, Ohio, and his estate was claimed by his wife Rosa, from whom he had parted but never had divorced.

VIII. BARBARA YODER, only daughter of Captain Joseph Yoder, was born in Stark County, Ohio, July 1837. Her married name was Niece. No children.

IV. *ANDREW YODER*, fourth son of Captain Joseph and Barbara Weiss Yoder, was born on the ocean October 16, 1825. He grew up in Stark County, Ohio, where he learned the cooper's trade. In 1849 he married Nancy Klingaman, who grandfather once told me was a relative of James A. Garfield. The Garfields lived in Cuyohoga County, north of Stark. In the fall of 1853 Andrew and Nancy Yoder moved from Louisville, Stark County, Ohio, where they had been living since they were married, to St. Joseph County, Indiana. Grandmother's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Klingaman had moved to northern Indiana previous to this and settled near Etna Green. Grandfather rented a farm in Greene Township in what was later known as the Rupel Settlement. One of his nearest neighbors was John Milton Swaim, and they often exchanged work in clearing the land. Grandmother Nancy died 1864 of diphtheria with two of the children. Grandmother Swaim helped to care for them. Grandmother's death, leaving Grandfather with four small children, was only the beginning of his troubles--he was drafted into the Union Army. He did not look with favor on the war, although in no sense a Southern sympathizer. I think there were three good reasons that influenced him. (1) He had four motherless children to look after. (2) He

was of the Amish-Mennonite persuasion and did not believe in it. (3) He was a Democrat in politics, which in those times could make life quite trying. He therefore took the children to Stark County Ohio, and left them with his brothers and went on to Canada. It was only a matter of a few months, however, till the war was over when he returned with the children to South Bend. The first winter he worked at his trade as a cooper, making wood barrels by hand, piecework. He made good wages and in the spring bought a team of horses and some farm tools and rented a farm on the Portage Road northwest of South Bend. The price of wheat was high in years immediately following the Civil War and he prospered.

In 1868 he married Phoebe Rupel Treadwell a widow (1839-1916). She had inherited a little property and by combining their resources they bought a 100 acre farm northeast of Elkhart near Heaton Lake. Here they lived until 1879 when they sold this farm and purchased 40 acres lying north of Ewing Avenue and which now (1956) is bounded by Ewing, Leer, Calvert, and Twyckenham. There was no building on this land and he built a house (now known as 1311 East Ewing Avenue) a barn and other outbuildings. He farmed this until about 1900 when he platted the north half and sold it off in lots. The south half he held until his death in 1918 when the balance of the farm was also platted and sold off in city lots. He was a member of the Brethren Church for many years and a lifelong Democrat, having cast his first vote for Franklin Pierce and his last for Woodrow Wilson. He had no formal education and could barely write his name, but schooled in pioneer ways and with a yoke of oxen, an ax, and a rifle made himself a home in those early days. He stood six feet in his stocking feet and weighed perhaps 275 pounds in later life. Many stories are told of his feats of



strength, such as picking up a barrel of salt (320 lbs.).

The children of Andrew and Nancy Yoder were:

1. Joseph Klingaman Yoder
2. Matilda Jane Yoder
3. *WILLIAM HENRY YODER*
4. Mary Ellen Yoder
5. Phillip Yoder
6. Daniel Yoder

The children of Andrew and Phoebe Yoder were:

7. Beryl Yoder
8. Emmet Yoder
9. Clyde Yoder

1. JOSEPH KLINGAMAN YODER, oldest son of Andrew and Nancy Yoder, was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 8, 1850; died at South Bend, Indiana, December 31, 1928; buried at Riverview Cemetery. He married (1) Ella Bingham of Mishawaka, Indiana, whose brother Volney Bingham was a lawyer and later state senator from St. Joseph County. They had two children

- (1) William Volney Yoder, born Sept. 1878.  
He married (1) Grace Dillingham and had three children, (2) Myrtle Taylor.
  - I. Charles Nelson Yoder (died as a young man)
  - II. Maxine Yoder
  - III. William Yoder
- (2) Eva Yoder, born Sept 19, 1881, died July 1934.  
Married James P. Ward. Had three daughters.
  - I. Myrtle Ward, married Joseph Wagner.
  - II. Mary Ward, married Mayne Laughlin.
  - IV. Marjorie Ward, married William Niewola .

Joseph K. Yoder married second Ida Klemp, had five daughters.

- (1) Jeanette Yoder, 1891, married 1st Haughton, 2nd Charles Harrah. One daughter Josephine Haughton, married Schlomer.
- (2) Nellie Yoder, married Howard Ullery, no children.
- (3) Marie Yoder, married Lester Black.
- (4) Tilly Yoder, married Ray Granning.
- (5) Beatrice Yoder

2. MATILDA JANE YODER, oldest daughter of Andrew and Nancy Yoder, was born in Stark County, Ohio, July 19, 1851. Died at South Bend, Indiana, July 2, 1934. Never married. Lived with her sister Mary Ellen Cleis at 114 West Marion Street in South Bend. Buried at Riverview Cemetery.

3. WILLIAM H. YODER (See below).

4. MARY ELLEN YODER, born St. Joseph County, Indiana, July 6, 1857. Died at South Bend, Indiana, 114 East Marion Street, July 21, 1943. Married in 1880 to John Charles Cleis, who was born in Canton, Ohio, October 21, 1855, the son of a prominent physician. He was engaged in the jewelry business in South Bend for 60 years. He died in 1939. They are buried in Riverview Cemetery. Three children.

- (1) Everett Cleis, born 1884, died 1909, auto accident.
- (2) Ethel Cleis, born 1884.
- (3) Marie Cleis, born 1888.

(2) Ethel Cleis, born 1884, married 1905 to Frank S. Chrisman (1880-1953), who later became President of South Bend Toy Mfg. Co. They had three children.

- I. Frank S. Chrisman, Jr., born 1906.
- II. Jack Chrisman, born 1913.
- III. Mary Ellen Chrisman.

I. Frank S. Chrisman, Jr. married Alberta Fisher, two daughters

- 1. Carolyn Chrisman
- 2. Katherine Chrisman

II. Jack Chrisman married Helen Jane McMichael.  
1. John Andrew Chrisman.

III. Mary Ellen Chrisman married Eugene O'Brien, seven children.

(3) Marie Cleis, born 1888, married 1909 to Don King Stephenson, one son.

- I. Don King Stephenson, Jr.

5. PHILLIP YODER, born July 6, 1857, twin brother of Mary Ellen Yoder, died 1864 of diphtheria.

6. DANIEL YODER, born 1862, died 1864 of diphtheria.

7. BERYL YODER, born at Elkhart, Indiana, Sept. 13, 1874, died at South Bend, Sept. 1924. Never married.

8. EMMET YODER, born at Elkhart, Indiana, April 1, 1877, died 1877.

9. CLYDE R. YODER, born at South Bend, Indiana, Sept. 12, 1879, died March 12, 1951.

Married 1st Minnie Wood in 1906. She died in 1915.

Married 2nd Mrs. Emma Koehler Weiss in 1918.

She died in 1943. They had one son

(1) Roy A. Yoder, born 1921.

L. one son Jeffrey Yoder.

Married 3rd Mrs. Lulu Close, 1945. No children.

3. *WILLIAM H. YODER* was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 16, 1853. He died at his home south of South Bend on U.S. 31 on February 10, 1945. He married Grace Webster December 4, 1884. They lived on the old Webster farm about five years, then had a sale and moved to South Bend in the 700 block of South Michigan Street. Here they lived for two years, then sold the property and moved back on the farm. While living in town he kept a team of horses and did teaming. He helped to lay out Pennsylvania Avenue when Wenger addition was opened up. When he was a young man he had worked by the month on the farm of James R. Miller which was located on the Portage Road, now the River View Cemetery. He was a farmer all his life in an age when farming was largely a hand operation.

He was a member of the St. Joseph County Horticultural Society and the St. Joseph Valley Grange # 584. He

was a Democrat in politics and cast his first vote for Samuel J. Tilden in 1876 and his last for Franklin D. Roosevelt. About 1905 he served one term as supervisor of the roads in his district. He served many times on the jury in St. Joseph County Circuit Court. He was buried in Bowman Cemetery.

He had three children.

I. **CHARLES M. YODER**

II. Jay A. Yoder

III. William Maro Yoder

I. **CHARLES M. YODER** (See below)

II. JAY A. YODER, born Portage Township, St. Joseph County, August 15, 1887. Not married. Resided at 1405 East Donald Street before his death February 2, 1958.

III. WILLIAM MARO YODER, born in South Bend, April 19, 1890, died August 1948. Married Mable Wolfe of Stueben County, Ind., 1920. No children. One adopted son, William W. Yoder.

I. **CHARLES M. YODER** was born October 12, 1885, on the old Webster farm in Portage Township. He attended Keyes School, completing eighth grade in April 1900, and South Bend High School 1900-1904. He was elected Secretary of St. Joseph Valley Grange in 1904 and resigned in the fall of 1905 to go to work for Wilbur Ward, a lawyer, and Dep. Collector of Internal Revenue. On Sept. 6, 1906 he began work for South Bend Toy Mfg. Co. as "Time Keeper." Later became Bookkeeper, Auditor, Assistant Secretary and Purchasing Agent. Retired January 1, 1953. Was united with Church of the Brethren 1914, elected deacon 1916, superintendent of Sunday school, church clerk, and 1918 elected to ministry, 1924 ordained an

elder, elder of the Oak Grove Church for about seven years.

Married September 28, 1908, to Jessie Swaim at her home in Greene Twp., St. Joseph County, Indiana, by Rev. William Kirk Bryce, a Baptist preacher with a broad Scotch accent. Bought a lot of Del. Leer and built a house at 1119 Haney Ave., South Bend, where they lived till 1947. Bought property at 1336 East Fox, which was a part of Grandfather's farm. Later sold Haney Avenue property.

Cast his first vote for William Jennings Bryan and heard him speak on two different occasions.

Four children as follows:

1. Charles Hugh Yoder
2. Henry Swaim Yoder
3. Harriet Rachael Yoder
4. James Milton Yoder

1. CHARLES HUGH YODER, born in South Bend, Indiana, August 25, 1909; attended Lincoln School, South Bend High School, Manchester College A.B. degree, and Ohio State for work on his masters degree; taught at Washington, Clay and Riley High Schools. Left teaching profession in 1941 and went with Owens Illinois Glass Co. He moved to Bridgeton, N. J., Toledo, Ohio, St. Charles, Ill., Pitman, N. J., and in 1956 back to Toledo, where he is now "Coordinator of Cost Accounting" for all plastics plants of Owens-Illinois. Was married to Florence Winebrenner Sept. 27, 1930. She was the daughter of Alva Winebrenner, prominent farmer, businessman, and banker of Huntington, Indiana.

They have three children.

- 1) Carolyn Janet Yoder, born at South Bend, June 9, 1934, married to William Boynton of St. Charles, Ill., Dec. 19, 1953, three children.

- (1) Robert William Boynton, born Oct. 9, 1954.
- (2) James Scott Boynton, born Aug. 4, 1956.
- (3) Daniel Lee Boynton, born Mar. 12, 1958.

2) Thomas Keith Yoder, born at South Bend, Dec. 19, 1937.

3) Dwight Jay Yoder, born at Toledo, Ohio, June 30, 1945.

2. HENRY S. YODER, born at South Bend, Indiana, March 17, 1912; attended Lincoln School and graduated from Riley High School. He delivered Studebaker cars during the depression years, which with some personal traveling took him to nearly every state in the United States. On January 6, 1935 he married Elizabeth Shigley, who had been raised at Moosehart, Illinois, her father, Frederick Shigley, a city fireman in Elkhart, Ind., having been killed in line of duty. Henry worked at Bendix during World War II and since that time for the Oliver Corp. They have two sons.

1) Ralph Edwin Yoder, born at Mishawaka, July 30, 1936, with U.S. Air Force at Verdun, France (1956).

2) Frederick Charles Yoder, born at Mishawaka, Dec. 12, 1944.

3. HARRIET RACHEL YODER, born at South Bend, Feb. 9, 1915; attended Lincoln School and graduated from Riley High School in 1932. On March 17, 1934, she married Wilton Hamilton, born in Petosky, Michigan, July 16, 1913. He is an employee of the Bendix Corp. and engages privately in the production of custom made archery equipment. They have three children.

1) Douglas Neal Hamilton, born South Bend, Oct. 26, 1934, married Dec. 24, 1955 to Patricia Tajkowski. Two children,

- (1) Debra Rachel, born Jan. 2, 1957.
- (2) Catherine Arlene, born Jan. 28, 1958.

2) Bruce Wilton Hamilton, born South Bend, July 3, 1936. Married in Colorado, 1956, to Minnie Redhouse (Navaho).

3) Jane Margaret Hamilton, born South Bend, Oct. 29, 1944.

4. JAMES M. YODER, born at South Bend, December 26, 1921; attended Lincoln school and graduated from Riley High School 1940; entered Indiana University in September 1941. Enlisted in Quartermaster Reserve Corps in 1943. Graduated from Indiana University in 1944 and was commissioned 2nd Lt. Served until end of war, discharged as 1st Lt. Married Katherine Qualkenbush Jan. 3, 1943. She was daughter of Willard and Essie Qualkenbush of Norton, Virginia, and was born November 24, 1922. In June 1943 he was appointed official reporter for the U.S. District Court in the Canal Zone and spent about one and a half years there. Resigning this position, he returned to Louisville, Ky. and established himself in the reporting business, later forming a partnership with Margaret Commons under the name of Yoder & Commons. He also is official reporter for the Criminal Division of the Jefferson Circuit Court and is engaged in the printing business. He has children as follows.

1) Raymond Charles Yoder, born Louisville, Ky., June 21, 1951.

2) Edward Neil Yoder, born Louisville, Ky., April 16, 1954.

3) Roger Louis Yoder, born Louisville, Ky., July 30, 1956.

## WEBSTER FAMILY

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### COAT OF ARMS

- ARMS      "Azure, on a bend argent cotised or, between two demi lions rampant ermine, a rose guler, seeded and leaved proper, between two boar's heads coupéd sable and langued of the fifth."
- CREST     "A dragon's head coupéd regardant quarterly per fess embattled vest and or, flames issuing from mouth proper."
- MOTTO     "FIDES ET JUSTITIA"
- 

The Webster family originated in England and was widely scattered among the various counties of England as far back as 1273. John Webster was born probably in Warwickshire, England, in the year of 1590. He came to America and settled at Newtown, Conn., in 1630. He later moved to Hartford and in 1656 became the fifth governor of the Colony of Connecticut. He died in 1661. From him is descended Daniel Webster, the statesman, and Noah Webster, the author of the Dictionary. Also in the fifth generation was descended Aaron Webster (1756-1843) who served in the Revolutionary War as a scout for General Israel Putnam. One of his brothers and one of his sisters married a brother and sister of Col. Ethan Allen. His son Aaron Webster II was a Quaker and married Amy Bentley and lived at New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York.



His oldest son was Lester, born 1799 (my great grandfather). About 1813 the family moved to Cherry Valley, N. Y. and settled on a farm. Across the road from them was the Dickinson farm, James and Hulda Dickinson. They had a daughter Caroline who Lester later married and in 1825 moved to East Henerietta, Monroe County, N. Y., He became a carpenter and built many houses in that vicinity. Grandmother Caroline Dickinson Webster was a relative of Daniel S. Dickinson, U.S. senator from New York about 1840. Lester Webster's father Aaron II, born 1779 was also a carpenter, as was his father Aaron I, and the story is told that when he was a boy, shortly after the Revolution and was learning the carpenter trade with his father they would start out on a cold morning carrying their tools and if perchance they should meet some person of prominence in the community they were obliged to lay down their tools and remove their hats while the person passed. He therefore said when he was grown he would join the Quakers and not take off his hat to anyone, and he did. About 1834 he made a trip on horseback to the west in Indiana, and finding it to be a prosperous and thriving country decided to move to this new country. His five sons decided to do likewise, so they shipped many of their household goods on the canal to Buffalo and thence by boat over the Great Lakes to Michigan City, Indiana. Then with their personal effects loaded into covered wagons with ox teams they started West in September 1835. They crossed into Canada at Buffalo and followed the north shore of Lake Erie. At one point as they drew near to the water's edge, the day being hot and the oxen thirsty, they made a sudden turn into the water. Grandmother and the children were much frightened as the water came up to the wagon box and the wagon threatened to overturn.

However, by prompt action of Grandfather and the rest of the men folks they were safely returned to the trail. They proceeded on to Detroit, where they crossed over into the U.S. and headed southward to St. Joseph County, Indiana, where they all bought farms and settled down to a new life in the wilderness.

I have often heard the story of this memorable trip from the lips of Aaron Webster, youngest brother of Lester, who lived until 1899 when I was 15 years of age. In 1893 after attending the funeral of a pioneer neighbor of his, Aaron wrote an article for the Tribune recalling those early days in Indiana. I quote:

Our family came from Rochester, Monroe County, N. Y., and located here in the fall of 1835. We were four weeks on the way, traveling by ox team and coming through Canada and Southern Michigan. Our oxen were fine beasts and could tire out horses on a long trip. We passed many jaded horses on the way. The Webster family consisted of my parents Aaron and Amy Webster, my brothers - Lester, William Harry C., Russell, and myself (Aaron). When we came here in 1835 we passed through the magnificent Prairie Ronde south of Kalamazoo and the level burr oak region around it, but we came from a hilly and wooded country in Western New York, so we selected the thick woods country for our new homes in the West. We were amply repaid however for our hard labors in felling the forests by finding very productive soil beneath and there are no better farms in the country today than in the Webster settlement. In 1835 South Bend was a pretty small place with but a few houses and primitive stores. It was all wilderness where the tall buildings, blocks, and finished houses of the city are now situated. Mishawaka had better prospects than South Bend then. I remember what a great event it was when the grist mill was built in Mishawaka a year or two after we came to this country. I hurried in and got the first bushel of wheat ground after the mill had started. Yes, I do indeed feel very lonesome when I think all my old neighbors of 60 years ago have passed away and I am alone upon the earth of all that large company of pioneers.

Lester Webster settled in Portage Township two and a half miles southeast of the village of South Bend on what was later called Ewing Avenue, but which at that time had not yet been surveyed as a road. The trail at that time angled into South Bend from the southeast and on this trail a Mr. Samuel Rupe had built a log cabin. Lester Webster bought three "'80's'" from Mr. Rupe and the government deeds on sheepskin parchment have been preserved by the family and are now in possession of C. M. and J. A. Yoder. The deeds were issued at the U. S. Land Office in Fort Wayne and dated "the third day of January in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-two and the independence of the United States the Fifty Sixth," signed Andrew Jackson Pres. and recorded in Vol. 2, page 457.

Lester Webster lived on this farm all his life and besides clearing the land and farming he also built many houses in the community, including a large square frame house with cupola on top which still stands at 1425 East Woodside in South Bend. This was erected in 1857 and the interior trim was butternut and walnut planed and dressed by hand. Here he lived until 1877, when the original farm was divided between his children and a new house was built on that portion set off to his son James D. Webster which consisted of 95 acres. Lester Webster was to live with his son James for the rest of his life, but James died in 1879 and Lester continued to live with the two daughters of James D., viz Carrie E. Webster and Grace Webster Yoder till his death in 1886. His first wife, Caroline, died 1859, and in 1860 he returned to New York and married Almira Dickinson Morey, whom he had courted when a young man but finally married her younger sister Carolyne. Almira died in 1873.

James D. Webster lived on the Old Webster Homestead all his life and engaged in farming with his father. They at one time had about 16 acres of hops. These required many pickers, and when the season was over they would hold a sort of celebration, dance, etc. They also ran a cider mill and produced many apples for the market. James Webster married (in 1857) Harriet Andrews, who had come from Sodus, N. Y. some years before with her mother and Uncle William Andrews, and had been teaching school in Mishawaka. William Andrews ran an iron foundry in Mishawaka and James Oliver, founder of Oliver Plow Co., worked for him. Harriet's father, Isaac Andrews (1793-1827), died at the age of 35. His father, Silas F. Andrews (1758-1820), served throughout the Revolutionary War in Captain Prior Conn. Calvary as a guard on the wagon trains. James and Harriet Webster had two daughters, Carrie E. and Grace M., who inherited the farm on their father's death in 1879. Their mother died in 1883, and in 1884 Grace married William H. Yoder, whose father, Andrew Yoder, lived on a 40-acre farm directly across the road from the Webster farm. My father and mother continued to live on and farmed the old place for 37 years until it was finally sold to A. R. Erskine, President of Studebaker Corp., in 1922. Thus the farm became a part of the Erskine estate and was finally developed into the Miami Hills district now a part of South Bend. Father and Mother then moved south of town on U.S. 31 when they bought the Sam Hildebrand place consisting of an old farm house (which had been somewhat modernized) and 18 acres of land. In 1940 they built a new house on a lot adjoining the old one where they lived until Father died in 1945, and where Mother continued to live until 1952 when she moved to 1405 East Donald Street in South Bend. Here

she died on June 21, 1955, in her 93rd year and within one half mile of the house where she was born.

## **W E B S T E R S**

**JOHN WEBSTER.** Born in England in 1590. Died in Connecticut April 5, 1661. Governor of Connecticut Colony 1656. Wife's name was Agnes (last name unknown). Their children follow:

1. Matthew Webster, born 1621
2. William Webster, born 1623
3. Thomas Webster, born 1625 (Daniel Webster descended)
4. **ROBERT WEBSTER**, born 1627 (Noah Webster descended)
5. Anna Webster
6. Elizabeth Webster
7. Mary Webster
8. Luther Webster

**ROBERT WEBSTER.** Born in Connecticut 1627, died 1676. Fourth son of Governor John Webster. Married Susannah J. Treat, probably a relative of Robert Treat, Governor of Connecticut in 1683. Their children were as follows:

1. John Webster
2. Sarah Webster
3. Jonathan Webster (Websters of Iowa descended)
4. Susannah Webster
5. Samuel Webster
6. Robert Webster
7. Benjamin Webster
8. Joseph Webster
9. **WILLIAM WEBSTER**
10. Mary Webster

**WILLIAM WEBSTER.** Married Sarah Nichols in 1700. Their children were as follows:

1. Cryprian Webster, born 1701 (?)
2. Moses (died), born 1704 (?)

3. William Webster, born 1707
4. Moses Webster, born 1710 (?)
5. Susannah Webster, born 1713 (?)
6. Sarah Webster, born 1716 (?)
7. *SAMUEL WEBSTER*, born 1719 (?)
8. Timothy Webster, born 1722 (?)

*SAMUEL WEBSTER*. Married Elizabeth (last name unknown. Their children were as follows:

1. Samuel Webster, born 1747 (?)
2. Ashbel Webster, born 1750 (?)
3. Michael Webster, born 1753 (?)
4. *AARON WEBSTER*, born 1756, married Mary Shepard
5. Timothy Webster, born 1759 (?), married Sally Allen
6. Betsey Webster, born 1762 (?)
7. Amy Webster, born 1765 (?), married John Allen.
8. Rachael Webster, born ?

*AARON WEBSTER*. Born 1756, died 1843. He and his brother Michael were said to have been the favorite scouts of General Israel Putnam in the Revolutionary War. He married (1778) Mary Shepard, who died in 1833. Their children were as follows:

1. *AARON WEBSTER*, born 1779, married Amy Bently.
2. Samuel Webster, born 1781.
3. Polly Webster, born 1783, married Sweet Case.
4. Electa Webster, born 1785, married Oliver Case.
5. Samuel Webster, born 1787, married Mercy Green.
6. Charlotte Webster, born 1789, married Roswell Bently.
7. Thearon Webster, 1791-1867, married Sally Wickham.
8. Almeron Webster, born 1793, married Charlotte Baker.
9. Cynthia Webster, born 1795, married Joshua Palmer.
10. Eliza Webster, born 1797, married Hosea Martin.

*AARON WEBSTER*. Born May 26, 1779, died October 2, 1838 in New York. Married Amy Bently, born 1781-died (?). Moved to Northern Indiana in 1835. Children as

follows:

1. **LESTER WEBSTER**, born Dec. 2, 1799, died Jan. 19, 1886.
2. William Webster, born Sept. 3, 1801, died (?)
3. Harry Crosswell Webster, born May 28, 1804, died Jan. 23, 1885.
4. Russell Webster, born Feb. 22, 1807, died (?)
5. Mary Webster, born 1810.
6. Harriet Amy Webster, born 1812.
7. Aaron Webster, born Aug. 3, 1814, died Dec. 3, 1899.
8. Elizabeth Webster, born Oct. 12, 1818, died Apr. 27, 1905.

**LESTER WEBSTER.** Born December 2, 1799, at New Lebanon, Columbia County, New York. Married Caroline Dickinson (1804-1859) at Cherry Valley, New York 1821. He moved to Monroe County, New York, and in 1835 to St. Joseph County, Indiana. Died January 19, 1886. Buried in Bowman Cemetery. Children as follows:

1. **JAMES D. WEBSTER**
2. Charles Webster (died at birth)
3. Mary Webster
4. Emily Webster
5. Harriet Amy Webster

I. **JAMES D. WEBSTER** (See below)

II. Charles Webster died at birth.

III. Mary Webster, born Monroe County, New York, May 13, 1830. Married James Savidg. Died April 1917. Buried Bowman Cemetery. One Child:

- (1) Lester W. Savidg, born 1868. Married Kate Mathews. Died (?). Buried Bowman Cemetery. Two children:

- 1) Hattie Savidg, born 1890. Married August Hanish. One child, Eugene Hanish.

- 2) Clyde Savidg. One child, Lester Savidg.

IV. Emily Webster, born Monroe County, New York, May 14, 1833. Married Arthur Shank. She died April 18,

1913. Buried Bowman Cemetery. One child.

- (1) Eddy Norman Shank. Born April 28, 1858.  
Married Josie Smyser. Two children.
  - 1) Clyde, died, no children.
  - 2) Roy, died, no children.

V. Harriet Amy Webster, born St. Joseph County, Indiana, July 8, 1838. Married Jacob Myers. She died 1883. Children as follows:

- (1) Cora Myers - 1863, died in infancy.
- (2) Earnestus Myers - 1864
- (3) Mary Myers - 1866
- (4) Lelia Myers - 1868
- (5) Nettie Myers - 1872
- (6) Joseph Myers - 1874.

The girls' married names were O'Dea, Humphrey and Shoemaker, but I do not know which was which.

I. **JAMES D. WEBSTER.** Born Otsego County, New York, July 31, 1822. Came with his father to Northern Indiana in 1835. Married Harriet Andrews (1820-1883) at Mishawaka, Indiana, October 15, 1857. He died on the Old Webster Homestead on June 22, 1879. Buried in Bowman Cemetery. He was engaged in farming all his life. Children as follows:

1. **GRACE M. WEBSTER**
2. Carrie E. Webster, married Jerome Webster 1914, no children.

1. **GRACE M. WEBSTER.** Born December 22 1862, on the Lester Webster Homestead. Married William H. Yoder (1853-1945) at South Bend on December 4, 1884. (See introduction) Died at 1405 East Donald Street, South Bend, June 21, 1955. Buried in Bowman Cemetery. Children as follows:

- (1) **CHARLES M. YODER**
- (2) Jay A. Yoder
- (3) William Maro Yoder



(1) *CHARLES M. YODER*, born October 12, 1885, on the old Webster Homestead. Married Jessie Swaim on Sept. 28, 1908. Children as follows:

- |                       |   |                      |
|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1) Charles Hugh Yoder | ) |                      |
| 2) Henry S. Yoder     | ) | see record of Yoders |
| 3) Harriet R. Yoder   | ) |                      |
| 4) James M. Yoder     | ) |                      |

- 2) Jay A. Yoder, born August 15, 1887, unmarried. Died February 2, 1958.
- 3) William Maro Yoder, born April 19, 1890, died 1948. Married Mable Wolfe.



# FAMILY ALBUM



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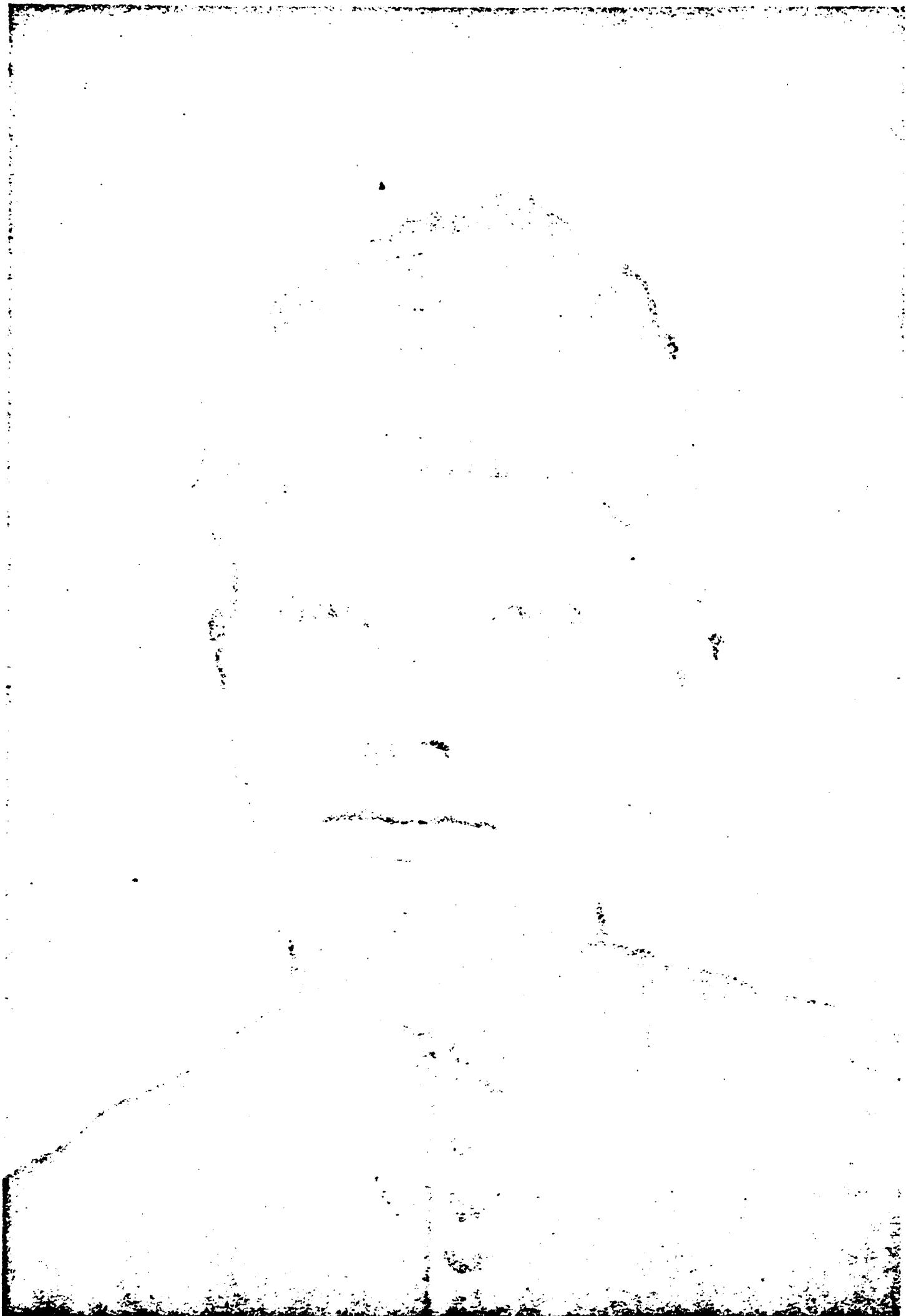
Charles M. Yoder Residence  
1119 East Haney Avenue





William H. Yoder - 1884

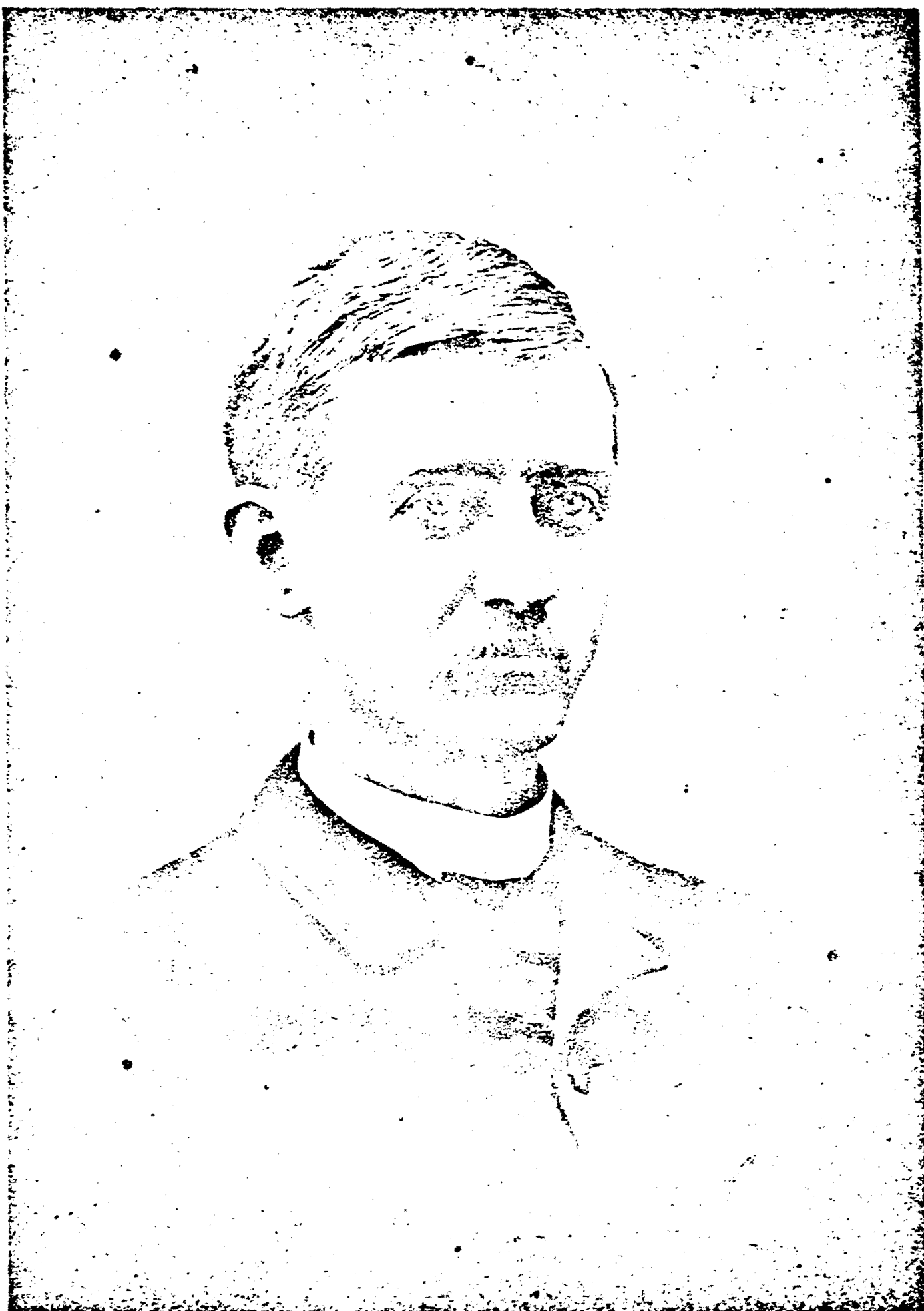




Grace Yoder - 1884







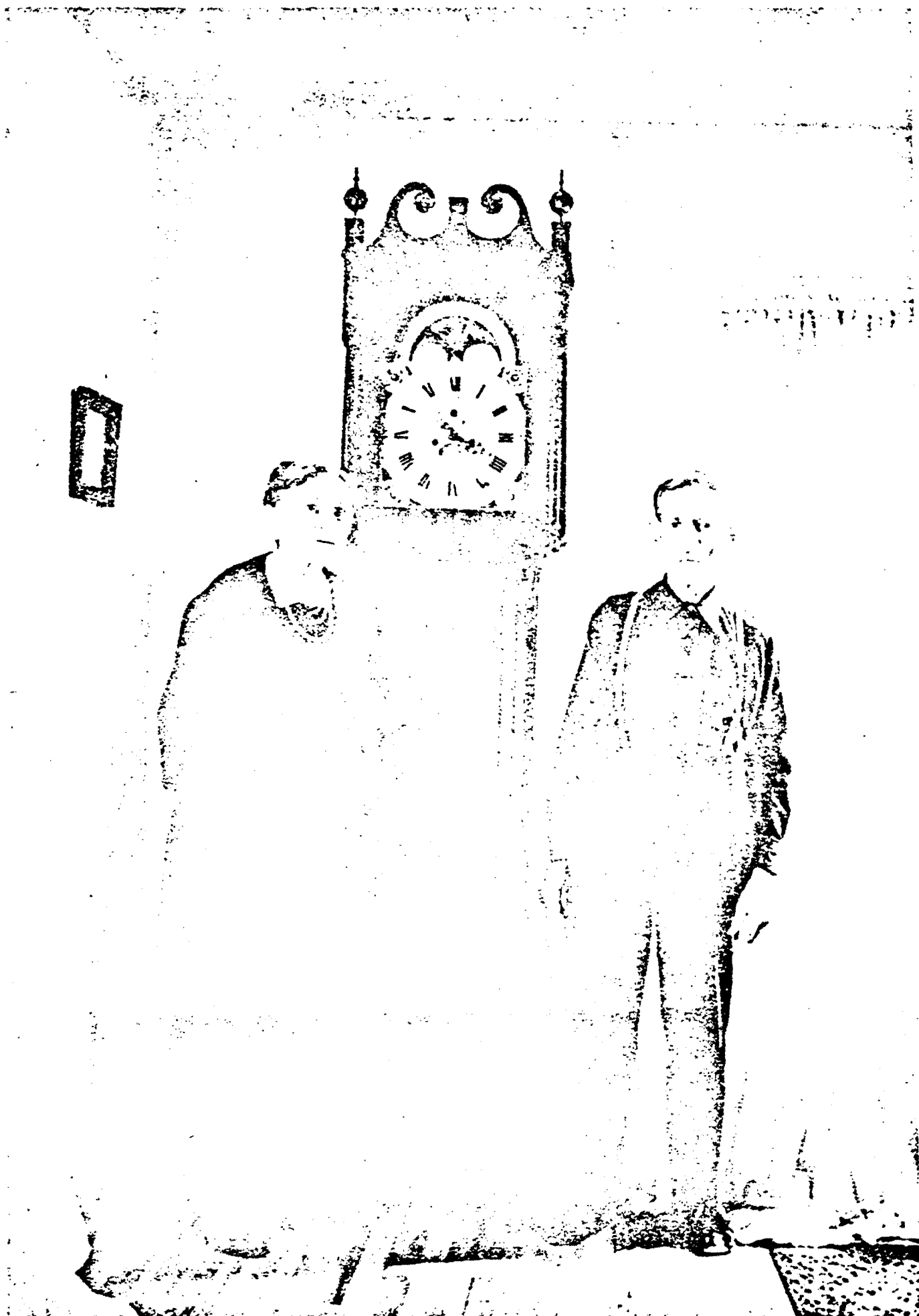
Henry H. Swaim - 1886





Corinne Swaim - 1886





William H. and Grace Yoder

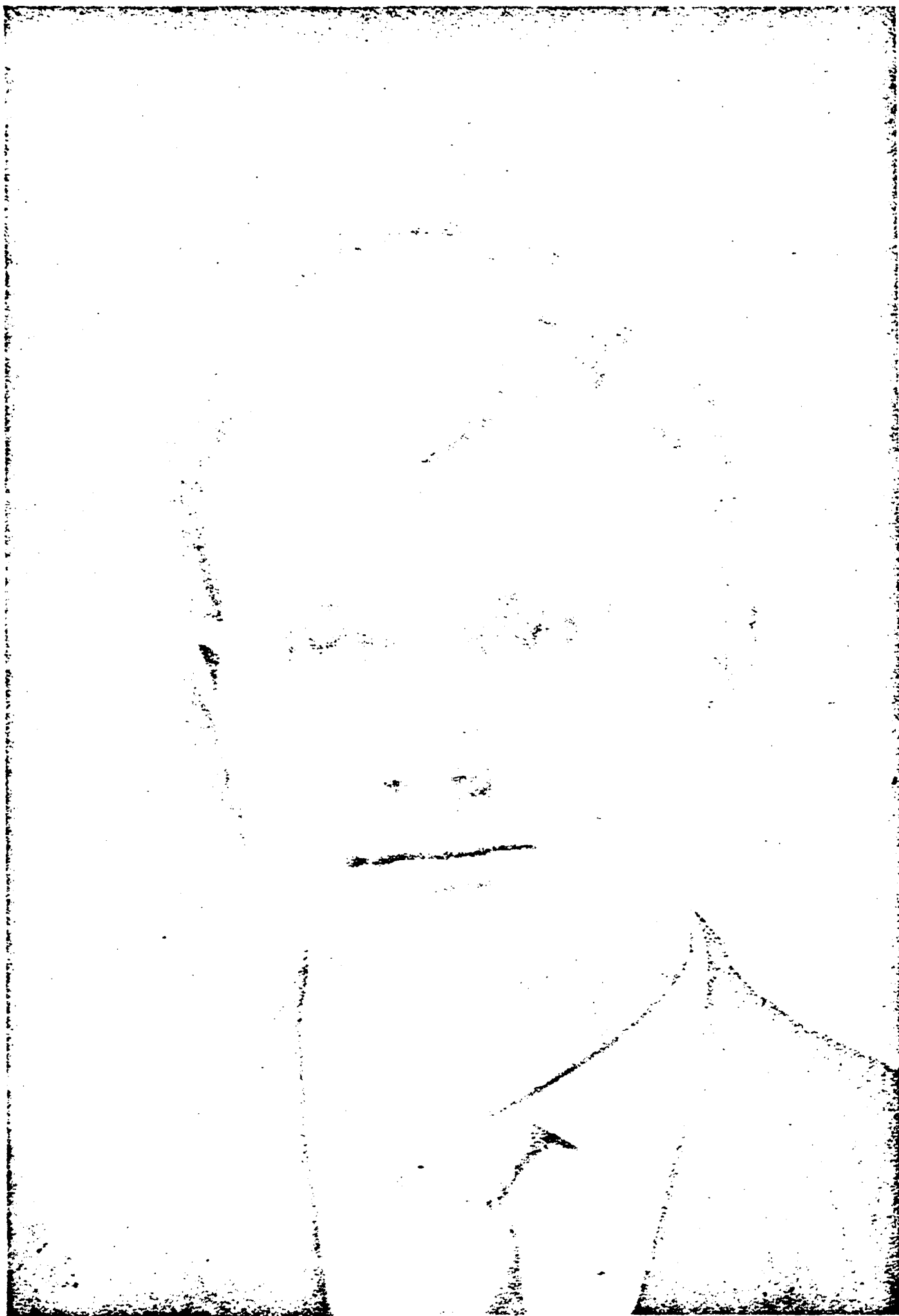




Henry H. and Corinne Swaim







Charles M. Yoder - 1908





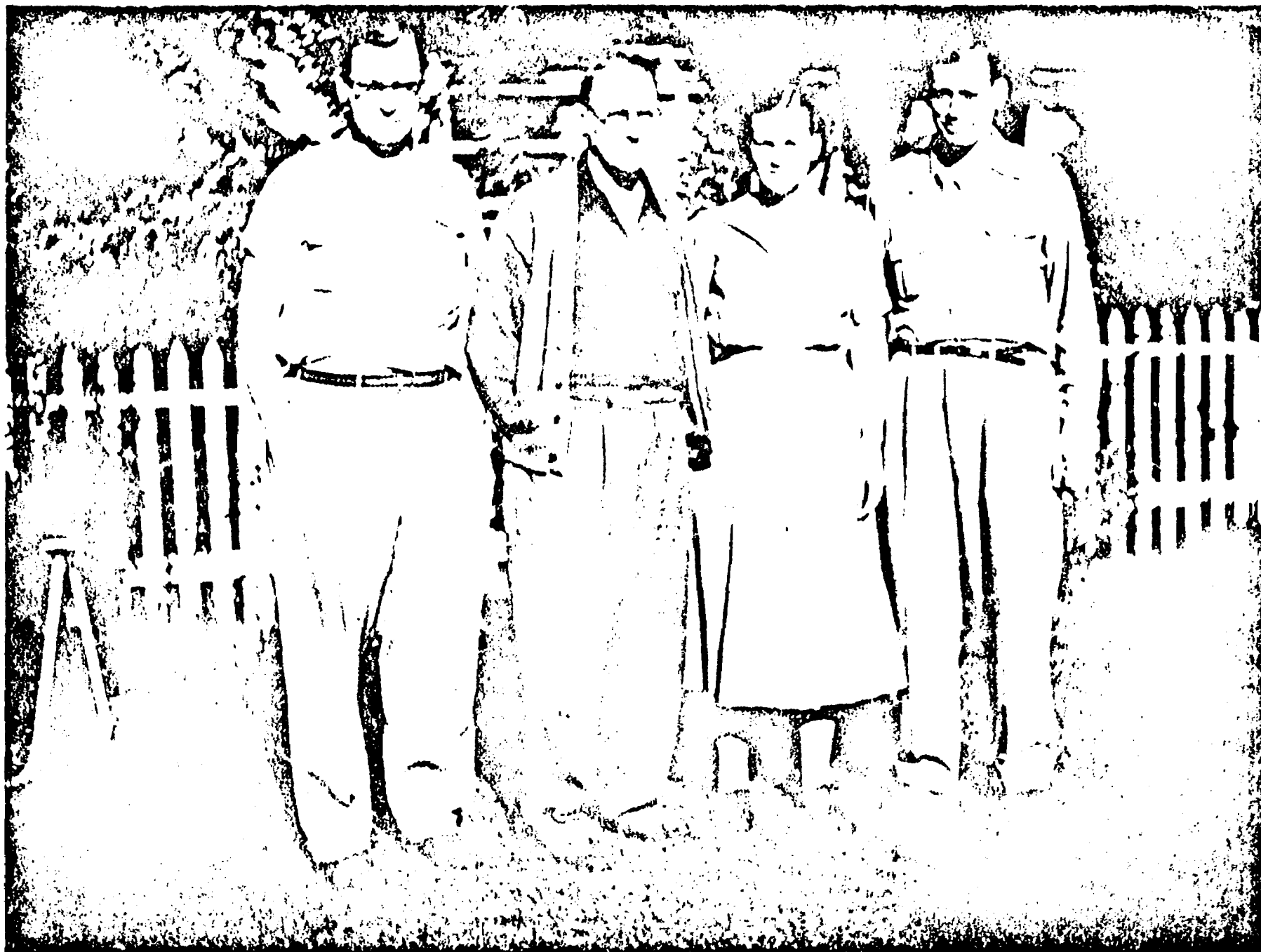
**Jessie Yoder - 1908**





Charles M. and Jessie Yoder





Hugh, Henry, Harriet, and James

1870





## SWAIM FAMILY

The Swaim family emigrated to America from Holland although many believe they were not of Dutch stock, but were English Pilgrims sojourning in Holland. The earliest record is of

*ANTHONY SWAIM*, who came over from Holland in 1700 and settled on Staten Island in New York. From an old record we learn that he had four sons and his wife was a Huguenot lady.

1. Michael Swaim, who remained on Staten Island and whose descendents now live "up the Hudson."
2. Mathias Swaim, who moved to Essex County, New Jersey.
3. *WILLIAM SWAIM*, who moved to Surrey County, North Carolina.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Swaim, who moved to Princeton, N.J.

*WILLIAM SWAIM* went South into the English Colony of North Carolina, which was then the extreme frontier, and settled at the head of the Yadkin River. Here he may have married a Cherokee squaw, as the old record mentioned above states that there was a Cherokee squaw in the family line, and it could only have occurred here unless it was in the Vickery line in the next generation. (See John Swaim.) There were three sons.

1. Moses Swaim, who remained in Surrey County. No further record.
2. Michael Swaim, who remained in Surrey County. No further record.
3. *JOHN SWAIM*.

**JOHN SWAIM** was born in Surrey County, North Carolina, April 26, 1748. Died in Randolph County January 16, 1827. He lived on the Yadkin River, a friend and neighbor of Daniel Boone. One May 19, 1767 he married Elizabeth Vickery, born May 11, 1750 and died September 3, 1833. Her father, Marmaduke Vickery, and one of her brothers fought in the early days of the Revolution. They were among the soldiers captured by the British at the battle of Guilford County Court House. They were put in chains by the British, but were later paroled after signing allegiance to the king. Grandmother Vickery was a woman of strong character and strong body. She one time had an encounter with a wildcat when she went out to milk the cow. She was carrying a wooden bucket called a "piggin" and she killed the wildcat with the "piggin." John and Elizabeth had eight sons and three daughters.

1. Massah, born 7/15/1768, died 3/23/1846, married Daniel Robbins.
2. William, born 3/15/1770, died 6/1/1850, married Eliza Sherwood.

- (1) William Swaim
- (2) John Swaim
- (3) Benjamin Swaim
- (4) Joshua Swaim
- (5) Ashley Swaim
- (6) Daniel Swaim
- (7) Mary Swaim
- (8) Lottie Swaim
- (9) Rachel Swaim
- (10) Elizabeth Swaim

3. Joshua, born 4/5/1772, married Sarah Elliott.

- (1) Joseph Swaim
- (2) William Swaim
- (3) Hezekiah Swaim

4. Christopher, born 12/24/1774, married Sarah Hines.

- (1) John Swaim
  - (2) Simeon Swaim
  - (3) William Swaim
5. John, born 3/15/1777, married Mary Laughlin.
- (1) Richard Swaim
  - (2) John Swaim
  - (3) Harrison Swaim
  - (4) Oliver Swaim
6. Elizabeth, born 8/27/1779, married George Swearingen.
7. Ashley, born 2/25/1782, married Sarah Walden.
- (1) Elkanah Swaim
  - (2) Murphy Swaim
8. Marmaduke, born 2/23/1784, died 12/26/1872, married Jeanette Laurence.
- (1) Laban Swaim
  - (2) Calvin Swaim
  - (3) Addison Swaim
  - (4) Michael Swaim
  - (5) Moses Swaim
9. Charity, born 8/1/1786, married James Laughlin.
10. **MOSES SWAIM**, born 12/31/1788, died 4/25/1870, married Ada Swindell.
- (1) Lyndon Swaim
  - (2) Priscilla Swaim
  - (3) Mahala Swaim
  - (4) Eliza Swaim
  - (5) Mary Swaim
  - (6) **JOHN MILTON SWAIM**
  - (7) David Swaim
  - (8) Curran Swaim
  - (9) Ben Swaim
  - (10) Bartlett Swaim
  - (11) Henry Swaim
11. Michael, born 2/10/1791, married Susan Hinshaw.
- (1) Edwin Swaim
  - (2) Christopher Swaim
  - (3) Jesse Swaim
  - (4) Eliher Swaim
  - (5) Branson Swaim

**MOSES SWAIM** was born in Randolph County, North Carolina, December 31, 1788. He was a lawyer and a farmer and well educated for his day. He married Adah Swindell February 13, 1812. She was from Hyde County, North Carolina, in the Tidewater country. She was born April 17, 1791. Her mother's name was Mary Harper of the family of Harper Bros. Publishers. They lived in Randolph County until the late 1850's, when they moved to St. Joseph County, Indiana, and lived on a farm north of South Bend on the St. Joseph River. Here Adah died May 2, 1866, and Moses returned to North Carolina on a visit and died there at the age of 82, April 25, 1870. Buried in North Carolina. He had been active in the anti-slavery movement for many years and was president of a manumission society, long before the war between the states. Moses and Adah Swaim had 11 children.

1. Lyndon Swaim, born 12/15/1812, died 4/3/1893, married (1) Abiah Swaim, (2) Isabelle Logan.

- (1) Logan Swaim, unmarried
- (2) Belle Swaim, unmarried
- (3) Ada Swaim, unmarried
- (4) Mary Swaim, unmarried

2. Priscilla Swaim, born 7/30/1814, died 12/29/1870, married Charles Hunt.

- (1) David Hunt, married Augusta Crocker
- (2) Lyndon Hunt, married Elizabeth Hartzel
- (3) Ada Hunt, married James V. Benson

3. Mahala Swaim, born 4/5/1816, died 11/20/1897, married Abram Auten.

- (1) Antoinette Auten
- (2) Ada Auten, married Joe Tutt

4. Eliza Swaim, married David Hunt. No children.

5. Mary Swaim, born 3/10/1820, died 2/12/1852, married Michael Estey.

- (1) Mary Eliza Estey, married Mr. Gridley.
6. *JOHN MILTON SWAIM*, born 1 / 26 / 1822, died 11 / 5 / 1910, married Malinda Way.

- (1) Robert Swaim
  - (2) Emma Swaim
  - (3) Matilda Swaim
  - (4) Elinor Swaim
  - (5) Henry H. Swaim
  - (6) Priscilla Swaim
  - (7) John Swaim
- (See record following John Milton Swaim sketch.)

7. David Swaim, born 2 / 1 / 1824, died 10 / 3 / 1837.
8. Curran Swaim, born 2 / 3 / 1826, died 9 / 1 / 1897, married Mary Waite.

- (1) Lucy Swaim
- (2) Mary Swaim
- (3) David Swaim

9. Ben Swaim, born 1 / 10 / 1828, died 11 / 20 / 1860.
10. Bartlett Swaim, born 1 / 10 / 1830, died 6 / 5 / 1845.
11. Henry Swaim, born 5 / 19 / 1832, died 5 / 24 / 1904, married Candace Waite.

- (1) Clara Swaim, married Mr. Shafer
- (2) Abbie Swaim
- (3) Grace, Swaim, married Amos Cramer
- (4) Ben Swaim
- (5) Edgar Swaim

*JOHN MILTON SWAIM* was born in Randolph County, North Carolina, January 26, 1822. In his early twenties he came to Wayne County, Indiana, as there was a great exodus at that time from Virginia and Carolina to the new settlements in Indiana. There was a large settlement of Quakers in Wayne County and one of these was Dr. Henry H. Way (1793-1877), a practicing physician. John Milton began the study of medicine under Dr. Way,

as was the custom of those times. Although he was quite well versed in the medical profession he never practiced, but married the doctor's daughter, Malinda Way, May 13, 1847, and became a farmer, nurseryman and fruit grower for the rest of his life.

Dr. Way was a most interesting character and quite a character he was. He operated a drug store and was a partner of Levi Coffin known as "President of the Underground Railroad," also a Quaker. They engaged in getting slaves off to Canada. In the book *Rem of Levi Coffin* the story is told that Dr. Way was once arrested and brought into court charged with harboring runaway slaves. When the judge asked the good doctor if he was guilty, he replied, "There are certain colored people now staying at my place who say they are slaves, but I have no means of knowing if this is so, for as you know, the testimony of colored persons is not accepted as evidence in the courts of this state." They were therefore unable to convict him. It is also related that when the doctor appeared in court he refused to remove his hat after the custom of the Friends and the judge ordered the baliff to remove the hat. When the doctor started to leave the judge said, "Dr. Way, here is your hat. Put it on. The doctor said, "No, I did not take it off and I'll not put it on." Dr. Way's wife was Rachael Manlove (1800-1858).

After their marriage John Milton and Malinda Swaim continued living in Wayne County a few years and after a short residence in Long Island, New York, they returned to St. Joseph County, Indiana, in 1856 purchasing 20 acres in Greene Township and building a log cabin. In about the year of 1868 he built the frame house which still stands on this farm where he engaged in fruit and

nursery business. In 1893 they moved to South Bend and lived at 616 Sherman Avenue, where he died November 3, 1910, and was buried in the City Cemetery. Malinda Swaim died February 13, 1917. Buried in City Cemetery at South Bend. They had seven children.

1. Robert Swaim
2. Emma Swaim
3. Matilda Swaim
4. Elinor Swaim
5. *HENRY H. SWAIM*
6. Priscilla Swaim
7. John Swaim

1. Robert Swaim was born April 13, 1848, died March 1, 1918. He was married, but had no children. He lived most of his life in the West and was an artist of great ability. Some of his paintings were on exhibit at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893. Buried in City Cemetery at South Bend.

2. Emma Swaim, born March 20, 1850, died March 1911. Married George Davis. They had one daughter.

(1) Georgia Davis, born 12/18/1874, died 1935. Married Lewis Wilbur Hammond, lawyer, in 1896. Two children.

- 1) Irene Hammond, married A. Lyn Minzey
- 2) Leslie D. Hammond

3. Matilda Swaim, born 8/12/1852, died Dec. 1935. married Joe Nicholson, ran grain elevator, coal, feed, etc. Lived at Scranton, Iowa. They had two daughters.

(1) Edith Nicholson, born 11/24/1886. Married 1st Geo. Alexander, 2nd Merrill Stillians. Three children.

- 1) Paul Alexander
- 2) Phyllis, married R. F. Killingsworth
- 3) Bruce Alexander



(2) Leah Nicholson, born\_\_\_\_, died 1918?

4. Elinor Swaim, born on Long Island, July 26, 1854. Died in Iowa August 6, 1943. Married William D. Bulla, 1909. She lived with her parents until her marriage. She was one of the first stenographers and typists in South Bend and at one time employed by The South Bend Tribune. Later she was a dressmaker.

5. **HENRY H. SWAIM**, born in Greene Township, May 20, 1858, died at Pontiac, Michigan, August 14, 1942. He was named for his maternal grandfather, Dr. Henry H. Way. He grew up on his father's farm and under his tutoring became one of the foremost authorities on fruits in Indiana. He was one of the founders and first secretary of St. Joseph County Horticultural Society. He was also in later years President of the Indiana Horticultural Society and for several years (1918) secretary of the state society and maintained an office at West Lafayette. On January 14, 1886, he married Corinne Hunt, and they continued to live on the old place until 1916. Their wedding was a double wedding, his sister Priscilla and Charles Nicholson being married at the same time. For 40 years he was the U.S. weather observer for this vicinity and largely on account of this became well known throughout the community. His only venture into the field of politics was 1912, when he ran for the state senate on the "Bull Moose" ticket. He was also one of the founders of the South Bend Public Market and served as president for several years. After his residence in West Lafayette he lived on U.S. 23 southwest of South Bend till 1938 when they moved to South Bend with the daughter Mrs. C. M. Yoder. In 1940 they moved to Pontiac, Michigan, with son Charles Swaim, where he died. Buried in Riverview Cemetery. Their five children were as follows:

- (1) *JESSIE SWAIM*
- (2) Ben Swaim
- (3) Charles Swaim
- (4) Ira H. Swaim
- (5) Ada Swaim

(1) *JESSIE SWAIM*, born on old Swaim homestead, November 18, 1886. Attended Rockhill and Eagle schools on U.S. 23, completing the eighth grade at Rockhill. She attended South Bend High School, graduating with the class of 1907. She represented the science department on the graduation program, speaking on the subject "Nature." Her interest has always been centered in flowers, birds, and all things pertaining to Nature and to Nature's God. In later years she became very much interested in sewing and especially in knitting, in which art she became very expert. On September 28, 1908, she married Charles M. Yoder at her home in Greene Township in the house her grandfather built and in which her father and mother had been married nearly 23 years before. She had four children. She is a third cousin of William Sidney Porter, whose pen name was O. Henry.

- 1) Charles Hugh Yoder
- 2) Henry Swaim Yoder
- 3) Harriet Rachel Yoder
- 4) James Milton Yoder

For a record of their families see Yoder Family.

(2) Ben Swaim was born on the old Swaim homestead August 11, 1888. Served in World War I. Married Lucille A. Williams, June 30, 1917. Lived in California and Oregon. Four children.

- 1) Ada Ellen Swaim, born 5/16/1918, married Jack Pitman.

2) Rebecca Laura Swaim, born 2/5/1920, married Everett Ray.

3) Eugene Ben Swaim, born 3/25/1923, unmarried.

4) Ira Marvin Swaim, born 12/29/1926, married Betty Jorgensen.

(3) Charles Swaim was born on the old Swaim homestead November 20, 1890. Married Janette Berkheiser 11/28/1914. She died 1/25/1920. Married Katherine Proffitt 6/9/1931. Lived at Drayton Plains, Michigan. Three children.

1) Irene Ada Swaim, born 8/29/1915, married Kenneth Ferguson.

2) Eva M. Swaim, born 7/29/1918, married Paul Meschen.

3) Betty May Swaim, born 1/20/1920, unmarried.

(4) Ira H. Swaim was born on the old Swaim homestead October 24, 1897. Graduated from South Bend High School and from Purdue University Agricultural School. Married Lucille Huffman 11/24/1927. He lives at Laporte, Indiana, and is in charge of government office for agricultural loans. Four children.

1) Patricia Lois Swaim, born 11/27/28, died 2/23/35.

2) Celia Clinton Swaim, born 2/3/31, married Owen Grimstead.

3) Christine Francis Swaim, born 9/23/34. Married H. Paul Krienke.

4) Sarah Swaim, born 3/21/41.

(5) Ada R. Swaim, born 10/24/97, died 4/27/1907 of scarlet fever. Twin sister of Ira H. Swaim.

6. Priscilla Swaim, born in Greene Township, July July 9, 1862. Died in Iowa June 12, 1951. Married Jan. 14, 1886, to Charles Nicholson in a double wedding with her brother Henry. Charles Nicholson was a brother of Joe Nicholson who married Matilda Swaim, sister of Priscilla. He was a farmer and stockman. They had four children.

(1) Ned Nicholson, born Nov. 25, 1886. Died June 17, 1954. Married Marcia Hart 1919. They had two children.

1) John H. Nicholson 12/28/23. Killed in airplane accident 6/23/48.

2) Priscilla Nicholson, born 1/9/22, married John Still.

(2) Lisle Nicholson, born 11/26/1891, married and living at Longview, Washington.

(3) Carl Nicholson, born 11/10, 1893. Unmarried and lives on home farm at Scranton, Indiana.

(4) Helen Nicholson, born 1/26/1899. Married 12/26/1933 Ralph Lewis, who teaches at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. No children.

7. John M. Swaim, born Greene Township, October 28, 1864. Died April 17, 1886. Unmarried. Attended Valparaiso University and was teaching at time of his death.

## HUNT FAMILY

**COAT OF ARMS:** A shield of three Mastiffs heads Sur-mounted by a figure of a Mastiff Chained.

**MOTTO:** "Faithful to the End."

The Hunt family originated in England and one of the original members of the London Company to whom King James of England gave the royal patents for settlement in Virginia was Robert Hunt, a clergyman. The others were Bartholomew Gosnold, Edward Wingfield and Captain John Smith. An old record says, "Thomas Hunt came over from England in 1615." Whether or not this is our Thomas Hunt is not definitely known. At any rate our first record is of:

**THOMAS HUNT** from England. He had a son

**RALPH HUNT** born in England in 1613. Died on Long Island 1677. He was among the first settlers of Newtown, Long Island. He was one of the two magistrates appointed by the Dutch. Was named one of the patentees of town of Newport when the charter was confirmed by the Governor. Children as follows:

1. Ann Hunt, 1650
2. Edward Hunt, 1652
3. Mary Hunt, 1654
4. Ralph Hunt, 1656
5. John Hunt, 1658
6. **SAMUEL HUNT**, 1660

**SAMUEL HUNT**, born Newton, Long Island, 1660. Died at Maidenhead 1720. Nine children.

1. Samuel Hunt
2. Ralph Hunt
3. *JOHN HUNT*
4. Mary Hunt
5. Anna Hunt
6. Elizabeth Hunt
7. Thomas Hunt
8. Jasper Hunt
9. Edward Hunt

*JOHN HUNT*, born 1688. Died in New Jersey 1748. He lived at Hopewell, N. J. where he married Margaret Moore in 1714. Her father Gershom Moore. Children as follows:

1. Wilson Hunt, 1715-1782
2. *JONATHAN HUNT*, 1716-1782
3. Charity Hunt
4. Johannah Hunt
5. John Hunt, 1719-1798
6. Noah Hunt
7. Gershom Hunt, 1723
8. Daniel Hunt, 1726-1806
9. Enock Hunt

*JONATHAN HUNT*, second son of John and Margaret Hunt, was born in 1716 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. Died September 5, 1782, in North Carolina. Buried in Eaton Cemetery near Cana. He moved to North Carolina sometime previous to 1751. Old records show that he, "Jonathan Hunt, Planter of Rowan Co.," bought 200 acres on Swearing Creek, for 16 pound 10 shillings. In 1762 he bought 700 acres more on Swearing Creek. In 1753 he was listed along with Squire Boone, Brother of Daniel Boone, as one of the Justices of Rowan County. In 1755 he is referred to as Captain of Company of 17 men sent out against the Indians. In 1760 he is referred to as Colonel. He served during the Revolutionary War, and we learn that when Lord Cornwallis invaded North Carolina "he crossed the Yadkin River and camped on the land of Colonel Jonathan Hunt after leaving Salisbury, February 6, 1781." In 1951 the D.A.R. erected a marker on his grave. The original marker

is still standing. Colonel Hunt had three wives and some say four, but the name of the fourth is not known. Three of them were:

Isabelle Henderson, daughter of Colonel Henderson.

Isabelle Hampton, daughter of David Hampton.

Margaret Lawrance, whom he married 1/3/1761.

He had 20 children as follows:

1. Sarah Hunt, 1738-1795
2. Andrew Hunt, 1740-1803
3. **CHARLES HUNT**, 1742-1818
4. John Hunt, 1748-1829
5. Levi Hunt, 1750
6. Wilson Hunt, 1756-1833
7. George Hunt, -1833
8. Mary Hunt, 1759-1842
9. Daniel Hunt, 1761
10. Elizabeth Hunt, 1763
11. Gershom Hunt, 1765
12. Catherine Hunt, 1766
13. Enoch Hunt, 1768
14. Susanna Hunt, 1771
15. Margaret Hunt, 1773
16. Noah Hunt, 1775
17. Cynthia Hunt, 1780
18. Jonathan Hunt, 1774
19. Abijah Hunt

**CHARLES HUNT**, second son of Colonel Jonathan Hunt, was born in Hopewell, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, 1742 and was taken by his parents to North Carolina sometime before he was nine years of age. He must have served in the North Carolina Militia during the Revolution as the State of North Carolina granted him 320 acres of land on both sides of Cedar Creek in October 1783. Three years later he received another grant for 150 acres on Tom's Creek. He moved to Wayne County, Indiana, in March 1806 and was one of the founders of Eaton Baptist Church, the first church in Wayne County. Arriving in the wilderness of Indiana, he and his four sons cut logs and erected a cabin 16 by 18 and "moved in that evening." He had

married Francinia Seagrave in 1765 and had fourteen children. He died August 27, 1818, and is buried in Elkhorn Cemetery near Richmond, Indiana. Children as follows:

1. Jonathan Hunt, 1766-1833
2. *JAMES HUNT*, 1768-1838
3. Mary Hunt, 1769-
4. Timothy Hunt, 1771-1823
5. Rebecca Hunt, 1773-1830
6. George (Col.), 1775-1842
7. John Hunt, 1777-1851
8. Sarah Hunt, 1779-1843
9. Smith (Col.) Hunt, 1782-1855
10. William Hunt, 1785-1842
11. Nancy Hunt, 1787-1822
12. Catherine Hunt, 1788-1843
13. Charles Hunt, 1791-1866
14. Stephen Hunt, 1795-1837

*JAMES HUNT* was born in North Carolina January 1786. Died September 1838. Buried in Baptist Cemetery near Rolling Prairie, Laporte County, Indiana. Married in Clermont County, Ohio, July 6, 1804, to Nancy Anna Shotwell (1788-1839). He moved from North Carolina to Clermont County, Ohio, and in 1807 moved to Wayne County, Indiana, where his father and brothers had settled the year before. In 1835 he and two of his brothers, Brig. Gen. George Hunt and William H. Hunt, moved to Laporte County, Indiana. The next year, 1836, a Baptist Church was organized in his home. James and Nancy Hunt had eleven children as follows:

1. Francinia Hunt, born 4/13/1806, died 12/5/1845, married Ed Railsback.
2. Phoebe Hunt, born 10/18/1807, died ?, married Aaron Foster.
3. *CHARLES W. HUNT*, born 8/8/1809, died 5/8/1881  
See sketch below.
4. Jasper Hunt, born 9/3/1811, died ?, married Mary Whitehead.



5. Mary C. Hunt, born 1/5/1814, died 4/21/1847, married Benjamin F. Wagner.
6. David Morris Hunt, born 9/21/1816, died 1/10/1894 married (1) Hannah Holbrook (2) Eliza Swaim.
7. Jonathan S. Hunt, born 9/7/1818, died 7/11/1863, married Sara Hickman.
8. James A. Hunt, born 1/19/1822, died 9/10/1841.
9. Dr. John Mason Hunt, born 7/11/1824, died 10/20/1860, married Lucy Brown.
10. Lavina Hunt, born 1/15/1826, died 3/10/1840.
11. Aaron Hunt, born 4/14/1827, died 8/18/1833.

**CHARLES W. HUNT**, oldest son of James and Nancy Hunt, was born August 8, 1809, in Wayne County, Indiana, and died at his home in South Bend, May 8, 1881. Buried in City Cemetery. He was married four times. First to Minerva Gunn (1810-1842) on June 3, 1833. She is buried at the Wills Township Baptist Cemetery at Laporte, Ind. On December 11, 1843, he married Rhoda Weakley at South Bend, Indiana. She is buried in City Cemetery at South Bend. On November 24, 1849, he married Priscilla Swaim (1814-1870). She is buried in City Cemetery, South Bend. She was the sister of John M. Swaim (See Swaim record). On December 17, 1873, he married Rebecca Swearengen Stuckey, who outlived him ten years. She was the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Swaim) Swearengen. (See Swaim record) When Charles Hunt came from Laporte County he purchased a farm north of South Bend on Dixie Way North near the state line. He later sold this farm and bought a farm south of South Bend on the Michigan Road at the corner of the Johnson Road, where he lived many years, finally moving to South Bend.

The children of Charles W. Hunt and Minerva Gunn

were:

1. *IRA CHASE HUNT* (1835-1881), married Rachel Swaim.
2. James W. Hunt (1837-1898), married Xrissa Crocker.
3. Benjamin Franklin Hunt (1839-1915), married Orilla Crocker.
4. Nancy Hunt (1841 - 1873), married Horace Markham.

The children of Charles W. Hunt and Rhoda Weakley:

5. Malinda Hunt - married Henry Harris.

The children of Charles W. Hunt and Priscilla Swaim:

6. David Hunt (1851-1904), married Augusta Crocker.
7. Lyndon Hunt (1855 - 1924), married Elizabeth Hartzel.
8. Ada Hunt (1860-1946), married J. V. Benson.

*IRA CHASE HUNT*, oldest son of Charles W. and Minerva Hunt, was born in Wayne County, Indiana December 3, 1835. Died at Seward, Nebraska, May 8, 1881. On December 25, 1861 he married Rachel Swaim (1842-1878). She was the daughter of Benjamin Swaim, a lawyer, writer and publisher of Ashboro, North Carolina. He was the author of a book called *Swaim's Justice*, which was a standard work on law in Carolinas for many years. For his relationship to the Swaim line see children of William, oldest son of John and Elizabeth Swaim. He died quite young, leaving two daughters, Rachel and Lottie. Rachel was raised by Moses and Ada Swaim with their eleven children. Rachel contracted T.B. and they moved on a farm near Seward, Nebraska, in hopes of benefiting her health, but to no avail. She died in 1878 and is

buried in City Cemetery at South Bend. Ira later married Lavina Hunt (relationship not known). He had contracted T.B., however, from his first wife and died in 1881. Buried in City Cemetery.

Children of Ira Chase Hunt and Rachel Swaim:

1. *CORINNE HUNT* (1868-1948), married Henry H. Swaim.
2. Grace Hunt (1871-1872)
3. Lottie Hunt (1874-1875)
4. Laura Hunt (1876- ), married Frank D. Locke.

*CORINNE HUNT* was born on the farm of her grandfather, Charles Hunt, on Michigan Road south of South Bend on January 16, 1868, and died at Pontiac, Michigan, on August 9, 1948. Buried at Riverview Cemetery. On January 14, 1886, she married Henry H. Swaim. She had five children.

1. *JESSIE SWAIM*, born 1886, married Charles M. Yoder.
2. Ben Swaim, born 1888, married Lucile Wilms.
3. Charles Swaim, born 1890, married Jeanette Berkheiser.
4. Ira Swaim, born 1897, married Lucille Huffman.
5. Ada Swaim, born 1892.

For next generation see record of Swaims.

4. Laura Hunt was born on old Hunt farm July 2, 1876. She lived with her Uncle James Hunt after her mother died and then with her sister Corinne until her marriage to Frank D. Locke on May 17, 1917. They lived on a farm on Highway 23 about five miles west of South

Bend. Frank D. Locke was born April 17, 1866 and died at his home on October 8, 1952. Buried in Sumption Prairie Cemetery.



## THE FAMILY TREE

## YODER

Joseph Yoder  
(1789-1874)

Andrew Yoder  
(1825-1918)

William H. Yoder  
(1853-1945)

Charles M. Yoder  
(1885- )

## WEBSTER

John Webster  
(1590-1661)

Robert Webster  
(1627-1676)

William Webster  
( )

Samuel Webster  
( )

Aaron Webster  
(1756-1843)

Aaron Webster  
(1779-1838)

Lester Webster  
(1799-1886)

James D. Webster  
(1822-1879)

Grace M. Webster  
(1862-1955)

Hugh Yoder 1909  
Henry Yoder 1912  
Harriet Yoder 1915  
James Yoder 1921

## *SWAIM*

Anthony Swaim  
(            )

William Swaim  
(            )

John Swaim  
(1748-1827)

Moses Swaim  
(1788-1870)

John M. Swaim  
(1822-1910)

Henry H. Swaim  
(1858-1942)

Jessie Swaim  
(1886-     )

## *HUNT*

Ralph Hunt  
(1613-1677)

Samuel Hunt  
(1660-1720)

John Hunt  
(1688-1748)

Jonathan Hunt  
(1716-1782)

Charles Hunt  
(1742-1818)

James Hunt  
(1768-1838)

Charles Hunt  
(1809-1881)

Ira C. Hunt  
(1835-1881)

Corinne Hunt  
(1868-1948)

