

Chapter 5 An Old Letter

Ruth S. Cummins is an Arnold descendant who has freely shared her Cary, Howard and Arnold information through the years. She sent a copy of a letter written by Thomas Arnold Ferrier to his niece, Jean Anne Ferrier Ramsay. It in he speaks of his College Hill grandparents, Alfred B. Arnold and Deborah Ann Bard.

“Our grandparents Alfred & Debbie were college graduates. Not many of these in the middle west, 115 years ago.

Grand Pap Arnold was a big fellow. Blue eyes, good features, a determined mouth and of fair complexion. (We inherited our dark complexion from the Bards). Not too sociable. Did not talk much, but quite pleasant. He liked your Dad (note: George Bard Ferrier). In some respects they were very much alike. Even though I was a kid and knew him for only a week, I remember him well. He died of a heart attack at our home in Moorestown, about 1892. My reaction to his death seems to have been in the nature of embarrassment. I hid in our chicken coop until supper time. No one missed me.

Grand Pap was a forty-niner. When he returned from gold prospecting he bought a saw mill in Columbus, Brown Co., Indiana. He was an inventor and a brilliant mathematician. He was the Brown Co. consulting engineer and furnished this service for free.

About every 6 months he would shove off for Chicago to have for himself a time. Women were not his weakness. His diversion was to select a prominent corner on Wabash Ave. within the loop and give a political talk. I am informed that he was excellent, and that within 20 minutes it would be necessary to put in a riot call to disperse the crowd. After order was restored he would buy all the cops a round of drinks at an adjacent bar....

Grandfather Arnold was never wealthy but he was in the upper income brackets. He went broke endorsing notes for his friends and poor relatives.”

Another article came from Ruth Cummins about her family: “...And here in Cincinnati on November 22, 1818 Mary Ann (Forsha) was married to John Bard, also an immigrant from New York. John was a shoemaker on Main Street. Later Mary Ann’s brother, Samuel, took over the shoemaking and John and her cousin, William, ran a grocery business. In the first ten years of marriage Mary Ann gave birth to seven children, two of whom died young. Her mother (Deborah Mead Fereshe) married again, a Methodist minister of note who had lost his wife, and they fortunately lived nearby. For in January 1830 John Bard died of tuberculosis leaving Mary Ann a thirty-year-old pregnant widow with five children: Mary Ann and her brood moved in with her mother and step-father. In May of that year her three-year-old, Mary Eliza died. And on the first day of August my great grandmother, Deborah Ann Bard, was born - six months after the death of papa and two months after that of sister.

In 1836, after six years of widowhood, Mary Ann married a cousin, John Stevens, ten years her junior. They had four more children, three of whom survived childhood. The youngest was born when Mary Ann was forty-four.

Sometime in the 1840s they must have moved to College Hill... for according to the census, in 1850 Mary Ann and John were running a boarding house there for male college students. The household consisted of themselves, daughter Deborah, son Joseph Bard, the three young Stevens children aged eleven, nine and seven; a cousin, William Airy, aged fifteen, an Irish servant, and eight male students aged sixteen to twenty-two....

Two of Mary Ann’s boarders in 1850 were Benjamin and Erwin Harrison. In a letter to the boys in July, 1848, Mrs. Harrison is quoted (in Sievers’ biography of the President): ‘I hope you will be prudent in your diet and that Benja may abstain from cucumbers...If Mrs. S. Family don’t keep them (sic) ask him to banish them from the table so that Ben may not be tempted...’ And Sister Sallie adds emphasis in a postscript: ‘Tell Ben Pa is quite hurt to think that he still continues to eat cucumbers notwithstanding his advice.’

Bearing out the Farmers’ College cultural reputation is the story of Alfred Arnold, a local lad and a student there. He courted the landlady’s daughter Deborah and for her he wrote in iambic pentameter an acrostic, the first letter of each line spelling out their two names...

Not great poetry, perhaps, but they were married 3 September 1851.

In 1850 men were going West to seek gold in California, and Alfred Arnold among them. My grandmother (his daughter Carrie) used to tell me that he did find gold and bought back five twenty-dollar gold pieces which she had in her toy box as a small child.

Mary Ann's second husband, John Stevens,, started in California at this same time--perhaps with Alfred?--and never returned. He died 13 November 1850, probably in Nicaragua, which was the quickest route to California.

In 1857 Mary Ann sold her property in College Hill and moved with her family to Columbus, Indiana, where married daughter, Elizabeth, was living...Daughter Deborah and Alfred Arnold went too with their three children and shared a house with Mary Ann. Before long they were again running a boarding house.

A memento of this home was sent me by a cousin: a slip of what she called her Aunt Debby Rose. It had accompanied them on their various moves...

In 1876 daughter Deborah died, leaving Mary Ann at loose ends once more at age seventy-eight..."

The Bard acrostic, dated September 6, 1850

Doomed as I am, in solitude to waste
Each present moment, and regret the past,
Bereft of every joy, I valued most,
Old friends torn from me, and my dearest lost;
Regard not this I wear, this anxious mien,
As dull effect of humor, or of spleen!
Ha! Still, I mourn with each returning day,
All those - in early youth snatched thus, away;
Nor think that I - through years of doubt and pain,
Not fix'd in choice and faithful - but in vain!
Belief (sic) me then, thou generous and sincere,
An eye that never yet denied to wrongs a tear;
Real claims of friendship, still thy heart well known,
Doth think that lover's are but fancy'd woes
Alas - ere yet his destined course half done,
Behold a wanderer on a wild unknown!
Alas neglected on the world's rude coast,
Reft of each dear companion, valued most,
Nor ask why clouds of sorrow shade his brow,
Or ready tears wait only leave to flow;
Let all that soothes a heart, from anguish free
Delight the happy - but it palls with me.

If you think the fore part of this Acrostic a fit and worthy production for your Album I have no objections to your copying there as a token of respect for a friend whom you have often solicited to favor you with something of the kind. But if it don't meet with your approbation make it a burnt offering to the flames is the request of your---

Ever Sincere Alfred

Chapter 6 Cemeteries

During rush hours, thousands of cars pass within yards of one of Cincinnati's earliest cemeteries. Gard Cemetery holds the stones and bones of early pioneer families, soldiers, and farmers. With the latest burial in the 1860's, it has been abandoned for more than a century, shielded from view by being located in what is now a wooded area. Periodically it has been "rediscovered" and sporadically cleared of undergrowth. In 1939 the WPA platted this cemetery, then called McCrea Cemetery, and estimated that up to 384 plots could be this parcel. However, there are no records actually listing those buried and we know of only 30 names.

No one seems to know exactly when the graveyard was established. The earliest marked grave we know of is that of Captain Gershom Gard from New Jersey who died in 1807. Richard Hankins, who built the first log cabin in College Hill, came here through his Revolutionary War land warrant. New Jersey born Captain Ephraim Brown, a son-in-law of Gard, fought another war, that of 1812. His was the first will to mention the burying ground, originally three acres. Another 1812 veteran, Thomas B. Smith, has one of the few upright stones. Isaac Sparks (1768-1834) like many settlers held two jobs, a weaver with loom house and Justice of the Peace in Colerain Township. The children of Albert Arnold, tanner and shoemaker, lie there a testament to a time when children died young.

Most of the stones are plain and of limestone, which may have been quarried locally. A few have the weeping willow/urn pattern and more elaborate script. A marble marker was uncovered under several inches of soil with a traditional open Bible. One stone, as yet not located, reportedly had the harsh inscription: *She followed the ways of the devil, and the Lord smote her down.* Iola (Flannigen) Chace, who remembered this stone from childhood said, "My girlfriend and I couldn't imagine what she had done. We decided she must have talked back to her mother." Fragments of headstones have been recovered and others located under inches of soil. The stones have weathered well and are legible, a few having the stone mason's signature.

On March 14, 1898 the Village of College Hill in ordinance #763 the banned: the interment in a burying ground or cemetery within the corporate limits of the Village. It specifically mentioned the cemetery on the property owned by Adaline B. McCrea. Violation carried a fine of \$50. and costs of prosecution.

GARD CEMETERY

A listing compiled from the records made by Ruth J. Wells (1964),
Laura Chace (1976), Betty Ann Smiddy and Karen Forbes-Nutting (1988)

Row 1

1. Broken stone, blank
2. Ephraim Brown/born Feb. 26, 1768/died June 23, 1835/aged 67 yrs 3 mo. & 27 days
3. (Eunice Brown-wife of Ephraim - part of stone missing)/1771/April 11, 1857, aged 86 years, 1 mo & 24 days
4. In memory of/Luther Wetherby/Born May 16th 1799/Died March 5 1851/In life beloved/In death lamented (K. Grindrod, stone cutter)
5. In Memory of/Thomas B./son of Luther &/Julian Wetherby/Born/Oct 8, 1843/died/Oct 16 1844 (K. Grindrod, stone cutter)
6. In memory of/Mahlon, son of/Luther & Julian/Wetherby/Born June 9 1823/died/August 9 1845/In life beloved/in death lamented

Row 2

1. Broken stone, blank
2. Ethan H. Brown/Born/Oct. 24 1806/departed this life/Nov 26 1842
3. Sacred/To the memory of/Judith Brown/daughter of/Israel and Elizabeth/Brown/who departed this life/July 17th 1838/in the 26th year/of her age

4. Broken stone, blank
5. Adiso Milton Brown, infant son of Mahlon Brown, died July 25, 1832, aged 9 days
6. Asa Brown, born Apr. 17, 1809, died Nov. 20, 1861
7. Lucinda Gilkey, born June 21, 1805, died July 16, 1849 (according to 1850 Mortality Tables she died June 1849)
8. Broken stone, blank

Row 3

1. John Willey/ son of Joseph & Jane Willey/died June 28, 1841/aged 5 yrs & 6 mo./From the cradle to the/tomb, I was hurried to my/home, my fifth year was/Scarcely gone ere I had mea/sured out my span.
2. Broken stone, blank
3. In/Memory of/Thomas B. Smith/who departed this life/July 15 1831 aged/46 years 9 months/and 15 days/And I heard a voice from heaven saying/unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead/which die in the Lord from henceforth:/Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may/rest from their labours; and their/works do follow them. REV XIV 13./(J & R.L. Rev (?)...burgh(?))
4. Maria/and her only child/Walter, L.W. on one side and T.C. on other

Row 4

1. Rachel Jessup/died February/5th 1816/in the 40th/year/of her age
2. Broken stone, blank
3. Judith/wife of John J. Jessup/Died June 1825/aged 75 years
4. Base only, blank
5. Broken stone, blank

Row 5

1. Broken stone, A. Potter (stone cutter)
2. W. A.
3. In/Memory of/(C)yrus Arnold/who departed this life/June 26th AD 1823/aged 17 years 6 months/and 10 days
4. William Arnold/son of/Ambrose & Martha Arnold/departed this life Nov/24, 1855 aged 1 year/& 11 days
5. Isaac Arnold/ died June 26, 1834, aged 14 months & 28 days
6. J.J.

Row 6

1. 2,12 (row marker?)

Row 7

1. S.S.
2. Rhoda Sparks/daughter of/I & Sally Sparks/died Nov. 1st 1825/aged 9 years (at base of stone are numbers: 2 87)
3. Richard Hankins/died Aug. 29,1823 (later concrete marker, 1749-1824)
4. -----(stone broken)/in the 74th year of/his age (Sparks, stone cutter)
5. -----(stone broken)/in the 71st/of her age (Sparks, stone cutter)
6. Broken stone, blank
7. In/Memory of Isaac Sparks/Born/Nov 24 1768/Died/Aug 21 1834
8. Sacred/To the memory of/Mary Wolf/Consort of/John Wolf/January (rest of stone missing)
9. E N (foot stone) (This could be Eunice (Brown) Nichols, died 1834-36, daughter. of Ephraim and Eunice Gard Brown, first wife of Vesper Nichols).
10. Broken stone, blank
11. Sarah/wife of/Isaac Sparks/died/March 11 1839/aged/81 years
12. Broken stone, probably John Wolf, for the WPA survey indicates he was buried here
13. No name, highly decorated rectangular stone with weeping willow and urn scene with inscription at bottom: Blessed are the pure in heart/for they shall see God
14. No name, matches stone above, inscription: Be thou faithful unto death/and I will give thee a crown
15. Broken stone, Gard scratched on top. Tho cold in dust the perished heart may be/The spark that

warmed it once can never die/Thou shalt resist the triumphs of decay/When time is o'er world have passed away

16. Broken stone, fragments. To the memory of/Gershom Gard/who/departed this life/Jan 15th 1807/in the 71st year of/his age (from photograph)

17. To (the) memory of/Phebe Gard/Consort of/Gershom Gard/Departed this life/June 12 1812/in the 81st year of /her age

18. ---- rel (stone broken)/who departed this life/January the 27 1822/age 82/years

19. Here Rests the mortal remains/of/ Mahettibel/Consort of/John S. Olmsted/born in Rewport (sic) Vermont/and daughter of Arad and/Jamima Terrill/Who departed this life/Sept. 3 1838, aged 45 years/6 mos and 23 days

20. Broken stone, blank

21. Polly, wife of Samuel Aston, died Aug. 19, 1837

Located Together, but Away from Main Cemetery

1. In Memory of Willard Arnold/Son of Albert & Anna M. Arnold/Who departed this Life/Jan (June?) 18, 1850, aged 10 months & 28 days

2. In Memory of Isaac Arnold/Son of Albert & Anna M. Arnold/Who departed this Life/ June 26, 1864(?)/ aged 14 mo & 25 days

3. T.A.

4. G (C?) A

These stones, previously transcribed, are no longer found:

1. (Johnson) Maria L. consort of Wm. P. Johnson, daughter of John S. & Mehittibel Olmsted, born in Fletcher Vermont, who departed this life Aug. 31 1838, aged 22 yrs, 8 mo & 4 days

2. Sparks, Sally, died Oct. 17, 1825 in her 55th year

3. Walter (this was all that appears on this stone)

4. L.G.

Possibilities

Isaac Jessup and wife Anna Jessup

James Gilkey (Husband of Lucinda Brown, son of John Gilkey and Susannah Bacon d 1847)

Susannah (Gilkey) infant d 1822

Ephraim Brown “ “ d 1824

Elizabeth (Hankins) Brown .Wife of Israel Brown, daughter of Richard Hankins

These “probables” were suggested by Susan Bell of Oregon.

CARY CEMETERY

Cemeteries were not permitted within the boundaries of early College Hill which ended short of North Bend Road. That is why the Gard cemetery was on his property and the Cary family established a private cemetery near the intersection of Hamilton Avenue and North Bend Road, north west corner. Most of these bodies were later removed to Spring Grove Cemetery. However, when Hamilton Avenue was widened at that corner and electric car rails were being laid, bones were uncovered.

LABOYTEAUX - CARY CEMETERY

One of the most historically important sites in North College Hill is the LaBoyteaux - Cary cemetery established circa 1806. Originally it was one acre for their family set aside by Peter and Keziah

LaBoyteaux from their 320 acres. The first grave was of Peter's daughter-in-law, Hannah Labertew (sic) who died in 1807. Peter P. LaBoyteaux, Jr. sold 83 acres of the family farm to Benijah Cary in 1816. Peter P. then moved to Henry County, Indiana with his family in 1830. The little plot became the local cemetery for all the families, most of whom were related by marriage. After 1858 when Benijah Cary died his land was sold and the last burial in this cemetery was 1860.

Hamilton and Galbraith Avenues were widened in 1927, pushing the cemetery land into a mound. North College Hill acquired the property in 1969 but couldn't move the cemetery unless all the relatives of those buried there were notified. If a single grave was to be moved then all of the graves must be moved to an area in Spring Grove Cemetery, with North College Hill paying the costs of notifications and perpetual care. Attempts to further widen the streets were vigorously opposed with College Hill's Mrs. Ruth J. Wells as one of the leaders. The cemetery now contains forty-four plots and covers about 3/4 of its original size. Buried there are the Revolutionary War veterans James Keniston and Henry Deats. Benijah Cary is there, with five of his children. There too is Peter Harthorn who opened the first tavern (7432 Hamilton Avenue) in the area.

The cemetery is currently 60 X 118 feet which is 3/4 of its original size. It contains 44 bodies.

LABOYTEAUX - CARY CEMETERY¹

Row 1, by fence between house and cemetery.

1. In/memory of/ James Keniston/a Patriot of the/American Revolution/and who was for five years/an active Soldier/He was born in Rye, N. H./August 19th 1756/and died/March 20th 1837.
 2. In/memory of/Mary G. McLean/a daughter of/John & Margaret McLean/born Aug. 11 1815/died July 5 1841.
 3. Henry Deats/A Revolutionary/Soldier of `76/Died/Aug. 20, 1843/In the 90th yr/of his age.
 4. Alice/wife of/Henry Deats/Died/Feb. 26, 1849/In the 70th year/of her age.
 5. Tamison/Relict of/Peter Harthorn/who departed this life/March 26th 1840, age 67.
 6. Erected/in the memory of/Peter Harthorn/who departed this life/Nov. 3 1837.
 7. Sacred/to the memory of/Sally/wife of George Howard/who died Aug. 12th, 1833/aged 34 years/8 months and 12 days/also two daughters/of Geo. & Sally Howard/Phebe/died Aug. 11, 1826/aged 2yrs 1mo/Rhoda/died July 28th 1828/1yr 9mo 16da.
 8. Erected/to the memory of/George Howard/who departed this/life July 21st, 1838/in the 48th year/of his age.
 9. In/memory of Mary Nichols/wife of/Benajah Cary/born in the state of Vt./July 27th 1797/departed this life/Dec. 31st 1841/ae 44 yrs/ Why do I sit in silent grief/Since in this world there's no relief/I look to God who gave me breath/And triumph in the thoughts of death/My God is full of love & truth/He takes the aged & the youth/He takes them to his arms to rest/That they by him should/all be blest.
 10. In/memory of Venus/daughter of Benajah & Mary Cary/departed this life/Sep. 12th 1841/aged 4mo & 24da.
 11. In/memory of/Andrew J. /son of/Benajah & Mary Cary/departed this life/ August 29th, 1839/age 11mo 26da.
 12. Erected/to the memory of/Phebe/Relict of John/Laboyteaux/who departed this life/in the 77th year of her age/Feb. 21, 1845.
 13. Erected/to the memory of/Murry/son of John/Laboyteux/who died Feb. 21, 1829/aged 4da 2hr.
 14. Mrs. Lucinda Cowan/who died Feb. 9, 1841/age 19yr 7mo.
 15. Sacred/to the memory of/John Lewis/a native of Denmark/who was born Jan. 1, 1790/and departed this life/Jan. 1, 1836/46yr 18da. (monument is column shaped)
- 2nd row

¹ Source: Mrs. Ruth J. Wells

1. Freeman/son of Mathias & Elizabeth/Miller/who departed this life/Feb. 10, 1838/8mo 17da.
2. Alva/son of/Isaac & Amerlia/Skillman/who died/Feb. 25, 1836/1yr 1mo 25da.
3. John S. /son of/Isaac & Amelia/Skillman/who died/July 17,1830/10 mo 17da. This languishing head is at rest/Its thinking and asking are o'er/This quiet ?immobile breast/Is heaved by affliction no more;/This heart is no longer the seat/Of trouble and torturing pain;/It ceases to flutter and beat,/It never shall flutter again.
4. Mr. J. Stryker/d Jan. 15, 1840/66 yr (foot stone)
3rd row
1. W.A.L. (foot stone)
2. In/memory of/Peter Laboyteau/who departed this life/Sept. 14, 1813/age 76 yrs.
3. Keziah d Feb. 1, 1814, 70 yrs. Consort of Peter Laboyteaux (stone missing)
4. In/memory of/Hulda M. Runyan/relict of/George Runyan/who departed this life/1855.
5. Sacred/to the memory of/Alice/Wife of William S. Laboyteaux/who departed this life/March 1, 1836/in the 25th year/of her age.
6. Sacred/to the memory of/Abigail/wife of William S. Laboyteaux/who departed this life/Jan. 5, 1827/in the 17th year/of her age.
7. William S. Laboyteaux (stone missing)
4th row
1. Hannah Labertew/consort of Joseph Labertew/who departed this life/Oct. 22, 1807/aged 23 years/Erected by her son/William Labertew.
2. John Runyan/born in Somerset Co./New Jersey/Oct. 1, 1775/died April 1, 1841/aged 66yrs 6 mo.
3. Jemima Runyan/born in Somerset Co./New Jersey/May 10, 1777/died Dec. 29, 1858/aged 81yr 7mo 19da.
4. Erected/to the memory of/Sarah/wife of John P. Laboyteaux/who departed this life/Jan. 16, 1842/aged 51yr 2wks 3da.
5. Erected/to the memory of/John P. Laboyteaux/who departed this life/March 4, 1842/aged 67 yrs 10mo 13da.
6. Erected/to the memory of/John M./Son of Francis C. &/Julia M. Wright/d April 16, 1816/1yr 6mo.
7. Francis B./son of/William & Martha/Hopper/d Feb. 13, 1846/ 1mo 5da.
8. In/memory of/Adaline M. Cary/daughter of/Benajah & Mary Cary/who departed this life/Aug. 11, 1834/aged 1yr 11mo 24da.
9. In/memory of/Amanda/daughter of/Benajah & Mary Cary/who departed this life/Sept.6, 1839/aged 9yr 9mo 27da.
10. In/memory of/Missouri/daughter of Christopher & Margaret Cary/who died/Aug. 7, 1834/5yrs 7mo.
11. Benajah Carey born/in New Hampshire/Nov. 30, 1788/died in Cincinnati/Feb. 2, 1858/aged 69yr 2mo 3da.
12. In/memory of/Lucy McGinnis/who departed this life/June 10, 1840/54yrs 2mo.
13. In/memory of/John McGinnis/who died/April 20, 1835/aged 30 yrs.

Stones leaning against large tree along west fence of burial ground (6-21-1967)

1. Ann Stanley d 3-14-1862
2. Erected to the memory of Lewis Packer who departed this life July 1857 (1859?) in the 35th day (yr?) of his ?.
3. (Missing) Labertew, Murray, d Feb 21, 1829 1yr 21hrs, son of Peter J. & Phebe Labertew.
4. (Missing) Tunison, Mary, wife of Henry Tunison, d Nov. 7, 1851, 77yr 7mo 18da.
5. (Missing) Tunison, Henry, d June 15, 1840, 66yr.

Additional information²

² Source: Mrs. Ruth J. Wells

Cary, Anna Lewis. Second wife of Robert Cary and widow of John Lewis. Census states she was born in Germany.

Cary, Missouri. Daughter of Christopher and Margaret McCarty Cary, child of Cary's 3rd marriage.

Deats was a cooper³ from New Jersey, lived next door to Peter Hathorn's hotel.

Peter **Hathorn** had a frame and brick hotel in Mt. Pleasant next door to Deats, a cooper from N.J.

Tamerson Harthorn will probated 6-15-1847, Will book 7, p 286; names granddaughter Miranda Howard & granddaughter Caroline Howard.

Hopper, Francis, son of William & Martha Cary Hopper. Martha Cary daughter of Benajah & Mary Cary.

Howard. Will of Cyrus Howard (Will book 2, p 218) names wife Lucy, sons Stephen F., Cyrus, Hiram M., Benjamin Franklin; two daughters Lucy Howard & Deborah Welsh, wife of James. Ione Howard named as only child of son George W. Howard, "lately deceased;" also names son of Solomon Howard and son of Roswell F. Howard.

Kenniston, James. Will book 11 p. 310 will probated 3-22-1837, wills 5 acres SW corner Sect. 32 Springfield Twp. where he resides - to daughter Margaret Robe (or Rabe) of Bridgewater, N. H. & to daughter Kittabel Kenniston of the same place. William Cary exec.

Labertew, Hannah wife of Joseph Labertew who was one of old Peter's sons.

Labertew, Murray, son of Peter J. & Phebe (Davis) Labertew

Libidos, John P. son of old Peter. John P is either Peter or Paul. Sarah born ca 1791. Old Peter died 9-14-1813. Phebe born ca 1768 - wife of John G. (?John Gabriel)

Lewis, John. "Native of Denmark." He was the husband of Anna Lewis, later wife of Robert Cary.

McGinnis, John, born ca 1805. Son of Lucy Cary who married James McGinnis. A daughter was the 2nd Mrs. William McCammon. Nephew of Benijah Cary.

McGinnis, Lucy, born ca 1784-84. Daughter of Christopher and Margaret Cary, who was a sister of Benijah Cary.

Miller, Freeman, Mathias Miller operated a pottery in Mt. Pleasant. Mathias Miller & Peter J. Laboyteaux were engaged together in pork packing.

Packer, Peter. Restored - will book 2-2-1836, made 5-30-1835, wife Anna exec. John P. Laboyteaux's first wife was Elizabeth Packer.

Runyan, Jemina, daughter of Peter Laboyteaux, the pioneer. John Runyan was born Oct. 1, 1775 Somerset County, New Jersey, died April 1, 1841, age 66 1/2.

Skillman. Isaac Skillman, Will book 25, p 362 names wife Amelia and wishes to be buried beside the church in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Will probated 10-15-1840.

Stanley, Ann, died 3-14-1862. Daughter of Henry Tunison, tollgate keeper. Anna Skillman was a niece of Tunison. From will of Henry Tunison 3-15-1853, Patricia Tunison - mother, children: Henry Tunison, Abigail Teneyck, Ann Stanley.

Stryker, John, son of Jacob & Hannah Laboyteaux Striker. Their daughter, Catherine, was baptized 7-12-1792 at Readington Church, NJ. Issue of Peter Striker and Sally Low: Sally born 2-4-1788, Lenah born 3-21-1792, Readington church, New Jersey.

Tunison, Anna Skillman in census with Skillmans, age 10, 1850. Will book 5, p 8, 9-53-1853. John J. Packer witness. In 1850 Henry Tunison was age 47, wife Mary age 47.

Wright, John M. Julia Ann Laboyteaux married Frances M. Wright. She was daughter of John P. Laboyteaux.

³ Barrel maker.

JESSUP CEMETERY
or OLD UNITED BRETHERN CEMETERY

This is a compilation of two previous, undated, partial readings and a complete reading of all the stones, recorded on July 29, 1995 by Jack and Lee Fern, Sheila Balzer, Paul Ruffing, and Betty Ann Smiddy. Jessup Cemetery is located about 2642 Jessup Road, between Colerain and Vogel Roads. It is maintained by the Mt. Airy United Methodist Church, 2645 West North Bend Road, 45239, formerly the Mt. Airy United Brethren Church. All standing stones have been broken from their bases. An attempt to keep the family groups together has been made, with the stones being placed around tree stumps. Once the United Brethern Church stood next to the cemetery. Early records of the burials have been lost due to a tornado striking this church.

1. Samuel Aston Died June 9 1845/Aged ? (stone missing)
2. S. A. (foot stone)
3. In tribute of affection/to the/memory of/Margaret J. Bell. b May 15, 1826 d August 29, 1862. (standing stone)
4. Rebecca, wife of William (Bell) Died May 8, 1864, 73 yrs. 7 mo. Dear Mother thou art ?????/ thy heavenly home/ ?? who Jesus love. (standing stone)
5. William Bell/ departed this life/November 29, 1843:/Aged 48 years 8 mo./And 23 days./Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Stop here my friends and cast an eye/As you are now so once was I/As I am now so you must be/Prepare for death and follow me. The top of the stone has intact carvings of a weeping willow tree in front of a rectangular stone, a kneeling sheep followed by a narrow stone shape with a winged angel head hovering in the sky. (standing stone)
6. Samuel Bell/ Born Feb. 3, 1785/Died Dec. 23, 1825. At the top of the flat, in ground stone is a book whose cover says: My Guide/S. B./ At Rest.
7. Samuel Bell Jr., born August 6, 1807, died ?? aged 47 years, 7 months, 29 days. How still and peaceful is the grave/In his life have tumults past/The appointed place in heavens dear/Preserves us all at last. (stone fragment with age and verse only, originally read as Daniel Bell, Jr.)
8. A. B., foot stone (missing)
9. Elizabeth (Bell)/wife of/T. T. Olmsted/born August 21, 1821/Died January 11, 1846. (standing stone)
10. Meluc/Son of/ W & R ? (stone fragment)
11. Sacred to the memory of Sarah Jane Bacon. (stone missing)
12. Martin, son of John and Rebecca Campbell, died October 5, 1812, aged ??. (stone missing)
13. Josephus, son of John and Rebecca Campbell, died June 17, 1819. (stone missing)
14. Sacred to the memory of Mary Jane Giffin/who departed this life/ July 23, A. D. 1851/ aged 20 years 1 mos/ & 16 days. Sleep in Jesus! O, for me/May such a blissful refuge be;/Security shall my ashes be. (stone broken, only age and partial verse remain)
15. Robert Giffin/Died Jan. 26, 1876/Aged/76 Y. 7M. 5 D./The wind breathes low/on the yellow land/sounds vespers from the trees/So flowed the parting/Breath when father/Ceased to be. (standing stone)
16. Sarah, Wife of, Robert Giffin, Died. Feb. 3, 1872, Aged, 71 Y. 7 Mo. 10 D. Blessed are the dead who/die in the Lord./Mother is not dead/but sleepeth. (standing stone)
17. J. G. (infant stone) (note: could be James Giffin, s/o Robert & Sarah Giffin)
18. M. J. G. (foot stone, missing) (note: could be Mary Jane Giffin, d/o Robert & Sarah Giffin)
19. Jeremiah Giffin, died October 7, 1866, aged 31 years 1 month and 10 days (missing stone)
20. Mary E., wife of James Giffin, died October 3, 1878, aged 41 years 4 months and 26 days. Dearest mother thou has left/Here thy loss we deeply feel/But tis God that hath bereft us/He can all our sorrows heal. (stone fragment with only part of verse)
21. Hier ruht Friedrich Hoffing Dr. M. Geborn 1800; Gestorben March 11, 1855 (stone broken, only date of death remains)

22. William S./ Son of/ S. & M. A. Jackson/Born/Jan 11 1843/Died/March 1 1854. For changing scenes on earth/He found a home in heaven. (standing stone)
23. Sacred to the memory of Daniel Jessup/Born in Cumberland Co., New Jersey/September 7, 1780/Died October 12, 1866/Aged 86 yrs. 1 mos. 5 days. (stone obelisk broken)
24. Purnella, daughter of Daniel and Nancy Jessup, died June 5, 1811, aged 18 years 5 months and 6 days. (date possibly 1841, stone missing)
25. Douglas E., son of James and Nancy A. Long, born Sept. 17, 1805, died March 6, 1866 (birth date possibly 1855, stone missing)
26. ???died 1819 in the 36?(85?) year of her age. (stone fragment)
27. May 11 185?/Aged/19yrs. 10 mo. 5 d. This lovely bud of joy/Called home by ? of doom/Just come to show for/In paradise doth bloom (stone fragment)
28. M. S. (foot stone)

Ephraim Brown Stout standing between the tombstones of Gershom and Phebe Gard



Chapter 7 Other Early Settlers

Arnold In 1828 Albert G. Arnold established a tannery on the low ground north of the residence of General Cist. In addition to 30-40 vats for tanning, he also had a currying shop and a shop for making shoes. Before then, an itinerant shoemaker sufficed. Buried in Gard Cemetery are several of his children. In 1827 Albert bought 40 acres of College Hill land and married Anna Marie Howard, daughter of Solomon Howard. In 1829, he purchased 40 more acres. In 1873 the family moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana where Albert died in 1879.

Robert Badgley (Jr.) was an early settler of Cumminsville. He built a log cabin in 1795 (torn down in 1911) at the foot of Otte Avenue. William and Jacob Badgley also lived there according to Freeman G. Cary. Robert Sr.⁴(born ca 1740-1783) was the son of James and Hannah (Kelsey) Badgley, and Robert married Rachel Vreeland. After his death, Rachel moved to Ohio with her children: Noah, one of the founders of Cincinnati, drowned in the Licking River without being married; Hannah (b 176? married Joseph Scudder); Robert (born 6-6-1763, married Rachel Roll, daughter of John Roll); Rachel (born 1771, married 1) Benjamin Otler, married 2) James Watkins. Another son of James and Hannah Badgley, Anthony, married Anne Woodruff and several of his children came to Hamilton County, Ohio. Their daughter, Jane, married Barnabas Hoel/Hole. In Northside was the Badgely Burying Ground which became filled due to deaths during cholera epidemics. The bodies were moved to Wesleyan Cemetery.

William Bell - see **Olmsted**

Robert Hamilton Bishop⁵ was born July 26, 1777 in Linlithgowshire, Whitburn, Scotland, one of sixteen children of William Bishop and Agnes Weir and by his second wife, Margaret Hamilton. He married Ann Ireland, August 25, 1802 and they came to New York in October of that year. In 1803 they arrived to Kentucky and settled in Lexington in 1804. Dr. Bishop taught at Transylvania University; Logic, Moral Philosophy, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and History until leaving for Oxford, Ohio in November 1824. He came to Pleasant Hill in 1845. Dr. Bishop's brother, Ebenezer came to America in 1813 and settled in Illinois. Several of their siblings also arrived later. Dr. Bishop and Ann had eight children: William Wallace, born 28 Dec. 1805; Mary Ann, born 26 Feb 1808, married William W. Robertson; George Brown, born 30 March 1810; Ebenezer Brown, born 18 June 1812, married Laura W. Churchill; Robert Hamilton, Jr., born 15 Aug. 1814, married 1) Eliza A. Lyons m 2) Kate C. Thompson ; Catherine Wallace, born 3 Jan. 1817; John Mason, born 2 April 1819, married Lucy L. North; and Jane Ridgely, born 15 March 1821, married David Williams.

Ephraim G. Brown (1768-1835) In 1793 Ephraim Brown was an assistant surveyor from New Jersey on the road from Cincinnati to the mouth of the Big Miami River. In 1795, Symmes sold him "... in consideration of \$100 in certificates of debts due from the United States and \$160 in specie, the east half of section 32, 320 acres." Today this covers the area from Galbraith Road to Compton Road, Hamilton Avenue to Arlington Gardens Cemetery. He later sold this parcel to Peter Laboiteaux. Capt. Brown built a brick house in 1812 on 267 acres (section 31) purchased from his father-in-law, Gershom Gard. He married Gard's daughter Eunice (1771-1857) at North Bend, Ohio the ceremony being conducted by Judge John Cleves Symmes. Until 1982-83 Savannah Avenue was shaded by the trees that Ephraim planted. The house remains today, a tribute to good building and owner care.

Brown was a farmer and had a still that used peaches, cider, corn and rye to make whiskey and

⁴ Evening Post, Badgley History, Newark, New Jersey, Wheeler Thurston, July 25 to Nov. 11, 1906.

⁵ Family History of John Bishop of Whitburn, Scotland; Robert Hamilton Bishop of Oxford, Ohio; Ebenezer Bishop of McDonough County, Ill., Stanley R. Scott, Robert H. Montgomery, 1951.

brandy.

Capt. Brown was a Justice of the Peace, served in the state legislature for eleven years and was a trustee of Colerain Township. He raised and outfitted his own cavalry unit to fight in the War of 1812. One of their daughters, Eunice, married Vesper Nichols and is possibly buried in Gard cemetery. Julianna Brown married Luther Witherby, Lucinda Brown married James Gilkey.

Israel Brown (1778-1852) was a member of the Ohio Legislature and a Judge of Hamilton County's Court of Common Pleas. He was the brother of Ephraim Brown and came to Cincinnati in the spring of 1797. Israel married Jan. 3, 1802, Elizabeth Hankins, daughter of Richard Hankins. In 1803 Israel purchased land in Hamilton County. He and his family are buried in Wesleyan Cemetery. One of his daughters, Elizabeth, married Thomas Humes. Another, Harriet, married her cousin Mahlon Brown, son of Ephraim Brown. His son, Israel Brown, Jr. married Martha A. Harrison (1822-1882), granddaughter to William Henry Harrison. Several of their children married into the Bevis family. A daughter of Mahlon and Harriet Brown, Eunice, married John Cox Eversull who was the son of Solomon **Eversull Sr./Eversoll** and Mary Cox. The Eversull's were early College Hill pioneers. Solomon died when he was 101 years old. Their cabin stood on the west side of Hamilton Avenue between Springlawn and Rockford Place. The cabin was moved about 1914 to an unknown location.

Charles C. Cist, son of a Russian immigrant, was a country storekeeper in Harmony, Pennsylvania when he married Jane White in 1817. They traveled by flatboat to Cincinnati with their four children in 1827. The family moved to College Hill in August 1853. Cist became widely known as an author, newspaper publisher and editor. He took several census' of Cincinnati and his **Cincinnati in...** statistical based anthologies still provide us with information about that time. He published the **Western General Advertiser** as well as **Cincinnati Miscellany**.

Cist was active in promoting cottonseed, a worthless by-product of the South's cotton trade. He urged that cottonseed be processed and the forthcoming oil bleached, to better resemble olive oil. Cotton meal and oil had a bright future that some growers in the South failed to see. In part, Cist's urgings and writings and the river boat trade made Cincinnati one of the leading centers for manufacturing crude cottonseed oil. Procter & Gamble introduced Ivory Soap in 1878, which used cottonseed oil. Years later, Crisco, would be another leading product made from cottonseed oil. Cist died Sept. 5, 1869. Mrs. Jane Cist died Feb. 5, 1869. Cist's father, Charles Cist (1738-1805), served in the Revolutionary War and was the commissioner to sign the Continental currency.

Charles' and Jane's son, Lewis J. Cist (died 1885), became a notable poet. Another son, Henry Martin Cist, was born in 1839 and graduated from Farmers' College. He studied law in the office of George Hoadly, later Ohio's governor. He left his law practice to join the Civil War, returning to College Hill after it was over to resume his practice and was twice elected mayor. While he entered the war as a private, he left it as brevet brigadier general. He traveled extensively during his retirement and died in Rome, Italy in 1902. His daughter Edith (1873-1934) married Charles Louis LaBoiteaux, son of Isaac N. LaBoiteaux, and lived in the LaBoiteaux home on Hamilton Avenue. Next to it was a white frame house that was the home of Frank Cist.

Henry's daughter, Bertha A. Cist, was the last of the Cist family in Cincinnati. She died in 1966. She was also the great-granddaughter of Thomas Morris, one of the first U. S. Senators from Ohio.

The Cist house is at 5752 Belmont Avenue. Many years later it was one of the College Hill homes of the Flannigan family. The Cist's owned most of the property on the east side of Hamilton Avenue from Northside to College Hill.

Elias Compton was born 1787 in New Jersey and settled in Mt. Healthy in 1817, coming in a wagon train from Rosemont, New Jersey and down the Ohio River by flatboat. Elias was a cousin of Jacob R. Compton. He was a shoemaker and a farmer. Elias built a stone house which stood in Mt. Healthy until at least 1925. It was there he married his second wife, Abasheba Hill (died 1831). Seeking better farmland he moved out to Springdale, on the banks of the Mill Creek, and built a brick house from clay fired on the

site. He died 12 August 1864.

Jacob Richard Compton⁶ was born in New Jersey in 1760. In 1796 he emigrated to Ohio from Kentucky in a caravan of 200 people, including the Stout, Hankins, Runyon, Minor, Zutphen and Drake families. Ermina (or Oraminia) Hyde Compton, his wife, was born in 1760 and died in 1840.

“Oraminah was the tenth child of John and Ann Elizabeth Runyon Hyde. In the Hyde family there were ten daughters and two sons...Reuben Compton, Benijah Stout and J. Smith married sisters of Minor (Hyde). Jacob and Minor left Hunterdon Co., N.J. 1794 coming down through the Shenandoah Valley, stopping at a Cherokee Indian Village⁷ to repair wagons and to obtain a supply of food. There, they were exposed to scarlet fever which was raging in the village and were forced to make camp in Mason Co., (Maysville) Ky. where five of the Compton children died and were buried. ..Compton’s children remained in Ohio except son, Nathan, who married Jane Hawkins (sic., should be Hankins), daughter of Richard Hawkins (sic) and moved on west. Jacob Compton and Richard Hawkins (sic) both served in the Revolutionary War from Hunterdon Co. (N.J.)...Jacob Compton served in Revolutionary War under his uncle, Col. Stout and Capt. Quick’s Co.”

Jacob was a cooper and a farmer. He died in 1821 and was buried in the Old Compton Cemetery, Mt. Healthy. Abraham, who was born in 1796 in Kentucky, came with his parents to Hamilton County. Abraham married Abigail Philips and they had thirteen children. He was a farmer and carpenter. Reuben S. Compton who married Bathsheba Laboyteaux was also Jacob’s son. The houses of Jacob and Reuben are still standing in Mt. Healthy. In 1821 Reuben purchased 183 acres, the homestead farm, for \$800. His neighbors were also relatives as his land was bounded by Isaac Sparks, James Hoel, and Nathan Compton, among others.

The Comptons were active in their community. From the Colerain Township Records (1803-1845)⁸ Mrs. Ruth J. Wells wrote: “All of the election results are here. The electors were to choose three trustees, a treasurer, clerk, appraisers of property, fence viewers, supervisors of highways, overseers of the poor, constables and, periodically, grand and petit jurors. Overseers of the poor took care of pauper residents of the township. They also had the task of locating people who moved into the township and appeared likely to become charges on the township. A writ was then served by the constable on these persons directing them to leave the township. There was no township meeting hall and electors were directed to assemble at the home of a resident, usually in April of each year. From 1805 to 1820 the elections were held at the home of Revolutionary War veteran James Hardin, early treasurer of Colerain township. Jacob R. Compton was first elected in 1803 as appraiser of property. He served as overseer of the poor in 1809, supervisor of highways in 1811, overseer again in 1816. Nathan Compton was elected constable in 1807. In 1814 he served as a supervisor, in 1824 as fence viewer, in 1827 as petit juror, overseer in 1828. Abraham Compton appears in 1819 as supervisor, again in 1823, grand juror in 1824, supervisor in 1826. Reuben S. Compton shows up in 1830 as supervisor.

He was elected as trustee of School and Ministerial Lands in 1836 and also as juror. He was chosen as one of the township trustees in 1837, 1838, 1840 and 1841. Many of the Hankins, Runyans, Stouts and Laboyteaux who were allied with the Comptons show up in these township records...”

Compton Road was already so named by 1812 and could date from before 1796 when the Compton family settled just outside of Mt. Healthy, for a road was needed to reach the area’s first mill located in Carthage. The original path of the road started by a creek ford near Pippin Road, ran up through today’s Skyline Acres, passed Arlington Gardens Cemetery and then went north to the present location of Compton Road.

⁶ Comptonology, Vol. 3, #1, Feb. 1944

⁷ could be a Shawnee village near Portsmouth, Ohio.

⁸ Early Pioneers-The Compton Family, Ruth J. Wells

Andrew Cox⁹ was born in Hampshire County, Virginia in 1761, and enlisted September 1776, in Col. Enoch's regiment. They marched to Ft. Jackson, 50 miles above Pittsburg on the Monongahela River to fight Indians. Cox was a scout and in 1777-1778 traveled the country between forts on the Cheat and Monongahela Rivers as a ranger and Indian spy. He moved to Kentucky 1790, and came to Hamilton County in 1799. He first settled on a farm in Clifton, where he lived many years. His wife's name was Rebecca, but her last name is unknown. He died when he was 91 and was buried in Wesleyan Cemetery. The wife (Mary Elizabeth Cox) of the centenarian, Solomon Eversoll, was a daughter and lived to age 97. Edward DeSerisy, of College Hill and Armand DeSerisy are grandsons. Armand was the first mayor of Cumminsville (1865-69) and Deputy U.S. Internal Revenue Collector. Andrew's daughter, Margaret, married Edward DeSerisy.

Tunis Cox/Cock was the son of Major William G. Cox/Cock, a War of 1812 veteran and a stone mason. When Tunis was nine (1787) his parents came from New Jersey to settle at North Bend, Ohio, later moving to New Burlington. Tunis was the proprietor of the *Eleven Mile House* also named *Farmers' Rest* on Hamilton Avenue near New Burlington. Tunis married Nancy Sparks.

William Cox came to Colerain Township from New Jersey in 1809 and had become a major in the War of 1812. By trade he was a stone mason. His children were Martha and Tunis, who owned much of College Hill before the Carys.

John Crary¹⁰ was born in Connecticut and joined the Army as volunteer in Vermont. He came to Hamilton County in 1809, and bought a small farm on Winton Road which now forms part of Spring Grove Cemetery. He died on his farm at age 91 years. He was buried in an unmarked grave in the Finney burying ground, Winton Road. Silas Crary, later an resident of the Old Man's Home, 86 years, was the only surviving son. Rev. B. F. Crary, D.D., editor of the **Pacific Christian Advocate**, San Francisco was a grandson and Adam Gray, well known insurance agent in Cincinnati is a great-grandson. John Crary's son, Lyman Crary Sr. married Hannah Mills, and they had 7 children, one of which was Abigail Crary born 2 July 1823. She married July 2, 1848 Moses Nutt Grey (1819-7 Dec. 1915). Moses lived in College Hill and Gray Road is named after him.

Solomon Eversoll purchased 40 acres from Andrew and Rebecca Cox in 1832 for \$50. He lived across from the toll gate on Hamilton Avenue in a frame house for many years. His farm stood where Kirby Road school now stands. His wife, Mary Elizabeth Cox, died (1878) from burns received when her clothes caught fire from an open fireplace. His obituary was in the **Cincinnati Commercial Gazette**, Nov. 9, 1883. "Solomon Eversoll dies at an age of one hundred and one years and eighteen days. Solomon Eversoll, the only centenarian in Hamilton County, died at his home on the Hamilton pike ... he simply died of old age. He was born in the State of Virginia...on the 15th day of November, 1783. In 1801 his parents immigrated to Ohio, and his father (Christian Eversoll), being taken sick, died at Parkersburg, W. Va. Young Eversoll and his mother (Eva Gephardt) came on to Newmarket, Ohio, where they lived for four years, and then came to Columbia, where he learned the trade of boat-building. He was one of the builders of the **Papagon**, the first steamboat which ran the waters of the Ohio River. He leaves three children; John Eversoll, of Mount Airy, who is seventy three years of age; Mrs. Warner Eversoll of Mount Washington; and Miss Rebecca Eversoll, who has kindly cared for her aged father for many years... Newmarket is in Highland Co., near Hillsboro."

His son, John Cox Eversoll, married Eunice Brown, daughter of Mahlon and Harriet Brown. Harry Starr III says: "John was a farmer, a civil engineer and surveyor of Hamilton County for 50 years, and

⁹ Year Book of Ohio Society SAR 1895, containing General Samuel F. Cary's Record of Revolutionary Soldiers, Rare book room, Cincinnati Public library

¹⁰ Yearbook of the Ohio Society, SAR, 1895, op. cit.

Mayor of Mt. Airy.” Their son, John C. Eversull, Jr. died of nephritis as did Eunice, and both mother and son had their funerals on the same day. One of their daughters, Anna B. Eversull, married John A. Caldwell who was judge of Hamilton County’s Court of Common Pleas.

Roswell Fenton¹¹ was born in Mansfield, Connecticut, in 1750. He participated in Bunker Hill, returned to Connecticut July 12, 1775, and joined Capt. Shipman’s Company, 7th Regiment Continental Infantry. Discharged 12-16-1775 due to ill health, he married Deborah Freeman, a descendant of the early Colonial, Governor Freeman. After the war Fenton went to Stillwater, New York, then to Broad Albin, Fenton County, New York. They moved to Cincinnati 1806 and planned to buy a plantation in Kentucky. While on a prospecting tour in Ky. he was robbed and murdered near the foot of 12 Mile Island. The grave was never found. Deborah died in 1845, at 93 years. They had a dozen children. Rebecca Fenton was one of their children and was the mother of Freeman Grant and Samuel Fenton Cary. Rebecca died at Samuel Cary’s residence at age 98. She was the last survivor of the 12 children. Grandchildren: Reuben E. Fenton - Governor and U.S. Senator of New York; Solomon Howard - president of Ohio University; Roswell F. Howard, Esq., Xenia; Roswell H. Fenton - treasurer of Hamilton County, Ohio.

Who was Galbraith? **Frederick W. Galbraith** was a W.W. I hero. When the war started Galbraith did not need to serve because of his age but he volunteered to go anyway. Leaving his chewing tobacco business behind, he joined the 147 Infantry Regiment from Cincinnati and was decorated for his heroism. Returning to Cincinnati, he died in an automobile accident in 1912. His ashes are in a memorial at Eden Park and the Galbraith American Legion

Gershom Gard came west from New Jersey with his brother Daniel and his cousin Alexander Guard, settling first in North Bend, Ohio. In 1795 with a Miami land warrant and \$200, Gershom purchased adjoining sections 31 and 25. This land totaled 1,280 acres and encompassed what today is North Bend Road to Galbraith Road, and Daly Road to the Colerain Township line. He settled in Springfield Township upon North Bend Road, about one mile west of Hamilton Avenue. Gershom Gard was a veteran of the American Revolution and served as a private in Captain Keen’s Company. Peter Keen got the forfeit of section 31. Gershom later sold to his son, Seth, the land in section 25, approximately 640 acres for \$640. When Gershom died in 1897, he was buried on his farm in an area he set aside for a family cemetery. Later this land was owned by Isaac Betts. Gershom married Phebe Huntington, also of New Jersey. According to Gard’s gravestone, he died Jan. 15, 1807 but his obituary which appeared in the **Western Spy** newspaper, on Jan. 19, 1809 has: “Departed this life on the 28th of December, Mr. GERSHUM GARD, aged 70. He was born in 1734. His wife Phebe died in 1812, in her 81st year, and is buried next to him.”

Seth, one of Gershom’s children, served in the War of 1812 under Capt. John Wallace’s Hamilton County Mounted Militia. He and his wife went to Wabash County, Illinois, shortly after the death of Gershom. In 1814 he founded Old Palmyra, Illinois along with Peter Keen, Gervase Hazelton, Levi Compton, John and Aaron Waggoner. Seth became a New Light minister, representative of the county in the state legislature, and a county court judge. Aaron Waggoner was a stone mason. The settlement was on the banks of the Wabash River where Gard, Keene and Hazelton operated a ferry. Without a suitable meeting place, Hazelton was paid \$8 year to let the county commissioners meet in his house.

The site of Palmyra was unhealthy, the swampy ground bred mosquitoes, and typhoid fever was common. Shortly after 1819 the town was abandoned. “Not only did the Indians give these early settlers trouble, there were numerous dens of Rattle Snakes in the area that killed horses and cattle. Here were also much game, Wild Turkeys, wolf, bears, panthers and deer. All perished by the plowshare, as the forests were cleared and the land cultivated.”¹²

¹¹ Yearbook of the Ohio SAR, 1895, op. cit.

¹² Paul J. Holsen from The Descendants of Joran Kyn of Sweden, Gregory B. Keen, 1913.

West Galbraith Road was named Giffin Road in 1839 for the farm of **James Giffin**, which was located where the Clovernook Country Club is today. Giffin died about 1809 from head injuries received from a falling log while building his barn. He is possibly buried in the LaBoyteaux - Cary cemetery. One of his many children, Robert, is buried with his wife in the Jessup Cemetery (2640 Jessup Road). Off Giffin Road was Sundale Avenue, the location of the local toll gate.

James Gilkey¹³ was born 18 Oct., 1796, died 1821 and on 19 April, 1821 married Lucinda Brown (1805-1848/1849 from mortality schedule). A native of Maine, James was the son of John Gilkey (1764-1812) and Susanna Bacon (1773-1840, married 1788). John Gilkey's father, James, came from Scotland. During the Revolutionary War, John was one of a chosen committee to provide for the families of the non-Commissioned officers and private soldiers. He entered the Continental Army, Sept. 29, 1777 until 1780. He was a member of the local committee of correspondence, inspection and safety in 1776 to see there were no traitors in town. He served again as a member 1781-1785. He was also a member of the committee appointed April 25, 1780 to examine articles contained in the proposed state Constitution of Maine and Massachusetts, when separation was proposed.

James and Lucinda's children were: Susannah Gilkey born/died 1822; Ephraim Brown Gilkey (1823-1824), Mary Ketiridge Gilkey (1824-1913) who married Sheba Bell; George Washington Gilkey (1727-1895) who married in 1851 Sarah Jane Ogilvie; James Francis Gilkey (born 1829) who married Susan O'Loughlin; Harvey Edwin Gilkey (1832-1906) who married Eliza Jane Abbett; Oliver Brown Gilkey (born 1834); Lucinda Elvira Gilkey (born 1836- who married Max Record; Eunice Brown Gilkey (born 1838). See **Olmsted**.

David Gray purchased the land that followed the hillsides which Gray Road winds along today. In 1839 the road was slightly altered to come out to the Hamilton Avenue and Groesbeck Road intersection. His son, Moses Gray, founded horticulture on Gray Road. Moses' son, Adam Gray (1849-1919), was a well known insurance agent. Adam's sister, Abby Gray, was involved for years in the Art Academy and the Women's Art Club. Walter Gray was the first to grow flowers under glass in Cincinnati. He lived at 1511 Groesbeck Road.

William Hammitt¹⁴ was a native of Burlington County, New Jersey, born 23 Nov. 1758. He enlisted in the Army at Mt. Holly and fought in the battles of White Plains, Long Island and Princeton, New Jersey. Regarding the latter battle: "... he has often said that when our troops were on the eve of retreating, General Washington rode along the line, calling upon his men to advance and defeat was turned into victory." He came west in 1790, settling at North Bend, Ohio where he kept the ferry across the Ohio River and the old "ferry boat is a cherished relic in the possession of his descendants." In 1815 he moved to Taylor's Creek, Colerain Township and there died 26 Dec. 1841. He was buried in the family cemetery near his old residence. Samuel and John W. Hammitt of College Hill were his grandsons. The Hammitt's were known for their fruit orchards and flowers.

Richard Hankins was born in North Carolina about 1749 and served in the Revolutionary War under General Francis Marion. He came north after the war and settled on the forfeit of section 36. After he lived on the land the seven years required to make it his own, in 1797 he built a two story hewn log house near North Bend Road and Oakwood. The heirs of Richard Hankins deeded a piece of that same forfeiture to (Judge) Isaac Sparks and his wife, Sarah, nee Hankins. Hankins' two story log house was luxurious by the standards of 1825.

¹³ Gilkey information from Sue Bell

¹⁴ Yearbook of Ohio SAR, 1895, op. cit.

Richard Hankins died Aug. 29 1823 and is buried in the same row of Gard Cemetery as Isaac Sparks and Rhoda Sparks (his granddaughter by Isaac and Sally Sparks). Richard Hankins' will, written in 1808, lists his wife as Rachal and his children; Rachal, William, Sarah, Elizabeth, Jane. His name is incorrectly spelled/read as Hawkins in some early records.

The **Harbeson** homestead, once located at 6372 Hamilton Avenue, was once part of the Witherby property. In an undated newspaper article, George T. Harbeson, who sold the property said; "It was between 1805 and 1810 that the blacksmith, Weatherby, erected the first section of the house ...He built it of brick made upon the spot. He had two blacksmith shops upon the place, and we have found in the ground scrap iron, horseshoes, nails, keys, locks and bolts, and wagon tires made by Weatherby.

In 1820 the Gano family bought the little house. In about 1828 Matthew Harbeson came here from Philadelphia and bought the house. In 1832 his mother, Sarah Lawler Harbeson, who was my great-grandmother, arrived from Philadelphia and purchased the building from her son."

Harbeson owned a family Bible which belonged to Rebecca Fenton Cary, sister of New York's Governor Fenton. Harbeson's great-grandfather was Freeman Cary.

George T. Harbeson had a nursery business in College Hill and a book business in New York. He sold the property which was made into a subdivision by Myers Y. Cooper and Harbeson moved to Florida.

James Hathorn¹⁵ was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and was commissioned from there in 1775 to serve in the Revolutionary War. After two tours of duty, he moved to Virginia, then North Carolina, back to Virginia and finally to College Hill in 1827. He applied for his Revolutionary War pension in 1832. Dr. John Gano, John Strong, William Carey (sic), Esq. John Tuttle and Philip Young all attested to his character. His next door neighbor was Samuel Fenton Cary, who knew Hathorn from 1827-1835. The

aging Mr. Hathorn may have instilled into Samuel an interest in American history. History of the Revolutionary War was passed at that time from person to person and he must have been a popular figure, entertaining neighbors with tales of his life. He died in his two-story log cabin March 23, 1835 at age 88. He was buried under a cherry tree on his property, This property was acquired years later by John M. Wilson, Esq. Hathorn's remains were moved, probably before the property was sold out of the family, and reburied in 1855 to the Lane Seminary Cemetery and were again moved to Spring Grove Cemetery in 1878 where he rests next to his wife, Elizabeth, and son-in-law Isaac B. Perrine. Hathorn was twice married and had 14 children.

James Hathorn was a farmer, land trader and a businessman. He bought, sold, and sometimes lost, land parcels in the various states he resided.

When he settled in College Hill he purchased 2.75 acres from the property once owned by David Thomas (Hamilton Avenue and Windermere Way). David Thomas, whose chair manufacturing business failed, sold his land to Asa Newton, who in turn sold the land to Hathorn. Isaac Perrine, when the property came into his hands, used it as a boarding house, for in the 1840 census, 31 people were living there. Two houses away, Alison Grant also seems to be running a boarding house as he had 22 people in residence. When this house was bought by John Wilson and later came to Obed J. Wilson, this log cabin was the core of the familiar white house sitting on the hill that was torn down in the 1970's. The property is part of Twin Towers Retirement Community.

Solomon Howard¹⁶ lived in Hebron, Connecticut when he joined the Revolutionary War, serving 9 months under Col. Eby at New London. There he built forts until he was ordered to Rhode Island to join

¹⁵ Source: Jack Hulquist

¹⁶ Yearbook of the Ohio SAR, 1895, op. cit.

General Spenser's Campaign in 1777. He served an additional nine months under Col. Lamb at West Point. In 1781 he enlisted at Lyme, New Hampshire to serve nine months on the Canadian frontier under Col. Wait. In 1782 he re-enlisted at Hebron, Conn. to serve under Col. Grovesnor, going to West Point, New York. He married at Lyme, New Hampshire in 1783 to Anna Cary. He died Oct. 4, 1834. Anna died in 1854. His one story frame house once stood at 5749 Hamilton Avenue and was relocated across the street. Later still this house was moved to North Bend Road where it has been shingled over and is still in use.

As the Howard family became established in College Hill, they built a replica of their New England house at 1340 Groesbeck Road.

John C. Humes was born in Cincinnati, October 6, 1839, of Scotch-Irish lineage. He was the son of Thomas Humes (1810-1880) and Eliza Brown (1809-1879), daughter of Judge Israel Brown. The family moved to Rush County, Indiana about 1844 or 1845 to farmland owned by Israel Brown and Israel later willed it to Elizabeth and her children. Thomas Humes' father, John, was an early Ohio settler who made spinning wheels and Windsor chairs. Thomas Humes' father, John, married as his second wife Maria (Polly) Voorhees, whose father Abraham, founded Voorheestown. According to the Ohio Historical Marker 10-31, 1994; "In 1794 Abraham Voorhees, a Revolutionary War veteran, brought his family from New Jersey to the Northwest Territory to settle on a 640-acre section of land, part of the Miami Purchase, for which he paid John Cleves Symmes '33 dollars 30/90th' in United States Treasury Certificates. By 1798 the town was platted and lots were being sold. Official registration of the plat was completed in 1804, the town's name being changed to Reading at the suggestion of Henry Redinbo, who had moved his family to the area from Reading, Pennsylvania in 1795."

One of Thomas's sister, Bridget, married Mahlon LaRue. The Humes family moved to Rush County, Indiana about 1844 or 1845 to farmland owned by Israel Brown and later willed by him to Elizabeth and her children.

Jessup: John Jessup came to Springfield Township in 1794, traveling from Pittsburgh to Cincinnati by flat boat. The farm on which the family first settled had been selected by John's older brother, Stephen, who walked from Pennsylvania. Stephen Jessup built a small grist mill and distillery in this area. John J. Jessup married Judith Hall. Their daughter Rachel married Cary Johnson. Their son Stephen married Mercy Stout Van Zandt. Stephen and Mercy were the parents of Elizabeth Jessup who married Robert Cary and Mercy Van Zandt, step-daughter of Stephen Jessup, married Thomas Branch Witherby. Stephen and Mercy operated a farm and distillery and owned land at Brookville, Indiana.

Judith Jessup is buried in Gard Cemetery near her daughter Rachael and probably John and Isaac are there also. There is a lot marker with the initials J.J. Isaac, John and their cousin, William Dare, all served in the Revolutionary War.

Isaac Jessup settled west of where his brother, John, had his farm. Isaac purchased 160 acres for \$320 in 1804. Isaac's son, Daniel, came first and it was on this trip that he was captured by the Indians. 'Indian Daniel' was abducted and spent several years among the Indians. He reputedly could speak Pottawattamie as well as he spoke English and was appointed Inspector of Indians on Ohio reservations. He married Nancy Stewart and lived until he was 91. He served in the War of 1812 with Capt. Ephraim Brown's 2nd Ohio Militia and was wounded and taken prisoner in the battle of Detroit. Daniel had an orchard and tree nursery and later moved to Randolph County, Indiana. Amanda Jessup and her husband, David Gray, Jr., also moved with them to Indiana after the deaths of their sons. Jessup Road is named after him and his tombstone, in the Jessup Cemetery, is toppled and worn away. His wife and children are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery.

Isaac's neighbors were Michael Isgrigg, Peter Munz, William Bell, Mahlon Brown, Elisha Wood and Edward Grogan, all considered the founders of Mt. Airy. The movement of so many families from their Eastern roots was fueled by the prospect of cheaper, fertile lands which would be taxed less heavily. Also, the crop yield would decrease over time in any one place as the land was leached of minerals, as land management was unknown. Isaac's land ran from Jessup Road to Vogel Road to Kipling Road.

The land of Stephen Jessup is now the rear of Teakwood Acres, McEvoy Park and the south end of Hollywood Avenue, including Plantation Acres, Haskin Lake and Greenfield Village subdivisions. He was a farmer and continued the family tradition of weaving, having been left tools by his father. At his death he left a silver spoon to his daughter Sarah. This spoon was reported to have been brought from England and was engraved with the family crest and lineage, but it has been lost. Stephen married Mary Dare, who was the granddaughter of William Dare. Dare owned the *Blue Anchor Inn* in Philadelphia where William Penn boarded.

The Jessups were known for their orchards and truck farming. Isaac, a son of *Indian Dan* was a cooper. Most of the family migrated to Indiana.

The **Johnsons** were of Scotch ancestry and came west from New Jersey. **Cary Johnson**, a young carpenter, was the first of his family to come to Hamilton County arriving by horseback in 1804. His father, Abner, had been a wagoner in George Washington's Army and was deeded land for service during the Revolutionary War. Abner transferred his land warrants to Col. Ludlow, asking him to locate his property at the best possible place eight to ten miles from Cincinnati. Ludlow chose the west side of section 32. Mr. Johnson sent his son Cary to view the tract, clear an area, build a barn and a cabin (which stood in North College Hill until 1880). The homestead was called "Johnson's Grove." Abner and the rest of the family arrived in 1813 and in 1821 a brick house was built. Cary married **Rachel Jessup** in 1805. Rachel's father, John Jessup, also came from New Jersey. Her brother, Stephen, selected the family's site and the family came out later. Stephen was the maternal grandfather to Pheobe and Alice Cary, Rachel was their aunt. The brick Johnson home still stands as the administration building of Arlington Gardens Cemetery. Cary and Rachel Johnson are buried in New Burlington Cemetery.

Peter Keen/Keene¹⁷ was born about 1761, son of Jacob and Hannah (Holme) Keen. Peter was a Captain in the Revolutionary War and his future father-in-law, Gershom Gard, was a private under him in his company. After the war, Peter left Trenton, New Jersey and came to Hamilton County, there marrying Gershom's daughter, Jemima. He, his wife and eight children left Hamilton County in 1815 to settle in Palmyra, Illinois. They traveled by keel boat and were met at their destination by other settlers already there to fend off Shawnee Indian attacks, which were a frequent occurrence during that time. Peter made a trip to that area in 1814 to visit his brother-in-law Seth and see what prospects were there for his family.

Capt. James Keene came with his brother Peter to College Hill. James's daughters were Elizabeth, who married Lt. Thomas Ramsey, 19 Dec. 1797 and Jane, who was married to Samuel Nasey, 16 April 1795 by Aaron Caldwell, J. P. at North Bend, Ohio. Aaron Caldwell also married Hannah Gard to Justice Gibbs and Seth Gard to Mary Tarritt. A judge, Aaron died in 1803 at North Bend. As township residents moved west as new lands were available, Aaron performed many of their marriages.

Another brother, Jacob Keene (1774-1831, settled in Harrison, Ohio and married Sarah Yard (1778-1840). The family is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Harrison, Ohio.

Olive Kelly¹⁸ enlisted in the Revolutionary War in Rothway, New Jersey in Jan. 1776. He fought in the artillery during the battles of Trenton, Springfield, Brandywine, Monmouth, N. J. and Germantown, Pennsylvania. Kelly settled in West Cumminsville. He died 30 Sept. 1827 and was buried in the Roll burying ground, Cumminsville. He was born 1756 in New Jersey. Mrs. David Peters of College Hill was his descendant.

The James **Kemper** family came to Cincinnati in 1791 when Kemper agreed to minister for one year an area Presbyterian congregation. The congregation was obligated to supply pack horses and guides to

¹⁷ Source: Paul J. Holsen

¹⁸ Yearbook of the Ohio SAR, 1895, op. cit.

move his household and ten children from Danville, Kentucky. The way north followed the wilderness trace to Maysville, Kentucky. From there they took a flatboat down the Ohio, arriving at Fort Washington several days after General St. Clair's army was defeated by Indians. Kemper urged the settlers to remain in this area for he believed that conflicts with the Indians could be resolved.

His first congregation met in a clearing at 4th and Main Streets. The following year a church was built with the floor constructed of boat planks and logs for seating. Men brought their rifles along to services. The original church is long gone but the congregation founded two centuries years ago still exists as the Covenant First Presbyterian Church at 8th and Elm Streets. By the door is a bronze plaque to the memory of Israel Ludlow, who first sheltered the Kempers and was instrumental in bringing them here.

In 1793 Kemper moved far away from the shelter of Fort Washington and built a two story blockhouse in Walnut Hills, which took its name from his 150 acre farm. In 1804 he built what was called the *Kemper mansion* - a four room, two story log cabin. At this time, the family consisted of fifteen children plus himself and his wife. The house stood in the middle of a forest - today the corner of McMillan Street and Kemper Lane. Years later, Lane Seminary opened (1830) on sixty acres of Kemper,s land which had been donated by his son.

The cabin was moved from Kemper Lane to the Cincinnati Zoo in 1913 where it was a popular attraction. The cabin was moved once again and is now a part of the Sharon Woods Village. It is the oldest cabin within the Miami Purchase. The block house was later torn down and the logs used to build Kemper's barn.

Another early family were the **Laboyteauxs**, who came from New Jersey in 1801 to settle in this area. Peter P. Laboyteaux, Sr. purchased from Ephraim Brown land in Springfield Township that extended from West Galbraith Road to Compton Road. John G. Laboyteaux and Samuel Hill laid out Mt. Pleasant (Mt. Healthy) in 1817. The area was forested with ...the growth of white oak timbers being particularly fine. It is speculated that John G. and Peter P. Sr. were brothers. John also purchased 435 acres from Hugh Gaston at the northwest corner of Hamilton and Compton Avenues.

Peter had three sons: Peter (Jr.), Joseph, and John P. The Laboyteaux were merchants that helped to establish Mt. Pleasant as a country town. Peter J. tried to start to a silk industry in Mt. Pleasant in addition to being a tailor. He operated the first grocery store and was a partner with Matthais Miller in packing pork. John P. was a cooper and ran both a hotel and tavern. William and Joseph Laboyteaux were coopers. Peter, Sr. donated the land that the Cary-Laboiteaux Cemetery occupies.

Peter Laboyteaux Jr.¹⁹ was born in 1783 in New Jersey. His family came to Hamilton County in 1804. About that time he married Elizabeth Packer, who lived until 1813 and bore Samuel, Elizabeth, Catherine, Peter and Keziah. His second wife was Margaret Cameron, who after having six children, died. The following year he married Miss Bedson and had three more sons. Peter died in 1848.

Samuel Laboyteaux, son of Peter, Jr., was born in 1805. He worked the family farm and later became a cooper. Samuel married in 1827 Maria Louisa Wright, the daughter of another early pioneer. They had Frederick Wright, Peter, Thomas, Ann Maria, Lucretia, Florian, Monroe, John Murray, Eliza Jane, Lucinda Ellen and Joseph W. Laboyteaux.

John G. Laboyteaux sold 80 acres to Martin Skillman. In 1833 Skillman's grandson Isaac built the house that is now the Paul R. Young Funeral home, Mt. Healthy. The house was purchased in 1836 by Ebenezer Stevens, shoe merchant, and through marriage the house came back into the LaBoyteaux family.

¹⁹ Source: Mrs. Ruth J. Wells

Aaron Lane²⁰ was born in New Jersey in 1763 and came with his family in 1798 to Hamilton County. They made the first permanent settlement in Springfield Township, taming the forest to grow grain. There he married his second wife, Elizabeth Carnahan, daughter of the pioneer James Carnahan and Jane Piatt, who also settled in Springfield Township. Aaron died in 1845.

James Lowe LaRue was a friend of Samuel F. Cary. For 40 years he was the Tax Assessor of Springfield Township and his home was where the first election of the township occurred, with a hat serving as a ballot box. He was born in his parent's cabin on Winton Road, September 14, 1811. His father, John La Rue, lived originally in Hunterdon County, New Jersey and moved when ten years old with his parents to Ohio in 1790. John served in the War of 1812 and when he returned, married Catherine Lowe. Their son James fished the Mill Creek, shot ducks on the present site of Wyoming, confronted a black bear when he was a teenager and looked forward to his yearly treat from his father - a visit to Cincinnati, population 5,000.

James described his education in an article about his death (1898). "I received my education" said he, "out of an old English arithmetic and **The Columbian Orator**, and while I learned only to cipher in pounds, shillings and pence, I never had any use for them. In those days the lot of the schoolmaster was not as happy as now. He boarded around with the neighbors, and received \$4 in cash per month. Shoe stores were unheard of. Once a year a shoemaker called to make one pair of shoes for each member of the family. If these wore out before his return we did without or wore moccasins."

Thaddeus Tyrrell (T. T.) Olmsted's²¹ father, John S. Olmsted, was a soldier in the War of 1812, enlisting in Vermont. His father, Ebenezer, served in the Revolutionary War. Thaddeus moved to Cincinnati about 1836 and served as a Captain in the Ohio Nationals. Part of the entire family migrated to Ohio and are found in the records of the Union Village Shakers of Lebanon, Ohio. Thaddeus T. owned the *Six Mile House* which originally stood opposite of where the tavern is today (corner of Colerain Avenue and Blue Rock Road). He also operated a general store. His father-in-law, **William Bell**, settled in the area just west of the border of Colerain and Green townships in 1825. William and Samuel Bell's parents were probably John III (1756-1806) and Susanna Bell of Middle Paxton, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. John and Susanna's children were Jane (married ? Aston), Samuel, Susanna and the William mentioned. William Bell had: Elizabeth and Lucinda Bell - both marrying T. T. Olmsted; Margaret Bell, William Kendall Bell and possibly another son and daughter. Sheba Bell was the son of Samuel Bell and Isabella Watts. William and Samuel Bell and some of their family are buried in the Jessup Cemetery. The Bells were related to the Kendall family of Cheviot.²²

Sheba and his siblings were orphaned at an early age and were taken in and raised by the Ephraim Brown family. Years later, Sheba Bell married April 28, 1842 Mary KetrIDGE Gilkey, daughter of James Gilkey and Lucinda Brown.

An article in the **Hutchinson Leader**, Sept. 1988, Hutchinson, Minn.²³ gives a description of Sheba and Mary Bell "...who had come up the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to Lake Pepin, making their way into 'Indian country' in LeSueur County... (Mary Bell), who was known as a healer particularly adept with herb remedies, never hesitated to doctor the Indians and was highly regarded by them. The Bell children and the children of Indians living and hunting in the area played together and the Bells were given Indian names.

One sunny day, as Grandma Mary Bell sat in the shade of her shanty preparing green beans for

²⁰ Gilkey, Bell information from Sue Bell

²¹ Source: Dr. Thomas Olmsted

²² Source: Gilkey and Bell information from Sue Bell.

²³ Sent by Bernard Beach, Hutchinson Leader, Quilt pieces woven in woman's memory, Margaret Knutson, Sept. 1988.

dinner, a shadow fell across her for a fleeting second. She looked up to see two quarters of venison hanging alongside the shed. An Indian friend she had treated had shot a deer and was dividing it with her, leaving without a sound and without waiting for explanation or thanks.

Later, just before the onset of the 1882 Dakota Conflict Outbreak, her friend came again. This time he told her that his people would not hurt her family, but there were others who would, and that the Bells should leave immediately.” The family quickly did as they were told, coming to Hutchinson (Minnesota). Mary died in 1913 in Lamont, Iowa.

The “Six Mile House” was built in the 1830’s on Bell’s land that he bought from Daniel Jessup and served those driving their herds and flocks to the large markets in Cincinnati, as well as farmers. It was a two story, wood sided building with exposed log rafters in its 10 rooms. The inn had a succession of managers some of whom leased the inn for five year intervals. The owners of the property contain many familiar names seen in the history of that area: Rinkle, Aston, Craig, Schibi, Renstler, Bernard Kroger and John Edison. It was torn down before 1920 and the current poured concrete Six Mile House was built across the street in 1908. This building was demolished in 2000.

Thaddeus T. died 3-11-1853 of tuberculosis when he was 35. He left a will which specified the clothing he was to wear when buried, left his son his Masonic regalia, sword and pistol, left items from his store to various family members and provided for his unborn child. His grave is marked by a Masonic emblem. He and his family, along with his father, (died 1873 of pneumonia) had moved to Switzerland County, Indiana.

Mrs. Ruth J. Wells has a Bell Bible printed in 1855. In it is listed:

Jane Aston was born Nov. 24, 1833

William Kendall Bell was born March 23, 1828

Laura Ann Bell was born March 31, 1864

Seymour Barton Bell was born July 1, 1856

William Kendall Bell died April 7, 1875 aged 47 yrs. & 15 days

Jane Bell died Feb. 1, 1888 aged 54 yrs., 2 mo. & 7 da.

John Parker²⁴ served in the Revolutionary War under Col. Quick and later under Col. Vroom. At Staten Island he bore dispatches for General Washington for eighteen months. He fought at Elizabethtown where he wounded in the leg and emigrated to Springfield Township in 1897. He was born 1761 in Somerset, New Jersey and died 29 June 1844.

Samuel Pierce²⁵ came from Middleton, Connecticut, and enlisted in the Revolutionary War in 1777. He came to Mill Creek Township in 1814; died 12 June 1828 in his cabin east of the Cincinnati and Hamilton turnpike near the residence of Solomon Eversole. He was interred in the Roll Cemetery on the west fork of the Mill Creek, Cumminsville. He was born Sept. 1759. His wife died in 1842.

While the **Pouders** were not in College Hill, their name is encountered through several marriages. John Pouder and his wife, Elizabeth Kniselley Pouder came to Coleraine Township from Baltimore in 1817 by wagon. They first owned the land which is now 5th and Race Streets. They traded this land for 640 acres in Colerain Township. Their farm was between Groesbeck and Barnesburg. John was a carpenter and built the first frame house outside of Cumminsville, that, years later when their son Samuel John and his wife Hannah (**Giffin**) owned the house, the barn was a station on the Underground Railroad.²⁶ Hannah Giffin was the daughter of James and Margaret (**Carson**) Giffin, a cousin of the Indian scout, ‘Kit’ Carson. Harriet Pouder, daughter of Samuel John and Hannah (Giffin) Pouder, married Charles West, Jr.

²⁴ Yearbook of the Ohio SAR, 1895, op. cit.

²⁵ Yearbook of Ohio Society SAR, 1895, op. cit.

²⁶ John Pouder, Mrs. Nellie Whedon & Miss Thelma M. Murphy, 1947, also, Mrs. Ruth Wright.

of Groesbeck. He was the son of Rev. Charles West "...a Methodist minister who built the West Union Church at Groesbeck in 1850 with his own funds and was the pastor until his death." Rev. West was married to Rebecca **Sparks**. Harriet's sister, Mary Jane, married as a second husband, Alonzo **Smith**, first cousin of President James A Garfield.

Henry **Rogers**²⁷ was born in Morris County, New Jersey in 1752. He entered the service in 1775 under Lord Stirling. He served one year. He was a weaver by trade and came to Hamilton County early in the 1800's. He died in 1840 and was buried in Roll graveyard, Cumminsville and later his body was moved to

Wesleyan Cemetery. His wife was Phoebe Bennet, who died during the War of 1812. Their children were: Elizabeth Rogers (married Thomas McFeely), Sarah Rogers (married Michael Burge), Hannah Rogers, (1791-1875) who married 14 Feb. 1816, Zebulon Strong, Phoebe Rogers (married Jonathan Holden), Jemima Rogers (married Richard McFeely), Amos Rogers died infant, Samuel Rogers died infant, Nancy Rogers (married Cyrus Brown), Henry Rogers Jr. (married Rachel Maria Hill), Maria Rogers (married Levi Pinney).

Nathaniel Ryan came to Ohio about 1819 from New Hampshire and settled on section 36. His father was Ebenezer Ryan. Nathaniel had a son, William Cary Ryan who married 11 March 1863, Anna Rebecca Pierson. She was the daughter of Alfred Pierson and granddaughter of William Pierson. Not related to the Daniel B. Pierson family of College Hill.

Samuel Seward²⁸ was born in New Jersey. He married Elsie Gentry and had ten children. He came to "... Hamilton county previous to 1800. For many days they were obliged to remain in the blockhouse at Carthage, so numerous and savage were the Indians at that time. After their fears had somewhat subsided he and his family located on a tract of land situated on Winton Road." He was a farmer. One of his daughters, Eliza, married Reuben Van Zant.

Jacob Skillman arrived in Springfield Township in 1806. He came to Ohio from Pennsylvania and when he arrived in Mt. Healthy, he cleared the land that belonged to his grandson, Henry. Jacob had five sons, Isaac, Benjamin, Jacob Jr., Thomas and Abraham. Henry was the son of Abraham and Abigail Skillman and married Augusta Foster in 1857. Their children were Albert, George, Harry, Frank and Emma. Isaac owned a grocery store in College Hill near Hillcrest and Hamilton Avenues.

Thomas B. Smith, was a Revolutionary War veteran, of whom little is known. His wife's name was Abigail and after his death she married Thomas Hoffner. Thomas' daughters were Rachael Smith who married Zadock Lewis and Ann G. Smith who married Isaac C. Flager.

The **Snodgrass** family lived north of College Hill. William Snodgrass (1771-1836) and Elizabeth (1779-1844) are buried in the Finneytown Cemetery. Their children were: Abigail (married Isaac Jessup); Joseph Irwin (married 1st Emily Ann Spring, married 2nd Margaret Hathorn); Harriet (married Joseph Hall Virgin); James; John Thompson (married Catherine Hoffner); William Lamdon. The family joined the Christian Church at North Bend and Winton Roads. William was the guardian for the children of Samuel Seward. William was a deacon in his church, a Justice of the Peace, and performed marriages. William owned the land next to Christopher Cary.

²⁷ Yearbook of Ohio Society SAR, 1895, op.cit.

²⁸ Yearbook of Ohio Society SAR, 1895, op. cit.

Isaac Sparks was born November 24, 1768, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, the son of William and Rachel Sparks. At his death (1788) William mentioned in his will his wife, Rachel, son Isaac to whom he left 100 acres, one young bay mare, saddle, gun, 2 cows and a bed and bedding. The Sparks 346 acre property in Pennsylvania was named "Choice." The naming of property was originally a Maryland custom. William was a captain in the Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania Militia in 1778 during the American Revolution. William and Rachel's children as listed in his will were: Isaac, William Jr., James, John, Rachel, Margaret, Elizabeth and Ann. Widow Rachel may have married neighbor Edward Hall, for at age 14 Rachel's daughter requested the court to appoint Edward Hall as her guardian.

Isaac married Sally Hankins, May 6, 1790. After Sally's death on Dec. 17, 1825, Isaac married Elizabeth ?? Both Richard Hankins and Isaac Sparks (1787) purchased forfeitures in Symme's Miami Purchase. Family records state that Isaac "...swam the Ohio River at one time in order to escape from Indians."

The children of Isaac and Sally Sparks were: William (1791-1876) married Mary Ann Hornaday and moved to Rush County, Indiana. His first wife was Sarah or Catherine Howell 1810-1815 and his third wife was Mary 'Polly' Templeton who moved to Rock Port, Missouri after his death. His children were William J., Charlotte, Sarah, Anna, Eliza, Oliver, Susan, Martha Sparks, and Elizabeth (1793-1825 married James McCash). Elizabeth and James had Harriet, Elizabeth (married Jediah Stout Hill), David, Sarah Ann, Israel, Isaac Sparks McCash (married Martha Ann VanZandt), Mary 'Polly' (1795-1870 married Obediah Seward of Mt. Healthy). Mary and Obediah had Joseph I., Samuel, Sarah, Elcy, Francis, Ruth, William and Louann P. Seward and moved to Rush County, Indiana; Rachel 1798-1841 married Daniel Long. Rachel died of tuberculosis and Daniel married Abigail Preston. Daniel was killed by an explosion of a boiler of a portable engine at the Indianapolis Fairgrounds Oct. 1, 1869. Nancy 'Anna' 1800-1841 married Tunis Cox/Cock, son of William G. Cox. Tunis married second, Sarah Sauter. Tunis and Nancy had William, Thomson, Mary Ann, Sally, Greshem, Andrew Jackson, Elizabeth, Isaac, Martha Jane, George Washington, Catherine and John D Cox. Isaac, Jr. married Sarah Leggett and after her death married Rebecca ?? Sarah is buried in Gard Cemetery and possibly Isaac Jr. also. Isaac Jr. had by Rebecca Alford, Elizabeth, Ermsley, Sarah, William, Andrew, Edward, Rhoda; Thomson (1808-1833), who married Lucy Jane Head. Thomson died of cholera Nov. 14, 1833. Their only child was Francis M. Sally Cox married Simeon Leggett, a blacksmith. Rhoda, who died in 1825, is buried in the Gard Cemetery. Isaac Sparks died 21 Aug. 1834 and is also buried in Gard Cemetery. Sally Hankins Sparks died Dec. 17, 1825.

Isaac Sparks served as a Justice of the Peace for Colerain Township in 1818 - 1820 and possibly was also a weaver, for an early map indicates a loom on his property. One of Isaac's earliest cases as a Justice of the Peace was matter in which Alexander Campbell brought suit against Robert William to pay a debt of six dollars, three shillings. Alexander Campbell, along with his father Thomas, founded the Disciples of Christ (Christian Church). Sparks was a convert to this church and was custodian of the 'Ministerial funds' for the Christian Church of Colerain Township, 1822-1829.

Isaac's brother, William, settled in Colerain Township and married widow Catherine Barnes on 12-26-1820 in a civil ceremony conducted by Isaac. Catherine's first husband was Abraham Barnes. On the 1859 map, Catherine Sparks owns 15 acres of land next to Daniel Barnes.

Barnabas Strong²⁹ was born in Connecticut in 1759. He enlisted in February 1776 in Lieutenant Colonel Bedel's New Hampshire Regiment and marched to Ticonderoga, New York, then to Canada and was stationed on the south side of the St. Lawrence. On the 19th of May the detachment was taken prisoner by several hundred Indians. Strong was given to a squaw whose husband had been killed. He was afterwards released and joined his regiment at St. John. In 1777 he returned to his old home in Connecticut and in March enlisted for three years in the regiment commanded by Col. Starr. He fought at the battle of Ridgefield, April 27, 1777. He joined the main army and spent the winter at Valley Forge and was at the battle of Monmouth, New Jersey, June 28, 1778.

²⁹ Yearbook of the Ohio Society SAR, 1895, op. cit.

At one time, from the privation and suffering of the troops, a portion of them, Strong included, became insubordinate and drew their bayonets; General Putman had difficulty getting control over his men and one was shot by the sentinel. Strong, with another, escaped to Long Island, fearing to return home. On the issuing of a proclamation of pardon to those who returned to duty, he rejoined his regiment.

He bought a piece of land in Colerain Township and lived and died there May 26, 1821. He was buried in Strong Farm Cemetery near the Great Miami River at the mouth of Riesisell Run in Colerain Township. L. R. Strong of Taylors Creek was a grandson.

Benjamin Urmson was born in Dec. 20, 1800 in Penn. His parents were David and Mary (Enyard) Urmston from New Jersey. They came with their family down the Ohio River on a raft in 1800, going first to Springfield Township and then to Butler County. Benjamin moved to a farm in Springfield Township in 1838, moving to Mt. Healthy (now North College Hill) in 1853, settling on the Cary homestead. He married Rebecca Kennedy in 1828. Her father was Samuel and Jane (Richardson) Kennedy of the family that ran Kennedy's Ferry across the Ohio River. The Urmson family consisted of Edmund Kennedy 1829-1832, Robert (born 1830 married Sarah Bevis), Mary Jane (1834-1858), Benjamin, and Edmund Kennedy (married Margaret Butterfield). The senior Benjamin Urmson owned land in College Hill.

Henry Van Zandt was born about 1772, New Jersey, and died in March of 1810. Henry's father was Isaac and Margaret Van Zandt who came to Hamilton County with Henry. Henry married Marcy (Massey) Stout. Her parents were Benijah and Elizabeth Hyde Stout. Henry and Marcy married December 27, 1795 in Somerset County, New Jersey. The Van Zandt family came to Ohio about 1802 and settled in Hamilton County in 1805. Marcy outlived Henry and married Stephen Jessup as her second husband. She is buried with the Van Zandt family in Spring Grove Cemetery. Marcy was born Dec. 1777 in New Jersey and died Feb. 8, 1868. Reuben Van Zandt was one of their children. Henry's farm was on the north side of the Daly and Galbraith Road intersection on what was the old Trotner farm.

Reuben Van Zandt was the son of Henry Van Zandt and Mercy Stout. Reuben was born on March 14, 1799 in New Jersey and died August 2, 1874. He married Eliza Seward, daughter of Samuel and Elsie Seward, April 18, 1822 in Hamilton County. Eliza was born April 3, 1804 and died Feb. 22, 1895. Reuben and Eliza had 12 children; 9 girls, 3 boys. The 1847 and 1869 maps show Reuben Van Zandt's land at the southern corner of the intersection of East Galbraith and Winton Roads. While in the 1850 census, Reuben Van Zandt is listed as a farmer, he also wove coverlets. Reuben and Eliza are buried in Spring Grove Cemetery. As found in most pioneer families, the Van Zandts married into the families located nearby; Stout, Seward, Witherby, Jessup, Runyan, McCash, and were related through marriage to more.

Across the street from the Cary-Laboiteaux cemetery was the farm of **Dr. Isaac Mayer Wise** from Austria. Fleeing Bohemia in the 1840's with his wife Theresa (Bloch) and daughter, they arrived New York 1846. Originally the name was spelled Weis but Isaac changed it upon coming to America because of misspelling. He met his wife while he was a tutor in her parent's household.

Wise first was a rabbi in Albany, New York and it was there that he started his crusade of religious reform. He wanted to unite all sections of the Jewish faith and modernize the "Old World" traditions to the progressive "New World" lifestyle he found in America. He believed that education was the tool for this change.

When he arrived in Cincinnati in 1854, about 4,000 of Cincinnati's 155,000 population were Jewish. One of his first business ventures was with his brother-in-law, Edward Block. They formed Block & Company in 1855 and bought Hebrew type for the first Jewish printing press in the West.³⁰

³⁰ Isaac M. Wise, James G. Heller, 1965.

The Wise family lived on Longworth Street in 1860. From the census of that time he had seven children, a wife, two relatives living with him, two German servants and three boarders. Wise had \$4,000 in personal property. His children were Emily (married Benjamin May); Laura, died young; Leo, who went into a partnership with his father in the publishing of the **American Israelite**; Julius, who was a doctor and gained recognition for his treatment of yellow fever in Memphis, Tenn. 1878-1879; Ida (married Henry Bernheim); Isador; Helen (married James Molony); Iphigene 'Effie' Miriam (married Adolph S. Ochs of New York, publisher of the **New York Times**); Harry. Theresa died in 1874 and he married on April 25, 1876 Miss Selma Bondi, daughter of Rabbi Jonah Bondi of New York. They had: Elsie Corinne; Jonah Bondi, who was a rabbi in Portland, Oregon; his twin sister Regina (married Albert J. May) and Isaac M. Jr, a lawyer.

He purchased land in Springfield Township in 1861, land which had once been owned by Gershom Gard. His 42 acre farm was a special joy to him, for in the country he left followers of the Jewish religion were not allowed to own land. Undoubtedly his excellent health and vigorous old age were in a large measure due to the life on the farm and his daily drives to and from the city, a distance of 9 miles. Wise and his horse, jogging along, while the doctor sat smoking deep in thought, were familiar figures on the old pike.³¹ It was along this daily ride that he noticed the property that was to be later purchased for the Hebrew Union College.

His "Floral" was a rambling white brick farmhouse with green shutters that had been built by Rev. Robert Hall, a Presbyterian minister, in about 1838. Floral was on the southeast corner of Galbraith Road and Hamilton Avenue. It was a working farm with cows and horses, a few head of cattle, corn, hay field, fruit orchards, nut trees, grape vines, raspberry patch, vegetable gardens, smokehouse and cider press³².

Known for his hospitality, every Sunday dinner had twenty to thirty guests. He spent his last summer at Floral in 1899, when he posed for sculptor Sir Moses Ezekiel. Ezekiel, living in Rome, was a former Cincinnati and had been commissioned by the Plum Street Temple to make a life-sized bronze bust of Wise, who was turning 80. The bust can be seen today at the Hebrew Union College. He had quarters to live near the College from May until October, then he would return to his farm.

A monument to Reformed Judaism is the Moorish styled Plum Street Temple. A lot was purchased in May of 1863 with a pledge of \$40,000 for the lot and the start of building. However, the Civil War delayed construction until 1865. When it was dedicated on August 24, 1866, the total cost had been \$263,525. The architect was James Keyes Wilson. Wise requested this specific style of architecture to harken back to the Golden Age of Spain, where Judaism flourished for four centuries. The Temple is on the National Historic Registry and was restored in 1995. Other than the roof, electrical system and items that needed to be upgraded to meet today's standards, the interior is original, including the floors and pews. One of the treasures the Temple houses is the 1866 Koehnken & Company organ, the only one left made by this company. The Temple can be viewed by the public upon appointment. The congregation has a second Isaac Wise Temple in Amberly Village.

In 1863 Rabbi Wise declined the nomination of State Senator by the Ohio Democratic Convention.

A man who dressed simply and enjoyed life, he was a violinist and choir director. A self made man, he said; "My grandfather was a distinguished physician and I know next to nothing about medicine. My maternal grandfather was a prosperous broker and I was never out of debt. How is that? The point is that a man should be proud of his own accomplishments."³³ While he was in Bohemia, shortly before immigrating, he had wavered between medicine, law or the rabbinate.

Wise moved into this area, which was considered College Hill at that time, because of Farmers' College and the Ohio Female College, which his children attended. Wise wrote to his friends "...we can promise to our friends who send their sons and daughter to College Hill, not only to see them several

³¹ Isaac Mayer Wise, Max. B. May, 1916.

³² Cincinnati Enquirer, January 17, 1971.

³³ Sinai to Cincinnati, by Dena Wilansky, 1937.

times every week, and assist the professors in watching over their moral, religious conduct, but also to give them weekly several lessons, free of charge, in the religion and literature of Israel, and offer a good chance to those who desire to study biblical or rabbinical literature. Thus these institutes might offer at present all the advantages of colleges of our own, until we shall be enabled to establish a seat of learning under our own control.”³⁴

His sons graduated for Farmers’ College, becoming a lawyer and a doctor. His later children were taught in a school-house on the property.

He established his first college on West 6th Street in 1875 which grew into becoming the Hebrew Union College. Wise founded the **American Israelite** newspaper which is still published. It is the oldest Jewish American newspaper continuously published in America. He also published **Die Deborah** in German.

For 46 years he was the editor of the **American Israelite**. He wrote eleven novels in English and sixteen in German. In 1870 he opened in prayer the U. S. Senate. For eighteen years he was a director and trustee of the University of Cincinnati. He led the B’nai Yeshurun congregation for 46 years, and married 4,000 couples. As a president and a professor he led the Hebrew Union College until his death in 1900.

His body lay in state at the Plum Street Temple and his bier was passed by thousands of mourners. At his request, he had a plain pine coffin lined with muslin. He even specified that he was to have a token floral arrangement in violets and smilax. In Cincinnati, school was canceled and the wholesale and retail stores closed in his honor. He was buried in the United Jewish Cemetery in Walnut Hills.

Some may remember the newspaper columnist Imogene (Iphigene) (Molony) Bettman, who was one of his grandchildren. She was married to Judge Gilbert Bettman, who was twice the Ohio attorney general, a vice-mayor of Cincinnati and a Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court when he died in 1942. Their son is Judge Gilbert Bettman, Jr. of the Court of Common Pleas. Imogene married Gilbert Bettman under the chestnut trees at Floral.

After his death, Floral was purchased for Adolph Ochs for his wife and the Molony family lived there. Imogene Bettman recalled; “An arrowhead plowed up created visions of lurking Indians. Revolutionary soldiers buried in the little cemetery at the corner brought that closer. My mother³⁵ told stories of Union soldiers encamped across the road and of fearful preparations against Morgan’s Raiders. The cattle were to be driven into the woods and silver hung down the well. Morgan missed by two miles.

Two incidents shook the farm’s feeling of peace and isolation. We had thought that Vance, the hired man, was unduly timid when he refused to go off the place. But one summer twilight when my mother and I went for a stroll in the back pasture we saw a gathering in the field beyond. There, in full-sheeted regalia, was assembled the Ku Klux Klan, waiting for dark to light its fiery cross. As we stared over the fence one sheet detached itself and told us to move on. It was our pasture, but we moved.

The second shock came toward the end of the Prohibition era. My mother lived alone in the big house now, and North College Hill’s sheriff kept a special eye on her. ‘Don’t be afraid, Mrs. Molony,’ he said one day, ‘you just call old Pete and he’ll be right over.’

Next night Peter Dumele went to investigate a light in a supposed drugstore across the road. As he opened the door bootleggers shot him dead.”³⁶

The Molony family was followed by that of Wise’s granddaughter, Alice Bernheim Weil and her husband Norton Weil. Norton was a horticulturalist and brought the farm back to life. By 1968 the last of the Wise family had left. The Rouse Company purchased the land, the farm torn down, and the buildings at Hamilton and Goodman Avenues took their place.

One of his pleasures was sitting under his trees. Today, there is a small park in his memory on Goodman Avenue containing a bench between his favorite trees. The wall was constructed of bricks

³⁴ Op. cit.

³⁵ Helen Wise

³⁶ Cincinnati Enquirer, January 17, 1971.

saved from the demolition of Floral.

John M. Wright came to Cincinnati in 1798 from Dublin, Ireland, settling in Mt. Healthy. A veteran of the War of 1812, he was a teacher. His eldest son, F. C. Wright was a cooper and farmer and married in 1838 Julia Laboyteaux.

Engraving of first log cabin in College Hill

