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John H. Benton,
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Aug. 10/07.

Mr. Wilberforce James,
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Dear Sir:

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Many lets & hindrances
have occasioned the delay in
responding to your letter of
June 11th.

The book on Benton genealo-
gy is mailed herewith.

Owing to limited number pub-
lished (only 80) and the issue nearly
exhausted, I am unable to send
it as a gift; but fixing the
price at \$3.⁵⁰ 4, which barely covers



The cost of publication & postage
I feel assured you will, after
examining the work, be pleased
to remit. The amount named.

Very respy yours
John H. Benton



REV. WALTER BENTON
1799—1890.



HETTY (VERMILYA) BENTON.
1805—1875.



JOHN HOGAN BENTON.
Born June 10, 1829.



MARY RAY BENTON
1833—1880.



MARIA LOUISA BENTON.
Born March 22, 1854.



DAVID BENTON, JR.

AND

SARAH BINGHAM,

THEIR ANCESTORS AND DESCENDANTS;

AND

OTHER ANCESTRAL LINES.

Regard for ancestry deserves the regard of posterity.—J. H. B.

BY

JOHN HOGAN BENTON, Esq.,

OF

WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOSTON:

PRESS OF DAVID CLAPP & SON.

1906.

CR.

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P R E F A C E.

A LETTER in 1894 from Miss S. Adelaide Benton of South Manchester, Conn., inquiring to what extent we could trace our Benton lineage, elicited the response that it went no farther than our grandfather, David Benton, whose family Bible was in our possession, and who died in our father's home when we were sixteen years of age. We had heard him relate much of his personal history, but could not recall that he ever spoke of his parentage.

It was not, however, until four years later that the ancestral idea, suggested by the letter of inquiry, was quickened to activity. For early in 1898, a recalled statement of his application for pension as a Revolutionary soldier, that he was born in the town of Salisbury, Conn., and that he was "*called into service*" in the town of Sheffield, Berkshire Co., Mass., resulted in obtaining from the records of Salisbury the date of his birth—in exact harmony with his Bible record—as a "son of David and Sarah Benton;" and from Pittsfield, Mass., a copy of his father David Benton's will, in which he was named as one of his children and legatees.

These data, coupled to an intimation of Miss Benton's that our grandsire was probably a descendant of an Andrew Benton, who was a first settler at Milford, Conn., in 1639, and afterwards removed to Hartford, suggested the possibility of spanning the century that intervened his death in 1683, or that of Edward Benton's, his fellow emigrant, in 1680, and the death of our great-grandsire in 1797. For the public records of Hartford afforded the names of two generations, at least, of the descendants of Andrew Benton, as did those of Guilford of the descendants of Edward Benton, who settled at that place in, or about, the same year that Andrew Benton settled at Milford.

A correspondence begun in this year (1898) with Mr. Myron B. Benton, which included a visit to his home, near Amenia, N. Y., gave, through admiration of his noble character, a predilection toward the Edward Benton line to which he and his brother, Charles E. Benton, and their cousin, Joel Benton, belonged.

But an exhaustive study of Guilford records having failed to realize the expectancy of nearness of kin to these worthy gentlemen, attention was directed elsewhere for the intervening links. And in response to requests of other towns for the names of all Bentons borne on their vital statistic records prior to 1760, the one to the town of Tolland, in the county of that name, revealed the birth in 1734 of a David Benton, a son of Isaac and Ruth (Norton) Benton, thereby conclusively settling the question of lineage; for the Hartford records showed the birth in 1703 of this Isaac

Benton, as a son of Joseph and Sarah (Waters) Benton; and they also showed that this Joseph was a son of Andrew Benton the emigrant.

The England home and the year and place of arrival in America of these two Benton emigrants, the only ones so far as we have discovered in all New England, remained matter for further inquiry. A supposition that they came with Sir Richard Saltonstall's colony to Watertown, Mass., in 1630, led to a futile research in that direction; and the inquiry would probably have remained unsolved, but for a brief interview with Miss Benton in her home at South Manchester in the summer of 1902. From her it was learned that a Mr. Charles H. Benton of London, England, had obtained their family record from the registers of Epping parish (18 ms. N. E. of London in the Co. Essex). And a year later, through correspondence with the gentleman's father, Mr. Horace Benton of Cleveland, Ohio, his ample abstract from the Epping register was placed in our hands by the gentleman himself while returning from a visit to his native place. And from this abstract and other reliable data, the year 1638 was fixed as the time, and Wethersfield, Conn., as the place of their advent.

As it was with respect to our paternal ancestry, so it was as to the maternal, for we knew nothing of our Vermilya forbears beyond our grandparents, Edward and Joanna (Wright) Vermilya, and of them we often heard our mother make mention; and we once inquired of her concerning the family nativity, but pursued the matter no further when told that it was Italian: not, however, because of any aversion to the alleged origin.

The awakened interest in the paternal genealogy naturally included the maternal, which proved easy of acquirement; for the elaborate compilation contributed to Ryker's History of Harlem, by Mr. Thomas E. Vermilya, of New York city; and that of Mr. Daniel B. Vermilya, of Orange, N. J., to Toler and Nutting's History of New Harlem, together with correspondence with these gentlemen, afforded ample account of the several generations of Vermilyas from the baptism of Isaac, in London, England, in 1600, to the death of Abraham, at Yonkers, N. Y., in 1784; and the latter's son William, mentioned in his will, was readily identified as the father of our grandfather Edward Vermilya, a record of whose family had long been in our possession.

In conclusion: The vital statistics relating to our several American ancestors and their descendants, were not obtained from the books of other authors, except what is derived from the histories of Harlem and New Harlem, but from public and family records. Those of Guilford, Hartford, Harwinton, Tolland, Norwich and Windham, Conn., by transcripts from their town records; and those of Milford, Kent and Salisbury, Conn., by personal examination of their records.

J. H. B.

Washington, Sept., 1906.

ABBREVIATIONS.

b.	for	born.
d.	“	died.
m.	“	married.
bapt.	“	baptized.
dau.	“	daughter.
Res.	“	residence.
Rec., or Fam. Rec.	for family record.	

DIRECTIONS: To trace one's lineage, find the page on which the parent's name occurs, as shown by the index. The large figures opposite the name give the number of the family record; the Christian names in parentheses are those of the lineal ancestors; and the small figure placed after each name indicates the degree of descent. By following these names backward, in reverse order of the degree, the family record of each ancestor of the lineage is found. For example, the index gives page 24 for the name of Thomas Ray Benton; and his family record (50) gives his descent as of the 9th degree; and gives the Christian name of John⁸ as that of his immediate ancestor. Turning toward the front of the book, the latter's family record (39) is reached on page 19, and shows that Walter⁷ was the name of his immediate ancestor; and, the same process observed, leads to his family record (34) on page 17. And so continued as to the other ancestors, the line of descent is carried back to the family record (1) of John Benton, the primal ancestor, on page 3.

BENTONS IN ENGLAND.

THE following records have been arranged from a transcript of Benton family items in the parish register of Epping, co. Essex, England, which was made by MR. CHARLES H. BENTON OF LONDON, and loaned to me in 1903. The register begins in 1539, and ends, so far as the Bentons are concerned, in 1700, by which time all had disappeared from the parish. It contains 172 entries of the name: 80 being baptisms, 66 burials, and 26 marriages; and of the baptisms, 14 are Johns, 9 Andrews, and 4 Edwards; and it is with these three names in particular that I have had largely to deal in tabulating the facts and forming conjectures.

1. EDWARD¹ BENTON and Joane Holloway, married May 10, 1563. He died Sept. 16, 1605; and she died Nov. 4, 1599.

Children:

- JOANE,² bapt. Feb. 13, 1564.
- 2. ANDREW, bapt. Dec. 2, 1565.
EDWARD, bapt. Mar. 19, 1568; probably the Edward who d. Nov., 1603.
ELIZABETH, bapt. Mar. 12, 1570.
JOHN, bapt. Oct. 24, 1575.
RACHEL, buried Nov. 3, 1582.
MATHEW, buried Apr. 3, 1588.

NOTE.—There may have been other children. Only one other Edward Benton aside from this Edward is found in the register, namely, Edward, "son of Will Benton," who was bapt. June 12, 1602, and of whom nothing further appears, unless he was the Edward who died in Nov., 1603.

2. ANDREW² BENTON (*Edward*¹), baptized Dec. 2, 1565; died in 1623 or '5. There is no record of the marriage of any Andrew Benton prior to the one with Sibel Lake, Jan. 1, 1612. His was, presumably, the "Marie ——— the widowe of Andrew Benton" who died Jan. 3, 1642, and there is no entry in conflict with this theory.

Children:

- JOHN,³
ANDREW, bapt. Jan. 1, 1598.
- 3. EDWARD, bapt. Feb. 24, 1600.
RALPH, bapt. June 13, 1602.
SUSAN, bapt. Mar. 10, 1605.
MARY, bapt. Oct. 16, 1608; d. Mar. 6, 1610.
MARIE, bapt. Dec. 3, 1612.
- 3. EDWARD³ BENTON (*Andrew*² *Edward*¹), baptized Feb. 24, 1600; died Oct. 28, 1680, at Guilford, Conn. He married (1) Jan. 15, 1627, Alice Purden; married (2) Anne ———, who died Aug. 22, 1671.

Children:

REBECCA,⁴ bapt. June 8, 1628.

NOTE.—Here occurs a register hiatus of 8 years, during which their sons Daniel and Andrew were born. Both died at Guilford—the former June 10, 1672; the latter Jan. 13, 1714. That Daniel was the elder is based on the fact that his marriage in 1658 was seven years earlier than his brother's in 1665; and that his name occurs first in the record of their "oath of fidelity," May 4, 1654.

EDWARD, bapt. Jan. 28, 1638.

With this last entry, the name of Edward Benton disappears from the register. This Edward Benton, baptized Jan. 28, 1638, died at Wethersfield, Ct., Feb. 19, 1698, "age 60 years"; and the year of his birth (1638) was, presumably, the year his father and Andrew Benton came to America, as the latter, early in 1639, followed the Rev. Peter Prudden's party from Wethersfield to Milford, Ct.; and in that, or the following year, Edward Benton removed from Wethersfield to Guilford, Ct., where a daughter was born to him in Sept., 1640.

The entire family of EDWARD³ BENTON (*Andrew*,² *Edward*¹), repeated in part, was:

- i. REBECCA,⁴ bapt. in England, June 8, 1628.
- ii. DANIEL, b. in England; d. June 10, 1672, at Guilford, Conn.; m. Nov. 23, 1658, Rachel Goodrich, or *Guttridge*, who d. Oct., 1685.
- iii. ANDREW, b. in England; d. Jan. 13, 1714, at Guilford, Conn.; m. Feb. 14, 1665, Elizabeth Rolph, who d. Oct. 29, 1713.
- iv. EDWARD, bapt. Jan. 27, 1638, in England; d. Feb. 19, 1698, at Wethersfield, Conn.; m. Mary ———, who d. Aug. 8, 1702.
- v. HANNAH, b. Sept. 28, 1640, at Guilford, Conn.
- vi. MARY, b. Feb. 2, 1642; m. Dec. 6, 1666, Samuel Thorp.
- vii. JOHN, b. June 10, 1643; d. young.
- viii. TABITHA, b. 1645; m. Nov. 27, 1684, Simeon Simpson.
- ix. ELIZABETH, b. June 3, 1647; d. April 3, 1654.
- x. SARAH, b. Nov. 4, 1650; d. Dec. 25, 1692; m. Thomas Wright. There was a "Sarah Benton" who m. Jan., 1671, Moses Blackly.
- xi. ZACHEUS, b. Aug. 27, 1652; d. single.

The lineage of Mr. Myron B. Benton, late of Amenia, N. Y., deceased, and of Mr. Charles E. Benton, of New Bedford, Mass., is as follows:

1. Edward and Joane (Holloway) Benton, married May 10, 1563.
2. Andrew and Marie (———) Benton, married 159—.
3. Edward and Alice (Purden) Benton, married Jan. 15, 1628.
4. Daniel and Rachel (Goodrich) Benton, married Nov. 23, 1658.
5. Ebenezer and Abigail (Grave) Benton, married June 14, 1694.
6. Caleb and Sarah (Stone) Benton, married Sept. 25, 1740.
7. Caleb and Sarah (Bishop) Benton, married Jan. 29, 1767.
8. William Alfred and Betsey (Reed) Benton, married June 7, 1826.
9. Myron Beecher Benton, born Aug. 26, 1834, at Amenia, N. Y.
10. Charles Edward Benton, born Sept. 11, 1841, at Amenia, N. Y.

The lineage of Mr. Joel Benton, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., is the same to the seventh generation, then as follows:

8. Joel and Delia (Sears) Benton, married June 7, 1795.
9. Simeon B. and Deborah (Hallock) Benton, married Oct. 23, 1828.
10. Joel Benton, born May 29, 1832, at Amenia, N. Y.

J. H. B.

ANDREW BENTON OF MILFORD AND HARTFORD, CONN., AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

1. JOHN¹ BENTON, of the parish of Epping, co. Essex, England, and Mary Southernwood, were married at Epping, May 25, 1618.

Their children were:

2. Andrew, bapt. Oct. 15, 1620.

Thomas, bapt. Aug. 25, 1622.

Marie, bapt. June 29, 1625.

Elizabeth, bapt. Aug. 31, 1628.

[Here occurs a register hiatus of 8 years.]

John, bapt. Mar. 10, 1639.

The register shows the burial of a John Benton, Feb. 12, 1662, and of "the widow Benton," June 5, 1665, but there is uncertainty as to their identity.

That the above record of Andrew, baptized Oct. 15, 1620, relates to Andrew Benton the emigrant is deduced from the facts that his tombstone in Hartford (whither he removed from Milford) shows he was "aged 63 yrs." at his death, July 31, 1683, thus agreeing with the probable time of birth, and that the name of John (his father) was given to three of his children, two of whom died in infancy, and the name of Mary (his mother) was given his second daughter.

That he was nearly related to Edward Benton the emigrant may be inferred from their coming together to America; and a coincidence of Christian names and other data suggests that John the father of Andrew the emigrant was probably a son of Andrew and Maria Benton, parents of Edward the emigrant; and if so, he was an older son whose birth failed of registration in the Epping parish records, or, possibly he was a son of the John Benton, baptized Apr. 14, 1588, whose father, Andrew Benton, born in 1548, inherited by will, in 1569, the manor of Shingle Hall, at Epping, of which his father, John Benton, became the owner in 1552.

"Yet," says Mr. C. H. Benton, "there is no certainty as to what became of this John Benton of 1588; he may have been the John who married the widow Searle in 1616, or, for anything I have found to the contrary, he may have been father of the Andrew of 1620. Apparently, he is not mentioned in his father's will, in 1639."

In view, therefore, of the uncertainty as to an earlier ancestry, I choose to begin the ancestral line with John and Mary (Southernwood.)

2. ANDREW² BENTON (*John*¹) was allotted parcel No. 64 at the apportionment in Nov., 1639, of the land at Milford, Conn., bought from the Indians in Feb. of that year. It contained three acres, and was situated on the west side of Half Mile Brook, near the crossing of what is now Spring and Hill streets, and to this were added several other parcels of ground. He married first, probably in 1649, Hannah, daughter of George Stocking of Hartford, a first settler there in 1636. They united with the church at Milford, he on Mar. 5, 1648, and she on Oct. 13, 1650, and were dismissed to Hartford, Mar., 1666, whither they had removed as early

as 1662. Here he was a fenceviewer in 1663 and '64, a juror in 1664 and '67, was a freeman in May, 1665, and a suppressor of "disorders during public worship" (during the Hartford Controversy) and collector of minister's rates in 1667. He separated to the Second Church in Feb., 1670, with his wife, daughter Hannah, and his fathers-in-law, Stocking and Cole. He married second, probably in 1673, Anne, daughter of John Cole, "a godly man of some public trust." She was the "bewitched maid" on whose account, mainly, Nathaniel Greensmith and his wife were hanged for witchcraft, Jan. 25, 1663. Goffe, the regicide, then in hiding at Milford, writes in his diary, Feb. 24, that after the hanging "the maid was well"; and Cotton Mather's *Magnalia*, in 1684, says of her that "she is restored to health, united with the church, and living in good repute." She died testate, Apr. 19, 1685, leaving an estate of £60.12.6, to be divided among her three surviving children, of whom Ebenezer was given a double portion because of "impotency." Hannah, his first wife, died probably in 1672. He was buried in Center Church Cemetery, and his gravestone, near the rear wall of the church, reads: "ANDREW BENTON AGED 63 YEARS HE DYED IVLY 31 ANO 1683." His estate, appraised at £345.17.19, was administered by his son Joseph, and distributed, Dec. 18, 1683, to his widow, and children, Andrew Samuel, Joseph, Mary, and Dorothy, by his first wife, and Ebenezer, Lydia, and Hannah, by his second wife.

The homestead, formerly owned by Nathaniel Greensmith, was at the junction of the roads leading to Wethersfield and Farmington, and on the west side of the present Wethersfield Avenue. At the death of the widow, it became the property of his son Joseph Benton, who sold it in June, 1693. He owned several other parcels of land, one of which in the "Five Mile Lay Out," in East Hartford, was distributed to his eight surviving children, Mar. 24, 1689.

Children by first wife, all, except the last, born in Milford:

- i. JOHN,^a b. Apr. 9, bapt. Apr. 14, 1650. "He died May [24] following in y^e bed in y^e night."
- ii. HANNAH, bapt. Nov. 23, 1651; m. John Camp, Jr.; mentioned in her grandfather Stocking's will, July 15, 1673; had a dau. *Hannah*, bapt. Nov. 24, 1672; d. prior to 1675, the year of her husband's second marriage.
- iii. ANDREW, bapt. Aug. 12, 1653; d. Feb. 5, 1704.
- iv. MARY, b. Apr. 14, bapt. Apr. 15, 1655; m. (1) Nathaniel, son of John Cole, who d. testate Apr. 20, 1708, naming *Nathaniel*, his only child, executor; m. (2) Jonathan Bigelow, who d. testate Jan. 9, 1711, his wife and son Joseph being executors; m. (3) Mar. 19, 1713, Dea. John Shepard; buried Dec. 23, 1752, in First Church Cemetery, Hartford, "æ 90 yrs.", which should be 97 yrs. 10 mos. 8 ds.
- v. JOHN, b. Oct. 7, 1656; mentioned in his grandfather Stocking's will, July 15, 1673; d. prior to May 30, 1680.
- vi. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 15, 1658; d. Apr. 10, 1746.
- vii. JOSEPH, b. 1660; d. Aug. 12, 1753, "in 93 yr."
- viii. DOROTHY, b. probably in 1662; the only record of her is in the distribution of her father's estate, Dec. 18, 1683, and Mar. 24, 1689.

Children by second wife, born in Hartford:

- ix. EBENEZER, bapt. Jan. 4, 1674; "an impotent," living Apr. 20, 1708, at the death of his uncle, N. Cole.
- x. LYDIA, bapt. Feb. 13, 1676; united with the Second Church, Apr. 25, 1697.
- xi. HANNAH, bapt. Jan. 26, 1679.
- xii. JOHN, bapt. May 30, 1680; d. young, prior to Sept. 4, 1683.

3. ANDREW³ BENTON (*Andrew,³ Andrew,² John*), who lived in Milford and Hartford, Conn., married Martha, daughter of Sergt. Thomas Spencer, who mentions her in his will, proved Sept., 1687. He "owned y^e covenant," Jan. 6, 1677, and both united with the Second Church, Dec. 10, 1694, prior to which time they presumably belonged to the First Church. As the eldest son, he received a double portion of his father's estate. His own estate of £94. 3. 4. was administered by his brother Samuel.

Children, all born in Hartford:

- i. HANNAH,⁴ bapt. Jan. 6, 1677; m. (1) Feb. 20, 1700, Edward Seofell of Haddam, who d. May, 1703, and had *Susannah* and *Hannah*; m. (2), in 1706, Benjamin Smith.
 - ii. MARTHA, bapt. Aug. 1, 1679.
 - iii. ANDREW, bapt. July 31, 1681; the only Benton to whom the following death is applicable: "July y^e last 1704, One Benton and Wm. Onstead Sold^r Slain by y^e Indians; and 2 of y^e Enemy Slain."— (See REGISTER, vol. ix, p. 161.)
 - iv. MERCY, bapt. Sept. 7, 1683.
 - v. JOHN, bapt. Feb. 22, 1685.
 - vi. DOROTHY, bapt. Apr. 22, 1688; m. May 3, 1716, John Gridley of Farmington, Conn.
 - vii. MARY, bapt. Nov. 2, 1690.
 - viii. EBENEZER, bapt. Oct. 18, 1696; chose his uncle Samuel Benton to be his guardian, Sept. 5, 1709, and Jonathon Bigelow, Sr. (his uncle by marriage), Nov. 6, 1710, and the latter having died, the court, Mar. 5, 1711, "allowed" Joseph Benton, his uncle, to be his guardian; d. Dec. 1770; m. Elizabeth, bapt. June 11, 1698, buried Mar. 9, 1791, dau. of John White of Middletown, Conn., of whom the Second Church record says, "The mother of John Benton [widow of Ebenezer Benton] aged 96" [she was in her 93d year]; his son *John*,⁵ bapt. Nov. 15, 1724, was "buried," the same record says, "Nov. 9, 1805, æ. 81 years."
 - ix. ELIZABETH, bapt. Feb. 12, 1698.
4. SAMUEL³ BENTON (*Andrew,² John*¹) lived in Milford and Hartford, and for awhile in the town of Tolland, Conn., where he and his son Samuel were first proprietors, in 1716. He married, probably in 1679, Sarah, daughter of William and Sarah Chatterton of New Haven, Conn., who was born there, July 19, 1661. He died testate in Hartford, Apr. 10, 1746, making ample provision for his "beloved wife Sarah," and appointing Moses and Lydia, his two youngest children, to be executors.

Children, all born in Hartford:

6. i. SAMUEL,⁴ b. Aug. 8, 1680.
- ii. SARAH, b. Sept. 28, 1685.
- iii. HANNAH, b. Mar. 14, bapt. Mar. 19, 1688; m. (1) May 11, 1711, Samuel Kellogg, Jr., who d. in 1712, and had *Sarah*, the only child, b. 1712; m. (2) Joseph Rgot.
- iv. ABIGAIL, b. Dec. 9, 1691; m. (1) Joseph, of Wethersfield, son of John Camp of Hartford, who d. Dec., 1713, and had *Hannah*, only child, bapt. Sept. 25, 1712; m. (2) July 28, 1715, Richard Montague of Wethersfield. She d. in Wethersfield, May 9, 1753, "in 62d yr."
7. v. CALEB, b. Mar. 1, 1694.
8. vi. DANIEL, b. June 25, 1696.
9. vii. JACOB, b. Sept. 21, bapt. Sept. 26, 1698.
- viii. MOSES, b. Apr. 26, bapt. May 3, 1702; m. Miriam ———, who d. Sept. 30, 1776, "age 61 yrs.;" d. testate, May 11 1755, his "Beloved Wife Merriam" being one of the executors. Children: 1. *Moses*.⁵ 2. *Samuel*. 3. *Martha*. 4. *Miriam*. 5. *Lydia*.
- ix. LYDIA, b. and bapt. Apr. 26, 1705.

5. JOSEPH³ BENTON (*Andrew*,² *John*¹), is first mentioned in his grandfather George Stocking's will, dated July 15, 1673. He married first, [Martha?] a daughter of Dea. Paul Peck of Hartford, who left him a legacy of £5 in his will, dated June 25, 1695; and married second, Feb. 10, 1698, Sarah, daughter of Bevil Waters of Hartford, "a man of good estate," who died Mar., 1729, leaving his "eldest daughter, Sarah Benton wife of Joseph Benton, £500."

He united with the church, Mar. 8, 1696, and she, Mar. 15, 1713. In 1714, probably, he removed from Hartford to the town of Tolland, Conn., where he and his son Joseph, and his brother Samuel and his son Samuel, appear as "inhabitants" and first proprietors, May 14, 1716. He was its first town clerk, from Dec., 1717, to Dec., 1720, a selectman in 1721 and '22, a first deacon of the church, and largely "intrusted with public affairs." At a survey of the line between the towns of Tolland and Coventry, in 1722, his house and three acres of land fell within the latter, but by agreement he was "still accounted an inhabitant" of Tolland. He was at Newington, Conn., Nov. 23, 1739, and in 1742 he removed, probably with his son Jehiel, to the town of Kent, in Litchfield Co., Conn. His gravestone, at the west side of Good Hill Cemetery, near the village of Kent, is inscribed: HEAR LIES THE BODY OF DECEASED JOSEPH BENTON WHO DIED AUGUST 12th 1753 IN THE 93 YR OF HIS AGE.

Child by first wife:

- i. JOSEPH,⁴ m. Dec. 11, 1718, Sarah Pynchon; was a first proprietor of the town of Tolland, 1716; d. testate at Farmington, Conn., 1667, his will, dated June 25, 1666, giving "all my estate both real and personal to my beloved wife Sarah, to be at her disposal forever." Children: 1. *Andrew*,⁵ bapt. Aug. 23, 1719. 2. *Martha*, bapt. Nov. 30, 1720.

Children by second wife, all born in Hartford:

- ii. RUTH, b. Feb. 9, bapt. Feb. 10, 1699; d. Oct. 6, 1712.
 iii. SARAH, b. Jan. 28, bapt. May 26, 1701; d. Oct. 7, 1712.
 10. iv. ISAAC, b. Feb. 8, bapt. Feb. 14, 1703.
 v. AARON, b. Mar. 24, 1705.
 vi. JEMIMA, b. Mar. 21, 1708; m. Jan. 24, 1731, Benjamin Strong.
 11. vii. JEHIEL, b. Jan. 27, bapt. Jan. 28, 1710.
 viii. KEZIA, bapt. Sept. 19, 1714.

6. SAMUEL⁴ BENTON (*Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Hartford and Tolland, Conn., of which latter town he was a first proprietor, in 1716. He married, Jan. 2, 1705, Mary, daughter of Medad Pomroy of Northampton, Mass.

Children, perhaps all born in Hartford:

- i. MEDAD,⁵ bapt. Oct. 22, 1705.
 12. ii. JONATHAN, bapt. Sept. 7, 1707.
 13. iii. TIMOTHY, bapt. Mar. 9, 1710.
 iv. EUNICE, bapt. June 22, 1712.
 v. MARY, bapt. May 29, 1715.
 14. vi. SAMUEL, bapt. Aug. 11, 1717.
 vii. SARAI, bapt. Aug. 16, 1719.
7. CALEB⁴ BENTON (*Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), who lived in Hartford, married Hannah, daughter of Thomas (son of David) Ensign of Hartford. She united with the Second Church, Feb. 20, 1725, and he, June 27, 1725. He died July 25, 1725, his wife surviving him.

Children, all born in Hartford :

- i. HANNAH,⁵ bapt. July 31, 1720.
15. ii. CALEB, b. Jan. 28, bapt. Feb. 4, 1722.
- iii. VIOLET, bapt. Dec. 8, 1723.
16. iv. ABRAHAM, bapt. Apr. 11, 1725.
- v. THOMAS, m. July 3, 1761, Anne Stanley; d. 1815; lived at Windsor, Conn.
- vi. SARAH, b. Feb. 23, 1729.
- vii. SUSANNAH, b. Feb. 23, 1729.

8. DANIEL⁴ BENTON (*Samuel*,⁸ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Hartford and Tolland, Conn. He united with the Second Church, Sept. 21, 1718, and married, Jan. 3, 1722, Mary, daughter of John Skinner of Hartford. He died in Tolland.

Children, all born in Tolland :

- i. MARY,⁵ b. Oct. 17, 1722; d. Mar. 16, 1723.
17. ii. DANIEL, b. Jan. 6, 1724.
18. iii. WILLIAM, b. Nov. 12, 1725.
- iv. MARY, b. Apr. 9, 1727; d. Oct. 4, 1745.
19. v. ELLJAH, b. June 30, 1728.
- vi. SARAH, b. May 8, 1730; d. young.
- vii. HANNAH, b. July 12, 1731; d. young.
- viii. JOHN, b. June 17, 1732; d. young.
- ix. SILOAM, b. Dec. 11, 1733; d. young.
- x. LVDIA, b. May 2, 1735.
- xi. ABIGAIL, b. Nov. 25, 1736; m. July 19, 1757, Benjamin Davis.

9. JACOB⁴ BENTON (*Samuel*,⁸ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Hartford, where he joined the Second Church, June 23, 1723. He removed to Harwinton, Conn., in 1736, and the first town meeting was held at his house, Dec. 20, 1737. He was the first town clerk, a deacon in the church, and several times a selectman. He married first, June 6, 1724, Abigail, daughter of Joshua and Mary Carter, who died Sept. 27, 1725; and married second, Apr. 4, 1728, Elizabeth, daughter of Barnabas and Martha Hinsdale of Hartford, who was born Jan. 9, 1703. He died Nov. 23, 1761.

Child by first wife, born in Hartford :

- i. ABIGAIL,⁵ b. Sept. 18, bapt. Sept. 19, 1725; d. Mar. 4, 1764; m. Timothy Dodd, who was bapt. Aug. 17, 1724, and d. Feb. 21, 1774.

Children by second wife, all, except the last, born in Hartford :

- ii. JACOB, b. Jan. 2, bapt. Jan. 12, 1729; m. Hannah Slade of Harwinton, Conn., d. Jan. 13, 1807, at Alstead, N. H.
- iii. PHINEAS, b. Jan. 10, bapt. Jan. 17, 1731; d. Aug. 16, 1739.
- iv. AMOS, b. Nov. 10, bapt. Nov. 12, 1732.
- v. BARNABAS, bapt. Jan. 3, 1735.
- vi. ELIZABETH, bapt. June 17, 1738; d. Aug. 16, 1749.

10. ISAAC⁴ BENTON (*Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), who lived in Hartford, Tolland, Kent, and Salisbury, Conn., married Mar. 16, 1730, Ruth Norton of Edgartown, Mass. He was in Tolland, as early as 1716, removed from there to Kent in 1743, where he and his wife joined the church, Mar. 14, 1744, and from there went to Salisbury in 1746. He became a freeman April 8, 1751; was a sealer of weights and measures in 1753 and '55; a tither in 1754; and a lister and grand-juror in 1756. His gravestone in the Old Cemetery at Salisbury is inscribed: "Here Lies Interred The Body of Mr Isaac Benton He Died September 17th A.D. 1757 [æ 54]."

His son Isaac was executor of his will, and his estate of seventy-nine acres in the southwest corner of the town, near Ore Hill, and personal property of £43-19-8, was distributed, Aug. 16, 1760, to his widow, Ruth, and his eight surviving children.

Children, except the last three, born in Tolland :

- i. SARAH,⁵ b. June 14, 1731; m. John Towsley.
 20. ii. ISAAC, b. Nov. 13, 1732.
 21. iii. DAVID, b. Jan. 23, 1734.
 22. iv. STEPHEN, b. July 10, 1737.
 - v. JOSEPH, b. Sept. 3, 1740; d. about 1761 or '62.
 23. vi. NATHAN, b. Feb. 28, 1743.
 24. vii. LEVI, b. Mar. 20, 1746, in Kent, Conn.
 - viii. RUTH, b. July 23, 1748, "in Oblong."
 - ix. JEHIEL, b. Aug. 9, 1752; d. June 3, 1753.
11. CAPT. JEHIEL⁴ BENTON (*Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*) was a child when his father removed from Hartford to Tolland, Conn., in 1716. He married, Oct., 1731, Sarah Berry of Tolland, and removed to Kent, Conn., in 1742, where he and his wife joined the church, July 18, 1742. They both died in Kent, she, Sept. 16, 1784, "æ 78," and he, Oct. 30, 1789, "æ 79." Their gravestones are in Good Hill Cemetery, near Kent.

Children, all, except the last, born in Tolland :

- i. JOSEPH,⁵ b. Dec. 15, 1732; d. July 8, 1736.
 - ii. MIRIAM, b. July 8, 1734.
 - iii. KEZIAH, b. Mar. 25, 1736.
 - iv. NATHANIEL, b. Apr. 17, 1741.
 - v. ANNE, b. July 23, 1747.
12. JONATHAN⁵ BENTON (*Samuel,⁴ Samuel,³ Andrew,² John¹*) lived and died in Tolland, Conn., where he married, Apr. 26, 1730, Martha Skinner.

Children :

- i. MEDAD,⁶ b. Mar. 19, 1733.
 - ii. GIDEON, b. Apr. 19, 1735; d. May 26, 1741, "killed by falling into a water trough and being carried under a water wheel at iron works."
 - iii. SARAH, b. Mar. 29, 1737.
 - iv. EXPERIENCE, b. June 12, 1739.
 - v. MARY, b. Sept. 4, 1741.
13. TIMOTHY⁵ BENTON (*Samuel,⁴ Samuel,³ Andrew,² John¹*) lived and died in Tolland, Conn., where he married, June 29, 1738, Abigail Scott.

Children :

- i. ABIGAIL,⁶ b. Nov. 1, 1740.
- ii. ELANOR, b. Aug. 12, 1742.
- iii. MEHETABEL, b. Apr. 21, 1745.
- iv. ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 21, 1747.
- v. PRUDENCE, b. Mar. 12, 1749.
- vi. HULDA, b. July 15, 1751.
- vii. JERUSHA, b. Mar. 22, 1753.
- viii. TIMOTHY, b. Aug. 2, 1755; a Revolutionary soldier; m. Nov. 9, 1780, Sarah, dau. of Joseph West; "an educated man, a schoolmaster and captain of artillery."
- ix. EUNICE, b. June 18, 1757.

14. SAMUEL⁵ BENTON (*Samuel,⁴ Samuel,³ Andrew,² John¹*) lived in Tolland, Conn. He married, Dec. 22, 1743, Jane Bradley.

Children :

- i. ELISHA,⁶ b. Dec. 26, 1744.
 - ii. JONATHAN, b. Sept. 9, 1746; pensioned in 1832 as a Revolutionary soldier; "saw the battle of Bunker Hill from Roxbury st., Boston."
25. iii. OZIAS, b. Feb. 25, 1748.
- iv. THANKFUL, b. Apr., d. Nov., 1751, "being burned in house."
 - v. THANKFUL, b. Aug. 22, 1752.
 - vi. DOROTHY, b. Feb. 23, 1755.
 - vii. SAMUEL, b. May 9, 1757; a Revolutionary soldier.
 - viii. ZADOC, b. Mar. 7, 1761; a Revolutionary soldier.
 - ix. SARAH, b. Dec. 21, 1764.
 - x. JACOB, b. Sept. 30, 1768.
15. CALEB⁵ BENTON (*Caleb*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Hartford, Conn., and later in Sandisfield, Mass., where he died in 1783, leaving a will dated July 23, 1777, but disproved June 3, 1783, as it had only two witnesses. He married Lydia ———, who survived him and married second, John Landon. (*Berkshire Co. Probate Records*, Pittsfield, Mass.)
- Children named in will :
- i. CALEB,⁶ a Revolutionary soldier from Canaan, Conn.; "went southward with La Fayette in 1781"; d. Dec. 26, 1781.
 - ii. LYDIA, "oldest daughter"; executrix of her father's will.
 - iii. EZEKIEL, "oldest son" surviving.
 - iv. HANNAH, m. ——— Manly.
 - v. DANIEL, b. Aug. 5, 1773; m. 1793, Rhoda ———; d. May 24, 1825.
 - vi. MARTHA, m. ——— Dickinson.
 - vii. MARY, m. ——— Reed.
16. ABRAHAM⁵ BENTON (*Caleb*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Hartford, Conn., and later in Sandisfield, Mass., where he married, May 14, 1759, Martha Cook, "the first marriage in the county."
- Children :
- i. ABRAHAM,⁶ b. June 10, 1760; d. young.
 - ii. MARTHA, b. Apr. 15, 1763; d. young.
 - iii. JOSEPH, b. Dec. 12, 1764; d. young.
 - iv. ABRAHAM, b. Feb. 25, 1766.
 - v. JOSEPH, b. Apr. 12, 1767.
 - vi. ELIJAH, b. June 13, 1769.
 - vii. ISAAC, b. Jan. 6, 1773.
 - viii. MELTIAH, b. June 5, 1775.
 - ix. STEPHEN, b. Sept. 11, 1777.
 - x. SAMUEL, b. June 13, 1779; d. young.
 - xi. MARTHA, b. Oct. 18, 1782.
 - xii. SAMUEL, b. Mar. 1, 1785.
17. DANIEL⁵ BENTON (*Daniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived and died in Tolland, Conn., where he married, Nov. 3, 1747, Mary Wheeler.
- Children :
- i. ELISHA,⁶ b. Aug. 9, 1748; a Revolutionary soldier.
 - ii. MARY, b. Aug. 31, 1750.
26. iii. DANIEL, b. Apr. 29, 1752.
- iv. AZARIAH, b. Mar. 29, 1754; a Revolutionary soldier; "died in prison ship, Long Island Sound, Dec. 29, 1776."
 - v. HANNAH, b. May 3, 1756; d. Oct. 18, 1757.
 - vi. HANNAH, b. Feb. 18, 1758.
27. vii. JACOB, b. Apr. 22, 1760; d. 1843; was a Revolutionary soldier.
- viii. NATHAN, b. May 3, 1764.
 - ix. SILAS, b. June 6, 1766.

18. WILLIAM⁵ BENTON (*Daniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Tolland, Conn., and married, Dec. 14, 1750, Sarah Burroughs. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War, and "died at Oswego, N. Y., 1760."

Children :

- i. SARAH,⁶ b. Mar. 17, 1751.
 - ii. "A SON," b. and d. May 5, 1753.
 - iii. JOHN, b. Mar. 2, 1754.
 - iv. RUTH, b. Dec. 3, 1756.
 - v. ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 22, 1759.
19. ELIJAH⁵ BENTON (*Daniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Tolland, Conn. He married, Apr. 25, 1751, Mehetabel Chamberlain.
- Children :
- i. ABIJAH,⁶ b. Feb. 25, 1752.
 - ii. LYDIA, b. June 6, 1753.
 - iii. LOIS, b. Apr. 4, 1755.
 - iv. MEHETABEL, b. Aug. 14, 1756.
 - v. ADONIRAM, b. Mar. 27, 1758; d. Oct. 29, 1760.
 - vi. ELIJAH, b. Apr. 17, 1760; pensioned in 1818 as a Revolutionary soldier (5 ft. 9 in. high, blue eyes, light brown hair); m. at Stewartstown, Coos Co., N. H., Oct. 20, 1793, Sally Sellingham; d. at Stewartstown, Aug. 14, 1841, his widow and seven children surviving.
 - vii. ADONIRAM, b. 1763; pensioned in 1818 as a Revolutionary soldier; d. at Surrey, Cheshire Co., N. H., Aug. 29, 1842; m. (1) ———; m. (2) at Surrey, N. H., June 5, 1816, Betsey Griffin, who was b. in 1770. Children by first wife, born prior to Jan. 1, 1794: 1. *Sarah*. 2. *Hiram*. 3. *Franklin*. 4. *Ruth*.

20. ISAAC⁵ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Salisbury, Sharon, and Canaan, Conn. He married, at Sharon, Conn., Oct. 30, 1755, Jemima, daughter of Ezra and Anne (St. John) St. John, who was born Aug. 4, and baptized Sept. 9, 1739, at Wilton, Conn. He died "suddenly," Jan., 1812, "æ 79" (Salisbury Church Records).

Children :

- i. ANNA,⁶ b. Sept. 14, 1756.
 28. ii. ISAAC, b. Dec. 28, 1758; m. Annar Allen.
 - iii. MARY, m. James Gates; d. Dec. 1, 1782, at Salisbury, Conn.
 - iv. EZRA, m. Apr. 4, 1792, Phebe White of Sharon, Conn.
 - v. JAMES, b. about 1768; d. at Salisbury, Conn., Jan. 22, 1849; m. (1) Mary Chapman, who was b. in 1769, and d. Feb. 20, 1800, "in the 31st year of her age"; m. (2) Dec. 2, 1800, Jerusha Bushnell, widow of R. W. Lee, who was b. Oct. 19, 1766, and d. May 15, 1850, aged 83 yrs., at Salisbury, Conn.
21. DAVID⁵ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was twelve years old when his father removed from Tolland and Kent to Salisbury, Conn. He was admitted a freeman, Apr. 11, 1763. From 1746 until 1777 his home was in the southwest corner of the town of Salisbury. In Feb. of the latter year he leased for fifty years a lot of ground, adjacent to the village, supposed to contain a sulphur mine, for one-fifth of the product, without cost to him; and disposed of his farm of 106 acres, leasing for 960 years the 55 acres "formerly laid out for parsonage lands," and "selling forever" the other 51 acres. In June, 1777, he bought land in and removed to Sheffield, Mass. His gravestone, in a family burying ground, a

half-mile from the state line, reads: "In memory of Mr David Benton who died August 6th 1797 in the 63^d year of his age." His will, dated July 14, probated Sept. 5, 1797, makes his sons Caleb and Stephen executors, and divides two-thirds of his estate equally among his seven surviving children, giving one-third to his wife Sarah. The surname of his wife, to whom he was married probably in 1758, has not been ascertained. The births of their children appear in Salisbury town records.

Children:

- i. CALEB,⁶ b. Jan. 2, 1759; d. at Catskill, N. Y., July 28, 1825.
 - ii. LYDIA, b. Mar. 26, 1761; m. Samuel Taylor; removed to Palatine District, Montgomery Co., N. Y., prior to her father's death.
 29. iii. DAVID, b. Dec. 2, 1763.
 - iv. MARY, b. Nov. 9, 1765; unmarried at time of her father's death.
 - v. SARAH, b. Mar. 22, 1768; d. Apr. 4, 1772.
 - vi. STEPHEN, b. July 22, 1770; became owner of the homestead, which he sold June 13, 1803, and removed to Montgomery Co., N. Y.; a captain in N. Y. State Militia.
 - vii. SARAH, b. Apr. 30, 1773; unmarried at time of her father's death.
 - viii. RUTH, b. Feb. 29, 1776; m. ——— Plumb, prior to her father's death.
22. STEPHEN⁶ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), a Revolutionary soldier, married, May 4, 1759, Prudence Reynolds "of Oblong," who was born at Westerfield, Conn., in 1740. He died Nov. 10, 1820, in Richmond, Mass.

Children:

- i. LYDIA,⁶ b. June 19, 1760. (Salisbury records.)
- ii. JOSEPH, b. July 23, 1762. (Salisbury records.)
- iii. PRUDENCE, b. June 9, 1764. (Salisbury records.)
- iv. STEPHEN, b. Sept. 9, 1766.
- v. SUSAN, b. Dec. 31, 1768.
- vi. RUTH, b. Apr. 24, 1771.
- vii. ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 4, 1773.
- viii. ZILPA, b. Jan. 31, 1778.
- ix. DARIUS, b. Oct. 31, 1781, in Richmond, Mass.; d. Dec. 13, 1827; m. Oct. 1, 1811, Fanny Fowler, who was b. Mar. 19, 1782, at Guilford, Conn., and d. Apr. 16, 1862.
- x. POLLY, b. June 1, 1784.

23. NATHAN⁶ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was "accepted as a freeman" at Salisbury, Conn., Apr. 9, 1770. He married Esther ———.

Children, on Salisbury records:

- i. ESTHER,⁶ b. Nov. 13, 1766.
 - ii. BETTY, b. Dec. 22, 1768.
 - iii. LUCY, b. Feb. 9, 1771.
 - iv. ANNA, b. Aug. 9, 1773.
 - v. NATHAN, b. Apr. 13, 1776.
24. LEVI⁶ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was "accepted as a freeman" at Salisbury, Conn., Sept. 19, 1775. He removed to Sheffield, Mass., in 1777, and to Canaan, Conn., in 1780; and was a first settler of Yates Co., N. Y., in 1789, its town of Benton being named in his honor. In 1816, he and his wife removed to Franklin Co., Ind., where they died at "an advanced age." He married, Oct. 30, 1769, Mary, daughter of Abner and Hannah (Dyer) Woodworth of Salisbury, Conn.

Children, the first three on Salisbury records :

- i. MARY,⁶ b. July 14, 1770; m. (1) in 1791 (the first marriage in Yates Co.), Ezekiel Crocker; m. (2) Ezra Reed.
 - ii. OLIVE, b. Jan. 29, 1772; m. Feb. 2, 1792, Thomas Barden.
 - iii. LEVI, b. Feb. 26, 1774; m. Jan. 24, 1796, Nancy, dau. of James Parker.
 - iv. LUTHER, b. 1776; d. May 23, 1803, "lost at sea."
 - v. HANNAH, b. 1778; d. Sept. 17, 1780.
 - vi. CALVIN, b. 1781; d. July 24, 1856; m. Lois Barden.
 - vii. JOSEPH, b. June 27, 1783; m. in 1807, Aney Reynolds; lived in Franklin Co., Ind.; d. June 9, 1872.
 - viii. NANCY, b. 1785; m. (1) John Riggs; m. (2) Ezra Rice.
 - ix. HANNAH, b. 1788; m. Robert Havens.
 - x. RUBY, b. July 30, 1796; d. July 26, 1817; m. Dr. Erastus Webb.
25. OZIAS⁶ BENTON (*Samuel*,⁵ *Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Tolland, Conn. He married, Nov. 19, 1772, Sarah Day of Ellington, Conn., who died Mar. 24, 1816. He died Mar. 21, 1816. "The father, mother and four sons died in a few days of each other of an epidemic called by the physicians congestive pneumonia."
- Children :
- i. SOLOMON,⁷ b. May 1, 1775.
 - ii. ADONIAH, b. May 25, 1777; d. Mar. 24, 1816; m. Nov., 1803, Ann Post of Tolland.
 - iii. OZIAS, b. Jan. 1, 1781; d. Mar. 26, 1816.
 - iv. IRA, b. Sept. 16, 1783.
 - v. ALVIN, b. May 21, 1786; m. Mar. 24, 1813, Ruth Kingsbury.
 - vi. ALFRED, b. Jan. 6, 1789.
 - vii. BENJAMIN, b. June 14, 1791; d. Mar. 21, 1816.
 - viii. LEVI, b. Feb. 6, 1794.
26. DANIEL⁶ BENTON (*Daniel*,⁵ *Daniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) lived in Tolland, Conn. He married, Feb. 18, 1779, Betty Richards.
- Children, on Tolland records :
- i. ELISHA,⁷ b. May 20, 1780.
 - ii. BETTY, b. Mar. 20, 1782.
 - iii. EUNICE, b. July 23, 1784.
 - iv. AGNES, b. Feb. 12, 1787.
 - v. PHEBE, b. Aug. 12, 1791.
27. JACOB⁶ BENTON (*Daniel*,⁵ *Daniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was pensioned in 1818 as a Revolutionary soldier, having had four years service, and was at Burgoyne's surrender, Oct., 1777. The witnesses in his pension papers say : "A man of veracity, a fine, honorable, honest man." He lived all his life in Tolland, Conn. He married first, Mar. 14, 1782, Sarah Weston of Willington, Conn., who died Sept. 23, 1787; and married second, July 1, 1789, Sarah Ladd of Tolland, who survived him. He died July 9, 1843.
- Children by first wife :
- i. ANN,⁷ b. Feb. 1, 1783.
 - ii. WILLIAM, b. Aug. 29, 1785.
- Children by second wife :
- iii. AZARIAH, b. June 8, 1790.
 - iv. RUTH, b. Dec 8, 1791.
 - v. DANIEL, b. May 3, 1794.
 - vi. SUSALLA, b. Feb. 19, 1796.
 - vii. CHESTER, b. Feb. 5, 1798.
 - viii. JACOB, b. June 1, 1802.

28. ISAAC⁶ BENTON (*Isaac*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born Dec. 28, 1758, in Salisbury, Conn., and died in Steuben, Oneida Co., N. Y. His occupation, as indicated, was probably that of his father, who is mentioned as "a very ingenious mechanic and mill-right," in allusion to his constructing at Canaan, Conn., during the Revolutionary war, "a slitting mill" for the manufacture of nail rods. (*Litchfield Co. Centennial Celebration, 1851.*) He married Annar Allen. The pension papers of her brother Gideon Allen, a Revolutionary soldier, show that his father removed in 1750 from East Haven, Conn., to Woodbury, from which he afterward removed to Salisbury and thence to N. Y. She died near Brighton, Canada, about 1846.

Children :

- i. ANNA, m. Reuben Myers; d. in Oneida Co., N. Y.
 - ii. AURELIA, d. young.
 - iii. CLARISSA, m. Peter Crouter, who removed from New York, and d. near Brighton, Canada.
 - iv. HEMAN, d. in Greenville, N. Y., aged 21 yrs.
 - v. ISAAC, m. Olive Crouter; d. at Gooderich, Canada.
 - vi. ALLEN, b. June 9, 1792, at Greenville, N. Y.; m. 22 July, 1819, Deborah, b. Feb. 1, 1798, at East Haddam, Conn., d. Aug. 23, 1867, at Cato, N. Y., dau. of Abraham Willey, a Revolutionary soldier; was a physician; d. at Cato, Cayuga Co., N. Y., Sept. 12, 1879.
29. DAVID⁶ BENTON (*David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) at the age of thirteen years, in 1777, removed with his father from Salisbury, Conn., to Sheffield, Mass., and in Feb., 1788, bought land adjoining his father's. In 1789 he removed with his brother Caleb and his uncle Levi Benton to New York, and was a first settler of the present town of Seneca, Ontario Co., as was his uncle Levi, a first settler of the adjoining town of Benton in Yates Co. In May, 1819, he removed to Brownstown, Jackson Co., Ind. In 1832 he was pensioned as a Revolutionary soldier, having served from July to Nov., 1780, in Capt. Warner's company of Col. John Brown's regiment, from Berkshire Co., Mass. He was present at an engagement with Tories and Indians under Sir John Johnson, Oct. 19, near Fort Plank, Montgomery Co., N. Y., in which Col. Brown and about forty of the command were killed. Shortly thereafter the regiment returned home and was disbanded. In July, 1781, he enlisted at New London, Conn., as a marine on the Brig *Favorite* of 16 guns, and when at sea about twelve days it captured a brig with a cargo of wine, bound from Madeira to New York, and he and others were put on board the prize, but before reaching port, it was recaptured by the British Frigate *Alpheus*, and "all kept at sea 30 days as prisoners," during which the British and French fleets "had the battle [Sept. 5.] off the capes of Virginia." After this, they were taken to New York and confined in the prison ship *Jersey* till exchanged in Jan., 1782. His headstone in Fairview Cemetery, at Brownstown, is inscribed: "IN MEMORY OF DAVID BENTON who died March the 7th 1845, aged 82 years." He married first, Mar. 17, 1784, Sarah, born June 9, 1765, at Salisbury, Conn., died Nov. 25, 1825, at Bath, N. Y., daughter of Benjamin and Sarah (Stewart) Bingham; and married second, Oct. 17, 1826, Thankful (Reynolds) McKane, who was born Jan. 6, 1796, and died in 1874,

at Hamilton, Ohio. His family Bible, printed in Cambridge, England, in 1769, shows the following children.

Children by first wife, born in Ontario Co., N. Y.:

- 30. i. HENRY,⁷ b. Dec. 20, 1784; d. May 23, 1872.
 - 31. ii. GEORGE, b. Dec. 29, 1786; d. Feb. 15, 1859.
 - 32. iii. SARAH, b. Nov. 27, 1790; d. Sept. 7, 1876.
 - 33. iv. MARY, b. Nov. 5, 1795; d. Mar. 7, 1883.
 - 34. v. WALTER, b. May 7, 1799; d. Apr. 3, 1890.
 - 35. vi. WILLIAM DAVID, b. July 9, 1803; d. July 17, 1893.
 - 36. vii. NORMAN, b. Mar. 5, 1807; d. Jan. 13, 1875.
- (Died in infancy: viii. ANTHONY, b. Apr. 6, 1805. ix. ANN, b. Sept. 28, 1809. x. THOMAS, b. July —, 1813. xi. EDWARD, b. June 18, 1815.)

Child by second wife:

- xii. ELIZABETH, born Jan. 18, 1828, in Brownstown, Ind.; died Oct. 28, 1880; married, Feb. 13, 1848, John Q. A. McPherson, born 1824; died Aug. 13, 1863, at Courtland, Ind. Children: 1. *Jannet*, b. Feb. 21, 1849. 2. *Mary V.*, b. July 2, 1850. 3. *Joseph Angus*, b. July 24, 1852. 4. *Laura*, b. Feb. 17, 1856. 5. *Hetty*, and 6. *Eva* (twins), b. Feb. 19, 1861.
30. HENRY⁷ BENTON (*David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), born Dec. 20, 1784, in Berkshire Co., Mass.; died May 23, 1872, at Waterville, Pepin Co., Wis., whither he removed from Brownstown, Ind., in 1857. His occupation was that of farmer and cabinet maker; and in religion he was a staunch Presbyterian. He was thrice married; first, Feb. 5, 1807, to Betsey Wooley, the date of her death not given; second, Apr. 9, 1812, to Hannah Dickenson, who died in Brownstown, May 14, 1825; third, Apr. 10, 1830, to Sarah Hoyt Rose, who was born in Saratoga Co., N. Y., Feb. 14, 1897, and died at Waterville, Wis., Dec. 27, 1870. Her maiden name was Heacock. A daughter, Malvina Rose, by her former husband, married Harrison Durham, and died near Brownstown, Apr. 18, 1855.

Only child by first wife:

- i. SALLY,⁸ b. Dec. 17, 1807; m. William Woodward, at Bath, N. Y., and had three sons, some of whom, or their descendants, were living, a few years ago, at Oshkosh, Wis.

Children by second wife, born in New York, except last two, who were born in Indiana:

- ii. LEWIS D., b. Mar. 24, 1813; m. Emily Hatch; d. Oct. 14, 1881, at Hornellsville, Steuben Co., N. Y., where he was known as "Colonel," and "for thirty years was one of its most prominent citizens." A son, *Daniel Lewis*, b. Oct. 16, 1848, d. there, June 15, 1894. "An honored, able, upright and learned member" of the legal profession. He left a widow, Mrs. Louisa A. Benton, and a daughter, Mrs. Hattie B. Madison, who was living in 1901 at Spokane, Wash.
- iii. MORRIS W., b. Dec. 22, 1814. About 1831 he removed from Bath N. Y., to Brownstown, Ind., and in 1888 to Idaho, where he d. Sept. 7, 1898, in the home of his son Joel H. Bentou at Lewiston. He was a tailor by trade, but in Sept., 1839, he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he continued until failing health compelled his retirement. His first church appointment was at Brownstown. He was m. Aug. 17, 1841, near Paoli, Ind., to Priscilla A., dau. of John C. Kearby. She d. in 1870. Children born near Paoli, except the last, who was born in Monrovia, Ind.; *Helen M.*, b. Oct. 4, 1842; m. Apr. 26, 1870, Dr.

- David B. Johnson. 2. *Mary S.*, b. Feb. 20, 1844; m. Dec. 24, 1862, Sylvester Johnson. 3. *Georgia A.*, b. Oct. 4, 1846; m. (1) June, 1865, Milton Carter, who d. in 1870; m. (2) Mar. 20, 1880, Edson D. Briggs. 4. *Joel H.*, b. Mar. 22, 1819; m. Feb. 4, 1872, Lida A. Jones. 5. *Sally A.*, b. Oct. 24, 1852; m. Oct. 17, 1872, William F. Kettenbach, who d. in 1892. She d. in Mar., 1897. 6. *T. Annie*, b. Aug. 21, 1854. 7. *Lewis D.*, b. Sept. 5, 1857. 8. *Lillie M.*, b. July 10, 1860.
- iv. GEORGE, b. Sept. 18, 1817; d. in Mooresville, Ind., Aug. 6, 1870. "One of the best men she ever knew," writes his niece, Mrs. Helen M. Johnson.
- v. MARY CATHERINE, b. Nov. 27, 1821; d. Oct. 26, 1868; m. Richard Johnson, at Brownstown, Ind. Children, born in Mooresville, Ind.: 1. *Mary E.*, who m. John H. Dicken. 2. *George Benton*. Both living in Wabash, Indiana.
- vi. WILLIAM RUGGLES, b. Feb. 24, 1825; d. in May, 1850, in Mooresville, Ind. He was a soldier from Iowa in the war with Mexico. "A noble young man," writes the same niece; and so say I, who knew him well.

Children by third wife, born in Brownstown, Ind.:

- vii. WALTER H., b. Feb. 10, 1831; d. Nov. 15, 1832.
- viii. SOLOMON W., b. Apr. 10, 1833; d. Sept. 15, 1901, near Durand, Pepin Co., Wis. He was pensioned as a soldier of the war of 1861-5. He m. June 30, 1869, Malvina S. Carrington. Children: 1. *Clayton J.*, b. Mar. 1870; d. young. 2. *Lewis E.*, b. Mar. 2, 1871. 3. *Carley E.*, b. July 5, 1873. 4. *Hetty M.*, b. July 15, 1875. 5. *Harry B.*, b. Dec. 4, 1877. 6. *J. D. Benton*, b. Sept. 30, 1879. 7. *Grace*, b. Jan. 8, 1883. 8. *M. S. Benton*, b. Mar. 25, 1888.
- ix. HENRY, b. Jan. 25, 1835; d. Oct. 10, 1873, at Bangor, Van Buren Co., Mich. Married (1) Aug. 9, 1855, near Brownstown, Ind., Eliza, dau. of Frederick Barkman. Only child, *Oscar i*, m. a dau. of Henry Newhouse, by whom, a son *Oscar ii*, lives near Brownstown. Married (2) Feb. 15, 1860, Flora De Haven, in Van Buren Co., Mich. Her residence, Bangor, Mich. Children: 1. *Anstey*, b. Jan. 29, 1861; d. Mar. 5, 1885. 2. *Charles S.*, b. Oct. 1, 1862; Res., Chippewa Falls, Wis. 3. *Blanché*, b. Oct. 31, 1868; m. July 7, 1892, William S. Heller. Children: *Wilson B.*, b. Aug. 1, 1893. *Benton McA.*, b. July 20, 1899. Res., Omaha, Neb. 4. *Le Roy*, b. Oct. 21, 1871. Res., Chippewa Falls, Wis.
- x. HETTY C., b. Sept. 5, 1837; m. May 31, 1854, at Brownstown, Ind., John H. McAlvin of Lowell, Mass., who d. Nov. 4, 1892, in Omaha, Neb. Res., Lewiston, Idaho.

31. GEORGE⁷ BENTON (*David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), born Dec. 29, 1786, in Berkshire Co., Mass. Lived the greater part of his life in Lyons, Wayne Co., N. Y., where he died Feb. 15, 1859. His occupation was farmer and hotel keeper. He married Susan Ann ———, who was born in 1789, and died in 1852. Both of them, and their daughter Caroline S., are buried in the South Cemetery at Lyons.

Children, born in Lyons:

- i. DAVID,⁸ d. in 1848, at Homer, Mich.; m. Mary Ann Thornton. Children: 1. *James W.*, lived (1898) at Walworth, Wayne Co., N. Y. 2. *Henry P.*, lived (1898) at Pultneyville, in the same county; served 2 years in the war of 1861-5. 3. *George H.*, lived (1898) in Red Wing, Minn.; served 4 years in the war of 1861-5; was a 1st Lieut. in the 98th N. Y. Vols. from Dec., 1864, to Aug., 1865. 4. *David*, d. in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga., or Florence, S. C. 5. *Charles*, d. in infancy.
- ii. GEORGE W., d. at Lyons, N. Y., about 1857, unmarried.

- iii. SUSAN, m. a Mr. Hoffman, and d. in Brooklyn, N. Y., leaving 2 sons and 2 daughters. 1. *Susan*. 2. *Helen*.
- iv. MARY JANE, m. (1) Dr. — Patterson; m. (2) Robert Ennis. She d. at Lyons, N. Y.
- v. CAROLINE SUSAN, never married. She d. Dec. 23, 1881, while on a visit at Hastings, Mich. The remains were brought to Lyons for burial. Charles F. Ennis, Esq., of Lyons, a grandson of the above, says in a letter, Feb., 1898, "She is said to have been a charming woman. I am glad to have been related to the Bentons even by marriage."
32. SARAH⁷ BENTON (*David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born, Nov. 27, 1790, in Seneca, Ontario Co., N. Y.; died Sept. 7, 1876, in Bath, N. Y. She was married Sept. 28, 1814, at the place of her birth, to Moses H., son of Moses and Elizabeth (Annett) Lyon, who was born in Essex Co., N. J., Nov. 18, 1789, and died in Bath, N. Y., Apr. 21, 1863. He was an enterprising, energetic business man, extensively engaged in farming and trading in connection with a large harness and saddlery establishment—in all of which he was greatly prospered. None in the community, where the greater part of his useful life was spent, was more highly esteemed for public spirit, probity of character and for public and private beneficence than was he. A score of letters written by him to our father between the years 1821 and 1832, and recently transmitted to his granddaughter, Miss Harriet N. Lyon, bear ample testimony to his noble and generous nature, which found equal pleasure in acquiring and bestowing. His life was a benefaction to others as well as to his own family. We retain a distinct recollection of a visit that he and his wife, and their son Robert, made to Brownstown, in the summer of 1841, and how he impressed its citizens with his genial ways and business habits.—J. H. B.
- Children, born in Bath:
- i. WILLIAM B.,⁸ b. Feb. 1, 1817; d. June 1, 1835.
- ii. DAVID W., b. May 11, 1821; d. Nov. 23, 1893, in Cohocton, N. Y.; m. Sept. 22, 1846, Hopey Fry, of Uniontown, Pa., b. May 26, 1820; d. Jan. 27, 1897. Children. 1. *Louise*,⁹ b. Mar. 13, 1849; m. Mar. 13, 1873, Winfield S. Shardlow, b. Mar. 15, 1851. Res., Montevideo, Minn. 2. *Ella*, b. Feb. 2, 1852; m. Nov. 9, 1871, Theodore R. Harris, b. July 27, 1842; d. Aug. 27, 1894. Res., Cohocton, N. Y. 3. *George B.*, b. Dec. 4, 1861; m. Nov. 5, 1890, Jennie Freeman, July 31, 1866. Res., Hammondsport, N. Y.
- iii. JAMES, b. May 7, 1823; m. (1) May 12, 1846, Harriet A., dau. of Hou. Reuben and Nancy (Whiting) Robie, b. Aug. 26, 1826; d. Dec. 30, 1883; m. (2), Oct. 21, 1885, Elizabeth Underwood, b. Aug. 3, 1839; d. Dec. 25, 1900. Res., Bath, N. Y. Children by first wife: 1. *Sarah E.*,⁹ b. Feb. 19, 1847; m. June 11, 1879, John Davenport, b. May 10, 1835; d. May 5, 1895. Res., Bath, N. Y. 2. *Reuben Robie*, b. Mar. 2, 1857; m. Apr. 22, 1885, Emma L. Kemp, b. Sept. 25, 1859. Res., Bath, N. Y. 3. *Harriet N.*, b. June 13, 1861. Res., Bath, N. Y.
- iv. ROBERT M., b. Dec. 2, 1825; d. June 12, 1903, at Bath, N. Y.; m. May 20, 1851, Rebecca Brother, b. Apr. 2, 1830. Children: 1. *Anna P.*,⁹ b. July 8, 1852; m. June 9, 1880, Casin B. Obert, b. Jan. 25, 1847; d. Dec. 22, 1905. Res., Clinton, Iowa. 2. *Helen G.*, b. Feb. 8, 1854; m. May 17, 1876, William S. Allen, b. Mar. 9, 1880; d. Feb. 22, 1902. Res., Bayonne, N. J. 3. *Moses H.*, b. Dec. 25, 1855. Res., Deadwood, S. D. 4. *Henry B.*, b. Oct. 24, 1860; d. Sept. 2, 1865. 5. *Margaret S.*, b. Apr. 4, 1864, m. June 28, 1888, Thomas C. Wellman, b. Oct. 5, 1861. Res., Bayonne, N. J.

His personal history is, in part, embodied in an obituary of his first wife, which appeared in a paper of their town, *January 2, 1884*. The beautiful tribute to her memory, as well as to his worth, is given hereafter. The obituary is followed by those of his brothers, David W. and Robert M. Lyon.

33. MARY⁷ BENTON (*David,⁶ David,⁶ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*) was born Nov. 5, 1795, in the town of Seneca, Ontario Co., N. Y., and died Mar. 7, 1883, in Bath, N. Y. She removed with her parents from N. Y., to Brownstown, Ind., in May, 1819, and taught a school there in that year. The most of her life was in Bath. She read extensively and possessed a retentive memory, and was a devout Presbyterian. She was married to Doctor William B. Ruggles, in Brownstown, Aug. 12, 1819, by the Rev. Jesse Rowland, "M. M. E. Church."

Their only child was:

- i. WILLIAM BENJAMIN,⁸ who was b. in Bath, May 11, 1827, and died in Albany, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1892. He learned the trade of printer; graduated from Hamilton College, in 1849, with the highest class honors. Soon thereafter he became editor of the *Atlanta (Ga.) Intelligencer*; was an alderman of the city in 1854-5; disposed of the paper in 1857 and returned to New York, and studied law at Clinton, under Prof. Dwight of his alma mater; was admitted to practice in 1858, returned to his native village and speedily attained distinction in the legal profession. A democrat in politics, he represented his county in the Assembly of 1876, and subsequently held several appointments in state offices—was deputy attorney general, superintendent of public instructions and deputy superintendent and legal adviser of the superintendent of insurance; and was a delegate to the convention of 1876, that nominated Mr. Tilden, of whom he was an ardent admirer and supporter. He married Caroline Barker and several children blessed their union; but Death's invasion, which included a newly graduated son with abundant prospect of a bright future, wrought depression upon his body and spirits and hastened his end.

34. WALTER⁷ BENTON* (*David,⁶ David,⁶ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*) was born in Ontario Co., N. Y., May 7, 1799, and died in Brownstown, Ind., April 3, 1890. He married (1) Jan. 9, 1821, in Ontario County, Elizabeth Coe, who was born in Essex Co., N. Y., Aug. 11, 1800, and died in Brownstown, Sept. 18, 1823; married (2) Mar. 31, 1824, in Brownstown Hetty (Vermilya) Banks,⁸ who was born in Dutchess (now Putnam) Co., N. Y., May 1, 1805, and died in Brownstown, Nov. 6, 1875; married (3) Feb. 21, 1875, at Greenwood, Ind., Mary Jane (Freeze) Daly, who was born in Coshocton Co., Ohio, Apr. 16, 1830, and died in Brownstown, Sept. 2, 1887. His Bible, published in New York in 1818 and "Bought in the year of our Lord 1820," shows the following children.

Children by first wife:

37. i. ALBERT,⁸ b. Jan. 21, 1822; d. May 5, 1839.
ii. MARY ELIZA, b. July 2, 1823; d. Nov. 12, 1823.

Children by second wife:

38. iii. GEORGE VERMILYA, b. Sept. 10, 1827; d. Sept. 29, 1875.
39. iv. JOHN HOGAN, b. June 10, 1829.
40. v. PHEBE ANN, b. Mar. 20, 1831.
41. vi. WALTER BURR, b. Aug. 23, 1835; d. June 19, 1846.

* See Sketch.

42. vii. CATHARINE, b. Aug. 26, 1835.
 43. viii. WILBUR CLARKE, b. Apr. 11, 1839.
 44. ix. ASBURY WATSON, b. Mar. 8, 1841.
 45. x. CHARLES WESLEY, b. June 4, 1843.
 46. xi. EVALINE, b. July 12, 1846.

35. WILLIAM DAVID⁷ BENTON (*David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), born July 3, 1803, in Ontario Co., N. Y.; removed with his parents to Brownstown, Ind., in May, 1819, where he died, July 17, 1893, at the age of ninety years. Two weeks before his death his kindred and friends celebrated with him and his aged wife the seventieth anniversary of their marriage. He followed his trade of saddler until the increase of years required its discontinuance. A quiet and peaceable disposition marked his tenor of life, and although sensitive to slight or imputation of a lack of courage, I never knew of his having an enemy, nor heard a dishonorable act alleged against him. He had the respect of all who knew him. He married, July 4, 1823, Malinda, daughter of Peter and Rosanna Johnson, who was born in Shelbyville, Ky., Jan. 10, 1806, and died July 16, 1897, in the ninety-second year of her age. (A twin sister, Mrs. Lucinda Tuell, lived to the age of ninety years and six months. They were accounted remarkably handsome women, and in girlhood were known as the "pretty twins").

Children, born in Brownstown:

- i. MOSES JOHNSON,⁶ b. Jan. 14, 1825—lives in Brownstown; m. Sarah (Wort) Ewing, b. in Aug., 1819; d. July 13, 1898.
- ii. ADALINE VERMILYA, b. June 15, 1830; m. James Johnson. Res., Columbus, Ind., and have several children.
- iii. JOSEPHINE BENEDICT, b. Jan. 25, 1842—lives in Brownstown; m. Warren W. Murphy, who d. in Medora, Ind., Aug. 29, 1897. Their only child died while young.
- iv. PETER MCGUIRE, b. Dec. 17, 1844; d. Nov. 6, 1864.
- v. WILLIAM ERASMUS, b. Oct. 7, 1846; d. Jan. 7, 1901; m. (1) Alma Cole of Seymour, Ind.—their daughter, 1. *Mrs. Muzetta Hayden*, lives at Seattle, Washington; m. (2) Maud Slinkard of Vincennes, Ind.—²*Maud*, an only child, lives at that place.

36. NORMAN⁷ BENTON (*David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born in Ontario Co., N. Y., Mar. 5, 1807, and died in Bath, N. Y., Jan. 13, 1875. He removed with his father's family to Indiana in 1819, but returned to Bath, N. Y., in 1825, where he learned the trade of saddler and harness maker. In Oct., 1829, he returned to Indiana, and for several years, except while merchandising in 1831 and 1832 at Leesville, Ind., he followed his trade at Brownstown. In 1836 he returned to Bath, where the remainder of his life was spent. He married first, June 27, 1830, at Brownstown, Hannah Wright, who was born in Washington, Pa., in 1811 and died in Keosauqua, Iowa, June 16, 1880; married (2), June 15, 1842, Mary Diana Daniels, at Bath, N. Y., where she died April 2, 1866.

Children by first wife:

- i. SARAH ANN,⁸ b. Nov. 24, 1831, probably in Leesville, Ind. Res., Keosauqua, Iowa, where she was m. Dec. 10, 1849, to Dr. Joseph C. Knapp, b. June 27, 1813; d. Apr. 27, 1882. Children: 1. ¹*Keo*, m. ——— Stoddard, who d. July 25, 1897. 2. *Io*, who m. ——— Hill. 3. *Hannah Benton*, who m. ——— Harris.
- ii. RACHEL REBECCA, b. 1833; d. in infancy.

- iii. HARRIET JANE, b. June 6, 1836, probably in Brownstown. Res. Little Rock, Ark. She was m. in Keosauqua, Iowa, Mar. 25, 1854 to Henry Clay Caldwell, now a judge of a U. S. District Court, who was b. in Marshal Co., Va., Nov. 4, 1832. Children: 1. Fannie 2. Margaret, who m. ——— Martin. 3. Corretta Isogene. Four died in infancy.

Children by second wife:

- iv. MARY JANE, b. June 23, 1843; m. Oct. 9, 1861, Orson Hildreth, a locomotive engineer, who was living in 1899, at Alta Loma, Galveston Co., Texas.
- v. NORMAN T., b. Dec. 17, 1847; d. Jan. 25, 1883.
37. ALBERT⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) was born, Jan. 21, 1822; died May 5, 1899; married, Oct. 2, 1842, Keziah Kirkpatrick, who was born in Trenton, N. J., July 28, 1823; died in Brownstown, Jan. 13, 1885.*

Children:

- i. SARAH MEDETEL, b. Aug. 23, 1843; d. Sept. 1, 1843.
- ii. MATHILDA, b. Aug. 16, 1844; d. in Brownstown, Ill., Feb. 12, 1888. She m. (1) Holmes W. Chadwick, by whom she had two sons. She was divorced from him on the ground of desertion, and m. (2) Isaac Smith, whose death preceded hers.
- iii. MARY CATHERINE, b. Feb. 17, 1846; m. Edward Gallagher by whom she had a dau. Mand. He deserted her. The mother and dau. were living in Chicago, Ill., when last heard from.
38. GEORGE VERMILYA⁸ BENTON* (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) was born, Sept. 10, 1827, and died at Rockford, Ind., Sept. 29, 1875. He married, Oct. 3, 1850, in Brownstown, Ind., Lucy Shipp, daughter of Captain Lemmel and Hannah (Shipp) Ford, who was born in Charlestown, Ind., Sept. 13, 1826, and died in Brownstown, Jan. 30, 1888.*

Children, born in Brownstown, Ind.:

47. i. WALTER LEMUEL,⁹ b. June 6, 1852.
- ii. AN INFANT son, b. and d. Aug. 18, 1854.
48. iii. MINNIE, b. Sept. 9, 1855; d. Dec. 30, 1905.
49. iv. CHARLES TINSLEY, b. July 17, 1858.
- v. FORD LYON, b. Apr. 14, 1861; m. May 11, 1883, in St. Paul, Minn., Georgiana, dau. of George W. and Rachel Swallow, who was b. July 3, 1860, in Brownsville, Union Co., Ind. No children. Residence, Muncie, Ind.
- vi. DUNHAM, b. Jan. 16, 1863; d. Aug. 21, 1869.
- vii. AN INFANT dau., b. and d. July 13, 1867.
39. JOHN HOGAN⁸ BENTON* (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) born June 10, 1829, and named after the Rev. John Hogan, a Methodist preacher at Brownstown, Ind., in 1828 and 1829. He married first, Apr. 24, 1851, at Venon, Ind., Mary, daughter of the Rev. Thomas and Ruth (Wingate) Ray, who was born in Princeton, Ind., Apr. 24, 1833, and died at her home, 462 O Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., Tuesday evening, Apr. 16, 1889; married second, Oct. 1, 1890, at Washington, D. C., Maria Louisa, daughter of William A. and Catharine (Ferguson) Webster, who was born Mar. 22, 1854, at 742 N. J. Avenue, in Washington.*
- Children by first wife, born in Brownstown, Ind., except John Ewing, who was born at 459 P Street, N. W., Washington:

* See Sketch.

50. i. THOMAS RAY BENTON,⁹ b. Aug. 8, 1852.
 51. ii. EDWARD VERMILYA BENTON, b. Feb. 2, 1855; d. Sept. 28, 1894.
 52. iii. MARY PHEBE BENTON, b. Apr. 23, 1857; d. June 18, 1897.
 53. iv. MARIA TANNER BENTON, b. July 1, 1861.
 54. v. JOHN EWING BENTON, b. Oct. 31, 1867.

Only child by second wife :

- vi. RALPH WEBSTER BENTON, b. Sunday, Oct. 30, 1892, at 462 O Street, N. W.

40. PHEBE ANN⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*), named for her mother's oldest and youngest sisters, was born Mar. 20, 1831; married first, June 5, 1851, George W., son of Stephen and Margaret Cummins, who was born in Butler Co., Ohio, Mar. 12, 1829, and died at Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 29, 1864; married second, Apr. 4, 1865, Dr. Hamlin Smith, son of Rev. Giles C. and Mary J. Smith, who was born in Paoli, Orange Co., Ind., Apr. 15, 1838. Res., Brownstown, Ind.

Children by first husband :

- i. HETTY MARGARET⁹ CUMMINS, b. July 5, 1832; m. Jan. 9, 1871, James Henry Scott, b. in Belmont Co., Ohio, July 4, 1848. Children : 1. *Emma Alberta*,¹⁰ b. Mar. 2, 1873; m. Apr. 30, 1894, Frederick H. Cheyne. Their son, Tom Luther,¹¹ b. Oct. 20, 1901, the first great grandchild of our sister Phebe. 2. *John*, b. Dec. 19, 1875. 3. *Mabel*, b. Mar. 11, 1877; m. Jan. 21, 1900, Charles H. Bolles. 4. *Ralph Benton*, b. Nov. 24, 1878. 5. *Charles Henry*, b. July 30, 1881. 6. *Flossie Margaret*, b. Oct. 11, 1884. 7. *Eva Lorane*, b. June 21, 1888. 8. *Hamlin Smith*, b. Nov. 18, 1890. Res., Indianapolis, Ind.
 ii. EMILY CATHERINE CUMMINS, b. Apr. 24, 1854; m. Oct. 16, 1878, Frank Emerson Browning, son of Jesse E. and Caroline (Richards) Browning; b. near Brownstown, Ind., Mar. 9, 1857. Children : 1. *Earl Woodward*, b. Apr. 4, 1880. 2. *Frank Allen*, b. Apr. 13, 1882. 3. *Ray Hamlin*, b. Apr. 15, 1884. 4. *Emma Loui*, b. May 24, 1886; m. Oct. 22, 1905, Alva Cartwright. Res., Brownstown.
 iii. JOHN JEFFERSON CUMMINS, b. Aug. 12, 1856.
 iv. WILLIAM TODD OTTO CUMMINS, b. Sept. 4, 1858; d. Sept. 29, 1863.
 v. GEORGE WASHINGTON CUMMINS, b. Apr. 9, 1861; m. May 7, 1883, in Seymour, Ind., Mary Elizabeth Lenora, daughter of Fredolin and Mary Magdalene Huber, b. Dec. 17, 1872, in Nashville, Ind. Only child : *Lawrence George*, b. Oct. 27, 1884, in Brownstown, Ind.; m. July 4, 1906, Ethel F. McFarland. Res., Indianapolis, Ind.

Children by second husband, born in Brownstown, Ind. :

- vi. MARY SMITH, b. Feb. 7, 1866; d. Mar. 16, 1866.
 vii. EVA BENTON SMITH, b. Mar. 27, 1867; m. Feb. 6, 1895, in Columbus, Ind., William, son of Philip and Catherine Schaub, born in Martinsville, Ind., June 24, 1868. Children, born in Brownstown : 1. *Ioger Smith*, b. Jan. 22, 1896. 2. *William Frederick*, b. Aug. 30, 1900. Res., Indianapolis.
 viii. GILES LESLIE SMITH, b. June 28, 1870; m. Sept. 28, 1893, in Brownstown, Ind., Cora Ellen, daughter of David Burr and Sarah Ellen Vance, who was born Dec. 12, 1869, in Livingston Co., Ill. Only child : *Giles Vance*, b. Mar. 13, 1899, in Indianapolis, the residence of parents.

41. WALTER BURR⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*), born Aug. 23, 1833, and was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of another person, June 10, 1846. He was named for his father, and for David Burr, the husband of his mother's oldest sister, who was born in Redding, Fairfield Co., Conn., Sept. 5, 1792, and died in Delphi, Carroll Co.,

Ind., Aug. 11, 1870—a life-long friend and benefactor of the Vermilya family.

42. CATHERINE⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁸ David,⁸ Isaac,⁸ Joseph,⁸ Andrew,² John¹) was born Aug. 26, 1835; m. Mar. 8, 1865, Rev. Charles Tinsley, in Brownstown, Ind. She was named for Catharine (Murphy) Vermilya, the wife of her mother's brother, John C. Vermilya, and her very dear friend—a devoutly religious woman.*

A recent Indianapolis (Ind.) paper has an account of Mr. Tinsley, with additions of our own, to this effect: He was born in Clonmel, Ireland, Aug. 26, 1832, and is one of seven children who came with their parents, William and Lucy Tinsley, to America and settled in Cincinnati in 1851. He was educated at "a little college—an endowed school"—in his native place. His parents were Wesleyans, and using his own words, he "was born into the church." His father being an architect, the son pursued that vocation for a brief time, until he entered the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the age of twenty-one years. He came to Indiana in 1853, and was appointed to the pastorate at Martinsville in the fall of that year. His second pastorate was at Brownstown, upon which he entered in the fall of 1854, and he was married there in March of the following year. He is the senior effective minister of the conference of which he is now a member, having been actively engaged as a traveling preacher, under church appointments, for the last fifty-three years, excepting one year while teaching school, as he expressed it, "in a one-horse college on Manchester ridge back of Lawrenceburg." During this protracted service, he has had twenty-four different pastorates, varying in duration from one to five years. They have been in the South East and Indiana conferences, and among the principal ones are Madison, Connersville, Brookville, Aurora, Indianapolis, Shelbyville, Columbus, Jeffersonville, College-Corners and Evansville. The paper adds, "Dr. Tinsley's hair and beard are not white, but gray, and he looks and acts a dozen years younger than his age of seventy-three years." He is now at Mapleton charge in Indianapolis, and resides with his wife at 3735 Kenwood Avenue.

Children:

- i. LUELLA BENTON,⁹ b. Oct. 31, 1856, at Wright's Corners, Dearborn Co., Ind.
- ii. CHARLES WALTER, b. Feb. 5, 1859, in Madison, Ind.; d. there, Jan. 8, 1860.
- iii. CHARLES WILLIAM, b. Apr. 3, 1861, in Connersville, Ind.; m. Oct. 10, 1883, in Columbus, Ind., Nettie, daughter of Moses O. and Eleanor (Ogilvie) Cooper, b. in Columbus, March 5, 1861. He is a Methodist minister, and for the last five years has been pastor of Centenary charge, in Terre Haute, Ind. Children: 1. *Howard Duffy*, b. Oct. 25, 1884; d. Jan. 19, 1887. 2. 3. *Robert Bowman* and *Raymond Curtiss* (twins), b. Apr. 29, 1887. 4. *George Cooper*, b. Aug. 21, 1889. 5. *Eleanor Benton*, b. Mar. 2, 1895. 6. *Kathryn Ina*, b. Jan. 2, 1899. 7. *Mary*, b. June 18, 1906.
- iv. FRANK CRARY NEWKIRK, b. Sept. 22, 1863, at Milton, Wayne Co., Ind.; m. Sept. 22, 1885, in Glenville, Neb., Caroline Schleicher, b. Jan. 4, 1866, in Lawrenceburg, Ind. He is a physician and resides in Indianapolis. Children: 1. *Charles William*, b. Aug. 15, 1886; d. in infancy. 2. *Walter Benton*, b. June 8, 1888. 3. *Katharine Magdalin*, b. Oct. 22, 1892.

- v. EDWARD CHAFFEE, b. Apr. 17, 1867, in Brookville, Ind.; m. Nov. 14, 1899, in Indianapolis, Eva, daughter of Wirt and Sarah (Miller) Jordan, b. "1876—Indiana." A physician, and resides at Indianapolis. No children.
- vi. MARY WYMOND, b. Mar. 5, 1870, in Aurora, Ind.; m. June 26, 1894, in Jeffersonville, Ind., Herbert Myers Glossbrenner, b. May 12, 1869, in Jeffersonville. Res., Indianapolis. Only child: *Frederick Wymond*, b. Sept. 26, 1897, in Jeffersonville, Ind.
43. WILBUR CLARKE⁸ BENTON (*Walter*,⁷ *David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born Apr. 11, 1839, in Brownstown, Ind.; married, Sept. 27, 1869, near Brownstown, Ind., Sarah Ann, daughter of Joseph and Lydia (Ireland) Miller, who was born near Brownstown, Ind., Dec. 19, 1850. He was named after Wilbur Fisk, president of Wesleyan College, Middletown, Ct., and Dr. Adam Clarke, the learned Bible commentator, of London, England—both eminent Methodist divines. He was for several years a clerk in the Treasury Department, Washington; then engaged in merchandising at Brownstown; and of later years in general agencies at Newport, Ky., his place of residence.
- Children, born in Brownstown:
- i. DELIGHT,⁹ b. Sept. 19, 1870; m. Aug. 6, 1893, Walter Kerr, b. Aug. 22, 1865, at Aurora, Ind., their place of residence. Children: 1. *Elizabeth*,¹⁰ b. Aug. 19, 1896. 2. *Frances Willard*, b. Feb. 19, 1898. 3. *Anna Louisa*, b. Dec. 13, 1904.
 - ii. WILBUR CLARKE, b. July 3, 1872. A lawyer. Unmarried. Res., Chicago, Ill.
 - iii. HOWARD MILLER, b. Sept. 3, 1874. A lawyer. Married, July, 1906. Res., Newport, Ky.
 - iv. HETTY, b. July 1, 1876; m. May 18, 1898, in Newport, Ky., Dr. Albert Sidney Stemler, b. at Newport, Aug. 13, 1874. Only child: *Margaret*,¹⁰ b. Sept. 10, 1900. Res., Good Hope, Fayette Co., Ohio.
 - v. FRANK VERMILYA, b. Mar. 14, 1878; m. July 12, 1900, in Cincinnati, Ohio, Anna Olive Mooers, b. Sept. 8, 1881, in Cincinnati, Ohio. A lawyer. Res., Newport, Ky. Children: 1. *Frank Vermilya*,¹⁰ b. July 2, 1901. 2. *John Mooers*, b. June 13, 1905.
44. ASBURY WATSON⁸ BENTON (*Walter*,⁷ *David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born Mar. 8, 1841; married Aug. 18, 1865, in Brownstown, Ind., Harriet Eliza Chase, who was born in Madison, Ind., Mar. 9, 1847, and died in Brownstown, Mar. 19, 1884. He was named for Francis Asbury, second bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Richard Watson, a distinguished English Methodist preacher. He was a farmer for a number of years, and served as a private in Co. "A," 50 Ind. Vol. Inf., from Oct. 8, 1861 to Jan. 5, 1865. Residence, Marion, Ind.
- Children, born in Brownstown:
- i. ANNA CHASE,⁹ b. Apr. 3, 1870; m. Apr. 20, 1892, at Shelbyville, Ind., John C. Eberhart, b. in Shelby Co., Ind., Oct. 29, 1863. Only child: *John Clyde*,¹⁰ b. Apr. 12, 1900, at Van Wert, Ohio, the residence of parents.
 - ii. WRIGHT VERMILYA, b. Apr. 6, 1872. A farmer; unmarried, and home is in Victor, Colorado.
 - iii. FRANK CHASE, b. June 6, 1875. When a boy he was our father's reliable helper and guide in his blindness. He died of typhoid fever at Victor, Colorado, Apr. 23, 1900. *We have known no better boy.*
 - iv. HARRIET C., b. Mar. 8, 1880. A teacher in the public schools at Van Wert, Ohio.

45. CHARLES WESLEY⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) was born June 4, 1843; married Jan. 13, 1863, in Easton, Mo., Emma Hersie, daughter of William Arthur and Anna Maria (Connell) Irwin, who was born in Oxford, Ohio, April 29, 1846. He was named after Charles Wesley, the renowned Methodist hymnologist and preacher. He served as a sergeant in Co. I, 7 Mo. Vol. Cav'y, from Aug. 1, 1861 to Nov. 23, 1864. He resided for several years at Laelege, Mo., but for the last thirty years or more his family home has been in Brownstown.*

Children :

- i. EVA,⁹ b. Nov. 8, 1869, in Laelege, Mo.; m. Dec. 2, 1893, in Brownstown, Ind., George C. Boileau, b. Dec. 27, 1869, in McCormicksville, Ohio. Res., Red Oak, Iowa. Children: 1. *Heert*,¹⁰ b. Jan. 8, 1896. 2. *Bessie Benton*, b. May 5, 1897. Both b. in Iowa.
 - ii. ARTHUR TINSLEY, b. July 19, 1877, at Brownstown; m. May 29, 1904, at Seymour, Ind., Esther, daughter of Abel and Rebecca McCormick, who was born near Brownstown, Oct. 14, 1872. Res., Bloomington, Ind.
46. EVALINE⁸ BENTON (*Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) was born July 12, 1846, and was named for Evaline (Stiles) Peck, a very dear, life-long friend of her mother. She was married Sept. 28, 1869, to Warren Woody Reynolds, son of George W. and Elizabeth (Skinner) Reynolds, who was born near Brownstown, Sept. 6, 1845. He was engaged in the mercantile business at Brownstown, for several years prior to his entering the ministry of the Methodist church as a traveling preacher, a number of years ago, and at present is pastor of a charge at Evansville, Ind.*

Children :

- i. CURTIS,⁹ b. Sept. 10, 1875, at Brownstown; m. Mar. 3, 1902, at Indianapolis, Julia Ann Cowger, b. at Rushville, Ind., Apr. 10, 1876. Res., Indianapolis. Only child: *Elna Cowger*,¹⁰ b. Nov. 12, 1904.
 - ii. KATHRYN ORA, b. Aug. 5, 1879, at Caruthersville, Ind.; m. Oct. 25, 1902, at Seymour, Ind., Dr. Charles Cannady Hickman, b. Jan. 2, 1869, at Chrisman, Illinois. Only Child: *Warren Reynolds*,¹⁰ b. Nov. 28, 1905.
47. WALTER LEMUEL⁹ BENTON (*George V.,⁸ Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹), born June 6, 1852; married Feb. 17, 1873, in Brownstown, Ind., Bertie, daughter of Judy Ralph and Josephine (Brant) Applewhite, who was born in Hanover, Ind., June 5, 1852, and died in Muncie, Ind., Oct. 13, 1898. *A noble Christian woman.* Res., Brownstown.*

Children :

- i. MINNIE JOSEPHINE,¹⁰ b. May 17, 1875; m. Sept. 15, 1897, Elmer O. Shepard. Res., Brownstown.
 - ii. JAMES HENRY, b. Aug. 24, 1876; m. July 19, 1900, Alice Doran, at Jeffersonville, Ind.
 - iii. GEORGE RALPH, b. Aug. 24, 1878, m. Mar. 30, 1902, Zedah Warner, at Pendleton, Ind. Res., Indianapolis.
48. MINNIE⁹ BENTON (*George V.,⁸ Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹), b. Sept. 9, 1855; d. Dec. 30, 1905, of pneumonia, after a brief sickness. (There is none of my several loveable nieces and grand nieces to whom I was more warmly attached than I was to her; and of all my mother's grandchildren there was none who loved her with intenser affection. Much of*

her girlhood years was spent in her grandmother's home, although separated from her own but by the width of a street. A short time before her death, in response to a reference of mine as to their mutual attachment for each other, she wrote to me—"My grandmother was one of the very best women that ever lived in the world." I fondly treasure these loving words, and shall never cease to mourn the early death of the dear woman who uttered them.—J. H. B.) She was married, Nov. 9, 1875, to John Milton, son of John T. and Nancy Wallace, born in Martin Co., Ind., Feb. 24, 1844. Res., West Brownstown, and is station agent of the B. O. & S. W. R. R. at Ewing, Ind.

Children:

- i. LEW EDWIN,¹⁰ b. June 22, 1877. A throat, eye and ear specialist. Res., Indianapolis.
 - ii. HARRY ELSWORTH, b. Feb. 7, 1879; m. Apr. 18, 1900, Georgia Downing. Children: 1. Lew Downing,¹¹ b. June 28, 1902. Res., Ewing, Ind.
49. CHARLES TINSLEY⁹ BENTON (*George V.*⁸ *Walter*,⁷ *David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹), born July 17, 1858; married, Dec. 14, 1881, Carrie, daughter of William and Laura C. (Smith) Frysinger, who was born Aug. 23, 1860, in Lewistown, Pa. He is a general merchant at Brownstown.
- Children:
- i. PEARL LENORE,¹⁰ b. Sept. 14, 1882; m. Dec. 25, 1901, Arthur Grager, at Seymour, Ind.
 - ii. CLYDE FRYINGER, b. Oct. 8, 1884. Res., Phoenix, Arizona.
50. THOMAS⁹ RAY BENTON (*John*,⁸ *Walter*,⁷ *David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born in Brownstown, Ind., Aug. 8, 1852; married Oct. 11, 1876, in Washington, D. C., Fanny Walker Scott, daughter of John W. and Lucinda (Benson) Scott, who was born in Bladensburg, Md., Jan. 10, 1856. He was educated in the public schools of his native town and Washington, D. C., and graduated in law from the National Law School in Washington, with the class of 1888, receiving the McArthur medal for its first honors,—having previously been awarded the second prize of the junior class. From Oct., 1871, until his removal to St. Paul, Minn., in May, 1889, he was a clerk in the General Land Office, except an intervening couple of years that were spent in the law office of J. Vance Lewis. Since his removal to St. Paul he has been employed in the land and law departments of the *Great Northwestern Railway*.
- Children, all born in Washington, D. C.:
- i. THOMAS RAY,¹⁰ b. July 2, 1877; m. Aug. 5, 1905, Mazey Hopkins, at Sardinia, Erie Co., N. Y. Res., St. Paul. He is a civil engineer.
 - ii. MARY SCOTT, b. Dec. 29, 1879. A teacher in the public schools at St. Paul.
 - iii. WILLIAM MAYSE, b. July 27, 1882. A hospital steward in the U. S. Navy.
51. EDWARD VERMILYA⁹ BENTON (*John*,⁸ *Walter*,⁷ *David*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Isaac*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *Andrew*,² *John*¹) was born Feb. 2, 1855, and died of consumption in Stafford Co., Va., Sept. 28, 1894. Is buried in family lot in Glenwood Cemetery, at Washington, D. C. He

was married at Washington, June 28, 1881, to Lillie Ida, daughter of Edward P. and Catharine (Clarke) Davis, who was born in Stafford Co., Va., July 31, 1858, and died in Washington, June 2, 1902. She is buried in the family lot in Glenwood Cemetery. He was educated in the public schools of Brownstown, Ind., and of Washington, and was twice awarded prize medals for proficiency in studies, at competitive examinations composed of representative scholars from the several grammar schools of the city. He was a clerk in the Census Office from 1881 until his transfer to the Pension Office in Jan., 1884; and on his resignation in April, 1887, he was employed in the pension agency of John W. Morris, and for several years preceding his death was his chief clerk.

Children:

- i. JOHN HOGAN,¹⁰ b. May 31, 1882, in Washington, D. C. A carpenter and resides in Stafford Co., Va.
- ii. ETHEL VERMILYA, b. Aug. 5, 1885, in Stafford Co., Va. Is employed in the Beureau of Engraving and Printing.
- iii. MARGARET RAY, b. Jan. 6, 1888, in Washington, D. C. Graduated from Business High School, Washington, June, 1906.

52. MARY PHEBE⁹ BENTON (*John,⁸ Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹) was born April 23, 1857; died of disease of kidneys in Anacostia, D. C., June 18, 1897, and is buried in the family lot in Glenwood Cemetery, at Washington.*

She married, Oct. 30, 1878, Samuel Winfield, son of John W. and Virginia Frances (Torreyson) Payne, who was born in Georgetown, D. C., Oct. 27, 1852. Children were born near Falls Church, Fairfax Co., Va., except Samuel T. and Nora W., who were born at Washington.

Children:

- i. WALTER BENTON¹¹ PAYNE, b. Sept. 27, 1881; m. Aug. 11, 1903, Elizabeth J. Perry, of Rochester, N. Y., their place of residence. He is a draftsman by occupation. Only child: *Alice Myrtle*, b. Apr. 25, 1906.
- ii. RUTH RAY PAYNE, b. Dec. 2, 1883; m. July 26, 1905, Clyde D. Moyer, in Washington, where they reside. Only child: *Ray Melford*, a daughter, b., Sunday, May 20, 1906.
- iii. SAMUEL TALBOTT PAYNE, b. Dec. 5, 1886. A draftsman, and now employed at Pittsburg, Penn.
- iv. EDWARD VERMILYA PAYNE, b. Mar. 17, 1889. Res., Washington.
- v. NORA WINGATE PAYNE, b. Aug. 8, 1891. Res., Washington.

53. MARIA TANNER⁹ BENTON (*John,⁸ Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹), born July 1, 1861, and named for Mrs. Maria L. Tanner, whose husband, Major Gordon Tanner, of the 22d Ind. Inf., the most intimate friend of my youth and early manhood, died Oct. 1, 1861, of wounds received several days previously in a night reconnoissance at Glasgow, Mo. He was born near Brownstown, July 19, 1829, while I was born June 10, of that year. She was married June 6, 1892, at Washington, to Col. Charles Holton Clifford, born July 6, 1842, in St. Louis, Mo., son of Charles Clifford of Bridgeport, Conn., and Amelia Holton of New York city. His father was lost at sea when the son was eighteen months of age; and his mother died in 1851 in New York city and was buried at Bridgeport. Early in life the son went to sea, which he followed until the fall of 1860, when he returned to*

New York. At the breaking out of the civil war, he enlisted in the Confederate army as a private in Co. "H," 2d Mo. State Guards; was wounded in battle in eight different parts of the body, and was a colonel of cavalry in Gen. Sterling Price's army, then in Texas, at the close of the war in 1865. He settled in that state; resided in the counties of Brazos, Robertson and Bexar; was engaged in farming and merchandising, in the meanwhile studying law, and was admitted to the practice in 1872. In 1881 he removed to San Antonio, his place of residence and practice of law until his removal to Washington in 1902.

54. JOHN EWING⁹ BENTON (*John,⁸ Walter,⁷ David,⁶ David,⁵ Isaac,⁴ Joseph,³ Andrew,² John¹*), born Oct. 31, 1867, at 446 P St., N. W., Washington; married, June 6, 1894, at Beltsville, Md., Selma Irene, daughter of Col. Edwin and Sarah Jane (Farnsworth) Frey, born Sept. 2, 1867, at Buckhannon, Upshur Co., W. Va. The John in his name was after his father, the Ewing for Thomas L. Ewing, formerly of Brownstown, the dearest and best friend of his father's boyhood and manhood's years, though thirteen years his seignior. He was educated in the public schools of Washington—finishing a four year course at the Central High School in 1886, and immediately thereafter entering the private bank of his friend William Mayse, as a clerk, in which he continued till his suspension of business in 1895. In Feb., 1897, he obtained a situation in the Traders' National Bank, and is now its paying teller. He enlisted, Nov. 19, 1888, in Battery A, Light Artillery, D. C. Nat. Guards; was appointed quartermaster sergeant, Feb. 18, 1890; and was honorably discharged, Jan. 31, 1891, at his own request. He was twice awarded first prize for proficiency in drill in competitive examinations.

LINEAGE OF HORACE BENTON OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

A grandson of the Zadok, son of Samuel iii and Jane (Bradley) Benton (Fam. Rec. 14), who was born Mar. 7, 1761, at Tolland, Conn.; married, about 1786, Lydia Day, who was born, 1767; died, 1852; removed to Northern Ohio in the early settlement of that part of the State. A Revolutionary soldier.

And a son of Otis, a son of Zadok and Lydia (Day) Benton, who was born, 1798; died, 1887. He was born, Feb. 27, 1827; and is sole survivor of his father's four sons. He has two sons and two daughters. His son Charles Horace Benton of London, England (see pp. 1 & 30), was born Aug. 16, 1867.

The other children of Zadok and Lydia (Day) Benton were: 1. Orrin, b. 1787; d. 1879. 2. ~~Ariel~~, b. 1790; d. 1835. 3. ~~Zadok~~, b. 1791; d. 1883. 4. (Otis). 5. Elihu, b. 1800; d. 1884. 6. Nancy, b. 1802; d. 1876. 7. Sally. 8. Lydia, and 9. Lyman, did not live to be married.

J. H. B.

AUGUST, 1906.

x 2. *Zadok.*

x 3. *Ariel.*

BENTON GRAVESTONE INSCRIPTIONS.

(Exact copies in all respects as transcribed by myself. They represent the entirety of our lineal Benton ancestry in America.—J. H. B.)

1

ANDREW
BENTON AGED
63 YEARS
HE DYED IVLY
31 ANO 1683

2

HEAR LIES
THE BODY OF
DEC · N IOSEPH
BENTON WHODI
EDAVGVST · 12th
1753 IN THE 93
Y · ROFHISAGE

3

Here Lies Interred
The Body of Mr
Iftaac Benton Ho
Died September
17th AD 1757

4

In Memory
of Mr David
Benton who died
August 6th 1797
in the 63^d year of
his age

5

IN

memory of
DAVID BENTON
who died March
the 7th 1845. aged
82 years.

6

REV. WALTER
BENTON
BORN
MAY 7, 1799
DIED
APR 3, 1890
AGED
90 YRS. 10 MO.
& 26 DAYS.
BENTON.

7

FAREWELL.
[Clasped hands.]
HETTY
WIFE OF
REV WALTER
BENTON
DIED
NOV 6, 1875
AGED
70Y. 6M. 6D.

1. Center Church Cemetery, Hartford, Conn.
2. Good Hill Cemetery, near Kent, Conn.
3. Old Burial-Ground, Salisbury, Conn.
4. Private burial-ground, Sheffield, Mass., on Great Barrington road, five miles from Salisbury, Conn.
- 5, 6 and 7. Fairview Cemetery, Brownstown, Ind.

BENTONS FROM CONNECTICUT IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

(REPORT OF ADJUTANT GENERAL OF CONNECTICUT.)

Fairfield County: SELAH, lieutenant and captain. *Hartford County:* ADONIRAM, from Windsor, a pensioner; EDWARD, a sergeant; ELISHA, from East Windsor; JOHN, from Wethersfield; NATHANIEL W., from Berlin, a pensioner. *Litchfield County:* CALEB, from Canaan. *New Haven County:* CHANDLER, NATHAN, NOAH SR., NOAH JR., a pensioner, SILAS a sergeant, TIMOTHY and ZEBULON. SILAS was from Milford, the others from Guilford. *Tolland County:* AZARIAH, missing at battle of Long Island, Aug., 1776, DANIEL the 3d, ELIJAH a pensioner, JACOB a pensioner, JOEL, JONATHAN a pensioner, JOSIAH, missing at the battle of Long Island, Aug., 1776, NATHANIEL SEYMOUR, SAMUEL IV., TIMOTHY JR., ZADOC. Not located: AMOS, ELIHU, JAMES.

Pension Office Files show:

ADONIRAM BENTON (son of Elijah—Fam. 19), applied Apr., 1818, from Surry, N. H., where he died Aug. 29, 1842. Served from Jan., 1781, to June, 1883, in Col. Shelden's Light Dragoons. Was pensioned in 1818; as also his widow, Betsey (Griffin) Benton, in 1843.

ELIJAH BENTON (son of Elijah—Fam. 19) applied June, 1818, from Stewartstown, Coos Co., N. H., where he died Aug. 14, 1841. Served under Col. Ward and Col. Sherman and finally in Col. Shelden's Light Dragoons. Served four years. Was pensioned in 1818, as also his widow Sally (Sellingham) Benton, in 1842. A daughter, ANNYANETTE J. BENTON, was a witness in the widow's claim.

JACOB BENTON (son of Daniel II—Fam. 27), applied in 1818 from Tolland, Conn., where he was born in 1760, and where he died, June 9, 1843. Served from time to time from 1777 till the close of the war. Was at the surrender of Burgoyne, Oct. 1777. His witnesses say, "A man of veracity. A fine, honorable and honest man." He was pensioned in 1818, as was also in 1843 his widow, Sarah (Ladd) Benton.

JONATHAN BENTON (son of Samuel—Fam. 14) applied in 1832 from Springfield, Mass., where he moved in 1802. Enlisted in Apr., 1775, and served from time to time until the close of the war. At New London, Conn., in 1777, and at New Haven and Danbury, Conn., and Tollerway, N. J., in 1780. "Was in Roxbury Street (Boston) and saw the battle of Bunker Hill or Breed's Hill (June, 1775), plainly," and "was on duty in the front guard the day (Oct. 1780) Major Andre was hung at Tappan, N. Y." Was pensioned in 1832. No widow survived his death.

NATHANIEL W. BENTON (a descendant of Edward Benton of Wethersfield, Conn.), born at Berlin, Hartford Co., in 1760. Applied in May, 1818, from Sodus, Wayne Co., N. Y., where he died Sept. 3, 1828. Was an armorer in Col. Meigs' regiment and served from July, 1780, to July, 1783. He was pensioned in 1818. His widow, Susannah (Wallace) Benton applied in June, 1839, and was also pensioned. Among her witnesses was a Rev. Roger Benton of Arcadia, N. Y., born in 1770, who testified that he learned his trade (blacksmith?) from the soldier at Wethersfield, Conn. John Wesley Benton, a son of Roger Benton, born Jan. 21, 1823, at Newark, N. Y., died there, Apr. 7, 1900. His obituary appeared in the *Christian Advocate* of New York.

NOAH BENTON, JR. (a descendant of Edward Benton, of Guilford, Conn.), son of Noah and Ruth Benton, born Oct. 16, 1753, at Guilford, Conn. Applied from there in June, 1832, and died there Oct. 27, 1847. Served a while as a substitute for his father; and in 1779 and subsequently in his own name. His widow Phebe (Davis) Benton, to whom he was married at Guilford, Oct. 31, 1790, applied in Sept. 1848. Both were pensioned. The dates of his birth and marriage are obtained from Guilford records.

BENTONS FROM MASSACHUSETTS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

(FROM PENSION OFFICE RECORDS.)

BENTON⁵ BETHEL (*James⁶ James⁴ James³ Andrew² Edward¹*), a descendant of Edward Benton, of Guilford, Conn., where he alleges he was born, Dec. 14, 1750. (The Guilford records show a Bethel, son of James and Margaret (Naughty) Benton, born Nov. 21, 1751.) He applied in Aug. 1832 from Seneca, Ontario, Co., N. Y., to which he moved in 1798 from Ashland, Mass., where he had lived since 1767. Enlisted in May, 1775, and was in Col. Woodbridge's regiment of Gen. Prescott's brigade at the battle of Bunker Hill (June, 1775); re-enlisted in Feb., 1776, in Col. Porter's regiment, that joined in the expedition against Quebec, by way of Lake Champlain, and formed a junction with Gen. Arnold's, by way of Maine, on April 3; returned to Massachusetts in May; and was discharged in Feb., 1777. Andrew J. Benton, a great grandson, is a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington.

DAVID BENTON (Fam. Rec. 29).

FELIX⁶ BENTON (*John⁵ John⁴ John³ Andrew² Edward¹*). A descendant of Edward Benton, of Guilford, Conn., and son of John and Thomas (——) Benton, born Apr. 9, 1762, at Salisbury, Conn. (His father was one of the distributors of the estate of Isaac Benton, the grandfather of my grandfather, David Benton.—J. H. B.) He applied in 1832 from Cornwall, Vt., where he died, April 15, 1841. He was "called into service" from West Stockbridge, Berkshire Co., Mass., and served in the state of New York, six months from July, 1780. Presumably in Capt. Warner's Co. of Col. John Brown's regiment, of which my grandfather, David Benton, was a member. His widow was pensioned and lived to the age of 90 years.

JONATHAN BENTON, a brother of the foregoing, applied in 1833 from West Stockbridge, Mass., from which place he was called into service in each year from 1777 to 1780, all of it in New York. And his portion of 1780 was no doubt in the same company with his brother and my grandfather. He alleges that he was born May 19, 1759, at Salisbury, Conn. (Its records, which I have examined, show May 19, 1760.—O. B.) As no widow applied, it is evident that none survived him.

STEPHEN⁶ BENTON (*Isaac⁴ Joseph³ Andrew² John¹*), a son of Isaac and Ruth (Norton) Benton, born July 10, 1757.—Fam. Rec. 21. Died prior to the act of 1832, and hence was not pensioned. The time he was in his service is obtained from a History of Berkshire Co., Mass., and is

furnished by Miss H. C. Snow, of Becket in that county. He served at Fort Ann and Ticonderoga, N. Y., from June 30, to July 26, 1777, in Col. John Brown's regiment of the Mass. Line; and again in the same regiment from Sept. 21 to Oct. 14 of the same year, against Gen. Burgoyne. In Nov., 1780, he was a sergeant in Col. Rossiter's regiment that marched to reinforce Gen. Stark at Stillwater, N. Y.—a false alarm. Miss Grace Adella Benton, a great-granddaughter, resides at Richmond, Mass.

OUR CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

[By reference to the Family Record of the ancestor as indicated by its number—thus, Fam. Rec. —, the descendant may readily trace the ancestral line to its origin.]

Prof. Allen Richardson Benton, of Irvington, Ind., son of Dr. Allen and Deborah (Willey) Benton—Fam. Rec. 28—b. Oct. 1, 1822, at Ira, Cayuga Co., N. Y.; m. June 26, 1851, Silence, b. Jan. 2, 1838; d. Mar. 11, 1900, at Irvington, Ind., dau. of Dr. Ransom Howard of Volney, N. Y.

Charles Edward Benton, of New Bedford, Mass., b. Sept. 11, 1841, at Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y.; m. Oct. 6, 1870, Clara Rogers Foster, at Southampton, N. Y. A valued correspondent, and a descendant in the seventh degree of Edward the emigrant and Alice (Purden) Benton; and, indeed, of the Edward and Joane (Holloway) Benton, who were m. May 10, 1563, in Co. Essex, England, Fam. Rec. 2. We are favored with a complimentary copy of his book, "Caleb Benton and Sarah Bishop, their Ancestors and their Descendants," with the arrangement, contents and literature of which we are greatly pleased.

Charles H. Benton of London, Eng., son of Horace Benton, of Cleveland, Ohio, descendants of Samuel and Jane (Bradley) Benton—Fam. Rec. 14. The descendants of Edward and Andrew Benton, the emigrants, are indebted to Mr. Charles H. Benton for the information obtained concerning their English ancestors. Our failure to obtain the family history of Mr. Horace Benton is matter of regret.

Miss Grace Adella Benton, of Richmond, Berkshire Co., Mass., b. Sept. 23, 1867, dau. of Stephen Reynolds Benton, and granddaughter of Darius and Fanny (Fowler) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 22.

James F. Benton of Penn Yan, Yates Co., N. Y., son of Luther Barden and Mary (Gardner) Benton, and grandson of Levi, Jr., and Nancy (Parker) Benton, b. Apr. 27, 1829, in Yates Co., N. Y.; m. Elizabeth Lovejoy.—Fam. Rec. 24.

Joel Benton of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., son of Simeon B. and Deborah (Hallock) Benton, b. May 29, 1832, at Amenia, Dutchess Co., N. Y.; widely known as poet, lecturer and essayist. A descendant in the 8th generation of Edward the emigrant and Alice (Purden) Benton, and in the 10th of Edward and Jane (Holloway) Benton, m. May 10, 1563, in Co. Essex, England.—Fam. Rec. 2.

Col. Josiah Henry Benton, Jr., lawyer of Boston, Mass., son of Josiah H. and Martha (Danforth) Benton, and great-grandson of Jacob and Hannah (Slade) Benton, b. Aug. 4, 1843, at Addison, Vt.; m. (1) May 19, 1866, at Bradford, Vt., Josephine Emery Aldrich, b. Aug. 10, 1842, at Newbury, Vt.; d. Apr. 8, 1872, at Bradford; m. (2) Sept. 2, 1875, at

Concord, N. H., Mary Elizabeth Abbott, b. Feb. 22, 1843, at Sudua, N. H. The descendants of Andrew Benton, the emigrant, should gratefully remember Col. Benton for the large and exhaustive history he has given of their primal American ancestor in his book, "Samuel Shute Benton, his Ancestors and Descendants." We are a delighted recipient of a complimentary copy of his valuable contribution to Benton genealogy.—Fam. Rec. 9.

Myron Beecher Benton, late of Amenia, N. Y., son of William Alfred and Betsey (Reed) Benton, b. Aug. 26, 1834; d. Nov. 24, 1902; m. May 25, 1871, at Fishkill, N. Y., Mary Anna, dau. of Abel and Phoebe (Hallock) Adams of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., b. May 30, 1840; d. Dec. 10, 1896. A descendant of Edward the emigrant and Alice (Purden) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 2. "A farmer all his days," writes his brother Charles Edward, "a lover of country life, possessing literary and artistic tastes, enjoying a wide acquaintance and friendship with the foremost literary men and women of his day and himself an accomplished writer of both prose and poetry, leaving enough good material for several volumes." We retain a delightful recollection of our extended correspondence with this accomplished gentleman and scholar; and especially of a day spent in his hospitable home, near Amenia, in August, 1898.

Miss Sarah Adelaide Benton, late of South Manchester, Hartford Co., Conn., dau. of Rev. Sanford and Abigail (Kennebec) Benton, and great granddaughter of Samuel and Jane (Bradley) Benton, b. Nov. 22, 1848, at Mystic Bridge, Conn.; d. Sept. 23, 1905.—Fam. Rec. 11. "A woman of rare culture and refinement," whom I had the pleasure of calling upon in her home at South Manchester, in Aug. 1902; and also of meeting her brother Sanford M. Benton, at the same time and place, in his office of town clerk. It was through a letter of inquiry from Miss Benton in 1894, and subsequent letters, that I became interested in the family genealogy.

Rev. Stephen Olin Benton, son of Rev. Josiah Towne Benton, grandson of Rev. Erastus and Almira (Towne) Benton and great-grandson of Adonijah and Ann (Post) Benton of Tolland, Conn.—Fam. Rec. 25. Born Apr. 30, 1849, at Middletown, Conn.; m. June 22, 1869, Miss Ellen M. Tatt, at Stafford Springs, Conn. He is one of the secretaries of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with rooms at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York.

William Kinkead Benton, lawyer, Cincinnati, Ohio, son of Mortimer Murray and Angelina (Clemens) Benton, and grandson of Joseph and Ancy (Reynolds) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 24.—b. Oct. 6, 1851, at Covington, Ky.; m. June 24, 1879, Miss Emma Hart of that city. His brother, Rev. Mortimer Murray Benton, an Episcopal minister at Louisville, Ky.; b. Feb. 18, 1841, at Covington, Ky.; m. July 14, 1869, Miss Bettie Dupuy Terry of Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Sarah E. Davenport of Bath, N. Y., dau. of James and Harriet (Robie) Lyon, and granddaughter of Moses H. and Sarah (Benton) Lyon.—Fam. Rec. 32.—b. Feb. 19, 1847, at Bath; m. June 11, 1879, John Davenport, b. May 10, 1835; d. May 5, 1895. Miss Harriet Nancy Lyon, with whom we have had much agreeable correspondence, b. June 13, 1861, resides also at Bath, as likewise does their only brother, Rauber Robie Lyon, a lawyer, b. Mar. 2, 1857; m. Apr. 22, 1885, Emma L. Kemp, b. Sept. 25, 1859.

Mrs. Amorette E. Fraser, 226 Quincy St., Brooklyn, N. Y., dau. of Jonas Harrington and Ruby Benton, and granddaughter of Levi, Jr., and Nancy (Parker) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 24.—b. 1836; m. 1856, Jefferson Fraser. Children: 1. *Archer H.*, b. 1857; d. 1858. 2. *Arthur C.*, b. 1859; m. Rose McLane. 3. *Anna M.*, b. 1861. 4. *George H.*, b. 1863. 5. *Charles K.*, b. 1866. 6. *Herbert J.*, b. 1872; m. Adelaide Hall.

Mrs. Sarah Jane Gray, of Pokagon, Cass Co., Mich., dau. of Thomas and Margaret (Havens) Briggs and granddaughter of Robert Havens and Hannah Benton, a dau. of Levi and Mary (Woodworth) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 24.—b. Nov. 6, 1841, in Vigo Co., Ind.; m. Feb. 19, 1860, in same county, Moses V. Gray, b. May 25, 1835, in Hamilton Co., Ohio.

Mrs. Laura Maria Hart, of Wilton, Fairfield Co., Conn., b. Oct. 1, 1847, at Ira, N. Y.; m. Sept. 3, 1873, at Cato, N. Y., to Rev. William D. Hart, b. Apr. 16, 1843, at Ira; dau. of Rev. John Milton Shepard, b. May 25, 1825, at Troy, Penn.; m. Dec. 29, 1846; d. June 1, 1853, at Ira, and Matilda (Willey) Benton, b. Aug. 24, 1824, at Ira; d. Apr. 13, 1906, at Wilton, Conn.; buried beside her husband at Cato, N. Y.; and granddaughter of Dr. Allen and Deborah (Willey) Benton—Fam. Rec. 28.—We have had a large and enjoyable correspondence with her for several years.

Charles William Manwaring, late of Hartford, Conn., b. May 9, 1829; d. Aug. 19, 1905; buried at Norwich, Conn. Genealogist, and compiler of the valuable work, "Early Connecticut Probate Records," of which we own its three volumes. Our faithful correspondent; the diligent collector of the material of this book relating to the Bentons and Stockings of Hartford; the noble-hearted, courteous gentleman, whom we twice had the pleasure of visiting in his home, at 25 Mather St., in that city.

Mrs. Cornelia Catherine Simpson of Bear Lake, Manistee Co., Mich., b. Dec. 27, 1844, near Detroit, Mich.; m. in 1864, Thomas Simpson. A dau. of Abner W. and Maria Benton; granddaughter of Calvin and Lois (Barden) Benton, and great granddaughter of Levi and Mary (Woodworth) Benton.—Fam. Rec. 24.

Frederick Morgan Steele, 3957 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, b. Nov. 27, 1851, at Albany, N. Y.; m. Nov. 6, 1883, Ella Amanda, dau. of William H. H. Pratt, a descendent of Thomas Pratt of Watertown, N. Y. Son of John F. and Frances Mary (Steele) Steele of Albany, N. Y.; a descendant of both brothers, John Steele 1st Colonial Secretary of Conn. and George Steele. A descendant of Ebenezer, son of Andrew ii. and Martha (Spencer) Benton of Hartford, Conn., bapt. Oct. 18, 1696, and Elizabeth, dau. of John White of Middletown, Conn., bapt. June 11, 1698; buried Mar. 9, 1791; also of Abigail, dau. of Jacob and Abigail (Carter) Benton of Hartford, b. Sept. 18, bapt. Sept. 19, 1725; d. Mar. 4, 1764; m. Timothy Dodd, bapt. Aug. 17, 1724; d. Feb. 21, 1774.—Fam. Rec. 3, 9.

REV. WALTER BENTON.

(By his son, JOHN H. BENTON.)

IN "A Brief Sketch of the Life and Labors" of our father, published by him in June, 1878, for "distribution among his children, relatives and friends," he relates that at the time (1789) his father, David Benton, re-

moved from Berkshire County, Mass., to New York, the country was so sparsely settled that it was said there were only three white women in eleven contiguous counties; and these, presumably, were his wife and the wives of his brother Caleb and their uncle Levi Benton. It was under the auspices of his brother Caleb, who, a few years previously, had become the agent of Phelps and Gorham for the sale of lands in the extensive tract of which they were trustees, that David and Levi Benton with their families became pioneers in the unbroken wilderness of this promised land. Their lands were near each other on the west side of Seneca Lake, and in the settlement of boundary lines, David's fell within Ontario County and Levi's within Yates. David Benton's family consisted of his wife and their sons Henry and George, of the age of four and two years, respectively, and in the following year (1790) a daughter, afterwards Mrs. Sarah Lyon, was added to the parental care and solicitude. Levi Benton's was four sons and four daughters.

The Indians were "numerous, jealous, troublesome, revengeful," a constant menace to the peace and safety of the *pale face* intruders upon their domain. On several occasions his father narrowly escaped their vengeance, and in one instance, as the writer has heard him relate, he was pursued a considerable distance by one of them, and more than once, by skilful dodging, avoided the hurled tomahawk of the irate savage.

After a residence of thirty years in the state, during which he followed farming and finally keeping public house in conjunction with it, he removed with his family to what was then known as *the far west*. In April, 1819, they embarked in a family boat at Olean, New York, and were borne upon the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers to a point near Charlestown, Indiana, and settled at Brownstown, the county-seat of Jackson County, the future home of the parents and two of their sons, William David and the subject of the sketch. The author states that in the spring of 1820, he returned to New York on horseback, a distance of 650 miles, which was accomplished in twenty-one days, its purpose being the collection of bills for his father. The journey was repeated in the fall of that same year, and returning the following spring (1821), he brought with him his newly married first wife. Their wedded life was, however, of brief duration, for in a couple of years she fell a victim to the prevailing malaria of the locality, largely occasioned by overflowed lands from a mill-dam near the town. A son Albert, who survived her, lived to the age of seventy-seven years; and although our half-brother only, his interest in the family history, our warm attachment for each other and his fondness for his kindred, abide with me as a pleasant memory. They first lived in a cabin adjoining his father's, which was situated on the crest of the hill near the south entrance to what is now Fairview Cemetery. From this they removed in 1821 to a purchased tract of 160 acres about four miles east of the town on what was then known as the Yankee road. Here they dwelt in a cabin of two rooms built of hewed poplar logs. In the spring of 1823 they moved back to the town, and he began merchandizing in one of the apartments of a double hewed log house that stood on the site of the future two-story frame building in which he lived until his death. It was in the primitive structure that the wife died in September of that year. In 1826 he bought his father's farm of 130 acres, situated on the north and west sides of the town. The parchment patents for 68 acres of this land, and for the 160 acre tract east of the town, granted in 1825, bear the autograph signature of the President, John Quincy Adams, but signed as *J. Q. Adams*.

Besides these we have the patents of eight other tracts, aggregating 400 acres, that were issued during the presidencies of Jackson and Van Buren. The ownership in 1851 of about 1000 acres, mostly productive river-bottom land, made him, probably, the largest real estate owner in the county at that time. "But finding," as he states, "that the care and management of so much land required too much of his time and attention, and coming to regard it as a real incumbrance, he began to dispose of it by sales, and giving the proceeds in part to his children, till he had reduced his possessions in this kind of property to 20 acres." And he adds that he "does not remember ever having purchased or sold land and regretted the transaction." In 1826 or 1827, the county's court-house, a double story, hewed-log building, located on the east side of the public square, was abandoned for a more pretentious and commodious one of brick that occupied the center of the square. He became the purchaser of the retired structure and "converted it into a church, with pulpit, seats and galleries"; and although it was principally occupied by the Methodist, it was freely available for occupancy by other denominations as occasion might require. The Baptists in particular having regularly held their monthly meetings in it for a number of years. It was also occupied for school purposes, free of charge, during the summer months, until the building of a school-house beyond "the branch," in 1839 or 1840. In 1841 it was sold and the proceeds donated to the building of the frame meeting-house that was erected that year at the northeast corner of Poplar and Spring streets.

The subject of religion early engaged his attention, doubtless due to the precepts and example of his devoutly pious mother; for, when a lad of ten or twelve years, as he relates, he went a distance of five miles, and invested the first dollar he ever owned in a Bible that he might call his own—"which," as he further states, "he began to read, striving to conform his life to its blessed precepts and measuring his conduct by its standards, finding it adapted to the reproof and correction of the errors of his youth, a means of instruction and guidance in middle life, and an abiding treasure for the comfort and consolation of his declining years." It was not, however, until his nineteenth year of age that he professed faith in Christ as his Saviour, or, using his own words, that he was "convicted of sin and converted to God," and that he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. This occurred in 1818, during a revival of religion at Bellona, Yates Co., N. Y., while he was clerking in a store at that place. In 1825 he was appointed a class-leader, a relation to the church in which he continued for many years; and in 1832 he was licensed as a local preacher, and shortly afterward preached his first sermon in the home of Mrs. Fanny Langley, near Vallonia, having for his text, 1 Cor. 2: 9, and the last was in Brownstown, December 15, 1889, a few months only prior to his death. An interval of nearly sixty years, during which he was abundant in labors in the cause which he had most at heart, as his memoranda of nearly a thousand sermons preached at different places in the county and elsewhere bear ample witness. At a conference at Jeffersonville, in Sept., 1871, he reached the acme of his ministerial aspiration by his ordination as an elder in the church at the hands of Bishop Levi Scott.

In 1848, he became a charter member of a lodge of Good Templars at Brownstown, and becoming interested in the cause of temperance he traveled extensively, delivering addresses and organizing lodges of the order. He was a delegate to several grand lodges, and also to the national grand lodges that met at Chicago, at Hamilton, Canada West, and Indianapolis.

Indiana. From the one at Hamilton, accompanied by his wife, they returned to their home by the way of New York, visiting, after an absence of thirty-six years, his brother and two sisters at Bath, and also the place of his birth in Ontario County — "preaching at different times during the several weeks of his visit to the scenes and among the kindred and associates of his early life."

From 1823, when he began merchandizing for himself, until 1869, except the seven years of public office, he was engaged in that business in connection with the management of his farm adjoining the town, and in renting and leasing his other lands. His several years of experience at clerking in stores, beginning at the age of fourteen years, had well fitted him for entrance upon his life's principal pursuit. And it is with a feeling of no little pride that he relates that while yet a youth, he was entrusted with the entire care and management of a dry-goods store owned by his father and brother George, at Bellona, N. Y., and that he "made for them about \$1,000, clear money," in about a couple of years. We have a memorandum book of his personal accounts, kept in 1815, when sixteen years of age, and for neatness, accuracy, orderly arrangement and excellency of penmanship, we have not known it surpassed at any time by any person of equal age. Promptness, order and method were characteristics of his life and observant in all his affairs. The court of which he was for seven years the clerk, has never had a more careful, methodical or competent officer. And in this connection he says somewhat exultingly that he "does not remember ever having engaged in any temporal enterprise in which he was not measurably successful." In 1822 he was sergeant major of the 17th regiment of the state militia, and he probably held other and higher rank preliminary to his election to its lieutenant colonelcy in 1826, and with reference to his promotion, he says, he "equipped himself, became acquainted with the tactics and took great pleasure in performing the duties of the office." His commission, given by the governor, J. Brown Ray, dated July 11, 1826, and indorsed with his resignation, Dec. 30, 1830, in the well-known writing of Andrew C. Griffith, aid de camp to William Marshall, major-general, 1th division, Indiana Militia, is in my possession, as also an official order addressed to him as sergeant-major, and a note from several of his supporters informing him of his election as lieutenant colonel. And I may here add that my father has honored me with the possession of his official documents, for besides those already named, I hold his commissions as clerk of the court and recorder of the county, and the highly prized parchment of his eldership ordination.

The regimental muster of those former days was the surprising event of the year. The formation of the regiment on the public square under the spirit-stirring music of drum and fife, the plumed officers, the march on Walnut Street to the fields west of the town, the drilling, skirmishing and manœuvring of the martial forces in mimic warfare, and the enraptured crowd of admiring non-combatants, still dwell in our memory as one of the chiefest delights of our boyhood years. And we are able from certain data before us to record as a historical fact that the last of these annual military displays in our town was on Saturday, October 13, 1838.

The official order and election notification of which mention is made, were published in our town paper, a few years ago, and are reproduced here, as follows:

TWO ANCIENT DOCUMENTS.

Editor of the *Brownstown BANNER* :

We send you for publication copies of a couple of documents relating to the old militia system of our state, that may prove of interest to a few of your readers at least, who are able to recall the annual regimental musters at our town—then the great event, the field day of the year. We retain a distinct recollection of a number of the persons named in them; but think it questionable whether a score of your readers can say as much. Both papers are of expert penmanship, but wholly void of punctuation. The copies follow the originals in word and letter, and we request that they appear so in their publication.

No. 1.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS

Brownstown June 14th 1822

Walter Benton

Sir You are hereby notified agreeable to a Brigade Order The officers of the seventeenth Regiment will meet at Columbus on the Third Thursday of Sept next armed and equiped as the law directs for the purpose of a Drill Muster—prepared for camp duty—and to continue on the ground two days

By order of the Colnl Commanding

Daniel Waldron Jr
Adjnt 17th Regt Ia Ma

The order is addressed to Walter Benton Sergeant Major 17th Regt Inda Melitia

No. 2.

Brownstown June 25th 1826

Colnl Walter Benton

Sir

Permit us Sir to congratulate you on the Fortunate Result of your Election and had we language to Express the reciprocity of our feelings we should do it at Length Your Presence Forthwith Requested at Mr McCabes

We are Sir with High Consideration

Yours Respectfully

James Grant
Benjamin Carter
Joseph Brown
Saml Tate
Francis B. Miller

John Elliott Coln
Thos Hight P. M.
Job Carter Lieut
Jesse Burrell Lieut
Saml Stanley 4th Corporal
Brison Millee 3d Corporal
Bartholomew Burrell privt
Wm. Driskill
Hiram Kress
Wm M. Hays

As election to office in those days meant "settin 'em up for the crowd," and the Mr. McCabe of the congratulatory note, was a vender of ardent "spirits," the presumption is that the thirsty ones were thoroughly satu-

rated, after the custom of the times, at our father's proper cost and charges. He was not called to the ministry of the Gospel until 1832.

Very respectfully,

JOHN H. BENTON.

Washington, D. C.

May 24, 1901."

Early in 1876 our father's eyes were affected by cataracts, and by December of the following year their sight was so impaired as led to an operation by a Doctor Thompson of Indianapolis, for removal of the one in the right eye, but failing of the desired object, it was repeated in February, 1878, and this also failing to restore vision, consequent perhaps upon a resulting severe inflammation, he accepted with Christian fortitude, without murmur or complaint, a condition of total blindness for the remainder of his days on earth.

We last visited him in the summer of 1889, accompanied by his namesake, our little grandson, Walter Benton Payne, and he then appeared, although in the ninety-first year of his age, about as well and active, and fully as cheerful, contented and happy as he describes himself in the following paragraph of his *Sketch*, with which we conclude our tribute to his memory:

"The author and subject of this *Sketch* is now in his eightieth year — is in good health—has not been sick in fifteen years (typhoid fever, the only sickness we ever knew him to have—J. H. B.); has a good appetite; sleeps well; has a suitable home for himself and family, with all necessary conveniences, and with a sufficient income to supply all his essential wants, and with a kind family to comfort and cheer him and minister to his temporal necessities. For all of which blessings he is grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift. He really enjoys life, is contented and happy in his condition, and does not know in what circumstances he could be placed in this world that would render him more so. In addition to all this, he has a bright scriptural prospect of a blessed immortality in a land whose inhabitants live forever and enjoy all that their natures, purified from sin, are capable of enjoying."

PRESS NOTICES OF HIS DEATH.

From the extended notices of his death and life that were published in the papers of his town, much of which appears in the preceding sketch, the following extracts are taken:

The Jackson County News of April 9, 1890.

"DEAD!

THE REV. WALTER BENTON HAS GONE TO THE BETTER WORLD.

"It is with feelings of deepest sorrow that we chronicle the death of the venerable Rev. Walter Benton, who passed peacefully away at fifteen minutes past eight o'clock, Thursday morning, April 3, 1890. . . . Two days before his death he called his children about his bedside and counseled them in kind and pathetic words to live with a view to the life eternal, telling them that for many years it had been his custom to pray daily for his children and grandchildren and for all who were near and dear to him. . . . Uncle Walter is no more, but though his body

lies in yonder graveyard his spirit is in heaven. His memory will live in Brownstown, though his familiar form is seen here no more. . . . The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon. The remains were taken to the Methodist church, where very appropriate and deeply impressive services were conducted by the Rev. Charles Tinsley, assisted by the Rev. Warren W. Reynolds, his sons-in-law, the Rev. C. W. Tinsley a grandson of the deceased, and the Rev. W. N. Fletcher, the pastor of the church. The funeral was largely attended by the people of the town and from other places. After the services were concluded, the casket was placed in the vestibule that all present might take a last look upon the familiar features of uncle Walter Benton. The remains were then conveyed to the new cemetery for interment."

—

The Brownstown Banner of April 10, 1890.

"OBITUARY.

"Rev. Walter Benton was born near Geneva, Ontario county, New York, May 7th, 1799, and died April 3d. 1890, aged 90 years, 10 months and 26 days.

(Here followed an extended account of his life, condensed from his sketch. Two of its items were omitted from our sketch, but are given now. The first one for reason that it bears the name of a preacher, whom we distinctly remember as being in charge of the church at Brownstown in 1835-36).

In 1825 there was a great revival of religion in Brownstown, under the labors of the Rev. Ebenezer Patrick, a local preacher from Salem—a class was formed, of which Mr. Benton became a member and was appointed its leader. . . . In 1868 he became very much interested in the condition of prisoners and visited jails and penitentiaries regularly in this and other states. In one year he wrote 300 letters to prisoners besides other labors. One man, a prisoner over a hundred years of age, was converted and baptized by him. Mr. Benton's whole life has been a busy and devoted one—cheerful and self-reliant, he was a man of the kindest feeling and the strictest integrity. He made it his study to do good and to deal justly. He was not a speculator, especially in mature years. His benevolence ever took a practical turn. This is seen in the large number of children he raised, and besides seven of his own there were 28 others, most of whom he aided in housekeeping. He has had 40 grandchildren and 41 great-grandchildren.

He was a man of staunch integrity, one of noble impulses, strictly conscientious and just to all. As a business man he was methodical, systematic and thoughtful, prompt to meet every engagement and exceedingly careful to fulfil his promises. Gratitude for any favors was a prominent feature of his character. His life was a blessing to the community and being dead his works do follow him. The close of his life was calm and peaceful. After five days of sickness he passed away to his eternal home."

The funeral notice read as follows :

BENTON.—At his home in Brownstown, April 3, 1890, at 8.15 A. M., REV. WALTER BENTON, aged 90 years, 10 months and 26 days.

* * * * *

The funeral services will be held at the M. E. Church on Sunday, April 6th, at 1 o'clock, P. M., conducted by Rev. Chas. Tinsley, assisted by Rev. W. W. Reynolds, Rev. C. W. Tinsley and Rev. W. N. Fletcher, after which the remains

will be conveyed to the New Cemetery and deposited in their final resting place.

Yourself and family are respectfully invited to attend.

Pall Bearers.

Ralph Applewhite,
R. M. J. Cox,
John H. Burrell,

O. F. Lowell, Sr.,
F. M. Miller
James B. Stilwell.

MRS. HETTY (VERMILYA) BENTON.

(By her son, JOHN H. BENTON.)

Our mother, a daughter of Edward and Joanna (Wright) Vermilya, was a descendant in the fifth degree from Isaac Vermilya, son of John and Marie (Roulet) Vermilya, who was born in London in 1601, and came to America from Layden, Holland, in 1662, and settled at New Harlem, in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam, then under the governorship of Peter Stuyvesant.

Isaac Vermilya and his only son, Johannes, who came with him to America, lived and died in New Harlem. The latter's son John and his son Abraham lived near Yonkers in Westchester county, while William, a son of Abraham and Mehetabel Vermilya, who married Phebe Hustis, moved with his family to Delaware county, where he died near Halcottsville in 1803. Shortly after his death Edward Vermilya, his oldest son, moved with his family, consisting then of his wife and three children, to Dutchess (now Putnam) county, where our mother was born, May 1, 1803. She was given the Bible name of Mehetabel, but was known through life by its modified form of "Hetty". This name, as well as that of her eldest sister Phebe, given them in honor of paternal grandmothers, is still perpetuated in different branches of the family, and will doubtless so continue for generations to come. Edward Vermilya's home in Putnam county was on the east side of Lake Mahopac, and in May, 1818, he moved from there with his family of nine children to Salem, Indiana, where the mother died in July and the father in October of that same year. The father dying, as we have often heard our mother say, of a broken heart occasioned by the loss of his wife, so soon after reaching their new home in a new country. The eldest daughter, Phebe, then in her twenty-fourth year, shortly after the death of the parents, became the wife of David Burr, an intelligent, prosperous person and one of the noblest of men. They exercised a parental care over the orphaned family, and through their social position and counsel, the sons arrived at respected manhood, and the daughters, in early marriageable age, were wedded to men of first respectability, who were known as good and provident husbands.

My mother's first husband was Albert Banks, to whom she was married in Brownstown, July 24, 1821. They lived on a farm in Grassy Fork township, three or four miles from the town. We have no recollection of ever having heard her mention any matter in connection with their married life, other than that of riding on horseback, back and forth, between the town and their home in the country, and that he died of consumption. That he was engaged in farming at the time of their marriage may be inferred from the fact of his having bought a yoke of oxen at a cost of ninety dollars, January 4, 1820, for which payment in full was made, March 16, 1823, as appears from a receipt of the latter date, drawn by his own hand.

That he was an educated man and a good penman, is apparent from the handwriting and the grammatical construction of the receipt, which is of unusual length; and it may be inferred that he was also possessed of literary taste from his ownership of a copy of *Milton's Paradise Lost and Regained*. The receipt and the well preserved book, the latter published in Boston in 1796, and bearing the words "Albert Banks' property," in the same handwriting as that of the receipt, are in our possession. He was buried in the old graveyard at Brownstown, where his tombstone may be seen with this inscription:

In Memory of
Albert Banks
who died Octr.
15, 1823—Aged 26.

That our mother was wanting in respect to the memory of her deceased husband, is not to be supposed from her having received in a couple of months after his death, and probably accepted, an invitation to an evening party, as follows:

CHRISTMAS PARTY.

The company of Mrs. Banks is solicited to a party at the house of Mr. Sam'l Peck in Salem on 24th inst at 4 o'clk P.M.

Salem 12 Dec'r 1823.

James C. Kelso }
James S. Kelly } *Managers.*
A. Worth }

For, knowing her noble nature and womanly instincts, we cannot conceive it possible, if present, that she could have demeaned herself otherwise than with the strictest propriety that might be expected of one so recently bereft of a husband. Nor is she to be judged uncharitably, considering her orphanage and widowhood, and her dependence upon others, that she should, in a little less than six months from his death, have entered anew into the marriage relation. For on the 31st of March, 1824, she was married to our father, who was himself a widower of only six months.

A letter of hers addressed to him the day before their marriage, well written in a plain, round hand, is inserted here for the benefit of her descendants, and exactly as written, in letter, word and punctuation.

"Tuesday Morning March 30th 1824

Dear Walter

I have been talking with Mrs Burr and she thinks we had better put it off untill to morrow evening I think you had better ask Mr. Burr to spend the Evening with you this Evening and talk to him about it but make him promise to not say anything about it Don't tell your parents any thing about it till about Sundown to morrow Evening. If you have not told Mr. P——y* any thing about it dont hint it to him. no one shall know it from me I am in such A hurry I cant think of any thing to write that is worth notice I want you to let me know what Mr Burr says about it. This from

Your affectionate
HETTY

Mr. W. Benton."

* The P——y for Parsley, we suppose.

The letter needs no apology: every i dotted and every t crossed; only one word misspelled; no gush nor girlish sentimentalism; but consult her sister concerning the event, and requests her alliance to make the engagement known to her sister's husband. These more than compensate for the absence of punctuation—four periods excepted—the occasional misuse of capital letters, and the too frequent recurrence of the phrase—*anything about it*. Having moved to a new and sparsely inhabited country, at the age of thirteen, married at the age of sixteen and remarried at nineteen, the occasional schools of the communities in which she grew to womanhood afforded but meagre help to education. She was possessed, however, with a bright intellect, was an apt scholar, had a natural gift for correct spelling and good penmanship, and in course of time acquired a proficiency in the art of letter writing that was the delight and admiration of her children and correspondents.

On our father's succession to the recordership of the county in 1838, there was a large accumulation of unrecorded deeds, the fees for most of them having been paid, or at least claimed to have been, and the duty of recording them had been entailed upon him. And in addition to this, the office of clerk of the court was in a like condition of neglect and disorder, a state of affairs that required prompt and energetic action in order to put both offices under an up-to-date, systematic arrangement.

Our mother, always on the helping hand where help was needed and within the range of her ability, came to the rescue, and very many pages of the deed book beginning with our father's induction into office, bear ample evidence, not only of her efficiency in relieving the congestion, but of her good penmanship, and of her continuance in that line of assistance.

For a decade or more following their marriage she conducted a millinery business, for which she was well fitted by taste and tact. The business, which proved to be quite profitable, required for her assistance, from time to time, a succession of young women who aspired to an acquaintance with the vocation for like adventures of their own. Allusion to the subject brings with it a recollection of our mother as she sat with them, all busily employed, relating as was her habit some matter of interest drawn from reading or observation. We recall especially her reiterated recitals from a retentive memory the sad, true story of "the beautiful and accomplished" Charlotte Temple, an English school-girl of good family, who was betrayed by a young British officer, who brought her to America in the colony days and deserted her. How she found, after neglect and suffering, a home in a noble Christian family in New York, where she was cared for with parental tenderness, until death from consumption at the age of twenty obliterated the memory of her wrongs. Christian burial was given her in Trinity churchyard, where we have often gone out of regard for our mother's memory and visited the spot where a plain, granite tablet, bearing the inscription, CHARLOTTE TEMPLE—1774, marks the grave of the unfortunate young lady. And we have rarely, if ever, seen it when it lacked a floral wreath or offering, the tribute of some sympathetic heart like unto our mother's.

And in this connection we may add that we have not known the time, while under the parental roof, that our household was without some young person to attend to its out-door affairs, and a young woman or two to serve at house-keeping under the direction and instruction of our mother.

As the lives of several of these were more or less interwoven with our younger years, we delight to refresh our memory with their names and

good qualities. First and foremost among the boys and men comes the name of James Umbarger, a most faithful and trusted employee from boyhood to well advanced manhood; and of the young women, his sisters, Sophia and Minerva Umbarger, the former and younger the immediate successor, in 1838, of Ruth Dixon, who occupies first place in my recollection of our mother's helpers. With the marriage of Minerva Umbarger in December, 1843, came Mary Wilson and Savilla Willey, and these were succeeded by my half brother Albert's daughter Matilda, and by Phebe and Hetty Vermilya, the orphan children of our mother's brother Solomon. Those who were not of our kindred, like them that were, were not accounted servants, but were regarded and treated as members of the family. All were married from our home, and all, with one exception, found good and faithful husbands. And all were assisted at house-keeping for themselves. Our town paper's obituary of our father states, and on his authority presumably, that aside from his children, twenty-eight persons had been thus reared in the family; and many of them, besides these that are mentioned, have an abiding place in our remembrance.

HER OBITUARY.

[PUBLISHED IN *The Brownstown Banner* OF NOVEMBER 11, 1875, WILLIAM FRYSSINGER, EDITOR.]

DEATH OF MRS. HETTY BENTON.

"This community wept as the hosts of Heaven rejoiced on Saturday evening last, November 6th, 1875, at 5 o'clock, when the spirit of Mrs. HETTY BENTON, wife of Rev. Walter Benton, took its flight from its earthly tenement to gather the fruits of a most triumphant victory achieved by her over the trials and temptations of this life. To us upon earth, Aunt Hetty Benton is dead; but while dead to us, yet she lives.

* * * * *

In the task now before us, we feel an innate sense of our incompetency to do justice to a memory as sacred as that which Mrs. Hetty Benton has left behind. We fain would that another's pen would perform the duty which we essay to perform. We fain would that one whose existence upon earth has been contemporaneous with the departed throughout her lifetime, and who knew her as a child, as a little girl, as a young lady, as a wife, as a mother, and also as a grandmother and great-grandmother, were here to portray the manifold virtues, gifts and graces which must have ever been characteristic of her. Our knowledge extends only over the period of our acquaintance with her, dating back to 1861, when we came to Brownstown. She was then, as she doubtless was before, and as she ever afterward remained, the embodiment of all that was good and pure and holy, a living exemplification of true Christian character, affording an example of righteousness for righteousness' sake, such as even the most devout and consistent church-members might have followed with profit to themselves. Her mission was to do good—to ameliorate alike the spiritual and physical condition of mankind—and in the various duties of that mission her greatest pleasures consisted. Her field of work was not measured by narrow sectarian lines, nor by any boundaries of social distinction. Where sickness, sorrow, distress, want or affliction of any kind existed, none was so ready to minister as Mrs. Hetty Benton. To the poor particularly, she had always been as a ministering angel. Not only did she care for them tenderly when in the midst of sickness or other

affliction, but at all times she exercised a watchful care over them and their wants. It was her custom frequently to send food or clothing to poor persons, studiously striving to leave the recipients in ignorance as to whence the gifts came. The poor will look in vain for another friend with kind consideration and open-hearted generosity such as distinguished Aunt Hetty Benton.

'Tis common, in conversation relating to departed persons, to speak of their faults in connection with their virtues. Mrs. Benton will prove an exception to this rule. She had no faults—nay, not even a failing. If ever there lived a woman who discharged her every duty to her God, her church, her husband, her children, and her fellow-creatures with unerring fidelity, that woman was Mrs. Hetty Benton. At all times and under all circumstances she was the same devout and zealous Christian—the same faithful and dutiful wife—the same tender and affectionate mother—the same warm-hearted and generous friend—the same kind and affable neighbor—the same watchful and charitable ministering angel of the poor and needy. We look around us and call to mind many good and noble Christian ladies; but there is not one who can fill the place made vacant by Aunt Hetty Benton's death.

The immediate cause of Mrs. Benton's death was typhoid pneumonia, after a severe illness of two weeks, during which she at times suffered intense agony. For several days preceding her death she was speechless and unconscious. After she took sick, she had a premonition that the day of her dissolution was near at hand, and she availed herself of her rational moments to call her children and grandchildren to her bedside and plead with them to lead pure and holy lives, avoiding evil of every description. At the time of her death, Mrs. Benton was 70 years 6 months and 6 days of age. During the past 48 years she had been a member of the M. E. Church. She was a member of the first class organized in the church at Brownstown many years ago, and ever afterward took an active interest in all class, prayer and other meetings. In her death the church has lost one of its brightest jewels.

The funeral of Mrs. Benton took place on Monday afternoon. Her remains were taken to the Methodist Church, where most appropriate and deeply impressive ceremonies were held. The services were opened by Rev. W. S. Falkenburg, during which he delivered one of the most fervent, soul-touching prayers to which we ever listened, bringing tears to the eyes of many in the congregation. The discourse was preached by Rev. Charles Tinsley, a son-in-law of the deceased, from the 13th verse of the 14th chapter of Revelation:

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 labors; and their works do follow them.

The sermon was admirably adapted to the solemn occasion, and delivered with great fervency. The eulogy pronounced upon the deceased was a most just and truthful tribute to her character. Every syllable of praise uttered by the speaker found a responsive echo in the heart of every one of the large congregation present, and with none more heartily than those who knew her best. After the services, the coffin was opened, and an opportunity given all to take a farewell look of her whom we all loved so well—of her of whom it may truthfully be said she was the noblest and the best of us all. The body was then conveyed to the family burial ground, where it now slumbers in peace."

MRS. HETTY BENTON.

(BY HER PASTOR. In *The Guide to Holiness*, New York.)*Mrs. Hetty Benton, wife of Rev. Walter Benton, departed this life at Brownstown, Ind., Nov. 6, 1875, in the seventy-first year of her age.*

When the grim monster enters the field of the Church, and bears away one of the pillars, the whole fabric trembles; such a one is always missed. The death angel hovered over our town a few days since, and bore away one, who, in all probability, will be missed more than any other of our Society.

For forty-eight years she has been a member of the M.E. Church, filling her place in the prayer circle, the class room, and the public congregation; and not only this, but she had a place in the heart of every member of the community. Lovely and loving, she won by her gentleness and Christian kindness the respect of even the most depraved, until by her Christian influence she swayed the entire community. The secret of her success was in the fact that she "walked with God."

For twenty-three years she has lived in the enjoyment of the blessing of perfect love, and her rich experience was to the Christian what "a river of water in a dry place" is to a famishing traveller. During all these years she has been a constant reader of the *Guide*, and loved it next to her Bible.

When Sister Benton died, the poor of this community lost a very dear, and a very attentive friend. She was not of those that give nothing; her hand was always open—her charities were many, and of that character that put her to much personal inconvenience.

None ever came to her door for food or clothes, or even a drink of water, but that she gave it "in the name of a disciple."

Space will not permit me to speak of her many virtues and Christian graces; but she is gone. The mother of the Church is gone, and the "babes in Christ" will feel keenly their loss. But we live in hope of a glorious reunion beyond the sky. But who will take her place? May God raise up an Elisha to bear the mantle of this departed saint.

A large family mourn their loss, but none so deeply as her aged companion. For fifty-two years they trod the pathway of life together; hand in hand they led each other through the smooth, and over the rough places of these low grounds.

They will not be separated long.

W. S. FALKENBURG.

GEORGE VERMILYA BENTON.

(BY HIS BROTHER, JOHN H. BENTON.)

His personality, and the estimation in which he was held by the community in which his life was mainly spent, may be drawn from the notices of his death and life that appeared in the three different newspapers of the county, their editors being numbered among his more intimate personal friends. Omission is made of the appalling details of his tragic death, it being sufficient to state that while returning with his wife from a visit to an uncle and friends in Tama City, Iowa, he was killed by an express train at Rockford, Indiana, within a half hour's run of his own home,

about 9 o'clock on Wednesday night, September 29, 1875. He had for several weeks been under treatment for severe nervous prostration, and the malady, as may readily be supposed, was greatly increased by the fatigue and excitement of so distant a journey, and as a consequence his death was a result of superinduced mental aberration.

The startling event was announced to his town's people by an "Extra" of the *Brownstown Banner*, at an early hour the following morning, Sept. 30. After relating the circumstances of incurrence, it said: "A cloud of darkness hangs over our town this morning, and the terrible death that Mr. Benton has met forms the theme of conversation at family fireplaces, in stores and offices, and in groups upon the streets. All feel that our town has lost one of its most enterprising and valuable citizens. His family have the heartfelt condolence of the community at large in the terrible affliction that has befallen them. Benton had but recently completed the forty-eighth year of his age.

In our next issue we shall give full particulars of the death of Mr. Benton, in connection with a sketch of his life."

The Seymour Democrat, edited by H. M. Beadle, said the same day, Sept. 30: "Mr. Benton has been many years a prominent merchant of Brownstown, and has accumulated considerable wealth. He was close and exact in his dealings, and very painstaking and particular. He delighted in details and figures and dates. He was one of the most thorough and accomplished accountants we ever met, and was extremely cautious and careful as a business man. He was in the prime of life with everything around him that could make life desirable. It is with feelings of unspeakable horror that we contemplate the sudden and frightful death of our early and staunch friend. Certainly his immediate friends and advisers were fearfully culpable in suffering him to travel the country unprotected, knowing his state of mind and the decision and resolution of the Benton spirit. We learn that he left home against his will, and that he didn't want to return from Iowa when he did. He needed the constant supervision of a vigilant eye, swift to detect danger, and a strong arm prompt and powerful to protect him from it."

The Seymour Weekly Times, edited by Dr. J. R. Monroe, in its issue of October 2, had the following:

"TERRIBLE CALAMITY.

DEATH OF GEORGE V. BENTON.

"For some four or five weeks, Mr. George V. Benton, of Brownstown, has been suffering from nervous prostration, and at times his mind seemed affected by the disease. He has been under treatment during the time, but he apparently got no better, and it was deemed advisable that he should take a journey for recreation. He and his wife accordingly went to Tama City, Iowa. The trip increased his nervousness, and he seemed to be more restless and nervous than ever, and several times during the journey spoke of self destruction as the most ready means to end his troubles. He started home day before yesterday, the journey still adding to his nervousness. Especially did he become excited amid the confusion of a crowd and the rushing of trains. Coming down the "Jeff." road, he

thought each station this side of Columbus was Seymour, and wanted to get out. At Rockford, where the night trains, each way, pass, he got up to get a drink of water, and went out and plunged before the train going north, and was instantly killed.*

It is useless to give a history of the life of Mr. Benton, whom everybody in the county knew. He was a successful merchant, a prompt business man, and was possessed with a great public spirit. His prostration was caused by his efforts in building the gravel road from Brownstown through the river bottoms. We shall next week endeavor to give more fully the particulars of his life and character. In the mean time we hope that his wife and children, whom he dearly loved, will find consolation in their affliction from Him who only can administer it, and find sympathy from their many friends. Due notice will be given of the time of the funeral."

The Seymour Democrat, edited by H. M. Beadle, in its issue of October 7, had the following :

"Last week it was our melancholy duty to announce the death of George V. Benton, by being crushed by the cars at Rockford, on Wednesday evening of last week. This week we give what few facts we can gather about his life.

Mr. Benton was born in Brownstown, September 10, 1827. His father is the Rev. Walter Benton, and his mother was Hetty Vermilya, a member of a family well known to the early settlers of the county. Both his parents, and all his brothers and sisters except Walter (who was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun) survive him.

Mr. Benton received such education as could be obtained in Brownstown, where, in his childhood, were many excellent teachers, and he also spent two years [only one] in Asbury University at Greencastle, Ind., where he was a classmate of Hon. D. W. Voorhees and Hon. Jonas G. Howard of Jeffersonville. After leaving college he went to Marion, Ind., where he spent some time as clerk of his uncle James Sweetser, where he laid the foundation of industry, probity, and a thorough business education that distinguished him in after years.

Returning to Brownstown, he married Miss Lucy S. Ford, October 10, 1850, by whom he had five children, four of whom, with their mother, survive him.

He commenced mercantile business for himself in 1851, and continued his career as a successful merchant until his death.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having united with it in 1870.

For several weeks before his death he had been suffering from nervous prostration, which at times affected his mind * * * When he went out on the platform of the car, if he had any thought of ending his life it must have occurred to his mind after getting the drink of water, for which he left his seat. In the confused state of his mind, hearing

* Our investigation at Rockford a few days after the deplorable event, led us to concur in the opinion of some who were best acquainted with its attending circumstances, that the thought of our brother in that fatal moment was not self destruction, but standing in darkness on a step of the stationary train, bewildered by the bell ringing and rush of the approaching train, anxious to reach home, and impressed with the idea that he was at Seymour and the train was for Brownstown, and not knowing what he did, and irresponsible for the act, he sprang to his body's destruction.—
J. H. B.

the rush of the coming train, he may have thought of a collision and jumped from the train to save his life, or he may have thought he was at Seymour, and that the coming train was going to Brownstown and endeavored to jump upon it [our theory—J. H. B.], or a thought of suicide may have entered his mind at the moment, as he saw the train approaching. Had his mind been clear, he never would have thought of suicide, and he never would have been led to any false conclusions about the situation. Although suffering severely, his malady was such that no apprehension of danger occurred to either his physician or friends.

Mr. Benton had a strong and decided character. He was an earnest, active, industrious man, that sought the advancement of others as well as himself. In his business matters he was strict, but outside of business affairs he was very charitable and liberal, and had great public spirit. His name is identified with nearly all the public enterprises of this county. He has gone and there is none to take his place. The loss of the community is second only to the loss of his family, whom he loved with ever-increasing fondness. Thousands of people followed him to the grave, thus testifying in what esteem he was held. The sympathy of thousands of others was expressed in fervent terms, and proved he had not lived in vain."

The Seymour Times, Dr. J. R. Monroe, editor, contained in its issue of October 16, the following sketch which was contributed by the Hon. Jason B. Brown, who was intimately acquainted with the person of whom he wrote.

"GEORGE V. BENTON.

"It is now nearly three weeks since I was aroused from a deep sleep by the voice of a friend at the door of my chamber, calling out to me: '*George Benton is dead.*' Never will I forget these solemn words, nor the deep feelings of sorrow and sadness that instantly took possession of me. Had the intelligence of the death of a near and dear relative been suddenly broken to me, my heart would have been scarcely less pained. And now, as it always will be, my mind cannot rest upon his memory without being filled with the deepest grief. It is not my purpose or desire to speak of the terribly dreadful manner in which he met with death, nor of the sad affliction he sustained a few weeks before his demise. Those facts have been given to the public, and I will not further disturb the feelings of relatives and friends by a repetition of them. I desire to speak of a few of those accomplishments and qualities of which he possessed so many that made him both good and eminent.

"He was an educated man, not only educated in those duties pertaining to a business life, but also in those accomplishments and branches of learning which made him highly useful to others and ornamental to society. A student at Greenacres in his early youth, he there acquired habits of study and investigation which he continued almost until his death. His education and learning were broad and comprehensive, not confined to a single or a few branches. Perhaps he excelled in mathematics, but he was almost equally well informed in all the other branches of learning, a thorough knowledge of which is required to enable one to enter into those intellectual fields into which he so often went. He possessed an accurate knowledge of the meaning of words and how to combine them. He was gifted

with great freedom of language, and always used it correctly. The language used by him in ordinary conversation was free from error, and his writings were faultless. His ideas were pure and partook largely of originality. Subjects selected by him for investigation were of grave and important character. His mind was both analytical and logical. But the grandest of all was the nice, delicate texture of the man, both body and mind. There was nothing coarse in him. Neither in his mental or physical organization, nor in his conduct or habits. Gifted by nature with more than ordinary capacity, having acquired much by study, labor and industry, he stood among friends and acquaintances qualified for a teacher and acknowledged by all—pre-eminent.

“He had the highest appreciation of morality, and the strictest regard for upright conduct. His example was one at all times well fitted to be followed. He was free from those things not in themselves vicious, but the tendency of which is to direct one in the wrong rather than in the right course of life. He always had a great desire to assist others to abstain from the wrong, and to pursue the right; and it was a great pleasure to him to know that his efforts in that regard had met with success.

“But I will not pursue further the intellectual and moral character of the man. He had other qualities of both mind and heart, equally necessary to be possessed to enable a man to stand in the relation to his fellow man in which he did.

“My acquaintance with him began a little more than fifteen years ago; and scarcely had the acquaintance been formed until friendship commenced to develope. . . . and continued to grow and develope until it ripened into feelings of the strongest affection and regard. I know that George Benton was a true, sincere and devoted friend. I know that he could brave opposition for a friend, and that he has done it. And my opinion that he possessed those enobling qualities of heart and mind which qualified him so well for the position of friend and companion, is not founded alone upon my own experience and personal relations with him. I have not forgotten his conduct toward, and his treatment of others. Jovial, kind and obliging. It was a source of gratification and pleasure to him to render aid and assistance to others. Of especial advantage was he to young men who were starting on a professional career, or about to engage in a business life, and I know there are some now living, who will testify to his goodness and kindness to them. While he lived the poor were not without a friend. He was not foolishly lavish in the distribution of charities, but none appearing in want, save the impostor, were ever turned away without assistance. The town and community in which he lived have lost a friend whose place, if ever, will not soon be filled. And as time progresses, making her many and mighty changes, his friends, citizens of the town, and the public generally, will see and feel the great loss they have sustained in his death.

* * * * *

“But he has gone. The grim messenger has done his dreadful work. Cut off in the midst of life without warning, his spirit returned to God who gave it. We mournfully followed his remains to the grave, and committed them to the silent casements of the tomb. We wept tears of sorrow and our hearts gave sighs of deep affliction and regret. He is dead, but his memory lives. Let it not be forgotten. It belongs to us. Let not the despoiling influences of time eradicate it from our minds. Let us love and

venerate it. Let us cherish it both in our hearts and minds; and if need be, protect and defend it.

Friend and companion, farewell! farewell!"

JUSTICE.

The Brownstown Banner, edited by William Fryberger, October 7, had the following:

"OUR DEAD TOWNSMAN!
DEATH OF GEORGE V. BENTON!
A SORROWFUL TALE OF DEATH!"

GEORGE VERMILYA BENTON was born in Brownstown, Jackson county, Indiana, September 10, 1827, and at the time of his death was 48 years and 19 days of age. He was the eldest son of Rev. Walter and Mrs. Huffy Benton. In his early boyhood days, he displayed an adaptability to clerical pursuits, and from 1838 to 1844 he filled the position of deputy in the clerk and recorder's office of this county, under his father, who held that office. About 1845-6, he attended Ashbury University at Geneseeville, where he remained two years [only one]. Next he went to Marion, where he was employed as clerk in the store owned by James Swannear. On the third of October, 1850, he was united in marriage with Lucy S. Ford of Jeffersonville, who survives him, together with four children. He commenced merchandising for himself in Brownstown in 1851, and continued in that business until his death.

As a merchant, especially during the past 15 years, Mr. BENTON displayed a tact, skill, shrewdness, energy and capacity which commanded for him a prominent position among the leading business men of Southern Indiana. He was prompt, cautious, industrious, sagacious, persevering, progressive, and exceedingly exact and systematic in all matters relating to business. In the early part of the war, he commenced the erection of additions to his store room on Main street, until at length the grand culmination was reached in the spacious room which has ever since been known by the appropriate name of the *Mammoth Cash Store*. While the war was in progress, Mr. BENTON did an immense business and made money readily. As a book-keeper and accountant he was correct almost to infallibility, while as a financier he was eminently successful. During the past ten years he transacted a heavy business in loaning money and discounting paper, and the great bulk of his surplus capital is represented by the hundreds of promissory notes held by him at the time of his death, nearly all of which are amply secured by mortgages on real estate.

From the early part of 1861, until his death, we were well acquainted with Mr. BENTON. We knew him as an intimate friend, as a close companion, as a neighbor, as a man, as a citizen, as a merchant, as a money-broker. He was a remarkable man in all the relations of life, presenting a combination of some of the most generous impulses and sensitive organs with the most peculiar eccentricities and a spirit which when aroused was full of fire, fury and vindictiveness. He was a man whose love and veneration for those whom he deemed his friends was only equalled by his contempt and hatred for those whom he regarded as his enemies. If he had many enemies in consequence of that characteristic of his nature, he also had many friends.

As a citizen of Brownstown, GEORGE V. BENTON was as the alpha and omega—the beginning and the end—of the prosperity which characterized it during the past fifteen years. He not only took the lead in all the public enterprises, but he persevered in them until success crowned his efforts. Of numerous men of means in and about Brownstown, he was the only one (to his honor be it said) who would lend his voice and influence and contribute liberally of his money in the construction of public improvements and in the encouragement of public enterprises having in view the growth and prosperity of the town. His death is a most cruel and disastrous blow to the material interests of Brownstown. We look among the remaining wealthy men in and around our town, but not one—nay, not all of them compounded together—can supply that indomitable spirit of progressiveness—that open-handed liberality—that untiring energy—that dauntless perseverance—which were so eminently characteristic of our departed friend and townsman, GEORGE VERMILYA BENTON. O, how appropriately might Brownstown be draped in mourning now that he has been called away from the busy scenes of this life.

For several months previous to his death, MR. BENTON had been laboring under serious nervous prostration, superinduced by over-exertion of both his mental and physical faculties. When the Young Men's Christian Association was laboring in this field, he manifested an absorbing interest in the work. He was under deep spiritual conviction, and unequivocally avowed a firm determination to shun all evil habits and lead the life of a Christian in the future. After the revival closed, his mind would become absorbed on the subject of religion, and a great desire prevailed with him to be reconciled to those with whom he had been at enmity. Prayer was refreshing and consoling to him, and he frequently requested from various persons prayer in his behalf. At intervals his mind would seem quite vigorous, while at other times he would manifest unmistakable symptoms of an impaired intellect. [Here follows a detailed account of the visit with his wife to and from Iowa until within a few hours of their home, when the exact circumstances of his ending are related.]

MR. BENTON acted strangely all the way down from Indianapolis, but all went moderately well until Jonesville was reached, when he informed his wife that they were at Seymour, and wanted to change cars, but he was restrained by her. As the train reached Rockford, at about 9 o'clock on Wednesday night, September 29th, and took the side track, he again imagined they were at Seymour, and again his wife persuaded him to the contrary. Remarking that he wished to get a drink, he went to the water cooler, and from thence to the platform of the cars, unperceived by his wife. Two strangers were on the platform at the time, who reported that he was standing in a leaning position looking in the direction whence the train was rapidly approaching. As the train came thundering closely by, MR. BENTON straightened himself up and stepped to the lower step of the platform, and then made a leap, alighting either on the pilot or immediately in front of the engine." [Here follows an account of how he was missed on the arrival of the train at Seymour; how a party was organized and proceeded to Rockford, a couple of miles distant, discovered his remains and returned with them to Seymour, where they were placed in the home of his life-long friend, Thomas L. Ewing, until their removal the following morning to his late home in Brownstown.]

THE FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

The last sad rites due from the living to the dead were solemnized over Mr. BENTON'S remains on Sabbath afternoon. At one o'clock they were conveyed to the Court House, where a very appropriate and forcible sermon was delivered by REV. CHARLES TINSLEY, a brother-in-law of the deceased, from the text found in St. John, xi. 25, 'I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead yet shall he live.' At the conclusion of the discourse, the remains were taken in charge by the Masonic fraternity, and by them consigned to their final resting place in the Benton burial ground, with the impressive ceremonies of that order. The procession from the Court House to the burying ground was headed by the Brownstown brass band, and was the largest and most imposing funeral cortege ever witnessed in Brownstown. During the services at the Court House, the large room was entirely filled, and it was necessary to throw open the doors of the gallery to accommodate the vast throng of people. A special train was run from Seymour, which brought thence the Masonic brethren and many others from that place. Masons and laymen were in attendance from nearly all parts of the county, numbering in the aggregate probably as many as 1500 persons.

CLOSING REMARKS.

In our journalistic experience we have been called upon frequently to write obituaries of those who have from time to time been summoned thence away: but never have we performed the task with emotions such as swelled our heart while writing this sketch of the life and death of GEORGE V. BENTON. He was a man whom we ever admired because of the progressive spirit which animated him at all times, and which recognized no such word as fail in any enterprise in which he enlisted. Even when the ties of intimate friendship between us had been broken asunder (by political differences, entirely.—J. H. B.) and our intercourse was cold, formal and ceremonious, we could not help but honor him for what he had done and for what he was doing all the time to promote the growth and add to the general prosperity of Brownstown. To us his grave shall be a hallowed spot—hallowed because it bears the remains of one who died while vigorously pressing forward in the grand OSWEGO AND UPWARD MARCH OF PROGRESS, and who, but for his heroic, self-sacrificing labors in behalf of the success of the Brownstown and River Valley Gravel Road, might to-day be enjoying the blessings of life with us."

GEORGE VERMILYA BENTON.

(By JOHN H. BENTON.)

THE life and character of our brother, George V. Benton, were very fully set forth at the time of his death by the editors of the three news papers then published in the county, as also in an article by the Hon. Jason B. Brown. Those gentlemen, Messrs. Fryslager, Beadle, Brown and Dr. Monroe, were long and well acquainted with the subject of their remarks and were well qualified for its treatment. And now, after a lapse of more than thirty years, as I reread their efforts, I am impressed with the justness and completeness with which their hearts and pens have portrayed the character of their departed friend. I am especially pleased, however, with the portraiture drawn by his friend and townsman, Mr.

Fryinger, who, by reason of daily contact, and through a more extended period, had superior advantages for insight into the personality of the one whose social and business qualities he so accurately describes.

As to myself, being less than two years his junior, brought up to manhood together in the same parental home, and both in the same line of business for several years in our native town, there was none who knew him better than I; hence, I shall for the benefit of his descendants and kindred, amplify somewhat the history of his busy life, and give my own estimate of the salient features of his character. And this is, by no means, a difficult undertaking, for his nature was not secretive. There was no concealment of his attitude toward persons and things. As he was seen or heard, so he was; and hence while the "eccentricities" of which the *Banner* makes mention in its obituary, made him enemies, they were offset by the excess of friendship he lavishly bestowed upon "the friends he had and their adoption tried." Outspoken in his exceeding dislike of those who loved him not, but to such as sought him he was "sweet as summer." Unhappily he was not observant, in practice at least, of the golden rule, however much he may have approved it in theory; for, retaliation in extravagant terms of speech for real or fancied offences, was his rule of action, but no overt act of revenge ever characterized his life. The soft answer that turneth away wrath, was never applied to him in vain. For let it be made known to him that one, against whom he had poured the vials of his wrath, had commended some act of his, or spoken kindly of him, and at once his hostility ceased, and the supposed enemy of yesterday became the friend of to-day. For some months preceding his death, as we were gratified to learn, an earnest desire, born of repentance, led him to seek reconciliation with all against whom he had spoken unkindly, as his offences were in uncharitable speech and not in wrongful deeds.

Among our earliest recollections of his habit of thrift, was when we were quite young in years, and our uncle, David Burr (a name worthy of remembrance) gave each of us a silver dollar. His was kept with "miser care" until opportunity was offered for its profitable investment, when it went forth on its course of accumulation, and never thereafter was he empty handed. Ours, however, was unable to resist the temptation of a cake of maple sugar, and thus it went—for awhile, quieting a disturbed conscience with the fact that by the transaction we not only had the coveted sugar, but with it as large and a much handsomer coin in the form of a five-frank piece. But the spell that for a while had bound us to the proposed keepsake was broken, and as went the dollar so went the French coin, and we were again penniless. My brother's boyhood was marked by strict application to the studies then taught in our subscription schools, and while readily acquiring acquaintance with them all, he was especially proficient in arithmetic and penmanship. We never knew him to play truant so much as an hour in all his schoolboy days. A habit that stood in marked contrast with our own, for no school-room had sufficient attractions in "the good old summer time" to overcome our predisposition for the pleasures afforded by ranging the near-by, charming, wood-embowered stream, as it then was, that skirted the south-eastern border of our town. The terrors of having "to abide by the consequences," as our father was wont to express it, were not sufficient to deter us from a disregard of his law against truancy, the punishment for its infraction being delegated to our mother, who, (with tenderest filial affection be it spoken), was a firm believer in Solomon's prescription for not spoiling the child.

His predilection for youthful diversions favored the exploits of the sword rather than of the reel or rod; but in pursuit of the former he was a veritable Nimrod. Many were the holidays we followed him to our squirrel-infested woods, each well burdened in our homeward tramp at the close of day with the spoils of the hunt. Our first lessons in gunnery were under his tuition, in the use of a boy's flint-lock shotgun, given to him when about twelve years old by our father. (The same gun caused the death of our brother, Walter Burr, several years later.) It was at about the same age that we succeeded to its ownership by reason of our brother's proclivities for the use of the rifle, in which he soon came to be accounted among the best shots in a community that then boasted many crack marksmen. And it may be said that his fondness for rifle practice never departed from him. And to his other boyhood amusements and accomplishments may be added that of the common-place diversion of long-range marble practice, at which he was an unsurpassed expert.

But the pastime-diversions of boyhood years were readily displaced by the duties and demands of manhood, and so, by the time of his marriage at the age of twenty-three years, his industrious, economical habits, his experience as a clerk in office and in store, and his reliance upon himself, showed him well equipped for the mercantile business upon which he then entered in his own name.

Taking a cursory view of the twenty-five succeeding years of his business life, we fail to see him as a person whose dominating joy and occupation was the acquisition of pecuniary gain, but as one whose enjoyments were derived from many sources to which money making seemed a secondary consideration. He loved his children and was devoted to their well-being and happiness.

He was warm in his attachment to the kindred of his choosing, and its manifestation in various ways, besides receiving and returning their visits, contributed to his happiness.

He delighted in the company of his special friends, and his counting-room, in the long winter evenings, was their accustomed place of resort and entertainment.

He was observant in attention to prominent persons of his acquaintance, and highly prized their reciprocal consideration of himself.

He was an enthusiastic admirer of men of genius and renown, and was much given to commenting on their greatness. And especially do we recall his intense interest in Abbott's Life of Napoleon, published serially many years ago in Harper's Magazine, and with what excess and glow of speech he recounted the marvellous achievements of his hero.

He was fond of reviewing, from time to time, the studies of his earlier years; and a visit of the State geologist to our county, gave him an absorbing interest in that branch of study.

He liked to visit, and call the attention of others, to the farms of the county that were especially well arranged and conducted.

He was an admirer of groves and forests, and of particular trees; and attracted elsewhere by the bloom of the catalpa, he introduced the tree into the town, and had several growing in his dooryard.

These personal characteristics were supplementary to his business affairs, which were conducted with such ease, with such apparent absence of effort, of worry or anxiety, that at the zenith of his career they seemed matters of diversion; and, indeed, business with him was recreation. And so

at the height of his prosperity, while automatically managing his own affairs, he found leisure for audience with others who sought his judgment and counsel in matters of their own.

He was, through life, a teetotaler with respect to intoxicants, but an inveterate smoker, though tobacco was never used in any other form.

In politics he was, as were all his kindred, a whig, until the dissolution of the party in 1856, when he voted for Fillmore and Donaldson, the candidate of the *American* party for president and vice-president. He was subsequently aligned with the Democratic party, but in name only so far as we were able to judge.

PERSONAL HISTORY.

From 1838 to 1844, he was, at intervals, a deputy in his father's office as clerk of the Circuit Court and recorder of deeds.

In 1842, he and his half-brother, Albert Benton, attended the seminary at Salem, Indiana, at that time in high repute as the leading educational institution in Southern Indiana. In November of that year, he was a principal organizer of the *Harrisonian Club*, subsequently styled the *Literary Society*, which had for its object mental, moral and social culture. He was its secretary and also the editor and publisher of its hand-written periodical, the *Literary Recorder*. The society met weekly until discontinued early in 1844, and during its existence it gave a public exhibition in February, 1843; and in January, 1844, it rendered before a delighted audience Knowles' play of *William Tell*—my brother having the part of Verner, the friend of Tell, and ourself that of Albert his son, from whose head an apple was shot, as it were, with an arrow from the father's unerring bow.

In November, 1844, after a severe illness, he went with his cousin, David Lyon, to the latter's home at Bath, New York—the beginning of an enduring friendship. He was employed at clerking in a store while there. He returned in July, 1845, and from September of that year until July of the following year he was a student in Asbury University, at Greencastle, Indiana.

In the winter of 1847-8, he superintended his father's business in a pork enterprise, and went with a shipment of the product from Madison, Indiana, to New Orleans; and from the time of his return until the fall of 1849 he was generally employed in his father's store at Brownstown, and in minor business transactions of his own. From the fall of 1849 to the spring of 1851, he was a clerk in the store of his uncle James Sweetser, at Marion, Indiana; and from the time of his marriage, in October, 1850, his wife resided there with him. While returning from a business trip to Marion on horseback in September, 1851, he incurred a partial sunstroke, the effects of which followed him for several years and possibly was a predisposing cause of the nervous prostration that ended his life. In the latter part of that year, he began the mercantile business for himself and continued it until his death.

J. H. B.

JOHN H. BENTON.

(By Himself.)

Our life has been uneventful or moving incident by field or flood. The early tenor of its way had but scant acquaintance with the cool, ripened vales, but rather with the maddening crowd's ignoble strife for the things that minister no retrospective delight in maturer years. We divide it into three epochs: 1, prior to marriage; 2, from marriage until coming to Washington; and 3, since coming to Washington. 1. From the age of six years, when led by our brother Albert to a school at the upper end of Main street, in our native town, until our seventeenth year, we do not recall a school term in which we were not a pupil. Our first teacher was George H. Murphy, in after years our intimate, steadfast friend. The long line of successive teachers abides green in our memory. There were no free schools in those days. A grammar school, taught by a Judge Parsley in the winter of 1841-2, holds prominent place in our remembrance, inasmuch as an acquired proficiency led to our selection as an assistant in a grammar school taught by him in the country, near the present town of Medora. From January, 1848, until February, 1850, we were a student in Asbury (now DePauw) University, at Greencastle, Ind. A slight financial embarrassment, thoughtlessly incurred, occasioned our return home for procurement of relief, aside from paternal aid; but with an intention of preparation, meanwhile, for examination in class studies at the close of the college year. But "the divinity that shapes our ends, rough-hew them how we may," decreed otherwise, for the plan of study and examination was thwarted by reason of an acquaintance, happily formed shortly after our arrival at home, which terminated in marriage early in the following year. The failure to complete the college course has, at times, been matter of deepest regret; but this has speedily been dispelled in view of the happy event that occasioned it. From the age of thirteen until our marriage, the intervals of school attendance were employed as an assistant or deputy in our father's office of clerk and recorder, and later at clerking in his mercantile business, which was renewed shortly after the expiration of his official term in February, 1845. We were also employed as deputy to the different county offices, from time to time, until our removal to Washington. The epoch beginning with our marriage, we briefly summarize as follows. From the fall of 1851 till early in 1856, we were merchandising for ourself in Brownstown—to us, in some respects, a most unengaging business. In the summer and fall of the latter year, we had employment in an engineer corps on the O. & M. Rail Road, with office at Brownstown. The winter of 1856-7, we were in charge of the contractors' store of Risner, Van Bergen & Co., at Ft. Ritner, Ind. In the summer and fall of 1857, in company with our friend, John F. C. Tanner, we were in Kansas, as far west as the military post at Ft. Riley, four miles beyond the then paper town of Ogden, then the uttermost outpost of settlers, and our sleeping place for a couple of weeks. From 1857 to 1859, we were bookkeeper for Shields & Ewing, in Seymour, Ind. At the extra session of the state legislature in 1858, we were an assistant secretary of the senate; and again, under General James N. Tyner, in the session of 1861, whom we joined as a fellow lodger at the Clarendon Hotel, on our arrival at Washington, D. C., March 15, 1861.

The third epoch begins with our appointment to a clerkship in the Census Office, in the month of our arrival in Washington, from which we were

transferred to the Pension Bureau, in April, 1863; and on April 9, 1903, its fortieth anniversary, we were presented with a memorial loving-cup by the board of review, of which we had been a member from its organization, in 1881.

As an employé of a civil department of the government during the war of the rebellion, our relation to it was confined to that of an intensely interested sympathizer in its object, its varying mutations of defeat and victory and its final results—the preservation of the union, the triumph of the right and the abolition of slavery.

We were at the B. and O. station in the evening of April 19, 1861, when the 6th Mass. Inf. arrived, fresh from the assault of the Baltimore mob, and marched with it to its quarters in the Senate wing of the capitol; and that same evening, we enlisted in General "Jim" Lane's Frontier Guard, and with it bivouacked that night in the East room of the White House. The company was drawn up in line at midnight, and was reviewed by President Lincoln, accompanied by Secretary Cameron and a few others, among whom we recognized Commissioner Dole of the Indian Office.

Our family joined us at Washington in September of that year, and in September of the following year (1862) we all returned to Brownstown, with a view to my enlistment, but the regiment (the 67th) for the district having been organized under a recent requisition and hurried to the field, I returned to Washington—my place in the Census Office having been filled by substitution during my absence. The family returned in April, 1865.

We were a voluntary nurse, stretcher-bearer and field-hospital assistant on the battle field of Second Bull Run—leaving the city on Saturday evening while the battle was still in progress and the roar of the conflict distinctly heard—reaching the field under a flag of truce on Monday morning—leaving it with the last ambulance train on Friday afternoon and arriving at home at midnight. In August, 1863, we were drafted for military service, but the law allowing its commutation by a payment of \$300, we availed ourselves of its benefit, and being in an insurance syndicate, our substitute, John Carlin by name and of fine physique, cost us only \$105.

At the time of the Confederate Early's movement against the city, in July, 1864, we became a member of the Pension Office Guards; were uniformed with trousers and blouse, armed and equipped, marched to Madison Place—east side of LaFayette Square—and paraded for inspection; but aside from drilling on several afternoons in the court of the Patent Office building, there was no other performance of duty. And with the disappearance of the enemy, the company was disbanded.

We may well regard an event of this year among the most important of our life, that of uniting with the Church, a step that was strangely occasioned and singularly carried out. In July, we were received as a probationer in McKendree Charge of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and six months later into full membership. In March, 1867, our membership was transferred to Hamline charge, and in December following we were made a steward and subsequently a trustee, class-leader and exhorter, in all of which offices, excepting that of trustee, we have been continued to the present time.

In conclusion, we have been highly favored as an employé of the Pension Bureau, having had occasion, in the capacity of special agent, to visit nearly all the states and larger cities of the country east of the Rockies, from Maine to Louisiana, and from the lakes and the St. Lawrence to the

Gulf of Mexico—including a transit of the gulf from New Orleans to Florida, a horseback ride of a thousand miles in that State, and a couple of winters' residence in Philadelphia and a couple in New Orleans:

Here we rest: "and what is writ, is well,—

Would it were worthier!"

J. H. B.

OUR MILITARY SERVICE,

" UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

*Headquarters Frontier Guard,
Washington City, April 27, 1861.*

" To Hon. S. CAMERON, *Secretary of War* :

Sir: In consequence of the arrival of large numbers of troops in this city, I am satisfied the emergency has ceased that called our company into service.

If you concur in this opinion, I should be pleased to receive authority from you to disband said company, and to honorably discharge the members thereof from the service.

Very truly,

J. H. LANE,

Capt. Comdg.

War Department, April 27, 1861.

" Gen. JAMES H. LANE :

Sir: In reply to your letter of this day's date, stating that, in consequence of the arrival of large numbers of troops in this city, the emergency has ceased which called the company commanded by you into service, and that you would be pleased, therefore, to have authority to disband your company, and have an honorable discharge from service for it.

Concurring fully with you, I readily grant you the authority asked for, and, in doing so, I beg to extend to you, and through you to the men under your command, the assurance of my high appreciation of the very prompt and patriotic manner in which your company was organized for the defence of the Capital, and the very efficient services rendered by it during the time of its existence.

Very respectfully,

SIMON CAMERON.

Cheerfully approved.

A. LINCOLN.

" By authority vested in me as Captain of the FRONTIER GUARD, I, James H. Lane, do certify that *John H. Benton*, a member of said Company, served his Country in defence of the NATIONAL CAPITAL, at a time of great peril, when threatened by hordes of traitors: said service commencing on the eighteenth day of April, 1861, and ending on the date hereof.

I also, by virtue of said authority, do hereby HONORABLY DISCHARGE the said *John H. Benton* from the service of the United States.

Given under my hand at the East Room of the EXECUTIVE MANSION at WASHINGTON CITY, this fourth day of May, 1861.

J. H. LANE, *Capt.*

Attest:

M. N. DELAHAY, *1st Lieut.*"

[From *The Evening Star*, Washington, D. C., April 10, 1903.]

“COMPLETES FORTY YEARS.

JOHN H. BENTON'S LONG AND FAITHFUL SERVICE.

*Entered the United States Pension Bureau, April 9, 1863—Gift from
Colleagues.*

“JOHN H. BENTON yesterday completed forty years of continuous service in the United States Bureau of Pensions, and his colleagues on the Board of Review, of which he is an honored member, presented him with a silver loving cup as an attestation of their appreciation of him. The cup bears this inscription:

<p>Presented to John H. Benton By His friends on the Board of Review, On the completion of forty years' continuous service in the U. S. Pension Office. 1863—April 9—1903.</p>
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Accompanying the gift was the following letter:

LETTER FROM COLLEAGUES.
' 1863-1903.

‘MR. JOHN H. BENTON:

We will not call you old. A man does not grow old whose years increase with honorable living, and upon this basis we greet you on the termination of forty years of faithful and valuable service in the Bureau of Pensions.

The length of such service is rare in official life, and proves a recognition and commendation of high standing and intelligent discharge of duty.

Some of us commenced the early years with you and are here to-day to take your hand and, with later times, to extend cordial congratulations on the happy occasion, and, as a memorial of the event, take pleasure in presenting this loving cup, with the best of wishes and the high regard of

Your Friends of the Board of Review.’

A NATIVE OF INDIANA,

“Mr. Benton is a native of Brownstown, Ind. He entered the Census Office in March, 1861, and was transferred to the Pension Office April 9, 1863. He was chief of the Invalid Branch in 1875 and 1876, and since its organization in 1882 has been a member of the Board of Review.

On the 19th of April, 1861, as a member of Gen. Lane's ‘Frontier Guards,’ he was quartered in the East Room of the White House, where at midnight he was reviewed by Mr. Lincoln and Secretary Cameron.

Mr. Benton's ‘old-fashioned round-hand’ penmanship is as clear and beautiful to-day as ever, and, though he is nearly seventy-four, one might expect from his activity and vigor many years more of valuable service.”

(From a Bath, N. Y., paper, January 2, 1884.)

“ OBITUARY.

MRS. HARRIET ROBIE LYON.

“ THIS highly esteemed and excellent lady, a perfect type of the true American woman, passed peaceably to her eternal rest on Sunday evening, December 30, 1883, at the beautiful home of her husband in Bath, in the bosom of her family, amid kindred and friends. She was the eldest child of the Hon. Reuben Robie and Nancy Whiting Robie, and was born in Bath, August 26, 1826, and was married to Mr. James Lyon on the 12th day of May, 1846, at the very house where she first saw the light. Soon after her marriage she entered the home provided for her by her husband, beside the quiet waters of Lake Salubria, below this village, and there for many years cordially greeted her many friends and dispensed a generous hospitality. A pleasant drive or walk from town, how many can bring to mind this pleasant habitation of the deceased. From year to year this sweet home, so well ordered—thrifty and peaceful, grew a “thing of beauty.” Father and mother, brothers and sisters, came and went and were happier for their coming. The sorrowing and suffering went not away empty or without consolation. All within the household felt the influence of a true, faithful christian woman.

‘She had for others’ joys a smile,
And dropped for others’ woes a tear.’

In this charming home were born Sarah, now Mrs. John Davenport, Reuben R., the only son, and Harriet, the youngest daughter.

Some years ago Mr. Lyon sold his farm by the lakeside and purchased the property on the south side of Pulteney Square (long known as the William Wood’s place, and subsequently renovated and rebuilt by the late Levi C. Whiting), where he has ever since resided, surrounded by all the comforts and appliances that an ample competence well warranted. But the change of location brought no change in the spirit of the home, only extended hospitality and opened the doors wider for all their kindred and friends. It gave the mother, of blessed memory, better opportunity to serve the church she loved, and the poor and needy she pitied and fed. She had few trials and few afflictions—less, perhaps, than falls to the common lot. Her life may almost be said to have been one long summer day, not without its clouds but on the whole happy and peaceful. Few have left the world with so much to be thankful for, or so highly regarded and esteemed by all, and fewer, still, have retained to the last the pure, fresh and sincere attachments of childhood. She was a true christian woman, faithful in the discharge of every duty—so conscientious that sleep would forsake her eyelids, if in one jot she had failed to keep the whole law. We are told what is our loss is her gain—that she has gone to receive that precious sentence, “Well done good and faithful servant, enter thou into the rest prepared for thee from the foundation of the world.”

Thus, one by one are dropping into the grave the tried friends of a life time. They are gone from sight, but the good they have done will live after them, and long after the mortal body has mouldered into dust, a husband, children, brother and sister will rise up and call them blessed.”

NOTE.—It would be unjust to the memory of Mr. Lyon’s second wife, MRS. ELIZABETH UNDERHILL LYON, who died December 25, 1900, to

omit saying that she was a worthy successor of the noble woman who was the light and life of his hospitable home. She, too, was a noble Christian woman, the radiance of whose sunlit life dispensed happiness to very many who came within the range of its benign influence.

J. H. B.

DAVID W. LYON.

OBITUARY.—From a Bath (N. Y.) Paper.—Nov., 1893.

“DEATH OF A FORMER RESIDENT.

“It is seldom that a man who lives three score years and ten is buried from the same house in which he was born, but such was the case with Mr. David W. Lyon of Cohocton, whose funeral services were held in this village from the home of his brother, Robert M. Lyon, last Saturday afternoon, at two o'clock. The stroke of paralysis which Mr. Lyon sustained on election day was the cause of his death. He was buried in Grove cemetery. He was the second son of the late Moses H. Lyon, and was born May 11, 1821. He was a resident of Bath during his youth and early manhood, and in 1846, he was married to Miss Hopey Frey at Uniontown, Pa. For a number of years past he has been a resident of Cohocton, where he won the respect of all who knew him.

Mr. Lyon was a man of remarkable sunny disposition, ever genial and sociable. He had the courage of his convictions and rebuked wrong and injustice whenever it came to his notice.

Mr. Lyon is survived by his widow; three children, George B. Lyon of Hammondsport, Mrs. W. H. Shardlow of Montevideo, Minn., and Mrs. T. R. Harris of Cohocton, at whose home he died last Thursday [Nov. 23, 1893]; also his two brothers, James and Robert M. Lyon of this village.”

The following was also published:

“At a meeting of the resident officers of the Steuben County Agricultural Society, held in Bath on the 24th inst., the following action was taken concerning the late David W. Lyon of Cohocton, deceased:

‘The officers of the Steuben County Agricultural Society, convened informally, on the 24th day of November, 1893, having just learned of the death of David W. Lyon of the town of Cohocton, and feeling that the full board of officers when assembled, will warmly record our action, hereby give expression to the loss which this Society has sustained by the death of Mr. Lyon, who in the early years of its organization was one of the Society’s most active workers and officers, and all through his after life one of its warmest friends and well-wishers.’”

ROBERT M. LYON.

OBITUARY.—From a Bath (N. Y.) Paper.—June, 1903.

“The death of Robert M. Lyon, early last Friday, removed another figure from that rapidly narrowing circle of those who knew Bath in the early days, and whose lives were written into the history of the development of our beautiful village. He had been a sufferer for a number of months, and his death was not unexpected, yet its coming brought the full measure of sorrow on the home bereft.

The funeral was held at the Lyon homestead Sunday afternoon, the Rev. Walter R. Lord, the rector of St. Thomas Church, officiating.

Robert M. Lyon, son of Captain Moses H. Lyon and Sarah Bannin, was born Dec. 2, 1825, and spent his entire life in Bath, except six years, five of which he spent in New Jersey and one in Iowa. He received his preliminary education in Canidagua Academy, afterwards studied law in the office of the Hon. Edward Howell, and was admitted to practice under the old Chancery practice in 1847. He was associated in the practice of his profession with the late William B. Ruggles. But Mr. Lyon did not long continue the practice of law. His tastes led him into the study of engineering, and he began his real life work in 1864 as a civil engineer and land surveyor. He won a commanding place in this profession at the start, and aside from being the engineer in all the prominent undertakings in this vicinity since then, he was engaged in many other engineering projects of large importance. He was chief engineer in locating and building the Bath and Hammondsport and Kanona and Prattsburg rail-roads, was the chosen surveyor for the Pultney estate for many years, and for more than twenty years was the village engineer in charge of all public improvements. He prepared the plans and superintended the construction of the Cohocton River bridge at Cameron Street in this village. It was not alone in the field of engineering that Mr. Lyon won all his laurels. He was a landscape gardener, and many of the handsome places about Bath and the surrounding country are due to and expressive of his artistic tastes. Among them are the grounds about the Davenport home, the County Fair grounds, Grove Cemetery, and many private residence grounds in and about the village and in neighboring villages.

For nearly fifty years Mr. Lyon was officially connected with the Steuben County Agricultural Society. He was the Secretary in the years 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860 and 1865. Since that time, for more than forty years, he was the efficient secretary of the executive committee in charge of their annual awards. He was elected an honorary life member in 1887.

Mr. Lyon was an omnivorous reader, and his store of information was abundant, making him a delightful companion. He was a lover of nature and knew her well. A ramble with him through the woods at noon was sure to be a lesson in Nature study. He knew the trees, the birds, and the plants as well as the gardener knows his beds. In the few few years he had taken great delight in cultivating the rose and other garden-growth, watching the evolution of the full bloom from the timid bud with the enthusiasm born of his love of the beautiful.

Robert M. Lyon married Rebecca Bishop on May 29, 1844, and two years ago they celebrated their golden wedding in the same house where they began their married life.

Besides his wife and one brother, Mr. James Lyon of this village, he leaves four children: Mrs. Cassin B. Ober, of Clifton, Iowa; Mrs. William S. Allen, of Bayonne, N. J.; Moses H. Lyon, of Dandwood, South Dakota, and Mrs. Thomas C. Williams, of Bayonne, N. J.

The executive committee of the Steuben County Agricultural Society concluded its 'Tribute' to his memory as follows:

'Mr. Lyon was a most warm-hearted, whole-souled gentleman, who was ready to work shoulder to shoulder to any matter of public benefit or interest, such as the executive committee of the Steuben County Agricultural Society, was a great pleasure. His loss is felt by each fellow member. His memory is sweet to us all.'

OTHER ANCESTORS.

STOCKING.

GEORGE STOCKING, born in England; married first, Anna ———; married second, in Hartford, Conn., Agnes ———. He came to Massachusetts about 1633; had a house in Cambridge at the southwest corner of the present Holyoke and Winthrop Streets, in 1635, and was admitted freeman in May of that year. He removed with the first settlers to Hartford, in 1636, where his name is borne on their monument in Central Church Cemetery. A lot of twenty acres was assigned him at the first distribution of land. He held the offices of selectman, surveyor of highways and chimney-viewer, and was exempted from military duty in 1660, probably on account of age. In May, 1670, he, with his wife, Agnes, separated to the Second Church of Hartford. An unprobated will, dated 15 July, 1673, contains this legacy: "I doe also give to the Six Children of Andrew Benton, that is to Andrew Benton, Jr., John Benton, Samuel Benton, Joseph Benton, Mary Benton and Dorothy Benton, the sum of £12, to be equally divided among them. I do also give unto Hannah [Benton] Camp one Mare." His estate, which inventoried, 25 May, 1683, £257:09:00, was divided among his four children: Deacon Samuel Stocking; *Hannah, wife of Andrew Benton*; Sarah, wife of Samuel Olcott; Lydia, wife of John Richards and his grandson John Stocking.

The *New England Register*, Vol. L. — April, 1896, from which the foregoing is largely taken, contains the family genealogy.

WATERS.

BEVEL WATERS, said to have been "a man of good estate," died in Hartford, Ct., where he long had been a resident, Feb. 14, 1729. The record of his burial in Central Church Cemetery, says at the age of ninety-seven years. His will, dated 1st Feb., 1721, has for its first item: "*I give to my eldest daughter, Sarah Benton, wife of Joseph Benton, £100 in money.*" The other beneficiaries were his daughters, Mary, the wife of Thomas Seymour, and Hannah, the wife of Willterton Merrells, to each of whom was given £100 in money; and his grandsons Joseph and Samuel Waters, to whom were bequeathed his real estate. Liberal provision was made for "the support of the ministry of the South Church in Hartford." The wife of his old age, not being mentioned in his will, presumably did not survive him. His estate of £1483-16-00, was inventoried, Mar. 13, 1729; and the moveable portion of it, after paying the legacies and his debts (always provided his executors be well paid), was to be given to the three daughters of his son Thomas Waters. His will appears in vol. ii., *Early Ct. Probate Records*, of which we have a copy.

NORTON—BAYES.

"RUTH NORTON of Edgartown," (Dukes Co., Mass.), who was married to Isaac, son of Joseph and Sarah (Waters) Benton, in Tolland, Ct., Mar. 16, 1730, was a descendant, probably in the third degree, of Nicholas and

Elizabeth Norton, who were at Weymouth, Mass., as early as 1637, at which time he was a tax collector and constable. A daughter Ruth, who married a Cleveland in 1676, and four sons—Isaac, Jacob, Benjamin and Joseph, were born there—Isaac, May 3, 1641, and Jacob, Mar. or Apr. 1, 1643. And while there is no record of birth of the others, it appears elsewhere that Joseph, who left a will, was eighty-nine years old at the time of his death in 1711, and hence born in 1652. The family emigrated to Edgartown (Martha's Vineyard) as early as 1659, where both parents died in 1690—the father first at the age of ninety years. Isaac son Isaac Norton married Ruth, a daughter of Thomas and Ann (Baker) Bayes, who were at Edgartown as early as 1653, from Dedham, Mass., where they were married, Oct. 26, 1639, and the daughter Ruth was born April 5, 1642. The will of Thomas Bayes, dated Feb. 14, 1690, probably the year of his death, mentions his daughter Ruth as "the wife of Isaac Norton." As Jacob Norton died unmarried, and neither of his brothers, Benjamin and Joseph, had a daughter Ruth, the inference is strong that Isaac Benton's wife, Ruth, was a granddaughter of Isaac and Ruth (Bayes) Norton. Diligent research has failed to discover the missing link.

WIFE OF DAVID BENTON, Sr.

Persistent examination of the Salisbury and Sharon (Ct.) records has failed to reveal the family name of SARAH, wife of David Benton, Sr. The Salisbury records show the births of their eight children, one of whom died "in y^e 5th y^r of her age." The blank space is left for identity, should her name be discovered hereafter.

STEWART—BINGHAM

The mother of the SARAH BINGHAM, born in Salisbury, Ct., June 9, 1765, who became the wife of David Bingham, Jr., Mar. 2, 1784, was Sarah, daughter of Alexander and Anna Stewart, who were at Norwich, Ct., as early as 1736, as its town records show that they for length had there in that year. They also show that children were born to them there as follows: John in 1737, Elizabeth in 1739, and Alexander in 1742.

His Christian and surname indicate a Scottish origin. The daughter Sarah was probably also born in Norwich, and in 1755, as a child of 16, sent from a sample of her skill in ornamental work, now in possession of Miss Harriet N. Lyon of Buffalo, N. Y. The piece, after displaying the alphabet in capitals, sets forth the words and figures, also in capitals: YEAR · 1752 · 3689 · SARAH STEWART · THE SCOTCH · AGE 17. She married Benjamin Bingham at Wingham, Conn., Oct. 10, 1784.

BINGHAMS.

THOMAS BINGHAM, born in Sheffield, England; m. July 6, 1631, Anna Stenton. His father, Thomas Bingham, as master-cutler became a member of the "Cutlers' Company" in that city, Dec. 21, 1614. (The family genealogy, compiled by Gen. Theodore A. Bingham, U.S.A., retired, and published in the *Register*, vol. xlix, gives the date of their marriage and the baptism of their children, as obtained in 1894 from the register of St. Peter's and Holy Trinity parish at Sheffield.)

Children: 1. *Abel*, bapt. May 13, 1632. 2. *Stephen*, bapt. Dec. 26, 1633. 3. *Edward*, bapt. Mar. 28, 1636. 4. *Robert*, bapt. Dec. 15, 1638. 5. *Elizabeth*, bapt. Oct. 18, 1640. 6. THOMAS, bapt. June 5, 1642. 7. *Anna*, bapt. Nov. 5, 1644.

- i. THOMAS² BINGHAM (*Thomas*¹), bapt. June 5, 1642, at Sheffield, Eng.; came to America at an early age with his parental family, which settled at Saybrook, Conn. He married, Dec. 12, 1666, at "Bride Brook," Mary, daughter of Lieut. Jonathan Rudd, born in 1648, died Aug. 4, 1726, "age 78 years." (See sketch.)

Children on Norwich records: 1. THOMAS,³ b. Dec. 11, 1667. 2. *Abel*, b. June 25, 1669. 3. *Mary*, b. July —, 1672. 4. *Jonathan*, b. Apr. 15, 1674. 5. *Ann*, b. Aug. —, 1677. 6. *Abigail*, b. Nov. 4, 1679. 7. *Nathaniel*, b. Oct. 3, 1681. 8. *Deborah*, b. Dec. 18, 1683. 9. *Samuel*, b. Mar. 28, 1685. 10. *Joseph*, b. Jan. 15, 1689. 11. *Stephen*, b. Apr. 30, 1690.

Mrs. Edna B. Felter of Huntington, Ind., and F. F. Bingham of Tallahassee, Fla., are descendants of Samuel; and Gen. Theo. F. Bingham, of N. Y. city, is a descendant of Joseph of this family.)

- ii. THOMAS³ BINGHAM (*Thomas*² *Thomas*¹), born Dec. 11, 1667, at Norwich, Conn.; d. there Apr. 5, 1710; married, Feb. 17, 1692, Hannah, daughter of Lieut. William Backus, Jr.

Children on Norwich records: 1. *Thomas*, b. Nov. 20, 1692. 2. *Jeremiah*, b. July 4, 1694. 3. *Hannah*, b. Mar. 31, 1696. 4. *Mary*, b. Feb. 20, 1698. 5. *Dorothy*, b. Jan. 24, 1700. 6. JABEZ, b. Nov. 20, 1701. 7. *Nathaniel*, b. June 30, 1704. 8. *Joseph*, b. June 4, 1709.

- iii. JABEZ⁴ BINGHAM (*Thomas*³ *Thomas*² *Thomas*¹), born Nov. 20, 1701, at Norwich, Conn.; died at Salisbury, Conn., Aug. 30, 1785; married Feb. 8, 1721, Bithia Wood. Children, all on Norwich records, with the statement that Martha, the last, was born at Windham, and the preceding children at Lebanon:

Children: 1. *Bithia*, b. Mar. 26, 1722. 2. *Jabez*, b. Apr. 12, 1724. 3. *Silas*, b. Apr. 20, 1726. 4. *Daniel*, b. July 24, 1728. 5. BENJAMIN, b. Oct. 1, 1730. 6. *Ebenezer*, b. Jan. 30, 1733. 7. *Zeruah*, b. May 10, 1735. 8. *Solomon*, b. Sept. 16, 1737. 9. *Benajah*, b. Nov. 20, 1739. 10. *Jedediah*, b. Mar. 9, 1742. 11. *Mary*, b. Apr. 15, 1744. 12. *Martha*, b. Apr. 16, 1747. (See sketch.)

- iv. BENJAMIN⁵ BINGHAM (*Jabez*⁴ *Thomas*³ *Thomas*² *Thomas*¹), born Oct. 1, 1730, at Norwich, Conn.; removed from Windham to Salisbury in 1761 or 1762, where he died, but date of death is not known; married, Oct. 15, 1754, at Windham, Sarah Stewart of Norwich, born 1735, died at Salisbury, Dec. 5, 1773, "aged 39 years."

Children, the first four on Windham records, the others on Salisbury's: 1. *Rial*, b. June 20, 1755. 2. *Benjamin*, b. June 5, 1757. 3. *Oliver*, b. Mar. 8, 1759. 4. *Abner*, b. Jan. 23, 1761. 5. *Fanny*, b. Nov. 25, 1762. 6. SARAH, b. June 9, 1765; m. Mar. 17, 1784, David Benton of Sheffield, Mass. 7. *Amy*, b. Sept. 21, 1767. 8. *Betty*, b. Jan. 17, 1770. 9. *Stewart*, b. Jan. 1, and d. Apr. 14, 1772. 10. *Anne*, b. Oct. 2, 1773.

THOMAS BINGHAM, THE EMIGRANT.

BORN in Sheffield, England, June 5, 1642, came with his parents, we think, to Saybrook, Conn., probably about 1650. That his father died in this country may be inferred from the fact that the parish register, while it shows his marriage and the births of his seven children, does not show an entry of his death. His mother's second husband was William Backus, Sr., with whom she and her son removed, in 1659, to Norwich, where the step-father died about 1661 and the mother in May, 1670. The son was one of six minors, being then seventeen years of age, who were accounted "accepted inhabitants" of the town with all privileges of "first proprietors"; and in a diagram of *First House Lots*, apportioned in 1660, the name of "Bingham" appears on a strip of four acres running from the principal street to the river. He removed to Windham in 1692, and was a first proprietor of the town, his future home until his death, Jan. 16, 1700, "aged 88 years," his wife having previously died, Aug. 4, 1726, "aged 78 years." The Caulkins' History of Norwich says: "*He appears to have sustained through life a position of influence and respectability.*" "Both in civil and religious capacity he takes rank among the fathers of the Town." At the organization of the First Church of Windham, Dec. 10, 1700, he was ordained senior deacon, in which office he was continued until his death. And at the "seating of the meeting-house, April 13, 1703, by reason of his age and office, *he occupied the most honorable position—the seat at the right hand of his wife in the pew.*"

His wife, Mary Rudd, born in 1648, to whom he was married, Dec. 12, 1666, was a daughter of Lieut. Jonathan Rudd of Saybrook, as appears from some legal document at Hartford, in which Nathaniel Rudd refers to Jonathan Rudd as his father, and Thomas Bingham refers to Nathaniel Rudd as his brother—that is, his brother-in-law.

The romantic marriage of her parents, in the winter of 1646-7, on the banks of a little stream that has been christened Bridal Brook in commemoration of the event, has been woven into story and the story into song. The legendary incident, as related in Miss Caulkins' History of Norwich, is to the effect that the hero, Jonathan Rudd, as yet unnumbered with a lieutenancy, had won a fair young lady's consent to marriage—the name of Mary, however, by which the heroine is known to fame, resting solely on the assumption that it was from this maternal source that her daughter-child, who became the wife of Thomas Bingham, derived her name of Mary. A serious obstacle to its consummation, it appears, confronted the pair as there was neither minister nor magistrate at Saybrook to solemnize the rite. Hartford, with its many miles of trackless, snow-clad forests, being deemed impracticable, negotiations were begun with John Winthrop (not Jonathan as in the poem), a magistrate at Pequot Harbour (now New London). But holding authority under the colony of Massachusetts, his services were not available at Saybrook, which was in the Connecticut colony. It was finally planned, however, that the ceremony should be performed on a midway stream that marked the limit of the Massachusetts jurisdiction; and in pursuance of the arrangement, the bridal and ministerial parties convened at the appointed time on the Massachusetts side of the ice-bound,

snow-enveloped stream, and the happy twain were with due ceremony united in the matrimonial bond, by Wynthrop, afterwards governor of Connecticut.

THE SONG.

BRIDE BROOK.

BY G. P. LATHROP.

(*The "Atlantic," for April, 1876.*)

1. Wide as thy sky Time spreads his hand,
And blindly over us there blows
A swarm of years that fill the land,
Then fade, and are as fallen snows.
2. Behold! the flakes fall thick and fast;
Or are they years that come between,
When, peering back into the past,
I search the legendary scene?
3. Nay: marshaled down the open coast,
Fearless of that low rampart's frown,
The winter's white-winged, footless host
Beleaguers ancient Saybrook town.
4. And when the settlers wake, they stare
On woods half buried, white and green,
A smothered world, an empty air,
Never had such drifts been seen!
5. But "Snow lies light upon my heart!
And thou," said merry Jonathan Rudd,
"Wilt wed me, winter shall depart,
And love like spring for us shall bud."
6. "Nay, how," said Mary, "may that be?
Nor minister nor magistrate
Is here to join us solemnly;
And snow-banks bar us every gate."
7. "Winthrop at Pequot Harbor lies,"
He laughed. And with the morrow's sun
He faced the deputy's dark eyes:
"How soon, sir, may the rite be done?"
8. "At Saybrook? There the power's not mine."
Said he, "But at the brook we'll meet,
That ripples down the boundary line;
There you may wed, and Heaven shall see't."
9. Forth went, next day, the bridal train
Through vistas dreamy with gray light.
The waiting woods, the open plain,
Arrayed in consecrated white,
10. Received and ushered them along.
The very beasts before them fled,
Charmed by the spell of inward song
These lovers' hearts around them spread.

11. Four men with netted foot-gear shod,
Bore the maid's carrying-chair aloft,
She swayed above, as roses nod
On the lithe stem their bloom-weight soft.
12. At last beside the brook they stood,
With Winthrop and his followers;
The maid in flake-embroidered hood,
The magistrate well cloaked in furs,
13. That, parting, showed a glimpse beneath
Of ample, throat-enriching ruff
As white as some wind-gathered wreath
Of snow quilled into plait and puff.
14. A few grave words, a question asked,
Eyelids that with the answer fell
Like falling petals,—form that tasked
Brief time—yet all was wrought and well;
15. Then, "Brooklet," Winthrop smiled and said,
"Frost's fingers on thy lip makes dumb
The voice wherewith thou shouldst have sped
These lovers on their way; but, come,
16. "Henceforth forever be thou known
By name of her here made a bride;
So shall thy slender music's moan
Sweeter into the ocean glide."
17. Then laughed they all, and sudden beams
Of sunshine quivered through the sky.
Below the ice the unheard stream's
Clear heart thrilled on in ecstasy.
18. And lo, a visionary blush
Stole warmly o'er the voiceless wild,
And in her wrapt and wintry hush
The lonely face of Nature smiled.
19. Ah, Time, what wilt thou? Vanished quite
Is all that tender vision now;
And like snow-flakes in the night,
Mute lie the lovers as their vow.
20. And O thou little careless brook,
Hast thou thy tender trust forgot?
Her modest memory forsook,
Whose name, known once, thou utterest not?
21. Spring wakes the rills blithe minstrelsy;
In willow bough or alder bush
Birds sing, with golden fligree
Of pebbles 'neath the flood's clear gush;
22. But none can tell us of that name
More than the "Mary." Men still say
"Bride Brook" in honor of her fame;
But all the rest has passed away.

A SKETCH OF CALEB BINGHAM.

DANIEL BINGHAM, with his older brothers Jabez and Silas, came from Windham, Conn., to Salisbury in 1750, and were followed by the removal of their father, Jabez Bingham, and the rest of his family and descendants, a few years thereafter. Daniel Bingham married Hannah Conant at Windham, and of their eight children, Caleb the fourth was born, Apr. 18, 1757, at Salisbury. *The Journal of Education*, vol. v., Cong. Library, at Washington, contains a sketch of his life, from which we note the following:

He was a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1782; removed to Boston in 1784; was an "instructor of much eminence," and a successful business man. He was compiler and publisher of the *Young Ladies' Accidence*, the *American Preceptor* and the *Columbian Orator*—educational works of great popularity and wide circulation in their day. On the death of his father in 1805, he became the owner, by purchase from the other heirs, of the farm of 100 acres near the mountain and between the twin lakes, Washinee and Washining, in the northwest corner of the town, which his grandfather, Jabez Bingham, had given his father. He made yearly visits to the place until about the time of his death, which occurred from dropsy of the brain, April 6, 1817. He was buried in the family vault of his wife on Copps' Hill, in Boston, leaving his widow and two daughters surviving him. Sophia, the elder, became the wife of Gen. Nathan Townson, paymaster-general U.S.A. They lived in Washington, where both died about 1858, leaving an only daughter, who married a Lieut. Caldwell, U.S.A. The other daughter was still living in 1858.

While an undergraduate at Dartmouth, he united with the church under the charge of the venerable Eden Burroughs, and his affection for that excellent man, no doubt led him, as the article states, to take the interest he did in endeavoring to check the wayward career of his son, the somewhat notorious Stephen Burroughs.

This reference to Stephen Burroughs brought to my attention his *Memoirs* written by himself in 1794, and published at Hanover, N. H., in 1798, an ancient, well preserved, unread volume that was in my father's library from my earliest recollection, and is now in mine. In my youthful days, as well as in later years, I had sought to delve into its contents, but had always failed to get beyond a page or two; but now that the name of a Bingham, and he a first cousin and doubtless personal acquaintance of my grandmother Benton, was associated with the name of its author, it was at once invested and read with the liveliest interest, and especially so as it contains a couple of letters written by Mr. Bingham to its author—one dated, Boston, December 22d, 1788, and the other, Boston, November 20th, 1789.

How it came to the possession of my father is altogether conjectural, but presumably by purchase, or presentation from some Bingham to my grandmother, or some member of her family, while living in New York, and through her or them descended to him; or possibly he may have been the original owner by purchase. It is just to the memory of my father to state that his tastes were not in the direction of this class of reading, as its author, though unusually gifted, was rather a disreputable fellow, and his book was largely a recital of the hard ways into which his transgressions had led him.

VERMILYAS—WRIGHTS.

The nativity of the VERMILYAS is matter of conjecture with some that bear the name, and possibly from a pardonable bias that covers relationship with some one of the name who has attained no eminence in the affairs of men. An Italian origin is claimed by those for the reason that the earliest account of the Vermilyas of America, is furnished by a record in a Walloom church in London, of the baptism in 1601, of the Isaac Vermilya, who, with his family, came at an early day to our country. And in this foundation of name, time and place of baptism, is reared the supposition that the parents of this Isaac Vermilya, Jean and Marie (Rombot) Vermeille, were kindred of that distinguished Italian reformer, Pietro Vermigli (Péter Martyr), who was in England, on the invitation of Archbishop Cramer, from 1540 until the accession of Queen Mary in 1558, and that they had come there under his auspices.

The French names of the parents, suggest at once the idea of French extraction; and the name of the church that of a possible Walloom nativity. For the Wallooms, a people of southern Holland, are, it is said, descendants of the old Gallie Belgæ, and speak a basal French language, and it was from Holland that Isaac Vermilya emigrated with his family to New Harlem in the Dutch colony of the New Netherlands, now New York, where a colony of one hundred Wallooms had been landed three or four decades previously.

But setting aside all these considerations, we are grounded in the belief that the ancestry of Isaac Vermilya were French Huguenots, who, being alarmed by the horrors of the St. Bartholomew massacre in 1572, took, in common with many of their countrymen, an asylum from religious persecution in Protestant England. The incident of baptism in a Walloom church may properly be referred to a coincidence of religious faith and affinity of language.

That the Vermilyas of New Harlem, where they settled as early as 1661 or 1662, were French speaking, notwithstanding their years of residence in Holland, and the assumed Dutch form of Christian and surname, is not so much as questioned by Riker in his History of Harlem. Indeed, it appears to have been retained well on to a century, for the history states of three of the descendants, John, Gerardus and David, who were Revolutionary soldiers, that "They in common with their kindred, had now yielded their French characteristics, at least as to their speech, for it is known that John, called 'Houmes,' was wont to ask blessing in Dutch."

It may be noticed that the French were numerically in the lead at Harlem in 1661, which is the year prior to the advent of the Vermilyas, as a statement of the comparative strength of the several nationalities of the pioneers at the close of that year, shows that there were ten Frenchmen, as against seven Hollanders, four each of Wallooms and Dânes, three Germans and two Swedes.

That the Vermilyas were of French origin, the additional fact is advanced that Marie, the eldest daughter of Isaac Vermilya, became the wife of Jean, son of Dr. Jean de la Montane, a Huguenot refugee at Leyden, the place of her birth, though the marriage was probably after their arrival at Harlem. And to this circumstance may be added the fact that Isaac Vermilya used his name in its French form of Vermeille, although

his son John's appears under the Dutch form of Johannes Vermilje, but pronounced as if spelled Vermilya.

In Isaac Vermilya all that bear the name in America have a common ancestor; and with his son "Johannes" occurs the first divergence of ancestral lines in the persons of his sons Isaac and John, the only sons that became heads of families. And the branch to which their descendants belong may generally be determined by the terminal letter of the name: those of Isaac's line ending with *e* or *ea*, and John's with *a*. The wills of John and Abraham, the estate of William, and the family record of Edward Vermilya, all of whom were of our ancestral line, have the name terminated as here given; and it is so written by all their descendants, as far as my knowledge and researches have gone. And with Isaac's descendants, wherever I have met with it, it is spelled Vermilye.

Ryker's History of Harlem, from which I have obtained a type-written account of much that relates to the Vermilyas, furnishes largely the historical and vital statistical portion of what is herein set forth. The matter was compiled and contributed by Thomas E. Vermilye of New York city, with whom I have had a very agreeable correspondence.

1. ISAAC² VERMILYA (*John*¹), son of Jean and Maria Roublet Vermeille, was baptized in 1601, in the Walloom church, in London, England, and married in 1627, Jacomina Jacobs, at Leyden, Holland. He settled at New Harlem, Manhattan Island, New York, in 1662. His house occupied a spot nearly central of the block between 1st and 2d Avenues, and 122 and 123 Streets. In 1663, he commanded a military company, and in June, 1666, he was appointed magistrate by the English governor, Nicolls. In Jan., 1665, he and "Jacomina Jacobs his wife," and his son-in-law, Montagne, Jr., and "Marie Vermilye his wife," were present at an entertainment given by the officary of the Harlem church to the Dutch ex-governor, Peter Stuyvesant, the colony having passed from the Dutch to the English in 1664. In 1675, as "Isaac Vermille," he was paid 12 florins, for the funeral of Jean le Comte, a circumstance that suggests the probability of his serving in the "office of clerk," for the French residents of Harlem, inasmuch as on "Sep. 4, 1676, Vermilye," either father or son, is mentioned as "clerk." On Aug. 29, 1676, he witnessed the will of Aert Piertsen Buys of Fordham. His death occurred in this last mentioned year.

Children, born in Leyden, Holland:

- i. MARIE, b. in 1629; m. 1st, John de la Montagne, Jr., who d. in 1672; m. 2d, Isaac Kip, whom she survived a number of years, as he d. about 1678. Her name appears in a list of land owners, Dec. 3, 1685; and she d. about 1690, "shortly after the marriage in 1689," of her son Abraham Montagne.
2. ii. JOHANNES, b. in 1632.
- iii. ABRAHAM. Lived in Harlem, but "had no issue."
- iv. RACHEL, b. in 1637; m. (1), John Terbosch; m. (2), Derick Wes-sels.

NOTE.—The marriage of Marie Vermilya to the gifted son of Dr. Montagne, and of "Johannes" Vermilya to a daughter of Resolved Waldron, two of the most prominent and influential pioneers of Harlem, warrant the reference to their father, in "Toler and Nutting's New Harlem," as "the venerable and much respected Isaac Vermilya."

2. "JOHANNES"² VERMILYA (*Isaac,¹ John¹*) was born in Leyden, Holland, in 1632; m. Aug. 27, 1670, Anna, daughter of Rowland Waldron. Riker's History of Harlem says of him in substance: "Coming here in ripe manhood and united in his character the sterling traits of the French and Dutch, he was made court messenger in 1665 and constable in 1667, being for this year also farmer of the excise, previous to which he had set up a grocery." He was a magistrate at the time of his marriage in 1670, and took a leading part in civil and church affairs. And was one of the committee of safety in the political crisis of 1689—the abolition of James II. of England, and the accession to the throne of William and Mary. The committee appointed Capt. Jacob Leisler to the captaincy of the fort, at the Battery, and constitutional him as "commander in chief" of the province. Having a seat in Leisler's council, he was sent on an embassy to New Haven; but the coming of Col. Slaughter in March, 1691, ended its existence, and Leisler and its members were "committed to the guard" on a charge of high treason, and two months later Leisler and one of his co-adjutors were executed. Vermilya and the remainder of the council were, however, after seventeen months of suspension, liberated on the arrival of Governor Fletcher, and in Feb. 1696, were pardoned by the King (William of Orange). He died in March, 1696. She was living as late as June, 1712, when her name, as Aeltie Vermilye, appears in each of four different subdivisions of lands.

Children, born in Harlem:

- i. REBECCA, b. 1671; m. Peter Bossing.
 - ii. SARAH, b. 1673; m. Tennis Dolson.
 - iii. RACHEL, b. 1675; m. Charles Vincent.
 - iv. ABRAHAM, b. 1679. Supposed to have been killed in the Esopus (Kingston) War. Was living in 1730. Died without issue.
 - v. ISAAC, b. 1682; m. Josyntie Odinius.
 - vi. MARIJE, b. 1684; m. Peter Kiersse.
 - vii. JACOB, b. 1686; died young.
 3. viii. JOHN, b. 1688. Our ancestor.—J. H. B.
 - ix. HANNAH, b. 1690; m. John Odell, ancestor of Benjamin P. Odell, who was governor of New York from 1905 to 1909.
"The three sons became farmers in Yonkers."
3. JOHN⁴ VERMILYA (*Johannes,³ Isaac,² John¹*) was born in 1688, in Harlem, N. Y.; married first, Oct. 29, 1715, Sarah Odell; married second, Maritie ———. He became rich in landed property, by the purchase of farms about Kingsbridge, in Yorkers, in Westchester county. He lived until "far advanced in years," as it is stated in his will, which was executed June 3, 1776, and proved Nov. 2, 1786. It names his sons Abraham and Frederick, and his wife, Maritie, his executors; but it appears from an inventory of his estate which was taken June 7, 1787, and filed March 8, 1788, that his son John was its administrator, his son Abraham, one of his executors, having died before his father, who died in Oct., 1786, aged 98 years. We have a copy of his will.—J. H. B.
- Children, probably born in Yonkers, and named in order of the will:

4. i. ABRAHAM. Our ancestor.—J. H. B.

- ii. JOSHUA, d. in Westchester Co., in 1782.
- iii. FREDERICK, m. in 1763, Catherine Nodine.
- iv. JOHN; the name appears as "Johannes" in the will.
- v. GERARDUS, m. in 1762, Jane Valentine.
- vi. DAVID.
- vii. BENJAMIN.
- viii. AELTIE, m. John Kortright of Harlem.
- ix. ANTIE. x. MARTIE. xi. SARAH. xii. REBECCA.

John, Gerardus, David and Benjamin removed from Yonkers to Dutchess county, before the Revolutionary war, in which they and Joshua also were soldiers.

4. ABRAHAM⁵ VERMILYA (*John*,⁴ *Johannes*,³ *Isaac*,² *John*¹) was born, probably, about 1716; married Mehetabel ———, the name being accepted on the authority of Mr. Thomas E. Vermilya, as it is given in Riker's History of Harlem, and supported by concurrence of the name in the families of her sons William, Abraham and Edward. She is not mentioned by name, but simply as his "beloved wife," in his will which was executed, Feb. 15, 1782, and proved, July 20, 1784, the year of his death. His sons John and Edward were his executors. He was bequeathed, besides other devises by his father's will, the homestead of one hundred acres at Yonkers.

Children, born in Yonkers :

- i. JOHN, evidently the pensioned Revolutionary soldier, who died at Otego, Oswego Co., N. Y., Oct. 22, 1821. The widow applied in 1853, alleging their marriage (not the first) in 1816, at Sidney, Delaware Co., N. Y.
- ii. SARAH, "wife of Solomon Hustis."
- 5. iii. WILLIAM, who m. Phebe Hustis, probably a sister of Sarah's husband. He was willed one half of the homestead. Our ancestors.—J. H. B.
- iv. ABRAHAM, m. Mary ———. Lived at Harlem. Children: 1. *John*. 2. *James*. 3. *William*. 4. *Mehetabel*. 5. *Phebe*.
- v. EDWARD, b. 1759; m. Sarah Hyatt. Both and a son Abraham d. of cholera, at Harlem, the same day, July 20, 1832.

NOTE.—The names are given in the order mentioned in the will, and presumably in that of their birth.

Their father, who was born about 1716, presumably married late in life, as his wife is said to have been born in 1728, a statement that harmonizes with the births of their children, as John, the eldest child, alleges in his pension claim in 1818, that he was then 63 years of age, which, if correct, gives 1755 as the year of his birth.

5. WILLIAM⁶ VERMILYA (*Abraham*,⁵ *John*,⁴ *Johannes*,³ *Isaac*,² *John*¹). If younger than the accepted brother John, who says he was born in 1755, and younger than his sister Sarah, he was born about 1759, and hence was only about eighteen years of age at the time of his marriage to Phebe Hustis, as Edward their eldest child was born in Sept., 1777. He died in Delaware Co., N. Y., in the early part of 1803, as letters of administration were granted his widow and their son Edward, April 12th of that year. She died in the same county in May, 1839, as stated in a letter, in June, 1842, from her son Samuel to our uncle John C. Vermilya. The time of their removal to Delaware county is not known, but it was probably prior to the date of his father's will, in 1782, which might

account for his not being one of his executors instead of his younger brother Abraham.

Children were:

- i. EDWARD, b. Sept. 7, 1777. Our ancestor—J. H. B.
 - ii. SOLOMON, b. Nov. 6, 1784, d. June 18, 1872. Lived and died in Delaware Co., N. Y., where many of his descendants reside at the present day. His children were: 1. *Saivism*, 2. *Lent*, 3. *Phoebe*, 4. *Emiline*, 5. *William D.*, 6. *Edgt.*, 7. *Nash D.*, 8. *Hannah*, 9. *Mary*. All deceased. The names were furnished me, in person, by a grandson, Mr. Wm. D. Vermilya, at Halantville, in that county, in Aug., 1903.
 - iii. ABRAHAM, probably the second son) m. Charity Melrose; d. about 1822, in Delaware county. Children: 1. *Mary*, 2. *Salamon*, 3. *Phoebe*, 4. *Susan*, 5. *John*, 6. *Cynthia*, 7. *Asery*, b. Sept. 10, 1820, in the town of Roxbury, Del. Co., 8. *Abraham*. The names furnished by letter from *Asery Vermilya*, dated Dexter, Minn., Mar. 21, 1904, who says his father died when he was about 18 months old, when he was taken and raised by his grandmother Vermilya until he was 16 years of age. That he thinks her name was Phebe, but is sure that her family name was Husted.
 - iv. SAMUEL, b. June 8, 1793; m. Oct. 8, 1817, Catherine Robinson. Resided all his life in Delaware county. He d. Apr. 30, 1852, and she d. Apr. 18, 1872. Children: 1. *Edward*, b. Sept. 7, 1818; d. Apr. 17, 1893. 2. *Orville*, b. Sept. 11, 1822; d. June 3, 1897. 3. *William*, b. Feb. 16, 1829; d. June 15, 1887. 4. *Melissa* (now Mrs. Nelson Beardslee) b. Jan. 17, 1835. 5. *Edgar*, b. June 20, 1840. 6. *Oliva* (now Mrs. Horitt) b. Nov. 19, 1842, who furnished me this data in the home of her sister, Mrs. Beardslee, near Kelley's Corners, Delaware Co., Mon., Aug. 25, 1903, where I spent a pleasant day with the sisters, Melissa and Oliva—their brother Edgar of Griffin's Corner being present part of the time.
- The other children, of whom no satisfactory data has been obtained, were: v. MEHTABEL, who died young. vi. JONATHAN, who is said to have moved to Canada. vii. JESSE, who moved to Chenango county. viii. WILLIAM.

6. EDWARD⁷ VERMILYA (*William*,⁶ *Abraham*,⁶ *John*,⁴ *Johannes*,⁴ *Isaac*,² *John*¹) was born Sept. 7, 1777, in Westchester or Delaware Co., N. Y. A report of the Adjutant-General of New York shows that he was an ensign in the State militia, in the town of Roxbury in 1800. He moved from Delaware county to Dutchess (now Putnam) county in 1803, and settled on the east side of Lake Mahopac, and moved from there to Salem, Washington Co., Indiana, in 1818. He married in 1794, Joanna, daughter of Robert Wright of the town of Carmel, in Putnam county, who mentions her in his will, made May 12, 1818 (the month and year of his death), as "the wife of Edward Vermilya." His other children were Ebenezer, Isaac, Solomon, William, Robert, Daniel, Sarah, wife of John Beyea, Polly, wife of Jeremiah Maybie, Rachel, wife of Samuel Haight, and Ruth who married an Olmstead. The devises of his will show him possessed of a large landed property. The wife of Edward Vermilya died at Salem, July 17, 1818, and he died Oct. 16, 1818.

Children, from a family record in the handwriting of their daughter, Phebe; the first seven born in Delaware county, and the others in Dutchess county:

1. PHEBE, b. Jan. 30, 1795; m. David Burr, at Salem. She d. Feb. 20, 1837, at Indianapolis, Ind., and he d. Aug. 11, 1870, at Delphi, Ind.

- ii. RACHEL, b. Aug. 10; d. Aug. 18, 1797; named for her mother's sister.
- iii. RUTH, b. Aug. 13; d. Aug. 14, 1798; named for her mother's sister.
- iv. EBENEZER, b. Aug. 14; d. Aug. 15, 1799; named for his mother's brother.
- v. BARSHEBE, b. Aug. 19; d. Aug. 20, 1800.
- vi. ROBERT WRIGHT, b. Dec. 19, 1801; d. Nov. 5, 1842, at Salem, Ind., where, with my father and mother, I attended his funeral on Sunday afternoon of the following day.—J. H. B. He married, May 4, 1826, Malvina S. Phelps, b. Mar. 20, 1807; d. Nov. 4, 1884, at Unionville, Iowa. Children, born in Salem: *Eunice C.*, b. Apr. 15, 1828; d. young. 2. *Edward Alexander*, b. Nov. 26, 1829; m. (1) Jan. 4, 1853, Marian A. C. Oviatt; m. (2) Mar. 25, 1869, Eliza Enoch. Res., Attica, Kas. 3. *Joanna*, b. Nov. 3, 1831; m. Nov. 20, 1848, Robert S. Bray. Res., Manchester, Oklahoma. 4. *Adaline*, b. Oct. 6, 1833; m. Oct. 19, 1848, Jacob McDonald. Her res., Unionville, Iowa. 5. *William Francis*, b. Oct. 31, 1836; d. May 18, 1879, at Unionville, Iowa; m. Oct. 9, 1864, Mary E. Dean. He was a captain in the 36th Iowa Infantry. Only child, *Victor*, d. at the age of 22 years. 6. *Virginia Victoria*, b. Jan. 24, 1838; d. young. 7. *Robert David Burr*, b. June 23, 1840; m. Dec. 23, 1864, Barbara Clementine Ramsey. Res., Unionville, Iowa.
- vii. JOHN COLE, b. Sept. 11, 1803; m. (1) Dec. 1823, Catherine Murphy, b. Sept. 11, 1804; d. July 25, 1846; only child, *Adaline*, b. Aug. 30, 1827; d. 1832; m. (2) Dec., 1846, near Brownstown, Jackson Co., Ind., Mary Ann, dau. of Thomas Carter, who was b. June 8, 1829; d. May 15, 1870. Children: 1. *Ann Maria*, b. Aug. 21, 1847; d. Nov. 18, 1849. 2. *Mary Catherine*, b. July 12, 1848, d. Nov. —, 1849. 3. *Delight Sweetser*, b. Sept. 28, 1850; d. Dec. 27, 1886; m. Aug. 27, 1868, Joseph G. Strong, b. in 1841, and d. Apr. 10, 1902. Only child, Jay V., b. Aug. 14, 1878. 4. *Sena Burr*, b. May 11, 1855; m. Sept. 4, 1876, Arthur Lee Brooks, who was b. Nov. 25, 1855. Children: 1. Charles Brooks, b. Aug. 10, 1877. 2. Ralph Lee Brooks (res. Hubbard, Iowa), b. Mar. 13, 1882; m. July 23, 1904, Mayme Landis Harlan, b. Aug. 8, 1880; only child: Arthur Lee Brooks, b. June 17, 1906. 3. Harry Leon Brooks, b. July 24, 1885. 4. Fred Arthur Brooks, b. Nov. 7, 1890. Residence, Tama, Iowa. M. (3) Jan. 1, 1871, Mary Ann Carpenter, a native of Devonshire, England, who survived his death, which occurred Jan. 12, 1897, at the age of 93 years 4 months and 2 days. He was a farmer, and prior to his removal to Tama county, Iowa, in 1851, he had carried on farming near Brownstown, Ind., for a number of years. He was a good man and true in all the relations of life, and had the respect and confidence of the communities in which he lived. See *Obituaries*.
- viii. MEHETABEL, but known as "Hetty," b. May 1, 1805; m. (1) July 24, 1821, Albert Banks, who d. Oct. 15, 1823, "aged 26"; m. (2) Mar. 31, 1824, Rev. Walter Benton. She d. Nov. 6, 1875; and he d. Apr. 3, 1890. (See his family history—p. 17.)
- ix. WILLIAM, b. May 31, 1807; d. Oct. 26, 1835, at Hopkinsville, Christian Co., Ky. His widow, Sarah Vermilya, and their daughter, Lucinda, then about two years of age, visited our family at Brownstown, in the summer of 1836. Her second husband was a German physician at Hopkinsville.
- x. JESSE, b. May 18, 1809; m. July 4, 1832, Maria McTaggart, at Brownstown, Ind. The most of his married life was at Aboit, Allen Co., Ind., where he was engaged as a farmer and trader. He died there, after a brief illness, Aug. 1, 1846, and she died, Jan. 23, 1848. Children: 1. *David Burr*, b. 1833; d. at the age of 3 months. 2. *Marietta*, b. Aug. 19, 1834; m. Dec. 30, 1857, Ezekiel M. Talbot (now deceased). Children: 1. *Jessie V.* and 2. *Charles McCulloch*. Res., Marion, Ind. 3. *Adaline*, b. Dec. 30, 1837; m. John Nelson Turner (now deceased). No children. Res., Marion, Ind. 4. *Ann Eliza*, b. May 16, 1840, m. Marvin Robinson. Has lived

In Peru and Terre Haute. Ind. Children: 1. *Sarah* and 2. *Charles McCulloch*. 5. *Jessie Martin*, b. July 15, 1841; m. Stephen Broad, a banker at Fort Wayne, Ind. Ten children. This the fullest data obtainable.

- xi. **ADALINE**, b. June 2, 1811; d. In childbirth, shortly before midnight, Saturday, Dec. 21, 1842, at her home near Brownstown, Ind. (I rode with my mother, the following morning, twelve days home, several miles in the country, where my mother remained until after her funeral and burial. She was a kind, sensible, irascible Christian woman.—J. H. B.). She was married to Alexander Worth, Aug. 9, 1826, probably at Salem, Ind. Mr. Worth, b. July 21, 1803, at Hudson, Columbia Co., N. Y.; d. Feb. 22, 1878, at Mooresville, Ind., son of Barzillai (a sea captain) and Mary Worth. While a babe, his father having died, his mother removed to Albany and from there to New York city, where, at an early age, employment was found for him in the bank of his uncle, ~~George~~ *Worth*. At the age of twenty, he was at Salem, Ind., as we have a note of invitation (page 40), dated Dec. 12, 1823, addressed to our mother, and bearing his signature as one of the organizers for a Christmas eve party. His mother, who was of French birth, died at Mooresville, and her grave in the "Old Cemetery" is near that of her son.
- His second wife was Harriet C. Glascock, b. Mar. 27, 1821, in Ky.; d. Jan. —, 1906, at Mooresville. Of their ten children, Deborah E. (now Mrs. Gregory), Alice, Fanny and Edward, are the only survivors. He lived at Salem, Mooresville, near Brownstown, Plainfield and Indianapolis, Ind. Children by the first wife, born at Salem or Mooresville, except the last, who was born near Brownstown: 1. *Mary*, b. Aug. 7, 1827; d. Aug. 26, 1828. 2. *Mary*, b. Dec. 8, 1828; m. a Mr. Hockett, whose daughter, Mrs. Eleanor F. Chase of Springfield, Mass., furnished the data (see below), relating to her grandfather Worth. 3. *Maria* (res., near Holton, Kans.), b. Oct. 6, 1830; m. Robert Little (now deceased). 4. *Phoebe Ann*, b. June 15, 1832; d. Nov. 17, 1905, at Long Beach, Cal.; m. Mar. 1, 1849, Rufus Oursler, who d. July 13, 1885. Children: i. Charles A., b. Dec. 21, 1849; d. May 19, 1902. ii. Florence A., b. Feb. 9, 1852. iii. Alphonzo Rufus, b. Sept. 21, 1858. 5. *Elizabeth*, b. Nov. 9, 1833; m. Elias Johnson (now deceased); resides with her daughter, Mrs. Battle Black, at Warrington, Ind. 6. *Lawrence*, b. Apr. 10, 1835 (now deceased); no data. 7. *Adaline*, b. June 3, 1838 (deceased); no data. 8. *John Becker* (res., Brownstown, Ind.), b. Sept. 30, 1839; m. Nov. 11, 1867, Dr. Joseph Addison Stilwell, b. Apr. 11, 1831; d. May 20, 1891. (He was assistant surgeon and surgeon of the 22nd Ind. Vols. from 1861 to 1865; and from boyhood until his death was an intimate personal friend of mine.—J. H. B.). Children: i. Walter Davis, b. Jan. 18, 1862; d. young. ii. Maria, b. Jan. 1, 1867; m. Oct. 2, 1895, Charles H. Cox. Only child, Richard M. J., b. June 1897. iii. Kate, b. Mar. 8, 1868; m. Oct. 21, 1892, Charles C. Hoyatt. Children: (1) Marie, b. Feb. 26, 1894. (2) Thomas Stilwell, b. Oct. 29, 1896. (3) Rebecca, b. Aug. 7, 1898. (4) Charles Robert, b. Jan. 21, 1900. iv. Alexander Worth, b. May 31, 1870; d. young. v. Anna, b. Jan. 2, 1874; m. Dec. 2, 1891, Edwin L. Vermilya. Children: (1) Wright, b. Jan. 16, 1897. (2) Hershel, b. Oct. 29, 1899. 9. *Sarah*, b. Dec. 10, 1841; never married. Residence, Mooresville, Ind. 10. *Catherine*, b. 5 p. m. Dec. 31, 1842, 5 hours before the death of her mother. She was taken and raised by her uncle, John C. Vermilya, and died at his home, then, Ottumwa, Iowa, when 12 or 13 years of age.
- xii. **SOLOMON**, b. Mar. 2, 1813; m. Nov. 18, 1835, Mary Jane Wiley, who was b. May 21, 1820, and d. July 7, 1852. He lived for a number of years at Aboit, Ind., from which place he removed in May, 1841, to Brownstown, where he had lived eight or nine years previously. He died Jan. 21, 1849, near Brownstown, and was buried in Fair-

- view Cemetery. (His widow married a Dr. Cavender of Courtland, Ind.) Children: 1. *William Burr*, b. Aug. 21, 1837; m. (1) June 1, 1866, Louisa Ellen Knox, who was b. Jan. 13, 1843; d. Feb. 7, 1887. Children: i. Cora May, b. Nov. 19, 1867; m. Feb. 14, 1887, Ora M. Brindle. ii. Solomon Walter, b. Mar. 18, 1869; d. Aug. 12, 1869. M. (2) May 14, 1891, Lurinda Ellen Driscoll, b. Apr. 29, 1866. Children: Ethel, b. June 18, 1892; Wright, b. Dec. 12, 1893. Res., Reesville, Clinton Co., Ohio. 2. *Phebe Burr*, b. Jan. 19, 1839; m. (1) June 21, 1855, Andrew J. Pfaffenberger, b. May 18, 1829, d. May 14, 1867. M. (2) Jan. 16, 1870, John Allen, who d. Jan. 12, 1887. Children by first husband, born in Brownstown: i. Evaline, b. May 11, 1856. ii. Charles, b. Feb. 10, 1858; d. May 30, 1859. iii. Theodore, b. Dec. 14, 1860. iv. Wright Vermilya, b. Mar. 19, 1863. v. Viola, b. Aug. 30, 1865. vi. Luella, b. Nov. 5, 1867; d. June 5, 1902. Children by second husband: vii. John. viii. Joseph. ix. Stella, now Mrs. Goen. 3. *Hetty Ann*, b. Dec. 26, 1840; m. June 18, 1857, Anthony Cyrus Willey, b. in Clark Co., Ind., Dec. 11, 1833; d. in Aberdeen, Wash., Apr. 25, 1894. Children: i. Mary Elizabeth, b. Apr. 12, 1858, in Brownstown, Ind.; d. Apr. 25, 1862. ii. John William, b. Jan. 12, 1861, in Douglas Co., Kans.; d. Nov. 3, 1877. iii. George Edward, b. Aug. 20, 1863, in Coffee Co., Kans.; d. Apr. 11, 1864. iv. Thomas Fletcher, b. Oct. 24, 1865, in Douglas Co., Kans.; d. Nov. 24, 1878. v. Emma Dora, b. Jan. 8, 1868, in Douglas Co., Kans.; d. May 29, 1870. vi. Benjamin Franklin, b. Dec. 24, 1869, in Douglas Co., Kans. vii. Lemuel Brazilla, b. Feb. 10, 1872, in Jefferson Co., Kans.; d. suddenly, Sept. 18, 1905, in Aberdeen, Wash. viii. Charles Wright, b. June 1, 1874, in Bates Co., Mo. She resides in Aberdeen, Washington. 4. *Wright Vermilya*, b. Aug. 11, 1843; m. Sept. 2, 1869, Josephine E., dau. of Joseph and Lydia (Ireland) Miller, b. May 24, 1849, near Brownstown. He is a merchant. Res., Brownstown, Ind. Children: i. Edwin L., b. July 14, 1870; m. Dec. 2, 1894, Anna Stilwell. ii. Joseph Clyde, b. Apr. 26, 1872; m. Apr. 15, 1896, Angeline Henderlider. iii. Solomon Earl, b. Nov. 18, 1874. iv. William Ray, b. Jan. 22, 1877. v. Wright, b. Jan. 23, 1880; d. Sept. 27, 1883. vi. Lilla Marie, b. Nov. 29, 1884. 5. *Agnes Adaline Vermilya*, b. June 6, 1845; m. Aug. 8, 1865, Dr. William H. Ireland, b. Feb. 5, 1827; d. Feb. 18, 1883. He was a lieutenant in the 22 Ind. Inf. and served from 1861 till the muster out of the regiment in 1865. She resides in Brownstown. Children: i. Clarence Howard, b. June 12, 1866; m. Maud Emerson. ii. Crafton Earnest, b. Mar., 1868; d. Sept., 1875. iii. iv. Allen and Wright, twins, b. Aug. 15, 1870; both d. in infancy. v. Herbert, b. Nov., 1872; d. Aug., 1874. vi. Stella, b. Sept. 9, 1874; m. May 19, 1895, Walter Durham Shutts. vii. Charles Virgil, b. Jan. 28, 1881.
- xiii. JOANNA VERMILYA (took the name of Ann Burr V.) was b. Nov. 10, 1816; m. July 23, 1837, at Mooresville, Morgan Co., Ind., James Sweetser, b. Feb. 21, 1815, in Dummerston, Windham Co., Vt. They lived in Marion, Grant Co., where he was engaged in merchandising and banking. She d. Oct. 13, 1877, and he d. June 2, 1878. Children, b. in Marion: 1. *Delight Sweetser*, b. Oct. 19, 1838; d. Aug. 15, 1868; m. Jan. 1, 1868, George Winchel. 2. *David Burr Sweetser*, b. Aug. 4, 1840; d. Nov. 24, 1899; m. Oct. 5, 1870, Mary Wood. 3. *George Gordon Byron Sweetser*, b. Aug. 22, 1842; m. June 22, 1871, Mary Cleveland. 4. *James Vermilya Sweetser*, b. Feb. 28, 1845; d. Aug. 16, 1894, at Watkins Glen, N. Y.; m. Dec. 20, 1871, Emma Harter of Wabash, Ind. Res., Marion, Ind.: Children: i. Delight, b. Jan. 21, 1873; d. July 13, 1903, at Cleveland, Ohio; m. Jan. 3, 1900, Francis F. Prentiss of Cleveland. ii. Phil, b. Dec. 28, 1874; d. Jan. 24, 1878. iii. Jessie Vermilya, b. May 26, 1879; d. Dec. 28, 1885. 5. *Mary Esther Sweetser*, b. Nov. 25, 1848; d. Oct. 10, 1852. 6. *Kate Sweetser*, b. Nov. 14, 1851; d. Sept. 15, 1852.

OBITUARY.

JOHN COLE VERMILYA.

The Tama (Iowa) Free Press.

Although the friends and neighbors of Judge Vermilya had anticipated that in the last year he was failing rapidly, still none of us were prepared to hear of his death, which occurred early in the morning of the 12th. Undoubtedly he might have lived several months longer, but rising from his bed during the night, he fell and received a severe injury in the face, which produced bleeding, and from exhaustion and old age he quietly passed away. [Jan. 12, 1897.]

John C. Vermilya was born in Delaware county, New York, September 11, 1803. He spent his boyhood days in his native state, but in early manhood, the year 1818, he joined the train of enterprising young men coming west and settled in Indiana. In 1819, still wishing to push forward he made a visit to Iowa, and located land just east of the present site of Tama, and returned to his home in Indiana. Having seen Iowa in her native beauty, he longed to return, and in March, 1852, he settled upon the claim he had located, and was a resident of Tama county thereafter until his death. In August, 1853, the then settlers of the original county of Tama elected him county Judge, and in 1855 he was re-elected, holding the position until January 1st, 1858. Among the old archives of the infancy of the county will be found the records of this good man. During this time the judge helped organize the Toledo Lodge, No. 118, A. F. and A. M., and was one of its charter members. He fitted up a room, "upstairs," in his home, and many a meeting was held by the then newly organized lodge, and many of the old members tell how they were initiated there. The Judge was ever the "Tyler," and at every meeting he made it a point to refresh his brothers with doughnuts and coffee. By this fraternity his memory will be ever held in grateful remembrance. In 1822, Mr. Vermilya was married to Miss Catherine Murphy, of Jackson county, Indiana, who only lived a short time. He afterwards married Miss Mary A. Carter, who bore him four children, two of whom died when quite young. Two daughters, Mrs. Delight Strong, died several years ago, and Mrs. Sena V. Brooks (wife of A. L. Brooks) is the only surviving child. His former wife having died, in 1871, he married Miss Mary A. Carpenter, who survives him. For over forty years Judge Vermilya has lived in Tama township, quietly upon his farm attending to his own business, scattering kind words to his old and new friends and neighbors, and always having a hearth and a board when hospitality required.

During these decades of time, in this world of believing and fault-finding, there has been no aspersion to his name or public character. He retained his physical and mental vigor almost to the last. Within two years he has ridden his faithful horse to town, and all were glad and proud to help him alight or assist him to remount. He was an honest, careful and considerate man, faithful to his country, kindly and courteous to his neighbors and friends and loyal to his family in the extreme. He helped fight the torches of the old pioneers and was ever ready and willing to keep them burning. He was of great assistance to the early settlers in this county. At the last "Old Settlers" meeting he was a central figure on the platform and old and young, rich and poor were glad to greet him, and touch his trembling hand.

The funeral was held, Wednesday, at the beautiful home of his daughter. Many old and tried friends followed him to his last resting place, and say in their hearts: "This man has built for himself a monument more beautiful than sculptured marble, and more enduring than chiseled stone." He led a quiet life, but we are all better that he lived and all mourn his death. He was our friend.

OBITUARY.

JOHN COLE VERMILYA.

The Brownstown (Ind.) Banner.

John C. Vermilya was born in Delaware county, New York, September 11, 1803, and died at his home near Tama, Iowa, January 12, 1897, thus arriving at the ripe age of 93 years and 4 months.

The parents were natives of New York. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Dutchess county, New York, and in 1818 to Indiana. About six months after their settlement the father and mother died leaving their son to provide for himself. During the early part of this century the common schools did not afford the advantage for learning that they now possess, but what could be gathered from them served as the education of our sketch.

Until about the age of thirty years he followed the hatter's trade. At that time he turned his attention to agriculture. In 1849, Mr. Vermilya made a trip to Tama county, Iowa, and located land in that county, but returned to Indiana where he remained until 1852, at which time he again came to this county, where he has since resided. In 1853 at the election which permanently organized the county, he was elected judge and served until 1858. His home was then in Toledo and was used as a court house until one was built. His home was proverbial for its hospitality, travelers through the country being welcomed and kept of whom he took no charge.

During his official career he did much in building up and organizing the county and for his time and labor received but small recompense. Judge Vermilya was a man who held the highest esteem of those who knew him. His life has covered nearly a century and during this time he has seen his country advance from its limited condition to its present magnificent proportions. His life in Tama closely allied with its development, and though scores of his early friends have passed on before him yet the circle is large that will mourn his departure. Those of the early settlers who survive him will always cherish in memory the aid afforded them from his hand in those early pioneer days. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church for the greater part of his life, and he derived great comfort during his latter years from the perusal of the scriptures.

Mr. Vermilya was married three times. His first marriage was in 1823 with Miss Catherine Murphy of Indiana. His second wife was Miss Mary Ann Carter, who bore him four children, one of whom, Mrs. A. L. Brooks, of Tama, survives him. In 1871 he married Miss Mary Ann Carpenter a native of Devonshire, England, who has been his faithful companion and attendant during his last years.

The immediate cause of his death was a fall he sustained Monday evening. His funeral was held at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. L. Brooks, in Tama, and despite the drifted highways a large number of

friends gathered at the service. Rev. Amos Weaver conducted the exercises, Rev. J. I. Smith offering the closing prayer. Mrs. J. L. Bracken and Mrs. P. O. Redman sang three beautiful selections of music. Lovely flowers covered the bier.

The pall bearers were: J. L. Bracken, E. G. Pearese, W. H. Allenscht, T. W. Murray, James Burge, W. T. Hollen.

RAY-WINGATE.

REV. THOMAS RAY was born Oct. 18, 1794, in a block-house at Meadville, Crawford Co., Pa., and was struck and instantly killed by an express railroad train, near his residence at Inwood, Marshall Co., Ind., in the evening of Jan. 31, 1871. His father, Thomas Ray, a native of Dundee, Scotland, came to America, probably prior to the Revolutionary war, as a lieutenant in the British army, but the occasion of his return to civil life is not known; not, however, by desertion, as would appear from an article in *The Meadville Republican*, commemorative of the son's visit to his native place, shortly before his death, after an absence of forty years. The article mentions the date and place of the son's birth as given by him, and of his father's early settlement on French Creek near the town, and relates the circumstance of his being captured by Indians and taken to the British garrisoned post at Detroit, where he was recognized and released by an officer of his boyhood and early army acquaintance, who had him returned by way of Forts Erie and Pitt to his family at the place of capture. The son, in early manhood, removed to Madison Co., Ohio, and from there to Indiana. He professed religion in early life, and was a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church for some years prior to his entering its itinerancy, in the Indiana Conference, at Madison, in 1833. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Soule at the same session of the conference, and elder by Bishop Roberts, at Indianapolis in 1836. His appointments were principally in the southern part of the state, and were continued until age and failing strength compelled a superannuated relation, which was held until his death. His obituary by the South Eastern Indiana Conference, at its session of 1871, says of him, "He was a good man, and full of faith and the Holy Ghost, and much people were added to the church through his ministry."

He was married April 25, 1822, at London, Madison Co., Ohio, to Ruth Wingate, who was born Dec. 4, 1800, at Alexandria, Va., and died Mar. 6, 1864, at Shelbyville, Ind. (He was married a second time to a woman whose name is not worthy of perpetuation through these pages). The ancestors of his first wife were probably among the early settlers of Fairfax Co., Va., if not of the state, as the name of Henry Wingate appears in a list of freeholders of that county who voted at a general election at the court-house at Fairfax, July 16, 1765, and was one of the 201 free-men who voted for George Washington, a successful candidate for the house of burgesses. She united with the church, at London, Ohio, in 1861. Her obituary by the Rev. Thomas H. Lynch, who preached her funeral sermon from Psa. cxix : 54, says of her: "She was an example of Christian meekness, patience and faith. Pious in life, she was happy in death."

Children were :

- i. SARAH, b. Apr. 30, 1823; d. Nov. 23, 1842. She m. Sept. 27, 1841, Jay Wilson, near Cynthiana, Posey Co., Ind. An only child, *Sarah E.*, b. Nov. 23, 1842, m. a Mr. Johnson, who lived at Princeton, Ind.
- ii. WILLIAM, b. May 4, 1825; d. Aug. 21, 1846.
- iii. MARGARET, b. June 17, 1828; d. Aug. 7, 1899; m. Jan. 1, 1851, at Vernon, Ind., Bartholomew H. Burrell, who d. Nov. 9, 1865, in Brownstown, Ind. Children: 1. *Martha*, b. Jan. 4, 1852. 2. *Charles*, b. Jan. 16, 1854. 3. *John Ray*, b. Sept. 15, 1856, d. July 28, 1887. 4. *William*, d. young. 5. *Oliver*, b. Aug. 5, 1863.
- iv. ELIZABETH, b. Dec. 11, 1830; m. Mar. 15, 1859, Isaac Robinson, in Shelby Co., Ind., where he died. An only child, *Eva*, m. a Mr. McKay, by whom she has two children, *Frank* and *Laffe*. Res. of mother and daughter (1899), Carthage, Rush Co., Ind.
- v. MARY, b. Apr. 24, 1833, at Princeton, Ind.; d. Apr. 16, 1889, at Washington, D. C.; m. Apr. 24, 1851, John H. Benton, at Vernon, Ind.
- vi. MARTHA, b. Feb. 19, 1838; d. June 19, 1894, at Indianapolis; m. June 1, 1859, near Fountaintown, Shelby Co., Ind., Samuel Fountain, who d. Aug. 17, 1897, at Indianapolis. Children: 1. *Olive*. 2. *Jennie*, b. Jan., 1866; d. July 8, 1888, aged 22 y. and 6 m. 3. *Ella*. 4. *Samuel Oscar*, b. 1875.

 WEBSTER—FERGUSON.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER WEBSTER, son of Capt. George and Hetty (Moreland) Webster, was born Sept. 29, 1821, in Prince George's Co., Md., and died Apr. 3, 1885, in Washington, D. C. His father, born in 1795, died Nov. 20, 1872, and always lived in Prince George's Co., Md. He married first, Hetty Moreland, who died about 1838; and married second, Jan. 5, 1841, Mary Jane Mudd, who was born in 1811, and died in Mar., 1895. (The data is obtained from the latter's pension papers—Crtif. No. 27,984—because of her husband's service as a soldier of the War of 1812). The son was a carpenter by trade; and a soldier in the War with Mexico, in Capt. Jones' Co. D, 1 U. S. M'd Rifles. He enlisted at Washington, D. C., Jan. 28, 1847, and was discharged at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., July 31, 1848. The regiment was in Gen. Percifer F. Smith's Division of Gen. Scott's army in its operations against the city of Mexico. He married Sept. 30, 1850, Catherine, daughter of John and Mary Ferguson, who was born June 8, 1828, in Perry Co., Pa., and died Dec. 5, 1905, in Washington, D. C. She was pensioned as the widow of a Mexican War soldier. Her father, who for a number of years prior to 1850 was a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington, died in 1860, at his former home in Perry county. Her mother, also a native of Perry county, a daughter of Abraham and Eva Sheibly, was born May 24, 1807, and died at the home of her daughter Emily (Mrs. Charles H. Smiley), at New Bloomfield, Pa., Mar. 23, 1900, aged 92 years 9 months and 29 days. Their children, besides Mrs. Webster and Mrs. Smiley and three who died in childhood, were Robert Elliott, who died in Harrisburg, in 1864, while prothonotary of the supreme court; William, a clerk in the Treasury Department at the time of his death, Apr. 17, 1892, and Eliza M. (Mrs. John W. Sims) who died Nov. 17, 1905; and these who are now living (May, 1906): Mary, wife of Gen. H. C. Wood, U. S. A., retired, John F., Jesse

M. and James H. Ferguson. Children of Mr. and Mrs. Webster, born at 742 N. J. ave., Washington, are:

- i. MARY ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 16, 1851.
- ii. MARIA LOUISA, b. Mar. 22, 1854, no. Oct. 1, 1899; John H. Boston, Only Child, *Ralph Webster*, D. O. S., no. 1899.
- iii. KATE ESTELLE, b. Mar. 22, 1859; in Dec. 17, 1878; William W. H. Clarkson, who was born Nov. 3, 1856; Children of *Madame M.*, b. Apr. 7, 1881. 2. *Georgette T.*, b. July 22, 1881. 3. *Genevieve*, b. Sept. 3, 1886. 4. *Joseph T.*, b. Nov. 29, 1894.
- iv. EMILY FERGUSON, b. Dec. 9, 1857; in June 30, 1889; John A. Cross, b. Feb. 11, 1851, in Salem, Mass.; b. Apr. 26, 1891, in Hyannis, Md. Children: 1. *Eugene Webster*, b. May 19, 1893, d. May 25, 1893. 2. *Edith Scripps*, b. Aug. 19, 1895. 3. *Ray Webster*, b. Sept. 11, 1885. 4. *Fern Herbert*, b. Nov. 25, 1898.
- v. GEORGE D., b. June 19, 1861.
- vi. JESSIE MAY, b. July 14, 1867.

GENEALOGY OF EMMA, THOMAS H., CAROLINE, CAPT. ELISHA S. AND WILLARD J. BENTON

Their great-grandfather was Jonathan Benton, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and a son of Samuel iii and Jure (Bosley) Benton of Tolland, Conn. (See Fam. Rec. 11, p. 8.) He was born in 1746, and lived to an advanced age. "On his 99th birthday he walked with aid of his staff from Tolland, Conn., to Springfield, Mass., (about 25 miles) to visit his son Elisha, and returned as he came, without allowing himself to be taken back in a team." His children were: ¹Eliakim, ²Samuel, ³Thomas, ⁴Joseph, ⁵Elisha, ⁶Jerusha, and ⁷Jane.

Their grandfather was the son Elisha as mentioned above. His children were: ¹Joel C. and ²Justin B. Benton.

Their father is Justin B. Benton, still living at the age of 81 years, and his children, all living, are: ¹Emma, ²Thomas H., ³Caroline, ⁴Elisha S., and ⁵Willard J. Emma has no children.

The children of Thomas H. Benton are: ¹Caroline, ²Thomas H. and ³Wrayburn. Res., Springfield, Mass.

Caroline Benton married Charles L. Tuthill of Wallham, Mass. Their children are: ¹Edith and ²Dorothy.

Capt. Elisha S. Benton's children are: ¹Justin, ²Stella Maria, ³Elisha and ⁴Edith. And Willard J. has an only child: Avie.

Capt. Benton's military history appears in the *Official Army Register* for 1906, as follows: Lineal No. 19. Born in Mass., 22 Jan., 1879. Appointed from Mass. Cadet M. A., 1 July, '80; 2 Lt., 31 art., 15 June, '84; 1 Lt., 31 July, '91; trs. to 1 Art., 24 July, '97; trs. to 7 Art., 8 Mar., '98; capt. 3 Art., 6 June, '00. Graduate Artillery School, 1898. Captain, 65 Co. Coast Art., stationed at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal.

J. H. B.

IN RELATION TO THE ESTATE OF ISAAC BENTON i.

(Born, 1703; died, 1757.)

(Exact Copy.)

Probate Records, Book 2, Page 34, at Sharon, Conn.

At a Court of Probate holden at Sharon, for the District of Sharon, this 28th day of Nov., 1758, present John Williams, Judge, holding the same. Then Isaac Benton of Salisbury, in sd. District, one of the Executors of the last will and testament of Isaac Benton dec'd, exhibited an amount of debts due from sd. Estate and paid by him amounting to the sum of lawful money £32-17-10.

At y^e same Court, this Court grant and empower the said Isaac Benton to be guardian to Levi, aged 12 years the 20th of March last, son of y^e sd. Isaac Benton deceased, who acknowledged himself bound in a recognizance of two hundred dollars for the faithful discharge of sd. trust to sd. minor, till he shall arrive at the age in which the law allows him to choose for himself, according to law.

Vol. 2, Page 113.

At a Court of Probate, holden at Sharon, for the District of Sharon, this 16th day of August, 1760, present John Williams Esq., Judge, holding the same. Then the distributors of the Estate of Isaac Benton, late of Salisbury dec'd, made their return in the following manner:

We have distributed to Isaac Benton 12 acres, lying by Joseph William's Land westerly, and by Lt. Jonathan Moore's Land westerly.

Next to Isaac's we have laid to David Benton ten acres and one-half.

Next to him is a lot for Steven Benton 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres w^h y^e barn.

Next to him is a lot to y^e w^o (widow) of 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, w^h y^e dwelling house and barn.

Next is a lot to Joseph Benton of eleven acres and one-half.

Next is a lot to Nathan Benton of twelve acres.

Next is a lot to Sarah, daughter to Mr. Isaac Benton deceased, five acres and a half.

Next is to Levy Benton, containing 12 acres.

Next is a lot to Ruth Benton, containing 5 acres.

To the widow of sd. dec'd, in sundry articles of movable estate, £15- 8-10

Divided to Sarah Tousley, in sundry articles of D^o., 7-15- 5

Set out to Ruth Benton, daughter of Mr. Isaac Benton, in movables, 7- 7- 8

David Benton has had out of movable estate, 3- 7- 0

Stephen has had, 7-19- 3

To Joseph Benton, 2- 1- 6

NOAH STRONG, JOHN BENTON, AMOS FULLER, *Distributors.*

NOTE.—The John Benton, one of the distributors, was a descendant in the 4th degree of Edward Benton, the emigrant. He was born at Guilford, Conn., Sept. 15, 1732. His ancestral line, obtained from Guilford records, runs as follows: John⁵ (John,⁴ b. 1709; John,³ b. 1671; Andrew,² b. prob. 1636; Edward,¹ b. 1600). His residence at Salisbury, where a birth record of eleven children appears, is the only instance I have met with where descendants of Edward and Andrew Benton, the emigrants, dwelt together in the same community. Felix Benton, one of his sons, b. in 1762, removed to the town of Cornwall, Vt., where some of his descendants are living at the present time.

J. H. B.

THE WILL OF DAVID BENTON, SENIOR.

(Exact copy.)

PROVED SEPT. 5, 1797.

Born 1734-1797.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN, I David Benton, of Sheffield, in the County of Berkshire, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Gentleman, calling to mind my own mortality, also considering my many bodily infirmities, not knowing how soon I may be called to put off this my earthly tabernacle, and being at present of sound mind and memory, do make and ordain this my last will and testament, this fourteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven.

First:—I give my soul to God who gave it me, and my body to the dust to be decently buried by my executors hereinafter named, humbly hoping through the merits of my Redeemer to obtain glorious resurrection to Immortal Life.

After my just debts and funeral charges are paid by my executors I give and dispose of my estate in the following manner.

I give to Sarah my beloved wife the use and improvement of one third of all my real estate during her natural life.

Also I give to my said wife Sarah one third part of all my personal estate, to be her property forever.

And whereas I have already advanced to my three sons viz:—Caleb Benton, David Benton, Junior, and Stephen Benton, and to my daughter Lydia Taylor, and they the said Caleb, David, Stephen & Lydia have received of me out of my estate to the amount of considerable in value, that is to my said son Caleb I have advanced and he has received of me out of my estate to the amount of three hundred and thirty three dollars and thirty-three cents and to my said son David Benton I have advanced and he has received out of my estate to the amount of four hundred forty two dollars & fifty eight cents, and to my said son Stephen Benton I have advanced and he has received of me out of my estate to the amount of eight hundred and three dollars and forty four cents, and to my daughter Lydia Taylor I have advanced and she has received of me out of my estate to the amount of two hundred and eighty-nine dollars and twenty cents. Now it is my will and I give to my said three sons viz:—said Caleb—David & Stephen, three hundred and thirty three dollars and thirty three cents each out of what I have advanced to them and each of them have received of me out of my estate as aforesaid, before any further division of my estate is made than of that third part of my real estate, the use and improvement of which I have hereinbefore given to my said wife Sarah for and during her natural life, and that third part of my personal estate which I have hereinbefore given to my said wife Sarah, to be hers forever.

Item:—I give to my said son Stephen Benton the privilege, use, benefit and improvement of the one half of the stream or brook of water which is between my dwelling house and Mount Washington and runs easterly on my land near the line between my land and said Stephen's land and the privilege of turning the half of said stream or brook in the most convenient place, for his use and benefit from said stream or brook across my land to his said Stephen's land forever.

And the whole of the remainder of my real and personal estate, which I have not herein-before given or disposed of, or the use and improvement of which I have not herein-before given or disposed of, I give and bequeath to my said three sons and four daughters, that is said Caleb Benton,—David Benton Junior, Stephen Benton, Lydia Taylor, Mary Benton, Sarah Benton and Ruth Plumb, to be equally divided and shared between them, my said three sons and four daughters, excepting and it is my will, intent and meaning that as I have advanced to my said son David one hundred and nine dollars & twenty five cents (over and above the three hundred and thirty three dollars and thirty three cents so given to him as aforesaid) shall be considered and accounted towards and a part of his said David's equal share in the division of that part of my estate so to be divided and shared between my said three sons and four daughters as aforesaid, excepting also and it is my will, intent & meaning that as I have advanced to my said son Stephen & he has received of me out of my estate, four hundred and seventy dollars and thirteen cents (over and above the three hundred and thirty three dollars and thirty three cents so given to him said Stephen as aforesaid) shall be considered and accounted as four hundred and seventy dollars and thirteen cents toward and a part of his said Stephen's equal share in the division of that part of my estate so to be divided and shared between my said three sons and four daughters as aforesaid, excepting also and it is my will, intent and meaning that the whole which I have advanced to my said daughter Lydia Taylor and which she has received of me out of my estate which is to the amount of two hundred and eighty nine dollars and twenty-cents shall be considered as said sum of two hundred and eighty nine dollars and twenty cents received by her towards a part of her said Lydia's equal share in the division of that part of my estate so to be divided and shared between my said three sons and four daughters as aforesaid.

Further it is my will and I hereby order & direct that the whole of the one third of the real estate, the use and improvement of which I have herein before given to my said wife Sarah for and during her natural life, shall immediately after her decease revert and descend to my three sons and four daughters herein before named, to be equally divided and shared between them, the said Caleb Benton, David Benton, Stephen Benton, Lydia Taylor, Mary Benton, Sarah Benton & Ruth Plumb.

And I hereby constitute and appoint my two said sons Caleb Benton and Stephen Benton, to be the executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other wills and testaments by me made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the day and year first herein before written.

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the said David Benton as his last will and testament in presence and hearing of us who subscribe as witnesses to the same in the said testator's presence and in presence of each other.

DAVID BENTON. (Seal.)

Witnesses: Henry Barnard, David Smith, Henry Barton.

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