

Dupl.

11 Aug 1997

Walter Lewis Blanchard  
102 Caroline Dr.  
St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Dear Walter,

Thanks for sending me the info on Louisa Fowler. I don't have any Craightons in my line so guess we don't have a connection. Guess I'll have to keep searching - that's the fun of ancestor hunting.

Sincerely,

Doris Baker

St. Clairsville, Ohio

June 3, 1997

Dear Doris Baker,

Thank you for your letter. However, I do not have much information on Louisa Fowler<sup>Fowler</sup>, except that she was married to Prior B. Creighton. Prior B. Creighton was a brother to my Grandmother, Elizabeth Creighton Blanchard. Prior B. Creighton was born in 1850, and I am sure that he was born in Pittsburgh, the same year that my Grandfather, John K. Blanchard was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. There seemed to be a connection between the two families, as each moved to Nelsonville, Ohio at approximately the same time. The major part of my research was done on the Blanchard side, and the information was gained through the files and films at the Library of Ohio University in Athens. Also, there was additional information in the historical part of the Athens Public Library. I also visited the Historical Science Library in Columbus.

I should tell you that I was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, in that my Grandparents attempted to get a divorce in 1890 in Nelsonville (the birth city of my Father). The divorce was denied, and my Grandfather (John K. Blanchard) received custody of my Father (Samuel Creighton Blanchard). John K took my Father to an island in the Chesapeake Bay, called "Pooles Island), and my Father lived on this island in the Summertime with his Aunt & Uncle, and went to school in Baltimore in the Winter. He married my Mother (Alice Frances Ellis Blanchard), and together, they had 10 children. I am the 7th. of this 10. My Father's sister, Martha Elizabeth Blanchard Walters, remained with her Mother. When we were small, our Aunt visited with us many times, and then we visited her in her later years. My being in Ohio resulted in a transfer in 1958. The Company that I worked for, built an Aluminum Reduction Plant in Hannibal, Ohio, and I was offered and accepted a position here. About five years ago, I began the research, and it was directed towards the Blanchard side. At this point in my research, I am stuck in Western Maryland in 1839 (the date of my great Grandparents wedding: Alfred Lexington Blanchard and Lucian Mary Drimes), and then again in Nelsonville in the early 1900's. On the Creighton side, I am stuck in Pittsburgh, Pa. in 1839 (the last census that I discovered Samuel Creighton's name and family) and then again in Nelsonville in 1900 (where they celebrated a 50th. wedding anniversary).

I am sure that some of the information that you need is available at the Ohio University Library, and would be worth the trip when you have the time. I do not plan a trip there in the near future, but if I should I will include Louisa Fowler in my search.

Good to hear from you, and perhaps we can share some information in the future.

Sincerely,

W. H. J. Blanchard

16 May 1997

Dupl. Fair

Lewis Blanchard  
102 Caroline Dr.  
St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Searching for descendants of Alfred Lexington Blanchard and Samuel Creighton. Both resided in Nelsonville from about 1850-1900. Robert K. Blanchard m. Elizabeth Creighton. Other marriages were: Emma Blanchard-John Masheter, A. Lexington Blanchard Jr.-Sarah Shanon, Asa Blanchard-Aga G. Forbes, John G. Creighton-Mariah Spencer, Prior B. Creighton-Louisa Fowler, Mary Creighton-Jerome Beckler, Samuel Ellsworth Creighton-Eliza Jane Drain. Walter Lewis Blanchard, 102 Caroline Dr., St. Clairsville, OH 43950.

Dear Lewis,

I saw your query in Missing Links, an article in "Country Living" May 1997. You listed a Louisa Fowler who mar. Prior B. Creighton. I have a Fowler line.

Do you know who Louisa's parents were?  
Do you know her birthdate or approx. one?  
Do you know their mar. date or county (Morgan?)

my Fowler line:

Richard Fowler b. Brooke Co., VA 1784 mar.

Jane Elson in Musk. Co. 5 Feb 1807

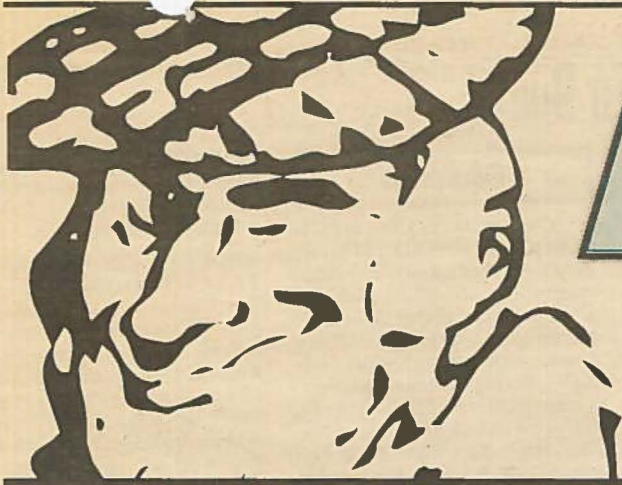
- |                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Ch. 1. Elizabeth | 6. Christina |
| 2. John          | 7. Zadock    |
| 3. Rebecca       | 8. Mary Jane |
| 4. Wm.           | 9. Richard   |
| 5. Hannah        |              |

2. John b. 1809 mar. 1835 Cosh. Co. to <sup>1st</sup> Keziak Wells  
Ind Jane McIne - no issue

- Ch. (1) Elizabeth b. 1837  
 (2) Wm. b. 1840  
 (3) Barbara b. 1845  
 (4) Margaret b. ?

4. Wm. b. 1813 mar. Elizabeth Platt  
4 girls - Rebecca, Katherine, Sarah, Elizabeth

7. Zadock b. 1824 mar. Mary Marlatt Cosh. Co.



# The Bargain Hunter

June 21, 1999  
Volume 1 • Number 10

INDEPENDENT DELIVERY SERVICE, INC.  
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**Coshocton Edition**

## Giving back



BH/Julie Brown

Hiland FFA member Russel Kandel gives a newly planted bush a refreshing spray from the hose.

### Future Farmers of America program emphasizes service

By Mindy Feikert and Jen Barnhart

If there was ever a question in your mind that teenagers are positive role models and do contribute in positive ways to the community, you need look no further than to your local FFA chapter in the public schools.

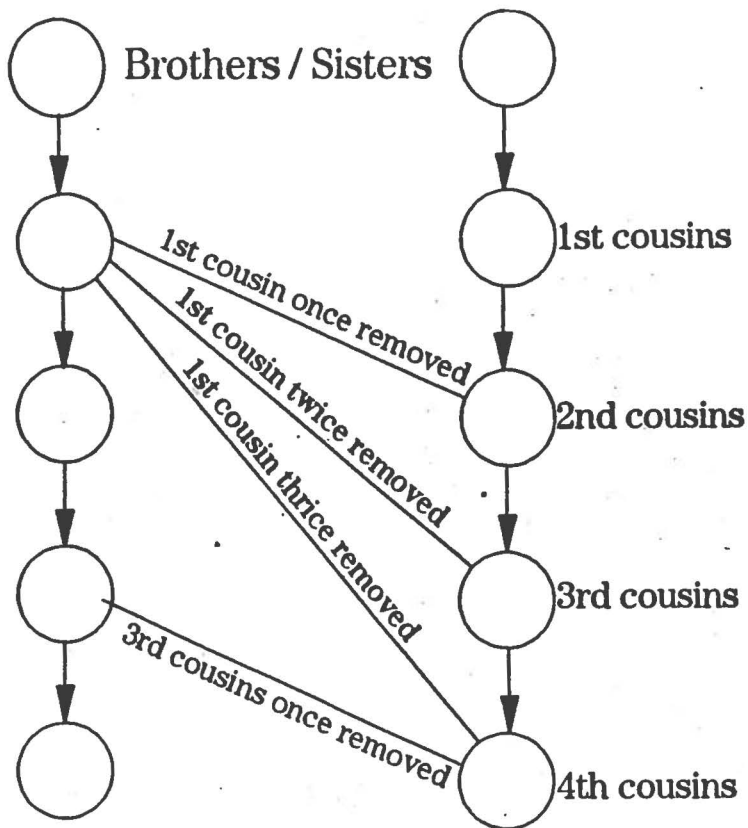
Everything from raising money for burn victims, coordinating petting zoos for senior citizens and children, collecting and distributing for Share-A-Christmas and conducting farm safety programs, to landscaping around the schools, are examples of what FFA members are contributing back to the community.

"Community service projects are part of FFA," said Dan Fulk, agricultural education instructor at Northwestern High School in Wayne County. "Giving back to the community has been a tradition in the agricultural community



Family Tree Topper: A book might be written on the injustice of it

## COUSIN CHART



Children of first cousins are second cousins.  
Children of second cousins are third cousins.  
Children of third cousins are fourth cousins, etc.

The term "removed" is not used as long as the cousins referred to are in the same generation.  
If cousins are a generation apart then the term "once removed" is used.

This handy-dandy chart has appeared in about a dozen genealogical publications recently, lastly in the Larmer County Genealogical Society (PO Box 9502, Fort Collins, CO 80525-9502) publication.

3/18/98

**CARD OF THANKS**

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The family of Lorene Fowler is very grateful for all the love, support, concern and care expressed through visits, calls, cards and gifts of food, flowers and donations.

We especially thank Rev. Kenneth Andersen, pall bearers, Coshocton County Memorial Hospital's ICU unit and fourth floor, and Given-Dawson Funeral Home of West Lafayette for its excellent service.

Lloyd Fowler  
Melinda Reilly  
Alice Porteus  
Joyce Fossa

929.3  
W52br

Fowler

WILL ABSTRACTS OF  
BROOKE COUNTY, (WEST) VIRGINIA  
1797-1849

by

K. T. H. McFarland

*X - chkd. but not connected in Elson bk.  
D.B.*

FROM THE COLLECTION OF  
MARGARET WILSON

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Apollo, Pa.

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THE TRUMBULL CO. IN  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
P. O. Box 141  
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

"Sons of my late husband" - John Chambers, Joseph  
Chambers

Executor: Son Samuel Chambers

Witnesses: Amos Sweeny, Jean Patterson, James Morrison

Dated: April , 1814

Recorded: May term, 1814

HAMMOND, George

Page 67

Names: Wife - Elizabeth Hammond

Sons - Harry Hammond, Shandy Hammond, Resin Hammond,  
Thomas Hammond, Talbot Hammond, Charles Hammond

Daughter - Rebecca Hammond

Mentions: Land in Jefferson & Gűernsey Cos., Ohio

Executors: Wife Elizabeth Hammond, son Charles Hammond

Witnesses: John McCormack Sr., Samuel McCormack, John Mc-  
Cormack Jr., Thomas McCormack

Dated: April 26, 1810

Recorded: July term, 1814

MARSHAL, James, of Charlestown

Page 70

Names: Sons - Samuel Marshal, James Marshal, John Marshal

Daughters - Mary Marshal, Rebeccah Marshal, Agnes  
Marshal, Elisabeth Marshal

Executors: Son James Marshal, John Agnew, Robert Marshall

Witnesses: Jacob Slagle, Jesse Edgington, S. Connell

Dated: May 24, 1814

Recorded: July term, 1814

\* FOWLER, John

Page 72

Names: Wife - Christianna Fowler

Sons - Johnsey Fowler, William Fowler

Executors: Sons William Fowler & Johnsey Fowler

Witnesses: John McComb, Yattan Minniv

Dated: July 7, 1814

Recorded: Aug. term, 1814

WELLS, Henry

Page 73

Names: Wife - Jemimah Wells

Sons - Darius Wells, Nathaniel Wells

Daughters - Airy Pumphy, Elizabeth Owings, Editha  
Pumphy, Minerva Wells, Lah Wells, Miranda Wells

Brother - Bazaleel Wells

Mentions: Land in Licking Co., Ohio

Executor: Brother Bazaleel Wells

Witnesses: Thos. Hill, Jas. Doddridge, Lewis Browning

Dated: Feb. 9, 1814

Codicil: Aug. 18, 1814

Recorded: Oct. term, 1814

COWAN, Hugh

Page 77

Names: Wife - Isabella Cowan

Daughter - Margaret Cowan

Executors: James Ewing, Samuel Carothers

Witnesses: Thos. Jarrett, Richard McClure, Robert McCaskey

Dated: Nov. 12, 1814

Recorded: Nov. term, 1814



Daughter-in-law - Mary, wife of Silas Hedges  
Executors: Sons William Hedges & Abraham Hedges  
Witnesses: Wm. Vanse, James Vanse, David Coleman  
Dated: April 6, 1820

KRIDER, Daniel, of Fayette Co., Pa.

Page 167

Names: Wife - not by name  
Son - Obediah Krider  
Daughters - Malinda Krider, Rachel Fairfield, Elizabeth Krider

Mentions: Land inherited from his father in New Castle Co., Del.; land in Philadelphia, Pa.; land in Frankfort, Ky.

Executors: Samuel Cope, Thomas Patterson  
Witnesses: Samuel Richuchue, Jacob Cook, Nat. Clark  
Dated: July 26, 1808

Note: On Oct. 9, 1821, the above executors refused to serve.  
Witness: John Shrive

Note: On Jan. 25, 1822, Sophiah Krider, widow of Daniel, asked that her brother, William Fowler, be appointed administrator.

x x Witnesses: Jacob Fowler, Daniel Fowler

CALLENDINE, Daniel

Page 169

Names: Wife - not by name  
Sons - Martin Callendine, Daniel Callendine, Abraham Callendine, Henry Callendine  
Daughters - Elisabeth Fowler, Margaret Vincent  
Grandson - Daniel Wartenbe  
Granddaughter - Sarah Wartenbe  
Relation not given - Francis Wartenbe, Hinson Whellor

Executor: None named  
Witness: James McCamant  
Dated: July 3, 1820

HILL, Thomas

Page 171

Names: Son-in-law - John Rogers  
Grandsons - Thomas Rogers, John Rogers, Henry Rogers, William Rogers, George Rogers, Michel Rogers, Joseph Rogers, Alfred Rogers  
Granddaughters - Jane Rogers, Elisa Rogers, Harriette Rogers, Prettyann Rogers

Executors: Grandson Thomas H. Rogers, Moses Congleton Esq., Patrick Tiernan  
Witnesses: John Rogers, Henry Bowman, Absalom Buckingham, Nathaniel Nelson

Dated: July 29, 1820

ATKINSON, George

Page 173

Names: Sons - Thomas Atkinson, James Atkinson

Names: Wife - Margaret Stephens  
Sons - William Stephens, Jacob Stephens  
Daughters - Juliana Stephens (decd.), Anna Stephens,  
Mary Churchman, Margaret Clemmons, Elizabeth Maxwell,  
Martha Lower  
Executors: Son William Stephens, Robert Moore  
Witnesses: Jno. C. Campbell, Jacob Churchman, Elias Magers  
Dated: May 23, 1832 Recorded: Jan. term, 1838

MARKS, James

Page 122

Names: Wife - Sarah S. Marks  
Brothers - William Marks, Samuel Marks  
Sister - Elizabeth White  
Nephews - James M. White; James, son of William Marks;  
John, son of William Marks  
Nieces - Sarah, daughter of Samuel Marks; Mary, daughter  
of Samuel Marks; Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel  
Marks  
Executor: Thomas McCarty  
Witnesses: Jno. C. Campbell, Reason Reeves, Mary Marks  
Dated: Sept. 9, 1837 Codicil: Nov. 5, 1837  
Recorded: Nov. term, 1837

DOUBLAZIER, Henry

Page 127

Names: Wife - Nancy Doublazier  
Brother - William Doublazier  
Daughter - Susan Elizabeth Doublazier  
Executors: John Mendel, Robert Moore  
Witnesses: Daniel Polsley, John Mendel  
Dated: Nov. 29, 1837 Recorded: Jan. term, 1838

THAIR, Nathan

Page 129

Names: Wife - Sarah Thair  
Sons - Nathan Thair, James Thair  
Daughters - Philenia Melvin, Alzina Melvin, Anne R.  
Lathern, Violette Thair  
Executors: Wife Sarah Thair, son-in-law William Lathern  
Witnesses: Robert Scott, J. C. McCown  
Dated: Feb. 6, 1837 Recorded: March term, 1837

x FOWLER, William

Page 130

Names: Wife - not by name  
Sons - Daniel Fowler, William Fowler  
Executors: Sons Daniel Fowler & William Fowler, Adam Kuhn  
Witnesses: John Hindman Jr., Richard Clayton  
Dated: May 18, 1836 Recorded: Oct. term, 1836

MOOREHEAD, James

Page 131

Names: Wife - Elizabeth Moorehead  
Son - John Moorehead (minor)  
Daughter - Mary Ann Moorehead (minor)

PUMPHRY, Ann

Page 79

Names: Nephew - Richard Boone

Niece - Ann Pumphy

Executor: Richard Boone

Witnesses: Joseph Wheatley, Sarah Williams, Susanna Williams

Dated: Oct. 25, 1813

Recorded: March term, 1815

ORLTON, Hugh

Page 81

Names: Son - John Orlton

Daughters - Rachel Morgan, Jane Burson, Tamer Orlton

Executor: James Burson

Witnesses: James McCammant, John Magers

Dated: March 24, 1815

Recorded: March term, 1815

ADAMS, Samuel

Page 82

Names: Sons - William Adams, Samuel Adams (decd.)

Daughters - Ann Buchanan, Barbara Fduls, Mary Wells

Granddaughter - Margaret McConnell

Executors: Hon William Adams, John Buchanan

Witnesses: John McCormack Sr., James Connell, John McCormack, Adam Willson, Aaron Willson

Dated: Aug. 18, 1813

Recorded: March term, 1815

SMITH, Fergus

Page 84

Names: Wife - Elisabeth Smith

Sons - Fergus Smith, William Smith, Henry Smith,  
George Smith

Daughters - Mary Smith, Elizabeth Smith, Jean Lefler,  
Lydia Sutherton

Relation not given - Rachel Craford (decd.), Ann  
McGeehan

Mentions: Debts in Maryland

Executors: Wife Elisabeth Smith, son George Smith

Witnesses: Thomas McCleary, Enoch Fowler

Not dated

Recorded: Feb. term, 1815

CALWELL, Robert

Page 85

Names: Wife - Sarah Calwell

Children - not by name

Executors: William Lee, John Edgington, Danforth Brown,  
Oliver Brown Jr.

Witnesses: John Orr, David Snider, George Brown, Stephen  
Calwell

Dated: Nov. 3, 1815

Recorded: Nov. term, 1815

MARKS, Alexander

Page 87

Names: Wife - Mary Marks

Sons - John Marks, Thomas Marks, Samuel Marks, James

**FOWLER, Joseph**

Page 144

Names: Nephew - Richard Fowler  
Executors: John Pittenger Esq., Jonethan Allison  
Witnesses: T. Bambrick, Wm. B. Fowler  
Dated: Nov. 26, 1838 Recorded: March term, 1840

**DICKSON, Susanna**

Page 145

Names: Husband - Samuel Dickson (decd.)  
Brothers - Francis Wells, Robert T. Wells, Caleb Wells (decd.)  
Sisters - Nancy Wells (decd.), Temperance Wells  
Sister-in-law - Rebecca, widow of Caleb Wells  
Niece - Malhala, daughter of Nancy Wells  
Executor: Brother Francis Wells  
Witnesses: David Hervey, J. Loyle  
Dated: Nov. 23, 1839 Recorded: July term, 1840

**HAGEN, Andrew, of Wellsburg**

Page 147

Names: Wife - Jane Hagen  
Mother - Anne Hagen  
Brothers - Thomas Hagen, John Brown Hagen, William Henry Hagen  
Sister - Sally Perry  
Relation not given - Sarah Jane Langhead  
Executor: John Mendel  
Witnesses: R. Nicholls, Wm. Jones, John P. McCluney  
Dated: June 6, 1840 Recorded: June Term, 1840

**McDONNELL, Isabella**

Page 148

Names: Sons - John McDonnell, Robert McDonnell, William McDonnell, Andrew McDonnell, James McDonnell, George Washington McDonnell  
Daughters: Elizabeth, wife of Uriah P. Henshaw; Isabella McDonnell; Joann McDonnell; Angeline, wife of Benjamin Walker  
Executors: George Gist, Dr. Edward Smith  
Witnesses: Hilary Fisher, Thomas Gist  
Dated: Oct. 25, 1839 Recorded: Sept. term, 1840

**WYLIE, John, Sr.**

Page 150

Names: Sons - Andrew Wylie, John Wylie, David Wylie, Daniel Wylie, Robert Wylie (decd.)  
Daughters - Nancy Lyons, Mary Miller, Elizabeth Wylie, Martha Wylie  
Grandsons - Abner Lyons; John, son of David Wylie  
Executors: Sons David Wylie & Andrew Wylie  
Witnesses: John Crawford, Asa Owings, William Beall  
Dated: Aug. 13, 1840 Recorded: Oct. term, 1840

**CAMPBELL, James**

Page 152

Daughters - Jane Park, Ruth Miller, Masy Kimberly,  
Catherine Calendine  
Grandsons - William Adams, Benjamin Adams, Thomas  
Adams, Richard Adams, David Adams, Elzy Adams,  
William Calendine, Vincent Calendine, Daniel Cal-  
endine  
Granddaughter - Mary Ann Calendine  
Executors: Son-in-law Richard Kimberly, nephew Richard Adams  
Witnesses: James Parkinson, Obed. Green, Isaac Green  
Dated: Feb. 9, 1838 Recorded: May term, 1838

**AGNEW, John**

Page 230

Names: Wife - Mary Agnew  
Son - John Agnew  
Daughters - Ann Agnew, Susan Agnew, Rebecca Agnew,  
Mary Agnew, Alvilda Agnew  
Nephew - John G. Agnew (minor)  
Executor: Son John Agnew  
Witnesses: John C. Campbell, N. Pumphrey, John Coleman  
Dated: March 31, 1838 Recorded: June term, 1838

CIRCUIT SUPERIOR COURT OF LAW & CHANCERY - WILL BOOK I

**BEALL, Ninian**

Page 1

Names: Wife - Mary Beall  
Sons - Samuel Beall, John Beall, Basell Beall, George  
Beall, James Beall, Benjamin Beall (decd.)  
Daughters - Nancy Beall; Annalisar Lester; Mary, wife  
of Henry Hammond; Mary Ann, wife of William Cash;  
Bethann Fisher  
Executors: Sons George Beall, James Beall & John Beall  
Witnesses: Rob't Hervey, Arthur Carter, Cornelius H. Gist  
Dated: April 5, 1828 Codicil: Nov. 12, 1830  
Recorded: Oct. 10, 1831

**WORK, David**

Page 2

Names: Daughter - Elisabeth Work  
Executors: David Pugh, Thomas Bambrick ✓  
Witnesses: John Pittenger, Richard Fowler ✓  
Dated: March 13, 1834 Recorded: Oct. 6, 1834

**WILLIAMSON, William**

Page 3

Names: Son - William Williamson  
Granddaughter - Charity Williamson  
Executor: None named  
Witnesses: David Pugh, Thomas Bambrick  
Dated: Jan. 17, 1828 Recorded: Oct. 4, 1837

**MEEK, Samuel**

Page 4

Names: Sons - Thomas Meek, Robert Meek, Joseph Meek, James

Daughters - Sarah, wife of Thomas Hanna; Mary (decd.),  
wife of Samuel Wilson; Jean Patterson  
Grandsons - James, son of Arthur Patterson; John Wil-  
son; Andrew Wilson  
Granddaughter - Jean Wilson  
Executors: Sons Andrew Patterson & Robert Patterson  
Witnesses: Moses Congleton, Walter Cain  
Dated: June 21, 1817 Recorded: April term, 1818

**McCAUGHAN, Ann**

Page 115

Names: Brothers - Thomas Merchant, Samuel Merchant  
Sister-in-law - Prudence Merchant  
Nephews - John Merchant, John McMillan (and his wife  
Betsy)  
Nieces - Prudence Merchant, Ann McConnel  
Nephew's children - Mary McMillan, John McMillan,  
Catherine McMillan  
Executor: John McMillan Jr  
Witnesses: John Wylie, John McMillan  
Dated: May 13, 1816 Recorded: June term, 1818

**DAVIS, Catherine**

Page 116

Names: Sons - Joshua Davis, Benjamin Davis  
Daughters - Rachel Davis; Nancy Davis; Carrie Davis;  
Susanna Davis; Ruth (decd.), wife of James Morrow;  
Honor Davis  
Granddaughter - Rachel Davis  
Executors: Joseph Campbell, Robert Campbell  
Witnesses: Alex. Campbell, George Norris  
Dated: Sept. 4, 1818 Recorded: Dec. term, 1818

**THORP, William**

Page 118

Names: Wife - Rebeckah Thorp  
Daughter - Alice Thorp  
Handwriting identified by James Marshel and Joseph Doddridge  
Dated: Oct. 14, 1816 Recorded: Dec. term, 1818

**HAYS, Robert, late of Rutherfrd Co., Tenn.**

Page 119

Names: Mother - Elizabeth Hays  
Brother - John Hays of Yellow Creek, Dixon Co., Tenn.  
Sisters - Esther Hays, Jane Hays, Polly Hays  
Executor: Brother John Hays  
Witnesses: Henry Stevenson, Jacob Caplan, S. Connell  
Dated: April 24, 1818 Recorded: Feb. term, 1819

**MOREHEAD, William**

Page 120

Names: Sister - Mary Morehead  
Executor: Anthony Willcoxon  
Witnesses: Rob't Campbell, Sutton Fowler, John McMillin  
Dated: April 30, 1813 Recorded: May term, 1819

Witnesses: John M. Morgan, Joseph Hedges, Samuel Hedges  
Dated: May 11, 1821

HEWITT, William

Page 187

Names: Wife - Margaret Hewitt  
 Sons - James Hewitt, Robert Hewitt, Thomas Hewitt  
 Daughters - Eliza McClure, Nancy Downan, Margaret  
 Hewitt, Catharine Hewitt  
 Executor: None named  
 Witnesses: Jas. Dobbins, Hugh Sprowl  
Dated: June 25, 1822

SHRIMPLIN, William

Page 188

Names: Wife - Fanny Shrimplin  
 Son - John Shrimplin  
 Daughter - Rebecah, wife of John Brady  
 Grandson - William Brady  
 Granddaughter - Pamela Brady  
 Executor: John Brown "merchant of Wellsburgh"  
 Witnesses: J. C. Campbell, Pergn. Price, S. Connell  
Dated: Sept. 29, 1822

ATKINSON, William

Page 191

Names: Brother - John Atkinson  
 Nephews - William, son of John Atkinson; George, son  
 of John Atkinson  
 Relation not given - Sarah Fowler; William Atkinson,  
 son of Isaac Elliott  
 X Executors: Nephews William Atkinson & George Atkinson  
 Witnesses: Thomas Hattery, George Marsh  
Dated: May 5, 1823

HENRY, William

Page 191

Names: Wife - Altha Henry  
 Sons - William Hugh Henry, John Henry, James Henry,  
 Isaiah Henry, Robert Henry  
 Daughters - Jane P. Henry, Sarah Henry, Rachel Henry  
 Executors: Brother James Henry, John Hendricks  
 Witnesses: Wm. Burt, John Cox  
Dated: Sept. 1, 1818

ATKINSON, Thomas

Page 193

Names: Wife - Ann Atkinson  
 Son - John Atkinson (minor)  
 Other children - not by name  
 Executors: Wife Ann Atkinson, Jeremiah Browning Jr.  
 Witnesses: John Goorley, John Willemin, Alexander Potatan  
Dated: Oct. 8, 1823

Executors: William Murray, Thomas Bambrick  
Witnesses: James Murray, Samuel Cunningham  
Dated: Nov. 16, 1830 Recorded: June term, 1841

WICOFF, Joachaim

Page 161

Names: Sons - Peter Wicoff, Cornelius Wicoff, Abraham Wicoff  
(decd.)  
Daughters - Nancy, wife of Robert Moore; Caty Wil-  
liamson; Hannah Durham; Mary Creitzer; Sarah Scott  
Grandson - Samuel Moore  
Granddaughter - Hannah, wife of Benjamin Peall  
Executor: Son-in-law Robert Moore  
Witnesses: William Aten, John Harshe  
Dated: Oct. 13, 1834 Codicil: Sept. 4, 1840

Recorded: Sept. term, 1841

PLATTENBURG, George, Senr.

Page 164

Names: Wife - not by name  
Sons - Jacob Plattenburg, John Plattenburg  
Daughter - Mary Plattenburg  
Executor: Son Jacob Plattenburg  
Witnesses: Jno. C. Campbell, J. M. Wells, Jas. S. Platten-  
burg  
Dated: July 27, 1838 Recorded: Nov. term, 1840

ATKINSON, John

Page 165

Names: Wife - Elizabeth Atkinson  
Sons - Joseph Atkinson, William Atkinson, George At-  
kinson, Thomas Atkinson, James Atkinson, Ephraim  
Atkinson  
X Daughters - Nancy McKim; Sarah Fowler of Jefferson  
Co., Ohio; Martha Cooper; Eliza Marsh  
Executors: Sons Thomas Atkinson & William Atkinson  
Witnesses: Nathaniel Wells, Jesse Edgington  
Dated: Undated Recorded: Nov. term, 1841

BURT, John

Page 166

Names: Wife - Mary Ann Burt (now pregnant)  
Brother - Samuel Burt  
Father-in-law - Jacob Decamps (decd.)  
Mentions: 1/8 share of the Steamboat "Neptune"  
Executor: Thos. Jefferson Decamps  
Witnesses: James Palmer, Lewis Applegate, Jno. M. Wells  
Dated: Dec. 23, 1841 Recorded: Feb. 28, 1842  
(in New Orleans, La.)

HAGEN, Jane, of Wellsburg

Page 168

Names: Husband - Andrew Hagen (decd.)  
Daughter - Sarah Jane Langhead  
Brother - John Grimes  
Executor: Brother John Grimes



Sons - Matthew Trimble, John Trimble, Walter Trimble,  
Samuel Trimble, Robert Trimble  
Daughters - Maria Bane, Jane Gordon  
Grandson - James Trimble

Executor: Robert Bane

Witnesses: Joseph Waddle, John Waddle

Dated: June 14, 1849

Recorded: July term, 1849

McKINLEY, Jane

Page 282

Names: Son - William McKinley

Daughters - Sophia Potts; Jane, wife of Rev. James  
Hervey; Mary, wife of Dr. Edward Gilfillan

Daughter-in-law - Ellen (decd.), wife of William Mc  
Kinley

Executor: Son William McKinley

Witnesses: Jno. Brady, Alex. W. Walker

Dated: July 16, 1846

Recorded: Aug. term, 1849

LEEPER, John

Page 283

Names: Sisters - Martha Leeper, Jane Leeper

Executor: John Headington

Witnesses: George Amspoker, Isaiah Steen

Dated: Undated

Recorded: Dec. term, 1849

FOWLER, William

Page 285

Names: Sons - John Fowler, Zadoc Fowler

Grandsons - William Thomas Kelly (minor); William,  
son of John Fowler

Executors: Son Zadoc Fowler, son-in-law George Amspoker

Witnesses: Isaiah Steen, Adam Kuhn, Jos. H. Pendleton

Dated: June 18, 1849

Recorded: Dec. term, 1849

X

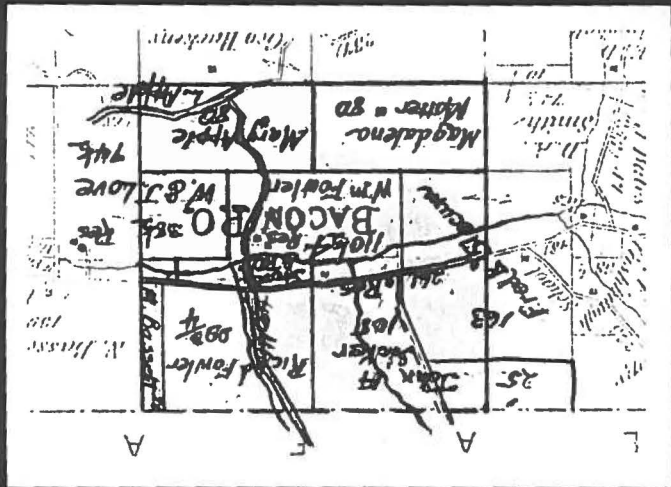
Original found in Coshocton Library.

By Richard Paul Fowler  
1970

Coshocton County  
Ohio

1784-1866

Richard Fowler



The Cross Roads at intersection of north-south and east-west roads, right center. Name and acreage for each landowner shown. J.H.Sicker was first postmaster, 1858; William Fowler had the store at s.w.corner of x roads, 1860-1874. From Titus' Atlas of Coshocton County, 1872.

The story of Richard Fowler (1784-1866) and his descendants, who for the most part have lived in Jackson County, Ohio, from 1807 to the present.

by one of his  
 great-great-grandsons,  
 Richard Paul Fowler

733758

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## FOREWORD

In writing about anything which covers a span of considerable time, it is essential, I think, to have a focus of interest. In the case of this attempted genealogy, interest has been focused on the line which produced the writer, naturally.

Several arguments can be made for this, but the important ones are that I have the desire to do it, and that the formative years of Richard I, Richard II, Hiram D., Richard Price (my father) and myself were spent in whole or in part on land originally acquired by Richard I. My father spent most summers, and some winters, of his adolescence with his paternal grandparents (Richard II and Sarah) and so heard most of the family stories about the early days. He passed these along to me - he enjoyed the telling and I, the hearing.

If relatives not in this direct line feel slighted in any way, I am sorry. This seemed the best way for me to do it.

This seems the place, too, in which I should acknowledge the constant interest, help, and encouragement of my wife, Eloise Weston.

Mrs. Ralph Overton, my typist, is herself actively interested in family genealogy, and has made numerous helpful suggestions.

## THE FIRST RICHARD

Enough of names. What do we know about the Richard Fowler<sup>1)</sup> who gave rise to the Coshocton County Fowlers? About all we know for sure is what he said about himself, and what - in one way or another - became incorporated into the family story.

Richard I (as we have come to label him, to avoid confusion whose possibilities will emerge as this progresses) said he came from Brooke Co., Virginia, that he was 21 years of age and grew tired of working on public roads. Accordingly, when he was next "warned out" for his 22nd day, he stuck his axe in a tree stump and said he'd be damned if he'd work another day for the State of Virginia. He then collected his personal effects - receiving a razor as a going-away present from his father, the blade of which is in my possession - and headed for the Ohio River. Reaching the river, he traveled downstream - by boat, of course - to the mouth of the Muskingum River, then upstream on the Muskingum to Zanesville. This town was named, it seems, for Ebenezer Zane who in 1796 gained congressional approval of a plan to "blaze a trail from Wheeling, Ohio to Maysville, Ky.". This was known as "Zane's Trace", and most likely passed through what is now Zanesville. The town itself is credited to Ebenezer's brother Jonathan and Ebenezer's son-in-law John McIntyre, date 1799. It became the county seat of Muskingum County (1804), and included Coshocton Co. (1811), and Holmes Co. (1824).

Zanesville, Ohio's capital from 1810-1812, was undoubtedly a bustling frontier town when our Richard arrived in

1805. This date comes not from the family story, but from Hill's "History of Ohio", which was printed in 1881, and contains a substantial story about him, dealing mostly with him as an established citizen of the Bacon Run community. His own report says that he stopped a short time in Zanesville and did some carpentry for a person there. Then he proceeded northward to Coshocton, a small settlement where the Walhonding and Tuscarawas Rivers form the Muskingum, as noted above.

About 1930, ten pages of notes about the Fowlers were extracted from Hiram Duling Fowler, by his grandson (the writer). H. D. F. was of the third generation in Coshocton Co., and possessed a remarkable memory for family data. He said that Richard I<sup>1</sup> had two brothers, John<sup>2</sup> and Zedick<sup>3</sup>, or Zed), and a sister Susan<sup>4</sup>. Zedick was a "great violinist", and once played in Washington, D.C. "Aunt Susie" was "deaf, high-strung, and nervous". The Census of 1860 places her in the household of Richard I, and says she was 60 years old. H.D.F. said that his father (Richard II) "paid the way of Uncle Bill and Aunt Susie, to take her back to old Ginny" (Virginia). Practically all of the story of the first three generations is from two interviews with my Granddad (H.D.F.). He didn't mention Richard's (I) parents, but a note from Nell Barcroft Kinner, a great granddaughter of Richard (I) says that Richard's parents were Richard Fowler<sup>5</sup> and Christena Hopkins<sup>6</sup>, and that the other children of the couple were Christena<sup>7</sup>, Susan<sup>4</sup>, and Johnsey<sup>8</sup> -- she didn't mention Zedekiah (Zadock)<sup>3</sup>, the famous left-handed fiddler brother whom Granddad mentioned. [Note, 1966 -- In the West Virginia Archives at Charleston is the record of a will of a John Fowler, probated in 1814, which names wife

Christiana (sic), a son Johnsey, and "other children". Since this John Fowler seems to have lived in Brooke Co., Virginia, where we know Richard I came from to Ohio, it seems possible that his father's name was John, inasmuch as two of the other given names in the will corresponded to Hell's record<sup>7,8</sup> and to H.D.F.'s mention of John<sup>2</sup> as a brother of Richard I.]

By his own account, Richard I was in the village of Coshocton at election time. The polling place was the famed Charlie Williams tavern. After voice nominations, chips were passed around and marked, to be collected in a hat and counted. After each vote, Charlie poured drinks for the voters, and thus fortified, they marked another hatful of chips.

When we next hear from Richard, by family account, he was living with the family of "Old Arch"ibald Elson<sup>9</sup>, who lived somewhere between Coshocton and present-day West Lafayette, and was clearing the timber from a piece of land. For this labor he received \$25.00, most of which was used as down-payment on land in Linton Township, Bacon Run area, the nucleus of over 300 acres of land owned at his death. To file on this open piece of land and to make his payment at the government land office, it was necessary for him to walk to and from Zanesville. In the meantime, he must have been doing some courting, for he married the Elson's daughter Jane<sup>10</sup> on Feb. 5, 1807.



## RICHARD'S POINT OF DEPARTURE

This seems the place to interject some musings which my Dad and I had indulged in on more than one occasion. We wondered whether or not Richard I had been interested in this girl before her family left its old home and settled in Coshocton Co. I don't know why we suspected this, and I think it will never be proven, but some circumstantial evidence to support it has turned up. In the summer of 1955, as Eloise<sup>11</sup> and I were returning from Williamsburg, Va., where she had attended a Latin Institute for a few weeks, we drove into Brooke Co., W. Va., and shortly into a hamlet with the road sign of "Fowlerstown". This was in the "panhandle", and about 6 miles east of Wellsburg, W. Va. Of course it had once been Virginia (before 1863), and I at once thought of Richard I. A stop was made at the first convenient place, and a lady of 75 or 80 was interviewed. She said that her mother was a Fowler, and that some Fowlers still lived nearby. I asked about Elsons, and she said that there had been about as many Elsons as Fowlers, but they had been moving away and dying off, so that the nearest one now lived in Wellsburg.

Several visits have been made to this locality since that day in 1955. Later that fall, Eloise and I, and my Dad, made an overnight trip, and got acquainted with two Fowler families, Will and Ella (brother and sister), and Earl and Martha. They have a genealogy beginning with a William Fowler, born in 1777. Given name duplications in their line and ours are striking, but I have been unable to actually prove a connection.

One other item, bearing on the possibility of

Richard I having known Jane<sup>(10)</sup> before he came to Coshocton Co. was the discovery in the National Archives, in Washington, D.C., that Jane's birthplace (1860 Census) was given as Pennsylvania. Since Fowlerstown is only a mile or so from the Pa. line, it is entirely possible that Richard had known her there.

Richard's<sup>1</sup> birthplace (1860 Census) was given as "Maryland". In the summer of 1965, Eloise and I spent 1½ days following the only Maryland clue we had - that several Fowler families of the Barnesville, Ohio vicinity came from "Calvert". We worked a small community in N.E. Maryland and found nothing; it was named Calvert in 1890, and was formerly "Brick Meeting House". Then we went to Prince Frederick, the county seat of Calvert Co., which is about 50 miles south of Washington, D.C., on the west side of the bay. The court house there was burned in 1814 by the British, and almost all the records were lost. In 1883 the new one burned, and everything was consumed. We found 23 Fowler names in the phone directory of this little town of 700 or 800, and talked to members of three lines who felt they were not related. There was no trace of Richard I. More work could be done here.

## THE LOG HOUSES

Richard and Jane built a log cabin on a small rise of ground near the main Bacon Run stream, and 150 yards east of a smaller stream coming from the north. Later, the Coshocton-Plainfield road would pass 100 yards north of this spot. On page 57 of the Titus "Atlas of Coshocton Co.", dated 1872, this location, and most of the land which Richard and Jane acquired, was in "Range 5, Twp. 4, Section 4". This Atlas shows a township road #124 crossing the east-west valley road at right angles; the streams mentioned above are shown also.

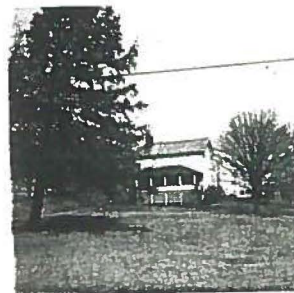
Three children were born here, before Richard I marched away to fight the Indians, as Lieutenant Fowler. The date was August, 1812. Left behind were his wife, and children Elizabeth<sup>12</sup> (born 1808), John<sup>13</sup> (born 1809), and Rebecca<sup>14</sup> (born 1811). He wasn't gone long - about six months - but it must have seemed a long time to a young mother with three little children. She reported that occasionally Indians came to the cabin, making signs of friendship. She would give them what food she had prepared, and they would leave. One cannot avoid wondering whether they knew why her man was away, and at the same time marveling at the evidence of manifest destiny displayed by these early settlers who moved so confidently and possessively into the lands of a stranger. That no more were killed seems to me a tremendous tribute to the Indians, who, now adjusted to their third class reservation status, exhibit similar restraint, unless perhaps stimulated by the white man's fire-water.

Richard made a trip to Pennsylvania and brought back

a few Merino sheep, said to have been the first in the county. A story is told about these sheep who, penned against the cabin, were being annoyed by a wolf one night. Richard quietly opened the cabin door and released a large wolf hound which slept in the house. The dog caught the wolf at the run nearby and with Richard's help killed it. The Fowlers say Richard had the first "steel-yard" or "stilyard" (a device for weighing suspended items), and the first crowbar in the county. Perhaps these were only the first they know about. (In 1966, I have a Fowler family steel-yard (minus the weight); perhaps it is the one owned by Richard I.)

A two-room log house was built by Richard near the south-east angle of the crossroads.

This was probably put up when Richard returned from military service, and certainly was needed, for there were three children, and more to come. Richard II and his family lived here after the Big House was built in 1826.



1  
9  
6  
3

Fowler Homestead - The Big House. Built in 1926. New siding and window casings from single poplar tree about 1870.



1  
9  
0  
3

## THE BIG HOUSE AND ENVIRONS

Richard and Jane built the big house, which still is in good repair in 1968, about 100 yards north of the cross-road, and quite near the north-south road. The best date for its erection comes from Granddad (H.D.F.), who stated that Richard II<sup>16</sup>, his father, was 8 years old when it was built. Since this birth occurred in 1818, the house must have gone up in 1826. An "old Colonel Ferguson" did the carpentry, and the stonework was by a man named Hoglin. Col. Ferguson received 20 acres of land for his labor. In my day this was known as the "McClure Place", and we lived there for two or three years, in a dilapidated old house. It was about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile east of the big house, and on the other side of the road.

The location of this fine big house was related in part to a nearby spring which contained sulphur. In those days, sulphur was thought to ward off malaria, which was not an uncommon affliction. Richard I's attention had first been directed to this spring by the deer which frequented it. Perhaps the water contained some salt, as well as sulphur.

My father (Richard Price<sup>17</sup>) remembered that when he was a child there was an oven just above this spring, and it was used for baking purposes when weather permitted. Near the oven was a "dry-shed", which was used to dry foods. I hope it was fly tight! Beside the "dry-shed" was a hopper, into which ashes were piled. Water leaching through these ashes was collected below in a trough and turned into a stone jar. Dad remembered half a barrel of soft soap in the dry-shed, which had

been made from grease and the leachings from these ashes.

Granddad (H.D.F.) said that he had been told that in the days when the big house was built, the bottoms stood full of fine white oak trees. Money was scarce, and 2 or 3 year old steers brought only 7 or 8 dollars. When passenger pigeons were migrating, people would beat them off bushes where they had settled for the night, and gather bushels of them to feed to their hogs. His grandfather (Richard I) had his oldest boy, John, construct a wild turkey trap on the knob west of the big house; a pen of rails had a trench leading into it; grains of corn were scattered in the trench, and the turkeys flew up into the pen when they reached the end of the trench. Fourteen turkeys were caught the first time it was set.

This "Big" house was really a big house for those days and that neighborhood. It was built against a slope of about 20 or 30 degrees, and the ground floor was a semi-basement, with a door at ground level. This room was the full length of the house, and about half the width. Its back wall was of rough stone; the front one contained several windows which looked down across the front lawn, or yard, as it was called in those days. A huge fireplace, with cooking irons, was at the west end, for the one chimney of the house was against the west end - actually built into the house so that it did not show until it cleared the roof. This was the room used as a "tavern" in the early days, and I suppose weary travelers ate and slept there. There were such, needless to say, for the main road from Cambridge to Coshocton passed directly in front of this Fowler Homestead.

The main floor of the house was 2 or 3 steps above ground level. Across the entire front of this floor was

Fowler  
acres  
P.O.

a porch with steps to the ground at the west end, and a door into the living room. This room was a large one - 20x15 feet perhaps - with the chimney built into the west end. On the south side of the chimney there was a walnut bookcase - or china closet - which extended from floor to ceiling. On the other side of the fireplace there was a window and the door to a circular, or curving, stair to the attic. This was the attic in which bee hives were kept - the hive openings leading through the weather-boarding to the outside. Some reports say that a circular staircase extended from the basement room to the attic, originally. In my youth, there was a conventional stair, connecting the basement room to the one above it, and a circular one from the northwest corner of the living room to the attic. When I visited and looked about the house about 1955, the Ralph Derrs lived there. The curving stair to the attic was gone. A large bedroom opened off the east end of the living room, and extended the full width of the main structure, as did the living room.

According to Granddad, the Big House was re-weather-boarded in 1866 or 1867. All the siding, and the wood for new window frames, was cut from a single large tulip poplar tree.

A single story ell led off the living room near its west end. This was the kitchen until Richard II<sup>15</sup> and Sarah Wells<sup>16</sup> son William Albert<sup>17</sup> (Al) and his wife Mar Criswell<sup>20</sup> moved back to Bacon Run from Coshocton to the old homestead. This was about 1904. They enclosed a big back porch which had led off the ell and eastward along the north side of the house. The ell became a dining room, and the enclosed porch a kitchen. A fine new barn was built, and the spring was ensconced in a



new two-room structure. It all looked quite elegant to a small boy who had always lived in a rented old house.

Not one of the 300-plus acres once owned by Richard I is now owned by a Fowler. The old saw "Three generations from shirtsleeves to shirtsleeves" holds here, in a sense. Richard's north 100-plus went to his son John<sup>13</sup>, and the south 100-plus to his son William<sup>21</sup>. He kept the middle 100 as his own home until 1860 or 1865, when he and his wife Jane went to live with their son William in his home on the south 100 acres. At this time Richard II and his wife Sarah Wells, and their children, moved into the big house. They had been living in a two room log house on the southeast corner of the crossroads there. This location must have been almost exactly where William Wolfe<sup>22</sup> built a modest residence about 1865. He was the husband of William's<sup>21</sup> daughter Katherine<sup>23</sup>. In 1901 or 1902, my parents moved into this house and we lived there for a few years. Later, about 1915, we moved back to this house and it was home to me during the World War I years, and during my last two years in high school in Coshocton. Two of my oldest recollections - I think they are the oldest - are associated with my very young years in this house. Once when the minister was calling - we didn't belong to his Mt. Zion flock, I'm sure - a rat was gnawing noisily, and as soon as I could break into the conversation, I said "Listen to that darned rat gnawing!". Poor mother!

Another, and I think earlier recollection, concerned the accidental shooting of our favorite dog "Fannie", on a Thanksgiving Day hunt my father had been on. Delora<sup>24</sup> and I were sharing a small bed when Dad brought the news, and how we wept!

Although this section is titled "The Big House", I've wandered, and while I'm wandering, I may as well say something about other dwellings erected on the original holdings of Richard I and Jane. A dwelling, much like the one just described on the southwast corner, was built by Richard II's eldest son John<sup>25</sup>, according to Granddad (H.D.F.), about 400 yards down the Run (eastward) from the corner, and on the south side of the road. Three hundred yards east of that one was the "McClure Place", presumably built by Colorel Ferguson on the 20 acres he received for building the "Big House".

Then there was a log house on the north farm which was given to Richard I's son John<sup>13</sup> and his wife Kizia Wells<sup>26</sup>. It burned in 1800, and a fine big house was built by Ralph Barcroft<sup>27</sup> (husband of John's<sup>13</sup> daughter Barbara<sup>25</sup>) and his brother. Nell, the daughter of Ralph Barcroft, and her husband Jim Kinner were the last of the Fowlers to live in this house.

About halfway between the Barcroft place and the Big House, Richard II<sup>16</sup> built a small house for his second son Richard III<sup>30</sup>, who was the only one of his boys to be in the Civil War (he ran away and enlisted at 17 years of age). He lived there briefly on his return from the war and then went to Coshocton to work as a "stationary engineer" in one of the factories. When I was a small boy, this dwelling was without doors or windows. On the plastered walls were very interesting drawings done, I was told, by W. O. Fowler<sup>31</sup>, son of Richard III, when he visited the farm in the summertime. We have an oil painting of a farm dog, "Old Buff", which he did about this time; he was crazy about dogs.

Then there was a house built by, or for, Great Uncle William<sup>21</sup>, on the south farm, just across the "Big Run".

Fowler Burial Plot,  
Bacon Run, Ohio  
Coshocton Co.



Joint Burial Stone

Richard Fowler I,  
1784-1866

Jane Elson Fowler,  
1789-1872



Plot is on south  
side of the Run,  
facing the home-  
stead

Perhaps I wasn't entirely correct when I said that "not an acre" of the original holding is now in Fowler hands. The Fowler cemetery, a plat about 40x40 feet, is on a low hilltop just east of Great Uncle William's house (later owned by Henry Apple and others, and now owned by Alfred Noble). More will be said about it elsewhere.

Additional evidence that Richard I had made his mark in his community is contained in this news note from a Coshocton newspaper, dated Feb. 3, 1847:

Notice of proposed change of road: -  
change was to be where this road  
intersects road from Plainfield to  
Richard Fowlers.

(Courtesy of Miriam Hunter)

## THE SECOND GENERATION

Richard and Jane had nine children. The exact birth dates are not known for all of them. Elizabeth<sup>12</sup>, the eldest, was born February 29, 1808, and Mary<sup>32</sup>, the youngest, was born April 30, 1830. The complete list of children is as follows:

No.	Name	Born	Died
12.	i. Elizabeth (Betsy)	29 Feb. 1808	
13.	ii. John	29 Jul. 1809	1893
14.	iii. Rebecca (Becky)	8 Sep. 1811	
21.	iv. William (Uncle Billy)	1813	27 Jul. 1875
	*v. Hannah (most probable placement)		
16.	vi. Richard II (Dick)	18 Jul. 1818	9 Oct. 1892
	vii. Christena (Teen)	1820	1913
	viii. Zadok/Zedekiah (Zed)	1826	
32.	ix. Mary	30 Apr. 1830	

\*Granddad (H.D.F.) said that Hannah was the fourth child, but this seems unlikely, with a firm birth-date of 1813 for William.

To bear and rear to maturity 9 children is no mean accomplishment, and for those times when medical help was marginal, or non-existent, perhaps remarkable. Certainly it took a great deal of labor and some luck. The isolation of frontier families certainly shielded them from the communicable diseases which in some cases were very deadly when encountered, partly because such infrequent experience with these organisms left the populace with a very low "herd level" of resistance, to coin a phrase, for the common infections. Ingenious home medicaments were used, such as a brew of sheep droppings for measles, and the "blossom end" of a chick-

en dropping for diphtheria. Superstition and improvisation doubtless stood at each end of many a sick bed. Some use of beneficial herbs was learned from the Indians. It was indeed a time when "Old Wives Tales" had a different connotation from that of the present.

The second generation has always had a special interest for me, and I think it has been because of its "real" but "unreal" position in our family's history. They were gone - I saw but one of them, Christena<sup>(53)</sup>, an old, old lady - but Granddad Hi, most of his siblings, my Dad, and others knew some of them if not all, and talked to me about them. The only real commentary on the members of the second generation came from Granddad (H. D.F.) on two or three occasions, about 1930 or 1935, when I took pencil and tablet and quizzed him at length. Granddad was a man of few words, but as I've remarked elsewhere, possessed of a remarkable memory. Or so it seemed.

Elizabeth (Betsy)<sup>(12)</sup> was born 29 Feb. 1808 (see page 20), and married John R. Williamson 27 Nov., 1828. Their seven children will be mentioned in order of age, and this practice will be maintained in all generations.

- i. John F.<sup>(34)</sup> married a Licking County woman. Their oldest child was a girl who married and went west. Her husband has now died (1930). John F.'s son lived on a farm near Hanover, Ohio. The younger daughter of John F. married J. Frank Powell, of near Orange (north of West Lafayette). Florence Powell, of Orange, was in W. Lafayette High School when I was there, and my Dad told me she was a cousin. She never married and is now (1967) retired in Middletown, Ohio, where she taught English for 35 or 40 years.

- ii. Richard<sup>35</sup> married and went to Kansas.
- iii. James<sup>36</sup> married two sisters (not simultaneously, I suppose) and had two boys and a girl by the first (George<sup>37</sup>, Charles<sup>38</sup>, Ida<sup>39</sup>), none by his second wife. They lived on a farm below Plainfield before moving to Roscoe, where they built a small mill on the canal bank. Later they owned the old Hanley Mill. Both mills were sold when they moved to Columbus, Ohio. There, about 1890, they were in business in the Hardesty Milling Co., and "made lots of money". Son George<sup>37</sup> married a wealthy Columbus girl, and "was worth \$100,000 at his death". Daughter Ida<sup>39</sup> married and lived in Columbus (1930). Charles sold his interest in the mill and went south, where he "busted up". One may wonder how this Williams family came by the money for a couple of mills in Coshocton, which were parlayed into big business, for those times, in Columbus. In the 1872 Atlas, Linton Township, Section 12, we find John R. Williams owning 216 acres of land, lying on both sides of Wills Creek, and south of Plainfield. Adjacent to this was a tract of 266 acres of bottom land belonging to Charlotte Williams, who quite possibly was John R. Williams' mother. These were large holdings, and lend substance to Granddad's stories about the financial affairs of the Williamses.
- iv. Marion<sup>40</sup> married a Weatherwax girl, of Spring Mountain, who was a sister to Sevilla's husband. They had a boy and a girl.
- v. Sevilla<sup>41</sup> married John Weatherwax. Their sons went to California for their health after her death. (Sounds as if she might have had T.B.)
- vi. William<sup>42</sup> never married - died in the army.

vii. Warren<sup>43</sup> married a Shook girl, of West Lafayette. They had a son who was raised by Billy Miller of Coshocton, after Warren's death. Miller told Granddad that the boy had gone away, and he didn't know where he was.

John<sup>13</sup> (see page 20) was born July 29, 1809, and died in 1893. His first wife, and mother of his children, was Kiziah Wells,<sup>26</sup> daughter of John Wells. She was born in 1817, and died Jan. 27, 1850, age 32 years, 10 months, 3 days. They were married on Sep. 24, 1835.

i. Elizabeth<sup>44</sup>, born Feb. 6, 1837, died \_\_\_\_\_, married John Barcroft<sup>45</sup> as his second wife. They had several children, including a boy Bert<sup>46</sup>, for whom Wilbert<sup>47</sup>, son of Barbara Jane<sup>28</sup> was named.

ii. William Henry<sup>48</sup>, born 1840, died 1864, married Mary Erman<sup>49</sup> on May 5, 1861. This must have been very shortly before he enlisted in a contingent of 100 day volunteers and marched away, never to see his bride again. Hunter's "Military Records of Coshocton County" says that he died aboard the iron-clad "Monitor", and is buried in a military cemetery at Hampton Roads, Va.

Family tradition adds to the above. A 96 year old nephew of W.H.F.<sup>48</sup> told me in 1966 that W.H.F. had "died of a broken heart". In 1968, a great niece of W.H.F., Margaret Masten-Bibb<sup>50</sup>, wrote saying that her grandfather Ralph Lee Barcroft reported that he last saw W.H.F. "leaning against a tree on a river bank at Hampton Roads, waiting for a hospital ship to take him north!" Since W.H.F. is reported to have died in 1864, and the Monitor sank off Cape Hatteras



in December, 1862, there seems to be some discrepancy here.

iii. Barbara<sup>28</sup> was born on June 8, 1845, and died Apr. 10, 1909, a few weeks after her husband's death, from an accidental strychnine poisoning (capsules used for rats got mixed with quinine capsules). Barb, as she was called, married Ralph Lee Barcroft<sup>27</sup>. Their daughter Lura Jane<sup>51</sup> married Earl Masten, bearing one child, Margaret<sup>50</sup>, born Sep. 21, 1902, one of whose two daughters, Mrs. Marilyn Martin, lives with her husband and son in Dresden, Ohio.

Barb<sup>28</sup>, as everyone called her, seems to have been a spirited girl, if a story told by Ray Fowler (my half uncle) is true, and it probably is, for Ray started working for the Barcrofts when he was about 14 years old. His father (H.D.F.) also did much of their farming, since he had only 25 acres of his own, and Ralph Barcroft was a carpenter by trade and so was away from home a lot.

The story, probably told to Ray by his father, who was of Barb's generation, is that on the occasion of some family gathering at Richard II's house, his small son Jerry (Jeremiah) was making a pest of himself, whereupon his cousin Barb, who was seven years his senior, threw him on the floor and urinated in his ear.

Daughter Nellie<sup>29</sup>, born April 10, 1872, married James Kinner. Their one daughter Kathryn, born Jul. 19, 1908, died July, 1928, married, after teaching for a few years, and died subsequently of an ectopic pregnancy.

Son Wilbert<sup>47</sup>, born Sep. 6, 1870, died April 25, 1966,

1970  
 married Carrie Skiffler and had one son John Lee<sup>(54)</sup>, who at the present writing is childless (although married), and has an advertising agency on East Broad St., Columbus, Ohio.

iv. Margaret<sup>(55)</sup>, a fourth child of John and Kiziah, who appears here as the youngest child, might not have been so. Margaret Masten<sup>(50)</sup> reports that she died at about age 10 or 12, of an overdose of calomel. This sounds possible, since calomel is a salt of mercury, and was still a common nostrum for intestinal ailments in my youth.

In Titus' "Atlas of Coshocton Co.", 1872, we find John Fowler<sup>(13)</sup> owning 40 acres in section 21, Linton township, and 120 acres in section 22, of Lafayette township. This land was contiguous to the 99  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres in Richard Fowler's<sup>(16)</sup> name in section 4 of Linton township. To the south and west of Richard's land there is found in this Atlas a parcel of 110 $\frac{1}{2}$  acres, in William Fowler's<sup>(21)</sup> name. It is also contiguous to Richard's, and so we find a block of 370 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres of land in the names of the three oldest sons of Richard and Jane.

John and his family lived in a log house which was large for those times, I have heard. John's first wife died in 1850, and in the census of 1860 we find him married to a Jane McCune<sup>(56)</sup>. This second marriage produced no children.

The log house mentioned above was John's only home after his marriage, probably, until it burned in 1890. It seems likely that he was making his home at this time with his daughter Barbara<sup>(28)</sup> and her husband Ralph (Rafe) Barcroft<sup>(27)</sup>, for their son Wilbert told me in 1966 that his

father and his father's brother David built the new house nearby the site of the old one. This home site was about 3/4 of a mile north of the "Big House", and on a township road which crossed the Bacon Run road at right angles, at the first Fowler home site. Coal stripping operations, at the head of the narrow valley in which the Fowler-Barcroft-Kinner house was located, caused this road to be closed about 1964. I remember this new house as a very large, two-story, squarish sort of house, with many windows. Bert<sup>(47)</sup> said it was an extremely well-built house, and this would seem quite possible, seeing that the builder was a carpenter, and lumber was not expensive. I remember, as a boy of perhaps 12, attending a New Year's Eve party there. As the hour approached, "Old" Mr. John Sicker, a dignified gentleman with chin whiskers, took out his big watch and silence fell on the group (in the parlor). The last minute passed. At this point, Mr. Sicker stood up and said "Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish you a Happy New Year!". The drama of this, somehow, destroyed my recollection of the food which I'm sure came soon after.

Rebecca (Becky)<sup>(14)</sup> (see page 20) was born September 8, 1811 in - without a doubt - the first log cabin built by Richard at the Bacon Run site. On the following August 26<sup>th</sup>, her father would march away as a Lieutenant in Captain William Beard's Co., of the Ohio Militia, to serve in the "War of 1812", in northwestern Ohio.

Rebecca was married April 14, 1831 to Daniel Dean, and as far as family word or record shows, that is all we know. However, a letter from Mrs. W. W. Hunter, of Coshocton R.D. #2, who is doing a history of one-room schoolhouses in Coshocton Co., says that she has found county records (6-323) which show that in August, 1831, Daniel Dean

deeded a parcel of land to "District No. 7 . Directors - John Smith, Edmund Duling, and Gabriel Evans". Later, Mrs. Hunter said "I think this is the Daniel Dean of 6-323 who deeded the original site for the Bacon Run School in Section 2, in August, 1831." This would place the Deans in the approximate location of Bethel Lane, which runs from the Bacon Run road to the Possum Hollow road - about one mile.

They must have sold their property and moved away, for the 1872 Atlas shows no property holder named Dean there - in fact, I've carefully searched the whole township without finding an 1872 Dean. Granddad's statement on them concerned her marriage to Daniel Dean - no children mentioned. This, I think, wasn't faulty memory, for he named 9 of the 10 children fathered by his Uncle Zed, who lived at the other side of the county. He correctly said "the tenth was a girl". However, the Census of 1850 Lists: Daniel Dean age 45<sup>57</sup>, Rebecca, age 39 (correct age), and children James, age 18, a female, age 16, Susan, age 14, John, age 12, Marie, age 10, Edwin, age 7, Rebecca, age 6, and Daniel, age 1.

Zadock was 17 years younger than Rebecca, who married before Granddad was born, so this may account for his spotty memory. Besides, the older and younger ones of a large family are more likely to be remembered.

Hannah<sup>58</sup> (see page 20) is placed here as the fourth child because this is where Granddad (H.D.F.) placed, her and also because we have been unable to find any record, county or family, for her birth and death. Fourth place would have been possible, if not likely, as Rebecca was born in 1811, and William in 1813. More probable, I think - with

apologies to Granddad's memory - is that she was born in the five year interval between William (born 1813) and Richard II (1818). This would make her about 20 at her first marriage, Feb. 2, 1837, to George Hawk<sup>59</sup>. Their Children, George and Mary, existed only in Granddad's memory - as far as records go. They probably died in childhood. Hannah's husband George Hawk died in 1846, and is buried in the Fowler cemetery at Bacon. Since writing the above, it has been observed that the 1820 Federal Census lists 3 females under 10 years in the Richard I household. This still doesn't settle her exact age, but she was either the fourth or fifth child.

Subsequent to her first husband's death, Hannah married Elijah Duling<sup>60</sup> on March 30, 1852. Granddad said they had two daughters, but didn't elaborate on their fate. But girls change names when they marry and are often lost to family trees. One wonders whether this marriage, by a sister of Richard II to a Duling caused him to name his next boy Hiram Duling. Hannah and Elijah are probably buried in Plainfield Cemetery, but we have not found their graves.

William<sup>21</sup> (see page 20) was born in 1813, and married Elizabeth Platt<sup>61</sup>, who was probably of Plainfield vicinity (there was a "Platt and Davis" store near the bridge in Plainfield, almost to my day).

The "History of Coshocton County Post Offices", by Mrs. Miriam Hunter of Coshocton, has the following: "William Fowler (1813-1875) appointed postmaster May 31, 1861, was a storekeeper on Bacon Run. His postmaster salary for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1870 was

\$20.00, and for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1872, it was reduced to \$14.00. The 1870 Census lists him as a merchant, age 56, Ohio born. He was a staunch Republican. A biographer says that 'Progress and patriotism might be considered the keynote of his character'. Fowler died in July, 1875, and his wife Elizabeth died about three months later. They are buried in the Plainfield cemetery."

Great-great Uncle William was Bacon's second postmaster, the first being John H. Sicker, a neighbor who lived up the Run a half mile or so. Sicker's appointment was March 15, 1858. Ray Fowler<sup>158</sup> tells me that "Uncle Billy's" store was in the southwest angle of the crossroads, and this seems logical, for his land cornered there. It also seemed logical to locate the Post Office in a store, for the salary of the postmaster was small. Uncle Billy held the postmastership for fourteen years, until he and his wife went to Plainfield to live with their daughter Katherine. Shortly after arrival there, he fell down the cellar stairs, breaking his neck. The date was July 27, 1875. His wife died Oct. 14, 1875. They are buried in the southwest corner of the Plainfield cemetery.

- Four children came of this marriage, the eldest being:
- i. Rebecca<sup>62</sup>, who married Sam McKee<sup>63</sup>. Granddad doesn't mention any children of this couple.
  - ii. Katherine<sup>23</sup> married William Wolfe<sup>22</sup>. They had children; William, Nell, May, and Charles. These youngsters were probably born in the 1840's or near that.

Granddad says that Bill Wolfe built the smallish, modern house which sat on the southeast corner of the Bacon crossroads, close by the double log house mentioned earlier. Granddad himself lived here in his

*Can't be. Grandparents were mar. 1843.*

later years, until "Grandma Did" (Elma Brelsford) died, when he went to Coshocton to live with his son Ray and wife. The Wolfes moved to Plainfield, and, in time, were joined there for a short period by Katherine's father and mother. Then, with their four children, "they moved to Kansas".

iii. Sarah<sup>(64)</sup> married James Sangster<sup>(65)</sup>, who was probably of the Plainfield vicinity, since the 1872 Atlas shows Sangster holdings near there. They had a son William and two daughters, Elizabeth and Laura, when they moved to Kansas and located near the town of Lyons. This was probably in the 1870's, and the frontier life there must have been pretty rugged, although probably not as primitive as Sarah's grandparents Richard and Jane had known on Bacon Run in the first decade of the 1800's.

iv. Elizabeth<sup>(66)</sup>, born Sep. 9, 1858, married Richard Morrow Carroll<sup>(67)</sup>, and they had two girls when they succumbed to the lure of the West and departed for Kansas. This family located first in Garfield, then in La Cygne, then in Wichita, and finally in Pittsburg, Kansas, where Elizabeth died on Dec. 27, 1928. The two daughters, Bessie May and Jane Morrow were their only children. Jane did not marry. Bessie married C. T. Potter of La Cygne, Kansas.

When I was a boy, some of these Kansas relatives came to visit at Bacon Run, and no doubt at other places in the county. I think Aunt Nar<sup>(20)</sup> (Mrs. William Albert Fowler) had corresponded with them for a long time. The names "Sangster" and "Carroll" remain with me, and doubtless one or both of them came back. They were about the age of Uncle Al and Aunt Nar, and were of the same generation.



Richard Fowler, II,  
1818-1892

Sarah Wells Fowler,  
1816-1903





My sister Mary, who was sort of unofficially adopted by Uncle Al and Aunt Nar, says she has found a card from Bessie Carroll, saying "Mama and Papa start for Ohio June 6<sup>th</sup>". The card was dated May 31, 1912. It would not be surprising if the Sangsters came East at the same time. Uncle Al and Aunt Nar returned the visit.

Richard<sup>16</sup> (see page 20) was born July 18, 1818, in the double log cabin, no doubt, since the big house was built in 1826. On July 6, 1843, he married Sarah Wells<sup>18</sup>, whose home was in the Flint Hill - Morgan Run neighborhood, east of Coshocton. She was born Dec. 11, 1816 and so was about a year and a half older than Richard. She was the daughter of Frank and Nancy Wells, and had brothers John and Charles, sisters Harriet and Ellen. Sarah died Nov. 1, 1903.

As I work through the notes from which this record is produced, I sometimes find myself a little astonished that so few unmarried folks appear - if an individual lived to maturity, he married, and sometimes someone from quite a distance, for those days (meaning five or six miles). It was not so for Richard and Sarah, although the paragraph above says her home was 6 or 7 miles away, near Coshocton.

Granddad's (H.D.F.) story has it that Sarah sometimes worked for her sister, Mrs. Tom Smith, who lived in the John Sicker house of my day. She was excellent at spinning, and weaving, so on occasion the elder Mrs. Richard Fowler (Jane Elson) would engage her to do some needed work of this sort. The two families were only a quarter of a mile apart, and under these auspicious circumstances the beginning of a long companionship easily came to pass.

They were married July 6, 1843 in a cabin, the site of which has been pointed out to me, near Franklin Township Grange Hall. A somewhat cryptic note, made during this interview with Granddad, perhaps bears reproduction: "Old John Sicker would cut wheat for the wedding cake - too late - old gray mare up run". The first cutting of wheat is often about July 4<sup>th</sup>, and apparently none of the previous year's wheat was available. But the old gray mare had strayed up the run (small valley) and either wasn't available to help pull a reaper, or to be ridden to a mill, so I guess there wasn't any wedding cake.

By 1857, Richard II and Sarah were the parents of eight children - two girls died very young, leaving six boys, of whom John Wells<sup>(25)</sup> was the eldest and William Albert<sup>119</sup> the youngest.

It seems that they lived from the time of their marriage to about 1858 or 1860 in the "double" log house on the south-east angle of "The Corners". Granddad said that the bigger boys slept in the attic. Even so, life must have been lively in such constricted quarters. The situation reminds one of the conditions in today's slums - a whole family in one or two rooms, a common toilet as far away as the oldtime country privy, and maybe a single cold water tap in the kitchen. Paradoxical? No, I think not - they are pretty much the margins of a society which grew, without planning, from great natural resources and unfettered acquisitiveness. The pioneer stage had its "Big House", and the present has its opulent affluence.

At about the time of William Albert's<sup>119</sup> birth, they moved into the "Big House" when Richard I and Jane moved across the run to live with their son William and his wife Elizabeth, whose four daughters were married and gone

from home. It is probable that they died there, Richard I on January 8, 1866, and Jane on August 29, 1872.

Sarah had a woman's love for variety and new things in her house, as the following story suggests: One evening, dishes washed, she announced as she stood holding a pile of plates: "I'm so sick and tired of these plates I could break them all!" One of her sons said "I dare you!", at which she dropped the whole pile on the floor. She had a sister, "Aunt Polly", who used to visit her, and in good weather the two old ladies would sit on the long porch which ran across the front of the "Big House" and sing. Story has it that one of their favorites was "The Ship that Never Came Home".

As mentioned above, the sister for whom Sarah worked, before becoming Richard's wife, was Mrs. Tom Smith. As a small boy I can remember a chubby, gray-haired lady, with a "mustache", who used to visit the older Fowlers. Her name was "Louisy" Smith, and I thought she was a little "odd" for some reason or other - probably because she didn't make over me. With that name, I would guess she was a younger sister of Sarah's brother-in-law Tom Smith.

The descendants of Richard and Sarah will be dealt with at some length in the section entitled "The Third Generation".

Christena<sup>(53)</sup> (see page 20) was born in 1820, and was destined to live longer than any other Fowler in our line, so far as I know. She died in 1913, and is buried in the Fowler cemetery, on Bacon Run - the last to be laid away there.

Christena married William Hawk<sup>(69)</sup>, who was born in 1815 and died in 1843. They had one child, Charlotte<sup>(70)</sup>,

who was 16 at the time of the 1860 Census, so she was born in 1844. For her second husband, Christena<sup>33</sup>, or Aunt Teen as I always knew her, married James W. Davis<sup>71</sup>, a Virginian, 1820-1893. He, too, is buried in the Fowler cemetery. Christena and James Davis had the following children: William, Marion, Presley, John, and Ida. Ida married a Charles Denzer, of Dennison, Ohio.

At the time when I was approaching my teens, most years were marked by a gathering of the clan - and others - at Aunt Teen's place, on a Sunday near her birthday. It fell in October, and usually they were happy, sunny occasions, with the honored hostess holding court from a rocking chair in the front yard. She lived in a romantic spot (for us kids) because it was on a rocky ridge with dangerous-looking cliffs that one wanted to peer over but still feared. For me, it was a special occasion, because Grace Almack (Mrs. Lerty) of Coshocton, a granddaughter of Aunt Teen's brother Zadock (Zedikiah) would drive out in a big, black, shining automobile. She was pretty and stylish, I thought, and usually I got to ride in her automobile from Bacon to Aunt Teen's, which was in the southwest corner of Oxford Township, and only a mile or two north of the Linton Township line. An unmarried son, Presley<sup>74</sup>, lived with Aunt Teen there; the other children were gone from home, long since.

Charlotte (Lottie), Aunt Teen's child by William Hawk, was listed as a member of the Richard I household in the 1860 Census, which suggests what is almost certain, that Aunt Teen had married again at that time. According to Donald Baker<sup>75</sup>, a grandson of Charlotte, she was first married to George Newell<sup>72</sup>, who - Donald thinks - was killed in the Civil War. Her second husband was John D. Baker, by

whom she had the following children: Edward, Richard, Lewis, James, Benjamin, Christina (Christy), and Ida Belle.

Zedekiah<sup>(76)</sup> (possibly Zadok) (see page 20), was born in 1826 and was the youngest son of Richard I and Jane. It is a little ironical that so few of the family tales and yarns have dealt with Zed (as Granddad called him) and Mary, the last two children. But circumstances almost dictated it - there was no family land nor jobs for this youngest son on Bacon Run, so he sought greener pastures, settling in the neighborhood of Walhonding, which is at the extreme western edge of the county, on the Walhonding River. If Granddad knew, he never told me just why young Zed went there. Perhaps because of Mary Marlatt<sup>(77)</sup>, the girl he married there on June 14, 1849.

This couple produced eleven children, all living to marry, at least. In 1950, William<sup>(78)</sup> was the only one still living. Shortly after this date, my Dad visited William and his wife, in Millersburg, Ohio, this being the first and only time they met. Other children were: Flora, E.J. (a girl), Bell, Richard, John, Elizabeth, Harriet, Hannah, Cora, and Manday.

Scraps of information, and inferences from them, suggest that Zed may have supported his large family by day labor, and subsistence farming, much as Granddad did. It was similar to the non-college trained citizen of today who makes his way by working in a factory, at construction work, etc. The man with a sizable farm, in those days, would compare to our small businessman, and the more acres, the larger the business.

Grace Almack<sup>(79)</sup>, daughter of Zed's son John and Airbella Wheeler, gives Manday as the youngest child of Zed and Mary.

Manday was born Feb. 18, 1874. Since Grace did not give her grandfather's age (presumably because she didn't know it), it can be safely assumed that he lived at least until around May, 1873, since his youngest child was born Feb. 18, 1874. That he mightn't have lived a great deal longer is suggested by a statement made by an old Walhonding resident who guided me to Zed's gravestone in a Walhonding cemetery. This man said Zed was killed in an accident, while working on a sawmill. His grave stone gives no birth or death date, only a Civil War affiliation; Co. F, 80<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry. (Reliable recent info: b. 4-15-'24, d. 3-10-'76)

In our attempts to "back track" Richard I, we have found a hamlet in Brooke Co., W. Va., named Fowlerstown. The Fowlers there have a genealogy which begins with a William Fowler, born 1797. This man had three sons; John, William, and Zadock. Our Richard I had four sons, John, William, Richard, and Zedick, or Zadok. The Coshocton Co. Court House records may have a record, and may settle the spelling of this man's name, but in 1967, it has not been found. Grace Almack (granddaughter of the man in question) has supplied information that her Aunt Hannah had a son Zedick, and so I prefer to think of him as Zedick, until a birth or death record is found. The similarity in names of sons for the Fowlerstown William, and the Facon Run Richard I is striking, and it extended to girl children, too, though not quite so repetitively. The Fowlerstown William could have been a brother of Richard I, but I rather think he was a cousin. Siblings of Richard I, named by Granddad, were John, Zedick, and Susan. The Federal Census for 1790 lists a Zadock Fowler in Frederick Co., in western Maryland.

Some recent information on Zed has come to light. When he entered the service on Feb. 25, 1864, he was age 38, and listed himself as "Zadok". If these dates are correct, it would mean that he had been born about 1826, rather than 1828. This also sheds some light on the actual name of the person in question.

Mary J.<sup>(80)</sup>, born April 13, 1830 (see page 20), was the youngest child of Richard I and his wife Jane, and undoubtedly saw the light of day in the "Big House" at Bacon, Linton Township, Coshocton Co., Ohio.

At this point I am moved to surmise that not one of these nine children was delivered by a physician - and perhaps it was just as well, for I doubt that the average physician of those days knew as much about delivering a baby as many "granny women", for the simple reason that bacteriology was fifty years away, and obstetrics as a branch of medicine was unknown. The neighbor woman who was always called attained a lot of experience. But I suspect she was as helpless as the physician, in really difficult cases; mother and child died. Argument for this may be found in any old cemetery, where an uncommonly high percentage of burials are of young women. Family genealogies carry many records of wife number 2, or 3. Cases where a man fathered 12-16 children - by two or three wives - are really not rare. Nowadays, with about 25% of marriages ending in divorce, a man or woman may have three or four spouses without burying a single one! But child-maternal mortalities are really low now, compared to the "good old days", even though not quite so good as those in a few other countries.

Predictably, little Mary J., born in 1830, would be

married by 1850. She beat that by a year and seventeen days, marrying John B. Hershman<sup>(81)</sup>, a Franklin Township farmer 15 or 16 years her senior, on Dec. 14, 1848. Titus' 1872 Atlas shows three contiguous parcels of land totaling 176.5 acres in section 22 of Franklin Township, in the name of J. B. Hershman. Adjoining this are 156 acres belonging to C. Hershman. The site is on the road paralleling Wills Creek, and about one mile from today's village of Wills Creek. It is in the approximate location of the now abandoned covered bridge.

Mrs. Mona Rood<sup>(81)</sup> of Wichita, Kansas, is a great, great grandchild of Richard I (like me) and has provided the "missing link" needed to re-establish contact with Mary J., and her Hershman family. Until connection was made with Mrs. Rood, through the Genealogical Helper, my only information concerning Mary was from my Granddad (H.D.F.). He said Mary was the youngest child, that she married John B. Hershman of Franklin Township, that their children were: Richard, Philip, John, Albert, Rebecca and Hannah (twins), George, Hiram, and a "small boy". He said, furthermore, that the family had moved to Virginia and that he knew nothing more about them.

Mrs. Rood's researches have discovered that the J. B. Hershman family went to Mecklenburg Co., Va., prospered, lived out their lives, and died there. One daughter, Hannah (twin of Rebecca) married in Mecklenburg, Va. one Troyer R. Irwin, who was born Oct. 2, 1859 in Holmes Co., Ohio. This couple "went West", like so many others of the period, and settled in Brown Co., Kansas about 1885. Their son Thomas Jefferson was one of five children. His daughter Martha Alice Irwin-Haag - one of eight children - became the mother of Mona Lee Haag on Nov. 30, 1938, at Colony, Ander-



son Co., Kansas. Mona was married to William J. Rood <sup>(83)</sup>  
on Sep. 13, 1958 at Stauben, N.Y.

Apparently the J.B. Hershman family was influenced in moving eastward - against the current, so to speak - by the fact that Mr. Hershman's father had come from Hampshire Co., Va. Strangely, they didn't stop in Hampshire Co., then in the newly created state of West Virginia, but crossed the entire state of Virginia and settled deep in southern country in a county lying on the North Carolina border. In any event, there are doubtless Fowler-Hershman relatives still in and around Clarksville, Mecklenburg Co., Virginia.

## THE THIRD GENERATION.

John Wells Fowler<sup>25</sup> was the first child of Richard and Sarah (see page 31). He was born in 1844 and died in 1929. Prior to marriage, John fathered a child by Drusilla Wilden. This child, born July 9, 1865, was named John Richard Fowler by his mother, who refused to allow the father to adopt the child after the father's marriage to Elizabeth Jones.

John R. Fowler<sup>34</sup> lived his life in the Flint Hill (two miles east of Coshocton) neighborhood, and married Mattie Viola Jennings on July 4, 1889. He was often referred to as "Hill" John, and his father as "Run" John, for the obvious reason that he lived near the top of Flint Hill, and his father lived down Bacon Run. Cordial family relations always existed with the Bacon Run Fowlers. That his illegitimacy had been of concern to him all his life is suggested by his speaking of it with regret as he lay bedfast during the last three or four years of his life. He was about 97 when he died. He was buried in South Lawn Cemetery, Coshocton.

My only recollection of John W. Fowler<sup>25</sup> is the sight of him sitting on the front porch of his attractive home, just west of the intersection of the Bacon Run Road and the Plainfield-West Lafayette Road. It would be a summer day, and I would be riding (age 8-12) to Plainfield with Uncle Al or Uncle Frank to have some grain ground at the Woodward Brothers Mill. Or on rarer occasions they would be driving a mare to Forney's for "servicing" - Forneys kept Belgian stallions, and there was always a mysterious foreigner there, presumably an agent of the Belgian Breeding Association.

Since then, I've often wondered if he weren't a German S.S. operative, for he disappeared "mysteriously", it was said, as World War I approached. Anyway, we would see Great Uncle John, a middling-sized, greyhaired man rocking away on the porch, in the shade of the big "pine" trees which still stands before the house. Only, they are Norway spruce, not pines. So far as I can remember, I never was close enough to him to speak - we would wave a hand and drive right on. The brotherly tie seems to have been a tenuous one; the Fowlers were not clannish.

The 1872 Atlas shows a J. B. Fowler owning 100 acres just west of Bethel Lane, and lying on both sides of Bacon Run. This could have been an error of initials, but it probably wasn't, for the 1860 Census shows a John Fowler, wife and four children, in Jacobsport (Plainfield), who was not our John W. This man probably was the J. B. who owned the 100 acres mentioned above; and I continue to be puzzled by his never having been mentioned by Granddad, who was only 14 years younger. Most likely, J.B. and family "went West" soon after this Census and were soon forgotten.

The farm Great Uncle John W. owned was part, if not all, of 168 acres, shown in the 1872 Atlas, as belonging to David Jones. It is fair to assume, I think, that John's wife Elizabeth Jones was a daughter of David Jones.

This couple had six daughters and a son. The eldest, i. Elvie<sup>85</sup> had an illegitimate son, whose name was Harold Fowler<sup>86</sup>. He seems to have lived his entire life in Newcomerstown, marrying, and fathering two daughters in the course of his experience as a respected citizen of the town.

In due course, Elvie married David Marlatt, of the

Newcomerstown vicinity, and had two children: Laura<sup>(87)</sup> married a McPeek man, and Warner died as a young man of typhoid fever. I saw Elvie only once, when Eloise and I were in Newcomerstown on an errand, and looked her up. She was a friendly, grandmotherly looking woman of 80 or so. She died around 1963, I would say. I am uncertain about Harold - it seems to me that I heard that he had a stroke a few years ago.

ii. Permelia<sup>(87)</sup> (Meelie, as I always knew her) married Steven Woodward at 35 or 40 years of age - as his second wife, I believe. She was a big-framed woman, pleasant, but to me seeming to lack something; I suspect it was related somehow with her barrenness - an unease with children.

iii. Sarah<sup>(88)</sup> (Sadie), like Elvie, had an illegitimate child, a daughter, who was known as Hildred Fowler. Hildred was a very pretty woman, taught rural school for a few years, and married another rural school teacher, Roy Welker. They had one daughter. Hildred died of cancer, 15 years or so ago, at age 45 (approximately), and their daughter now lives with her father in Plainfield.

Sarah then married Emmett Marlatt, a son of the man whom Elvie had married. To this union were born: Emily, Grace, Doris, Erma, John, Marjorie, Mary, Blanche, and John.

iv, v. Laura<sup>(90)</sup> and Effie<sup>(91)</sup>, in this order of their ages, were wives of Frank Workman. He survived both, but is now dead, following a car-locomotive collision in West Lafayette, where he lived. I last saw him at Dad's funeral in 1956. He was the last survivor of a family

which had been in the Plainfield area for over 100 years.

vi. Margaret<sup>95</sup>, the youngest daughter of John and Elizabeth, was born in 1873 and died in 1875.

vii. John Francis<sup>92</sup>, the only son of this marriage, was born Feb. 19, 1876 and died in 1955, thus being born a year before my father, and dying a year before him. John, or "Johnnie" as he was usually called, married Nora Latham (born June 21, 1881), who bore him a daughter Ruth<sup>93</sup> and a son Lloyd<sup>94</sup>. Ruth, born June 31, 1901, married Charles Derr and had the following children: Lois, born July 13, 1924, married \_\_\_\_\_ Sargent; Lorna, born May 8, 1929, married \_\_\_\_\_ Wasem; Carl, born Dec. 1, 1931. Lloyd<sup>94</sup>, now twice married, has had no children. He is a shop worker. John Francis<sup>92</sup> farmed his father's holdings.

Richard III<sup>96</sup> was born in 1845 and died in 1904. At age 17 he left home one morning, ostensibly to salt some sheep "up the hollow". His real objective was West Lafayette, where he boarded a troop train traveling toward Columbus. He enlisted, of course, and saw considerable action in the Civil War. Following his return, he married Mina Collins, and after a brief stay in a small new house up the hollow from the "Big House", they lived in Coshocton, where Richard worked in a factory as a "stationary engineer". One wonders how he qualified for this, since the Civil War was relatively unmechanized. Anyway, I believe he held the same job until ill health overtook him, in the form of a "stroke". His wife was dead by this time, and for the remaining 2 or 3 years of his life he was back at the old house on Bacon Run, with his mother. She died

Nov. 2, 1903, a little before his demise in 1904. It was during this invalidism that my parents moved back to the Run and into the house across the main road, built by Bill Wolfe<sup>(22)</sup>. When I was still a baby, I developed a throat and ear infection which threatened my life. Mother was raising my head up and down on a pillow, when an eardrum ruptured and pus poured out. "Uncle Doc" Criswell was called, and among other things he prescribed cod-liver oil, which in those days was a very vile smelling stuff indeed. Somehow, one of these partly empty bottles made its way up to Grandma's, where Uncle Dick was idly regarding it. He tasted it, made a terrible face, and said "I wish I were a dog". His mother said "Why Dick, what do you wish that for?". To which he replied "so I could lick myself and take this damn taste out of my mouth!"

Richard III married Mina Collins<sup>(97)</sup> - a Coshocton girl, no doubt. They had three children: Nettie, William Owen<sup>(98)</sup>, and a baby which died in infancy. Dad has told me that this child had epilepsy. Nettie married William Huston, and they moved to Indiana. A son, Fowler Huston, was with his father in Indiana at the time I interviewed Granddad (H.D.F.). Presumably Nettie was dead.

The life of Will<sup>(98)</sup> would merit a small book. In addition to being a bright boy, he was artistic and always very fond of dogs. A graduate in medicine at Ohio State University, he became a morphine addict during his final year. The family story is that his mother was dying of cancer in Coshocton, and he shuttled back and forth on the railroad, using morphine to keep himself going, collapsing, as the story goes, during commencement exercises. He tried medical practice, setting up an office somewhere in Muskingum County, but couldn't make it go. From then

until Sep. 27, 1917 he was in and out of several institutions "taking the cure". Between times he lived on Bacon Run with relatives. On the above date he married my Aunt Margaret Aronhalt<sup>(99)</sup>, a spinster of 40 years or so, and they lived happily until "Doc" died in 1930. Aunt Margaret died in 1943. These were the best years of his life - featured by compatible, conjugal domesticity, and a job at manual labor. Most of this time Doc worked in the Coshocton Glass Works, which made beer and pop bottles. Here, he was recognized as an educated man, but a fellow worker. Well liked, he took an active part in union affairs and got me a summer job at the glass works between my junior and senior years in high school. I lived, then, with him and Aunt Margaret at their home on East Main St., in Coshocton, and so do know that theirs was a happy home.

Isabel<sup>(100)</sup> was the first of two girls born to Richard and Sarah (see page 31), and neither girl lived very long. Isabel was born in 1847 and died in 1848. Mary died in infancy. One can only guess what dreams of motherly anticipation were buried with these little girls.

Francis<sup>(102)</sup>, who was born in 1849, took over the farming of the "home hundred", on which the homesite rested, as his father (Richard II) grew older and Frank came into manhood. I haven't gone to the courthouse to see whether this farm was ever deeded to him - his mother lived until 1903, and his brother Albert, a non-farmer if I ever saw one, bought the place in 1904 or 1905. By this time, Frank was not very well, and within 10 years of his death on Jan. 17, 1915.

Uncle Frank lived as a bachelor, with his mother, in the big house, until he was 45 or so, when he married

Elizabeth Lutz<sup>(103)</sup> ( a bit younger), daughter of Martin Lutz, a German immigrant shoemaker, who then lived in the "Wolfe" house just across the main highway. They never had any children, and I became from time to time a substitute; in those days we lived successively in three different untenanted houses down the "Run", the most distant of which was only  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from Uncle Frank and Aunt Lizzie, who were by this time living in the Martin Lutz house.

My Dad used to tell a story about Uncle Frank which evidences a fun-loving side which wasn't much in evidence when I was old enough to know him. This incident occurred in the summer, and at a time when Uncle Frank was courting Aunt Lizzie. Coming home one night, late, he sat down for a spell on the cool dark back porch - and as it happened, near the waterbucket. Presently, Frank's Aunt Polly Smith, in nightgown, pranced out on the porch, exclaiming about the hot weather and her inability to sleep. Since she didn't know Frank was near, and couldn't, or hadn't noticed him, he was able to dip a cup of water, raise the tail of her nightgown and let her have it. Since modern day tranquilizers hadn't been invented, some other means of calming Aunt Polly must have been found, but it wasn't easy, according to the story.

At the time I was seeing a lot of Uncle Frank and Aunt Lizzie, their family income must have consisted principally of returns from sewing by Aunt Lizzie, and from a pint-sized store operated out of a one-room structure which had once been Martin Lutz's shoe shop. At times, it was operated by W. O. "Doc" Fowler, for when not taking the cure, he lived with Aunt and Uncle. Butter and eggs were traded for groceries, and Aunt Lizzie would deliver these to customers in Coshocton each Saturday. Sometimes Uncle



Frank would go to town with her, and oftener than not would come home inspirited by a few drinks. Aunt Lizzie didn't like this and sometimes gently reproached him, but nothing serious ever came of it. Sometimes I was taken along, and on one occasion had a memorable experience, which will be recounted later.

Uncle Frank died Jan. 17, 1915 of what I now would guess was nephritis. Aunt Lizzie lived to April 5, 1940. They are buried at Plainfield.

Jeremiah <sup>104</sup>, or "Jerry", or "Jed" was born to Richard II and Sarah in 1852 and died in 1910, and although I was 9 years old at the time of his death, I don't have a picture of him in my mind. Uncle Jerry had a twin sister, Mary <sup>101</sup>, whose death is recorded as occurring in 1852, the year of their birth.

Born too late to share in his father's land, and apparently having no inclination toward farming, he made a life of "store biz".

Mrs. Hunter's history of postoffices in Coshocton Co. says that Uncle Jerry became postmaster on Dec. 3, 1880, and that his store was on the northeast corner of the crossroads. This may be true, but it is possible that Jerry made his start in the store building occupied by his Uncle William, on the southwest corner. Hunter's list of items from the "Coshocton Age" follows:

May 21, 1881 "Jerry Fowler's store at Bacon that burned out last spring, has a new building erected."

May 26, 1883 "Jerry Fowler is building an addition to his store."

June 16, 1883 "Bacon. Jerry Fowler, merchant, has a brisk business."

Apr. 28, 1885 "Bacon. Notice W.A. Fowler and Jerry Fowler have concluded a partnership as Fowler and Bros. (sic) for conducting a business at Bacon Run, Ohio."

Dec. 5, 1885 "Bacon. Jerry Fowler doing big business."

Feb. 19, 1886 "Fowler Bros. Have improved store and erected new boxes for Post Office. They are thoroughly energetic and enterprising."

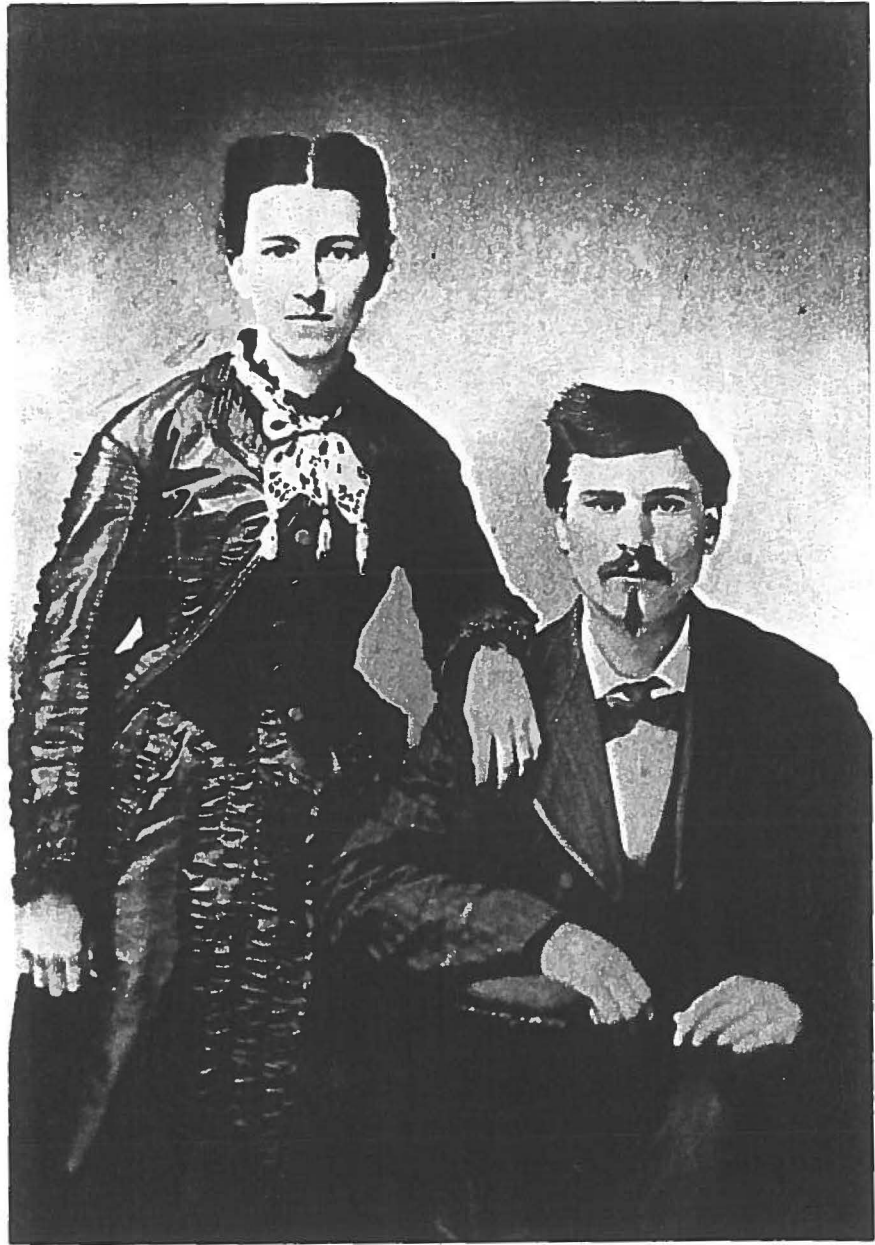
Dec. 24, 1886 "Fowler Bros. at Bacon had a big line of Christmas goods."

June 30, 1904 "Jerry Fowler, who has been in business for 23 years, recently sold his store to Royer & Stockum, and moved to Coshocton this week."

In Coshocton, Uncle Jerry worked as a clerk in a clothing store, until his death in 1910, following an operation for hernia - said to have been the first attempted in Coshocton. He was buried in South Lawn Cemetery, Coshocton.

Jerry did have a domestic life, although I've featured his store experience, because Mrs. Hunter's post office history provided so much good material. He married Alice Williams <sup>105</sup>, and they had two boys who died in infancy. A published "Obituaries in Coshocton Co., 1826-1908" records "Infant of Jeremiah Fowler, Bacon Run, Lutheran Cemetery, May 7, 1886." This St. Paul's cemetery is in Franklin Township, near Rte. 76. After Uncle Jerry's death, Alice married again.

My Dad has recounted a story which involved Alice, in a way. When my family first returned to Bacon Run, Dad had a young hunting dog named Maudie. He and his half-brother Ray took her out one night to see whether she would track and tree raccoon. In the first woods - the one just east of the Fowler homestead - Maudie treed something. Dad had a miner's lamp on his head, and soon



Hiram D. Fowler—Sarah Criswell F.

1854-1943

1856-1879

"shined" the eyes of the 'coon. His first shot brought it to the ground, and also brought an exclamation from Ray: "My God, you've killed Alice's cat!" Needless to say, the two hunters never told Alice what became of her pet.

Hiram D. <sup>(5)</sup> was born to Richard II and Sarah on Apr. 18, 1854, and died in 1943. At age 21, he married Sarah Jane Criswell <sup>(106)</sup>, the eldest child of John and Mary Criswell, Plainfield, Ohio. Sarah was born in 1856 and died in 1879, in childbirth. Married at 19, she had borne two boys before the pregnancy which resulted in death for her and the third child.

Hiram Duling F. (the Duling apparently was just a convenient middle name - several Fowler girls had married Duling men) seems to me, as I look at his life in retrospect, to have suffered much from circumstances. Since he was a late child, there was no land left from the patrimony. Married at 21, he seems not to have thought (no one knows, of course) of solving this problem as his grandfather had - by going West, where land could be had very cheaply. Anyway, he found himself a widower within four years, most likely because physicians of that day knew little about obstetrics and nothing about bacteriology.

When Hiram (often referred to here as my "Granddad", which was what we always called him) married again, it was to Elma Erelsford <sup>(108)</sup>, on Dec. 24, 1885. He was a rural "hired hand", a man who made a living by working for farmers who needed extra help at certain seasons. Today, I read, the "hired hand" is a thing of the past - technocracy has done him in. And it's just as well, for such labor has traditionally been the poorest paid in the land.

Today's migrant farm workers are the current equivalent, and they are the sorriest segment of our agricultural society.

But Granddad escaped, after a fashion, from this straightjacket. On August 16, 1890, he was deeded 25 acres of hillside and hilltop, at the extreme western edge of the Brelsford (formerly Joe Love) place. On it he built a small house; water was carried some 150 yards from a spring, which was not on his land; and so far as I can recall, this spring was the sole source of water for this homestead. His second wife was a Brelsford, and I suspect the price of this parcel of land was not large, nor the terms hard. On it he managed a subsistence type of living, supplemented by such extra work as he could get - mostly at John Sicker's, and Ralph Barcroft's (Mrs. B. was his aunt). Feed for two cows, a horse, and two or three hogs was raised; and there was, of course, the family's vegetable garden. I am indebted to Mrs. Miriam Hunter for a "Fifty Years Ago" clipping from the Coshocton Tribune, dated Dec. 10, 1914. It reads: "A 15-month-old hog butchered by H.D. Fowler, Bacon Run, reportedly weighed 587 pounds. Residents said it was the largest hog ever seen in the community."

Granddad was a better than average country fiddler. In spite of having no instrument of his own, and playing only now and then during the wintertime, he was a better fiddler at 60 than either Dad or I - and we played quite a lot in the winter, when I was 14 to 18 years of age. He always played under the protest "I can't play", but with a glass or two of hard cider to help, he could saw off the old dance tunes in amazing fashion. He told me once that his Grandfather (Richard I) had a brother who

was a famous left-handed fiddler - played in Washington, D.C. for some occasion, once. His name was Zadock<sup>(3)</sup>, or Zedick (I think Granddad called him Zeddick). Also, Granddad's fourth child (2nd marriage), Francis<sup>(109)</sup> (Frankie) was a promising violinist - he played by note, on an uncommonly good instrument which my Dad gave him. Dad got this fiddle from Amziah Bradford, a sawmiller, for whom he worked a little in his late teens. Mr. Bradford was a good fiddler, and probably taught Dad, who taught Frankie and me. A Japanese named Suzuki has made a big thing out of teaching kids to play the violin by ear. It's not new - folk-fiddlers have been learning that way since the thing was invented.

Granddad was definitely not much of a talker - quite unlike my Dad and me in that respect. This laconic characteristic did not desert him on the only occasion on which he ever tried to drive an automobile. It was a rainy day, and I had just finished grinding the valves of our 1916 Ford touring car. Urged by me to have a try at driving it, as we took it for a trial spin down the valley, Granddad assented, to my surprise. Everything went well, once we were under way, for about a half mile, when suddenly we jumped a ditch, and went into a plowed field. Quiet reigned for a moment - the engine was stalled - until Granddad said, "I played hell, didn't I?"

At about age 70, Granddad and "Grandma Did"<sup>(108)</sup> moved over to Fowlers Corners, into the house which my family had lived in twice. They probably moved in, as we moved out and back to Coshocton. After Grandma's death, Granddad lived the last 8 or 10 years of his life with his son Ray and wife, in Coshocton. At about 90, he had a severe attack of shingles, and suffered a lot thereafter from re-

sidual neurological effects. He was 88 when he died, and was said to still have all but one or two of his original permanent set of teeth. I think he might, if asked, have attributed it to tobacco chewing. I never saw him smoke, although he doubtless did, at times. I never saw him without a mustache, and sometimes in the winter he would have a beard. We have an excellent tintype picture of him and his first wife Sarah (Sade) Criswell on their wedding day. His only hirsute adornment then was a small clump of whiskers depending from the cleft in his chin. He was seated - as was the photographic mode of that day - and she was standing behind the left arm of the chair on which he sat. They looked very grave, and well they might have, considering the domestic tragedies which were so soon to come.

William Albert<sup>19</sup>, the youngest son of Richard II and Sarah Wells, was born in 1857. Although I knew Uncle Al better than I did Granddad, in some ways - because he was a more outgoing fellow - I never felt the affection for him that I did for Granddad. It was around 1905 or 1906 that I became conscious of Uncle Al and Aunt Nar<sup>20</sup>, who now lived in the big house. They had no children.

Since I have postulated that my Granddad, who was next to the youngest of the six boys, became a "hired hand" on neighboring farms, it wouldn't be reasonable for me to surmise that the youngest boy (Al) could find a foothold on the family farm; and he didn't. Hunter's History of Post Offices in Coshocton Co., Ohio quotes the Coshocton Age, a newspaper, as saying that "Jerry Fowler and his brother William A. formed a partnership in the Bacon, Ohio store" - which housed the post office - "on April 28, 1885". Two

other references are made by the Age to "Fowler Bros. Store" in 1886. The next cited reference, on June 30, 1904 was "Jerry Fowler, who has been in business for 23 years, recently sold his store to Royer and Stockum, and moved to Coshocton this week."

In 1885, when the above named partnership was formed, Uncle Al was 28 years old. Where did he get the money to buy into Jerry's store? My guess, and it seems to grow from hazy recollections, is that he had worked in stores in Plainfield for 8 or 10 years and saved his money. He married Nar Clevia Criswell, a younger sister of Sarah Jane Criswell, my Granddad's first wife, which might also suggest that he worked in Plainfield. It is even possible that he and Aunt Nar were responsible for Hiram and Sarah's romance.

In any event, Uncle Al terminated his partnership with Uncle Jerry long before Jerry called it a day, in 1904. Like Jerry, Al went to Coshocton to become a clerk in stores there. Again, he seems to have saved his money (and this was easier with no children), for he returned to Bacon Run about 1904, buying the "home farm" and living in the Big House.

Extensive refurbishing of the house took place, such as the enclosure of the back porch so that it became the kitchen, and the ell room a spacious dining room. A fine new barn, a new spring house, and a new privy completed the building operations. For this the best trees of the woods to the east of the house (where Dad shot Alice's cat) were cut, and sawed in the ravine at the northwest lower corner of the wood lot.

In her work on newspaper files in Coshocton, Mrs. Miriam Hunter has found copies of several newspaper items relating



to the Fowlers. The following should be inserted here:  
"W.A. Fowler leaves for trip to Kansas". Aunt Nar probably went, also, and of course it was a return visit to the cousins who had earlier visited them. These cousins were Mrs. James Sangster, of near Lyons, and Mrs. Richard Carroll of La Cygne. A third daughter of Great Grand Uncle William<sup>(21)</sup> who went to Kansas was Mrs. William Wolfe<sup>(23)</sup> (Katherine), but contact with them seems to have been lost by Aunt Nar, who was the correspondent in these cousinly exchanges.

But Uncle Al wasn't much of a farmer, I think, although the new barn and refurbished house and outbuildings made the farm one of the most attractive places in the community. Uncle Frank, who had been farming the place all his adult life, helped some, but he wasn't well, and so couldn't do much. Uncle Al wasn't a spring chicken either, being 47 or 48 years old when they moved back to the farm.

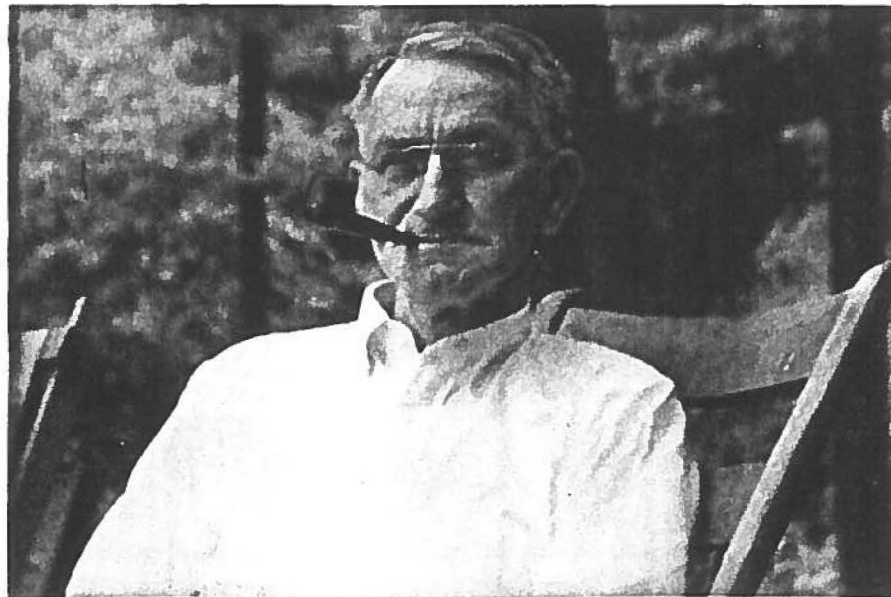
The place was sold about 1920 to William Hart, who in a few years sold it to Ralph Derr. The Derrs are hard workers, and I think good farmers. They, of course, have no sentimental feeling about the house they live in, or the land they till. Some years ago they put shingles over the siding. This probably made it warmer, but to my eye it ruined the looks of the place. An ugly coal furnace sits in the middle of the historic basement room, and the winding stairs to the attic have been removed. Originally, they wound from the basement to the attic, but Uncle Al and Aunt Nar removed the basement-to-main floor segment.

The farm sold, Al and Nar "retired" to Plainfield, where Uncle Al died in 1929. Aunt Nar lived to 1943 (as did H.D.F.). With them, the third generation of Fowlers in Coshocton Co. came to an end.



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Richard Price Fowler, b.1877, d.1956



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## THE FOURTH GENERATION.

## First Marriage

Hiram D. Fowler<sup>(15)</sup> (my paternal grandfather) married Sarah Jane Criswell<sup>(106)</sup> on Sep. 23, 1875. Sarah, or Sade, as the family called her, was the oldest child of John and Mary Criswell of Plainfield.

Although no one has told me so, and those of whom I might ask are gone, I suspect that Hiram D. and his young wife lived in Plainfield, near her parents, and where he could find work. Their first child, Charles<sup>(108)</sup>, was probably born in 1875, since the second child (my Dad<sup>(17)</sup>) was born in 1877. When Charles was 3 or 4 years of age, he had an abscess in his throat, below the ear. The family doctor, to cleanse his pocket knife blade, drew it through a raw potato. In the attempt to lance the abscess, the jugular vein was cut; whereupon "the doctor wiped the knife blade upon his pants leg, closed his bag, and drove away." Little Charles was buried in the Fowler cemetery, I think, for a small white stone is there, with the initials "C.F.", and no stone can be found for him on the Criswell lots in Plainfield.

My Dad, Richard Price<sup>(17)</sup>, the second child, was born Oct. 14, 1877. More on Dad will follow below.

The third pregnancy for Sarah resulted in her death, at delivery, and the death of the infant. She is buried, apparently alone, about a quarter way down the west slope of the Plainfield cemetery, but it is probable that the infant was buried with, or beside, her. A modest sized stone is inscribed "Sarah Jane Fowler, 1856-1879". The

stone was bought and placed by the Criswells, I am sure, for it is a perfect match for those on the big Criswell lot, on the east slope. Besides, Granddad Fowler never had the money to do it. Into this young woman's 23 years are packed vital parts of the life of all, and I mean literally ALL people living before antiseptics and the many other advances in modern medicine - married at 17 and dying at 23 during the delivery of a third child, a delivery that today would probably be routine. Moreover, the first child was lost under almost unbelievable circumstances. Since we are only today fighting the battle of contraception, we can be sure that even the word wasn't known in our family 100 years ago. A casual stroll through a few really old cemeteries tells this story in stone; the percentages of burials of children and young women are far, far greater than those to be found in newer cemeteries.

After his mother's death, Richard Price's childhood home was that of his Criswell grandparents in Plainfield, and judging from what I've heard, the childhood was uneventful. As he grew older, portions of the summer vacations were spent on the Bacon homestead of his paternal grandparents. This arrangement of school year in the village, and summer on the farm could not have helped broadening the growing lad. Dad had a tremendous repertoire of songs which he would sing, to his own guitar accompaniment, at most any appropriate occasion. He used to say that singing was one of the common pastimes of a bunch of boys in Plainfield, from a storefront late on a Saturday night, walking to or from an ice-cream social at some church, etc. One of my most prized possessions is a taped recording of his singing some of these old

songs, and telling the old stories I knew so well (from having listened to them many times). This taping was made in 1954, when he was visiting us in Oberlin, and probably ten years distant from his last previous performance of this sort.

Dad finished the eight school grades available at Plainfield, then took the 8<sup>th</sup> grade a second year (for want of something else to do) while living at Bacon. He then took, and passed, the "Boxwell" examination, which entitled him to teach in any grade school in the state. But he seemed never to have entertained the idea of being a schoolteacher, although he had no other job. What he did from then until he married my Mom, Stella Agnes Aronhalt<sup>(103)</sup>, on Feb. 11, 1899, at age 21, is something of a mystery to me. To be sure, he helped Uncle Frank with the seasonal farm work. I recall his remarking that one year he got \$10.00 "for a whole summer's work".

I have the firm conviction that if he had had encouragement, and the resources, to continue his education, he would have mastered a profession to his liking. He was an omnivorous reader - to his dying day, and, as I told him in a birthday letter late in his life "I think you know more - about more things - than any person I have ever known." I still think so.

I have interrogated every person who knew him in those days and they "guess" he did a lot of fishing and hunting. His grandfather Fowler (Richard II<sup>16</sup>) died in 1892, just about the time he was doing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade a second time, at the Bacon Run School, and I suspect that he stayed on with his Grandmother until he married in 1899. About this time his Uncle Richard III<sup>96</sup>, a widower, had a stroke, and came

to live with his mother. This "Uncle Dick" died in 1904, a year after his mother's death.

. It is my desire to write, elsewhere, all I know about my Dad, but I know my failings and my age, and it is likely that I'll never get it down. So, it may be best to go into some detail, from time to time, here, at the risk of boring a reader who cannot possibly feel as I do about this person.



Stella Aronhalt Fowler, b. 1878, d. 1936

Richard Price Fowler, b. 1877, d. 1956

## THE FIFTH GENERATION (RICHARD PAUL)

Married to Stella A. Aronhalt, and soon to be a father, Dad had to abandon the carefree life and settle down. He got a job with Ed Abbott's Draying business in Coshocton. The first child, Delora Winifred, was born in Coshocton Apr. 19, 1899<sup>(110)</sup>. The mark of an "oldest" child was not lost on Delora. She was conscientious, hard working, and I dare say a great help to mother. She even took responsibility for getting me to school on time - carrying my stuff, and urging me to walk faster as I moseyed along, sometimes threatening to kill myself if I had to go to school all my life. About the time Delora finished the 8<sup>th</sup> grade of school, we moved from our home at the old Tip Jennings place to the little house across the Big Road from the Fowler Homestead (the one Bill Wolfe built). To the rear and slightly to the west of this house sat a little one - the one Martin Lutz (Aunt Lizzie's father) used for a shoe cobbler's shop. In this building, Delora continued the little grocery store which Aunt Lizzie - with the sometime help of Doc Fowler (W.D. <sup>(98)</sup>) - had kept going after the big country store across the road had burned. Fletch Duling was the last operator there (the history of the store business at Bacon started with Richard I, really, and can be found in Miriam Hunter's "History of Coshocton Co. Post Offices"). After a couple of years of store business, Delora worked in Coshocton.

She married Roy Baker<sup>(111)</sup>, of Plainfield, Sep. 24, 1921. Roy is a carpenter and builder, and they have bought, repaired, built, and lived in many houses in the Plainfield





Bacon Run days--about 1913  
Richard Paul Fowler & "Old Kate"



Eloise Weston Fowler, b. 1905  
Richard Paul Fowler, b. 1901

area. Since 1934 they have lived in a fine new house in what is the relocated village of Plainfield (construction of the Wills Creek Dam, by the Muskingum Valley Conservancy District, in 1935, necessitated the removal of the old village to higher land, directly west). Since they have no children, Delora more or less "mothers" her whole town of 150 souls. Dad remarked to me several times that she reminded him of Grandmother Criswell, in her concern for her neighbors.

Delora is an excellent cook and homemaker. Needlework occupies some of her spare time, and she carried home the Grand Champion Prize from the county fair in the fall of 1966, for a "postage stamp quilt". It had over 5000 quilted pieces the size of a postage stamp.

On Feb. 13, 1901, Delora's father went to work in the morning, as usual. When he returned at noon for dinner (it wasn't lunch, then), Delora's baby brother had been born, dinner was on the table, and the attending physician was sitting down to have his dinner with the family. Aunt Margaret Aronhalt, mother's sister, was on hand, and of course had prepared the meal. How different this all was from today's natal circumstances!

The boy was named Richard Paul <sup>112</sup>, and of course is the writer of these lines. In a month or two the family moved to "the Trovinger place" on Morgan Run's eastern slope, near the hilltop. The reason for the change was that Dad had secured a job in the Morgan Run Mine, whose operations were close by. We lived there perhaps less than a year, but in that interval the tax assessor (who also collected vital statistics) seems to have passed by;

for only a few years ago, when I got a certified birth certificate, I found that I was born in Lafayette Township. The man assumed, I suppose, that the family was there (Trovinger's is in Lafayette Township) when I was born.

At age  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or so, after the family moved to Bacon Run, Richard Paul had a severe throat and middle ear infection; in fact his mother thought he was dying, and kept raising and lowering his head so he could better breathe. An ear drum broke at this point, and pus poured out, making breathing easier. Without antibiotics, or surgery if the mastoid became involved, it was surely a squeaker, but he did make it.

Three successive moves were made down "The Run" during my first six or seven years. The first was into the old "McClure house" which had been built on land given "Colonel Ferguson" for his work on the "Big House". Next, we were in the Ed. Stockum place. Both these houses were ready for demolition when we lived in them, and are long since gone. From Stockum's we moved a scant 200 yards to the Tip Jennings place, which Dad and Mom bought. It had 2 acres, a house, and a small barn. The ten years or so there were what I consider my most formative ones.

The first six years of schooling, for me and my siblings (excepting Mary), were at Trio - a one-room, frame structure which rested astride the ridge which separated Bacon Run from "Dutch" Run to the south. Although not much more than a mile distant, the way was across a "footlog" that spanned Bacon Run, up and around a big hill, and finally a long climb uphill through a forest. The seats and desks were of uniform dimensions, and sometimes I cried from leg aches resulting from sitting a long time

without being able to get my feet on the floor. The McGuffey Readers were an important part of the day, but I liked history and geography especially. Arithmetic was, and has remained, my poorest subject.

The six years at Trio were followed by two years at Bacon Run School, about two miles up the Big Road, toward Coshocton. Somehow it was decided that Delora was not going to go to high school, but I was. Dad wanted me to go to a first grade high school, so my first year was at West Lafayette - six miles distant. By the end of that year it was discovered that I didn't live in the township, and I was told that next year tuition would have to be paid. SO, next year I went to our Linton township, two-year high school, which was only half as far away (at Plainfield).

Now came a critical time in my life - I was 15, World War I was beginning for the U.S. (1916-1918), Dad knew that I was not enjoying school; he said he thought that if I had to go into military service at 18 I would be in better physical condition for having done physical work rather than going to school. So, he asked me if I would like to go to the mines to work with him, and I said "Yes.".

Two years of shoveling coal plus a daily walk of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to and from the mines easily convinced me that there must be some better way to make a living. This involved a return to high school, this time in Coshocton. The mines had made their impression, for I finished first in my class, but wasn't granted the position of Valedictorian, for I hadn't done all my work there.

There followed a year as clerk and shop boy for a plumbing concern in Coshocton. During this year a decision was made to go to college at Ohio State, in Columbus.

Armed with \$200 and many misgivings, the big step was made in the fall of 1922; emerging in June 1926, with the degree of B.A. and a major in bacteriology, I did not have to look for a job - one had found me, and I was already working in the laboratory of the Ohio Department of Health. In addition to studies, two important events for me occurred. I had met my wife to be, Miss Eloise Weston<sup>(11)</sup>, and I had lived for three years in a fraternity house - a poor boy's fraternity to be sure, but a good one (DAU).

After a year and 3 months in the state laboratory, I took a position as bacteriologist and milk sanitarian for the Lorain Co. District Dept. of Public Health, then located in Oberlin, Ohio. After a year, on Sept. 5, 1928, Eloise and I were married and started housekeeping in Oberlin. By this time, she had taught 3 years in the Bethel Township High School, in Miami Co. (not far from where we live now - 1967 - in Yellow Springs). To make a long story short, this was my last regular place of employment - I worked there until I retired in July, 1962. Eloise and I have two children.

Richard Weston Fowler, b. 1934  
Shirley Liebherr Fowler, b. 1935  
Wedding Picture



Richard W. Fowler  
Age 1½ yrs.



Richard Vincent Fowler, b. 1959.

## THE SIXTH AND SEVENTH GENERATIONS

Laurene Louise<sup>113</sup> was born Sept. 27, 1931, in MacDonald House, of the Maternity Building of Western Reserve University Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. W. R. Barney, M.D. was the presiding physician for Lolly, and for Rich, who came along two years later. "Lolly" was a chubby little girl, and as a matter of fact remained a little on the plus side of an optimal weight until it was discovered that she had diabetes, in the summer of 1951. Although we know of no other diabetics, on either side of her inheritance, the experts now think a genetic factor is always involved. Lolly was always a studious child, and a very rapid reader. She graduated high in her high school class, and Cum Laude from college (Miami Univ. at Oxford, Ohio in 1952). An education major, she felt, as a 20 year old graduate, that she wanted to wait a year or two before teaching. So, she secured a place at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio, as a typist-secretary. In addition to pay, she found a husband, Vincent E. Young<sup>114</sup>, who was then in Battelle's Chemistry Dept. They were married in Fairchild Chapel, Oberlin College, on July 11, 1954. Both continued work at Battelle until the summer of 1962 when Lolly was expecting a baby in the early fall. Thomas Vincent Young<sup>115</sup> was born Aug. 9, 1962. A second son, Edward Fowler Young<sup>116</sup>, was born Dec. 21, 1965.

Richard Weston Fowler<sup>117</sup> was born in Hannah House, University Hospital, Western Reserve University, Jan. 4, 1934. He was two weeks overdue, and weighed 9 lbs. 14 oz. This embryonic tendency to be overweight has stayed with him.

Good in mathematics and music, he didn't care a penny for school sports - or sports of any kind. What did he do while he was growing up? From about 12 years of age he has been much interested in amateur radio (ham), and in June, 1967 left his mathematics teaching to take a job in an electronics manufacturing plant where quality gear is made for amateur radio operators. He is in charge of "Customer Service", and loves it. It involves his knowledge of radio, his skill as a conciliator, and his excellent letter-writing ability.

Two years in engineering school at O.S.U., where his entrance examinations placed him in the 94<sup>th</sup> percentile of an entering class of more than 600, found him barely avoiding flunking out. He did, however, play in the marching band one year, but felt that it took too much time. When the R.O.T.C. found that he was color blind and said "Sorry, you're out", he decided to get his military service taken care of, and enlisted in the army - a three-year hitch.

On March 9, 1956, Rich married Shirley Liebherr<sup>(118)</sup>, whom he had met in college. Shirley was a Dayton, Ohio, girl, enrolled in the College of Education at O.S.U. She taught a sixth grade in the Petersburg, Va. schools during 1956-1957. Out of the army, the young couple returned to Columbus, and O.S.U., Rich transferring to Education College where he was graduated in March, 1960, with a major in physics and a minor in mathematics. Shirley was graduated in June, 1959, and their first child, Richard Vincent<sup>(119)</sup>, was born Nov. 4, 1959.

A teaching job in the Madison, Ohio High School took



them to that locality. There Lance Aaron<sup>(120)</sup> was born, Jun. 20, 1961; Linda Lee<sup>(121)</sup> on Sep. 1, 1962, and Neil Weston<sup>(122)</sup> on Nov. 23, 1964.

A word about the physical types of our kids may be in order. Laurene is 5'2" or 3" in height, and of average proportions. Her eyes are blue and her hair is almost red, but not quite, except in certain lights. She now weighs 117-118 pounds. Both her children were delivered by Caesarean section.

Rich is what I would characterize as a "Mesomorph" - a thick, heavy body, with short (by comparison) appendages. He has shoulders like the "Village Blacksmith", but his arms are so short that, in the Army, he always had to have his shirts and jackets tailored. Nevertheless, his legs are long enough to give him a height of 5'8" or 9". He is color-blind (most trouble with pastel colors), and now is losing the hair on his head in a pattern somewhat like that of his grandpa Weston. The color of his eyes is light brown - a shade darker than his mother's; mine are blue.

## THE FIFTH GENERATION, SIBLINGS

The third child of Richard Price Fowler and his wife Stella, named Mary Isabelle<sup>(123)</sup>, was born Jan. 14, 1905. About this time, Uncle Al and Aunt Nar were moving from Coshocton back to the old homestead on Bacon Run. They had no children, and an arrangement was made whereby Mary, at perhaps one year of age, went to live with them as their child, although she was never legally adopted. This took some weight from Mother's shoulders, and was timely, for she had had a serious (undiagnosed) illness between my birth and Mary's, and from pictures of her at this period of her life she wasn't very strong.

As Mary passed through childhood, the rest of her real family was never more than a mile away, so the separation wasn't as rigorous as it might otherwise have been. A touching little incident of this period bears retelling. In good weather, Mary would sometimes wait along the Big Road, in front of the Big House, for her father to pedal his bicycle past as he returned home from the mines. She would say "Hello, Dad --- Goodbye." This story attested to by both participants may suggest a lonely child, and a father whose perceptions did not include the idea that he should stop a moment and bestow more than a word upon his child. Arrived home, he showed no more affection to the rest of us. I cannot recall ever seeing my father kiss my mother or one of his children. In his defense, I think it must be said that displays of affection were not as common in those days as at present, and that he had been reared by grandparents who after 50 or 60 years of asso-

ciation, typically were not demonstrative in displays of affection. From observation, I know this to have been true in the Criswell family, but I was born eight years after Richard II died, and so did not know this couple; but there is no reason to suppose that the relationship here was any different.

Mary attended the Bacon Run grade school, and four years later was graduated from Coshocton High School. She then attended a "Normal" school, or "Teacher's College", for two years, at what is now Muskingum College, New Concord, Ohio. That was followed by 2 or 3 years teaching in grade schools in Linton Township. Her teaching was terminated by her marriage to James P. Baird <sup>124</sup>, a young Linton Township farmer, on Feb. 1, 1930, at Elyria, Ohio.

Soon, the young couple purchased the Jim Harstine farm, which is about a mile north of Plainfield, where they still reside. Their older son David M. <sup>125</sup> was born Dec. 21, 1931, and the younger son, Dale E. <sup>126</sup>, on Jan. 28, 1936. Dave was graduated from Ohio State Univ., and after a year of waiting, assumed his R.O.T.C. rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He is now a Major, stationed in the Pentagon, Washington, D.C., following three years in Ethiopia, Okinawa, and various assignments in the U.S. On Jun. 6, 1959 he was married to Donnie L. Locke <sup>127</sup>. Their older son John Curtis <sup>128</sup> was born Jul. 3, 1960. The younger boy, James Douglas <sup>129</sup>, was born Sep. 24, 1962. Dale <sup>126</sup> married Barbara K. Roof <sup>130</sup> of West Lafayette, Ohio. This was after one year at Ohio State, and two years in the U.S. Army, most of which time was spent in Germany. Following Dale's graduation from a "barber's college" in Columbus, he and Barbara located in Columbus, where Dale

owns a barber shop. They have two girls and a boy: Regina Rae, born Mar. 15, 1959<sup>(131)</sup>, Deverey Dale, born Feb. 19, 1960<sup>(132)</sup>, and Bret Hart, born May 23, 1963<sup>(133)</sup>.

Jeremiah Edgar<sup>(134)</sup>, fourth child of Richard P. Fowler, was born Feb. 12, 1907, and the name is doubtless for his great uncle Jerry. The family called him Edgar, Ed, and Eddie, and a few friends stuck to "Jerry". No unusual illnesses or accidents marked his growing years, although he did seem to get into numerous "jams" in his childhood.

In school, Eddie showed a fine intelligence - studies were never a problem. He attended Trio School with Delora and me, and moved to Bacon School with us when the family moved up the Run. Near the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade year, he threatened the teacher (Mrs. Harvey Fowler) with an ink bottle as she approached to administer some corporal punishment. He was suspended for the few remaining days of the school year. (This episode was almost an exact re-enactment of one Edgar's father had with a young woman teacher when he was in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, in the very same school room. A schoolmate of Dad's, George Amore, now a retired minister in his nineties, wrote me this, and more, about my Dad, in response to a letter of mine. Dad wasn't suspended - the teacher quit teaching!)

At the time of Eddie's involvement, a county - perhaps state-wide - examination was still being held for kids wishing to enter high school without the conventional grade experience. Edgar took this exam, and according to Dad passed it with flying colors, and the following fall enrolled as a freshman at Coshocton High School. By the time of his graduation, I was at Ohio State Univ. and was convinced of the desirability of a college education. Edgar

was persuaded to enter Carnegie Technological Institute at Pittsburgh. Promising interest in his school work was eclipsed by his interest in a Bacon Run girl, Annabell Wiseman <sup>(135)</sup>, and they were married at the conclusion of his one year in college.

Eddie was now faced with the same situation his father had had - a wife and child to support, and no trade. Influenced by my connections with the Central Plumbing Co. in Coshocton (I worked there a year before going on to college), he started a plumber's apprenticeship there, and in due course finished it, and worked there as a journeyman for ten or twelve years. With the advent of the war of the 1940's, Eddie started working on the large government-sponsored buildings of that period. His one year of college gave him an advantage over journeymen with only high school academics, and from then until his death, he stayed with the big jobs - usually in some supervisory capacity. His last job was as "Pipe Superintendent" on a \$3,000,000 school building.

Like his Dad, Eddie brought his family back to Bacon Run (late 1930's), buying the very same "Tip Jennings" property where he had lived as a kid. But they were again to live in Coshocton, where they built a house on the corner of Pine and South Ninth Sts. Later, they bought in Plainfield, and in 1964 they moved into a new house they had built on the south side of West Lafayette.

Ed and Annabelle had two sons, Floyd Richard <sup>(136)</sup> and Wilfred E. <sup>(137)</sup>, born Aug. 19, 1931 and Mar. 9, 1933, respectively. Both were graduates of Coshocton High School, where Bill starred in football. Bill had 3 years and 2 quarters of college at Ohio Univ. and at Ohio State Univ. Dick



Floyd Richard Fowler, b. 1931  
Son of J. Edgar & Annabelle



Richard Eugene Fowler, b. 1951

Son of Floyd Richard Fowler

became a plumber, working his apprenticeship at the same shop where his father had started. He then worked with his father, and soon became quite skillful in the designing and installation of the small copper pipe systems which vacuum controls require. He lives in North Canton now, and for some years has had supervisory positions with companies doing this kind of work.

Dick's first marriage to Joan C. McClain<sup>138</sup> ended in a divorce in a year or so. A son, Richard Eugene<sup>139</sup>, born Apr. 20, 1951 (called Rick), was reared by Ed and Annabell. He is now in high school, and doing very well academically. On Sep. 23, 1955, Dick married Barbara A. Bendure<sup>140</sup>. They have three girls and a boy: Debra Lee, Cynthia Rae, Stephen Price, and Sheryl Lynn.

Wilfred E. (Bill)<sup>137</sup> has had varied employment. For the past 4 or 5 years he has done extremely well as a home fire alarm salesman in northeastern Ohio. He was married to Elaine L. Donley<sup>141</sup> on May 6, 1955, and they have two children, James E. and Elizabeth Ann.

About a year after Ed and Annabell moved into their new house in West Lafayette, Eddie died of a coronary thrombosis on Mar. 25, 1965. He was ill only 24 hours, and had worked all of the day before his death. Annabell and Rick, and Annabell's aged mother, are still in the new house at West Lafayette, Ohio.

Sarah Katherine<sup>142</sup>, or Sassy, as her nickname came to be, was born to Richard P.<sup>17</sup> on May 4, 1910. As a child, she had a severe mastoiditis, but it seems not to have affected her hearing. She finished grade school, but did not enter high school. She married Delbert Fitzpatrick. Two dau-

ughters, Betty<sup>(144)</sup>, born Apr. 19, 1933, and Doris<sup>(145)</sup> were born to them before they were divorced.

Betty<sup>(144)</sup> was something of a problem child, but at 14 or 15 was straightening out. She was working for a rural family, and one day, Mar. 3, 1950, when the family was away, her clothes were accidentally ignited by an open fire. She died in a few hours from her burns, and is buried on Dad and Mother's lot in Plainfield, as are two stillborn children, one for Ed and Annabell, and one for Dad and Mom. Both of these were girls, and my stillborn sister came between Mary and Edgar.

Doris Eileen<sup>(145)</sup> was born Aug. 28, 1934. She attended grade school in Coshocton, and after Sarah's divorce lived near Conesville with her father's sister. From this place of residence she attended the Conesville schools. The Aunt and Uncle died, and Doris, now 19 or 20 years of age, married LaVerne Kent. They have three children, and live near Warsaw, Ohio. The children are James Arthur, Deborah Ann, and Janice Eileen.



## THE FOURTH GENERATION.

## Second Marriage

It was over six years after the death of his first wife that Granddad married again. On the day before Christmas, 1885, he was married to Elma Brelsford<sup>(107)</sup>, daughter of David and Catherine Ann (Thomas) Brelsford.

Under the "Third Generation", above, I have described the 25 acre site which was home to this couple and their five children. Needless to say, none of them could look forward to inheriting much when their parents were gone.

Earl Brelsford<sup>(147)</sup>, who was born to Hiram and Elma on Dec. 10, 1884 and died Jul. 19, 1959, attended Trio Grade School, as did all his siblings, and seems to have had unusual mechanical endowment, as evidenced by his ability to secure good jobs as a sort of "self-made mechanic". He worked in Coshocton for a few years, and on Jun. 6, 1913 he married Miss Shirley Ethel Studer<sup>(148)</sup> whose family home was in Franklin Township, near Wills Creek Store.

Earl's wife was born Jan. 8, 1886, and died Jul. 29, 1949. Their children were Carolyn Isabel (Mrs. William Henry), Shirley Elma (Mrs. Robert Benner), Raymond Studer, and Helen Alene. These children live in the Akron, Ohio vicinity, and their parents are buried in St. Paul's Lutheran churchyard, Franklin Township.

Raymond A.<sup>(149)</sup> was born Nov. 9, 1886. Ray has told me that at age 14 he was doing a "hired man's work" on the

Ralph Barcroft farm, where his father also worked at times. But the farm was not to claim him, for he went to Licking County to work in the oil field there. On Dec. 24, 1906, he was married to Miss Myrtie Belle Dobson<sup>(150)</sup>, of Toboso, a small village between Newark and Zanesville. Ray, like Earl, seems to have loved machinery and in due course attained the status of "driller", which is about as far as a worker can go in the developmental stages of oil production.

On retirement, Ray and Myrtie moved to Coshocton, where Ray kept active by clerking in his brother Harvey's store, and later operating machinery for an agricultural combine in the Coshocton river bottoms. Now past 80, he seems in good health. Physically, I think he is much like Granddad's description of Richard I: medium height, thick, stocky body, and straight hair - now white, but brown in his earlier years. Ray is an excellent conversationalist. He sends me a birthday card each year, and once or twice I have noticed that he used an f for the second s of a double s. This is old style script, of course, and he is the only person I've ever corresponded with who has used it.

Ray and Myrtie have no children. Myrtie died Apr. 6, 1968, following a stroke. Burial was in Fairfield Cemetery, West Lafayette, Ohio. She was born Mar. 7, 1887.

Harvey Sicker<sup>(151)</sup> was born Feb. 10, 1889, and died Jul. 21, 1967. Almost exactly 12 years my senior, Harvey must have been a gangling teen-ager when I became old enough to take note of people outside our immediate family, and he came as close as anyone to being in it, without actually being so.

It seems that, like perpetually hungry boys, he could be easily conned into sitting down at our table if he was around near mealtime. He was a slender fellow all his life, and as a boy probably looked hungry when he wasn't.

Early in his life the name of "Jim Dog", or usually "Jim" was bestowed - he said - by Charlie Cross, a boy of about his age who lived down the Run. According to the story, Charlie - who couldn't pronounce some words correctly - said: "Jim Dog, what girl you smellin' woun now?" After that, he was "Jim Dog".

Harvey might then have been "smellin' woun" Miss Edna McCune<sup>(152)</sup>, of the North Bend neighborhood, for they were married Sep. 22, 1910. One child, a son Francis<sup>(153)</sup>, was born to them. This boy went to France in the war of the 1940's. He was critically wounded - a bullet in the brain - but survived, though paralyzed on one side. On convalescence, he moved to Florida where he completed college and law school, and practiced law for a few years before his death on Jun. 17, 1958. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Harvey's wife Edna taught school for some years, and was the Bacon Run School teacher whom my brother Edgar threatened with an ink bottle. Edna died in 1947 after a lingering illness (not cancer).

As a young man, "Jim" worked here and there - on a sawmill, seasonal agricultural employment, etc. In the wintertime he was a dealer in furs, and an extremely skillful hunter of fur-bearing animals. He was especially adept at finding the winter dens of skunks (which provided the bulk of the fur crop). These were in holes in the ground, and much pick and shovel work was required to dig

them out. Not infrequently, Harvey and Dad and I (when I became old enough) teamed up on these digs. One of the last was a notable one - we got 11 skunks from one den! What a smell!! This sort of hunting is now illegal, as perhaps all hunting should be.

I don't know where Harvey and Edna were during the depression 30's, but not long after those years they moved to Coshocton, where he owned a small grocery store until about 1950, when he "retired". This retirement was a new chapter in his life, for he began collecting, repairing, and selling old timepieces. This required the attendance at many "sales" and auctions. "Jim" must have had some of Earl's and Ray's mechanical skill, for Coshocton jewelers sometimes sent him timepieces they couldn't fix.

As we grew older, the differences in our ages seemed less, and we enjoyed reminiscing about the old times. Our exchange of birthday cards reflected this, for I would address his "Jim Dog Fowler", and he would address mine "Paul Kruger Fowler". (My "Paul Kruger" came from the Dutch hero of the Boer War, whose name was Paul Kruger. Doc Fowler, who was prone to do such things, hung the Kruger onto my middle name. My Criswell cousins still call me "Krug")

The space I have devoted to "Jim", as compared to that for Earl and Ray, means simply that I knew him a good deal better - and saw more of him.

Francis<sup>154</sup>, who was born Jul. 24, 1891, and died Jan. 17, 1955, was the student of the family, becoming the valedictorian of his high school class, at Plainfield. Many years later he told me that Ohio Wesleyan College, at Dela-

ware, granted him a 4-year scholarship, and for a number of years would write to him each fall to see whether he would accept it. He chose, instead, to teach in township schools for about 10 years (he was my 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Bacon Run School), after which he entered Eliss Business College, in Columbus, Ohio. For many years before his death he was chief bookkeeper of the Columbus Water Works Department.

Frankie, as we always called him, was a handsome fellow, of average build, and had the straightest shoulders I ever saw. He said this resulted from his half-brother Price (my Dad) thumping him on the back and saying "straighten up!". As in everything he did, Frankie took this effort seriously, and customarily carried a stick across his back and hooked in front of each elbow, as he walked to and from Plainfield High School, three miles distant. The result was that he had to have the coat of every suit tailored to fit his abnormally straight shoulders.

My Dad gave Frankie his violin when Frankie was 14 or so, and true to form, he taught himself to play "from notes". No one else in the countryside could do this, and this was often mentioned. Frankie was also athletic to a degree, and was one of the gang of young fellows my Dad played baseball with on Sunday afternoons. Dad taught Frankie to throw curve balls (ins, outs, and drops) and he pitched in pick-up games around Plainfield, and in Co-shocton, where his cousin Donald Baker<sup>75</sup> was his catcher.

On Oct. 26, 1921 Frankie and Belle McCune<sup>155</sup> were married. Belle was a sister of Edna McCune, Harvey's wife, and was a classmate of Frankie's at Plainfield

High School.

Their boy, Eugene Francis <sup>(156)</sup> was born Apr. 4, 1925, married Barbara Canine on Dec. 22, 1951. They have a boy, Steven B., and a girl, Sharon Lee.

Evelyn <sup>(157)</sup>, Frankie and Belle's daughter, married Joseph M. Shinn. They have two girls: Susan Valerie and Kimberley Kay.

About the time of Frankie's death in 1955, Eugene, who had just finished a master's degree in chemical engineering at O.S.U., took a job with General Electric, in California. Evelyn's husband's work took him to Norfolk, Va., and they have lived there since. Belle has lived with, or near them, since Frankie's death.

Nellie, the fifth child of Hiram and Elma, was a chubby girl, with black hair, when I became conscious of her as a fellow pupil at Trio School. Trio was a one-room frame structure which sat astride the ridge between Bacon Run and Dutch Run, to the south. Although youthful memories are supposed to be the best - certainly when we are old - my own experience suggests that we don't remember much about our youthful peers. Children's powers of analysis must be nil. This observation grows from my inability to remember much about my half-aunt Nellie except how she looked. I can add only that she was a pleasant and well-liked school fellow.

Nellie did not go to high school, but stayed home with her aging parents. She had an active mind however, and in her always beautiful handwriting corresponded with numerous people. One of these persons was a Canadian bachelor, living on his home place near London, Ontario.

In due course they were married, and lived for some years on Wesley's farm - his name was Wesley Armstrong<sup>(159)</sup>. Eventually the place was sold and they came to live in the Coshocton vicinity. There were no children, but I notice, when visiting Nellie and Wes, that they always mention the nice children in their neighborhood. Evidently the generation gap is being bridged successfully by them. Also, it is good to note that they are taking the illnesses and incapacities of advancing years cheerfully, and without complaint.

### Recapitulation

And so comes to a close this story of the Coshocton County Fowlers. Records have been found for several Fowler families, in the early years, who were not related to my family. They seem to have moved on. Of course, with the growing population of recent years, the Fowler name is now to be found, possibly, attached to more families which are not related than to those who are. For fifty years, our Fowler name has been leaving the county for college, for better jobs elsewhere, etc. Once gone, they have not returned, except to visit.

As elsewhere, farmsteads are vanishing, mostly in the Bacon Run country, under the impact of explosives and giant power shovels which remove the tops of the hills and then scoop up the coal.

It would have been a more complete story if I'd started writing thirty years ago, but if I had done it then, it would not have been possible for me to develop so well an idea which occurred to me only a few days ago. This is simply that it would be fitting to close with some observations which contain a sense of the pass of time - like those in the introduction.

Everyone says "everything changes", and no one argues. It may take ten billion years to observe this, as in the case of our middle-aged sun. It may take a million or so years to note changes in some plant or animal species, but changes have been coming fast since the appearance of the animal called homo sapiens. His use of steam for power was the snowball which became an avalanche.



Richard I was a frontier lad of 15 years when James Watt patented his steam engine in England. So it is not surprising that we find Richard still using water power as he constructed a mill race from the westernmost point where his boundary crossed the Big Run, and carrying this northward, and then south, to an "up-and-down" saw mill near the site of his first cabin. As a kid, I caught sunfish in the deep hole where the water had discharged at the mill site. My Dad showed me faint outlines of the old mill race, but they are gone now.

This crude, water-powered mill was apparently the first technological knock on the door of 19<sup>th</sup> century Bacon Run.

After shelter, food was the concern of colonists. But first the trees had to be felled, and usually burned, save for a few acres in each farm. Grain crops were harvested first by cradle (a specialized scythe), then by reaper, then by binder, and finally by combine. But the combine belongs to another age, that of the internal combustion engine. Threshing day, how romantic, and socially satisfying! In my day on Bacon Run, wheat was hauled to the steam powered mill at Plainfield, where it was ground into flour, middlings, shorts, and bran. The livestock got the best of it, and the humans used only the prized white flour. I can remember the first loaf of "bakery bread" that came into our home. It was a novelty, and was probably much superior in quality to today's mass-produced product.

There was a post office at Bacon, established in 1858. A neighbor of the Fowlers, J.H. Sicker, was the first postmaster. William Fowler, second son of Richard I succeeded Mr. Sicker in 1861, and served until 1875.

Jerry Fowler, a son of Richard II, was postmaster from 1880 to 1904 (See "Postal History of Coshocton County, 1805-1961", by Miriam C. Hunter).

Today, a fine tar-surfaced highway, instead of the narrow dirt road of my boyhood, runs the length of Bacon Run valley.

As a small boy, I saw two companies build telephone lines down the valley (one soon failed). When they came to Tip Jennings' property, he said: "I own this place from heaven to hell - get over!". They got, but brought the two lines back across the road as soon as Tip's place was passed.

The radio beam for east-west airplane traffic is about three miles south of Bacon Run and the east-bound jets, which fly north of the beam, sound like distant freight trains, from their 30,000-35,000 feet altitude.

In the summer of 1968 a 15-18 inch pipe line (for Texas gas or oil) was run the length of the valley.

The Big Run in which I fished and swam, long ago, turned red from the acid mine drainage in it. Not even a frog or crayfish can now be found there. The recent stripping of the coal from the ridges along the valley will undoubtedly aggravate this sad state.

A swing of the ecological pendulum can be seen in the return of deer to Coshocton County (and generally throughout the state). This reflects mostly the waning agriculture, with consequent improvement of browsing acreage on abandoned or slightly-used farms. Beavers, also unseen in my youth, have been stocked by wildlife workers in some places and seem to be once more "At Home in Old Ohio".

For me the most striking change has been the almost complete disappearance of the friends and families who were our neighbors in the first two decades of this century. One person only remains of all the people I knew there in those days. Spangler Sicker, now a widower, still lives in the same house, on land which formed the western boundary of Richard I's holding. His grandfather was the first postmaster at Bacon. I am, of course, among all those who left these scenes, these hills of home which I love so much.

## IDENTIFICATION BY ARABIC NUMERALS IN TEXT

1. Richard I "the first", founder of the Ohio line. 1784-1866.
  2. John Fowler, brother of 1.
  3. Zedick Fowler, brother of 1 (Zadock, Zed are variants)
  4. Susan Fowler, sister of 1. Unmarried. ca. 1800-1860+
  5. Richard Fowler, suggested name of father of 1.
  
  6. Christena Hopkins Fowler, suggested mother of 1.
  7. Christena Fowler, suggested sister of 1.
  8. Johnsy Fowler (variant of 2, probably).
- Numbers 5,6,7, and 8 are on the basis of a note by Nell Barcroft Kinner, no. 29.
9. Archibald Elson, father-in-law of 1. 1754-1824.
  10. Jane Elson Fowler, wife of 1, daughter of 9. 1788-1872
  
  11. Eloise Weston Fowler, wife of writer. 1905-
  12. Elizabeth Fowler Williams, daughter of 1. 1808- ? .
  13. John Fowler, son of 1. 1809-1893.
  14. Rebecca Fowler Dean, daughter of 1. 1811- .  
wife of Daniel Dean, no. 57.
  15. Hiram Duling Fowler, grandson of 1, grandfather of the writer. H.D.F. 1854-1943.
  
  16. Richard Fowler II, son of 1, father of 15. 1818-1892.
  17. (Richard) Price Fowler, son of 15, father of the writer. 1877-1956.
  18. Sarah Wells Fowler, wife of 16. 1816-1903.
  19. (Wm.) Albert Fowler, son of 16 and 18. 1857-1929.
  20. Mar Olivia Criswell Fowler, wife of 19. 1861-1943.
  
  21. William Fowler, son of 1. 1813-1875.
  22. William Wolfe, husband of 23.
  23. Katherine Fowler Wolfe, daughter of 21.
  24. Delora Fowler Baker, sister of writer, daughter of 17. 1899-
  25. John Wells Fowler, 2nd son of 16. 1844-1929.
  
  26. Keziah (Cisiah) Wells Fowler, first wife of 13. 1817-1850.
  27. Ralph Barcroft, husband of 28. 1837-1909.
  28. Barbara Fowler Barcroft, daughter of 13. 1845-1909.
  29. Nell Barcroft Kinner, daughter of 28. 1872-1956.
  30. Richard Fowler III, second son of 16. 1845-1904.

31. Wm. O. Fowler ("Doc"), son of 30. 1880-1930.
32. Mary Fowler Hershman, daughter of 1. 1830-
33. Christena Fowler Hawk Davis, daughter of 1.  
1820-1913.
34. John F. Williams, son of 12. 1833- .
35. Richard Williams, son of 12.
  
36. James Williams, son of 12.
37. George Williams, son of 36.
38. Charles Williams, son of 36.
39. Ida Williams \_\_\_\_\_, dau. of 36.
40. Marion Williams, son of 12. 1838- .
  
41. Sevilla Williams Weatherwax, daughter of 12.
42. William Williams, son of 12.
43. Warren Williams, son of 12.
44. Elizabeth Fowler Barcroft, oldest child of 13.
45. John Barcroft, husband of 44.
  
46. Wilbert Barcroft, son of 44 and 45.
47. Wilbert Barcroft, son of 27 and 28.
48. William Henry Fowler, son of 13. 1840-1864.
49. Mary Erman Fowler, wife of 48. 1839-1912.
50. Margaret Masten Barcroft Bibb, daughter of 51.
  
51. Lura Barcroft Masten, daughter of 27 and 28.
52. Marilyn \_\_\_\_\_ Martin, daughter of 50.
53. Kathryn Kinner Stinemates, daughter of 29, wife  
of Philip Stinemates.
54. John Lee Barcroft, son of 47.
55. Margaret Fowler, daughter of 13. died young.
  
56. Jane McCune Fowler, second wife of 13. 1815 - ? .
57. Daniel Dean, husband of 14. 1805 - ? .
58. Hannah Fowler Hawk Duling, daughter of 1. ca. 1816 -?.
59. George Hawk, first husband of 58. 1815-1846.
60. Elijah Duling, second husband of 58.
  
61. Elizabeth Platt Fowler, wife of 21. 1818-1875.
62. Rebecca Fowler McKee, daughter of 21 and 61.  
1846-1903.
63. Sam McKee, husband of 62. 1841-1902.
64. Sarah Fowler Sangster, daughter of 21 and 61.
65. James Sangster, husband of 64.

66. Elizabeth Fowler Carroll, daughter of 21 and 61.
67. Richard Morrow Carroll, husband of 66.
68. Christena Fowler Hawk Davis, daughter of 1.  
1820-1913 (duplicates no. 33)
69. William Hawk, first husband of 68. 1815-1843.
70. Charlotte Hawk Newell Baker, daughter of 68 and 69.  
1844 - ? .
  
71. James W. Davis, second husband of 68. 1820-1873.
72. George Newell, first husband of 70.
73. John D. Baker, second husband of 70.
74. Presley Davis, son of 68 and 71.
75. Donald Baker, grandson of 70.
  
76. Zadock Fowler (Zedick, Zedoc, Zedekiah), youngest  
son of 1. 1826 - 1871
77. Mary Marlatt Fowler, wife of 76.
78. William Fowler, son of 76. 1869-1954.
79. Grace Fowler Almack, granddaughter of 76.
80. Mary J. Fowler Hershman, 9<sup>th</sup> and youngest child of 1.  
1830 - . (duplicates no. 32)
  
81. John B. Hershman, husband of 80.
82. Mona Haag Rood, great-grandchild of 80; great-great-  
granddaughter of 1.
83. William Rood, husband of 82.
84. John Richard Fowler, 1st son of 25. 1865-1962.  
f "Hill John".
85. Elvie Fowler Marlatt, daughter of 25. 1869-1964.
  
86. Harold Fowler, son of 85.
87. Permelia Fowler Woodward, daughter of 25.
88. Sarah Fowler Marlatt, daughter of 25. 1879-1963.
89. Hildred Fowler Welker, daughter of 88, wife of Roy  
Welker.
90. Laura Fowler Workman, daughter of 25, wife of  
Frank Workman.
  
91. Effie Fowler Workman, daughter of 25, wife of  
Frank Workman.
92. John Francis Fowler, son of 25. 1876-1955.  
husband of Nora Latham.
93. Ruth Fowler Derr, daughter of 92, wife of Charles  
Derr.
94. Lloyd Fowler, son of 92. born ca. 1910
95. Margaret Fowler, daughter of 25. Died at 2 yrs.

96. Richard Fowler III, son of 16. 1845-1904.  
(duplicates no. 30)
97. Mina Collins Fowler, wife of 96. 1850-1897.
98. Wm. Owen Fowler. 1880-1930. (duplicates no. 31)
99. Margaret Aronhalt Fowler, wife of 98. 1872-1943.
100. Isabell Fowler, dau. of 16. Died in infancy.  
1847-1848.
101. Mary Fowler, dau. of 16, twin of 104. Died in  
infancy. 1852.
102. Francis Fowler (Uncle Frank), son of 16. 1849-  
1915.
103. Elizabeth Lutz Fowler, wife of 102. 1863-1940.
104. Jeremiah Fowler (Uncle Jed), son of 16. 1852-9910.
105. Alice Williams Fowler, wife of 104. 1863-1947.
106. Sara Jane Criswell Fowler, first wife of 15, and  
sister of 20. 1856-1879.
107. Elma Brelsford Fowler, second wife of 15. 1856-  
1937.
108. Charles Fowler, first child of 106 and 15. Died  
young.
109. Stella Aronhalt Fowler, wife of 17, mother of the  
writer. 1878-1936.
110. Delora Fowler Baker. 1899- . (duplicates no. 24.)
111. Roy "Tom" Baker, husband of 110. 1896- .
112. Richard Paul Fowler, son of 17 and 109. 1901- .  
The Writer.
113. Laurene Fowler Young, dau. of 112 and 11. 1931- .
114. Vincent Edward Young, husband of 113.
115. Thomas Vincent Young, first son of 113 and 114.  
1962- .
116. Edward Fowler Young, 2nd son of 113 and 114.  
1965- .
117. Richard Weston Fowler, son of 112 and 11. 1934- .
118. Shirley Liebherr Fowler, wife of 117.
119. Richard Vincent Fowler, first son of 117 and 118.  
1961- .
120. Lance Aaron Fowler, 2nd son of 117 and 118. 1961- .
121. Linda Lee Fowler, daughter of 117 and 118. 1962- .
122. Neil Weston Fowler, 3rd son of 117 and 118.  
1964- .

123. Mary Isabelle Fowler Baird, 3rd child of 17 and 109.  
1905- .
124. James P. Baird, husband of 123. 1903- .
125. David Martin Baird, son of 123 and 124. 1931- .
126. Dale Baird, son of 123 and 124. 1936- .
127. Donnie Locke Baird, wife of 125. 1934- .
128. Jon Baird, son of 125 and 127. 1960- .
129. James Baird, son of 125 and 127. 1962- .
130. Barbara Roof Baird, wife of 126. 1936- .
131. Regina Baird, daughter of 126 and 130. 1959- .
132. Devrey Baird, daughter of 126 and 130. 1960- .
133. Bret Hart Baird, son of 126 and 130. 1963- .
134. (Jeremiah) Edgar Fowler, son of 17 and 109.  
1907-1965.
135. Annabell (Van Gundy) Weisman Fowler, wife of 134.  
1913- . Adopted name.
136. (Floyd) Richard Fowler, son of 134 and 135. 1931- .
137. Wilfred E. Fowler, son of 134 and 135. 1933- .  
Children: James, 1958 and Elizabeth Ann, 1960.
138. Joanne McClain Fowler, first wife of 136.
139. Richard Eugene Fowler, son of 136 and 138. 1951- .
140. Barbara Bendure Fowler, 2nd wife of 136. 1937- .  
Children: Debra, 1956, Cynthia, 1957, Stephen, 1958,  
Sheryl, 1959.
141. Elaine Donley Fowler, wife of 137. 1931- .
142. Sara Catherine Fowler Fitzpatrick, daughter of  
17 and 109. 1910- .
143. Delbert Fitzpatrick, husband of 142. 1913- .
144. Betty Louise Fitzpatrick, daughter of 142 and 143.  
1933-1950.
145. Doris Fitzpatrick Kent, daughter of 142 and 143.  
1934- . Children: Jimmy, 1953, Debra, 1956,  
Janice, 1966.
146. LaVerne Kent, husband of 145.
147. Earl B. Fowler, first son of 15 and 107. 1884- .
148. Ethel Studer Fowler, wife of 147.
149. Ray A. Fowler, 2nd child of 15 and 107. 1886- .
150. Myrtie Dodson Fowler, wife of 149. 1887-1968.
151. Harvey Sicker Fowler, 3rd child of 15 and 107.  
1889-1967.
152. Edna McCune Fowler, wife of 151. 1889-1947.
153. Francis L. Fowler, son of 151 and 152. 1911-1958.  
Children: Frances Elaine, 1938, Eleanor Kay, 1943.