

PHOTOCOPIES OF MEMORABILIA OF
THE PORTER AND ORR FAMILIES
FROM MARTHA ETNYRE'S ESTATE

April 5, 2002

ORR Paxton Porter Gilmore McDill
Ohio c1813-



Jane (Porter) Orr (1812-1884)

Born in South Carolina, the youngest child of daughter of Reverend Alexander Porter and Mary Ann Cochran. Came to Preble County, Ohio with her parents in 1814 when Reverend Porter was called as the first permanent pastor of the Hopewell ARP church. Married John Bailey Orr (1807-1843).

*this cart-de-visite
mounting with the
border trim lines
is characteristic of
the Civil War period*



Nancy (Porter) Caldwell (1798-) & Martha (Porter) Simpson (1811-)

Born in South Carolina, the second and eighth children of Reverend Alexander Porter and Mary Ann Cochran. Came to Preble County, Ohio with their parents in 1814 when Reverend Porter was called as the first permanent pastor of the Hopewell ARP church. Nancy married Jonathan Caldwell (-) who, in 1832 , laid out the town of Fairhaven. Martha married Robert Simpson (-).



Dr. Alexander Porter (1803-1883)

Born in South Carolina, the fifth child of Reverend Alexander Porter and Mary Ann Cochran. Came to Preble County, Ohio in 1814 when Reverend Porter was called as the first permanent pastor of Hopewell ARP church. Married Elizabeth Boice.

Preble County History, 1881:

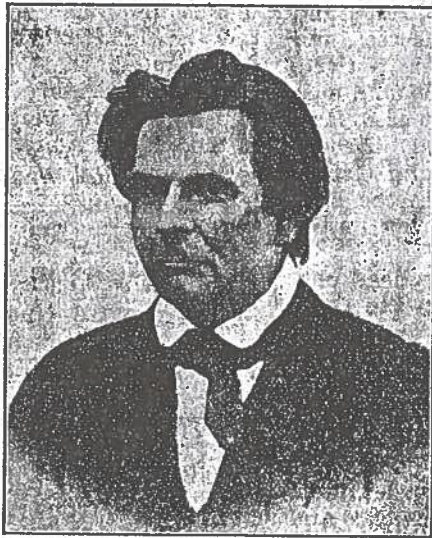
Dr. Alexander Porter, son of Rev. Alexander Porter, the pioneer preacher, came with his father to Israel township in 1815. He grew up with the country; commenced the practice of medicine prior to 1830, and continued to practice for more than forty years, with his office on the farm near Fair Haven, where he resided for so many years. He was apparently never robust, but he was gifted with the power of endurance, and as tough as a wild-cat. He worked and even slept in the saddle.

As a physician he was greatly esteemed, was conscientious in the discharge of every duty, and as a citizen he had no equal. Now he is a feeble old man living at Oxford with his son, Dr. J. B. Porter, and is only watching and waiting for his release from life.

1856

1931

Monmouth's Diamond Jubilee



REV. J. C. PORTER



REV. ROBERT ROSS

THE FOUNDERS OF MONMOUTH COLLEGE.

son of
The Rev. Alexander & Mary (Cochran) Porter.

Reverend James C. Porter (1809-1863)

Born in South Carolina, the seventh child of Reverend Alexander Porter and Mary Ann Cochran. Came to Preble County, Ohio with his parents in 1814 when Reverend Porter was called as the first permanent pastor of the Hopewell ARP church. Married Mary P. McGaw in 1834 and Sarah E. Patterson in 1849.

Graduate of Jefferson College and Allegheny Seminary. Licensed to preach by the First Ohio Presbytery in 1834. One of the founders of Monmouth College in 1856.



FIGURE The Alexander Porter Orr and Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr home in 1890. This house was built about 1860, replacing an earlier two-story log home.

Left to Right Flora Agnes (Orr) Hays, Martha Hays, Alexander Porter Orr, unknown, Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr, John Paxton Orr, Mary Jane Orr, James McDill Orr.

From FAH diary 24 Jul 1890:

Mr Brennen took a picture of Grandpa's house this afternoon. Martha was sitting on a stool at the gate holding Mama's watch and chain in her hands.

MHE handwritten notes:

Log house stood where pines now stand. Present house built in 1860. Old barn stood in middle of ten acre field east of house. Early highway ran between barn and house and over the hill north west. Also between house and barn at "Hillside" and on up past east side of the James Williams home, "Boyce" home.

The Alexander Porter Orr home was built in 1862 [*sic*] just south of the two story log house of The Rev. Alexander Porter.

Part of FAH handwritten note dated 22 Feb 1942:

These tongs I greatly prize, because they belonged to my father, when he lived in the Grandfather Porter manse. My first recollection of them are, when after we moved into our present home, of Father, Mother, Mary and myself sitting around the new fireplace in what is now Aunt Mary's dining room. A happy little family, enjoying the bright flames, flying upward from the big wood fire. A few years later brothers John and James came to brighten this new home.

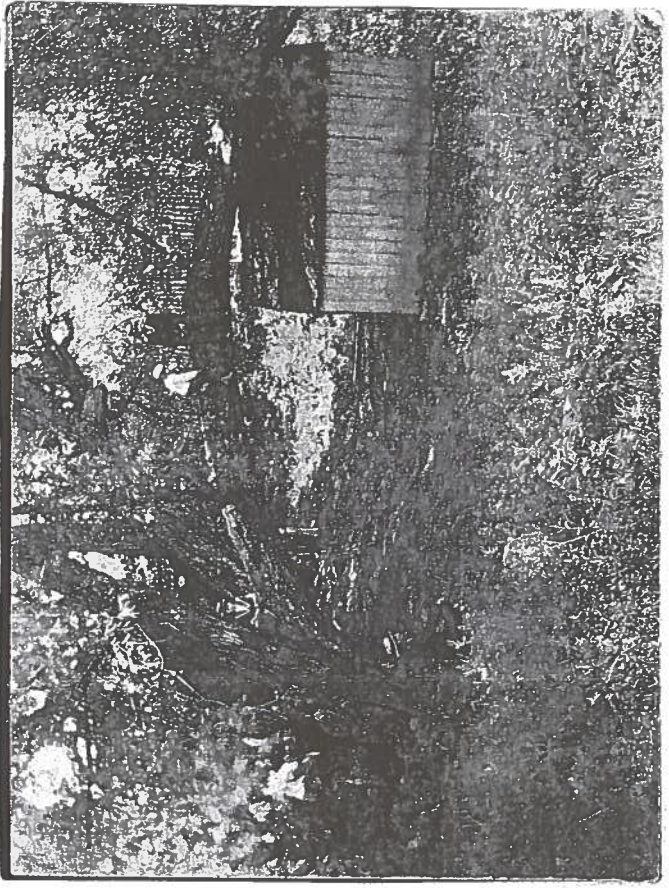


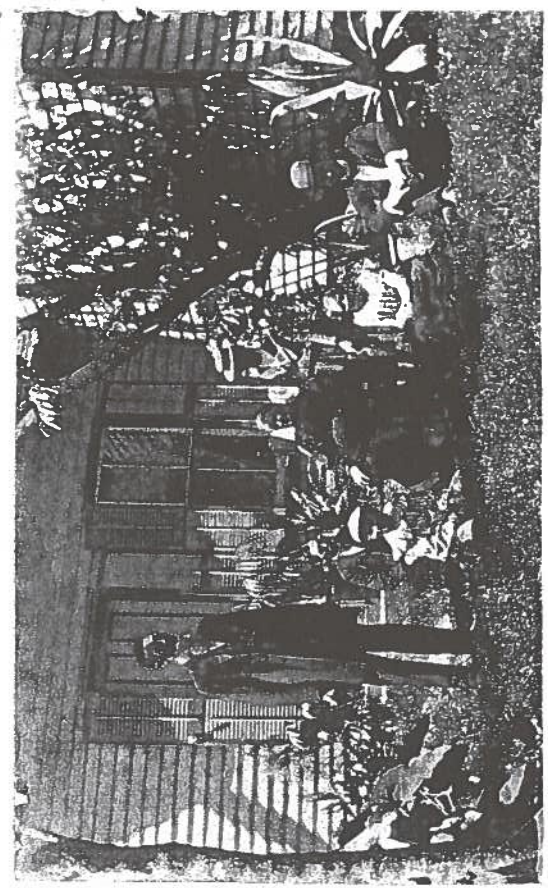
FIGURE At the Alexander Porter Orr home in 1899 or 1901.

Pictures include Alexander Porter Orr and Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr, their children, Mary Jane, John Paxton, and James McDill, and Martha and Paul Hays.

FAH diaries note

26 Jul 1899 Orr reunion at Grandpa Orrs. Took picture of crowd.

21 Aug 1901 Took pictures at Grandpa's farm.



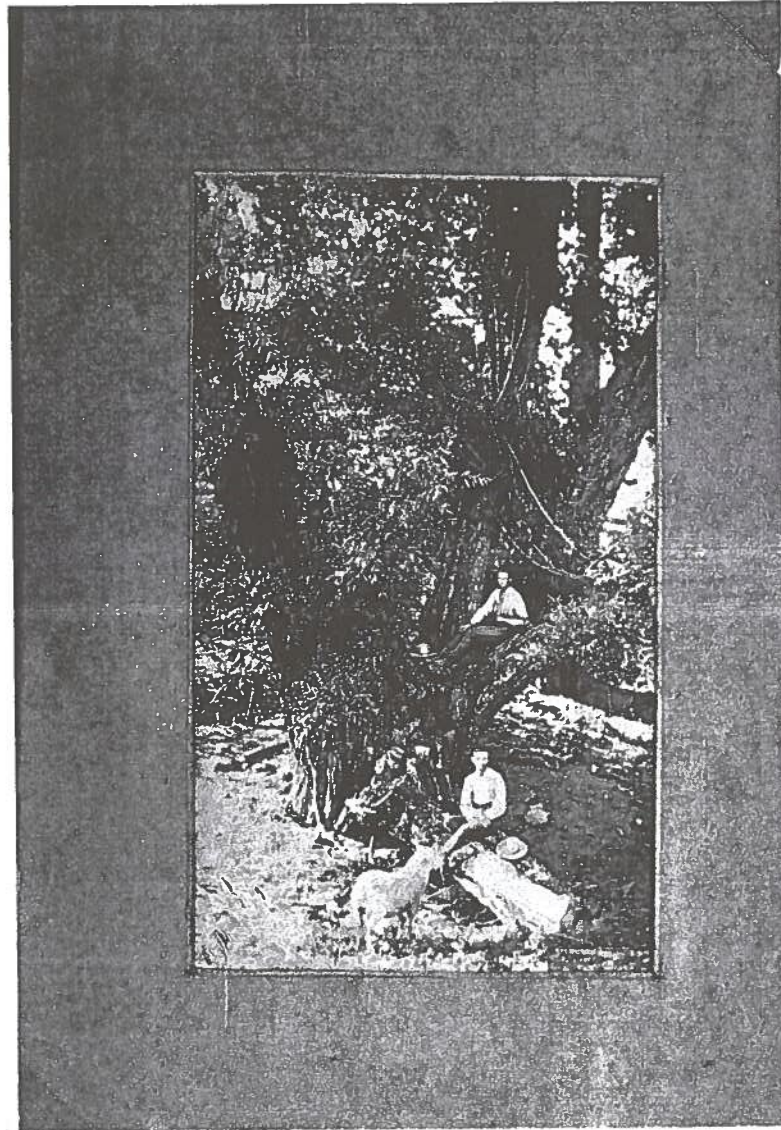


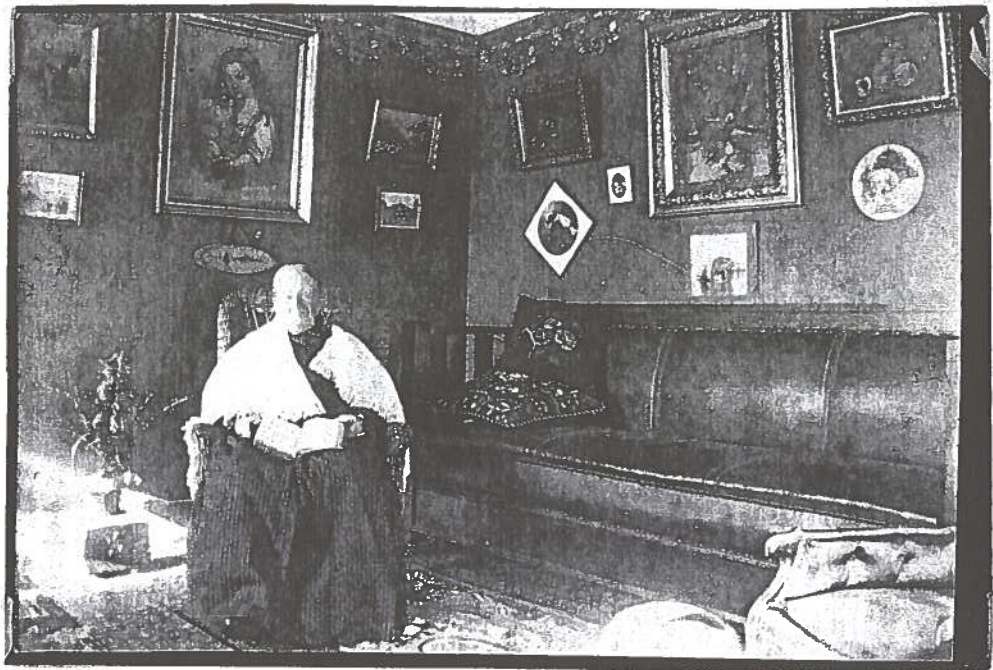
FIGURE Willow tree at the spring house behind the Alexander Porter home. John Paxton Orr and, on branch above, James McDill Orr.

Preble County History, 1871:

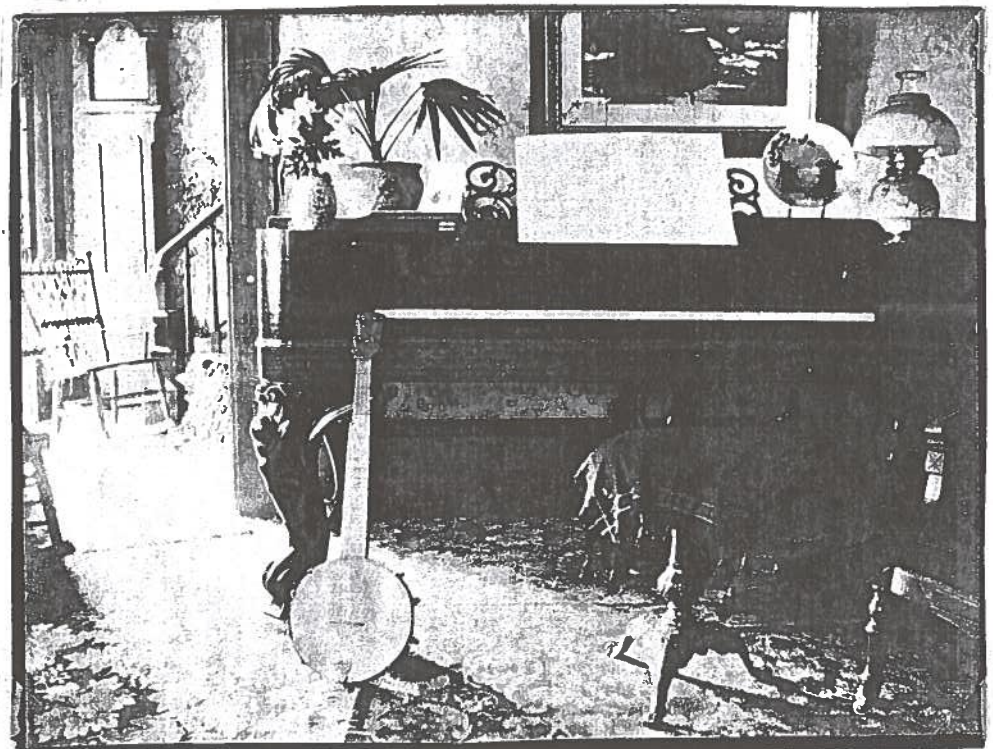
All the yellow willow trees in this part of the state owe their origin to a very patriarchal old tree that stood on the Colerain dike, between Cumminsville and Cincinnati. As the travelling public passed by that way, it was customary to cut a switch from the old tree, and to plant it when the distant home was reached. More than sixty years ago, Rev. Alexander Porter, upon his arrival from Cincinnati, after a trip on horseback to that city, gave the willow switch which he had cut from the old tree near Cumminsville, to his little daughter Mary, who thrust it into the moist ground near the spring which was back of the house.

That switch, then so puny, is now without doubt the largest tree in the county. Recent measurements show that the trunk just below the branches is twenty-five feet in circumference. It is about sixty feet high, and, like the golden candlestick of old, has seven branches, the longest of which measures sixty feet. This tree, which is well worth visiting, is still strong and vigorous. It stands just back of the early residence of Mr. Porter, which was situated in section seventeen, on the farm now owned by Alexander Orr, a grandson of Mr. Porter.

This is a photographic copy of a framed picture matted to $4 \frac{3}{8}$ by $7 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. The frame is made from willow wood from the tree. Overall framed picture is $11 \frac{5}{8}$ by 16 inches.

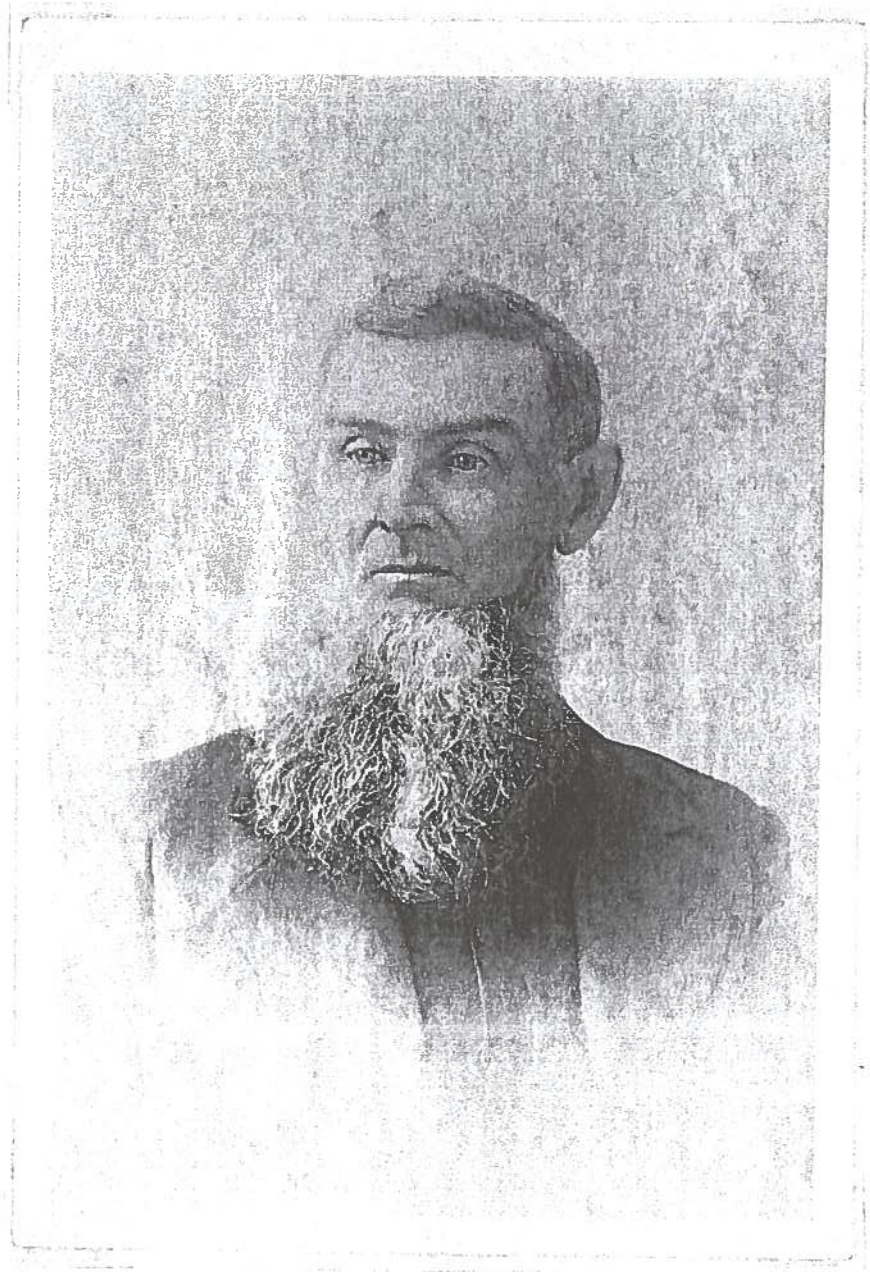


Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr (1836-1914)



Front Parlor

Home of Alexander Porter Orr and Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr



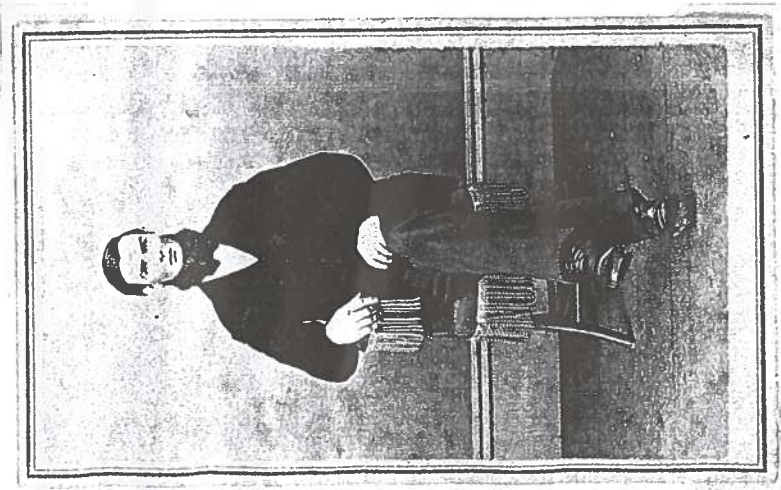
Alexander Porter Orr
(1831-1913)



Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr
(1836-1914)



Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr
(1836-1914)



Alexander Porter Orr
(1831-1913)



Flora Agnes Orr (1859-1952)

Mary Jane Orr (1857-1942)

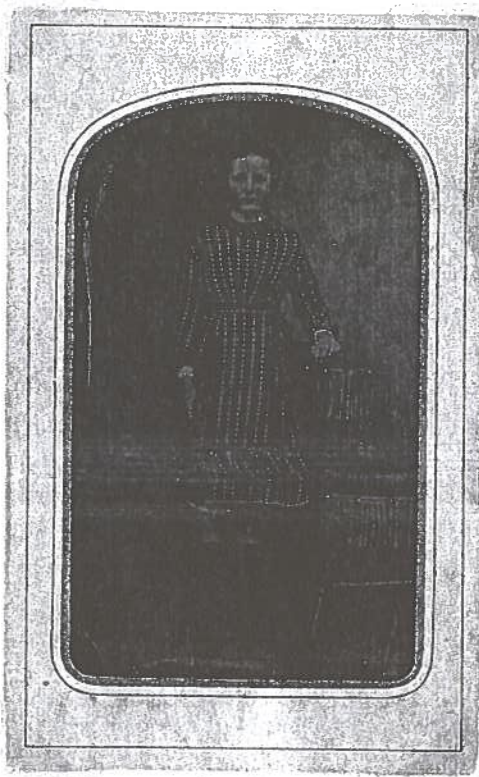
John Paxton Orr (1861-1958)



Mary Jane Orr (1857-1942)



Mary Jane Orr (1857-1942)



Flora Agnes Orr (1859-1952)

Tintype

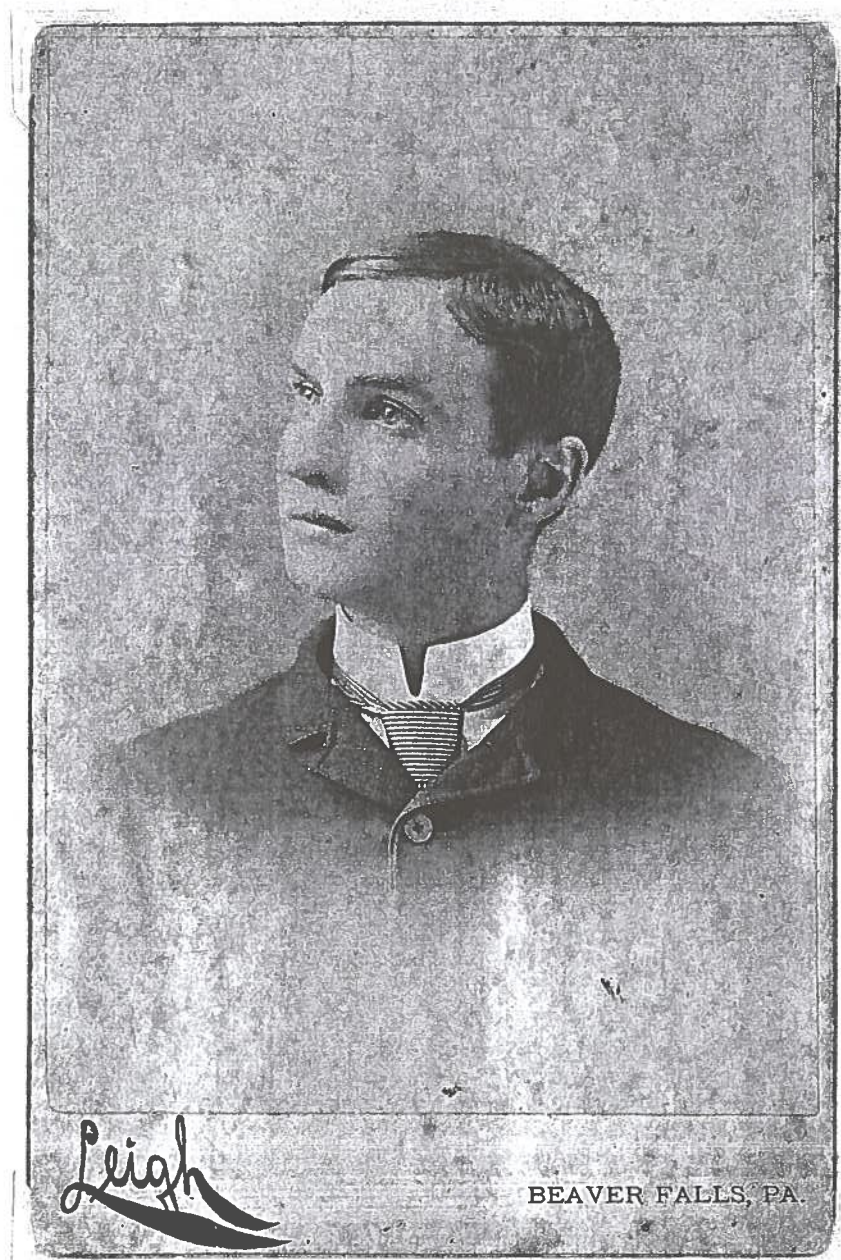
Graduated in 1882
Lebanon Normal
School. - 1883
Began teaching
at Hopewell School
in 1884
Fair Haven 1st 4 years
~~and~~ 1885
married in 1886



Flora Agnes Orr (1859-1952)

Graduated from Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania in 1882. Attended National Normal College at Lebanon, Ohio. Taught in Preble County schools until marriage to John Melancthon Hays in 1886. Lived in Creston, Iowa 1886 to 1937 and with her daughter Martha Etnyre and Boyd Etnyre at their Preble County farm until 1951. Moved to Richmond, Indiana with the Etnyres in 1951.

This picture appears to be a Geneva College class picture.



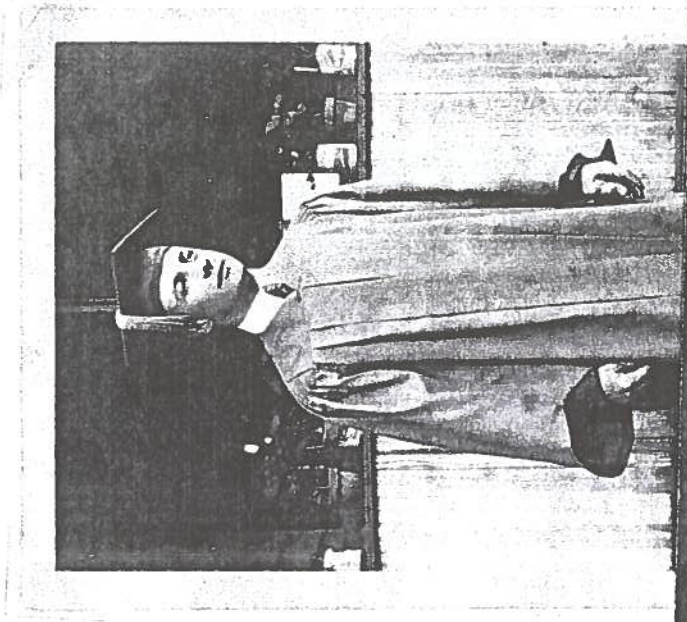
John Paxton Orr (1861-1958)

Graduated from Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania in 1889. Attended the Allegheny Theological Seminary of the UP church graduating in 1895. Licensed to preach but was never ordained a minister due to failure of his voice. Neither John Paxton Orr nor his sister Mary Jane Orr were married. They both lived on and farmed their parents farm which descended to them from the pioneer preacher, the Rev. Alexander Porter.

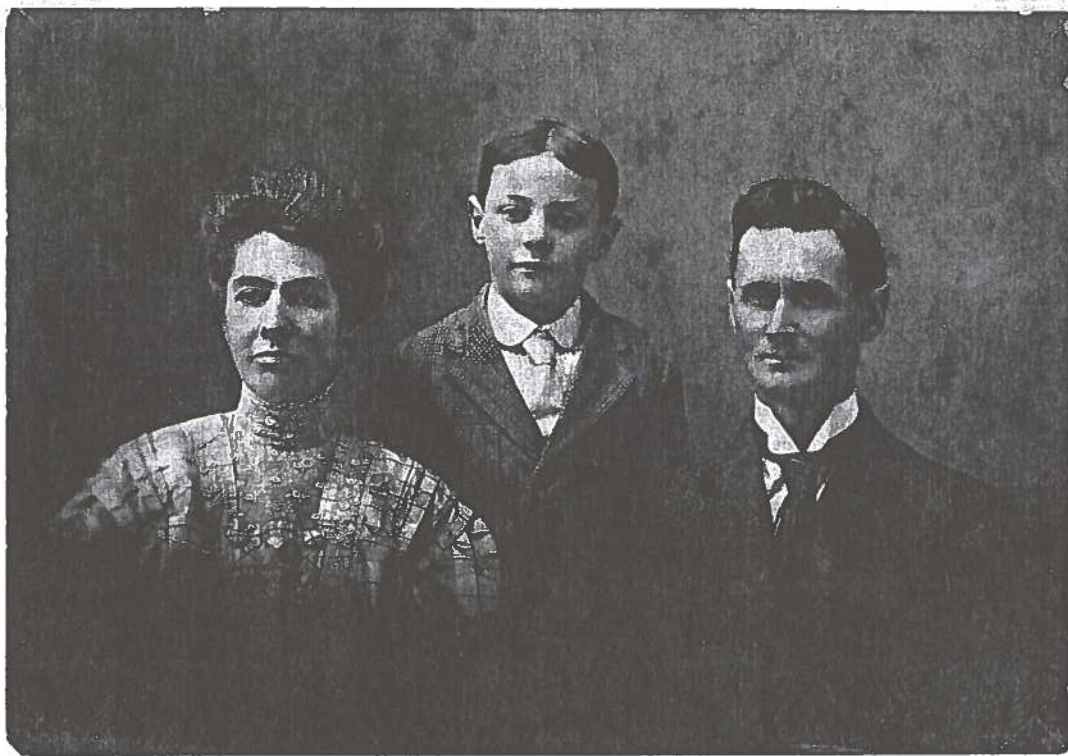
This picture is believed to be a Geneva College class picture.



John Paxton Orr (1861-1958)



Martha Barnett (Campbell) Orr (-1929)



Martha Barnett (Campbell) Orr (-1929)

Arthur Campbell Orr (1899-1949)

James McDill Orr (1867-1947)

James Orr and Martha Campbell were married 19 June 1895. Arthur Orr and Carrie Cheeseman were married 1935.

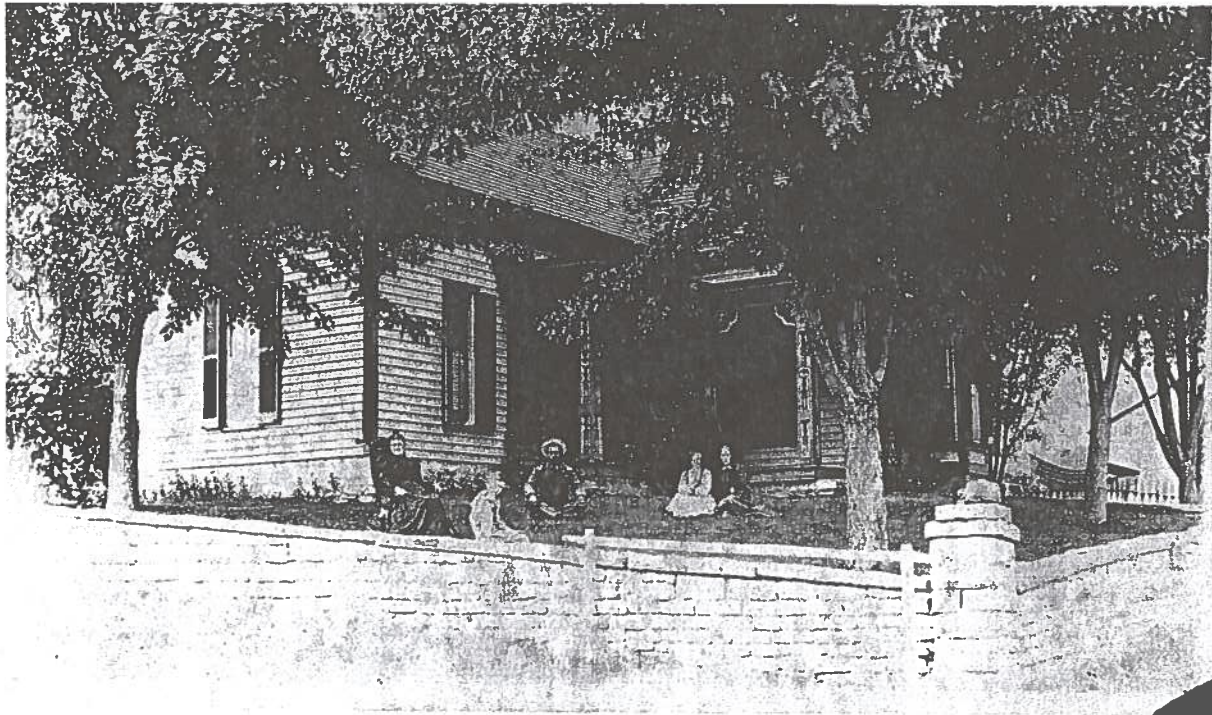


FIGURE Mary Jane (Orr) Wilson (1835-1912) with her grandson, Paul Magaw (1890-1951) and her daughters Martha Porter Wilson (1871-1952) and Emma Rosanna Wilson (1864-1937), and her farmhand, Charles Louis Williams (1872-1960).

This farm home of Mary Jane (Orr) Wilson and David Sturgis Wilson is in the SE/4 Section Eight of Israel Township, Preble County, Ohio. The quarter-section farm was patented by Ephraim Brown as part of a two-quarter patent of 20 Jan 1808. The quarter-section was transferred by warranty deeds to Alexander Porter in 1814, to various Pinkertons in 1815, 1835, 1848 and 1849, to James Brown in 1854 and to David Wilson 1865. The Wilson family owned the farm for 73 years until it was sold to Martha and Boyd Etnyre in 1927.

This picture was taken before 1900 as the pictured house burned in that year and was replaced with the present two-story house. According to James W. Williams, his father (pictured) told him the stone for the wall was left over from stone he hauled, as a young man, by mule team from Lewisburg, Ohio to build the foundation for the steel bridge across Four Mile Creek. The stone was cut and laid by the village of Fairhaven's stone mason, Henry Siekmeier (1843-1918).

This is a photographic copy of an original print owned by Jim Williams.



Laura Jane (Wilson) Hays (1852-1943)

Eldest child of Mary Jane (Orr) Wilson (1835-1912) and David Sturgis Wilson (1826-1892). Married William Alexander Hays (1850-1932).



Rev. William Riley Wilson (1860-1947)

Fourth child of Mary Jane (Orr) Wilson (1835-1912) and David Sturgis Wilson (1826-1892). Married Lydia Jean Brownlee (1866-1935). Will Wilson was a professor for many years at the Pittsburgh Xenia Theological Seminary of the UP church.



Sargent

Emma Rosanna

HAMILTON, O.

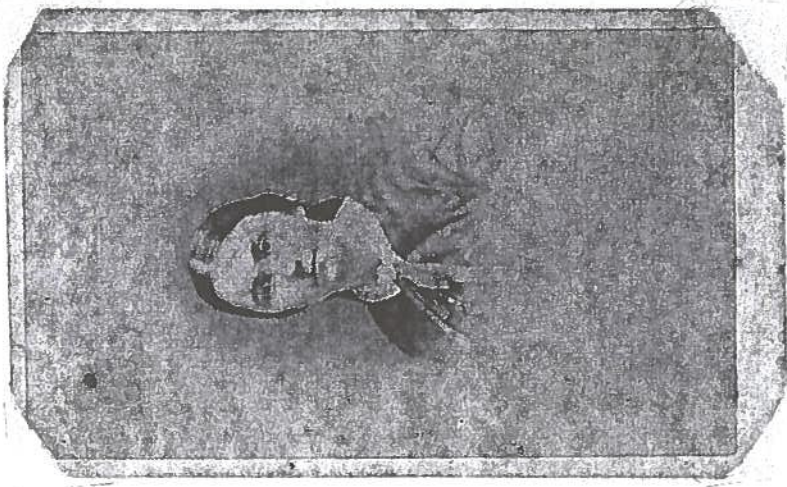
Emma Rosanna Wilson (1864-)

Fifth child of Mary Jane (Orr) Wilson (1835-1912) and David Sturgis Wilson (1826-1892). Emma and her sister Martha Porter Wilson (1871-1952) were teaching missionaries near Greenville, Tennessee for many years. Neither sister married.



Rev. James Murdock Orr (1835-1865)

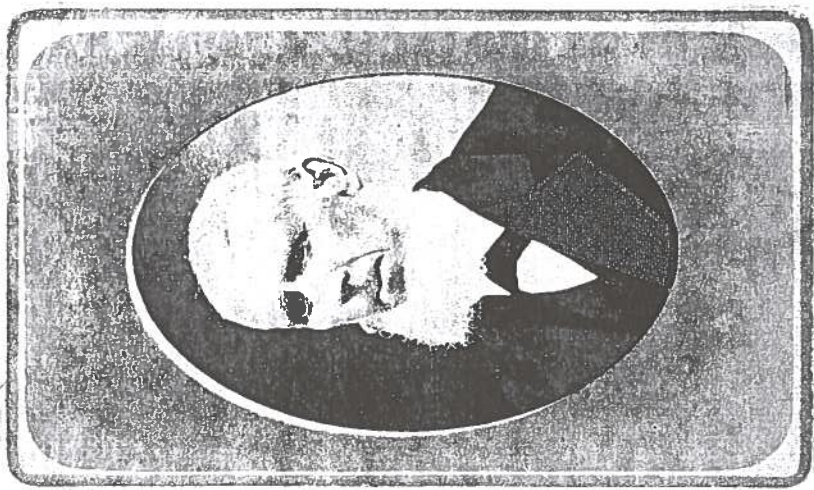
Son of John Bailey Orr(1807-1843) and Jane (Porter) Orr (1812-1884). Pastor at Greenwich, New York until his death. Married Nancy Reed of Springfield, Ohio.



Nancy (Reed) Orr

Married James Murdock Orr

*married Nancy Reed of
Middletown, Ohio. who gave
small dog with girl on its back
to brother Flora Orr ⁱⁿ 1862.*



Jonathan Paxton (1778-1852)

Maternal great-grandfather of Flora Agnes Orr

From back of picture:

Married Agnes Gilmore (1784-1852) in 1798 in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Came to Ohio from Rockbridge County in 1817.



Mary Ann (McDill) Paxton (1800-1884)

Maternal grandmother of Flora Agnes Orr

Information from back of picture:

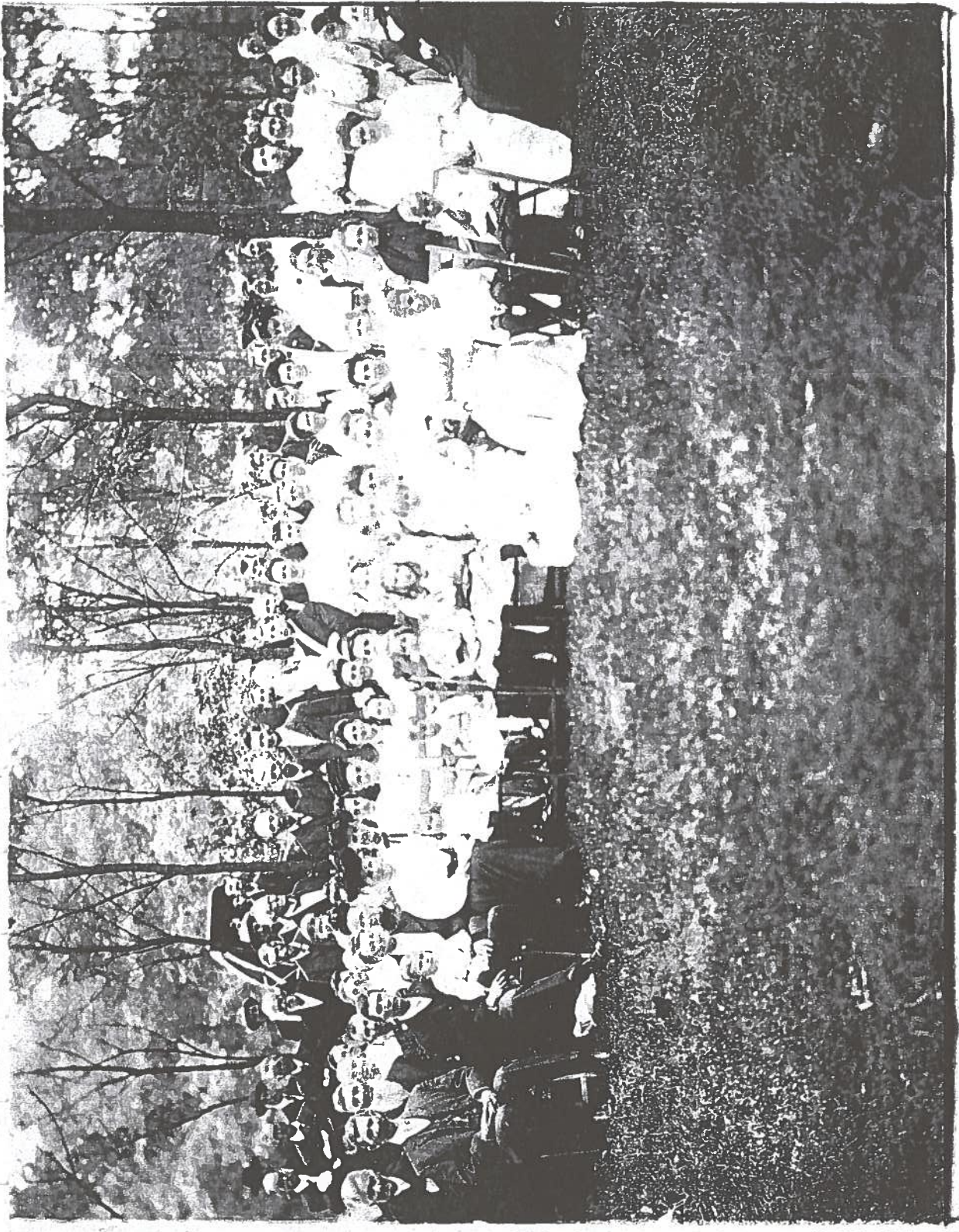
Married Robert Gilmore Paxton, son of Jonathan Paxton, in 1824.

Born in Chester County, South Carolina, came with parents to Union County, Indiana in 1816.



Louisa Paxton

Daughter of Robert Gilmore Paxton
and sister of Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr



100th Anniversary College Corner
McDill Reunion
Hillsdale, N.J.

100th Anniversary McDill Reunion - College Corner, Ohio 22 Aug 1907

Alexander Porter Orr seated third from left, Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr seated extreme right.



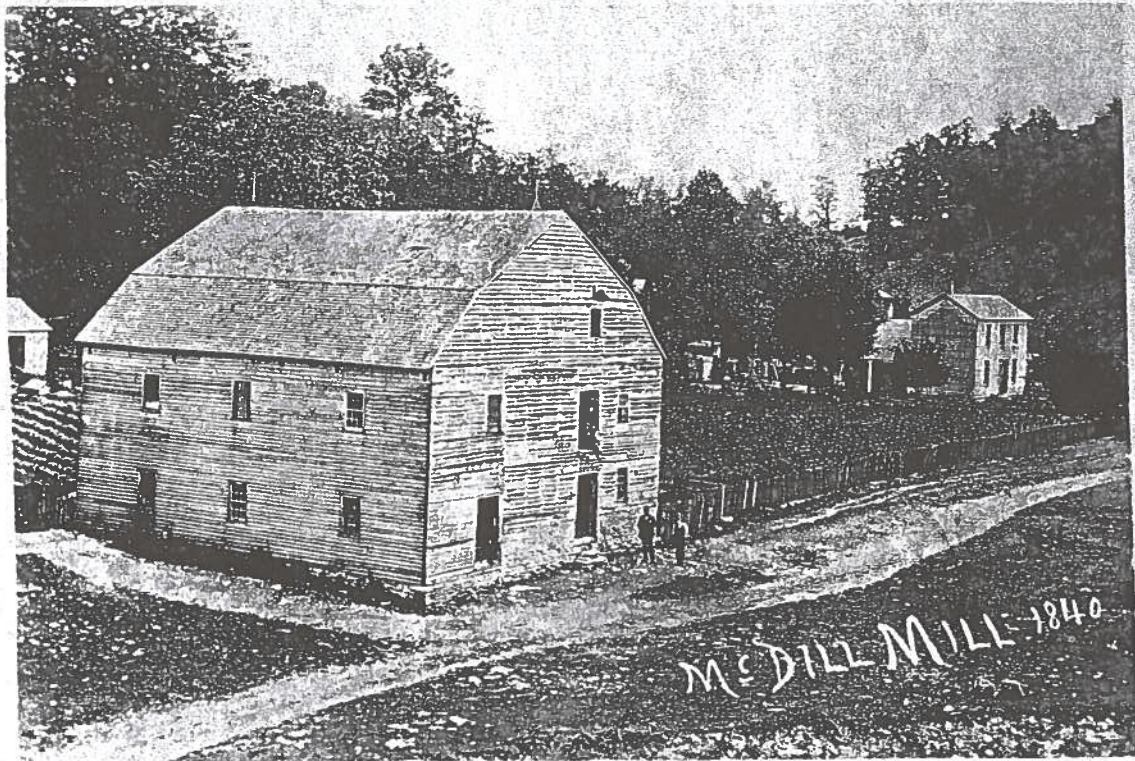
FIGURE Descendants of Rev. Alexander Porter in attendance at the centennial of the Hopewell congregation, September 1908

Rear L to R Rob Simpson James M. Orr Lulu Porter Mary Simpson Flora Magaw John O. Wilson
Laura (Wilson) Hays Irve Caldwell George Simpson John P. Orr

Center Bessie (Simpson) Doty Alexander P. Orr Mary (Orr) Wilson Mary Porter Dr. Robert Paxton
James M.C. Orr

Front Roy Doty Mary Jane Orr Martha P. Wilson unknown Emma R. Wilson

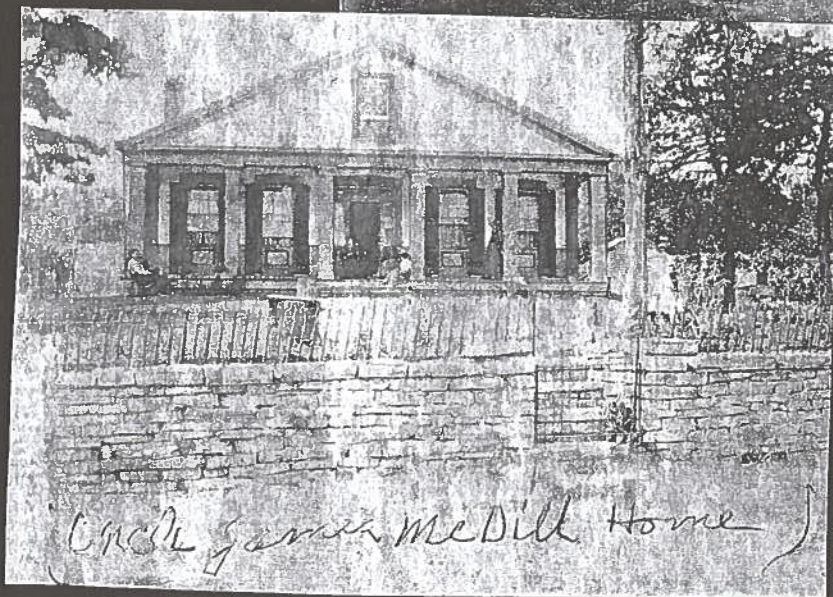
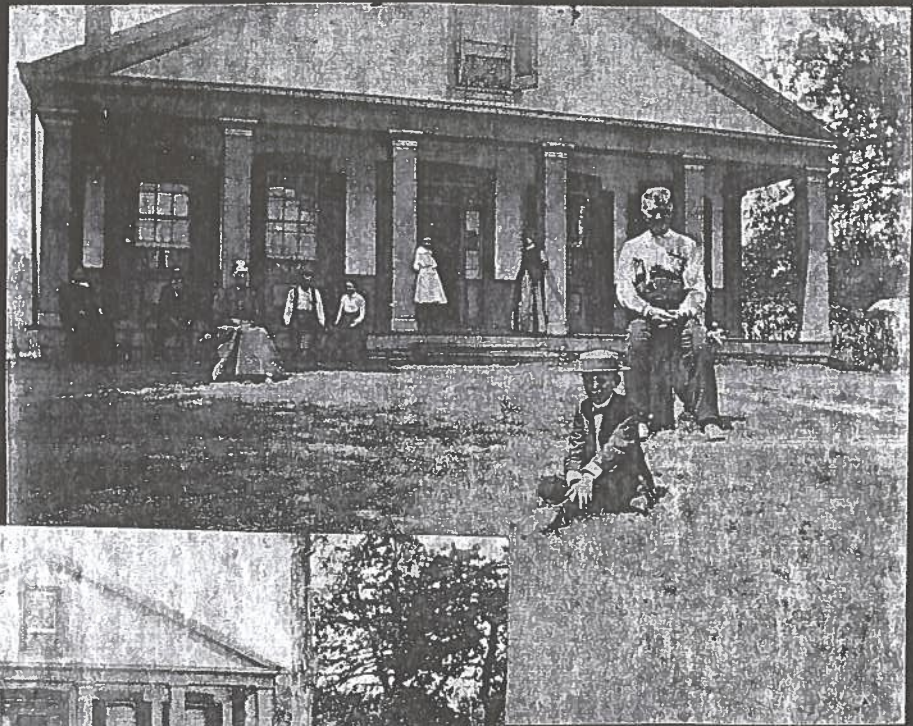
Identification from back of picture



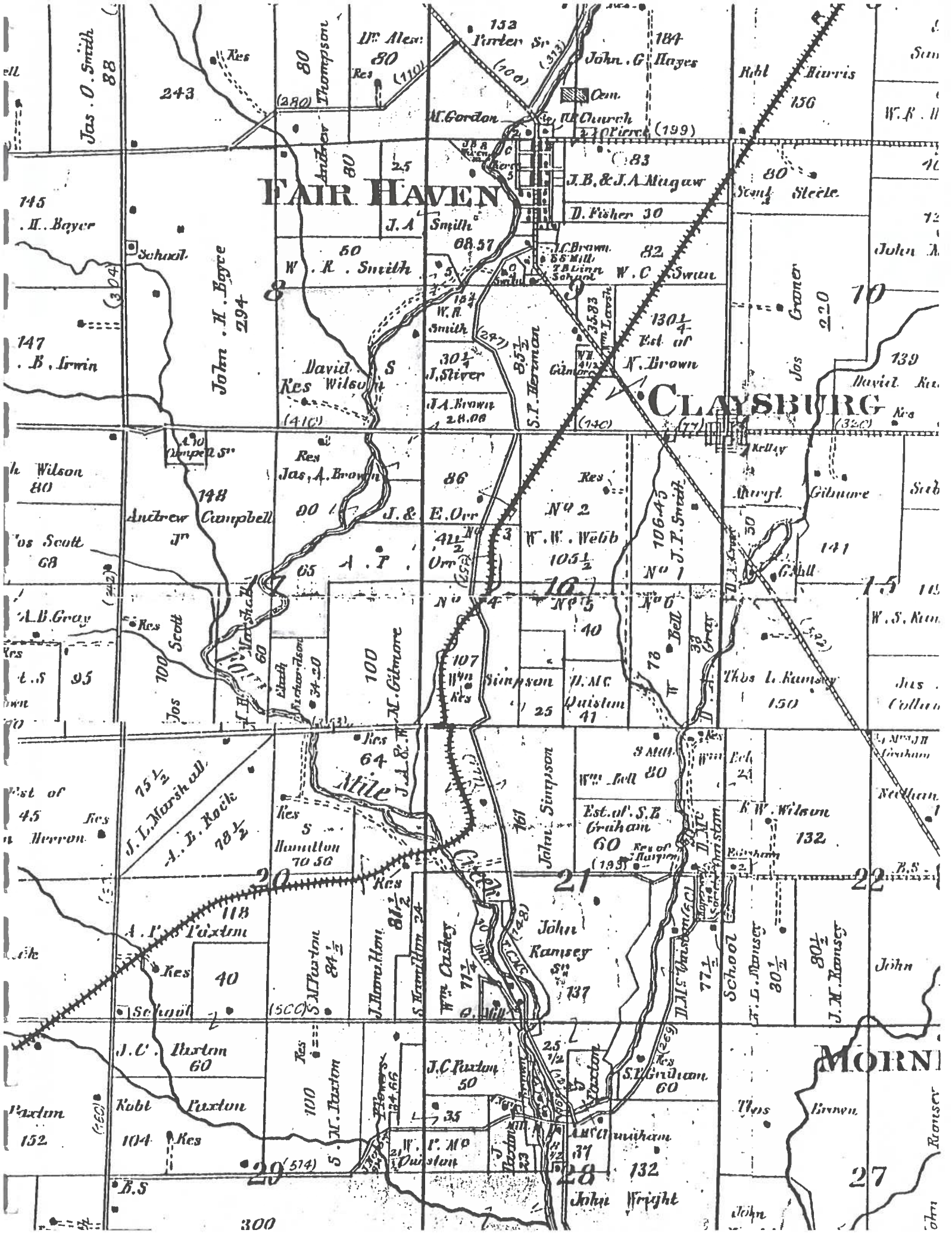
Dominion Chester Dist. S.C.

Thos. C. McDill 1801-1882

The McDill Mill was a grist mill located on Four Mile Creek in SW/4 Section 21. From the Preble County Historical Society's 1992 publication *Preble County Ohio*: Thomas McDill purchased Cliff Mills on Four Mile Creek in 1837 from William Ramsey and later called it McDill's Mill.



FAH diary 8 Aug 1901
Spent the day at
Uncle James McDill's
Drove by Old
Hopewell and took
pictures of the church



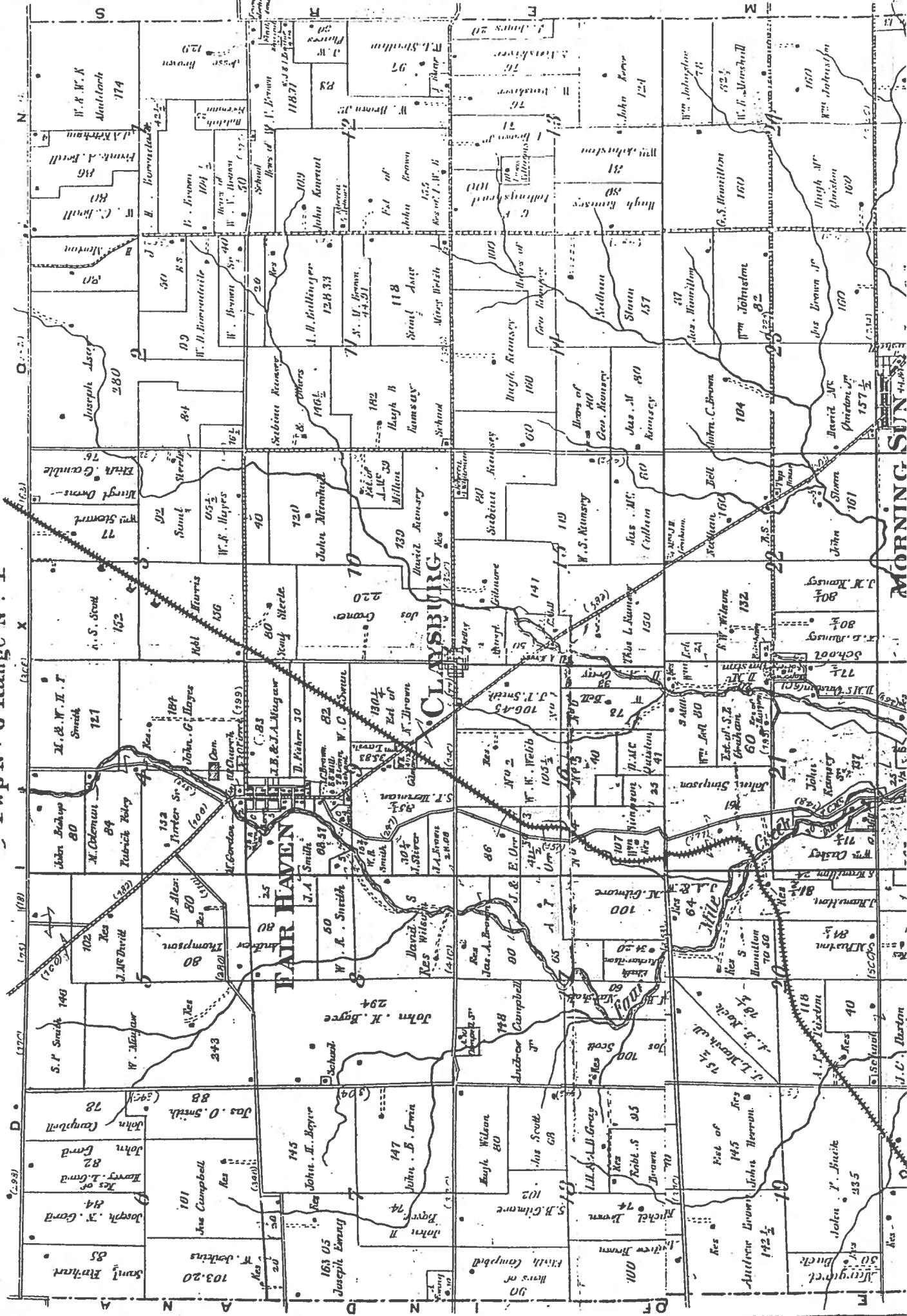
FAIR HAVEN

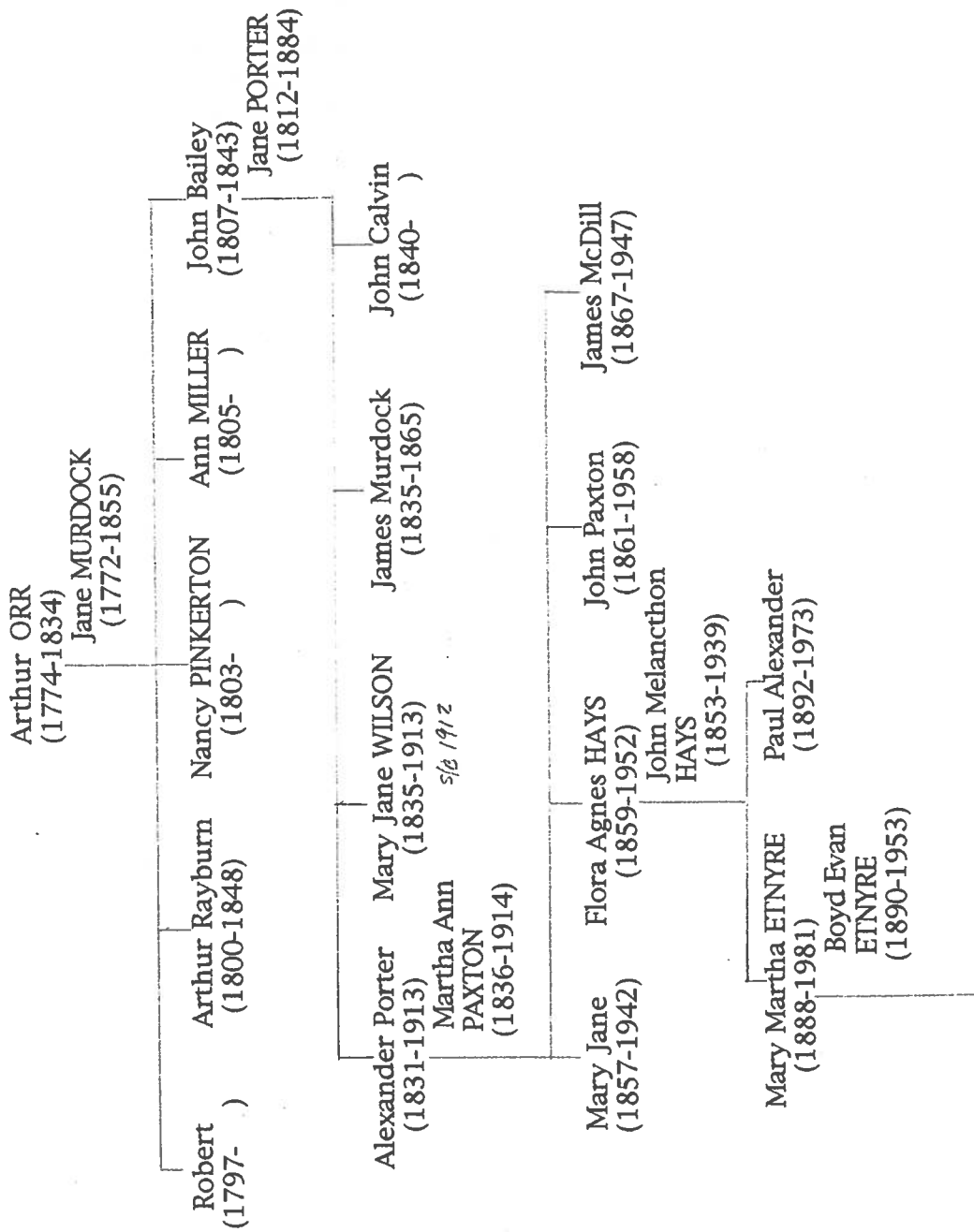
CLAYSBURG

MORN

Scale 1 3/4 Inches per Mile

Twp No 6 Range No 1





Hugh PORTER
(-1782)

Elizabeth
(-1806)

Alexander
(1770-1836)

Hugh

Elizabeth LESLY

Martha ENGLISH

Sarah

Mary Ann
COCHRAN
(-)

Hugh Nancy CALDWELL
(1797-) (1798-)

Elizabeth BROWN
(1800-)

John
(1801-)

Alexander Mary MCDILL James C.
(1803-1883) ((1806-) (1809-)
1843

Martha SIMPSON
(1811-)

Jane ORR
(1812-1884)
John
Bailey
ORR
(1807-
1843)

Alexander Porter
(1832-1913)

Mary Jane WILSON
(1835-1912)

James Murdock
(1835-1865)

James Calvin
(1840-)

Martha Ann
PAXTON
(1836-1914)

Mary Jane
(1857-1942)

Flora Agnes HAYS
(1859-1952)

John Paxton
(1861-1958)

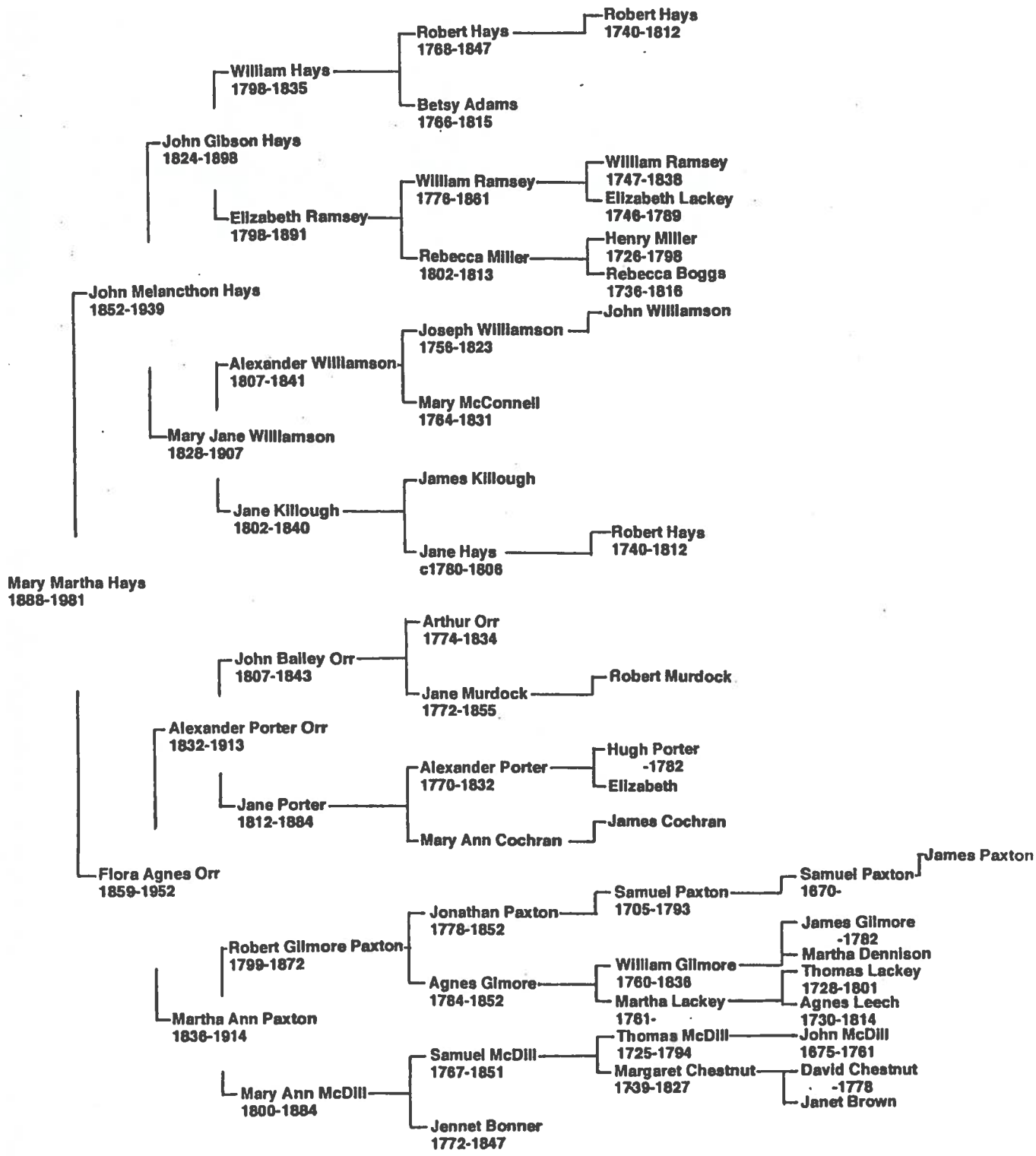
James McDill
(1867-1947)

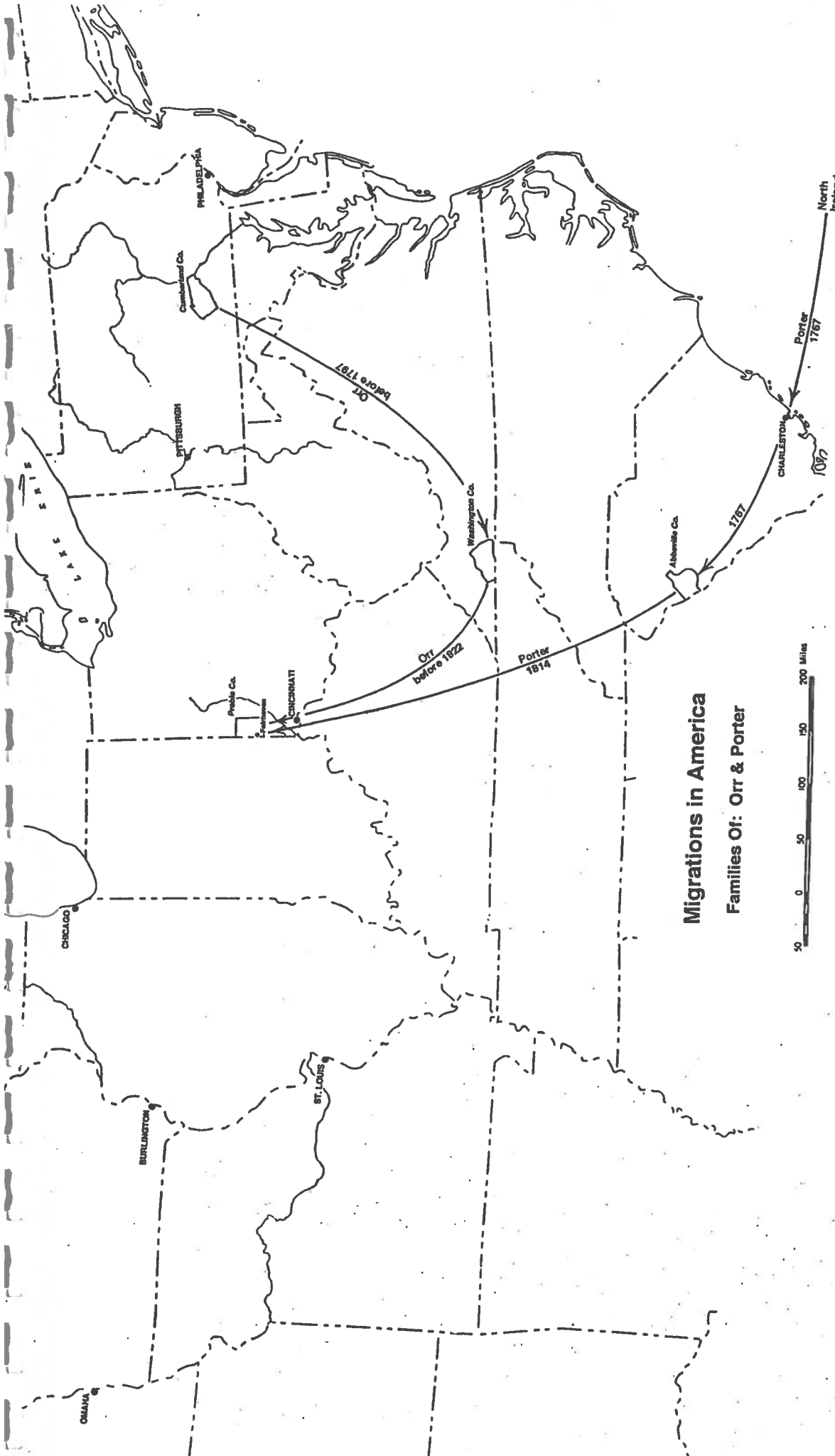
John Melancthon
HAYS
(1953-1939)

Mary Martha ETNYRE
(1888-1981)

Paul Alexander
(1892-1973)

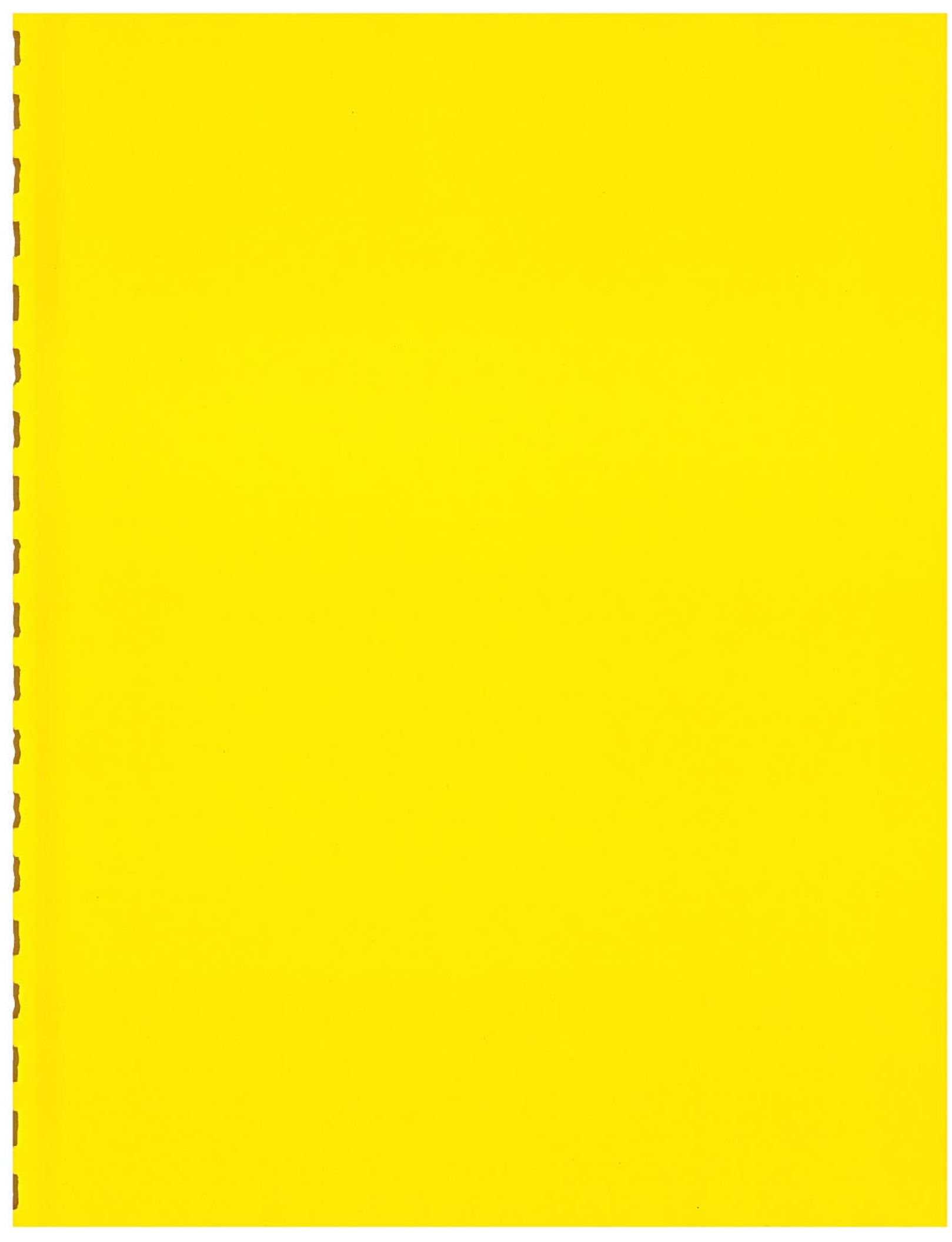
Boyd Evan
ETNYRE ⁵³
(1890-1963)



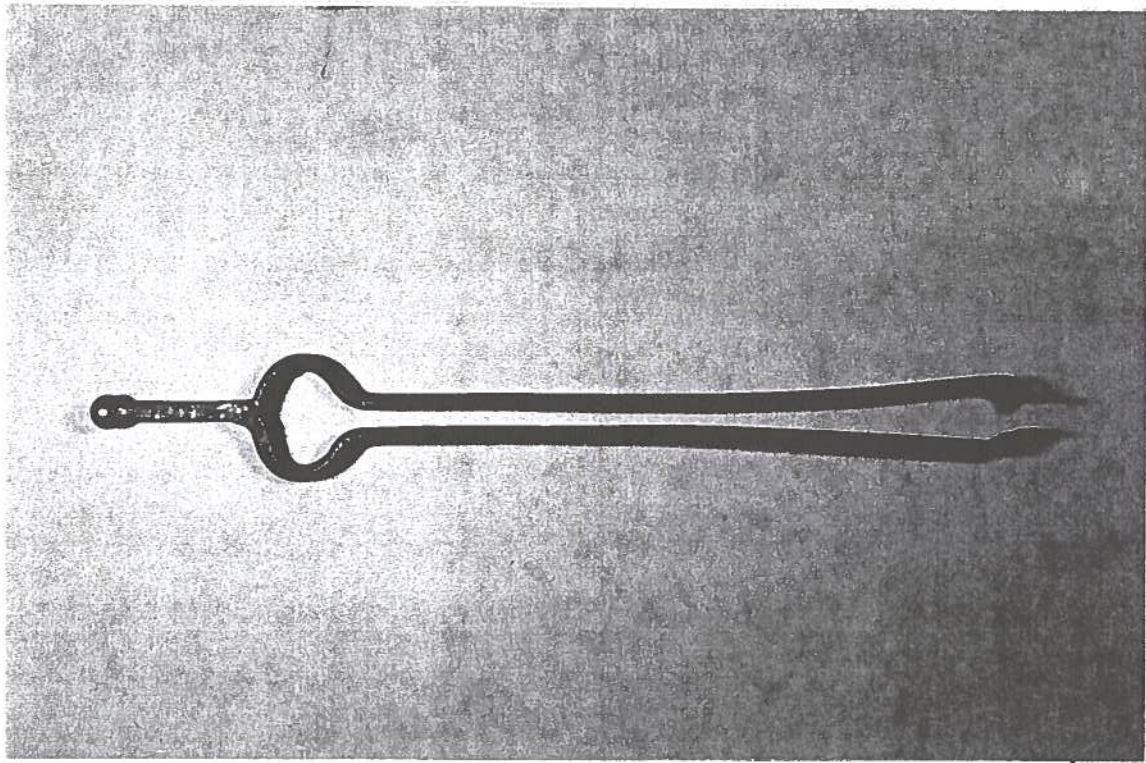


Migrations in America
Families Of: Orr & Porter





Old Old Stuff



Fireplace Tongs 24 3/4 inches

Written by Flora Agnes (Orr) Hays (1859-1952):

These tongs I greatly prize, because they belonged to my father, when he lived in the grandfather Porter manse. My first recollections of them are, when after we moved into our present home, of Father, Mother, Mary and myself sitting around the new fireplace in what is now Aunt Mary's dining room. A happy little family, enjoying the bright flames, flying upward from the big wood fire. A few years later brothers John and James came to brighten this new home.

I think probably these tongs were the property of grandfather Porter. Examining them, we see that they are made from a round iron rod, heated, pounded, and formed into a "pair of tongs".

Imagination? No, I think this is the true story, or history of these tongs, which are so greatly prized by me.

Flora Agnes

Old Home
Feb. 22, 1941

"TONGS"
Tonga, which I greatly
prize, became they belonged
to my father when he lived
in the grandfathere Porter
manor.
My first recollection of them, are
when after we moved into our
present home, of father, Mother
Mary and myself sitting around
the pretty new theysack, in
what is now dund Mary's
dining room, a happy little
family ~~enjoying~~ enjoying the bright
glamour, by my upward from
the ~~place~~ big wood fire.
A few years later brother John
and James came to brighten
this new home.
I think, probably these tonga

was the property of grandfathere
Porter. Examining them in see
that they are made from round
iron rods, heated, ~~cooled~~ ~~finished~~
pounded, and formed into a
"pair of tonga". - Imagination?
No, I think this is the true
history of these tonga which
are so greatly prized by me.
I plan to give them a coat of
enamel.

Old Home
Feb. 22 - 1941

Tongues

These tongues I greatly prize,
because they belonged to my
father, when he lived in the
Grandfather ^{Porter} ~~manse~~.

My first recollections of them
are, when after we moved into
our present home, of father,
mother, Mary and myself,
sitting around the new fireplace,
in what is now aunt Maria's
diningroom. A happy
little family, enjoying the bright
flames, flying upward from the
big wood fire.

A few years later brothers,
John and James came to brighten
this new home.

I think probably these tongues
were the property of grandfather
Porter. Examining them, we see

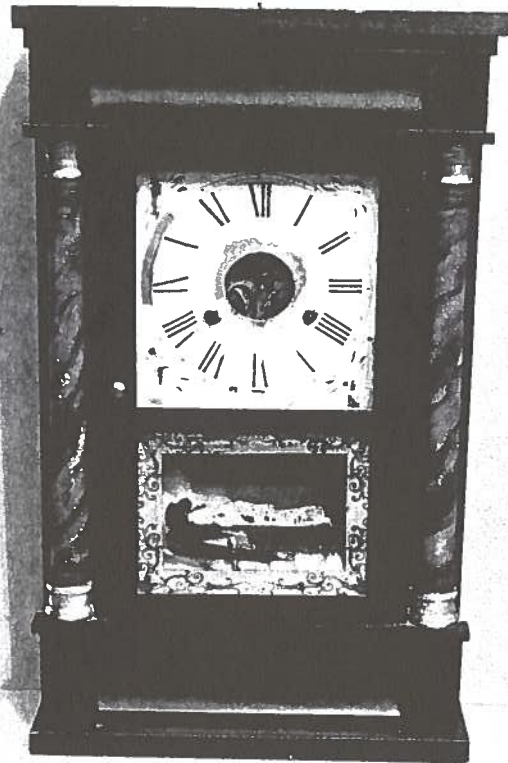


Cherry Chest of Drawers

51 1/2" H x 45" W x 22" D

This chest came from Miriam Hays' cottage at Mount Pleasant Retirement Home. It was used in Paul and Miriam Hays' home in Fairborn, Ohio and came originally from the Orr home farm in Israel township (Preble County) Ohio. In Robert and John Etnyre's day, the chest was stored in Uncle John Orr's barn and was used for the storage of ears of corn that were selected and saved for the next-year's planting.

16" cherry board in top



Clock

25 inches high

on back Brass Clocks
made and sold by
Seth Thomas
Plymouth Hollow, Conn

belonged to Alexander Porter Orr (1831-1913) MHE 16



Willow tree behind the Alexander Porter Orr home

Uncles John and Jim Orr

11 5/8" x 16"

frame made from wood from this tree

From *History of Preble County, Ohio* H. Z. Williams & Bro., Publishers 1881, p. 232

"All of the yellow willow trees in this part of the county owe their origin to a very patriarchal old tree that stood on the Colerain dike, between Cumminsville and Cincinnati. As the travelling public passed by that way, it was customary to cut a switch from the old tree, and to plant it when the distant home was reached. More than sixty years ago, Rev. Alexander Porter, upon his arrival from Cincinnati, after a trip on horseback to that city, gave the willow switch which he had cut from the old tree near Cumminsville, to his little daughter, Mary, who thrust it into the moist ground near the spring which was back of the house.

"That switch then so puny, is now without doubt the largest tree in the county. Recent measurements show that the trunk just below the branches is twenty-five feet in circumference. It is about sixty feet high, and, like the golden candlestick of old, has seven branches, the longest of which measures sixty feet. This tree, which is well worth visiting, is still strong and vigorous. It stands just back of the early residence of Mr. Porter, which is situated in second seventeen, on the farm now owned by Alexander Orr, a grandson of Mr. Porter."



Picture, water color of basket of flowers

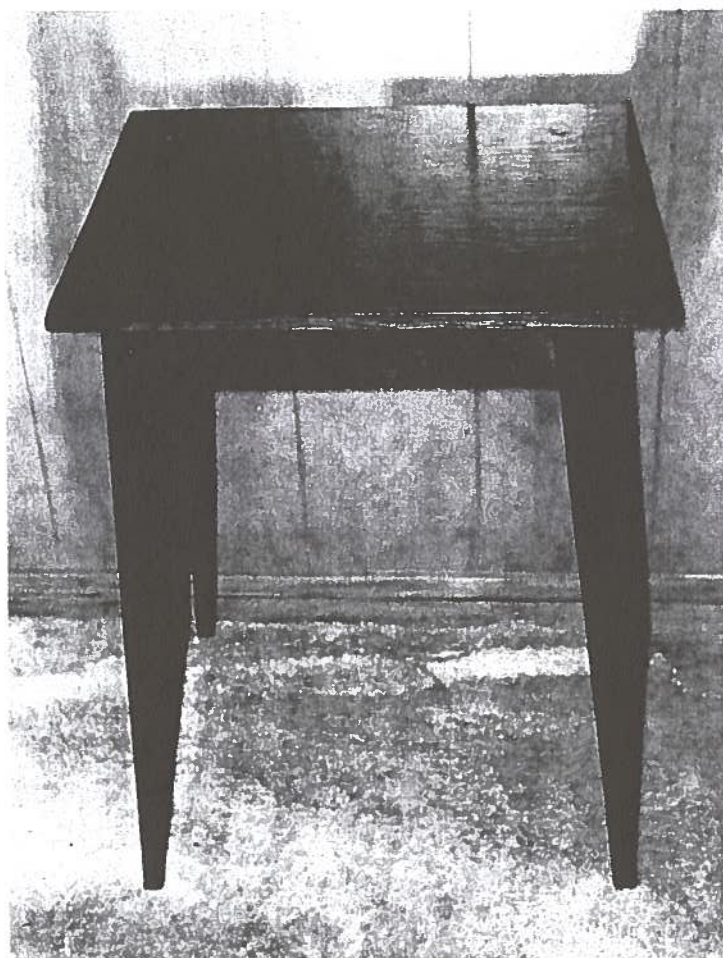
frame 12 1/2 by 14 1/2 inches

A gift to Jane Porter (1812-1884) from a student at Miami University whose home was in South Carolina. The water color was done by the student's sister. It is understood Jane Porter became engaged to the student but her father objected to her returning to the South. MHE 30



Candle mold, tin

belonged to Alexander Porter Orr (1831-1913) MHE 49



Wash Stand, Cherry

19 3/8" W by 15 3/4" D by 26 3/4 H

This wash stand was used on the back porch of Grandmother Flora Agnes (Orr) Hays birth place farm in Preble County, Ohio. The origin of the wash stand is unknown but it was used by Uncle John Orr and Aunt Mary Orr's during the time Robert and John were living at Hillside Farm.

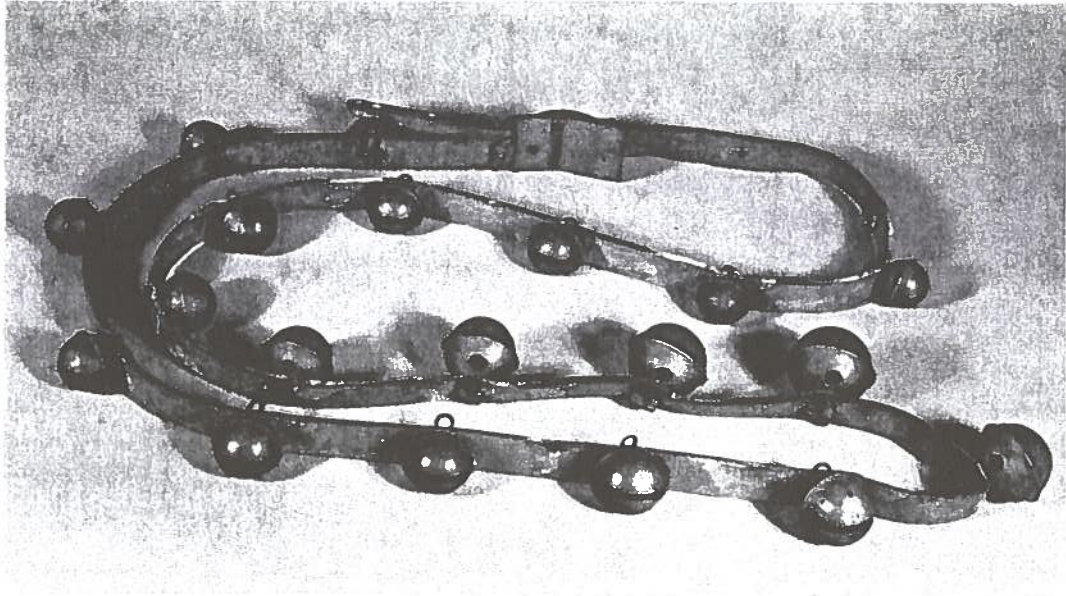
The wash stand was given to Robert to be used in a refinishing project in his manual-training course at McGuffey High School. The gray paint was removed and the stand restored to its natural cherry finish.



Ink well, stoneware

Used by Martha Ann (Paxton) Orr (1836-1914)
when a scholar at Sunagogue School

came through Flora Agnes (Orr) Hays



Sleigh Bells

These sleigh bells were given to Boyd and Martha Etnyre by Great Uncle John and Great Aunt Mary Orr shortly after the Etnyres moved from Chicago to Hillside Farm. The Etnyre boys know nothing about horse drawn sleighs and sleigh bells and Uncle John and Aunt Mary thought they should have a set of sleigh bells for the front door at Christmas time. These bells came from the Alexander Porter Orr-John Bailey Orr-Rev. Alexander Porter homestead where Uncle John and Aunt Mary lived and were undoubtedly used in 19th-century winter travel.



Tin Lantern 15 1/4" High 5 1/2" Diam.

MHE Inventory #49: Purchased by Martha (Paxton) Orr (1836-1914) at a sale of household goods at Fairhaven for her granddaughter, Martha Hays (Etnyre), because she told her grandmother she always wanted one.

