

LAUGHNER FAMILY HISTORY

1950

There is recorded in these pages a little history of our Laughner Family for approximately the last century and a half, or beginning with the birth of William J. Laughner on November 3, 1807.

Great credit is acknowledged Charles E. Laughner, Family Historian, who has given much of his time in an effort to learn the true genealogy of the Laughner Families and to obtain a biography of each individual member.

If the project had been undertaken in the days of our grand parents valuable information might have been added which apparently must now forever remain a blank.

Facts and incidents that occurred during the lives of our ancestors will always be of interest to present as well as future generations.

Therefore it is hoped that the information and data contained herein will serve as a beginning point for some other member of the family who in the future may wish to add to it and extend it on through the lapse of time.

Mrs. Otis G. Kelley.

Ethel Laughner Kelley

OUR GREAT GRAND PARENTS

William J. Laughner* and Catherine Harmon
*Born Nov. 3, 1807, Died July 25, 1870, Age 64 Years.

William J. Laughner was born to William J. and Betty Laughner in the State of Pennsylvania. At that time Pennsylvania was infested with many tribes of Indians and wild animals. This made frontier life rather disagreeable. His advantages of an education were limited but by diligent study and perseverance he attained sufficient knowledge to prepare him for a rigorous life. He was a man of fair intelligence and his social qualifications were of a high order. He was married to Catherine Harmon on Nov. 18, 1830 by Reverend Philip Hinkle.

While still a young man he and a brother, in a pioneering spirit and in the interests of self improvement, traveled by schooner out into the forest and endured many hardships. After a long and tedious journey they crossed the Ohio River at Old Madison, followed the old Indian Trail, known as the Michigan Road, and located at Middlefork, Clinton County, Indiana. Here two children were born. After he had made a beginning toward a home he concluded he would visit his people again. On horse back he began his journey. At Madison, Indiana, he fell ill. Full of determination he crossed the Ohio River. But he became much more sick. He turned back, crossed the river, loaded his horse on the first railroad in Indiana which ran from Madison to Indianapolis. Here after resting up for a few days he took to his horse again and worked his way over the old Indian Trail now known as the Greenfield Road until he reached the vicinity of Whitestown in Boone County.

In this locality many Tennessee families had settled, including Ambrose Neese, Philip Ottinger, William Miller, Silas White. While visiting these people he was persuaded to purchase a home. Buying forty acres he returned to his family in Clinton County. After having lived in Clinton County for six years he then moved his family to his new home in Boone County in 1849. Here the remainder of his family was born.

While his sons tilled the soil, he ran a store, and drove a wagon to Indianapolis, selling his products and buying articles for his establishment. (While in this occupation a little incident occurred. The roads were unsurfaced and through the forest and four horses were required to pull the wagon. Arriving home he unhitched and groomed his team, put them in the barn and fed them and then retired for the night. While asleep he returned to the barn, harnessed the horses, but instead of returning to bed he went to a large soft soap trough, laid down in it and began pulling the soap up over him when he woke up. His wife had a difficult job in cleaning him up.

William J. Laughner, Jr., was a stern man. He reared his family in the fear of the Lord. Religiously he was a Lutheran, politically a Democrat. Many days of sickness came unto him until his Lord said "It is enough. Come up higher." He fell asleep July 25, 1870. The service was by the Reverend E. S. Hinkle. He sleeps in the Lutheran Cemetery with most of his sons and daughters around him.

He was the father of twelve children, as follows:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Born</u> | <u>Died</u> | <u>Age</u> |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Pollyana | Oct. 29, 1831 | Feb. 14, 1847 | 17 |
| Samuel J. | Sep. 24, 1833 | Jul. 25, 1906 | 72 |
| Ambrose M. | Nov. 4, 1835 | Aug. 11, 1921 | 85 |
| Andrew G. | Jan. 1, 1838 | Jul. 23, 1919 | 81 |
| Martha E. | Aug. 3, 1840 | Mar. 11, 1906 | 65 |
| Jacob H. | Jan. 21, 1842 | Feb. 2, 1913 | 71 |
| Salley E. | Sep. 30, 1844 | Jun. 23, 1877 | 32 |
| William J. | Dec. 13, 1846 | Feb. 22, 1865 | 18 |
| Henry V. | Dec. 9, 1849 | Aug. 15, 1917 | 67 |
| James D. | Mar. 27, 1853 | | |
| Margaret | Sep. 14, 1855 | Feb. 26, 1860 | 4 |
| Irenous | Apr. 26, 1859 | Mar. 14, 1860 | 1 |

Samuel Jackson Laughner, second child and first son of William J. Laughner, was born in the State of Tennessee, Sept. 24, 1833. With his parents he came to Clinton County. Six years later he with his parents moved to the old Laughner Homestead. He was reared on the farm and acquired a fair education. He was a teacher in vocal music, instructing the young people of his age. He assisted in rearing his brothers and sisters due to his father's duties at the store and during his father's illness.

He was married to Rebecca Isenhour, Nov. 8, 1858 of Boone County. Soon after he purchased an eighty acre farm to which he took his young bride and where they became identified with the interests of the County in its growth and development. On this farm were born to them one daughter and four sons, namely; Louisa, Wesley J., Albert T., George and Elmer.

Louisa married Charles Hine. One daughter, Carrie, one son, Alva, and one son (died in infancy), were born to this union. Louisa died Sept. 5, 1911.

Wesley J. was born May 12, 1862. He was reared on the farm and received his education in the schools of Worth Township. He was married to Kathryn Myers. One son, Claude, and one daughter, Fern, were born to this union. He later went to Indianapolis to live and was engaged in the restaurant business up to the time of his last illness.

Albert T. also was raised on the farm and received his education in Worth Township schools. He was married to Sarah Hine, Dec. 24, 1884. Two children, one daughter, Ethel, and one son, Orville, came to bless this union. He was born May 8, 1864 and passed away Feb. 28, 1936.

George was born Nov. 22, 1870, and married Lucy Pennock. One son, George, was born to this union. Wesley J. and George were in restaurant business together for years in Indianapolis. He too is deceased.

Elmer was born Oct. 24, 1875, and married Rosa Shillinger. One son, Glen, and one daughter, Ruth, were born to this union. He too was a restaurant man.

Samuel J. married Sarah Ottinger in 1884 after the death of his first wife. Three children were born to this union, Lillian, Roselle and Ora. Lillian has two sons and four grandchildren, the sons named Charles Onis and Lyle. Roselle is deceased. Ora has two children, Mary K. and Jack, and one grand child. Ora passed away in December, 1948.

Descendants of
SAMUEL J. and REBECCA
to the fifth generation

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|-----------|------------------|---|--|--|
| Louisa | Carrie | Gerald Thomas Charles | Thomas Charles Eleanor | |
| | Alva Oran | Alphonso | | |
| Wesley J. | Claude | Lloyd Frances Richard Charles Janet | Patty Richard | |
| | Fern | Russell | | |
| Albert T. | Ethel | Kenneth Dorris Evelyn ALMA | Faye Danny ^{HAROLD} Marlene Marilyn Stanley Sharon | Charles Randall DAVID MICHELLE BECKY |
| | Orville | June | | |
| George | George Jr. | | | |
| Elmer | Glen Ruth | Howard Alma | | |
| Lillian | Onis Lyle | Nancy Greg Judy Ann | | |
| Roselle | | | | |
| Ora | Mary K. Jack | | | |

DESCENDANTS OF OTHER SONS AND DAUGHTERS
OF WILLIAM J. AND CATHERINE
LAUGHNER
TO THE THIRD GENERATION

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|---------|---|
| AMBROSE M. | Sarah | Cleveland | | | |
| | | Olgie | | | |
| | | Allie O. | | | |
| | | Alvie O. | | | |
| | | Harley O. | | | |
| | | Fidella | Cloie | | |
| | | Fidella | Joseph | | |
| | | | James | | |
| | | | Harry G. | | |
| | | Gentrilla | Pearl | | |
| | | | Carrie | | |
| | | | Charles | | |
| | | | Ina | | |
| | | | Ernest | | |
| | | Candace | Edith | | |
| | | | Earl | | |
| | | | Russell | | |
| | | John | 3 infants deceased | | |
| | | Riley O. | Verner | 2 | 3 |
| | | | Andra | 2 | |
| | | Mardelle | 1 | | |
| | Bertus | Clarol | | | |
| | J.T.Frank | John A) | | | |
| | | Betty Jo) | 3 | | |
| | | Rigenia) | | | |
| | Luther | Charlotte) | | | |
| | | Mary Louise) | 5 | | |
| | | Maneta) | | | |
| | Clyde O. | Dorothy) | | | |
| | | Esther) | 4 | | |
| | | Frank B.) | | | |
| ANDREW G. & FLORA | Harcissus | Olive | | Johanna | |
| | Cornelius | Gladys) | | | |
| | | Freud) | 5 | | |
| | | Ruth) | | | |
| | Linus | Pauline) | | | |
| | Gertrude) | 2 | | | |
| | Charles B. | | | | |
| JACOB H. & AZENITH | Mollie | | | | |
| | Cora | Hazel | | | |
| | | Glen | | | |
| | John | Lelia | | | |
| | | Paul | | | |
| | | Howard | | | |
| | Maud | Thelma | | | |
| | | Clifford | | | |
| | | Harold | | | |

DESCENDANTS OF OTHER SONS AND DAUGHTERS
 OF WILLIAM J. AND CATHERINE LAUGHNER
 (Continued)

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----------------------------------|--------|------------------|----|---|
| SALLEY E. & ISAAC ISENHOUR | Zula | Ora | 13 | |
| | | Onia | | |
| | | Georgia | | |
| | | Charles | | |
| | | Mazeffa | | |
| | | Ellen | | |
| | | Rhoda | | |
| | | Johannie | | |
| | Mary | | | |
| HENRY V. | Letha | Paul | | |
| | | Gretchen (Grace) | | |
| JAMES D. | Edward | | | |
| | Bertha | | | |

LAUGHNER FAMILIES STILL LOCATED IN
CLINTON COUNTY

SAMUEL

James

Wesley
Malinda
Lydia
Mary
Henry

Hazel
Opal
Robert
Norman
Cecil
Kenneth
John
Jean
Mary Lois

Andrew
Ellen
Mary
Charles

William H.
Grant W.
Sarah
Mary
Ellen

| | | | |
|---------|--------------|----------|-----------|
| WILLIAM | Mary | (Wesley | (Hazel |
| | Amanda | (Malinda | (Opal |
| | * James..... | (Lydia | * (Robert |
| | John | (Mary | (Norman |
| | Andrew | (Henry | (Cecil, |
| | Nancy | | (Kenneth |
| | Lavina | | (John |
| | Edy S. | | (Jean |
| | Samuel | | (Mary |
| | | | (Lois |

| | | | |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| VALENTINE | Mary Catherine | | |
| | * James | * Mabel | * Frieda |
| | John William | * Elmer | * James |
| | ** Samuel | * Chalmer G. | * Alvin Morris |
| | Sarah Jane | * Emerson, | |
| | *** Andrew | * Mary | |
| | Polly | ** Albert | |
| | | ** Ester | |
| | | ** Etta | |
| | | ** Lavon | |
| | | *** Artie | |

| | | | |
|--------|-----------|-------------|----------|
| DANIEL | Polly Ann | Melvin | Herbert |
| | Margaret | Millie | Gerlande |
| | Belle | Letta | Laverna |
| | Henry | Della | Aden Jr. |
| | Mary | Virgil Adan | Howard |
| | Ella | Howard | Verna |
| | Barner | Zepho | |
| | Webb | Cleatis | |

| | | |
|-------|---------|---------|
| JAMES | Cloey | Helen |
| | Lula | Bent |
| | Larence | Lamonie |
| | Letha | Clayton |
| | Orpha | Kenneth |
| | Mabel | Ruth |
| | Virgie | James |
| | Roy | Evaline |

| | | |
|--------|--------|-------------|
| ANDREW | Carl | Zora Lucile |
| | Walter | Wayne |
| | Ethel | |
| | Harry | |

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------------|
| SAMUEL R. | William Earl | Ruby Alice |
| | Russell | Emma Lucile |
| | Paul | |
