

DAVID SHANAFELT was born in Washington County, Maryland March 9, 1814 and died January 7, 1886 at Sigourney, Iowa. When 13 he moved to Ohio and in 1836 to Mooresville, where in 1839 he married Miss CHARLOTTE HOUSE, who died in 1864. In 1854 he moved to Iowa, and became one of the pioneers of Keokuk County, where he lived until his death. In 1871 he married Mrs. Clarissa Carter who still lives. He was the father of 8 children, 3 of whom are dead. For about 50 years he was a member of the church. He was ready, and has entered into his reward.

NOTE: Charlotte and David Shanafelt are buried at Sigourney, Iowa.

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Clipping from scrap book at Mooresville Library:

ANCIENT INHABITANTS:

John House and David Shanafelt are farming near Sigourney, Iowa.

Jacob Shanafelt is working at his trade (millwright) in St. Louis.

OBITUARIES

August, died BEESON on the 17th inst. at her late residence one mile east of Mooresville after a protracted illness CATHARINE, wife of WILLIAM BEESON, aged about 45 years. Long and severe as were her sufferings she did not murmur but presented in a remarkable degree the power of Christian faith and fortitude. She rests in peace and our loss is her infinite gain.

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WILLIAM S. BEESON, son of William and Mary Beeson, was born in Highland County, Ohio on the 23rd day of the 5th month 1825. His parents were both exemplary members of the Society of Friends and settled within the limits of White Lick Monthly Meeting about the year 1826. During the following year his father deceased leaving a large family of small children to the care of his mother. On the 3rd day of the 12th month 1848 William S. Beeson was married to CATHARINE HOUSE who deceased on the 22nd day of the 4th month 1866. Their children John Henry, Henrietta Mary, Ida Elsie and Martin Clarence are deceased and the youngest William Otto and Catharine Bertha are the only survivors of a family of six. On the 27th day of the 2nd month 1878, William S. Beeson was joined in marriage with Sarah Keaton, who now survives him. Our deceased friend and brother, in the course of his life has tasted the cup of sorrow and affliction deeply, having lost his father at the age of two and has buried an affectionate wife and 4 dear children, and also witnessed the destruction of his house and all his conveniences by fire. He was well trained in youth by a devoted Christian mother, yet he was wild for a few years in early life, but soon became conformed to a professed Christian life and served the Friends Church for many years acceptably in the station of an Elder. His Christian profession was not of a spasmodic excitable character but was steady and of even tenor. He was sound in the doctrines of Christianity, as professed by Friends, and was of unshaken faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Through all his sickness and until the close of life which took place on the 13th inst. at 10 o'clock PM. His disease was pulmonary consumption.

NOTE: Catharine Beeson was born Oct. 17, 1825, died April 22, 1866.

MRS. SARAH B. MEREDITH

On the 4th day of October, 1911, MRS. SARAH B. MEREDITH left her home in Anderson, Ind. and entered the long desired and eternal mansion promised her by her Savior. She had passed the 78th milestone of her earthly journey on the 19th day of the preceding February. She was the widow of REV. YANCY B. MEREDITH, one of the prominent men of the North Indiana Conference. She was married to him December 9, 1855, and they spent thirty-one years together in the work of the ministry. In the service rendered by her husband as pastor and Presiding Elder, Sister Meredith gave her earnest co-operation to the work of the church so far as home cares would allow. In her later years she delighted to talk of the incidents, trials and triumphs of those early years of the ministry.

Of the twelve children given them, seven survive. With the children living in Anderson she had the comfort of their presence during the last years of her life. She was a widow for more than twenty years. These years brought their trials and discouragements, but hers was an optimistic faith and it lifted her above troublous circumstances by holding in view the better inheritance for which she was being prepared. She had a true mother's solicitude for her children, and the fervency of her prayers will be remembered as an inspiration. Her love for the church seemed to increase with age. To be present at the services on the Sabbath day was the ambition which stirred her heart throughout the week. She fought physical frailty with a determined will and was in her place in God's house almost to the last. She was one of the most appreciative listeners her pastor had.

The funeral services were held in the First Church, Anderson, and were conducted by her pastor, Rev. Chesteen W. Smith, assisted by Rev. L. M. Krider and Rev. P. J. Albright.

CHESTEEN SMITH

From: NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE MINUTES 1912-16
(In Indianapolis Library)

THE REV. Y. B. MEREDITH, A.M.

YANCY B. MEREDITH was born near Mooresville, Morgan County, Ind., October 11, 1832. He was the son of Nathan and Jane Meredith. His father was a teacher, and both his parents were prominent and devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Brother Meredith's youth was passed in Mooresville and vicinity until he was some eighteen years of age. His father taught him privately and did not send him to school. He learned the business of a carpenter, and also painting. At this age he removed to the State of Iowa, where he entered a seminary. For three years he went to school and worked alternately at his trade of a carpenter. At the end of this period he returned to Indiana. In his school he was a very diligent student, and these habits of study continued his life long. He made up for early deficiencies in opportunity by careful study, making himself to be indeed a self-educated man.

December 9, 1855, he was married to MISS SARAH E. HOUSE. Of twelve children, eight are now living, left with their mother to lament their loss.

Brother Meredith was converted while he was in Iowa, and there united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. After his marriage, he was licensed to exhort in 1857, and in 1858 was licensed to preach. In 1860, he was admitted on trial in the Indiana Conference, and in due time he was ordained Deacon by Bishop Ames, and Elder by Bishop Simpson. His appointments in the Indiana Conference were, Waverly Circuit, Lancaster, Bowling Green, Patoka, Owensville, Newburgh, Boonesville.

From Boonesville he was transferred to the North Indiana Conference, in the spring of 1871. His appointments among us were: Columbia City, Ligonier, LaGrange, Greenfield, Ossian, Roanoke, Presiding Elder of the Ft. Wayne District and New Castle. At the close of his first year at New Castle failing health obliged him to take a supernumerary relation, which was soon after changed to superannuated, making him twenty-five years of effective service, the early portion of which was on a very large and laborious circuit.

Since Brother Meredith's superannuation, he has been engaged in various enterprises; a portion of the time in the Bethel work. He has never been rugged since a severe sickness in the summer of his second year on the Ft. Wayne District. A decline set in which slowly, but surely, continued its ravages. His last illness began in August, 1890. He was, however, confined to his bed but one week. During all his sickness he was hopeful and courageous, expecting and desiring to recover, and anxious to do more for the Master. He expressed himself that he did not believe his life work was finished, that there was so much yet to be accomplished. He declared that his desire to study and preach the gospel was never stronger than then. Even a few minutes before his departure he expressed a hope that he would soon be better. And so indeed he was, but in a grander way than he

had anticipated, for Sunday, March 23, 1891 (*March 22), Palm Sunday, just as the church bells were ringing for evening service, he quietly and unexpectedly passed away, appearing to be conscious and to recognize those about his bed. He departed so gently that his companion could not tell when he ceased to breathe and was not certain of it until she had spoken to him three times without answer and had shaken his shoulder. Then was it manifest that this good man had joined the triumphal procession, and was waving the palm of victory as he entered with the Redeemer into the new Jerusalem.

Thus he finished his labors, aged 58 years, 5 months, 11 days. On Tuesday, the 24th, his Presiding Elder, the Rev. Dr. Stabler, held his funeral services at his late residence, assisted by his Pastor, the Rev. A. S. Wooten, and several other members of this Conference. His remains were interred at New Castle.

Brother Meredith's long and useful service in this Conference has caused him to be well known to us all. In his family he was ever loving and indulgent; to his companion he was a true husband, her constant stay; as a citizen, he was a man of firm convictions, standing up for the right without consideration of the consequences. He was a genial companion, cheerful, a fluent conversationalist, a true and sympathizing friend. During a long and confidential acquaintance the writer never heard an unpleasant or unworthy word from his lips, nor saw in him uncharitable thoughts. His character and reputation were always above reproach, and such as becomes a faithful minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He was a faithful pastor, found in the family circles of his people, by the bedside of the sick and comforting the dying. As a Presiding Elder he watched diligently for the best interests of all, and hence he was honored and loved. He was as diligent in his study as in any other portion of his work. His sermons were thought out and elaborated with great care and frequently written, though seldom read. He gained a deserved reputation for eloquence, and his discourses commanded universal respect. His reasoning was cogent, and he delighted in the sturdy themes that demanded strong mental power. His aspirations were as lofty as his spirit was gentle. He bore trials with great patience. He was a hearty Methodist.

During his last week his wife remarked to him she feared to leave him lest she might find him dead when she returned to the room. He answered, "Mother, if you come into the room and find I have passed away in your absence from my side, just remember I am in heaven." He often said that no man could afford to sin. While it was a great trial to him to cease from active work, he bore superannuation with resignation, and looked forward with hope to the day when he should enter upon the activity of the nobler life. Let us lay the palm upon his grave while he wears the crown.

From NORTH INDIANA CONFERENCE MINUTES 1888-96 (Indianapolis Library)
 *Death date incorrect - Palm Sunday was on March 22, 1891.

SUSAN VIRGINIA HOUSE was born in Mooresville, Indiana March 22, 1837 and died June 10, 1917 at the ripe age of 80 years, 2 months, and 28 days. She was the daughter of John and Catherine Bless House.

In her early girlhood, reared by parents of strong Methodist faith, she was early converted to God in that faith. Later she united with the church where her husband was a strong pillar, that of the Christian church and remained a steadfast and earnest member until death. And now while it is not my intention to write a eulogy on the life of the deceased for she fain would have it so yet I feel that I cannot refrain from speaking of some admirable and beautiful traits of character which she possessed.

The first of which at the age of 19 years, when she became the wife of DAVID H. TURLEY, she assumed the motherly duty of eight children, some of whom are present and could no doubt rise up and call her blessed for the love and care she bestowed upon them in their helplessness.

She was the mother of seven children, four of them were waiting, no doubt, on the other shore. These were Colona, Honora, Willis and Leona. The surviving children are Mrs. Harvey Paddock at whose home she was so kindly cared for during her last illness; Mrs. Hicklin Jackson; and Mrs. Sam Watson of Martinsville. She was left a widow in 1890. After about seven years of widowhood, which were spent on her farm on which she had continuously lived since going there as a bride, she was united in marriage to G. F. ROUTON of Camby, Indiana on March 8, 1897. This also proved a very happy union. She carried into this home the same grace and dignity seasoned with love and thoughtfulness for others that characterized her in her first home. This union lasted about five years which was broken by the death of Mr. Routon. She then went to Mooresville to reside and continued her residence there letting the same beautiful influence fall upon her friends and neighbors.

She was a devoted, earnest worker in the Christian church in Mooresville, working with her hands and heart until ruthless disease laid its hands upon her.

Her burial was in the cemetery at Mt. Olive church in Madison Township.

NOTE: David Harrison Turley was born August 31, 1815, died December 31, 1890.

From the Democrat

HENRY HOUSE, the deceased, came of an industrious race. He was the son of John and Catherine Bless House, who came to the United States from Germany on their wedding tour. They first settled in Virginia, where the subject of this sketch was born March 23, 1823. He died on his farm at White Lick in the early morning of January 4, 1899, having reached the good age of more than 75 years. In 1833, while Henry was a child of ten years, his parents moved from Virginia and settled in Mooresville, where they remained about a year, removing from Mooresville to Madison township. In 1844 he was married to ELIZABETH KING. To this union two children were born, one of whom survives her father. Mrs. House died in 1848, and in 1849 he was united in marriage to SARAH E. FULTZ, to whom were born in the passing years ten children, eight of whom with the bereaved widow mourn their great loss. Mr. House was converted when a youth of sixteen, in Mooresville, under the able ministry of the late Rev. Mr. Burk, of the M.E. Church. How fitting that here from the church of his choice, here among the friends of his earliest Christian life all that is mortal should be carried to their last resting place. Immediately after his conversion he united with the M.E. Church and through all these eventful years he remained an intelligent and honored member. He had during these almost sixty years filled nearly all the offices filled by laymen, and in all positions alike was found faithful accepting with diffidence from time to time these offices as thrust upon him, but having once accepted he was diligent in the discharge of the duties of the same. May his mantle fall upon some one worthy to be his successor. These years of official relation stretch over a period of more than half a century, and at the time of his death he was still class leader, though the relation was simply nominal, another acting for him, all feeling that this was due him in view of his long and faithful service. The little church at White Lick that had been his church home for more than fifty years will miss him sadly in every way. For many years he has been like a father to the little flock, and for many years he walked among them like a patriarch and leader. He was an earnest churchman, believing strongly and earnestly in the creed and policy of his church; yet he was no bigot, but liked to see an earnest and whole souled belief on the part of any and all members of sister churches. He found time, even before becoming an invalid, to keep well informed in current events both in church and state. His piety was of the sunny kind. He believed in laughter not frivolous but joyous. He verified the words, "The joy of the Lord is your strength." His home was ever the home of the weary itinerant and many will be saddened when they learn that he has passed on to the beyond. For many years he was an invalid, and for the last six or seven a great sufferer. Yet through it all maintained his Christian fortitude, wondering how long the unequal contest would last, but never in a spirit of murmuring. And as one visited him and contemplated the coming dissolution they felt to exclaim "Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his."

NOTE: Henry House came to Indiana in 1836; not 1833 as indicated above. He was 13 years old (not 10) at that time. He is buried in Mooresville Cemetery with his wife Sarah E. House.

SARAH E. FULSE was born in Tennessee, October 15, 1826, died May 3, 1907, age 80 years, 6 months, 18 days. She was united in marriage to Henry House, October 25, 1849. To them were born twelve children, eight of whom are living, Mrs. Harriet Coster, Mrs. H. H. Leathers, Mrs. Frank Hadley, Mrs. O. W. Park, Mrs. Anna Burge, Douglas House, Otto House, and John House. Her husband dying eight years ago, she lived almost sixty years on the farm on which she died. More than sixty-five years ago she was converted and joined the M.E. Church at old Salem. While not permitted on account of physical infirmities in later life to take an active part in the duties of the church she was ever a true and devoted christian, exemplifying in her daily life the faith she possessed in the promise of the gospel of Christ. She needs no words of praise or commendation with those who knew her best, but will always be remembered as a true and constant friend, a kind and obliging neighbor, a devoted wife and loving mother. Her home was always the abode of hospitality and good cheer and those who were given the privilege of association with her there, always found a generous welcome. Grandma never became too old and infirmed to be forgotten by her grandchildren. The stronghold she has gained upon their affection will wield its influence in their lives. As long as her strength remained her mind was clear and she bade those present a loving goodbye, after which she sank into unconsciousness which seemed so perfectly blended into a sort of angelic repose that her last moments passed out quietly and peacefully. Mother has gone before, her life work and its influence for good are left with you. She will be missed. Our hearts are sad. Yet there is a blessed hope when we awaken into a perfect life when there is no night or sorrow, no sin no pain or death, in the presence of Him who hath done all things well. Today our vision of Heaven seems more beautiful and more alluring than ever for now, mother is there, standing at the portals beckoning to us to come home. It is hard for us to understand why those so dear are snatched from us, but it is only by the transition of such sainted souls as hers that the Divine Providence gives us brighter glimpses of the happy reunions that awaits us in the promised heritage beyond.

NOTE: Buried in Mooresville Cemetery with her husband, Henry House.

Six Brothers and Sisters

Harriet Coster

John M. House

Anne Burge

Otto House

Douglas House

Ethel Park

Between 1919-1922