THE MINNICK FAMILY

OF

BOTETOURT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

AND

HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA
The Genealogy of Michael Minnick

The Minnicks of Botetourt County, Virginia, came from a region of Germany known as the Palatinate (also Rhineland-Pfalz), an area located along the Rhine River. This area was close to Alsace-Lorraine, a region historically disputed by France and Germany that until recent times has been a battleground between the two countries. According to Wayland's *The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley*, those Germans emigrating to America from the Palatinate left their homeland not because of economic deprivation, but because of the need to escape religious and political persecution. With the flow of immigration in the period from around 1780 to 1800, many of the earlier settlers of Scotch-Irish descent in Botetourt County began moving farther west, selling their holdings to settlers of German descent who were coming in considerable force from Pennsylvania into the Shenandoah Valley. According to *Botetourt County History Before 1800*, the Minnick family were among the first of these. On June 1, 1795, Michael, John, Jacob, and Perriman Minnick each bought lots in Greenville (Howrytown). Howrytown was a development begun in the late 1700's by Jacob Howry. The following year, Peter Minnick also bought a lot there. In 1796, John Minnick bought Lot 177 in Amsterdam. By 1797 Peter and Benjamin Minnick had also bought property in Greenville. Records in 1798 of the first assessment of property in Amsterdam list Benjamin, John, and Jacob Minnick.

The first election in Botetourt County for state senator and delegates was held at the Court House April, 1792. To be eligible to vote a man had to be at least twenty-one years old, own a minimum of twenty-five acres with a house, or fifty acres of unimproved land. Voters were exempt from arrest for one day for every twenty miles traveled to and from the court house. They registered their votes to the Sheriff viva voce (voice vote). Peter and Henry Minnick voted in this election, indicating that they held property as early as 1792.

Amsterdam, Botetourt County, Virginia, formerly Howrytown, is an unincorporated hamlet not shown on any map of the area, current or past, but which is identified in an early addition of *Lippincott's Gazetteer* as once being a post-village. Today it is a community of about one hundred souls, located beside Virginia Highway 220, between Fincastle (the county seat) and Daleville, Virginia. The countryside is heavily wooded and rolling with small farms dotting the hillsides. To the east one can see the Blue Ridge Mountains and to the west lie the Allegheny Mountains with many groups of mountains making up the Appalachian chain; e.g., Smokey Mountains and Shenandoah Mountains. This area is bisected by the James River and Shenandoah River as well as many tributaries.

The Shenandoah Valley begins at Buchanan, Virginia, a nearby community, then proceeds north, opening wider and wider as it approaches the Potomac River and the Maryland/Virginia border, passing through Botetourt, Rockbridge, Augusta, Rockingham,
Shenandoah, and other historic Virginia counties. Sitting squarely in the Valley is a giant, precipitous mountain approximately fifty miles long with the Indian name of Massanutten. In fact, Shenandoah itself is an Indian name meaning "Daughter of the Stars," so called because of its tranquility and clarity in bygone days that enabled stars to reflect from the water. The valley to the east of Massanutten is called Luray Valley, where flows the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. The main valley west of Massanutten is called the North Fork of the Shenandoah River; both forks converge to flow into the Potomac River. The country in southwestern Virginia is still sparsely populated, very rural, and enchantingly beautiful. It was, however, totally devastated during the Civil War and many inhabitants left the area during or shortly after the war; thus, it is no surprise to find many Henry County, Indiana, families with their roots somewhere in Virginia.

MICHAEL and EVE MINNICK

In 1795 Michael Minnick and Eve, his wife, were living in Amsterdam, Botetourt County, his whereabouts until then unknown, but believed to be York County, Pennsylvania. On June 1, 1795, Michael bought two lots in Amsterdam, Numbers 29 and 30, for thirty shillings. The following year he invested in 150 acres and 14 perches (rods) of farmland, purchased from James Henry and his wife, Annas, for which he paid three hundred twenty pounds Virginia currency, land he sold to John Seacrist eleven years later in 1807 for four hundred and five pounds, a tidy profit. Michael received final payment in 1815 on the "Sundry Bonds and their interest" that were executed by the court to secure the payment on the land.

In the meantime, in 1803, Michael was in York township, York County, Pennsylvania, and had given power of attorney to John Minnick, his eldest son, to sell property for him in the town of Greenville, Botetourt County. This property, Lot Number thirty one, was sold to John George Butler for five pounds. Apparently, the power of attorney imparted to John was due to Michael's absence, not incompetency, since Michael was negotiating finances through the courts as late as 1815, at which time he recovered payment for a bond plus interest from a couple, John Seacrist and his wife, Rody, who had put up their property to secure a loan.

JOHN and MARY MINNICK

John Minnick, Michael and Eve's son, was born around 1770, probably in York County, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Moyers, also born ca. 1770, in Botetourt County, Virginia, January 21, 1795. John bought property in Howrytown in June of 1795, six months after his marriage. The following year, 1796, he bought Lot 177 in Amsterdam for which he paid fifty dollars. At some time he also bought Lot 116, which became his residence. John was a wagon-maker by trade.
Their first son, Peter Minnick, was born June 17, 1797 and died September 24, 1850. He married Elizabeth Croft November 27, 1823, and later settled near Springfield, Ohio. John and Mary's son, Michael Minnick, was born in 1798. (A detailed account of Michael follows.) John and Mary had three daughters, Catherine, Elizabeth W., and Christiana. Catherine Minnick was born ca. 1800 and died in 1862; her death was reported by her brother-in-law, Buford T. Murphy. Elizabeth W. Minnick (born 1808) married Buford T. Murphy (born 1810), August 14, 1834. Buford was also a wagonmaker. Christiana Minnick was born around 1808 and married Jacob Haymaker (born 1807) February 17, 1829. She was bonded by her older brother, Michael. John's other son, Christian Minnick, born 1810, with his wife, Ann, settled in Giles County, Virginia, in 1850. The census of 1840 shows John and Mary still living in Amsterdam. A female, probably their daughter Catherine, is listed as living with them. Sometime in the next three years, between 1840 and 1843, John died around the age of seventy-three. It is not known when Mary died, but she is not found in the census of 1850. Catherine Minnick did not marry and her will, probated in 1862, left John's property, which she had inherited, to her sister Elizabeth Murphy.

MICHAEL and REBECCA STEVER MINNICK

Michael M. Minnick, (John's son), was born in 1798. He married Rebecca Stever, born 1801, the daughter of George and Barbara Stever on February 4, 1821, in Botetourt County, Virginia. George Stever owned land that was adjacent to the 150 acres once owned by the elder Michael, Michael's grandfather. George Stever was a property owner as early as 1792, when he voted in the state election. Rebecca was bonded by George Rodgers. According to Botetourt County Marriages, a bondsman is "...a party granting surety to the clerk that marriage can be held without legal impediment." Their minister was William Shanks. (The Shanks name is significant here suggesting a long-time relationship between the two families as seen later when Michael and Rebecca's son, Isaac, married a Shank[s]). Their license reads as follows:

Know all men by these presents, that we Michael Minnick and George Rodgers are held and firmly bound unto Thomas M. Randolph Governor of Virginia, in the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, current money, and for the payment of which well and truly to be made to the said Governor and his successors in office, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals and dated the 4th day of February 1821.

The condition of the above obligation is such, that whereas there is a marriage shortly to be had and
solemnized between the above bound Michael Minnick & Rebecca Stever daughter of George Stever if, therefore, there be no lawful cause or impediment to obstruct said marriage, then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Michael Minnick
George Rodgers
(Note: This document was signed by their own hands, indicating literacy.)

Michael Minnick applies for a license to intermarry with Rebeccah Stever, daughter of George Stever who hath signified to me his assent thereto, a license will therefore be granted accordingly. Bond with security being executed.

H Bowyer

Michael and Rebecca's first child, Isaac, was born in 1822. In June of 1826 Michael bought five lots in Amsterdam: Numbers 49, 50, 51, 52, and 83. The Virginia census of 1830 shows that Michael and Rebecca (both between thirty and forty years old) had two sons under five years old (Charles Austin, born 1826, and probably James); one son five-to-ten (Isaac), and one daughter five-to-ten (probably Eliza Ann). Listed in his household of nine people was one female slave, age 24-36. They also had living with them one male between 10-20 and one male between 20-30, too old to be interpreted as being their sons, but probably relatives or workers, not an uncommon practice at that time. Unfortunately, the 1830 census did not indicate names, other than heads-of-household, but simply enumerated male and female by age groups.

In August of 1837 when Michael was thirty-nine, he made a bold venture and borrowed more than six hundred dollars against five lots, the house he lived in, all the household possessions, among which were five feather beds and a large copper kettle, as well as his tools, supplies for his trade as a wagon-maker, and his animals, all to be auctioned off to satisfy the loan should he default in payment. Several months later, he settled these debts completely and was legally cleared of all claims. It is interesting to note that the wives' names did not appear on court documents when land was bought or money borrowed; however, when property was sold or deeded through the courts or a release of a claim was required, the wife was examined "privily" apart from her husband and asked if she "doth freely and willingly without his persuasion or threats" and after careful explanation of the transaction, agree not to retract the indenture that she had "acknowledged." Several of these documents were "signed, sealed, and delivered" by both Eve and Rebecca. Whereas the law protected the wives against their husbands' selling of property without their consent, it seems that Michael put up everything that he and
Rebecca owned as collateral for the loan without her name appearing on the indenture.

By 1840 when Isaac was fifteen years old the census shows two other sons from ten-to-fifteen (one was James), and two other children under five who had been added to the household, one male (George) and one female. Michael bought more property in Amsterdam in 1846, four lots including Numbers 122 and 123. In the meantime, however, in 1843, Michael and Rebecca deeded Lot 116, which had belonged to John Minnick and was his residence until his death, to Katherine (Catherine) Minnick, John's daughter, who never married. It is assumed that Mary, John's wife, had also died since she did not inherit the property. In that same year Michael and Rebecca deeded the adjacent lot Number 117 to Buford Murphy, husband of John's daughter, Elizabeth Minnick. Michael deeded these properties, which had belonged to his father and as the oldest (and only) son had been inherited by him, to his sisters for the legal sum of one dollar each.

The census of 1850 for Botetourt County lists Michael as 52 years of age (born 1798), a wagon-maker, and Rebecca, 49 years of age (born 1801), the first definitive evidence to pinpoint their birth years. Until then, age ranges in the census varied from five-to-ten years, making accuracy more difficult. There were three children at home: George S., 14 years of age; William E., 8 years of age; and Rebecca V., 6 years of age, the younger two having been born after the last census count. The three older sons had left home by then (Isaac had been married for five years). The 1860 census for Virginia shows Michael as 64 years old; Rebecca as 60, with children William, age 17 years old and Virginia (probably Rebecca V. shown in the 1850 census), 15 years old, both at home.

To summarize Michael and Rebecca's children, they were as follows: a son, Isaac William Minnick, born 1822; a son (probably James Minnick) born ca. 1825-1830; Charles Austin Minnick, born December 22, 1826 and died October 22, 1911; a daughter, probably Eliza Ann Minnick, born ca. 1825; a daughter probably Martha Jane Minnick, born ca. 1835; George Stever Minnick, born in 1836; William E. Minnick, born in 1842; and Rebecca Virginia Minnick, born in 1844. Marriage records for Botetourt County indicate that Michael was witness to the marriage of two daughters, Eliza Ann Minnick to Robert W. Elam, July 24, 1844; and Martha Jane Minnick to Charles T. Harris April 12, 1847. (According to the ages of the females enumerated on the census reports, only one of his daughters would be old enough to match the 1844 and 1847 dates, unless the census notation was in error.)

It is not known how long Michael was a Botetourt resident, but according to court records he held deeds for property and in the 1860 census held $1500 assessable value of property and $600 personal property, a substantial sum at that time. According to a research paper written in 1977 by J. William Austin, II, a
Minnick relative, Michael died May 21, 1885, and Rebecca died July 7, 1881. Botetourt County has death records spanning only the time period 1853-1870; thus, death certificates for Michael and Rebecca cannot be obtained if indeed they died in that county and it is believed that they did. It is also possible that Roanoke (Bedford County) could be the site of their death and burial.

ISAAC and CATHARINE SHANK MINNICK

Isaac William Minnick was born November 11, 1822, according to Botetourt County records (a family bible records the birth as May 9, 1822). As a child, he was "bound out" or apprenticed to Jacob Fleager to learn wagon-making, and this seems to have been his life-long occupation since the census of 1860 lists wagon-maker as his occupation. Jacob Fleager, 57 years of age in 1850, a farmer (and also wagon-maker), had a 77 year old woman, Barbara (probably his mother), living with him, and a 37 year old son, John. It is unclear why Isaac was apprenticed since both his father and his grandfather were wagon-makers.

Isaac W. Minnick and Catharine Shank, born July 10, 1823, were married April 18, 1845, in Botetourt County, Virginia. Catharine was attested to be over the age of 21 by George Shank, thought to be her brother. George Shank is shown in the 1850 census (Botetourt County) as 30 years of age and married to Elizabeth, age 25. Catharine's father, Jacob Shank, is listed in the same census as 60 years of age, a cooper (barrel-maker), and his wife, Mary, as also age 60. Other information suggests that Catharine was born in Tennessee, and although early census records list both Jacob and George Shank as heads of household in Hawkins and nearby eastern Tennessee counties, definitive conclusions could not be verified.

Isaac and Catherine had nine children; six of whom were born before the Civil War, two during, and one following the war. They were Mary Jane Minnick (1846-1925); George Washington Minnick (1848-1928); John Wesley Minnick (1850-1926); Michael Andrew Minnick (1853-1916); Thomas Newton Minnick (1854-1941); Charles Filmore Minnick (1856-1947); Sarah Louisa Minnick (1861-1862); Anna Virginia Minnick (1863-1955); and Isaac William (or William Isaac) Minnick (1866-1950). A notice of the children's names will call to mind that Isaac's father and great-grandfather were named Michael; his grandfather was John; George and William were names of his brothers; and he had a sister, Virginia.

There was a soldier by the name of Isaac Minnick who served in the Civil War. Although he is believed to be the Isaac of this account, other possibilities have been noted and will be referred to from time to time. Isaac enlisted as a private earning $11.00 a month. Soldiers were paid erratically, receiving Confederate money that depreciated steadily throughout the war until it was worth absolutely nothing and was not acceptable in commercial
transactions. His official military records in the Washington, D.C. Archives, indicate that he was enlisted by Captain Eames for a period of three years on May 21, 1863, at Blountville, Tennessee, a small community about five miles from Bristol, Virginia, which straddles the Tennessee/Virginia state line. His records show that he was sworn into the Confederate Army on June 1, 1863, and was assigned to Co. B, 63rd Virginia Infantry Regiment commanded by Lt. Col. Connally Lynch, who was later replaced by Col. John J. McMahon. According to a history of the 63rd Virginia Regiment by John C. Weaver, whose great-great grandfather served in this regiment as well, Isaac is shown on Co. B's roster at that time. The 63rd was an element of the Second Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. John S. Williams; Army of Western Virginia, which was commanded by Maj. Gen. Samuel Jones.

The official war records of Isaac's brothers, William E. (probably Edward) and George S. (Stever) Minnick show that they both enlisted May 15, 1861, in the 28th Virginia Infantry Regiment. According to National Archive records, William was inducted at Amsterdam, although extant Botetourt County records show no Minnicks at all serving in the Confederate Army from Botetourt County. Clearly, the records, many of which were destroyed in the war, make it very difficult to verify military service. William was assigned to Company K and rose to the rank of sergeant, serving until the end of the war but spending some time in Richmond's historically well-known Chimborazo Hospital in June of 1864. It is of some interest to note that William was accidentally wounded in October, 1862, while at home on furlough, possibly after returning to duty following his capture by Union troops at Boonsboro (Maryland) September 15, 1862. He apparently had been exchanged under the terms existing at that time of the war, a practice later abandoned. No other details are contained in his official records.

George S. Minnick's records indicate that he enlisted at Craig (County) Court House and was sworn in at Lynchburg, Virginia. George served until the war's end as a private in Company B of the 28th. He appears to have been at the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run) and, thereafter, assigned to the Ordnance Department in Richmond, possibly involved in the production and/or testing of cannon until the South's surrender in April, 1865. The Tredegar Foundry in Richmond was the only cannon-producing facility in the Confederacy, but many, of course, were imported from other countries, particularly England.

It is of importance to note that thirty-to-forty Minnicks served in the Confederate military forces, many from states other than Virginia, as well as many Northern Minnicks, who served in the Union forces. Although separated by state lines and consequent loyalties, the Minnick family gave their fortunes and sometimes their lives for those causes they embraced. We can never know the full price paid by this one family, historically obscure, but representative of thousands of families, both North and South. For
example, Daniel L. Minick, Co. B. 4th Virginia infantry, was
wounded in the mouth at Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862, and was listed
as missing and presumed killed at Gettysburg just one year later.
A Pennsylvania infantry company captain, Jacob Minnich, lies about
two hundred yards north of where President Lincoln spoke at
Gettysburg. However, Captain Minnich was not killed there, and did
not die until the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Two other Minnicks, James and William, were also listed as soldiers
in Co. B. 63rd Infantry. They were from Washington County,
Virginia, the county where Bristol is located. It was a common
practice for close relatives to belong to the same units. Medical
care, especially in the South, was very rudimentary and one had to
have help from a dependable source in case one became ill, was
wounded in battle, or needed a proper burial. It is thought that
Isaac went to Washington County to enlist because his relatives
lived there. Most likely the Washington County Minnicks were
cousins since they were younger than Isaac's brothers, James and
William. Knowing that serving in the army was inevitable, he
enlisted when and where he did to make certain of being with
relatives. (NOTE: The census of 1850 for Washington County
enumerates an Isaac Minnick, age 52. By 1863, at the time of Isaac
Minnick's enlistment, this person would have been sixty-five years
old if he were still living. At that age, it is unlikely that he
would have been accepted for service in the Civil War. However,
for the sake of accurate recording, and because we are not positive
of Isaac's reason for enlisting in Bristol, it is necessary to
present the research findings, however remote or confusing they
might be.)

In 1863, Isaac, who was born in 1822, would have been 41 years old,
a man older than most Civil War soldiers. He had six living
children and a pregnant wife left alone in Amsterdam, Botetourt
County, some 50 miles to the north of Washington County. We can
only speculate that since nearly every able-bodied man was subject
to conscription in the Confederacy by 1863, he enlisted in order to
be with relatives and friends while he still had a choice. The
German Baptists were, as a religious group, pacifists insofar as
war is concerned, but there is clearly no evidence whatever that
the Minnicks evaded or attempted to evade military service for
religious reasons. If this Isaac is Michael and Rebecca's son and
the brother of William and George, there are several possible
explanations as to why he went to Washington County to enlist.
First of all, his brothers were already in the army and there was
virtually no chance that he could be in the same unit they were in,
but most likely he went to southwest Virginia and eastern Tennessee
because Catharine's family lived in Hawkins County, Tennessee.
Perhaps he relocated his family there for the duration of the war,
an area relatively safe from the constant fighting in the
Shenandoah Valley.
Isaac probably was furnished with a Springfield, Enfield, or U.S. Harper's Ferry model rifle and perhaps wore the same clothing he wore when he enlisted. Rifles had been captured from United States arsenals when the South seceded. The calibers varied but most were about .58 caliber, firing a soft lead Minie ball that could kill a man at more than half a mile. The ball made huge, terrible wounds from a mushrooming effect, similar to the hollow-point bullets of today; the caliber will be noted to be larger than one-half inch in diameter. A good soldier could load and fire three shots per minute, using pre-measured powder in a paper tube, ramming the ball down the barrel, and placing a percussion cap on the nipple, doing all this while lying on his back to avoid being killed by the enemy's fusillade of hot lead and cannon shrapnel.

Isaac appears to have participated in every conflict in which his regiment was involved, including one of the most significant battles of the Civil War: the bloody encounter at Chickamauga, just south of Chattanooga, Tennessee. The 2nd Brigade, of which the 63rd was a part, had fought only several minor skirmishes in southwestern Virginia, but in the late summer of 1863, they were transferred to General Braxton Bragg's Army of Tennessee. The men were transported by rail from Bristol, Tennessee, to Knoxville via the Virginia-Tennessee Railroad, then marched the remaining distance to join the Army of Tennessee on September 3, 1863. Bragg had started to invade Kentucky but was driven back to Chattanooga following his defeats at Perrysville, Kentucky, and Stone River, Tennessee. Realizing that he needed reinforcements to hold Chattanooga, not only a railroad and river center but also a gateway to the deep South, Bragg requisitioned the 63rd along with other units. The 63rd eventually became part of Brigadier General Alexander Welch Reynold's Brigade and by the fall of 1863, the 63rd Virginia Regiment was commanded by Major James M. French, who replaced Col. John J. McMahon. By late 1863 the 2nd Brigade was composed of the 58th North Carolina, 60th North Carolina, the 54th Virginia, and the 63rd Virginia Infantry Regiments. The brigade was part of Major General Pat Cleburne's division, which was attached to Lt. General William J. Hardee's Corps, of Bragg's Army of Tennessee. When Bragg saw that Chattanooga was a trap surrounded by mountains and impassable valleys, he abandoned Chattanooga, falling back just outside the city to a town called Rossville, where Chickamauga Creek is located.

Thus began the great battle of Chickamauga, which basically began and ended on September 19 and 20 with the Army of the Cumberland, Union troops commanded by General Rosecrans, barely escaping total annihilation. Only through the efforts of Corps Commander General George Thomas was the Confederate assault repelled. By forming a semi-circle of cannon and troops on Snodgrass Hill and escaping back to Chattanooga under cover of darkness, Thomas' troops were able to avoid a total Union disaster.
Meanwhile, Bragg had received reinforcements from Gen. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia commanded by one of his top commanders, Lt. General James Longstreet. Longstreet among others thought Bragg incompetent and soon Longstreet's Corps was transferred by President Jefferson Davis to lay siege at Knoxville to drive out invading Union forces. Longstreet then rejoined Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, while Bragg continued to occupy Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and Lookout Mountain. General U.S. Grant took command of the Army of the Cumberland and relegated Rosecrans to a position of lesser authority. Grant sent for General William T. Sherman, Phil Sheridan, and George Thomas (who became known as the "Rock of Chickamauga") to plan an assault to drive out the entire Army of Tennessee still commanded by Bragg.

The Union forces attacked with such ferocity in November, 1863, that Bragg's main forces were driven back to Ringgold and Dalton, Georgia. Meanwhile the 63rd and other units were ordered to hold Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Cleburne's Division, including the 63rd on the far right at Tunnel Hill, ran out of ammunition and began rolling boulders and throwing rocks at advancing Union units under the commands of Sherman and Thomas. Hand-to-hand combat along with the use of rifle butts and the cold steel of bayonets became common events. So extraordinary was the encounter, that seven Union men won the Congressional Medal of Honor in assaulting the fiercely defended Missionary Ridge.

The Union attack on Lookout Mountain began November 24 and by the 25th both Lookout and Missionary Ridge had been taken in what survivors described as one of the hardest fought battles of the Civil War. Chattanooga is about 250 miles from Isaac's home in Botetourt County, Virginia, and he must have stared death in the face many times in that strange land. Because of the importance of the Chattanooga campaign, the battle was win or lose for the entire Confederacy since it opened the way for Sherman's march to Atlanta and thence to the Atlantic coast; it may well have been the most decisive battle of the entire Civil War and one that changed American history forever. It may be parenthetically noted that General Joseph E. Johnston assumed command of the Army of Tennessee on December 27, 1863, and remained in command until the siege of Atlanta when Jefferson Davis replaced him with General John Bell Hood, a courageous but controversial commander.

Today, the Chattanooga Military Park comprises 8,500 acres and is the largest Civil War military park in the country. Its stately forests, grassy glades, and ageless mountains can never do justice to the agony and suffering that occurred there on both sides just 130 years ago. Isaac was captured at Missionary Ridge (one of three battle areas in the Chattanooga campaign, which included Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, and Missionary Ridge). History shows that the winter of 1863-64 was one of the most severe ever recorded; the men suffered terribly from exposure to the cold and hunger. The Indian name Chickamauga means the "River of Death," an
eerily portentous name for the men who found themselves there as soldiers of the Civil War.

Many men from the 63rd were killed, wounded, captured, or listed as missing-in-action (Sixty-third Virginia Infantry by Jeffrey C. Weaver, 1991). On Wednesday, November 25, 1863, the day before Thanksgiving, Isaac Minnick was captured by Maj. Gen. Thomas' troops, probably William T. Sherman's Corps at Tunnel Hill, the center of Missionary Ridge, which was the Confederate's right wing. Tunnel Hill, Georgia, is a small community founded in 1856 and exists today probably very much as it was in 1863. Within sight of the southeastern edge of town, the railroad still remains and the railroad tunnels (there are now two) stand side by side to the east forming a rail passage through Missionary Ridge. The original tunnel is 1,175 feet long, made of cut and dressed limestone with a Roman arch and keystone forming the entrance. Water problems caused its abandonment in the 1920's. The original tunnel was built in 1850 and the first train passed through it in 1852, according to the dedication plaque above the entrance. Just to the left (North), another tunnel was completed in 1928 with the date engraved above the entrance and this one is in use at the present time.

Confederate troops occupied both the Lookout Mountain Ridge lying to the west and Missionary Ridge to the east, with a gap or valley between the two ridges of ten-to-fifteen miles, or more. It was here that Bragg's Army of Tennessee intended to make a stand and stop the Union forces from funneling down into Georgia from Chattanooga. Keeping in mind that both Lookout and Missionary hills are actually long ridges fanning out for miles south and southeast of Chattanooga, forming a gap or valley into Georgia, it can be seen how and why the right flank of the Confederate army became anchored at the railroad tunnel while the left was at Lookout Mountain Ridge.

For Isaac and many of his comrades, as many as seven thousand according to some reports, the war was over, but still their battle for survival raged on. While the fighting continued for another eighteen months, those who became prisoners-of-war would be fighting another kind of war...the battle against starvation, disease, and deprivation of body and spirit. Twenty percent of the POW's at Rock Island would lose the fight and would never see their beloved Southland again. Isaac probably was sent by steamer down the Cumberland River or by rail to Nashville and then to Louisville, Kentucky, as a P.O.W. and his military records from the Washington, D.C. Archives show that he arrived in Louisville about December 7, 1863, and was sent on by train, probably from Cincinnati or Madison, Indiana, to Chicago via Indianapolis, and was received in early December 1863 at the U.S. Military Prison, Rock Island, Illinois, a "hell-hole" of misery and despair. Rock
Island is located in the Mississippi River near Moline, Illinois, later becoming a United States arsenal, which it remains today.

About two months later, James W. Minnich (spelled Minnick, according to other records) was also captured and sent to Rock Island. He wrote an account of his experiences as prisoner-of-war (Inside of Rock Island Prison from December, 1863, to June, 1865. This book was written in 1908; a facsimile of the original book was reproduced in 1978 and is available at the Ann Arbor Library Microfilm Division). Rock Island military prison was one of the largest and most infamous Union military prisons, where thousands of Confederate soldiers died from disease (mostly smallpox), starvation, and exposure to the harsh climate. Life there was desperate. Existing on meager daily rations of only ounces of meat and bread, men eked out their food supplies as best they could, sometimes by catching rats and stray dogs to make stews. Scurvy was rampant until Moline citizens hearing of the plight of the prisoners, appealed to Abraham Lincoln, who permitted them to supply the prisoners with potatoes, which helped to alleviate their situation. Of the eight-to-ten thousand population in the eighteen month period it existed, official records show that about two thousand men died and are still buried at Rock Island in an area set aside from the United States Military Cemetery, comprising only those Confederate soldiers dying in captivity at Rock Island Prison. Being captured and incarcerated during the same time period at the same place, James and Isaac's experiences surely paralleled.

It is a matter of historical record that the North had adequate food supplies and resources but that retaliation for the conditions of Southern prisons was the motive for the inhuman conditions existing in all Northern Civil War prisons. Conversely, those familiar with Civil War history will know that at any given time, at least one-third of the Confederate soldiers had no shoes and were on the verge of starvation themselves most of the time; the Confederacy had neither the means to care properly for their own nor for prisoners-of-war.

General U.S. Grant had issued an order in early 1864, approved by President Abraham Lincoln, that there would be no exchange of prisoners, thereby forcing these men to remain at Rock Island under terrible conditions until their parole. Other than escape or death, prisoners had to remain imprisoned until released by executive order (parole) at the war's end. Isaac was still shown on the August, 1864, 63rd Virginia regiment, company B muster roll as a prisoner-of-war. We must assume that he remained a prisoner-of-war until hostilities ceased in April of 1865. From his account, we know that James Minnick remained at Rock Island until around July 1, 1865. Records show that few, if any, men were released before that date. Confederate soldiers were not given discharges but simply paroled by the victorious Union forces upon their oath to not take up arms against the Union again.
Isaac somehow survived this ordeal and returned home following the war. The harsh inhumanity of prison life and the equally terrible conditions of Confederate army life no doubt contributed to his early death. We do not know how Isaac made his way back to Virginia, since neither transportation nor money was provided to released Confederate soldiers. Probably, he traveled down the Mississippi River to the Ohio River and thence up the Ohio to a point nearest his home from where he walked the remaining one hundred and fifty miles or so. At any rate he returned home where he lived for another four years, probably in deteriorated physical condition as a result of his horrendous experience at Chickamauga and the debilitating conditions of his eighteen-month imprisonment at Rock Island. Neither Isaac nor his widow lived long enough to collect the Veterans' Pension, which was not allowed until 1888. These pensions were awarded by the state for which the veteran served and although meager no doubt helped those left destitute by the war.

Isaac, whose death on May 17, 1869, was reported by his brother, James, is probably buried near Amsterdam. According to a lifetime resident of the Amsterdam community, it was his opinion that Isaac was likely buried in a now-abandoned cemetery on Trinity Road, just northeast of Amsterdam. It is known as the Ebenezer Cemetery, and a church once stood there. Burial records in the Fincastle Library for this cemetery do not show Isaac's burial there, but the records were taken from extant grave-stones; hence, if a stone was missing or illegible, of course it was not included. One thing is known for certain, and that is the Minnicks frequently failed to place stones on the graves of family members in the old days. Isaac's death certificate shows that death was caused by "a sore leg," probably gangrene, or massive infection, following his service in the Civil War. It is not known if the injury to his leg was a war wound that never properly healed or some other injury incurred later. It is known that little could be done by medical science in those days to help cure infection; many Civil War soldiers died later from wounds and injuries received during the war years, sometimes as long as twenty years, or more.

It should be noted that the foregoing account is based on existing and known documentation, but clearly inferential judgments and conclusions have been utilized to fill-in where factually demonstrated information is lacking. For example (and after this account was originally researched and written), it was determined that more than one Isaac Minnick lived in southwest Virginia during and preceding the Civil War.

On April 16, 1862, the Confederate Congress conscripted for three years all white males between the ages eighteen and thirty-five, who were not legally exempt. By September, 1863, the age was raised to forty-five, and by February, 1864, the limits were set at seventeen-to-fifty. An Isaac Minnick lived in Washington County; however, he would have been about sixty-five years old in 1863,
when records show an Isaac Minnick having enlisted in Washington County in the 63rd Virginia Infantry Regiment. Considering that the conscription law at that time included every able-bodied male between ages eighteen and forty-five, this Isaac would have been too old. However, Isaac, the son of Michael and Rebecca, was born in 1822 and would have been forty-one years old when documentation shows his enlistment in Washington County, June 1, 1863.

Another Isaac Minnick, age nine years, is shown in the Tennessee census of 1850 living in Sullivan County, adjacent to Virginia. He would have been twenty-two or twenty-three years old in 1863 and perhaps may be the person identified in this family history as Michael and Rebecca's son insofar as Civil War service is concerned. However, he would have been of conscription age at the beginning of the war in 1861, and it raises a question of why he would (or could) wait until 1863 to enlist. Further, it is puzzling why a man from Tennessee would enlist in a Virginia regiment. The Isaac from Tennessee was the son of Samuel Minnick of Sullivan County.

If Michael's son Isaac was not the soldier portrayed in the account depicted, it is necessary to explain why he may not have served in the army. He may have been in poor health and escaped conscription, or perhaps he served in a local militia but not the Confederate Army, although records of such service do not exist. According to diaries left by both Confederate and Union veterans, a physical examination was perfunctory, such as having the person jump up and down; noting the deficiency or absence of limbs; checking for blindness or deafness, all this while the men were fully clothed. Stethoscopes and other means of determining physical problems were unknown in that day and age. Such reasons as family responsibilities or number of children were not considered at all in determining eligibility for the army. The purchasing of a substitute was utilized only by the wealthy and was soon rescinded in both North and South. Actually, evading the Confederate draft was very difficult and included only a few professional occupations or those who owned twenty or more slaves. This practice gave rise to the expression, "A rich man's war and a poor man's battle." Out of one million eligible white males more than 750,000 served in some capacity.

To determine if the person whose military history portrayed above was Michael's son Isaac or instead a relative by the same name who actually served, the following sources were researched:

1. Genealogical Library, Church of Latter Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah.
2. Indiana State Library, Archives Division
3. Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Library Archives
5. Richmond, Virginia, Public Library Archives
6. Botetourt County (Fincastle, Virginia) Public Library
In addition, the pension files for Virginia (enacted in 1888) were searched for Isaac Minnick or his widow and nothing was found. Isaac from Tennessee would have been only fifty-one years old in 1888 and certainly he or his widow would have applied for Virginia's Confederate soldiers pension if either were alive. It is known, however, that Michael's Isaac and his wife, Catharine, were long dead before the 1888 Virginia law was enacted and therefore would not be shown in the pension rolls.

In the final analysis, every known step has been taken to determine if one or the other Isaac was the soldier shown in military records of the Confederacy, and yet the definitive answer is not known nor probably can it ever be known. The National Archives military records show no middle name, birthplace, date of birth, age, parentage, nor anything other than where the person enlisted and where he served afterward. Consequently, the preceding scenario is what may and possibly did happen but no concrete linkage or chain of evidence to prove how events occurred can be assured by this researcher.

(To avoid confusion to other researchers, it is important to note that there was also another Michael Minnick born in 1798 in Pennsylvania. He married Lydia Henry in York County, Pennsylvania, and lived for a time in Rockingham County, Virginia, before moving to Indiana. He was the father of Andrew Minnick, a well-known resident of Fall Creek Township, Henry County, Indiana. Michael died March 2, 1889, at the age of 91. He is not the Michael Minnick of this history, although they were undoubtedly related and their lives and families bore a remarkable parallel of time and place. Andrew Minnick was born in Fall Creek Township, Henry County, and served a distinguished career in the Civil War; however, he was on the Union side. Further confusion arises from the fact that the Book of Rebellion, Enlisted Men from Indiana also lists an Isaac Minnick from Madison County, who enlisted August 19, 1862, and was discharged in July 1863 from wounds received at the Battle of Richmond, Kentucky. He belonged to Co. K, 16th Indiana Infantry Regiment. Isaac was likely the son of Anthony Minnick, a Madison County pioneer settler, who was also from Rockingham County, Virginia. Anthony, born December 12, 1821, was the son of William and Nancy (Good) Minnick. He first moved to Wayne County near Greens Fork, later to Wabash County, and thence to Madison County. He married Phoebe Richwine, also of Rockingham County, Virginia. Anthony lived in Duck Creek Township, Madison County in the latter years of his life. He was a well-respected Dunkard preacher as well as a farmer and lived to the age of seventy-two. His relationship to the Isaac Minnick of Botetourt County, the subject of this research, is not known; however, the Virginia Minnicks had a common Pennsylvania ancestry regardless of how the name was spelled or wherever they eventually settled. One thing is certain, Minnicks were heavily involved in the Civil War, some on the Union side and many in the Confederate Army, truly brother against brother.)
Following her husband's death in the spring of 1869, most likely in the summer or early fall before winter made traveling difficult, Catharine Minnick brought her family to Henry County, Indiana, a growing and thriving area where it is thought her eldest son, George W., and other family members were already living. She is shown in the 1870 Henry County Fall Creek Township census living with George W., age 22, a farmer, who was listed as head of household. Catharine (generally spelled with an "ar" not "er") was 46 years old and keeping house. Others in the household were John, 19 years old (carpenter); Michael, 17 years old (working on farm); Thomas, 15 years old (working on farm); Charles Filmore, 13 years old (working on farm); Anna V., 8 years old, and Isaac W. (William Isaac), 4 years old.

Catharine Shank Minnick died December 14, 1877, and is buried in the Pioneer South Cemetery, originally known as the Riley Cemetery, one of the oldest surviving burial grounds in this area, south of Middletown on 5th street road. The site of her grave is thought to be in the south offset and is unmarked. (An unsolved puzzle at this writing is the notation on the death certificates of two of her children. On one she is recorded as Elizabeth Shank and on the other as Elizabeth Tinkle. The closest connection to this name is that of Tinker Creek in Botetourt County where John Minnick was living when enumerated in the 1820 Census.)

Catharine was married to Isaac twenty-four years and produced nine children over a period of nineteen years, including one little girl who barely survived her first birthday, one child born in the midst of the Civil War, and one born after he returned home from the war. Isaac lived only three years following the birth of this last child, leaving Catharine with children in their teens and two little ones under six. We can only surmise the hardships she must have endured: the deprivations suffered during the civil conflict; the loss of her baby daughter; the anxiety of having her husband go to war for two years; and his death only a few years later. After all this, she gathered up her family and moved to Indiana in what must have been an arduous journey, leaving behind her homeland, all that was familiar, and one of the most beautiful valleys imaginable. Catharine Shank Minnick had a strong, unconquerable spirit and was surely determined to give her children a better life in a new land. She rests now just a short distance across a few acres of fields from here. Though in an unmarked grave, she left her mark on the Minnick family.

THE CHILDREN OF ISAAC and CATHARINE MINNICK

MARY JANE MINNICK

Mary Jane Minnick, born March 25, 1846, in Botetourt County, Virginia, was Isaac and Catharine's first child. She married
Charles Dabney Fuqua also of Botetourt County. They were married in Amsterdam on October 20th, 1866, by Reverend Robert J Taylor. Their marriage license reads as follows:

Virginia Botetourt County to wit: To any Persons Licensed to Celebrate Marriages
You are hereby authorized to join together in the Holy State of Matrimony according to the rites and ceremonies of Your Church, or religious denomination, and the Laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia
Charles D Fuqua and Mary Jane Minnick
Given under my hand as Deputy Clerk of the County Court of said County this 19th day of October 1866
Thos J Godwin, Depty Clerk

This was followed by an annexed document, required by an act passed March 15th, 1861, that listed time, place, ages, condition (widowed or single), their birthplaces and residences, parents names, and occupation of husband. They were both single; she was twenty, and he was a twenty-seven year old farmer. The date seems significant because it indicates that they had waited until after the war to marry. Military files of Confederate soldiers list Charles D. Fuqua in Co. E 28th Virginia Infantry, but it is unknown how long he was away. As the oldest child, Mary Jane undoubtedly was leaned on heavily by Catharine while Isaac was away not only to help care for the children and the household but also for emotional support.

Charles Dabney Fuqua was born October 6, 1837 in Bedford County, Virginia, the oldest child of William Minor Fuqua and Nancy Emoline Minor, who were married in 1836. Charles was thirteen years old in the 1850, Botetourt County, Virginia, census and had two sisters and three brothers. William had also served in the Civil War in Co. B, 22nd Virginia Infantry. William moved his family to Indiana in 1867. The next trace of William's family was found in the Indiana census of 1870, which indicated that they lived in Henry County adjacent to Charles and Mary Jane, who had also moved to Indiana sometime following their marriage in 1866, undoubtedly to flee the devastation of their homeland following the Civil War. By 1870 Charles had acquired a hundred dollars in personal worth and Mary Jane had given birth to a girl, Emmaline, the year before.

William and Nancy had added three more girls and another boy to their family and at age fifty-five William still had seven children at home. William was listed as a farmer and Charles as working on a farm, probably for his father. William Minor Fuqua died May 16, 1900, at the age of eighty-five; Nancy, his wife, had died in 1887. They were survived by ten of their eleven children. One of William's great-great grandsons, John T. Fuqua (b. November 15, 1915), son of Clifford and Chloe (Bell) Fuqua, was killed in World War II July 3, 1944, in France, during the Normandy invasion, at the age of twenty-eight. He had married Vera Rector October 5, 1936.

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Mary Jane and Charles had two children, Emmaline Virginia "Emma" Fuqua in January 1869, and William Isaac (known as "Boone" or W.I.) Fuqua, May 28, 1871. Both were born in Henry County, Indiana.

**Emmaline Virginia Fuqua** married **John Allan "Al" Baker** December 5, 1886. The 1900 census lists four children: Gertrude Baker (born February 1889), D. J. Baker (born November 1891), L. G. Baker (born August 1893), and Jesse Baker (born 1896). Emma and Al lived in Sulphur Springs until their deaths. Al was well-known in his day as a building constructor of unusual ability. He was the designer and builder of the enormous barn just west of Cadiz, now falling into disrepair. It was acknowledged as the largest barn ever built in Henry County. Al died in 1939 at age seventy-five and Emma in 1943, age seventy-four. Both are buried in the Sulphur Springs Cemetery near the railroad.

**William I. Fuqua** married **Iva Rector** from Martinsville February 4, 1900, in Middletown, Indiana. They had two sons: Charles Fuqua, who was born December 24, 1900, and Thornton Fuqua, who died September 1, 1905, of diphtheria, when he was only two-and-a-half years old.

**Charles Fuqua** married **Dora Sellers** on January 18, 1920. Dora was born August 10, 1898, the daughter of Lewis Sellers. Dora and Charles had a daughter, Edrafaun Fuqua, who was born December 3, 1920. Charles was killed in 1937 on a Friday when the truck he was driving was struck by a Big Four train near Ovid. He was survived by his daughter, Edrafaun, and his father, William I. "Boone." He was buried in Miller Cemetery. Edrafaun died in Chicago on March 29, 1994, and is also buried in Miller Cemetery.

Dora had apparently divorced Charles because she is not listed among his survivors. Dora married William L. Goff (born ca. 1901). His father was Benjamin William Goff and his mother was Mary Amelia Goff. Ben and Mary owned a general store in the Welsh Hotel on 5th street in Middletown next to the Dennis Barber Shop from 1913 to 1926. The Welsh Hotel, which opened July 4, 1900, was a building important to the history of Middletown. Mrs. Anna Welsh, the owner, was a leader in the town, and a woman of great community service. Wanting electricity for her elegant hotel, she had Middletown's first light plant constructed in 1899, a brick building with a slate roof located behind the hotel. The town board wishing to supply the town with its first electric street lights, contracted with Mrs. Welsh for thirty of them at the rate of $60 each per year for all-night service. A dramatic part of the gala grand opening of the Welsh Hotel was the simultaneous lighting of the street lights of Middletown and the hotel lights. The first floor of the hotel was designed for
business concerns, at one time housing the post office as well as Goff's store. William L. Goff died November 8, 1973, at the age of seventy-two. He was survived by his widow, Dora, and step-daughter, Edrafaun Foughty of Ft. Wayne.

William I.'s wife, Iva Rector Fuqua, died in 1929 and is buried in Miller Cemetery. A Middletown newspaper account reported that William I. Fuqua celebrated his eighty-eighth birthday in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the Men-Hill nursing home on May 28, 1959. He may have been in Ft. Wayne because his grand-daughter, Edrafaun, lived there. He died a few months later on December 21, 1959, and is buried beside Iva in Miller Cemetery.

Mary Jane's husband, Charles D. Fuqua, died April 18, 1911, at the age of seventy-three. On December 9, 1913, when she was almost sixty-seven years old, Mary Jane remarried. Her husband, William E. Ellison, born October 11, 1840, was seventy-three. They were living in Riverton, Illinois in 1916, where they stayed for several years. They returned to Sulphur Springs only two years before William died on July 1, 1921, at age eighty-one. Sometime following William's death, Mary Jane lived with her daughter and son-in-law, Emma and Al Baker in Sulphur Springs, where she died February 15, 1925. She is buried in the Sulphur Springs Cemetery probably next to Emma and Al Baker, but her grave is not marked and no reliable records of the cemetery have been found other than a pamphlet at the New Castle Library.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MINNICK

George Washington Minnick was born July 30, 1848, in Botetourt County, Virginia, the oldest son of Isaac and Catharine. He probably followed his sister, Mary Jane, to Indiana, settling in Middletown. He married Sarah A. "Sally" Wright on December 9, 1876, when George was twenty-eight and Sarah was thirty. Sarah was born in Ohio May 27, 1846, the daughter of Robert Wright and Jamina VanMater. The census of 1880 records that George W. Minnick was 31 years old and still farming. His wife, Sarrah (misspelled with two "r's") was also listed as age 31 (actually, she was 33 or 34 at the time). They had a one-year-old daughter, Stella B.

Stella B. Minnick was born in 1879. It is unknown what happened to Stella B. The census of 1890 was destroyed by fire in Washington, D.C. and traces of her are lost; she may have died before the census of 1900 or she may have married and changed her name.
Roy Minnick, George and Sarah's son, was born July 29, 1880. In the census of 1900 Roy, a mechanic, was nineteen years old and still living at home with his parents. George owned his own home and was a grocery salesman. All members of the family could read and write. This census also revealed that Sarah had given birth to three children, but apparently one died. Sarah died February 11, 1909, age sixty-two, of typhoid fever and was buried in the Sulphur Springs Cemetery near the railroad. Her death record shows her birth date as 1846, although her stone date is erroneously inscribed 1847.

On November 14, 1912, George married Elizabeth Vestal Richey, when he was sixty-four and she was forty-six. Elizabeth was born in North Carolina, the daughter of Milton Vestal and Jane Mullen. Her first marriage to Charles Richey ended with his death in 1908. In 1916, George and Elizabeth were living in Mt. Summit. The 1920 census shows that George was the owner of a grocery concern in New Castle. He was seventy-one years old and Elizabeth was fifty-four. Also listed in 1920 census as living with George were Milton Richey, son of wife (Elizabeth), age 36, and John, age 11, and Horace, age 8, probably her grandchildren. Roy, age twenty-nine, still lived at home with George and Elizabeth, and his occupation was auto fueling. On October 4, 1923, Roy married Helen Brenneman, who was born in Henry County, August 29, 1896. They did not have any children.

After twelve years of marriage to George, Elizabeth died of cancer April 17, 1925, at age fifty-nine. A newspaper report two weeks before her death referred to her as a well-known citizen of New Castle and indicated that she was in critical condition with little hope for recovery. Following the funeral at the First Methodist Church, she was buried at Mt. Summit Cemetery next to her first husband in the Richey family plot.

George was seventy-six years old when Elizabeth died. At some time following her death, he went to the Masonic Home in Franklin, Indiana, where he died August 11, 1928, at the age of eighty. His funeral was held at the Sulphur Springs Christian Church and he was buried at Sulphur Springs with his first wife, Sarah, but his grave is unmarked. He was survived by his brothers William, Charles, and Thomas of Middletown; his sister, Mrs. Henry Swain of Oakville; and his son, Roy Minnick, of New Castle. Sometime following his father's move to the Masonic Home and death in 1928, Roy went to the Henry County Home, where he died August 10, 1948. No survivors were reported. He is buried in the Sulphur Springs Cemetery, probably next to his parents, but no marker exists.

JOHN WESLEY MINNICK

John Wesley Minnick, the second son, was born September 26, 1850, in Botetourt County. He was nineteen when his father died in 1869.
It is not known whether he was in Indiana at that time or came later with his mother; however, he was listed in the 1870 Indiana census. According to a family bible, John was married to Kate Rundle April 11, 1873. It is not known what happened to Kate. On January 13, 1881, John married Cynthia Jane "Janie" Simons, at Logansport, Indiana. Janie's parents were Abraham Simons (ca. 1828-1900) and Malinda Jane Sneathen (1837-1920), who were married in Cass County, Indiana, May 14, 1858. John was listed in the census of 1900 as a laborer, 49 years old. He and his wife had been married for nineteen years and both were literate. Cynthia Jane was 37 years old then, placing her birthdate around 1863. The census listed their children: Bertha E. Minnick, Janie Minnick, Lawrence Minnick, and John Michael Minnick. In 1909 John W. and Cynthia Jane were living in Gas City, Indiana, where he was a glass-worker. Many central Indiana communities had glass works during this era because of the natural gas "boom" that began in the late 1800's and ended when the supply exhausted in the 1920's. Cynthia Jane died at age 54 on June 3, 1917. (A Middletown News article reported that Charles F. Minnick of Middletown was notified on June 8, 1917, of the death of his brother's wife, Mrs. John W. Minnick, at Logansport, Indiana.) John had lived in Middletown in the 1880's, was in Sulphur Springs in 1890, lived in Logansport in 1916, and returned to the Gas City/Jonesboro area in 1917, probably after the death of Janie. According to the census of 1920, he was living with his daughter, Bertha, in Logansport. Later he lived near his son, Lawrence, in Jonesboro until his death on August 1, 1926, when he was seventy-five years old. He was taken to be buried next to his wife, Cynthia Jane, in Mount Hope Cemetery, Logansport.

Bertha E. Minnick was born in Logansport, Indiana, in 1883. She married John Albert Gilsinger in Lafayette, Indiana, April 18, 1904. They had two children, Albert Gilsinger and Frances Gilsinger.

Jennie Sara "Janie" Minnick was born in February 15, 1886 in Lake Cicott, (Cass County), Indiana. She was listed as Janie in the 1900 census. She married Scott Hammond March 4, 1909. Scott was born June 13, 1885, in Francisville, Indiana. His parents were Samuel Hammond and Mary (Misner) Hammond, both born in Ohio, but all were living in Gas City. Scott was also a glass-worker. Their children were Donna Hammond and Lawrence Scott Hammond. Scott Hammond died August 22, 1943 and Jennie Sara died in 1960.

John Michael Minnick, son of John Wesley, was born in 1893. He married Gladys Murray of Logansport. Their children were Bertha, Dortha Mae, Edith, John, Lydia, and Juanita Minnick. Bertha Minnick married Harry Gerber May 24, 1934. Dortha Mae Minnick married Robert Lee Courtney October 2, 1938. John Daniel Minnick was born November 26, 1923, and married Rubye Williams, July 8, 1943, but was divorced. He later married
Alma Rans and, then, Grace Ellis. He had children, but details concerning them are unknown. Edith Bernice Minnick married William Frank Bosworth March 27, 1934. Lydia Minnick married Joseph T. Williams February 14, 1948. Juanita Marie Minnick married Ivan Alden Burton May 28, 1938. John Michael Minnick died in 1955 and is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Logansport, where his father and mother are buried. Gladys Murray Minnick died in 1978 and is buried in Grant Memorial Cemetery, Marion, Indiana.

Lawrence Wesley (Rip) Minnick was born in Middletown July 29, 1890. His first wife, Grace Hammond, was a sister to Scott Hammond, Jennie Sara's husband. Their father, Samuel Hammond, was a farmer from the Jonesboro, Gas City area. Lawrence and Grace had one child, Carl Minnick. Carl Minnick married Mary Buer June 7, 1950, and they had one son, Mark Minnick. Carl Minnick died in 1992. Lawrence was divorced from Grace and married Dora Florence Linvill, his second wife, January 15, 1923. Dora was born in Jonesboro, Indiana, July 5, 1902. Lawrence and Dora reared a child, Esther, who according to family-lore was adopted. However, Esther was never legally adopted by Lawrence. In a determination of parentage suit initiated by Esther in 1943 after Lawrence's death when she was nineteen or twenty years old, her birth record was sealed by the court, at which time she obtained a court order to legally change her name to Minnick, the name she had always used. She named Lawrence as her father and Dora as her mother, although she is not thought to be blood-related to the Minnick family. (Court and Grant County records from Circuit Court and County Public Health). Esther Minnick married Harry M. Taylor June 20, 1943. Lawrence Minnick died of pneumonia in Jonesboro, Indiana, September 23, 1942, and is buried in Riverside Cemetery, Gas City. Dora died in 1987 at age eighty-four and is buried next to Lawrence.

MICHAEL ANDREW MINNICK

Michael A. Minnick was born December 29, 1853. He was sixteen when his father died and was known to be in Indiana working on a farm at age seventeen. In the year 1870, his mother and all his siblings were living in Henry County. On May 18, 1878, Michael, age 25, married Ella Catherine McLaughlin, age seventeen. Catherine, as she was called, was born ca. 1860 in Pennsylvania to C. H. McLaughlin and Rebecca Walters. It is known that she had a brother because the Indiana census of 1880 for Michael and Catherine enumerated Lilly McLaughlin, sister-in-law from Pennsylvania. This same census showed Michael's occupation to be an engineer, clarified in a later census as stationary engineer. Tragically, Catherine died October 3, 1885 at the age of twenty-five after
seven years of marriage. She is thought to be buried near her mother-in-law, Catharine, in the old Pioneer Cemetery.

Within six months, Michael married again. His new wife was Cyrena S. Allen, always known as "Jennie." She was born July 1857 to Leroy and Sarah Allen. Sarah Allen was born May 17, 1837, in Churchville, Augusta County, Virginia. She married Leroy Allen April 22, 1857. Sarah died November 21, 1902. The census of 1900 for Middletown shows that Michael and Jennie had been married for fifteen years and had a nine-year-old daughter named Laura F., who was attending school. Michael owned his home free of mortgage. The 1910 census shows that Michael was working in a furniture factory. Later information indicates that he was employed as a fireman (probably boiler-tender) by the Middletown Furniture Company.

Michael died the youngest of all the children (except Sarah Louisa) at age sixty-two on May 21, 1916, at the home of Laura and Francis Swain, his daughter and son-in-law. His obituary indicated that he had an impressive funeral at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Middletown with burial in Miller Cemetery. He was survived by his wife, Jennie; his sisters, Mary Jane Ellison of Riverton, Illinois, and Anna Swain of Springport; brothers, Charles and William of Middletown, John and Thomas of Logansport, and George of Mt. Summit.

Jennie lived until May 5, 1933, when she died at the age of seventy-six at Oakville at the home of Laura and Francis Swain, with whom she had lived since Michael's death, at least since 1920, when she was sixty-three years old.

Laura Frances Minnick, Michael and Jennie's daughter, was born November 22, 1893. At seventeen, on March 21, 1907, she married Francis W. Swain. Francis was the son of Sanford and Mary Swain, who had another son, Earl. (Laura's Aunt Anna's husband, Henry Swain, and Francis' father, Sanford Swain, were brothers, sons of Christian Swain. In other words, Laura's aunt and Henry's uncle were husband and wife. There was no blood relation, but very close family ties.) Laura and Francis had no children but in 1933 "took in" a child named Ruth, who had lived in Daleville with her mother until she was nine years old. Ruth married Guy Shafer and lived in Oakville. Laura died June 1, 1974, and is buried in Miller Cemetery. Frances died one year later in 1975 and is buried beside Laura. They are buried in the same plot with Laura's father and mother.

THOMAS NEWTON MINNICK

Thomas N. Minnick (Grandpa as we grandchildren called him) was born November 21, 1854, near or in Amsterdam. According to his New
Castle Courier obituary, he left Virginia in 1866, when he would have been only 12 years of age; he likely came to Henry County where other family members had emigrated and basically remained here until his death in 1941.

On June 6, 1878, Thomas and Caroline Gresh applied for a marriage license at New Castle, Indiana, and were subsequently married June 20, 1878, when he was twenty-four and she was sixteen. Caroline, or "Callie" as she was called, was born June 22, 1862, to Eliza McSherry and Joel Gresh. Roy L Minnick's marriage application to Grace Newman Smith, July 16, 1919, states that Caroline, his mother, was born in Knoxville, Illinois. This is supported by Lula Minnick's statement that her mother was born in Galesburg, Illinois. Knoxville is presently a suburb of Galesburg. No record of any cemetery nor any other records of Tazewell or Knox counties, Illinois show the death or burial of Joel Gresh. Either he died between 1860 and 1870 and is buried in an unmarked grave or Eliza and Joel divorced sometime shortly after Caroline's birth in 1862. Eliza was born ca. 1831 in Ohio, probably Miami County. Eliza's father was Ruben McSherry (or McSherrey). In 1825 he was listed in the tax record book as living in Champaign County, Ohio. By 1830 the census shows him living in Green County, Ohio. Eliza's birth mother is unknown; however, Ruben married Caroline Hudson November 1849, in Miami County, Ohio. The 1850 census of Piqua, Miami County, Ohio, indicates that Ruben had living with him several children, whose ages ranged from a two-year old boy to eighteen-year old Eliza. Apparently, Ruben's first wife, the mother of these children, had died and Ruben married Caroline when he was forty-nine or fifty years old. This same census shows that Ruben was born in Indiana, was a drayman, had property valued at $200, and had married within the previous year.

Ruben's marriage provided a mother for the younger children and also freed Eliza from the responsibility of taking care of the family, a burden which often fell on the shoulders of the oldest daughter. The following year on July 30, 1851, Eliza married Joel Gresh in Miami County, Ohio. Joel was born ca. 1830 in Pennsylvania, probably Douglas Township, Berks County. His father is thought to be George Gresh, who was known to be living in Berks County at that time. Joel and Eliza apparently moved from Ohio to Indiana before the birth of their first child in 1854, then to Illinois. The 1860 census for Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois, shows Joel, who was an upholsterer, and Eliza to be living with their children Lucinda Gresh, 6; Mary E. Gresh, 5; Joel Gresh, 3; and George E. Gresh, five months. All the children were born in Indiana, so their move to Illinois must have been a short time before June 8, 1860, when the census was taken. It is not known how long they were married, but Caroline, apparently named in honor of her step-mother, was not born until 1862 in Knoxville, Knox County, Illinois. None of the family is found in the 1870 Illinois Census nor in any census thereafter in that state.
Later Eliza was married to a man named Kendall, or Kendell, and moved to Henry County, probably when Caroline was still a child. Eliza died October 31, 1895, at the age of sixty-four in Middletown of paralysis (stroke). She is buried in Miller Cemetery near Middletown on the east side of the old part near the fence. There is no known stone or record of Eliza's burial in the cemetery. No further information is known about her husband, but, according to her death certificate, Eliza Gresh Kendell was widowed when she died.

Little else of the Gresh family is known except that they did attend Minnick family reunions, when they were held at Heekin Park, Muncie, in the 1930's and early 40's; however, we have had no contact with them since then. There was a Carl Gresh, possibly a nephew of Caroline, who died in Muncie a number of years ago, and another Gresh, Roy Gresh, who owned a Muncie tool and die shop; he also died a few years ago. Their exact relationship to the Minnick family is unknown, if indeed there exists one at all.

Thomas and Caroline had three living children: Frank Lawrence, Lula May, and Roy L ("Wink"). A daughter born February 12, 1882, did not survive and is buried in the Pioneer South Cemetery near her grandmother, Catharine. Thomas and Caroline apparently lived for a time in Logansport, where their first child, Frank, was born. They may have lived with Thomas' brother, John W. Minnick, and his wife, Cynthia Jane, since John is known to have lived in Logansport at that time. Thomas and Caroline later lived in Sulphur Springs, where Lula and Roy were born although Lula stated before her death that she was born in Middletown near the old Opera House on the northwest corner of Locust and Sixth Streets. From that time Thomas and Caroline remained until their deaths on East High Street in Middletown at their modest little home next to W.I. Minnick and across the street from Charles Minnick, Thomas' brothers.

THE CHILDREN OF THOMAS AND CAROLINE MINNICK

Frank Lawrence Minnick married Birdetta May Canaday. Frank was born August 2, 1879 and died May 28, 1965, at the age of 86. Birdetta "Bird" was born March 21, 1887, and died March 20, 1952, at the age of 65. Frank and Birdetta's children were Roma Viola Minnick, Doris Mae Minnick, Mary Lucille Minnick, Franklin Harold Minnick, Raymond Charles Minnick, and Paul Eugene Minnick, and a daughter who did not survive. All the children were born in Logansport, except Paul, who was born in Middletown. Roma, Franklin (Harold), Raymond, and Paul Eugene are deceased.

Mildred Caroline Minnick was born February 12, 1906 and survived only a short time. She is buried in Sulphur Springs Cemetery in an unmarked grave. (Ironically, Frank's parents, Tom and Caroline, had a little girl born
the same month and day in 1882 that survived only two
days.)

Roma Viola Minnick was born in Logansport, February 4,
1911, and was in the first graduating class for nurses at
Ball Memorial Hospital in 1930. She married Charles "Kemp"
Pierson; they had no children. Kemp died January 14, 1981,
and Roma died July 25, 1990; both are buried in Miller
Cemetery.

Raymond Charles "Dye" Minnick was born February 13, 1913.
He married Dorothy Furnace Van Alst (born September 3,
1921) on December 21, 1938. Raymond was a talented
plasterer, a trade of high skill and demand. Plastering
was a considered an art-form and the Minnick family,
including his father, Frank, had a reputation of being
among the best. Several other men in the family followed
this line of work until the availability of drywall, which
was faster and more economical, supplanted plaster in all
but the most expensive homes. Raymond and Dorothy had two
sons, James Franklin Minnick, born March 31, 1944, and
David Lee Minnick, born October 7, 1945; and one daughter,
Sandra Sue Minnick, born January 21, 1941. James married
Ethel Joyce Short (born October 7, 1950) on April 12, 1969.
They had two daughters, Stephanie Dawn Minnick, born
November 16, 1969; and Danica Lynn Minnick, born April 16,
1972. David Lee married Aida Jo (Huntzinger) Bousman (born
April 9, 1947) on July 11, 1970. They had one son, David
Lee Minnick II, born November 29, 1972. Aida Jo had two
children from a former marriage: a daughter, Cathy Lynn
(Housman) Haynes and a son, Bill Edward Bousman. Sandra
Sue married Terrance "Terry" Ray Jerritt on October 21,
1960. Terry was born February 21, 1940, and died May 10,
1993. He was born in Anderson and lived there all of his
life; he was buried in East Maplewood Cemetery. Their
children were Raymond Alan Jerritt, born November 24, 1963;
Terry DeWayne Jerritt, born May 25, 1961; Rodney Ray
Jerritt, born June 10, 1962; and Deadra Sue Jerritt, born
December 7, 1966. Raymond Charles Minnick died December 6,
1962, and is buried in Miller Cemetery.

Frank Harold Minnick was born May 21, 1915. Harold, as he
was called, never married or had children. He suffered the
ravages of polio in his youth that left him crippled.
Despite this affliction, he worked with the family in the
plastering business. He died in the Middletown Nursing
Home September 14, 1972, and is buried in Millers Cemetery.

Doris Mae Minnick was born July 13, 1917. On December 11,
1937, she married Cecil Opal Graddy. Cecil was born
November 4, 1915. His parents were Sadie M. (1892-1971) and
Ben A. Graddy (1889-1976); they were married April 25,
1908. Doris and Cecil had one child. Their son, Morrall Glayne Graddy was born February 26, 1945. Glayne also suffered from polio that he contracted at the age of six, a devastating illness that left him in need of crutches. Undaunted by this adversity, he has been employed all of his adult life, working at the State House in Indianapolis. He married Deanna Jean Parrish (born November 17, 1946) June 27, 1965. They adopted four children, all of whom were considered "at risk" (somehow disabled). These children were Kimberly Ann Graddy (born August 10, 1977; died November 29, 1980); Kevin Glayne Graddy (born June 25, 1974); Kimetta Kristine Graddy (born December 10, 1977); and Kory James Graddy (born May 17, 1980).

Mary Lucille Minnick was born December 31, 1919 and married Walter Irvin "Tobe" Merritt (born November 18, 1919) on October 26, 1940. They had one son, Gary Lee Merritt, born February 2, 1942; and one daughter, Linda Kay Merritt, born March 4, 1945. Gary married Lana Lowrey, born November 23, 1942. Linda married Jerry Thompson, born January 3, 1939. Walter Merritt died July 14, 1994, and was buried in Miller Cemetery with military rites.

Paul Eugene "Spider" Minnick was born November 16, 1929. On February 16, 1957, he married Martha Ann (Lamb) Dennis (born June 2, 1934) and they had two children: a son, Jeffery Lee Minnick and a daughter, Jeana Lynn Minnick. Martha had a son, Gregory Allen Dennis, by a former marriage. Gregory married Lula Colleen Miller, born October 16, 1954, and they had two sons: Christopher Allen Dennis born March 13, 1982; and Matthew Ryan Dennis, born September 30, 1983. Jeffery Lee Minnick was born March 5, 1958. He married Shelia Kay Shaw (born January 1, 1958), and they had a daughter, Raven Lee Minnick, who was born January 26, 1980. Jeana Lynn Minnick was born May 7, 1960. She married Tim Manuel Norris (born December 20, 1959) on April 4, 1982. They were married at the Methodist Church in Middletown with Reverend Tresslar officiating. They had one son, Joshua Paul Manuel Norris, born August 21, 1989. Paul Eugene Minnick died May 7, 1992, and is buried in Miller Cemetery.

Roy L Minnick (L only, not followed by a period) was born in Sulphur Springs, Indiana, on April 2, 1892, the youngest child of Thomas and Caroline. He married Grace Newman on July 16, 1919. Grace was born January 21, 1893, in Markleville, Indiana. Her parents were Jane Evaline Fort and John William Newman. (Their genealogy appears in a separate report and is on file with the Anderson, Indiana, public library.) Roy and Grace's children were Judith Neil Minnick, John Patrick Minnick, and Michael Linden Minnick (myself). Roy, or "Wink", as he was affectionately known, worked at
many different occupations in his lifetime. He completed the eighth grade at Sulphur Springs, but was unable to continue his schooling because small towns did not have high schools and transportation to the nearest school was not available in those days. As a youth, he rode a bicycle from Sulphur Springs to the New Castle Shovel Factory, where he worked for a time. Later, he went to Battle Creek, Michigan, and worked as a candy-maker for several years. During World War I, Roy was a railroad engine fireman on the Grand Trunk, Nickle Plate, and Big Four Railroads—all Indiana railroads of that day. Later, he did contract construction work, lathed, plastered, and worked in the Chrysler Forge Plant for a time in the 1930's as well as all through World War II. Following the war, he built numerous houses for returning veterans in Middletown, which sold in the five-to-seven thousand dollar range. He continued working at small construction and roofing jobs until shortly before his death in 1958. Grace Minnick had been a Bell telephone operator and a seamstress at the old Ward Stilson plant in Anderson until their marriage in 1919 at which time she did not work other than as a housewife and raising chickens on the farm.

Roy L Minnick died at St. John’s Hospital in Anderson on May 7, 1958, at the age of sixty-six. He was a member of the Middletown Methodist Church. His wife and three children and his brother and sister all survived him. He was buried in Millers Cemetery. Grace, unable to manage the homeplace of some twenty-five acres in the country, south of Middletown on Eighth Street, exchanged homes with her son, Michael, and moved to town to live in the small house on Cottage Avenue built by Roy for Michael and his wife, Shirley, when they married in 1954. Grace lived another fifteen years and died April 10, 1973, at the age of 80. She was a member of the Middletown United Methodist Church and the Order of the Eastern Star. An Eastern Star memorial service was held for her before her burial beside her husband in Miller Cemetery. Thirty-five years later, Michael and Shirley still live in the same house where Roy and Grace reared their children and lived until Roy’s death in 1958.

Judith Neil Minnick was born August 12, 1920, in Sulphur Springs. She married Keith Hanes April 27, 1940. Keith was born April 28, 1916, in Edna Mills, Indiana. His father was Frederick M. Hanes and his mother was Sophia Mildred Yost. Frederick was born in Richland County, Illinois, May 26, 1889. He came to Indiana to attend Weidner Institute, a junior college in Mulberry, Indiana. It was there that he met Sophia, who was born in Monitor, Indiana, where her father, Henry Yost, owned a grocery store. Frederick became a Lutheran minister, and eventually brought his family to Anderson where Keith met Judith. Their wedding ceremony was performed by Frederick
in Second Lutheran Church in Richmond, Indiana, where he was assigned for a number of years. Judith and Keith had two sons: Patrick Alan Hanes and Eric Anthony Hanes. Patrick Alan Hanes was born August 13, 1950. He graduated from Indiana University in 1972 with a degree in anthropology. He and a friend backpacked through Europe and the Middle East. They set out for Katmandu, Nepal, but Pat was brought down by hepatitis in Kabul, Afghanistan, where he lay ill for several months in One Hotel located on Chicken Street. Following his recovery, he went to Beirut, Lebanon, where he contacted his parents through the American Embassy and made arrangements to return to the States. He settled in the Northwest, where he became a lumberjack. He married Mary Jayn Smock (born January 22, 1954), also from the Middletown area on February 14, 1982. They had two children: a daughter, Cheyenne Alexandra Hanes, born February 12, 1987, in Sand Point, Idaho; and a son, Christian Nicholai Hanes, born June 30, 1992, in Creston, British Columbia. Patrick and his family live in Idaho and are members of the Mennonite Church of God in Christ. Eric Anthony "Tony" Hanes was born October 24, 1958. He married Lee Ann Trout in Middletown and they had two sons: Joshua Patrick Hanes, born July 7, 1979, and Jacob Anthony Hanes, born September 9, 1988. Tony later married Lynette Kay (Verheye) Pfeiffer September 5, 1992, in South Bend. Lynette's parents were Lawrence and Jeanette Verheye and she had a son, Shane Pfeiffer, by a former marriage.

John Patrick "Pat" Minnick was born October 14, 1924, in Middletown, Indiana. In the late 1940's he relocated in Florida, where he met Velma Bryant, who was born March 6, 1930 in Manatee, Florida. Velma's parents were Thomas J. Bryant, born February 22, 1882, in Rye, Florida, and Colorado "Collie" (Blackburn) Bryant, born April 11, 1898, in Lawty, Florida. Pat and Velma were married in Valdosta, Georgia, January 11, 1948. They had four children: a daughter, Michelle Baibie Minnick; and three sons, Roy Lance Minnick, John Timothy Minnick, and Carl Eric Minnick. Their only daughter, Michelle Baibie Minnick was born in Bradenton, Florida, November 17, 1948. Michelle married Cooper Langford March 21, 1965. Their three sons were Roy Daniel Langford, born January 15, 1967; Patrick Cooper Langford, born April 1, 1968; and Thomas Matthew Langford, November 30, 1970. Michelle, a woman of unusual beauty with a winning disposition, died of cancer July 30, 1991, at the age of forty-two. Roy Lance Minnick was born in St. Petersburg, Florida, January 13, 1955. Lance married Gayle Chatty in 1979 and had one son, Lance Eric Minnick, born July 22, 1982. Roy Lance was divorced from Gayle and married Debora Anne Barron (born April 23, 1961, in England) on May 6, 1989 in Tampa, Florida. John Timothy
"Tim" Minnick was born October 9, 1961, in Tampa, Florida. Tim married Brenda Ayala in Tampa, Florida, and they had one son, Jeremy Kent Minnick, born August 14, 1983. Tim and Brenda are divorced. Carl Eric "Chug" Minnick was born August 17, 1966, in Tampa, Florida.

Michael Linden Minnick was born in Middletown, Indiana, June 18, 1929. On September 1, 1954, he married Shirley Ann Driver in Muncie, Indiana, where they met as Ball State University students. Shirley was born November 19, 1926, in St. Louis, Missouri. Her parents were Paul Edward Driver, who was born in Osceola, Arkansas, December 6, 1903, and died November 19, 1977; and Anna Mae (Wheeler) Driver, who was born in Huntsville, Alabama, November 1, 1903. They also had a son, Paul Edward Driver, Jr., born December 27, 1924, in St. Louis. Michael was a history teacher and guidance counselor at Middletown High School for nine years until 1965, at which time he became a psychometrist at Ball State University. After earning his doctorate, he became chief psychologist at the Indiana Reformatory at Pendleton, where he remained for eleven years before going into private practice and spending the remaining years of his career doing psychological evaluations for the Indiana Department of Vocational Rehabilitation and as an associate at the Anderson Psychiatric Clinic. Shirley, also a teacher, taught English at Madison Heights High School in Anderson and at Middletown High School for seven years, before joining the faculty at Ball State University in 1966, where she was an academic adviser for twenty-two years. Michael and Shirley had two sons: Michael Brian Minnick, born at St. John's Hospital in Anderson on July 31, 1957; and John Vincent Minnick, born at Ball Hospital in Muncie on December 17, 1965. John married Melinda Sue "Mindy" Corso on October 10, 1992, at the Garfield Park Conservatory in Indianapolis. Mindy was born November 8, 1965, in Richmond, Indiana, and is the daughter of John Corso and Donna (Miller) Corso. Michael Brian and John both graduated from Shenandoah High School in Middletown. They received their baccalaureate degrees from Ball State University as did Mindy.

(Uncannily, the names for their sons were chosen several decades before this family research was done with no knowledge that the names Michael and John Minnick would be traced back to the 1700's.)

Lula May Minnick (Aunt Lula) was born November 24, 1883 (other records show February 12, 1882). She was married to George "Billy" Geier and later to Carl Snyder. She lived much of her life in Chicago on South Marshfield Avenue and had no children. Carl was a professional photographer, and they traveled the county fair circuit throughout the mid-west. I have several family portraits especially of Pat,
Judith, and myself as children, which I believe were taken by Carl. When in this area, they would park a "house-car" in front of our home during their stay. To my memory, this was during the early and mid-nineteen thirties. Carl's death and burial site are unknown. Lula spent her later years in Middletown, and lived her final days with Paul Eugene's family. Following a stroke the previous month, she died December 25, 1975, at the age of 93. Reverend William Tresslar conducted the funeral services at the Sixth Street Christian Church. She is buried in Miller Cemetery.

Caroline Gresh Minnick died on January 12, 1929, and the bill for her funeral and burial from the Polhemus Funeral Home, Daleville, which amounted to $246.05, is dated January 14, 1929. Caroline's death certificate shows her death to be from "mitral disease." Thomas lived until November 4, 1941. It should be noted that the grave-stone erroneously shows his death date as 1942 (however, both Anderson and the New Castle papers reported his death as November 4, 1941). The stone was probably not engraved for several years, and someone was simply misinformed about the date. Thomas and Caroline's graves are located about forty feet south of the north Miller Cemetery fence.

The following funeral home obituary gives an account of Thomas' death November 4, 1941:

Thomas Newton Minnick, son of Isaac and Catharine Minnick, was born November 21, 1854 at Amsterdam, Virginia. He was married to Caroline Gresh, June 20, 1878, since which he has lived most of his life in Middletown. To this union were born five children, two of whom died early in childhood. The surviving children: Mrs. Lula Snyder, Chicago, Illinois; Frank and Roy of this town. He is also survived by one sister, Anna Swain, of Oakville, and two brothers, W.I. Minnick and Charles Minnick of this town, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild. Although these children will sadly miss the physical presence of their father, they may still remember the influence created by Father love and exerted only for good for themselves, for real Father love is always self-sacrificing. He died November 4, 1941 as the result of an attack which lasted about three months, having lived a long and useful life, for length of life may be counted not only in years but in good deeds. At the age of 86 years, 11 months, 4 days [sic] 17 days.

CHARLES FILMORE MINNICK

Charles F. Minnick was born in Botetourt County, Virginia, December 24, 1856, and came to Indiana as a child, probably twelve or
thirteen years old. On September 18, 1878, he married Elizabeth J. Ronk. In the census of 1880, Charles was listed as a chairmaker, was 23 years old and Elizabeth was age 32 (nine years his senior). Her father, Joseph Ronk, lived with them, having come from Virginia around 1874. Charles is found again in the 1900 census as a 43 years old laborer (chairmaker); with wife, Elizabeth J. (Ronk), 52 years of age. Their children were William Henry, born in 1881 and Edward Cyrus, born in 1883, neither of whom ever married or had children. Elizabeth died on March 14, 1914, at age sixty-six.

On June 6, 1915, Charles, age 58, married a second time to Sarah E. White of Anderson with his sons, William H. and Edward, and brother, William I., in attendance. Sarah died at 66 years of age May 17, 1927.

Charles' third wife, Louisa M. Minnick, died on August 9, 1944, in the East Haven Hospital (for the mentally ill), Richmond, Indiana, at the age of eighty-nine, having been ill for five years. She was buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Anderson. She was survived by a daughter, Daisy Richey and sons, Luther and Oliver Ward of Anderson, by a previous marriage; Edward and William Minnick were her stepsons.

Edward Cyrus "Eddie" Minnick was born September 24, 1883, and died August 18, 1939, in the Henry County Hospital at New Castle. He was a member of the Church of the Brethren.

William Henry "Willie" Minnick was born in May 21, 1881. Willie worked at Nicholson File in Anderson for twenty-six years as a maintenance man. He received a bicycle from his fellow-employees when he retired in 1944. After that he worked at the Van Noy Theater and was well-known to the towns-people. When he died in the Henry County Hospital on Christmas night, 1955, at the age of seventy-four, the Middletown News (December 29, 1955) carried a tribute to him on the front page, which read in part...we will miss the familiar sight of Willie with his brindle dog at his heels trudging down the Fifth Street hill toward the Theater and the friendly wave of his hand to every one he met. Willie's life was both lonely and simple, but at the same time it exemplified some priceless attributes that shed their reflections throughout the community in which he lived. He was industrious...he was kind...he was honest. What more could be needed to make an honorable life. He was a member of the Middletown Church of the Brethren, and his funeral service was conducted by Reverend Ora Zirkle. Willie was survived only by cousins.

Willie and his brother, Eddie, always lived with their father. Charles died February 6, 1947, 90 years of age, leaving Willie to live alone for another eight years. All are buried in a family plot at Miller Cemetery.
Sometime before 1900, Charles took his family to California to live. Things did not go well for him, and he returned to Middletown, destitute. As a member of the Church of the Brethren, he was assisted by the congregation to the extent that they built a house for him in Middletown on East High Street, known as "Christian Ridge" in past years, with the stipulation that the house and all his property would revert to the church at the death of the last member of his family. When William died in 1955, the minister of the church at that time took possession of all that remained, including all household items. Relatives were barely able to salvage family pictures.

SARAH LOUISA MINNICK

Sarah Louisa's birth on July 7, 1861. was reported by her grandfather, M. M. Minnick. Her death on August 5, 1862, when she was barely over a year old, was reported by her father, Isaac Minnick. She undoubtedly was buried around Amsterdam since the family had owned property and lived there since at least 1795.

ANNA VIRGINIA MINNICK

Anna V. Minnick was born in Botetourt County, Virginia on that great American holiday the Fourth of July in 1863. The Civil War, which had been raging for two years, would separate her father from his family for almost two years and its aftermath in the Shenandoah Valley would eventually drive them from their home. Anna was not quite six years old when her father died and her mother moved the family to Indiana.

On July 18, 1880, a few days following her seventeenth birthday Anna was married to an Oakville farmer, Henry Swain. Henry was born around 1854 in Henry County. His father, John Christian Swain, was born in Darmstadt, Germany, September 19, 1811, and immigrated to America when he was twenty-two years old. He traveled on foot from New York to Henry County where he bought 80 acres in Jefferson Township from the government for $84, later adding eighty additional acres. In addition to farming he also became a cabinet maker. Christian, as he was called, and his wife, Susan (born January 6, 1821) had four other sons: William, Jacob, Noah, and Sanford; and one daughter, Mary.

William Swain was born February 1844 and his wife, Rebecca Swain was born June 1850. Their son was Charles Swain, born December 1869. He and his wife Lillian Swain (born 1879) and their son, Ralph Swain, an infant born February 1900 were living with William and Rebecca in 1900. The census of 1920 finds William, age 75, and Rebecca, age 69, still living.
Jacob Swain was born ca. 1845 and married Ruth Hale from Wayne County. The census of 1880 lists their children as Susan, age 10; Albert, age 7; Addie, age 5; and John C., six months. Their son, Albert L. Swain, was born in Springport, Indiana, November 12, 1872, and married Bertha Lee Minnick on November 27, 1909. Her parents were Carey Minnicks and Mattie Yingling. (Carey’s background is unknown, but there are several instances of Minnicks and Swains marrying.)

Noah Swain was born July 1, 1848 and his wife Sina D. Swain was born July 17, 1850. They are listed in the 1880 census with Sina’s name spelled “Cina.” (In other accounts it is spelled Sena.) They are shown with their children, Louisa Swain (born December 1872) and Frank L., age six. By 1900, Louisa had married William Bowman (born April 1870) and they with their two young children, L. Ruthe Swain (born January 1897) and L. Claude Swain (born March 1900) were living with Noah and Sina. Frank L. Swain (1875-1950) and his wife, Edna E. Swain (1876-1941) are buried in Millers Cemetery. The census of 1920 show Noah, 67, and Sena, 65. Sina died July 7, 1927 and Noah died October 20, 1943. They are buried in Millers Cemetery.

Sanford Swain was born March 1855 and married Mary Ann Good (born May 1856) on July 12, 1880. Their sons were Francis Swain, born February 1884 (married Michael A. Minnicks daughter, Laura Frances Minnick) and Earl Swain, born January 1866. Sanford and Mary Ann were still living when the census of 1920 was taken.

Christian Swain died at Oakville February 14, 1913, at the incredible age of 101 years, 4 months, and 25 days, outliving Susan by twelve years, who had died March 7, 1899, at the age of seventy-eight. Christian’s obituary indicated that he was the county’s oldest citizen and one of the oldest in the state.

Anna and Henry had five children: twins, John L. and Mary L., Jesse, Clarence Monroe, and Halla.

John L. Swain was born ca. 1882 and his wife, Myrtle Swain, ca. 1883. They are listed with their son, Harold Swain, age 14, in the 1920 census. John L.’s death around 1936 near Oakville was shrouded in mystery, with some rumors of suicide, or possibly murder.

Mary L. Swain, John L.’s twin, died in infancy in 1882.

Halla Swain was born in December 1884 and died on February 23, 1895, only three months old.

Jesse Swain, who was born in Henry County around 1884, married Zelma Peckinpaugh October 31, 1906. The 1920 census lists two sons, Kenneth Swain, age 11, and Carl E. Swain, age 6. Another son, Carmon Swain, was born August 16, 1921. He
married Wilma Wilkinson (born June 14, 1924) on July 12, 1943. Jesse died in 1960 at age seventy-seven and Zelma died in 1973 at age eighty-four. Jesse is remembered as a kindly person of fine-bearing, with a gentlemanly manner.

Clarence Monroe Swain was born October 28, 1887, in Springport and married Grace L. Benedict (born April 26, 1888) on December 27, 1907. Their daughter, Opal Swain, was born ca. 1910. They appear in the 1920 census.

Henry Swain died February 2, 1936, at the age of eighty-three. He was a prominent farmer in the Oakville area and had served as treasurer and trustee of Millers Cemetery for a number of years. He was a member of the Church of the Brethren. He was survived by his wife; three sons; a foster daughter, Mrs. Maude Harter; and brothers, Jacob, Noah, and Sanford; and sister, Mary Hays. Anna lived another nineteen years, dying June 25, 1955, at the age of ninety-one in Springport at the home of her son, Jesse. She was survived also by her son, Clarence. She was the last of Isaac and Catharine's children. All her other siblings and their spouses, with the single exception of W.I.'s wife, Mary Frances Minnick, were gone. Anna was a member of the Oakville First Brethren Church, where her funeral was held. Anna, Henry, Christian, Susan, Mary L., and Halla are all buried in a family plot in Miller Cemetery.

ISAAC WILLIAM MINNICK

Known as William Isaac, "W.I." was the youngest son, born May 1, 1866, after his father had returned from the Civil War. He was a young child of three when his mother brought him to Indiana. On June 23, 1888, he married Mary Frances Chandler, who was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, August 7, 1872, the daughter of Woodson Chandler and Barbara Holland. In the census of 1900, W.I. was 34 years old; his occupation was recorded as a laborer, but he later became a shoemaker. W.I. maintained his shoe shop for many years in the old Welsh Hotel, which had business offices on the ground floor. Their children were as follows:

Anna Edith Minnick was born August 21, 1889, in Sulphur Springs. On September 19, 1908, she married James Emmons Tucker, who was born in Decatur County, Indiana, February 1, 1886, the son of Elizabeth McKelvey. They had one child, a daughter, Frances E. Tucker. They were living in Kokomo in 1918. Frances was married briefly to Austin Branam. They had a daughter, Margaret Ann Branam, born in 1930, who married Leslie Reid, a major in the army, and moved to Florida. Their children were Scott Reid, Mary Anna Reid,
Rhonda Reid, and Amy Lee Reid. Margaret Ann died of cancer sometime in the late 1970's and is believed to be buried in Florida. Anna Edith later married Albert "Bert" Maze, but they were divorced September 14, 1927. Albert Maze died January 19, 1956, at the age of eighty-two, leaving a daughter, Mrs. R.J. Strik of Ft. Wayne. Anna Minnick Maze, died Saturday, January 26, 1980, in Lakeland, Florida, at the age of ninety. She was survived by her daughter, Frances E. Branam, and sister, Mary Frances Keesling.

(Jane Minnick's birth was listed in the Henry County index of birth records as being born August 21, 1889, to Mary and William Minnick. Likely, this child was actually Anna.)

Clarence Minnick, a son.

Jessie Lloyd Minnick was born April, 1895. He married Florence Edna Barkdull on April 15, 1916. Just two years later, April 20, 1918, he died after an extended illness at the age of twenty-three. He was a member of the Fall Creek Christian Church. He was survived by his wife, his parents, and his married sisters: Anna Minnick Tucker and Pearl Minnick Best; and Catharine, Evelyn, Dora May, and Mary Francis Minnick at home.

Hattie Pearl Minnick was born April 8, 1899, in Middletown. She married Raymond C. Best November 13, 1917. Ray was born November 18, 1891 in Kelida, Ohio, son of W. J. Best and Mary Clevenger, both born in Ohio. Pearl and Ray had two sons, Charles Robert and William, and one daughter, Mary. In 1918, they were living in Westport, Tennessee. Apparently, they lived for a time in Illinois because their daughter was born there, but they later returned to Middletown where they established a greenhouse and nursery business, which endured for many years passing on after their deaths to their son, Bob, and for a while to Bob's children. Pearl Best died in 1970 and Ray Best died March 16, 1972. Buried beside them in Millers Cemetery is Evelyn Arlene Best, October 11-12, 1933, apparently a child who survived only a day. Mary Best married William L. Dennis, and they lived in Indianapolis. Mary, who was born August 13, 1920, died April 11, 1991. William Dennis died May 31, 1990; they are buried in Miller Cemetery. Lloyd William "Bill" Best and his wife, Opal Best, had two sons, John Best and Steven Best; they lived in Pendleton during their marriage. Lloyd William Best was born October 15, 1918 and died in 1968; he is buried in Millers Cemetery. His tombstone is inscribed with these words Let not your heart be troubled—Neither let it be afraid. Charles Robert "Bob" Best, was born June 26, 1922 and died November 21, 1980; he is buried in Millers Cemetery. He married Ruth Harriet Gray November 6, 1942. Ruth and her twin sister, Martha Ellen, were born November 11, 1921.

Mildred Catherine "Kate" Minnick was born in Middletown July 1, 1902. She married Chauncey Alfred Ballard June 21, 1925. His parents were Charles Ballard and Claudia Lilly. He had two brothers, James Bruce Ballard and Howard F. Ballard, and one sister, Gladys Ballard Poor. Kate died from tuberculosis April 1, 1931, at the age of twenty-eight. Chauncey and Kate had one daughter, Barbara Ann Ballard, born August 7, 1927, who was only three years old when her mother died. In January, 1932, Chauncey married Mable (Laurie) Weston, daughter of Frank Laurie. Mable and Chauncey adopted a son, John Carol Ballard, born February 2, 1938. Mable Ballard was born November 17, 1898, and died December 27, 1976. She was the only mother that Barbara ever knew. Chauncey was born December 12, 1902, and died March 15, 1975. Kate, Chauncey, and Mable are all buried side-by-side at Millers Cemetery. Barbara Ann Ballard married Delbert Emswiller October 13, 1946. They had three daughters Deborah Sue Emswiller, born August 16, 1947, who married Cary Lee Hansen; Rebecca Lou Emswiller, born October 30, 1948, who married Roy Samuels; and Maurillis Kay Emswiller, born May 23, 1950, who married Antonio Rivera. Barbara later married Albert Diehl.

Evaline Minnick was born July 30, 1907 and died at the age of fifteen from tuberculosis, the same disease that took her sister, Kate.

Dora Mae Minnick was born in Middletown May 8, 1912. She married Carol Pennell of Illinois April 14, 1933. Carol’s sister Christine Pennell married Chauncey Ballard’s brother, James Bruce Ballard. It is not known what happened to Carol, but Dora Mae married Alpha A. Armintrout February 4, 1937. Alpha "Armon" was born in Delaware County December 3, 1908. His parents were Charles Armintrout and Zetta Hazelbaker from Jamestown, Ohio. Dora Mae died May 10, 1966 and is buried at Millers Cemetery. She had no children.
Marifrances Minnick (also spelled Mary Frances in some accounts) was born May 21, 1915. She married Charles Whetsell, son of Arthur Whetsell, on July 4, 1934. Charles Whetsell died September 22, 1964. Marifrances was divorced from Charles and on November 20, 1936, she married Lawrence "Pete" Keesling, son of William Keesling of Pendleton. They had one daughter, Katherine Darlene "Kathy" Keesling, born November 20, 1940. Kathy married Franklin Delano Kellem and had two sons, Randall Jay Kellem, born December 31, 1960 and Anthony Delano Kellem, born October 14, 1963.

All of W. I. and Mary's children are now deceased.

William Isaac Minnick, or Uncle Will, died January 17, 1950, in the Henry County Hospital at New Castle. The funeral was conducted in the home of one of his daughters, Mrs. Armon Armintrout (Dora Mae). He was well-known in Middletown having owned a shoe-repair business for many years. He was a member of the Church of the Brethren. Other survivors were his widow, Mary Frances, and daughters Pearl Best, Anna Maze, Marifrancis Keesling, and his sister, Anna Swain. His wife, Mary Frances Minnick, followed him in death May 19, 1957. They are buried in Miller Cemetery.

ANCILLARY NOTES

Family members besides Catharine, Ella Catherine, and Thomas's infant daughter may be buried in the Old Pioneer Cemetery, but no record of such burials exist. Old cemetery records became lost when the church or organization became defunct. Henry County has no death records before 1882. Indeed, no statewide death records are known to exist prior to 1882. However, some local census records are extant as well as Federal census records with the exception of the 1890 United States Census records, almost all of which were destroyed by fire.

All of Isaac and Catharine Minnick's children were born in Botetourt County, although W.I.'s funeral home obituary indicates Rockbridge County, the county just north of Botetourt, as his birthplace. Conversely, he indicated Rockingham County as his birthplace on the marriage application for one of his daughters, which he signed. There are reasons to believe, however, that W.I. was also born in Botetourt County since the Rockbridge County Clerk can find no record of Isaac or any of his children for this period of time. Because Botetourt is a rather esoteric name to recall, Rockingham or Rockbridge would be easier to remember... and pronounce (Botetourt is pronounced by Virginians as Bah-te-tot). Another error is John W. Minnick's birthplace being listed as Roanoke, Virginia, by his son Lawrence on his marriage license application; this is clearly a mistake. I had always understood that Grandpa and his family came from Rockingham County, Virginia; however, there is no evidence whatsoever that Isaac or any of his
family ever lived for any period of time in Rockingham County, although numerous Minnicks did live and continue to live in that county and no doubt were related to Isaac Minnick. The census records for 1850 and 1860, as well as other legal documents dating back to 1792, show Botetourt County as their home. Even though W.I. Minnick was reportedly born in Rockbridge County, the records do not support this conclusion. Catharine's origin is not known for certain at this time; however, in the census of 1900, Michael indicated that his mother had been born in Tennessee, and Shank families, indeed, lived there.

Another error concerns Sarah Louisa's death certificate from the Botetourt County Clerk, which shows that she died of typhoid fever at 16 years and 3 days and was born in 1846 (Mary Jane's birthdate). However, this must be a transposing error, for the census records of 1850 and 1860 do not record Sarah Louisa Minnick since she was not born until 1861. Burton's Botetourt County, Virginia, Children show her birth date as July 7, 1861 and her death date as August 5, 1862, her birth being reported by her grandfather and her death by her father (with the discrepancy in the Death Book noted). Furthermore, family bible records show the correct dates. The death certificate is apparently in error.

Grandpa (Thomas Minnick) often spoke of living in a log cabin as a child in Virginia and hearing the frightening sound of mountain lions, or cougars, scratching at the cabin during the night. While his stories may have been embellished by time and a fading memory, one has only to see the area today to realize that it was little more than a frontier region over 140 years ago and that the Virginia of George Washington, the Lee's, Custis, Carter, and other wealthy tidewater aristocrats was over 100 miles to the east along the Virginia coastline and does in no way represent those intrepid pioneers who lived far to the west of the "civilized" part of Virginia. Virginia, it will be noted, claimed for over a hundred years that all land to the west was part of Virginia until other states declared their own sovereignty with West Virginia not breaking away from Virginia until 1863.

There is no question that the Virginia Minnicks were of Pennsylvania origin. A paper in Roy L Minnick's handwriting provides information from a Minnich reunion in Greenville, Ohio, (ca. 1930's) in which a family researcher stated that all Minnicks were from Pennsylvania; that Wendel Münch was born in Germany (according to Roy's note); came to America; and married his wife, Gertraut, who also was of German origin. They are thought to have settled in Hummelstown, Pennsylvania. The files of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints and research material shared by Jean Vore of Grand Junction, Colorado, reveal the records of the Münch family. The earliest known ancestor in Germany was Hans Münch, Mayor. His birthdate is unknown, but he died August 22, 1686. He was married to Maria Feil, who was born in Mossbach, Baden, Germany about 1614. She died August 12, 1686, in Farenbach, Germany.
Their son was Hans Georg Münch, who was born January 1652 and died in 1728; he married Anna Maria Seltenreich. Their son was Hans Wendl Münch, who was born in Farenbach, Germany, February 3, 1684, and married Anna Braugh, who was born in Germany, October 5, 1687, and died there January 16, 1733. Hans Wendl died July 18, 1732. Their son, Wendel Münch, was born September 7, 1725 in Munich, Germany, and was married to Gertraut Balsbaugh, born February 25, 1731. Wendel died September 5, 1784, and Gertraut died August, 1784. They are buried in Hummelstown Cemetery, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. Wendel and Gertraut had at least two daughters, Anna Marie Münch, born 1757, and Barbara Münch, born 1759, and two sons, George Münch, born 1751, and Wendel Münch, born 1755; all were born in Derry Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. George Münch and his wife, Catharine, had two sons, Wendel Minnich (note the name change), born 1783 and George Minnich, born 1787, and a daughter, Mary Minnich, born 1793; all were born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The next generation records Susan Minnich, who was born in 1818, and was the granddaughter of immigrant Wendel Münch. She married Valentine Hummel Earnest who was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, where Hummelstown is located. The name changed from Münch to Minnich with the generation born in the 1780's. It is possible, time-wise, that Wendel and Gertraut are the parents of Michael, early settler in Botetourt County, Virginia, who was from Pennsylvania.

I checked the immigration ship's passenger list for Wendel and found that he came to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the ship HMS Shirley. The ship, commanded by Captain James Allen, sailed from Rotterdam (where most European trans-Atlantic voyages began at that time) and stopped briefly at the Orkney Islands, Scotland. Wendel was shown as Wendel Minch when the ship arrived at Philadelphia on September 5, 1751. Also, there was a passenger named Fahrenstock aboard the same vessel, and this name has long been associated with the Pennsylvania Minnicks. The new immigrants, all from Germany, were welcomed by the mayor of Philadelphia, who gave a brief speech. Foreign names were quickly anglicized by immigration officials and the name Münch sounds like Minch when spoken in German; it may also be noted that the ü with two dots over it represents a sound in the German language called an umlaut, which is not found in the English language. With the umlaut ü followed by the peaks in the n it takes very little visual image to make the jump to in or ini. As a consequence, Wendel Münch was listed as Wendel Minch in the immigration records at Philadelphia and the name eventually evolved to Minich, Minick, etc. It should be noted that "Minnick" and its numerous spelling variations is a commonly found name both today and in the past in the Shenandoah Valley, western Maryland, and Pennsylvania. There are by one Maryland genealogist's estimate over 70 different variations; e.g., Mench, Menick, Minick, Minnich, Muench, and even Minnig.

It is my belief as well as that of other researchers that the Virginia Minnicks all originated from the Pennsylvania Minnicks.
however the name is spelled, and that Wendel Münch was in fact the beginning of this family in America. There is evidence, however, that other Minnicks emigrated to America from Germany perhaps well into the 19th century and settled mostly in the Lancaster and York county area of Pennsylvania, drifting down into Virginia's Shenandoah Valley after 1800. A history of Rockingham County in the Ft. Wayne Library listed about twenty German families, including the Minnicks, as among the largest land-owners in that county prior to the Civil War.

The Rader Church (German Lutheran) in Timberville, Rockingham County, Virginia, holds many Minnick family records, according to Wayland's History of Rockingham County, Virginia. The first Germans in Botetourt were Calvinists and Lutherans, who were followed by Dunkards and German Baptists. Most of the Minnicks of that era were German Lutheran or German Baptists, but later became "Dunkers," members of the Dunkard Church, which is now the Church of the Brethren in this area.

It will be the responsibility of those who are related to Isaac Minnick, the father of the children who came to Henry County, Indiana, and have an interest in preserving a record of the family for posterity to add to this document the names and dates of grandchildren, great grandchildren, etc., or whatever family information they may have or discover in the future. A copy of this family history will be filed in the libraries at Middletown, Indiana; Fincastle, Virginia; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, after all known data has been gathered and authenticated so far as is possible from existing records.

Michael Linden Minnick
Shirley Ann (Driver) Minnick
Middletown, Indiana
November 1, 1992