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MS 76 A
BX 1
NBK 15

The Swartwoods

MS 76 A
BX 1
NBK 15

Ed Swartwood, son of Benjamin and
—— Earlin Swartwood
m. ——— Ferguson ^{He m. twice only} dau. of
~~children~~
1. ~~John Swartwood~~

Children:

1. Velma Swartwood.

b.

d, Dec. 21, 1941, at 42,
m. Carma Webb,

9 Children

1. James Edwin Webb
Spring Valley Drive

2. Paul Webb,
b. 3950 New Town
Rd, Cincinnati, Ohio
1. Dan., Pauline

3. Maxine Webb,

b.

m. Charles Robinson,
F.V. Gay, Rt. 2.
5 children

4. Carmie Webb Jr.
b.
d.

5. Covie Lee Webb (son)
b. d.
m.

6. Lois Gaynelle Webb
b.
m. Henry Hile
Sycamore St., Kenova.
One dau.,
Dorothy Ernestine Webb

7. Finley Ray Webb
b.
m.

He was soon killed in
a car accident near Kenova

8. Benj. Webb - Cincinnati
44112 - 33rd Ave.
Cincinnati 9, Ohio.

98. Donna Ernestine Webb.

b.

m. Glenn McCloud,
Rt. 1, Ft. Gay

No children.

~~9.~~

Ed Swartwood & — Ida Ferguson
Children by 1st wife
1. Velma

~~2.~~
1

2. Zula Swartwood

d. at 14

~~3.~~

By 2nd wife

Myrtle Copley. dau. of
Wayne Copley.

4 children, one dead

1. Homer Swartwood

2. Zula "

3. Fred "

4. Hulda "

m. Henry Meredith

4.

~~Ed Sw~~

Ed Swarlowood

m. 1 Ida Ferguson

1³ Zula Swarlowood - Singled at 16

2³ Delma Swarlowood

m. 2 Myrtle Copley

Mr. Caprice Webb - 9 children

8.

(Copy)

Mrs. Harry L. Noyes,
327 Buffalo Avenue,
Niagara Falls, New York.

Jan. 8, 1945.

My dear Mr. Lambert:

In reading the D.A.R. Magazine Jan. 1, I read your inquiry of Ebenezer Earl Swartwood. I have a History of Tioga County, New York. The town of Barton is Mettenup. In it, Pioneer Hanna had nine children, and one of them, Nancy, married John Swartwood; and after his death, Mr. John Shoemaker.

James Swartwood came to Barton previous to 1795. Came from Delaware. Had nine children:

Mary, married Tessie Shoemaker; Martha married Benj Smith; Sarah married Joseph Langfot; Kittie married Baskis Jones; Sons were: Benjamin, James, Jacob, John and Ebenezer. Family name is still in Barton. Then on another page it says, "James Swartwood, soldier of Revolution: came from New Jersey to Barton among the early settlers with his family and made his home in Ellistown, N.Y. near Waverly. He was a farmer; his son Benjamin married Catherine Williams, and lived at Talmadge Hill. Ezekiel his son, born July 15, 1807 married Margaret H., daughter of John M. Vannatta and settled on a farm now owned by John King, where he was a farmer. His two children were: John M. (deceased) and Nancy (Mrs. John Harding).

I think if you would write the Post Master at Barton, Tioga County, New York, or to Mrs. William Bennett some addresses, either of them.

#2.
6.

There is a small town called "Swartwood, N.Y." between Spencer, N.Y. and Elmira. It was started as a lumbering town. Also, you might contact the G.A.R. Chapters in Waverly, and Elmira. The Chapter should have the records of their members on file. The name Van Atta is a familiar one in Waverly. Might be able to tell you if there is any of the family thereabouts now.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Anna Ransom Noyes.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF EBENEZAR EARL SWARTWOOD CONTINUED.

---2---

As stated, he married Sarah Goff. The record of her death, is found in Volume I, page 222 "In the Record of Deaths" 1881, which is found in the probate court room at Ironton, Ohio, and is as follows:

"Sarah Swartwood, wife of Ebenezar Earl Swartwood, died June 2, 1881, age 65 years, 3 months and 1 day, in Rome Township"

She died at her home yet standing on the head of Federal Creek, Lawrence County, Ohio. According to the above she must have been born March 1, 1816. She died of heart disease. She was born in County Virginia. She told my mother Sarah Mariah Swartwood that her father Mr. Goff was a slave owner, and was killed by a barrel of salt rolling over him from a wagon. This wagon was being driven by a negro man, a slave, and there was grave suspicion that he caused the barrel to roll over him on purpose.

Mrs. Goff, the mother of Sarah Goff, for some reason came from Virginia to Lawrence County, Ohio, and settled probably on Paddys Creek. She had five children, of which Sarah was one.

Earl Swartwood as he was known, set up a home probably on Paddy Creek or somewhere in Lawrence County. Just how long she lived there is not known. On January 9, 1865 a deed was made to him by Robert D. Neely, and Agathy, his wife for twenty five acres of land in Lawrence County Ohio, described as follows:

"January 9, 1865 Robert D. Neely and Agathy, his wife deeded to Earl Swartwood 25 acres in Lawrence County, Ohio, on lot."

"The East part of lot No. 1273 Ohio Company's purchase in Lawrence County, Section 24, Township two, Range fifteen, commencing at the Northeast corner.

Make 2 copies
(1 carbon)

Guyan Valley High School,

F. B. Lambert Principal,

Branchland W. Va.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF EBENEZER EARL SWARTWOOD.

Ebenezer Earl Swartwood was born about 1815 to 1821, at or near Elmira, New York. At the present time I am unable to say who his father, mother, or any of his immediate ancestors were. He died June 12, 1897, at the home of Henry Lambert, who lived near the head of the Right Hand Fork of Nine Mile Creek. He was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery, which is located at Oak Hill Church near LeSage, a station on the B&O Railroad, on the Ohio river, thirteen miles above the city of Huntington, West Virginia. This cemetery adjoins the Oak Hill Church, which is the United Brethren Organization. The site of the grave is known, but no monument has been erected to his memory.

He came to Lawrence County Ohio, when a young man, and is * said to have married a woman named Brown. I am not certain that this is correct; tradition says that they were separated, and she went South and settled in New Orleans, where she conducted some kind of illegitimate business, in which she became rich.

Whether or not the above is correct, the record of marriages in the court house in Ironton, Ohio, show that he was married in 1845 to Sarah Goff. This record is found in "Marriage Record Number 45," page 39, and reads as follows:

"The State of Ohio; Lawrence County ss I do hereby certify that on the 26th day of Sept. 1845, by virtue of a license from the clerk of the court of common pleas of Lawrence County Ebenezer E. Swartwood and Sarah Goff were legally joined in marriage by me a Justice of the peace in and for said county. Given under my hand and seal Oct. 4, 1845."

Nathaniel Burchman J.P. (Seal)

No. 1822.

* Note - There are records of both marriages in Lawrence Co. O. & exact dates.
He m. 1 - Brown, about 1840
m. 2 Sarah Goff. See above about 1845
She was dau. of Jeremiah B.

Jeremiah B. Goff was m. in Lawrence Co. O. to Sarah Goff. See above. He was dau. of Jeremiah B. Goff. See above. He was dau. of Jeremiah B. Goff. See above.

The Swartwoods
Trouton Records

———— Swartwood b. Dec. 29, 1882,
Dan. of Benjamin and Luinda
Norris Swartwood, in Rome
Township, Lawrence Co., Ohio.

Alfred Thomas Swartwood Son of
Benj. F. and Luinda Swartwood
b. June 13, 1880, Rome Town-
ship (This was "Al", as
we called him.

Helen Inogene Swartwood

b. March 25, 1917, dau. of
William Hobert and Rhoda
Agnes Brandon (Swartwood)
at Muller, (O.), Rome Township
Meaning of F. W.? - Females
White?

Irene S. dau. of J. A. and Murnie
Shockley, b. May 12, 1909, in
Rome Township.

Lillian Swartwood, dau. of Thomas T. and
Minnie Shockley, b. Jan. 3, 1907.
Rome Township ..

William ^{still} H. Swartwood, son of A. T.
and Myrtle Van Sant Swartwood,
Nov. 30, 1896. Rome Township

Swartwood Marriages, in Lawrence
Co., Ohio.

Oren Swartwood

m. Elizabeth Mc ~~Mahon~~ Man
Oct. 1, 1839, p. 311 of 1, 2
& 3)

Ebenezer E. Swartwood

m. 1 Sarah Brown,
May 13, 1841 (No. 138
Marriage Record Bles.
1, 2, 3)

m. 2 Sarah Goff, Sept.
28, 1845, (dau. of Jeremia
ah. Goff of Bedford Co., Va.)

Swartwood died Jan. 1, 1883,
Dan. of Benj. and Lurinda Swart-
wood Bk. 1 p. 270

Registro No. 14

A. J. Swartwood (Uncle Alfred)
d. Sept. 22, 1898, at 42-3-29)

Myrtie M. Swartwood d. April 17, 1908,
b. at Charleston, W. Va.

She ^{was b.} d. at Charleston, W. Va

(3-480) e

Sarah Swartwood (Grandmother of
F. B. & J. W. Lambert)

d. June 2, 1880, at 65-3-1
b. in Va. Died of heart &
disease. b. March 1, 1815.

1880-6-2	1-222
+ 65-3-1	
<hr/> 1815-3-1	12

Thomas Swartwood d. March 14, 1877
Married. Age 2 yrs. 11 mos. 27 days
b. ~~Died~~ in Gallia Co., Ohio

b. Lawrence Co., Ohio ~~Cause~~

~~Unknown Cause~~ 1-222

Married. Cause unknown. 1-222
12

12.
Lon Swartwood's former address:

Rev J. A. Swartwood

1520 - 3rd St.,

Pine Bluff, Arkansas

His former wife

Mrs. M. C. Zimmerman

421 E. Jefferson St.,

Louisville, Ky.

Mrs. Gus Spain (Who? Dan. of Myrtle?)
746 Edgewood Apts.,
Akron, Ohio

Willard Swartwood (Who?)
Akron, O., (What Street)

A. J. Swartwood 21+

m. Margaret King 18 under,
but had father's con-
sent.

m. April 1, 1881

Benj. Swartwood

m. Hannah Sartain,

Dec. 20, 1872

Lambert?

Thomas Swartwood d. Jan. 29, 1872
 at 74-0-17, Widowed
 Aid Township. C. W. Va.
 Palsy.

Mary Lambert d. Jan. 30, 1870
 (~~may not be my~~
~~gr. gr. mother - F.B.L.~~) C. in Va.
 at 71-3-21, Aid Township.
 Of Lung fever, Rep'd by John H.
 Cox

Charles E. Lambert
 d. July 30, 1874
 Age 2 yrs. 6 mos. 3 days
 Aid Township.

Frances Craig, a daughter of Myrtle
 Van Sant Swartwood (Mrs. Myrtle
 Wall, later Swartwood)
 Miller Ohio

Frances Craig, a dau. of Mrs.

Myrtle Van Sant Swartwood.

Ella says:

A. J. Swartwood d. Sept. 21, 1898
at 7 P.M., and that the
Bronson record is wrong.

It say Sept. 22 but Ella
Boiler says ^{he died} Sept. 21, at 7 P.M.

15.
Gallia Co., Ohio Records.

marriages;

Bk 3 p 400

Benj. F. Swartwood

m. (1.) Hannah Sarlin (Sister
of John Sarlin

Dec. 20, 1872.

A son, Edward Swartwood
Rev. Carney Webb m. Ed's daughter
Several children. She is dead. He lives
Vinton Rankin in Wayne Co.

m. Mahala Sowards,

August 23, 1865

She was a daughter of ^{Wm} Greasy
John Sowards.
Hiram Rankin

m. Susanna Drummond.

Dec. 121, 1839.

Bk. 1 p. 332,

Thos. Clark J. P.

Alfred (Thomas) Swartwood

m. Margaret King

April 1, 1881.

Bk. 5 p. 265

m. 2. ~~Wm~~ Wall,

Jeremiah Goff

m. Pocahontas Walls (lls)

in Bedford Co. Va., 1806.

(Gr. gr. mother of J. B. L.)

The Lawrence Co.
Census of 1840, shows
Pocahontas Goff
her married name

2
J.B.
Mrs. Longshore - Out from Coal Grove,
on Marion Road 415 Marion Rd
Phone 1166-R.

Mrs. Edna Barnett (on John Willis?)
Chesapeake, Ohio.

Arlo Robinson, Chesapeake - Same.
Teacher at New H.S.

Bert Baker - On Mat Baker, Ansel,
etc. Janitor at Branton C. H.
408 Park Ave.

Branton, O.
John Willis d. About June 1920-21.

Jack C. Swarlowood
3615 Shaw St., Cincinnati.

Prescription, by Dr. Taylor
38664 - Hesson's Pharmacy

Paul Pancake,
on Trays family. Also
Mrs. Joe Trays (Maria) Barker
St. Albans

J. G. Hesson 80, Chesapeake, O.
Teacher. On John Willis. Know
little

Charles White, Pedro Rt. 1,
^{above}
1 1/2 mi. near Lawrence Furnace (one same).
Lives near New Richmond.

John Goff - Waterloo, Ohio.

A. D. Robertson - New H. S. Below
a nephew of Mrs. Willis
Chesapeake on John Willis
Phone 25135

Sarah Seles, dau. of Henry and Elizabeth
Seles d. at 84, Feb. 2, 1875, in McComas
Dist. 6. in Amherst Co. Dau. of Wife of
Christopher Seles. Mother of Godfrey Seles.

Wm. Jefferson d. June 4, 1901,
^{Mr. Fanny Legas, sister of twin}
in Missouri, of Paralysis,
at 46, Son of Mary and Henry
at New Jefferson. Frank Jefferson,
Madrid Informant & Father. Paralysis

Mary A. Jefferson d. May 4, 1901,
of Paralysis, at 70. Henry
Jefferson, husband.

{ Two children of Wm. Jefferson
Valcy Jefferson (mae
Willie "

Notes.
From Cabell Co. marriage records:
Margaret Hunter

m. Alonzo Kelchum
June 25, 1843

Mrs. Lucinda Hunter
m. Richard Adkins
6-5-28

America Butcher 22
m. Nicholas L. Castle 21
He b. Pennsylvania Co., Va
She, Lawrence Co., O.
The son of John & Catherine
Castle of Jackson Co. W. Va,
The ~~son~~ dau. of Andrew
and — Butcher.

John Harshbarger
m. Ann Doolittle, dau
of Luther 2-9-1832

Chas. B. Swartwood, Phone
Robinson Bldg., 8161
Elmira, N. Y.
His home - 510 W. Gray St
Elmira, N. Y.

A Cook - Hist of Automobiles:
Detroit is My Own Home Town
by Malcolm Bengue
Kidd's Bk. Store,
Cincinnati, O.

Swarwood Deaths - Wayne Co.

Zelda Swarwood

d. March 12, 1915, at 1-11-0

Julia Swarwood d. Jan. 15, 1927

at 15 of J. B.

Parent - F. E. Swarwood

Farmer. Single

J. E. Swarwood

d. March 10, 1920,

Son of Ben Swarwood

Married

Staley Deaths - Wayne Co

W. H. Staley d. Oct. 15, 1935.

at 85, of Heart. Son of
Jacob Staley. Farmer. Widower
J. M. Staley.

Cleo Stella Staley d. Sept. 11, 1936

at 63 of Dysentery.

Father Harvey Staley

Housewife. Married

Harvey Staley

Wm. H. Staley d. Oct. 2, 1936,

at 64. Son of Solomon

Staley. Married James J. Staley

My first public school was on Cabin Creek, Kanawha Co. 1868(?)
under D. T. Fields.

Earl Swartwood came from New York when he was about 20 years old.
he lived at first on the hill above Pocadolle which was on Guyan Creek.
Tom Rose still lives on the Ohio River near Millersport, Ohio. He can
tell all about this. He is older than I am. I was married in the old
log house on Federal Creek still standing by Justice of the Peace Miles
L. Blake about 11 o'clock March 31, 1870. (1869 is correct). Verify
this by marriage certificate. Sarah M. Lambert was born Aug. 6, 1851.
She was nearing her 77th birthday when she died April 26th, 1928 at
about two o'clock in the afternoon. I had gone to Huntington to get
her some Battle Creek Michigan food.

My mothers name was Asbirena Rankin, daughter of Armstrong Rankin
who lived on Symmes Creek three miles above Marion. Neither do I know
the name of my Grandmother, Hannah Dilley Rankin, as both are said to
have died of cholera shortly after or possibly before I was born. They
are said to have died in a half hour of each other. Cholera was bad in
those days. I had an Aunt also who died the same year with it. She
married Sam Drummond. There was a "root doctor" named Gibbs who is said
to have cured every case. This must have been 1849 as James Drummond
was born the same year I was and she died soon after this.

Vint Rankin of Crown City was a first cousin of mine. His father
was Hiram Rankin a brother to my mother. There was a large family. of
the Rankins:

Hiram, William, Barney, Thompson and Loudon were sons whose names I

remember by hearing. I knew Wm. and Hiram both of whom lived at Crown City. I saw Loudon once. They had one sister (to my mother) This sister married Jack Johnson and lived back of Crown City. She had one son *Johnson, who probably lives there yet. He is a cousin and lived near Guyan Creek about 2-3 miles of Crown City. Hiram Rankin was larger than Vint. When I was in Kanawha Vint R. used to send me a Gallipolis paper (Gallipolis Journal). Vint weighed about 280, Hiram about 315 and Jerry Yoho 340. The above carried an item like this. "Jerry Yoho, Hiram R. and Vint R. were all seen on the same acre lot to-day." Jerry Yoho was the father of Chas. Yoho and Grandfather of Eustace. Billy Rankin is the only one of the old family living. He lives at Proctorville. He is stingy. Most of them were very clever.

Ed. Wilson edited the Iron-ton Register from before the Civil war until many years after. It should have a lot of local history if the files have not been destroyed.

* He yet lives at Galipolis (1942)

IRONTON COURT HOUSE RECORDS.

Saturday May 26, 1929. - I (F.B.L.) visited Ironton and went to the Court House. I found the following records:

1. In volume 23 p. 147 - Earl Swartwood bought 25 A. land of R. D. Neely for \$80. The following is from the deed.

"The east part of Lat No. 1273 Ohio Company's purchase in Lawrence County, Section 24, Township two, Range Fifteen, commencing at the north-east corner thence west along the north line of said lot to a stone, thence south-west down a run to a stone, thence to a Sycamore tree. Thence south to a walnut tree to the East and west line of said lot. Thence east along said line to the southeast corner of said Lot. Thence north to the place of beginning." twenty-five acres more or less, etc. The consideration was \$80. This undoubtedly was the home place on Federal Creek. The deed was dated Jan. 9. 1865 and signed by Robt. D. Neely and Agathy, his wife. Executed in the presence of L. K. Robinson and J. S. Robinson.

Elizabeth Jane White (Sam White's wife and R. D. Neely's daughter sold A. T. Swartwood 10 Acres of land from same tract (1273) (Vol. 36. p. 318) \$100 Dec. 5, 1878.

Vol. 43 p. 379 Earl Swartwood deeded A. T. Swartwood, Dec. 7, 1885 8½ Acres for \$75.

Mr. Matthias Gossett is Recorder
Ironton
Miss Helen Clark Probate Clerk

MARRIAGE RECORD (BOOK) No. 45.

June 1843 - Jan. 1857. p. 39

" The State of Ohio, Lawrence County Js. I do hereby certify that on the 23th day of Sept. 1845 by virtue of a licens from the clerk of the court of common pleas of Lawrence County, Ebenezer E. Swartwood and

Sarah Goff were legally joined in marriage by me a Justice of the peace in and for said county. Given under my hand and seal Oct. 4th. 1845.

No. 1822 Nathaniel Burcham J. P. (Seal)

(Note by H.L. - Nat Burcham was said never to have been on the river but once. He was summoned as a witness to court at Burlington, took dinner at the hotel with the lawyers, etc. A fellow had some baked potatoes mashed on his plate and passed to Nat. He said the folks were awful good to him, even peeled his potatoes (Raked them onto his plate.)

Same Vol. p. 86 - State of Ohio, Lawrence county Js. This certifies that on the -----day of ----- A. D. 1847 by virtue of a licens from the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, I joined in marriage Mr. John H. Lambert and Miss Asmarena Rankins. I do hereby setfy that I did mary a Miss Masena Rakiins (and) John Henry Lambert

JesseCorn Minister of the Gospel.

(Above Jesse was a hardshelled Baptist preacher, drank whiskey, father of Jesse Corn Jr. whom I know.)

Marriage Record 45 p. 8 June 30, 1845.

Thornton Lambert married Tenesh Rankins sister to Asbarena. This Thornton was Uncle to Henry Lambert and son of Thomas Lambert.

Jesse Corn. Minister, etc.

Same book p. 64 - May 6, 1849

William Lambert and Martha Ward

J. Rowe, M. P.

Same book p. 114. H. J. Samuels married Rebecca Anna Bartram Dec. 10, 1848.

No. 3135

Hezekiah G. Milton J. P.

(He lived at B'ville & I just copied it as I presumed no one would know where he married)

Same book p. 57 - Valentine Sampson & Catherine Neal were married Jan. 18, 1846 by Benj. F. Cory J.P. No. 1891 - Pa (H.L.) says Valentine Sampson was a brother to his mother.

NOTE The Index book under S. lists Valenthe Simpson as marrying Nancy Huggins. This was earlier than above, I think but I couldn't find it.

Query - was it another Valentine Sampson? (Marriage Record 123 (1817-1843)

Henry Lambert and Mariah Swartwood were married by Miles M. Blake J.P.

March 31, 1870. Licens issued March 26, 1870.

Records of Deaths Vol. 1 Probate court P. 222

Sarah Swartwood June 2, 1881. Aged 65 yrs. 3 mos. 1 day. Rome Township. Born in Va. Hart disease. Reported by Henry Lambert. (Note: - This was my grandmother wife of (Ebenezer) Earl Swartwood - F.B.L.)

Vol. 2. p. 138

A. T. Swartwood died of Typhus . Died Sept. 22, 1898 aged 42 yrs. 3 mos. 29 days at Miller. Merchant Remarks. M. (?) hence B. 6-13-1856.

SWARTWOODS

Sketches of the Swartwood Family:

Earl Swartwood whose full name was Ebenezer Earl Swartwood was raised near Elmira, New York earlier than 1854. He was the founder of the family in Lawrence County, Ohio. A fuller sketch will be found among my papers.

Benjamin Swartwood, oldest son of Earl Swartwood was born in Lawrence County, Ohio, in 1848. The exact date is not known. He died in the Insane Asylum at Athens, Ohio, Jan. 16, 1884, having been admitted there Dec. 10, 1884, at the age of thirty-six. According to their statement he was under their care 13 mos. and 7 days. They further state: "He was admitted from Lawrence county, at the age of 36, his occupation being given as a farmer. A diagnosis of his mental condition was made, of General Paralysis of the Insane." He was "buried in the Institutional Cemetery. The grave wherein he was interred has been marked, as is our custom, and can be located, at any time, should you so desire." The above was from a letter to me at Branchland, by the Superintendent, John H. Berry, dated Nov. 7, 1929, and stating that it was all the information they had. The official name of this asylum is "Athens State Hospital."

Previous to this time, Benjamin Swartwood was sent to the Ohio Penitentiary, at Columbus, a letter to me at Branchland, under date of Sept. 30, 1930, reading as follows:

Benjamin Swartwood, #8664, was admitted here December 15, 1870 having been convicted of aiding and abetting in the crime of manslaughter in the October, 1870, term of court in Lawrence Co. His term was for

two years. He was discharged on Sept. 12, 1872 by expiration of sentence, having earned time off for good behavior. He was 22 when admitted, born in Ohio, 5 ft. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches tall, hazel eyes, dark brown hair, moderate habits, and common education. No property. Father, Earl; Mother, Sarah W. (Mf) of Millersport, Lawrence County County, Ohio: Brother, Alfred, Sister, Sarah." This was signed by the Warden, P. E. Thomas.

From information furnished the writer from various sources, Ben (my Uncle) had very little to do with this murder. It seems that the real murderer, Sam White, had left his gun in Swartwood's hands. White got into a quarrel with Joe Walls, and asked Ben to give him the gun. He did so, and White immediately shot Walls, and then ran up the Creek. This took place at a shooting match at the forks of Federal Creek, below Jim Truesdell's. They were shooting for turkeys. It is probable that eye witnesses can yet be found. Alice Told, a short time before her death, gave me the story as she had it at the time. She lived at the Told home yet standing on the right hand fork of Federal Creek about a mile above where the shooting took place. She says: "John Armstrong and Ben Swartwood went with Sam White to the Forks of Federal Creek. The two had had trouble with Joe Walls and got Sam White to kill him. A shooting match for a beef was on just below (Jim) Truesdell's. Ben went to the Pen for a year or two. Armstrong told my father later that the affair troubled him. John Armstrong Sr. drank much." Miss Told did not make clear to me whether it was John Armstrong Sr. or his son John Armstrong who was connected with this.

She further stated to me that she was at home on the day of this murder and that she remembered the great excitement and that she ^{saw} ~~was~~ Sam

White running up the Creek (and , I believe, she said he had his gun - a rifle - in his hand.

My father, Henry Lambert often stated that Ben had very little part in this killing. He was the oldest child of the Swartwood family, and they were too poor to put up an adequate defense. For some reason, he was put on trial before Sam White, and it seems highly probable that there would be considerable sentiment for punishing someone.

Concerning the part played by Sam White in this murder, the letter from the Penitentiary records:

"Sam White, #8824, was admitted here May 31, 1871, having been convicted of Murder in the second degree, in the April 1871 term of court, in Lawrence County, Ohio. On April 20, 1881, he was given a conditional pardon by Gov. Foster, and on October 25, 1889, he was returned for violation of pardon, and was repardoned by Governor Campbell, on April 2, 1890. When admitted he was 31 years old, born in Pennsylvania, 5 ft. 8½ inches tall, hazel eyes, black hair, hard drinker, and no education. Strawberry mark on neck under right ear, and had two fingers, on right hand, cut out. Owned 80 A. of ground in Lawrence County, valued at \$30.00 per A. Wife, Elizabeth J.; three children, Robert, Clara F.; and Baby, Millers P.O., Lawrence County, Ohio. His mother was Delaney Vance, ½ brother, Christopher, and Sister, Hanna."

From above it is seen that Swartwood was tried, October 1870, and White April 1871, six months later.

At the present time, I do not know the exact date of Joe Wall's murder, but evidently, it must have been shortly before Ben's trial.

Ben was married twice, the first time to ^{Hannah} Sartin, a sister to John Sartin of Federal Creek. To this union, Ed was the only child. *

* The first marriage is recorded in Lawrence Co., Ohio, or Gallia Co., the second one, in Wayne County, W. Va.

According to Alice Told, John Sartin's father was Salem Sartin. She said he was killed in the Civil War. She said he lived on the left hand fork. I don't know whether she meant above Sam White's or on the main left hand fork of Federal Creek.

J. E. Swartwood (Ed) died in Wayne Co., W. Va., at his home, near Hubbardstown or near Prichard P.O., March 10, 1920 aged 46 yrs. 5 mos. and 15 days, according to his daughter Mrs. Carmie Webb, R.F.D., Wayne, W. Va. She bases this on what Ed himself wrote in their family bible, wherein he states he was born Sept. 26, 1874. There is evidently an error in this, but I feel certain the birthdate is correct, because when we were boys together, I understood that I was a year younger than he. (according to tombstone date, he was born Sept. 25, 1873,

Ed married Ida Ferguson Sept. 5, 1900. She was the mother of Mrs. Webb mentioned above, Aelma, born Feb. 16, 1902, and Zula, born Feb. 28, 1904, died Jan. 15, 1920. Zelma was married May 8, 1920 to Rev Carmie Webb.

Ed's second marriage was to Myrtle Copley Dec. 25, 1909. To this marriage, the following children were born;

Homer Swartwood	Nov. 19, 1910.
Zelda "	April 10, 1913
Died March 12, 1915	
Fred "	Sept. 10, 1915
Hulda "	Sept. 30, 1917

After Ed's death, his second wife married again and is now living at Prichard, West Virginia.

Benjamin Swartwood was married a second time to Luvinda Norris whose people lived near Hubbardstown, Wayne County, W. Va. We always called her Aunt Vinda. One son Al was born to this union. He was drowned in the Big Sandy River. Vinda had at least two brothers living in Ohio a year or two

ago. Ed is buried on his farm, near Prichard.

So far as I am able to learn, Ed left no pictures of himself, but Mrs. Webb furnished me an old tintype of Uncle Ben. I have had the D. E. Abbot and Co. work over this tintype and enlarge some pictures from it. I have recently had the black and white enlargement photographed. The original tintype was somewhat damaged but they made very good reproductions from it, after filling in the defects. I also have good reproductions of Grandmother Swartwood's picture. She was the wife of Earl Swartwo, father of Ben. I have a tintype of Uncle Alfred, but none of grandfather Earl Swartwood. It is not certain that he ever had any taken. Ella Boster, R.F.D. Lesage, W.Va., has an enlarged photo of Uncle Alfred. This shows him without a hat. My tintype (daguerreotype) shows him with a hat. My mother had saved this picture and the one of her mother.

In further reference to Sam White, he was said to be part Indian. This may have been mere gossip, but he was a somewhat vicious character. I understood he went to the penitentiary for life. However, he developed a throat trouble of some kind, and as above stated, he was pardoned April 20, 1881. I distinctly remember him stopping at my fathers home in Proctorville shortly after this. In fact, I understood it was on his way home.

He was unable to speak above a whisper, and had the appearance of a man having tuberculosis. He lived just below Grandfather Swartwood's, on Federal Creek, in a good hewed log house yet standing. He was a hard worker, and perfectly peaceable, except when in anger. Then he was very dangerous. I remember his wife Jane and a daughter Clara, and a son Robert. Clara died of tuberculosis.

He and Uncle Alfred, at times, were not very friendly. On one occasion, White tried to shoot Uncle Alfred. It seems he was jealous of him.

Evidently rumor had connected the name of Jane, his wife, with that of Uncle Alfred while White was in the penitentiary. Alice Told knew Jane White, for many years, and she told me she was a fine woman. A few years later, Uncle Alfred built him a nice home, a short distance, up the branch leading up Federal Creek, to the left of Sam Whites, Uncle Alfred lived up the right hand branch, in the house owned by Grandfather Swartwood until a few years after Grandmother's death in 1881. White came to Uncle Alfred's late one night, and told him his new house was burning. Uncle Alfred refused to go around to the house, as he felt certain that White had set it on fire, in order to entice him away from home to get an opportunity to kill him. This house represented his savings for years. He was a cooper by trade, and made thousands of barrels of all kinds. His shop was just below his house in the little bottom on which the house stands yet. The hills all around had much virgin timber, which formed the basis on which many people lived, at that time. A. T. Swartwood and Co. of which A. T. Swartwood was the principal stockholder, in fact, the whole company, sold barrels every where, from Pittsburgh, to Cincinnati, and even more distant points. He shaved the hoops and staves by hand, and often went to the woods and got out the timber himself, by the aid of any of the neighbors who he could hire. Wages then were 50¢ to 75¢ and never more than a dollar a day, and a day meant the whole day, from daylight, till sundown or later. There were few luxuries. Living was of the simplest. Food was cheap such as was to be had. This usually was bacon, coffee, brown sugar, corn bread, and such vegetables as were produced on the farms. Eggs were plentiful and cheap. Uncle Alfred sometimes bought them in the summer and pickled them in brine to sell in the winter when prices were high. He paid 6¢ to 8¢ per dozen. What marketing was done was either at Millersport or across the hill to Crown City. The road to Millersport was in the creek

down to Coalter's hill, where most folks above there crossed over on a rough dirt road to the river road a short distance above the town. The creek road continued on down from Goulter's hill, right into town, and folks below the Hill went that way. The only school on the Creek was just above Jim Truesdell's, and is standing yet.

Household furniture was cheap and just such as could be made to answer the most urgent needs. Cord beds with straw ticks sometimes covered with feather beds, home made quilts, a few chairs, etc. were all that was to be found in the usual living room. A few kitchen utensils, coffee pot, an iron teakettle, iron pots, skillet and lid, a No. 7 "stepstove" made up the list. Kerosine lamps, or even pine torches, or a rag in grease furnished the light. Fires were of wood. Electric lights were unknown even in towns and cities like Huntington.

My father moved from Proctorville to Federal Creek about 1881 or not later than 1882. Uncle Alfred lived in the house previously occupied by my grandparents. We moved into a small log cabin about two to three hundred yards above him and just beyond the "Rock house", a natural place under a rock in the branch. Uncle Ben lived straight above Uncle Alfred on a bench or near the edge of the same branch. "Dad" or Grandpa Swartwood (Earl) built him a shanty right back of Uncle Alfreds and across a small ridge from Uncle Ben's. He did this because he claimed Grandma came and looked at him, but would leave when he attempted to speak to her or put out his hand to touch her. Uncle Alfred always tried to joke him by telling him it was some other woman. I and John (my brother) Charles Johnson, and Ed and Al were about the only play mates around there as Bob White and Clara were nearly grown. I don't remember any smaller child at Sam White's hence judge it must have died.

I attended grandmother's funeral and burial in 1881 . My mother was unable to be there, but some one took John and me and "Pa" up in an express wagon, I think. It was a long ride over dirt and mud roads from Proctorville to Millersport, and probably over Coalter's Hill. The grave was left unmarked. I saw it many times since and tried to keep it in mind but it is now lost and I doubt if it can ever be located exactly, although I know about where it is. It is in an old graveyard above the Told House and on a hillside. "Dad" requested ____ Told, a sister to Alice, to be certain to place him beside her, but this was not done as he is buried in an unmarked grave at Oak Hill, near Lesage, ^{W. Va.} We think we know where it is, and I hope to put up a marker some day, but that day may never come. Nearly 50 years have passed since Grandma died.

Dad's life in the shanty was rather prosy. He was alone most of the time. We were afraid he would get sick and die. His shanty was a very small round log cabin, with the door on the side facing the hill toward the Ohio River. It had a rock chimney built up about half way. One small window, in which there was probably no glass. I think it had a shutter on wooden hinges, but am not certain there was any window. He ate corn bread, coffee, bacon, navy bean, and dried apples. He earned a small amount sometimes by working for Uncle Alfred driving an ox team with barrels on a wagon with a rack to Millersport. This was usually almost an entire day's trip. Sometimes he got back about four o'clock in the afternoon. On one occasion Ed and I and John "fed" his hog, in his absence, by filling the pen with sassafras bushes. We entered his house by going down his chimney, got his axe, climbed out, filled the tall pen full of sassafras bushes carefully packed over the hog so as not to smother him, climbed back down the chimney, cooked our dinner, dug up part of his floor, took some cord string which he

had saved and started down the hill in time to meet him coming up about 4 P.M. and received his "blessing". He was mighty kind to just then, but merely as a precaution, we thought best to surround Uncle Alfred's house, and hide in the locust bushes beyond. It was only a matter of a few minutes till we saw him coming back down the hill calling for Ma, Uncle Alfred or anyone else, and what he said was not entirely complimentary. He went on down as far as Sam White's. Ma and Uncle Ben balanced the books for us that night. Don't let the grand "young uns" see this.

Uncle Ben also lived in a small log cabin. They had one bed in the main room, and I believe, a trundle bed under it for Ed and Al when they were small. I, and probably John, used to stay with them, but when we did we skinned ^{to} through a hole into the "loft". Aunt Vindy to us seemed to be a good cook, and Uncle Ben was always clever to us when we visited them. She had little to cook, and poor facilities for cooking what she had - a No. 7 step stove, and a skillet and lid with coffee pot and few other utensils, teakettle, skillett, dishes, tin cups, pie pans, etc. These with a few chairs made up their only wealth with the exception of possibly a cow. I don't think they had any horse. I am not certain they owned the land they lived on although I have been told since they owned about seven acres.

Like Uncle Alfred, Uncle Ben was a hard worker, but he was not so good a manager, and seemed content to live from day to day. He often worked for Uncle Alfred or for us, and I presume for other people. He received the usual fifty to seventy cents a day, and this together with what they raised on the farm, kept soul and body together. I knew he had a violent temper which apparently made him dangerous, but did not know he was losing his mind. He was admitted to the State Hospital at Athens Dec. 10, 1884. We still lived there, but for some reason, I have no recollection of the time

he was taken away. I understand he became so dangerous that Vinda became afraid of him, and had him committed to the Hospital. I have understood that Sam White assisted in taking him away. I do not think he resisted. The flood of 1884 came during that winter, and we moved to West Virginia (on left hand fork of Nine Mile below old man George Winters) the same spring. Left without support, there was nothing for Vinda to do but to go home, to kin folks, in Wayne County., and she must have left shortly after Uncle Ben was taken away. I never saw her any more, and never saw Ed but once or twice after that. I saw him in the Fall of 1892 or the spring of 1893, while I was going to Marshall College. I road an old bicycle up there one day over the rough dirt roads. I went by Kenova and up Big Sandy, and got to his place about dark. I staid all night and came back to Huntington the next evening. I had not seen him since 1884, and he didn't know me. However, it didn't take long to make him understand that I was the same chap with whom he used to fight as well as play. It usually took me and John both to lick him. He stuttered when a boy, but we could understand him when he got mad. (John stuttered also.) I don't remember much about Al except that Uncle Ben used to whip him and Ed rather severely. They knew how to move when he spoke to them. After Vinda moved to W. Va., I understand she was somewhat hard on the boys. This, however, may have been owing to the hard times making it difficult for her to properly care for them.

I always regarded Vinda as a good woman, and owing to Uncle Ben's high temper, she probably led a very difficult life. His temper may have been the result of his mind gradually failing, although he did not show it much.

Uncle Ben's full name was Benjamine Franklin.

Ed seemed to be more thrifty than one would expect considering the

shiftless manner in which he was raised. Mrs. Copley, his second wife told me that he owned their farm, and left them considerable property or or money free of debt. She and her last husband were keeping the younger members of the family, and seemed to be fairly prosperous.

Uncle Alfred was the youngest member of the family. His full name was Alfred Thomas Swartlood. (A.T.) He first married Maggie King. They raised a rather large family, but finally separated. A. T. Swartwood born _____ and died _____. He died at Miller, Ohio, of Typhoid fever. He at that time was married to Mrs. Myrtle Wall, widow of Prov. Wall, a former merchant in Millersport. He had apparently recovered from the fever, and was sitting up in bed expecting to get out in the afternoon. He ate some fried chicken. Some time in the afternoon he had a relapse, and died of heart failure. He had been taking belladonna prescribed by Dr. Lew A. Williams. It is thought his wife may have purposely given him two large doses of this. At any rate, she took possession of his trunks and locked them up. I tried to get Alonzo to break into the trunk in which we thought he had money, but he would not do so. I personally know that he had handled large amounts of money and some months before, I had seen him with notes for considerable amounts. But only four or five dollars were found about him. He had been having trouble with his wife during the winter and spring of 1896, when I was keeping drug store for him, and on one occasion a large bottle of nux vomica disappeared from the shelves. It showed up one morning on a barrel outside a rear window where I could see it. Dr. ^{Lucius} Williams was appointed administrator and his children got nothing from his estate. The Doctor finally got his new home which stood on or near the river bank. He afterwards moved it up the the street where it still stands and looks almost as it did originally. I

knew him well. He was a very hard worker, and a good business man. He had many fine qualities, and some bad ones. He was never known to drink. He was honest, upright in most things, very accommodating to his neighbors, always willing to assist any one in distress. He was not a church man, in fact, so far as I know, none of his people were. He was not given to swearing. His worst fault was his escapades with women. Politically, he and, I believe, the whole family including grandfather and my Uncles and mother were Republicans. So far as I know, he never engaged in politics except in a minor way, yet he was quite prominent as a local power in politics - office seekers were anxious to secure his support. His education was limited, yet he had enough to attend to all ordinary business. He ran a cooper shop for many years, but gradually began to loan money taking notes for it. In this way, he accumulated considerable. After some time, he gave up his cooper trade. He moved to Platform where he lived for a few years. He then got a divorce from his first wife and married Myrtle Walls, as previously stated. She owned a store in Millersport. He bought a drug store there, and then he conducted both stores to the time of his death in 1898. He is buried at Millersport in the cemetery just back of town. No marker to his grave, he died only about a year after the death of "Dad" - (Grandpa Swartwood.)

Dad's house (Grandpa S's) was the center of the group. This house was standing in good condition there or four years ago. We got a kodak of it, which I now have. Since that time, the chimney has fallen down, and the porch has been demolished. "Dad" lived there till about 1882 after grandmother's death. My father moved to a house up the branch, and to the left of an old rockhouse about 250 yards away. This was up on a second bench. Later we moved straight up the hill to a house built of round logs by Pa

(H.L. Nov 2). Uncle Ben lived about 500 yards up the hollow. "Dad" got tired of living with Uncle Alfred and moved into a shanty which he built just across the ridge which extends back to Uncle Alfred's house. The road to this Shanty ran up the hill back of Dad's house. The folks were afraid for Dad to stay there because they thought he might get sick alone. All these houses were originally single pen log cabins. Dad's house had an ell built later Jenny Lind fashion, I think. His main house was probably built in 1865 as that is the date he took a deed for the land. Dad's house is the only one standing, but the sight of all the others can be found by stones, ect., still remaining. We left there and moved to the left hand fork of Nine Mile just after the "flood" of 1884. Dad came back to Uncle Alfred for a while, and later followed us to West Virginia where he staid much of the time until his death. At that time we lived on the right hand fork of Nine Mile just below Wes Jefferson. Beyond Wes Jefferson, a few hundred yards, lived Joseph Wentz. He raised a large family. Beyond Wentz's and on top of the Deer Pen Hill lived Harrison Hagley. In a cove to the right of the Deerpen, about 1/3 of a mile and in a cove lived James A. (?) bias, a soldier of the Civil War. His wife was Betty (Elizabeth) Wilks. His sons were Joe (went to Spanish Am. War or Possibly served in Philippines in regular army) contracted tuberculosis and came home and died; Charley, married Kate Hall; Frank married _____, Effie married _____, Evaline (Ev) married Roy Holland.

I ask Charley, if that's correct.

Grandfather, Earl Swartwood was married twice, and both marriages are on record, in Lawrence County, Ohio. His first wife was Brown, and there is a good story connected with her people. He then married my grandmother, Sarah Maria Goff, from Bedford County, Virginia.

Interview with Henry Lambert Sunday July 1, 1923.

I remember Cal Sanders. He was a slave before the War for Sampson Sanders of Martha. He had a brother. He moved long before the War, (abt 1849?) to Solida Creek, Lawrence Co. Ohio. He later moved to Hecla Furnace about 3 miles from Ironton on Storm's Creek about 3 miles from river. (I judge Cal Sanders was freed by Sampson Sander's will in 1849.) (The slaves were to be taken to some northern free state and given land or money. The will is on record at Huntington.) Cal was a very strong negro. Was a wood chopper and teamster. It was claimed he could chop four cord a day - day in and out, one after another. He used to drive four yoke of oxen and when his wagon would get mired in mud, he would lift a wheel. They hauled charcoal, iron ore, and iron. Charcoal was burned in a place near the foot of a hill. The charcoal was used with lime stone in smelting the iron ore at the furnaces. There was lots of iron ore in the country. It was mined somewhat like coal except that each man had his own entry - about 30 ft. wide and no rooms were made in the bank. There were the following furnaces - Cat Hill, Pine grove Big Etna, Little Etna, Center, Mt. Vernon, Sallis, etc.

A charcoal pit was made as follows:

Lay down a few chunks of wood. Set others around till it made a circle of possibly 30 ft. in diameter. The chunks of wood were about four ft. in length. The process was repeated until there were 3 layers which an accord of wood leaning stood up about 10 ft high. They covered this with leaves. Then pounded dirt very fine and laid over leaves about 4 inches thick. They left a hole in top for smoke. Fired from

the top first and then gradually opened places below by sticking shovel handle in sides. The man who worked these pits or oversaw it, was called a collier. It was necessary at times for a man to go on top of the pit. This was because it was necessary to regulate the openings. It was very dangerous as men sometimes fell in. They carried their shovels in both hands, when on the pit, in a horizontal position to save themselves in such accidents. If everything was going right these accidents did not occur. I remember 3 or 4 men losing their lives thus.

SWARTWOODS OF NEW YORK

Odesa, New York Dec. 15, 1928

My dear Mr. Lambert:

Your letter of inquiry concerning your grandfather Earl Swartood was received several days ago. I have been sick with a cold but I drove to Cayuta today and consulted with Miss Elizabeth Swartwood, a retired school teacher, who has taught many years in Elmira, in an effort to learn something about your grandfather. Judge Charles B. Swartwood of Elmira, deceased, helped to compile a book of the Swartwood family, which as you probably know originated in Holland and are of nobel birth. A copy of this book now in the hands of the widow of Judge Swartwood is available to my cousin Miss Elizabeth Swartwood and she, though an invalid, will undertake to get some information about your grandfather for me, which I will forward to you in due time. I shall be glad to assist you in every way possible.

Cordially yours,

Harry B. Swartwood

NOTE: I learned of three members of the Swartwoods by writing the P.M. at Swartwood, New York. My grandfather was born and raised not far from Elmira, New York, according to the best of my recollection of what he told me. F.B. Lambert Dec. 25, 1928.

On Swartwoods. write 41.

B. F. Woodhouse
1068 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Elmira, New York.
Ph. 8854

A. Leigh Woodhouse
Middle Road, Horseheads, N.Y.
Phone 9-2533

Calvin R. Woodhouse

Hugh Woodhouse

Charles B. Swartwood
Robison Bldg. Ph. 8161
Elmira, N.Y.

Charles E. Swartwood
302 Broad St.
~~El~~ Horseheads, N.Y.
Elmira Ph. 92298

Emily Swartwood
Pine City, N.Y.
Ph. 33913

Fred Swartwood Jr.,
117 Eleanor, ~~St.~~
Horseheads, N.Y.

Hazel W. Swartwood
 222 E. McCann Blvd.,
 Elmira, N. Y.
 Phone 25807

James E. Swartwood, Insurance
 No. 5277 Perry Blvd.,
 Elmira, N. Y.
 Residence 1660 W. Church St.
 Phone 21301

Mrs. J. J. Swartwood Ph.
 702 Second St.
 Elmira, N. Y.

Mrs. Margaret Swartwood,
 367 Fulton St., Phone 21134

Marie Swartwood,
 114 W. Orchard St.,
 Ph. 9141 43 Horseheads.

Also J. Swartwood,
 Phone 6221

Jacobus Swartwood = Jacob
b. Jan. 10, 1794
m. Martha Earls
b.

Frank H.

b. March 30, 1898

m. Nellie Ruffitt

b. June 22, 1901

Parents - Daniel and
Elizabeth Ruffitt, of
Boyd County (Ishland)

m. Thomas Thompson

a son Daniel T.

b. Sept. 8, 1920

FRANK L. LAUSCHE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF OHIO

ATHENS STATE HOSPITAL

C. H. CREED, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT

ATHENS, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
COLUMBUS, OHIO

JUDGE J. H. LAMNECK
DIRECTOR

HENRY J. ROBISON
ASST. DIRECTOR

NO VISITING ON SUNDAYS
OR HOLIDAYS

45.
CALVIN L. BAKER, M. D.
COMMISSIONER
DIVISION OF MENTAL HYGIENE

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
IN REFERENCE TO PATIENTS
TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

November 3, 1952

F. B. Lambert
Barboursville, W.Va.

In Re: Benjamin Swartwood

Dear Sir:

Replying to your letter of November 1, 1952, seeking information as recorded about one of your uncles, Benjamin Swartwood, we are giving you the following as taken from the old case book, and grave registry.

Benjamin Swartwood, serial #1575, was admitted December 10, 1884, from Lawrence County, Ohio, at the age of 36 years, civil condition married, native of Ohio, occupation farmer, common school education, died in the hospital January 16, 1886, cause General Paralysis.

Benjamin Swartwood was buried in the Athens State Hospital Cemetery, January 16, 1886, and the grave marker carries the number 122.

We trust this will be of some value to you.

Very truly yours,

C. H. Creed, M. D.,
Superintendent

C. H. Creed
SUPERINTENDENT

NB

Funeral services for James M. Boster, 78, of 214 Short Street, a retired Cabell County school teacher, who died yesterday at his home, will be conducted at 2 P. M. Sunday at the Willis Funeral Home by the Rev. John Horn, pastor of the Nine Mile Pilgrim Holiness Church. Burial will be in the Miller, Ohio, Cemetery.

He was born in Gallia County, Ohio, January 25, 1874, a son of the late John and Sarah Henderson Boster, and he attended public schools in Ohio, and Marshall College.

Mr. and Mrs. Boster moved to Huntington a year ago from Lesage, where they had lived for forty-seven years.

Survivors include the widow, Mrs. Ella Boster, and one brother, Elmer Boster of 49th Street, Guyandotte, in Huntington. One son, Denver Boster, preceded his father in death.

The body is at the Willis Funeral Home where friends may call after 10 A. M. tomorrow.

Mr. Boster was a teacher and principal in the elementary schools of Union District of Cabell County, for forty-three years, before his retirement thirteen years ago. He was a prominent leader, in his community, and was highly respected by all. Many men and women will remember him, as a beloved Teacher and Christian Gentleman.

47.
FRANK J. LAUSCHE
GOVERNOR



NO VISITING ON SUNDAYS
OR HOLIDAYS

Athens State Hospital

C. H. CREED, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT

Athens, Ohio

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
IN REFERENCE TO PATIENTS
TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

In Re: Benjamin Swartwood
A.S.H.#1575

April 12, 1945

Mr. F. B. Lambert
Barboursville, West Virginia

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of April 10, addressed to Physician in Charge, Athens State Hospital, requesting statement regarding your uncle, Benjamin Swartwood, of Miller, Ohio.

We are enclosing herewith records as copied from the case book - 1884 to 1886.

Benjamin Swartwood was admitted December 10, 1884 from Lawrence County, at the age of 36, married, occupation - farmer, common school education, nativity - Ohio, religion none. Form of mental disorder - General Paralysis. He died January 16, 1886, cause of death - General Paralysis.

Very truly yours,

C. H. Creed, M. D.,
Superintendent

NSB:LMB

Athens State Hospital

Athens, Ohio

JOHN H. BERRY, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT

November 7, 1929

In Re: Benjamin Swartwood:

Mr. F. B. Lambert
Branchland, W. Va.

Dear sir:

In reply to your communication of recent date relative to the above, we regret that at the time of his commitment to this Institution our records were not as complete as at the present time, and the only information which we have relative to this case is that he was admitted December 10, 1884 from Lawrence county, at the age of 36, his occupation being given as a farmer. A diagnosis of his mental condition was made, of General Paralysis of the Insane.

He died at this Hospital January 16, 1886, after having been a patient here for 13 months, and 7 days. His age at the time of death was given as 37, and he was buried in the Institutional Cemetery. The grave wherein he was interred has been marked, as is our custom, and can be located at any time should you so desire. The cause of death is given as General Paralysis of the Insane.

We regret that the records are not available to provide you with a more detailed account of his history, but trust that this will be of some benefit in completing your records.

Very truly yours,



Superintendent

MNF:MFS

HAL H. GRISWOLD
DIRECTOR

49
P. E. THOMAS
WARDEN

Ohio Penitentiary

Columbus

November 7, 1929.

Mr. F. B. Lambert,
Principal,
The Guyan Valley High School,
Branchland, West Virginia.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter relative to a Sam White and Benjamin Swartwood, I have made a thorough search of our records and fail to find that either of these men have ever been incarcerated in the Ohio Penitentiary.

I would suggest that you get in touch with the County Clerk of Lawrence County, Ironton, Ohio, who should be able to advise you as to any records.

Sincerely yours,

P. E. Thomas

Warden

Ebenazar Earl Swartwood
died June 12, 1897.

Ab. Swartwood died
Sept. 21, 1898.

56.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

HOMER E. HAYES, CLERK
LAWRENCE COUNTY
IRONTON, OHIO

November 19, 1929.

Mr. F. R. Lambert, Principal
Branchland, West Virginia.

Dear Sir:

~~Our~~ records do not show that Sam
White or Ben Swartzwood were ever sent
to the Penitentiary by the Court of Common
Pleas, Lawrence County, Ohio, for the murder
of Joe Wall of Millersport, Ohio, about
the year 1880.

Sincerely,

Homer Hayes

Clerk of Courts

Ironton, Ohio.

HH:MEJ

Nov. 19, 1929.

Dear Miss Clark:

If you remember, I came to your office one Saturday ^{afternoon} a month or two ago, to get some family records and other records for local history purposes. On account of lack of time I failed to get all I wanted.

I am anxious to obtain facts relating to Benjamin Swartwood's marriages. I am not sure he married in Lawrence County but think he, at least married there the first time. He was born in 1849 and I judge married about 1870-1875, although he might have married as early as 1868-9.

This same Benjamin Swartwood and Sam White went to the Ohio Penitentiary about 1870. I am anxious to get whatever record there may be in Branton as to that. The Warden writes me he is unable to find a record.

2

Letter - He m. 1, _____
Sartin, in Gallia Co., O.
m. 2.
Go., W. Va. in Way

I distinctly remember seeing Sam White at my home in Proctorville when he came back on a parole after about ten years confinement. He was a life prisoner but apparently was about dead with tuberculosis. Benj. Swartwood was sent up for a short term for being an accessory to above crime of murdering Joe Wall of Millersport.

I will very much appreciate any information you can locate for me in any of the offices there, and referring to either the marriages or the crime mentioned.

Very Truly,

F. B. Lambert

We have searched our records and are not able to find the records you want. I am sorry.

Helen P. Clarke

Private Judge.

Ed Swartwood married Ida Ferguson first. Her uncle was Reuben Osburn. Her people live about Kneova---Sam smith was a relative.

He had two children by her---Zelda and Zula, the latter having died of Tuberculosis. Zelda married a Rev. Carmie Webb, Wayne, R. I. Zula died at about fifteen years old. Her mather had died of the same disease.

Ed married Myrtle Copley, daughter of Wayne Copley on Trace Creek, ⁱⁿ Butcher District. She had four children by Ed--Homer Now eighteen, Zelda, who died when two years old. Fred fourteen years old, Hulda twelve years old.

Homer is now working at Burbank, Ohio.

Mrs. Myrtle Bellomy is Homer's mother and has been married three time---first to Ed Swartwood, second to Cliff Lett (C. L. Lett) and now Alonzo Bellomy, Prichard, West Virginia, R. I. Box 28. This route comes through Hubbardstown.

Al was drowned in Big Sandy. He and the Norris Boys were swimming. James Norris is now at Berea, Ohio. He is a brother to Vinda. John Norris lives near there. He is another brother.

Ed lived with Myrtle above, about ten years. He died about eleven years ago last March 15th. She thinks he died of flu, bronchial pheumonia and spinal meningitis--sick only about two weeks--knew nothing at last.

Creek of Wayne Co.

Ed is buried on his farm on Greenbrier. He owned 63 sixty-three acres of land there.

There were only three graves there.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF EBENEZAR EARL SWARTWOOD CONTINUED.

—2—

As stated, he married Sarah Goff. The record of her death, is found in Volume I, page 222 "In the Record of Deaths" 1881, which is found in the probate court room at Ironton, Ohio, and is as follows:

"Sarah Swartwood, wife of Ebenezer Earl Swartwood, died June 2, 1881, age 65 years, 3 months and 1 day, in Rome Township"

She died at her home yet standing on the head of Federal Creek, Lawrence County, Ohio. According to the above she must have been born March 1, 1816. She died of heart disease. She was born in Botetourt? * County Virginia. She told my mother Sarah Mariah Swartwood that her father Mr. Goff was a slave owner, and was killed by a barrel of salt rolling over him from a wagon. This wagon was being driven by a negro man, a slave, and there was grave suspicion that he caused the barrel to roll over him on purpose.

Mrs. Goff, the mother of Sarah Goff, for some reason came from Virginia to Lawrence County, Ohio, and settled probably on Paddy Creek. She had five children, of which Sarah was one.

Earl Swartwood as he was known, set up a home probably on Paddy Creek or somewhere in Lawrence County. Just how long she lived there is not known. On January 9, 1865 a deed was made to him by Robert D. Neely, and Agathy, his wife for twenty five acres of land in Lawrence County Ohio, described as follows:

"January 9, 1865 Robert D. Neely and Agathy, his wife deeded to Earl Swartwood 25 acres in Lawrence County, Ohio, of lot."

"The East part of lot No. 1273 Ohio Company's purchase in Lawrence County, Section 24, Township two, Range fifteen, commencing at the Northeast corner."

* G. M. Coffman feels certain she and most of her sisters and one brother were born in Greenbrier Co., W. Va., and I am convinced that is probably correct.

(From Marriage Record No. 45, page 39,
found at the Court House,
Ironton, Lawrence County, Ohio,
I copied the following:

"The State of Ohio, Lawrence
County, fs I do hereby certify
that on the 28th day of Sept. 1845,
by virtue of a license from the
Clerk of the court of common pleas
of Lawrence County Ebenezer E.
Swartwood and Sarah Goff
were legally joined in marriage
by me a Justice of the peace
in and for said county. Given
under my hand and seal
Oct. 4, 1845

No 1822 Nathaniel Burcham J.P. (Seal)

From Record of Deaths 1881 Vol. 1 p. 222
Probate Court, Ironton, Ohio.

"Sarah Swartwood, wife of
Ebenezer Earl Swartwood, died
June 2, 1881, Aged 65 yrs. 3 mos. 1 da.
in Rome Township." (Note she died
at her home yet standing on head
of Federal Creek, Lawrence Co., Ohio.)

According to above she must
 have been born March 1, ~~1816~~ 1816.
 She died of heart disease. She was
 born in Virginia

Record of Deaths Vol. 2. p. 138

Alfred J (A. J.) Swartwood died
 Sept. 22, 1898 Aged 42 yrs., 3 mos.,
 29 days, at Miller, Rome Township,
 Lawrence Co., Ohio of Typhoid
 fever. His birthday must have
 been May 25, 1856

Ebenazar Earl Swartwood died
 June 12, 1897. (Not on record as
 he died at Henry Lambert's home on
 nine mile Cr.)
 Cabell Co. W. Va

Marriage Record No. 45, p. 39

"On the 28th day of September
 1845 by virtue of a license from
 the clerk of the court of common
 pleas of Lawrence County, ~~Ohio~~.
 Ebenazar E. Swartwood and Sarah
 Goff were legally joined in
 marriage by me a Justice of
 the peace in and for said county.
 Given under my hand and seal
 Oct 4th 1845

No 1822 Nathaniel Burcham J. P. (Seal)

From the marriage of Ebenezer E. Swartwood and Sarah Goff, four children were born. One, a girl, died in infancy. The others were Sarah Swartwood who married Henry Lambert. Alfred J. Swartwood married first Margaret King, Benjamin Swartwood married ~~Lavinia~~ ^{a sister first & then} Lavinia. Alfred Swartwood later divorced his first wife and married Mrs. Myrtle Wall widow of Prov. Wall. (Myrtle, we called her)

^{Married} Henry Lambert and Sarah M. Swartwood were married under a license issued March 26, 1870, by Miles ^{M.} Blake J. P. March 31, 1870. Sarah M. Lambert died April 26, 1928 at her home at Seven Mile Bridge, of Apoplexy.

Henry Lambert, died at St. Mary's Hospital at about 10 o'clock A. M. July 12, 1930, of heart failure and pneumonia following uremic poisoning.

January 14, 1900.

Mrs. Charles Westwood,
Albino, New York.
Dear Mrs. Westwood:

This is in answer reply to your letter of November, 30, 1900. Since that time I have picked up another name which may lead to the discovery of the branch of the Westwood family from which my grandfather, Earl Westwood was descended.

I recently visited Canton, Ohio, where I searched the records and found that his full name was Abraham Earl Westwood. I also saw a cousin of mine sometime ago, and she told me that she remembered perfectly well hearing him say that he stayed with a family named Westwood while visiting in New York.

As previously stated, this was thirty-five or forty years ago. Mr. Westwood's wife was Elizabeth Westwood. My cousin quoted grandfather saying that they took him around quite a bit among neighbors and relatives. She thinks that the Westwoods lived in Rochester, New York. That may be true, but I am positive grandfather was raised somewhere in the neighborhood of Albino, because I have heard him say so many times. The fact that I located you all there is proof that I recalled correctly.

Grandfather came to Lawrence County, Ohio at quite an early date. He married my grandmother, Sarah Ann ^{Miller} in 1805. He lived practically all his life in the vicinity of ~~Albino~~ ^{Miller} Albino, which is about thirteen miles up the Ohio River from Huntington, West Virginia.

My father told me a few days ago that grandfather was married once before this to a woman named Brown, also of Lawrence County, Ohio.

She is said to have proved to be a woman of bad character; they separated, and she was reported to have gone to New Orleans, where she ran an illegitimate business at which she became quite wealthy. This may have been a false report. At any rate I believe if you can locate Elizabeth Brantbourg, or if she is dead, you can locate her relatives, we may be able to trace grandfather's ancestry. I shall later send you up a more detailed account of his life and family if you would be interested in it.

Is there any way that I could secure a copy of the "Swartwood Chronicle", how large a book is it? Would it take very long to have a typist copy it.

I will appreciate anything further that you can offer in the way of assistance.

Very truly yours,

F. B. Lambert

611-7-4
Branchland, West Virginia.

January 14, 1930.

Mrs. Charles Swartwood,

Elmira, New York.

Dear Mrs. Swartwood:

This is in further reply to your letter of November, 30, 1929. Since that time I have picked up another clue which may lead to the discovery of the branch of the Swartwood family from which my grandfather, Earl Swartwood was descended.

I recently visited Ironton, Ohio, where I searched the records and found that his full name was Ebenezer Earl Swartwood. I also saw a cousin of mine sometime ago, and she told me that she remembered perfectly well hearing him say that he stayed with a family named Greathouse while visiting in New York.

As previously stated, this was thirty-five or forty years ago. Mr. Greathouse's wife was Elizabeth Greathouse. My cousin quoted grandfather as saying that they took him around quite a bit among neighbors and relatives. She thinks that the Greathouses lived in Rochester, New York. That may be true, but I am positive grandfather was raised somewhere in the neighborhood of Elmira, because I have heard him say so many times. The fact that I located you all there is proof that I recollect correctly.

Grandfather came to Lawrence County, Ohio at quite an early date. He married my grandmother, Sarah Golf in 1845. He lived practically all his life in the vicinity of Miller, Ohio, which is about thirteen miles up the Ohio River from Huntington, West Virginia.

62
Mrs. Charles Swartwood

-2-

1/14/30

My father told me a few days ago that grandfather was married once before this, to a woman named Brown, also, of Lawrence County, Ohio. She is said to have proven to be a woman of bad character; they separated, and she was reported to have gone to New Orleans, where she run an illegitimate business at which she became quite wealthy. This may have been a false report. At any rate I believe if you can locate Elizabeth Greathouse, or if she is dead, if you can locate her relatives, we may be able to trace grandfather's ancestry. I shall later make you up a more detailed account of his life and family if you would be interested in it.

Is there any way that I could secure a copy of the "Swartwood Chronicle?" How large a book is it? Would it take very long to have a typist copy it.

I will appreciate anything further that you can offer in the way of assistance.

Yours very truly,

FBL:CBT

April 16, 1930.

Mr. C. W. Swartwood,
Centralia, Washington,

Dear Mr. Swartwood:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter giving some details of my grandfather, Earl Swartwood. This letter was sent to Mrs. Charles Swartwood in the hope of getting some information, which I am sorry I have so far not been able to obtain, although I have had considerable correspondence with H. D. Swartwood and others.

I am, also, sending you a copy of a short sketch of him, in which you may be interested.

If you can, in any way, furnish any help toward the problem of locating my grandfather's immediate family, or rather the younger generation of his family, I will be very much obliged, indeed.

I am positive he was born and reared near Elmira, New York, and is closely related to all the Swartwoods, and of which family I presume you are a member. The fact that he left there in 1845, would easily explain why a few of his people remember anything about him. But the fact that he was back there between 1884 and the early nineties, should be remembered by many of the younger generation. However, the mystery is that they do not remember it. I would like for you to furnish me a list of the Swartwoods that you know of. If any girls of the older families married, I should like to have their addresses also.

I think if I can locate Elizabeth Greathouse, or her people, I will be able to clear things up.

Very truly yours,

January 16, 1930.

The County Clerk,
Elmira,
New York.

Dear Sir:

Will you kindly inform me whether there are any birth records available in your office, or anywhere within your knowledge, giving the birth dates of people born as far back as 1810 to 1825.

I am anxious to find the birth record of grandfather, Ebenezer Earl Swartwood. I have had correspondence with the Swartwoods living in and around Elmira, but so far, can find no one who remembers him, notwithstanding ~~he~~ he was back there forty years ago.

With this birth record, if available, I am anxious to trace his ancestry, or especially find out who his father and mother were.

I am hoping this will be given in connection with the birth record.

Very truly yours,

FBL:CBT

(Copy)

65.

Pine Bluff, Ark. Nov.15, 1953.

J. W. Lambert,

Huntington, W. Va.

Dear Cousin John & family:

Some time ago I had a short letter from you, but on account of sickness in my family, as well as myself, I have not attempted to write. About four months ago I had a sudden heart attack, and was in hospital 12 days, and very low. About that time I noticed my right kidney was a little stiff and sore at times; called Doctor's attention to it. He thought it was only a minor ailment, but it has gotten worse.

Nearly four years ago I was struck by a car; hard cut of left eye brow. It took four stitches, and one stitch in eye lid, where glass from my spectacles cut it. It also cracked Peter's bone. That healed nicely, and so did the cut; but my doctor and insurance doctor told me my head would bother me at times, as long as I lived and so far it has, since the heart attack, it has been worse and more often.

Two weeks ago I had two days and nights of intense suffering--ran me nearly wild. I am still weak from it.

The last 21 months our daughter, Label, has been ~~se~~ seriously ill. I have lost so much sleep, and it is a miracle I can go, at all: and, John, Believe it or not, if I live to February 5th I will be 72 years of age.

Had a letter from Fred some time ago, and I will

66

try to write him in a day or so. He, as usual, wants some information pertaining to the Swartwood tree. Been about 35 years since I saw Ella and Jim at Le Sage. That's the last time I saw Huntington. I think the last time I saw you was just before Uncle Henry died. Ella seemed to get up quite a sensation about her money, and marriage, too. You wrote Emory quite a long letter, and he lent it for me to see, and we destroyed it here at my house four years ago.

Emory and Hannah and the dogs came to see me had been 45 years. They come by two or three times a year, now.

I have heard you was working with the Salvation army and preaching quite a lot. There is, to my way of thinking, a greater thing for any one to do. I have been at it, now for near fifty years and expect to keep it up so long as life holds out. I have spent the years working in fourteen states. Last two years been handicapped by this sickness. yet I can preach, locally, some. It looks like the Swartwoods in these parts will soon be almost extinct.

My oldest boy has two children, both boys. one in the navy. other one in school. Denver has two children, both girls. Emory, no children. Chester, no children. As far as I know, Charley has none. Neither Chancy nor Chester write to me.

I have been in Arkansas over 20 years, and we like it fine. a wonderful state.

I had managed over the years, to gather up a little money. Had about \$2,300.00 equity in a home, but 21 months

sickness has wiped it all out--and then some. The church folks are helping some; that's how I live. Might say, charity. Alice helps me some, occasionally.

The girl here been unconscious over 3 weeks now and no doubt death only a few hours off: and it's hard.

Yet, like Job of old. He said, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him". God has been good to me. John I traveled many, many miles evangelizing in these fourteen states. Never asked for anything at any time: and God supplied my needs just in time.

I have here in this city highest endorsement of five different organizations and a good standing all over the state, of which I feel justly proud. Trust all is O.K. with you and yours. I would love to visit you and Ella there. Fred at Harboursville and Alice in Chicago before I am called away, but prospects not bright now, for that.

My first wife lives at 317 Atwood Street, Louisville, Ky for the present. Address me General Delivery. Write me again, will you? And please pray and ask God to supply my financial needs now, while in this distress.

God, bless you, and your's, John.

(Signed) T. A. S.

68
January 15, 1930.

Mrs. Carmie Webb,

Route 1.

Wayne, West Virginia.

Dear Mrs. Webb:-

Your father, Ed Swartwood, was a first cousin of mine. We were raised up together. His father was Benjamin Swartwood, my uncle.

I have been collecting family history for sometime, and I am anxious to secure a photograph of Ed, and also of your grandfather, Benjamin Swartwood, and your great grandfather, Earl Swartwood, whose full name was Ebenezer Earl Swartwood. I have a photograph of grandmother Swartwood, who is your great grandmother. I am not sure that either Earl Swartwood, or Benjamin Swartwood ever had a photograph taken, but your stepmother said she believed you had a photograph of Benjamin Swartwood.

I would like to hear from you, and in case you have any of these pictures, we could easily have them copied by a photographer. I would like to see you and if you have a car it would only take you about an hour and a half to run over to my house, which is four miles out the brick road from Harboursville toward Logan.

I would like to have you to write to me giving all possible details concerning Ed, when he was born, the date of his death, dates of marriages, and the same concerning all of you children, so that I may have a complete a record as possible concerning the whole family.

I will be glad to send you some of my material, when I

-2-

get it in better shape. Your stepmother gave me some facts, but not
enough to make a complete story. I am at home most every Sunday, and
would be very glad to have you and your husband visit us at any time.

Can't you come up soon?

Very truly yours,

FBL:CBT

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January 15, 1930.

Mr. James Norris,
Berea, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Norris:-

Benjamin Swartwood was a brother to my mother. I understand he married your sister. I always knew her as Vinda. She was a mighty good woman. I am collecting family history, and if you could give me a few details about Vinda I would be very much obliged. I would like to know when she was born, and when she died, who her father and mother were, and especially, I would like to have a photograph of her, if any one can tell me where to find it, I can have it copied by a photographer, if she left any.

Benjamin Swartwood died in an insane asylum, at Athens Ohio. He was a hard working man, and was thirty-seven years old when he died. He lived on the head of Federal Creek in Lawrence County, Ohio. I will be glad indeed to hear from you, giving me all details possible. If I get my records in better shape, I would be glad to send you my collection of facts concerning the Swartwood family.

Can you give me the address of your brother, John Norris?

Very truly yours,

FBL:CBT

"Vinda" or "Luvinda" Norris
was Benj. Swartwoods second
wife. She was the mother of
Al Swartwood, while Ed Swartwoods
mother was a Sartin.

71
January 14, 1930.

Mr. Harry B. Swartwood,

Odessa, New York.

Dear Mr. Swartwood:

I am inclosing a copy of a letter, which I have written to Mrs. Charles Swartwood. If you can be of any further assistance, I will certainly appreciate it.

If you know of the addresses of other members of the Swartwood family, and ~~any other persons~~ especially those, who might be able to give some information, I will thank you to send them to me at once.

Very truly yours,

FBL:CBT

72
January 14, 1930.

Miss Helen P. Clark,
Ironton, Ohio.

Dear Miss Clark:-

My grandfather, Ebenezer Earl Swartwood married Sarah Golf, who was my grandmother in 1845. My father, Henry Lambert told me recently that he had previously married a woman named Brown.

Will you kindly search the marriage records previous to 1845, and see if you can find the record of this former marriage? The marriage to Sarah Golf is recorded in the "Marriage Record Number" 45, page 39. I will appreciate this information very much.

You may be interested to know that I, my father, and all of his people were raised around Marion, back of Ironton, Ohio. My father's great grandfather lived in a house, yet standing on the Ohio River one mile below Storms Creek Bridge. If the record shows his age or birth, I should like to have that, as well as that of the Brown woman.

Hoping you will be able to get the information for me,

I am

Very truly yours,

FBL:CBT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
COLUMBUS, OHIO

JUDGE J. H. LAMNECK
DIRECTOR

JUDGE HENRY J. ROBISON
ASST. DIRECTOR

LOWELL O. DILLON, M. D.
COMMISSIONER
DIVISION OF MENTAL HYGIENE

FRANK J. LAUSCHE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF OHIO

ATHENS STATE HOSPITAL

C. H. CREED, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT

ATHENS, OHIO

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO THE SUPERINTENDENT
IN REFERENCE TO PATIENTS

December 5, 1953

Mr. F. B. Lambert
Barboursville, W.Va.

In Re: Benjamin Swartwood

Dear Sir:

1884 age 36.

Mr. Benjamin Swartwood was admitted December 10,
The wife was Luvinda Swartwood, Miller, Ohio.

He was buried in grave 122, on January 16, 1886.

Very truly yours,

C.H.Creed, M.D.,
Superintendent

Hubert H. Fookler M.D.
Hubert H. Fookler, M.D.

HHF:NB

Children of Uncle Logan Lambert?
Mr & Mrs. Charles Haider
Madison, South Dakota.

(Mr. & Mrs. Maurice N. Smith)
3617 - 22nd Ave., West
Seattle, Washington

I have not written them yet.
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Spring,
Willow Lake, South Dakota

I wrote them July 20, 1960

75.
Uncle Alfred's second wife was Myrtie
Van Sant, who is said to have come
from Charleston, W. Va., but there are
no Van Sant's there now - March 5, 1958

Myrtie had a sister living with
her. Her name was Nettie Van Sant.

Barboursville, W. Va.,
Nov. 22, 1955

76.

Dear Mr. Mc Vey:

As a preliminary, to this story, we found a marriage record showing that our grandfather, Ebenezer Earl Swartwood, married a sister of this Fanny Sweet, about 1840. He had been in Louisiana, and may have separated from her there. He never told us about this, and we were surprised to find it was true. He married our grandmother, Sarah Mariah Goff, of Bedford County, Va., about 1845.

Both these records can be found at Ironton. The Browns later moved to Cincinnati, so neighbors said.

Since Joe Mc Vey's father married in the family, it is plain that we are cousins.

Very truly,

F. B. Lambert

(Copy this - make two carbons, on heavy paper like this)

FANNIE SWEET.

Formerly of Lawrence County. A wild and romantic career.

A recent dispatch from New Orleans tells of the death of Fannie Brown, Fannie Mills, Fanny Seymour, and lately known as Fannie Sweet. She starved to death in misery, and privation, at her home in New Orleans, and yet she had \$45,000.00 in U. S. Bonds and \$15,000.00 worth of unincumbered real estate, and also a U. I. check for \$450.00 under her pillow. She claimed to have no living relatives, and her property was about to be taken by the State of Louisiana when a message arrived from San Francisco stating that C. C. Brown, leaving there, was a brother, and claimed the estate.

Fanny Sweet had made a will giving her estate to many persons, to lawyers, doctors and friends, in the city, to some women to keep her grave green, to one friend a large amount to put flowers on her grave once a month. A thousand dollars to a Judge of the City Court for past kindnesses. It was a very curious will, but she revoked it all before her death, and then the state claimed it.

The life of Fanny Sweet, as it now comes, to the hands of Brown's attorneys, and as it will soon come to public view, in the civil courts, is one that has few rivals. Her family history, as it has been dug up from old Court records and family Bibles, is substantially as follows:

The old homestead of the famous family was in Lawrence County, on Paddy Creek, Ohio, about two hundred miles above Cincinnati. There is where five children were born, from the union of John J. Brown, a plain old Dutchman who served four years in the Army of the Rhine, and one Rebecca Smallwood, supposed to have been a

French woman. The marriage took place at Christianburg, Va., on December 26, 1814, the ceremony being performed by an old time minister named Jonathan Hall; but the family soon moved to Ohio, and settled on Paddy Creek. The first child was James Brown, long deceased. The next was Mary Brown, born in 1820, who afterwards married James McVey and now resides in Huntington, W. Va. Sarah Henrietta Brown was the third child, and she married John McCormick, of Cincinnati. They started overland for California during the gold rush of 1849, but Mr. McCormick never reached there, dying on the plains. The fourth child was Rachel Fanny Brown, the subject of this sketch; and the fifth was Charles C. Brown, born February 9, 1824, who now claims to be the heir to this fortune.

Fanny left home in 1841, went to Cincinnati, joining her sister, Mrs. McCormick, and it was there that the varied life began. In 1849, Fanny went to California and located in San Francisco. At this time she was a handsome young woman, highly educated, possessing every accomplishment that would draw a long train of admiring friends around her. From San Francisco she drifted over to Sacramento, and it was there that she assumed the name of Fanny Smith. The records show that she was intimate with a man by the name of Reuben Pains, who kept a famous gambling resort called "El Dorado" while she kept a place called "The Palace". While here she became involved in a quarrel with a stage driver named Albert Putman, who she shot and badly wounded. Being spirited away she never stood trial, and was next heard of in 1852, living with one Abraham M. Hickley, an express agent, at Aspinwall, on the Isthmus of Panama, to whom she was afterwards

72.
married in New York.

The records show a checkered career of this woman from that time until she located at New Orleans, in 1858. She again lived in Aspinwall, in Havanna, Cuba, and returned to New York to secure a divorce from Hickley.

It was just about this time that the most touching incident of this notorious life comes to view. She returned to the old homestead, at Proctorville, Quaker Bottom, Ohio, to find that her mother was dead. The remains had been interred in the old Rome churchyard at LaBelle, Ohio; and not being satisfied with this disposition, she purchased a half acre of ground from her brother, Charles C. Brown, at the old homestead in Quaker Bottom and had them removed there. Fanny erected a handsome monument in honor of her mother, and a photograph of this monument, together with its inscription on its face, says: "To the memory of Rebecca Smallwood Brown" has been procured by the attorneys for C. C. Brown. They have also in their possession the original deed for this half acre of ground, which is found in the Clerk's Office, at Ironton, the County seat of Lawrence County, Ohio. The date is 1857. It contains the original signature of Fannie Brown, of her brother Charley C. Brown, and Recorder, Geo. B. Richey.

While on this visit, Fannie became involved in a lawsuit with her brother-in-law, Tommy McVay, and the litigation that followed. She employed as her attorney, John S. George, of Ironton, Ohio. A few years later, from papers which have been found, he wrote many letters to New York, asking about Fannie's reputation there. Letters have been found, and are now in possession of the court, addressed to C. M. Statson and R. M. Blachford, to New York attorneys. Just

before leaving New York for New Orleans, the father of these children, John Jacob Brown, died, leaving a will in which he bequeathed to Rachel Fanny Brown \$150.00, and Charles C. Brown, \$250.00. This interesting old document has been found.

In the meantime, Charles C. Brown, a man who now claims to be the heir to Fanny Sweet, \$70,000.00, had drifted westward. He had lived for a time in Missouri, had navigated the Mississippi River as a trader, and in 1868 settled in Sacramento, California, where he has lived ever since. During the war, Brown served as a volunteer on the Missouri frontier and as member of the various raiding parties. He says that early in the 70's, his sister, Fannie, wrote to the Postmaster at Sacramento asking if a man named C. C. Brown lived in the town. This was the first intelligence he had had of his sister since they separated at the old Ohio Home. Fannie was then living in New Orleans and said she had just lost a big law suit and wanted \$50.00. Brown said that he thought his sister's name was Hickney until 1879, when she wrote from this city under the name of Fannie Sweet.

Another memento is now in the possession of the Court, in the form of an old volume of Milton's poems, which Fannie sent to Brown's son, J. R. Brown, in the year 1882. On the records, the name of Fannie Seymour and Fannie Smith appear several times. How these names were acquired is unknown, but it is thought that she took on the name of Seymour from Cincinnati and the name of Smith while living in Sacramento. Her reputation in this city was that of a courtesan, and one of the famous names of the Demi Monde society, of which Geo. W. Cabell has written so interestingly.

She was a dashing blonde of fine physique, dressed in the height of fashion, and in keeping with the life she led.

Fannie Sweet was not long in New Orleans before she was surrounded by a host of admirers, most of whom were men of wealth. She was astute and cunning, and she played her men as she played cards, and a man once in her power became as a piece of cardboard that she could play at her will. Being an educated woman, attractive and handsome, she had but little difficulty to select from her hordes of worshippers, men of great accumulated wealth and assumed the owner of a great amount of real estate, and many slaves during the early period.

Among her victims was a member of a prominent Creole family, who at that time held an exalted position in society and in one of the banking institutions of the city. His infatuation for her caused him to squander \$30,000.00 of the bank's money, the greater part of which he became the possessor. Her last wealthy attachment was William R. Mills, at the time a prominent lawyer whom she subsequently married. But there is no evidence to show that this is a happy marriage, for on one occasion, Fannie Sweet attempted to murder him, emptying the chambers of a revolver at him in the back yard, but her aim proved faulty, and Mills escaped. When he died, however, he left his entire estate amounting to several thousand dollars to his wife.

Another one of her victims was a wealthy contractor who became infatuated with this demoiselle of high life, and they traveled together through Texas and into Mexico. As he was a man of social prominence, and did not want his identity known, Fannie assumed man's attire, and the two traveled together as uncle and nephew.

They passed through Mexico in her own private stage; and while returning, the contractor died suddenly, so much that the officials had Fannie arrested on a charge of murder, but the evidence failed to substantiate the charge, and the woman was released.

Why Fannie claimed, in her will, that she had no living relatives, is still a great mystery; but, for all that, C. C. Brown brings his claim with a pretty strong backing. He brings a letter from Judge H. C. Dennison, of San Francisco; a letter from Mayor Hubbard, of Sacramento; one from Judge Mat F. Johnson, of the Sacramento Superior Court; one from Judge W. A. Henry, of the City Court, and a letter of recommendation from the President of the National Bank of D. O. Mills, Sacramento.

Since Brown has presented his case, the fact has been discovered that Mrs. McVey, a sister, is still living; but, through a satisfactory understanding, she will not contest the will, through the courts, but will be an equal sharer, with Brown, in the Court's results.

Still other claimants to this fortune have bobbed up in the past few weeks. First, came a petition from two children living in Sedalia, Missouri, claiming to be the grandchildren of Mrs. McVey; but since Mrs. McVey is still living at Huntington, West Virginia, their claim will have no bearing.

Miss Ann Josephine Simmons, Speiunde, of Yazoo City, Miss., and Mrs. Pauline Blanche Simmons Russell, of Rockville, Indiana, claim to be the cousins of Fanny Hinckley Mills, or Fannie M. Seymour, through a marriage which they allege to have taken place with a man by the name of Seymour. This petition has been filed with the court.

One of the best insights into the peculiarities of this strange wife, is to be found in the character of the bills which have been filed against the estate. For example, the undertaker, who buried Fanny Sweet, puts in a bill of \$1408.00 as the funeral expenses, and \$600.00 additional for a tombstone, making the undertaker's bill amount to the enormous sum of \$2,000.00. Six doctors attended her and claimed professional services to the amount of \$3,103.00.

Attorney Lucian Adams puts in a claim for professional services to the amount of \$12,000.00; four other local attorneys put in bills for services said to have been rendered during her lifetime, to the amount of \$2349.00; various Notary Publics claim fees to the tune of \$2175.00; real estate appraisers want \$1,000.00 for what they did; the Commission of Public Administration placed a bill for the handsome sum of \$1369.00; the attorney for absent heirs wants \$1,000.00 more; the attorneys of the Administrator claim their services are worth \$5,000.00. An old woman who had nursed Fanny Sweet a good portion of her lifetime, says in a public petition that it was worth \$1690.00; another nurse wants \$500.00, and still another Doctor asks \$1500.00 as professional services. A case of C. C. Brown and his evidence to prove him a brother of Fanny Hinckley Mills, and her legitimate heir, will come to trial as soon as the minor bills have been settled.

A general feeling here is that C. C. Brown is the legitimate brother of Fanny Sweet, and that the evidence which he has produced relative to his own life and her famous career cannot be combatted in legal testimony."

Ironton Register, July 2, 1896, by J. W. and F. B. Lambert,
March 22, 1951.

John W. Lambert and his brother, Fred B. Lambert, remembered hearing their Uncle, Alfred Swartwood, of Miller, Ohio, talking about this case, but gave it no thought, and, later, refused to believe it. A few years ago, however, they decided to go to Ironton and see whether the story was in the Ironton Register, and found it to be true. They then visited Rome, Ohio, and went up to Creek and found the mother's grave.

85.
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