

CLAUD D. and MARCIA SHORT RABER
and
JAMES SANDERSON RABER

Claud Doyle Raber was born January 2, 1893, on a farm near Stillwater, Oklahoma. He was the second of four sons born to John A. and Agnes Sanderson Raber. John A. Raber was the third of eleven children born to Charles Louis and Sophia Raenicke Raber August 21, 1863 on a farm near Burrows, in Carroll County, Indiana. Charles Louis Raber was born in the Province of Baden, Germany, in the village of Rueheim on October 17, 1835 and died June 14, 1893 at Rockfield in Carroll County, Indiana. His father was a general in the Baden Militia. This militia, along with others revolted against the Prussian High Command in 1848. Prussia was one of more than thirty states, principalities and kingdoms which later became the German Empire under the steerage of Prince Bismarck, who was a Catholic Prussian. The many German states were badly torn over the Martin Luther Reformation and Catholicism to the extent that a general revolution evolved. General Raber was captured by the Prussians as a revolutionist and executed. Friends of his family were able to rescue Charles Louis and one brother of the eight children of the General's family and brought them to Sandusky, Ohio. The whereabouts of the other children was never known.

Sophia Raenicke suffered a like fate as that of her future husband. She was eight years of age when she was forcibly separated from her parents and five brothers and sisters. She never ^{learned} learned what became of them. She, too, reached Sandusky, where she eventually met Charles Raber, and became his bride in 1857. They each had received some common school education and learned to speak English very well, although German was the 'official' spoken language in the homestead until after 1884.

Charles and Sophia Raber acquired a few household necessities; a horse, a cow and a few chickens. They had heard good farm lands were inexpensive in Indiana; learned that many people of German ancestry had left Sandusky to settle in Indiana; and also that the climate was similar to the area of their homeland, so they packed up and started west. When they reached the headwaters of the Maumee River, they built rafts, and loading their world's good aboard, they proceeded through Fort Wayne and portaged to the head waters of the Wabash River, where they again built rafts and floated

down stream to a point about eight miles southwest of Logansport, where they disembarked and traveled southward six or seven miles looking for employment as farm laborers. They found employment on a farm near Burrows in Carroll County. Three years later they moved west about six miles where there was a German community near Rockfield, in Carroll County, where they purchased a small farm and also a small tract upon which they erected a tile and brick factory. In this community they reared a family of eleven children, engaged in agriculture and making tile and brick.

Tradition has it that early in the eighteenth century the founder of the Mitchell family emigrated from Ireland to Tennessee. Robert Mitchell, a son of this Irish ancestor, and his wife, Esther, were the parents of five daughters and three sons. Rev. Samuel Calhoun Mitchell was one of them. (4/20/1806 - 8/6/1862).

Thomas Davis was born in Roan County, North Carolina, September 15, 1766. In 1791 he married Mary Parker who was a daughter of a veteran of the American Revolution. They had five sons and three daughters. Evan Davis, one of the sons settled in Hendricks County in 1826. Mary (Polly) Davis married Samuel Calhoun Mitchell. They established their first home in Hillham, Tennessee. Here two children were born to them. In 1833 they moved to a home west of Center Valley, in Southeast Hendricks County. In this home five children were born. Mary A. Mitchell was the fifth child of Samuel C. and Mary (Polly) Mitchell (3/27/1838 - 2/22/1876). In September 1855 the death of Polly broke up the Mitchell home in Hendricks County. Samuel thereupon moved with his family to a farm in Carroll County, near Camden. It was here that Mary A. met David Thomas Sanderson. Samuel Calhoun Mitchell died at his home near Camden in 1862.

On September 13, 1860, Mary A. Mitchell and David Thomas Sanderson were married. Of this union two sons and four daughters were born. Luella Agnes (12/11/1871 - 10/26/1936) being the fifth child.

^{MARY} John A. and Luella Agnes Sanderson were married January 29th, 1889 at Camden, Indiana. They took up residence in their new home near Stillwater, Oklahoma, where John had acquired a homestead on one hundred and sixty acres of land which was originally a part of the Indian Territory in 1887. There were two sons born, Carl E. (12/23/1890 - June 9, 1968) and Claud D. (1/2/1893). Early in 1893 John Raber moved with his family back to Carroll County, Indiana, due to the terminal illness of his father. They continued to reside in Carroll County until

November, 1911. During this period Thomas Mitchell Raber (2/26/1897 - 3/9/1963) and Ralph Raber (10/8/1899 - 7/16/1973) were born. On November 11, 1911 the Raber family moved to Clayton, in Hendricks County, where they resided until the Spring of 1918 when John Raber and his wife moved to Colfax in Clinton County, Indiana for their final residence.

Claud D. Raber received his common schooling in Carroll County and was graduated from the Camden accredited (24 Mo.) Highschool in 1910. While living in Hendricks County he attended Clayton Highschool, receiving his commissioned Highschool Diploma in 1913. After obtaining a Grade A Teacher's Certificate, he taught school at Center Valley for one year. He was graduated from Indiana University with an A.B. Degree in 1917. Upon the day of his graduation he enlisted in a special service branch of the United States Army, and served with the French Army in France until May, 1919.

He obtained his legal education at John Marshall Law School in Chicago, and practiced law in Illinois until his return to Hendricks County.

Marcia Eva Short, who was later to become the wife of Claud D. Raber, was born the daughter of Otis William and Charlotte (Lottie) Brewer Short November 23rd, 1895, on a farm North of Clayton, in Hendricks County. The historical data of the Short family is lacking, due primarily to the fact the early ancestors migrated from Virginia to Indiana Territory on a farm a short distance North of the area where the village of Belleville was established. This ancestor was Young Short. He later moved to the area of Hanibal, Missouri, and still later to Iowa. He left a son living on the farm North of Belleville. His name was Young W. Short. He married Elizabeth A. Smith and this couple became the parents of four children. One of them, Benjamin Franklin Short (1834-1908) was an instructor of youth at Hall, in Morgan County in 1857. He later taught in Lake David Christie and Spicklemire schools.

Benjamin F. Short was first married to Mary A. Stephenson in 1858. She died at Danville on February 15, 1872. He then married Lydia J. Coble April 13, 1873. To this union three sons were born: Otis William (7/1/1874 - 10/15/1938), Charles Young (9/7/1876 - 6/1945) and Mark Mills (5/22/1879 - 7/10/1956). Benjamin F. Short continued to live on and operate the farm North of Clayton until a few years before his death.

Otis W. Short, the oldest son of Benjamin F. Short married Charlotte Jane Brewer in June, 1894. Charlotte Jane was born October 27, 1874 ^{AND DIED IN HENDRICKS COUNTY} being the third child of Jesse and Hannah McCollum Brewer then living at Little Point, in Morgan County.

Otis W. and Charlotte Short were the parents of three children: Marcia Eva (November ~~24~~²³, 1895), Benjamin Frank]in (7/28/1897 - 5/10/1910), and Marion W. (June 19, 1913). During the greater portion of their lives, they were engaged in farming in Hendricks County. For a brief period in the 1920's Mr. Short was a ranch operator in Southeastern Missouri.

Marcia Eva Short was educated in the Hendricks County schools. She attended Central Normal College and spent four years in teaching at Cartersburg and Belleville and one year at Greensburg, Indiana. She also attended Indiana University one year before her marriage. She became the wife of Claud D. Raber June 26, 1924 in Chicago, Illinois.

After their marriage the Rabers resided in Chicago and Flossmoor, Illinois until 1946. Mr. Raber was engaged in the practice of law, active in American Legion and Forty & Eight work and served on the Flossmoor School Board for one term. Mrs. Raber became active in service organizations and clubs. She was the co-founder of the Daughters of Indiana Society in Chicago and of the Hoosier Art Salon of Chicago. On August 14, 1932 the Raber family became three, with the birth of their son, James Sanderson Raber. When this lad was ready for high-school it was determined that Indiana should be the forum for his further education. The parents thereupon purchased a farm northwest of Plainfield, Indiana.

After establishing their residence in Hendricks County, *Nov 11, 1911* Mr. Raber was admitted to the Indiana Bar and he established his law office in Danville. James S. Raber was graduated from Plainfield Highschool and enrolled at Indiana University in 1950. He received a B.S. Degree in Business Administration and Accounting in 1954 and a Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1957. During his undergraduate work he was a member of a Judge Advocate Unit of the Indiana National Guard. He was also a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Upon graduating from law school, he completed his military obligation at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri.

Marcia Raber became active in service and social clubs soon after returning to Hendricks County. She became associated with the Plainfield Womens Club, becoming its President shortly. She also was elected to the Tri Kappa Sorority at Plainfield serving as its President two terms. She became active in the Hendricks County Garden Club, the Mental Health Program, the Hendricks County Hospital Guild and the Republican Womens Club of Hendricks County and the Indianapolis Womens Republican Club.. In truth, there has never been a time when she was not active in service work through clubs and organizations.

The Raber Law Office was established in March, 1947. James S. Raber served two years as Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, and then he came to Danville in 1960. The King Building was purchased and modern law offices were established on the ground floor. Later in 1960 John Carl Vandivier, Jr. joined the law firm as a partner. He received the Degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis in the spring of 1956. He was a lifelong resident of Indianapolis. His father, John Carl Vandivier, also an attorney, served as chairman of the Marion County Republican Central Committee. John C. Vandivier, Jr. was Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana for four and one-half years. He is married and living in Danville. He is the father of three children. The partnership became known as Raber & Vandivier.

James S. Raber severed his relationship with this law firm in 1966 and went to Dallas, Texas where he established himself in the legal profession.

The Raber law firm underwent another change July 1, 1973. Melvin Randolph Daniel, a Hendricks County product, was graduated from Amo Highschool. He received a Degree of Doctor of Jurisprudence from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis in the spring of 1972. He served as Law Editor of Allen-Smith Publishing Company of Indianapolis for two and one-half years. Mr. Daniel is married to Delynn Keller, a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Garth Keller of Stilesville. They reside in Coatesville and have one daughter. When he was admitted to the law partnership the name of the firm became Raber, Vandivier & Daniel, with offices in the Lawyers' Building in Danville.

For centuries past, in Europe, it was a universal custom for a son or a daughter to follow the vocation, trade or profession of the father. The research required for the foregoing article disclosed there were seventeen attorneys, two ministers, two dentists, two registered nurses, two doctors and seven engineers. Otherwise, farming and school teaching were the principal callings. They all appear to have accepted the Protestant religion. From every generation since the American Revolution one or more of these families rendered service in the Armed Forces of the United States, and always engaged in the effort to perpetuate the Union.

