

History of the Coble Family.

(by Francis Coble Horrell)

George and Mary Coble, with one child, a boy, came from North Carolina to Indiana. Entered land in Hendricks Co in 1824.

One hundred & sixty acres, in the southern part of the County was selected for a farm.

Hendricks County had been organized one year before; and the capital of Indiana was changed from Corydon to Indianapolis the following year.

Settlers came in great numbers.

When a settler came into a neighborhood he was always kindly greeted; when he ^{had} chosen the spot for the erection of his home, and had cut the timber ready for the building of his house, the people for miles around would gather and soon have the house erected and covered.

Windows were unknown; the door open by day and, in Winter, the great open fire furnished light, heated the large room and it was by the fire-place the cooking was done.

2.

In 1825 Governor Ray recommended that a great deal of attention be put to internal improvements — such as canals, plank-roads &c. but not for ten years was anything done along this line.

For the education of the children, neighbors helped each other. At first a teacher went around — The next step was a learn-to at the home of the family most centrally located. When time and money got more plentiful, and the fear from being molested by wild animals, became less, separate school buildings were built.

Food was plentiful. The red deer, one of the most beautiful creatures of the Animal kingdom until 1840 were in such numbers, in all sections of Indiana, that a hunter, with any sort of skill could kill two or three a day. (Meat most easily digested. Venison cooked in bear-fat was fine).

3.

There were large flocks of wild-turkeys, wild-grapes, wild-plums, blackberries, and pampans were found everywhere.

The work of clearing the land was their employment at first; soon there were fields of corn dotted over by many stumps.

But they lost the little boy - the first child!

By many evidences we are told that in this family there was veneration for the tree and a love of the beautiful.

A church was established near the home - The Cherry Grove Church.

By going to this church, old and young learned to sing. Making the first day of the week not a day of rest but a day of different kind of work, a day of serving the Lord, made life in the new country livable.

A square plot near the centre of the farm was selected for the house.

A log house was erected, and ~~some~~ several years afterward, ~~was~~ weather boarded.

I believe it is said that this one was the first log-house to be weather boarded in Mendricks Co.

And in that house was a home. Other children, Katharine and M. - two little girls who helped their father in the fields by dropping corn, carrying water &c.

At this they grew strong and healthy. Then came Daniel, Gabriel & Elisha so the father had help as the mother came to need the ~~two~~ little girls. And as time went on, other children, William who grew up to be a doctor, and established his home in Illinois and Eli - one strong boy who grew to manhood and was married to Margaret Muir of Scotch Ancestry. Three other children came into this home Margaret, Phummer, and Lydia. Phummer was not a healthful child and died when a young man - unmarried.

But the two little girls were all right. When dressed up in

little light dotted calico dresses they turned somersaults in the bluegrass in the yard. (Lawn mowers had not yet come into use.)

It is to be noted that many of the childrens names were taken from the Bible. And among the ^{children} grand-George and Mary occur frequently.

A Dulcimer was added to the home for Margaret and Lydia.

About twenty years after their coming, weddings began to be celebrated; Katharine was married to Lorenzo Woods. — A new home was established.

The large house on the hill and the Oaken Bucket in the well made fine stopping place for the Stage Coaches of that day. It was at this place where the driver changed horses and passengers were here entertained. Aunt Katie's table was always set. But never a fly molested it. The kitchen — so clean

A parlor it might have been.

It was a corner off the farm of Lorenzo Woods, given for the first school-building.

Daniel became a business man and was married to Mary Fincher. Gabriel and William married sisters Ann and Elizabeth McCure.

Millie was married to Albert McCormack and became the mother of a large family of healthful children, who came to be successful men and women.

There ~~is~~ ^{was} George McCormack, Milo McCormack Will McCormack.

Mrs. Mary Fincher was not a dressmaker with a shop. During all of her life she maintained a home and like the Chambered Nautilus builded a better one each year.

Mrs. Ella Redmond is happily surrounded by children that would be a credit to any mother.

All these bespeak the strength of character of ~~an~~ capable mother, Millie McCormack.

Margaret was married to John Warrell
Lydia to Frank Short

Margaret Warrell thought she must never open the door to a stranger or a visitor without a white collar on. Many of the collars that made the finish for the neck of a blue calico dress, were the linen fleats from the bosoms of John's worn-out shirts. My mother not only liked to wear a white collar, but she liked to have everything in order. The pillow-cases and sheets had one shelf in the press - the counterpanes, quilts and bed-spreads another. In the pantry there was a certain shelf dedicated to receive fresh-baked pies. She told us of having a bonnet with pink ribbon tie strings when she was sixteen years old. And that often when ironing she would go and pull out the bureau drawer to peep at those pink ribbons. I rather think the pink bonnet strings lasted as long as she was able to iron for her favorite song on ironing day.

(and she often sang it when rolling out pie crust too) was Do they miss me at home
Do they miss me? Another story was a
bout the spirited horses that she and
Gabriel rode to one of the Crawford
Weddings. And about the center piece
on the table at that wedding feast being
a ~~roasted~~ stuffed pig, ^{standing up} with an ear of
corn in its mouth.

Lydia Coble Short was blessed in
a way that not all women are, in
that she could make anything grow.
Growing plants were her delight.

All of these different types of children
tell of different states of mind of that
pioneer mother - Mary Coble.

About 25 years after their coming
the Civil War came.

(Three sons this family gave! Find and
read Wm Henschell's Poem: The Kid ~~has~~
gone to the Colors.)

Elihu Coble was the sixth child.
That mother had lost one son and
four other children were here when

Elihu came. In a way
 His character was unique. In his life
 necessity for daily work was not drudgery
 but opportunity. Three times he was
 left a widower. Twice with small
 children. Each time he selected a
 mother who kept the home fires burning
 and brought other children to cheer his
 declining years. How can you ac-
 count for a man coming out of the
 civil war ^{with one arm.} and naming a child Lee?

I heard my father say one time
 that Elihu Coble was worth more
 than any other six men in keeping
 peace in that Company in the 99th
 regiment. The ability to keep peace
 followed him throughout his life.

He filled the place of "Last Leaf" upon
 the family tree with grace and
 dignity.

Why shall we honor this pioneer
 pair - George and Mary Coble?

Because their dwelling place
 was a home. There is a need of

homes in the world today. Homes where the Christian Religion impels right living.

As it ever has been, it is upon the farmer that the life and progress of the Nation depends.

Every daughter of the Coble family was married to a farmer. Notwithstanding this the family has stood for higher education. My mother was sent to Boarding School - The Belleville Academy. Established as the result of Caleb Mills' work in Congress. Among the grandchildren and great grandchildren there are a number of college graduates.

This family has given to the world a good many good Methodists but not a preacher up to this time.

I am not sure whether there is a lawyer in the family.

There are not many individual members to perpetuate the name Coble.

H.

The family has stood for public
improvements and plan to celebrate
the Centennial among log cabins
and near a water fountain they
helped to build.

At Turkey Run.