

## WILLIAM HENRY H. NANCE

Born: January 1841, Ohio, probably Lawrence Co., Ohio.

Married: Susanna Matilda Platt

Died: 5 October 1918, Lawrence Co., Ohio.

Buried: Lodge Ridge Cemetery, Aid Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio.

Children: Emma Jane, Charles A., Lafayette, Elva Minnie, Alva Newton, Lydia Bell, Lottie E., Alice and Nellie B.

Biography: In the 1900 census, William's birth date appears to be given as January 1842, but it is probable that the year should have been recorded as 1841, the date on his tombstone and in other records. His full name is written in his wife's obituary book of 1938 as "William Henry Marshall Nance". An earlier land deed states "William H. H. Nance", the second "H" very possibly standing for Harrison. William Henry Harrison became president in January 1841. The 1880 census appears to read, "William H. M. Nance". He was born an illegitimate child of Jane Nance, the daughter of Daniel and Lavina (Kingery) Nance. His father may very well have been John Sampson, by whom Jane had at least one other child out of wedlock. At an early age, William was taken into the household of John and Rachel A. (Mowder) Nance, his uncle, and was raised by them. He was with them in the 1850 census at nine years of age and still in their household in 1860. William became a farmer at Kitts Hill,



**William Henry H. Nance and his wife Susanna Matilda**



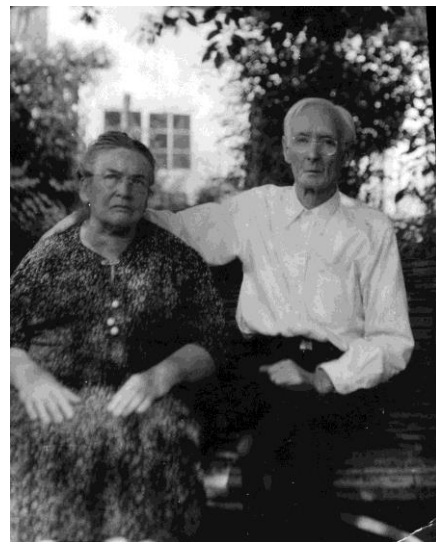
**Tombstone of William and Susanna Matilda Nance**

Ohio and married on 3 December 1869 to Susanna Matilda Platt, daughter of Alexander and Jane (Callahan) Platt. She was born in Meigs Co., Ohio near Pomeroy on 2 June 1850, and was known by her middle name. At 15 years of age she professed the Christian faith and affiliated herself with the Baptist church. For 46 years she was an ardent member of the Union Baptist Church near Kitts Hill. In the 1870 census, William's real estate is set

at \$600 and his personal estate at \$130. They lived right beside John and Rachel Nance in Lawrence Twp. As a newly married farmer, William that year had 51 acres of land, one horse, one cow, 14 sheep and three pigs. He grew corn and potatoes and had produced 14 pounds of wool during the preceding year. Ten years later he still had the same amount of land, but only one cow, six pigs and 11 chickens in farm animals, growing corn, oats and wheat. In the 1880 census, a "servant" is listed in the William Nance household, a young lady named Rosetta Collier. The census records of 1895, 1900 and 1910 show that William owned his farm home free of mortgage. His personal estate was valued at \$50 in 1906. William wore a long beard, blocked off at the bottom. He was not an educated man outside of farming. Neither he nor his wife could read or write, but they saw that their children received schooling. William was a pipe smoker. His doctor once told him that he should quit and he is believed to have done so. He died at his home and in the newspaper was said to be "highly esteemed." In 1920, Matilda lived beside her son Alva Newton and his family and daughter Nellie was living with her. In 1930, Matilda lived with her daughter Lydia Wells and her family. Matilda survived her husband by over 19 years, and died on 14 January 1938. She died with influenza pneumonia at 3:45 a.m. that day and was buried two days later beside her husband. She was ill for two weeks at the home of her son Lafayette before "she entered her much longed for home - her Heavenly Home". Her obituary gives the following estimation of her character: "Her purity of thought, word and deed, steadfastness to her convictions, wholehearted devotion to her family, kindly consideration of her neighbors and friends, her integrity, cheerful and optimistic vision has radiated sunshine whose afterglow will ever reflect her beautiful Christian character, an inspiration and benediction, the most perfect memorial to mankind".

#### Children:

1) Emma Jane, born 12 September 1870 and married John Morris Urick on 6 January 1896. They had eight children. He was born on 25 April 1865, the son of James Breckenridge Urick and Hannah Goddard. He worked three years in a brick yard, but then became a widely known grocer, working in that occupation for over 40 years. He opened his grocery on Seventh and Monroe Streets in Ironton, the city where they lived their entire married lives, on 19 June 1899. They lived at 205 S. Seventh St. He also raised many white Leghorn chickens. On 31 March 1908, John was issued a U.S. patent (#883593) for the invention of a new type of window sash fastener. In politics, John was a Republican. Emma was known for raising dahlia flowers which she sold at the market. In 1910, John's 83-year-old mother Hannah Urick was living with them. He died on 11 January 1942 with chronic bronchitis and was buried in Woodland Cemetery. Emma was a diabetic and died on 28 May 1958 several weeks after she broke a hip. She was, as was he, a member of the Immanuel Methodist Church and was "very active" in church work until her final illness.



**John and Emma Jane Urick**

- a. Hannah Claire, born on 31 October 1896 and died on 2 July 1992.

- She was a school teacher and lived in Ironton. She never married.
- b. Rachel Marie, born 21 May 1898 and died in Dayton, Ohio on 4 October 1991. She was a school teacher, teaching art. She never married.
  - c. Matilda J., born c. 1899, probably 10 February 1900, and married Rev. Oliver Stark Hall, a Methodist minister, after 1930. Matilda lived in Springfield, Ohio at the time of her mother's death. They had at least one child, Jane Alice Hall. Matilda probably died on 17 January 1999. She was a teacher.
  - d. Carrie, born 31 October 1902, married Stanley M. Heald. She died in Wood Co., West Virginia on 25 March 1936.
  - e. Frank Leonard, born 17 February 1904 and died on 23 March 1917.
  - f. Nelle E., born 28 July 1906 and died in Ironton on 1 September 1982. She was a music teacher. She never married.
  - g. Margaret Louise, born 14 April 1908 and died 20 February 1995. In 1958, she lived in Hyattsville, Maryland. She never married.
  - h. Paul Lawrey, born 23 September 1909. He appears to be the Paul Urick who hit a man named Gilbert Salle with a car in Ironton on 28 April 1927. Paul lived with his parents in 1930, while working in a steel plant. He later lived in Westfield and Decatur, Illinois. He died on 17 January 1994.



**Rachel, Hannah, Carrie, Matilda**

2) Charles A., was born on 10 June 1872 and died on 3 April 1891 of tuberculosis. He was a young farmer. He is buried in Lodge Ridge Cemetery.



3) Lafayette, born on 14 January 1874. See separate entry.

4) Elva Minnie, was born on 20 December 1875. She married Theodore Roy Goolsby. She died in October 1918 almost immediately after the death of her father – within about two days! She apparently was better known by the name "Minnie". Minnie and Theodore married on 22 December 1894. He was born c. 1867. Elva M. Goolsby, age 24, appears with her husband Theodore in the 1900





census near William and Susanna Nance and they lived beside James and Lydia Wells in 1910. Minnie is buried in the Lodge Ridge Cemetery in Lawrence Co., Ohio. In 1920, Theodore and his sons Charles and Emmerson appear in Paint Twp., Fayette Co., Ohio where he was living in a rented house, doing farm work. In 1930, Theodore appears in Cabell Co., West Virginia. He was remarried to a woman about 26 years younger than he, named Ethel, by whom he had five other children. He died on 2 November 1946 there in Cabell Co., West Virginia. Ethel lived until 1971.

- a. Maxford Clyde, born 21 September 1895 and died 24 March 1979. He was a veteran of World War I. His wife was Helen C. Templeton.
- b. William McKinley, born 31 March 1897. So appears his name on a birth record, but his death certificate says William Wilson. He died 14 April 1933 in Wayne Co., West Virginia at a V. A. hospital. He was a truck driver.
- c. Walter H., born in April 1900, one month old in the 1900 census. He may have died young. He does not appear with the family in 1910.
- d. Charles W., born 21 December 1901 and died 18 July 1959. He married Ella C. McCoy (1898-1948) and secondly to Mollie Howard (1913-1986).
- e. Curtis, born 1 November 1905.
- f. Emerson H., born 16 February 1909. He was attending school 1920 and was still at home in 1930 in Cabell Co., West Virginia. He died in Huntington, Cabell Co., on 29 December 1998.

5) Alva Newton, was born 15 September 1877, became a farmer. He was renting his home in 1900. His wife was the former Cora Lucette Hardy (born 29 November 1880 and died 11 September 1952). They married on 13 November 1901 and had at least five children, one who died young. The family appears in Lawrence Co., Lawrence Twp. in 1920 and 1930. In 1930, he worked as a “dryer operator” at Alpha Portland Cement Company. Cora’s 85-year-old mother, Lavina Hardy, was living with them in 1930. Alva Newton, known more by the name “Newt”, died 10 December 1939 in Ross Co., Ohio near Frankfort, west of Chillicothe as a result of an automobile accident. He died on the spot with a broken neck and fractured skull. A McBee couple in the other car also died, one outright and the other sometime later. The report stated that “the car in which Nance was riding skidded into the McBee automobile’s path”. His daughter Ruth was the driver of the car and she survived the crash with only cuts and bruises. Two other people were injured, a McBee grandson and Cora’s brother John W. Hardy.



- a. a daughter, who died on 19 March 1902 at only 4 days of age.
- b. William Herschel, born 2 March 1903. He married Estol C. Knapp, who lived 1898 – 1973. Herschel was a farmer. In 1928, he is

named as a miller in Coal Grove. He moved from Lawrence Co. to Fayette Co., Ohio in 1935. He died on 30 December 1982. They had a daughter Joan S. Nance Eubanks.

- c. Thelma G., born 25 December 1907. She was still living at home in 1920. Thelma Nance married Emerson Fife in Lawrence Co. She died on 1 March 1931 with “double bronchial pneumonia”. She is buried in Lodge Ridge Cemetery.
- d. Ruth Alma, born 1910/11, known more by her middle name. She was still unmarried and living at home in 1930, but later married to William Otto Sloan. At the time of the automobile crash that killed her father in December 1939 she was named as “Mrs. Ruth Sloan”, but she and Otto had divorced on 5 December 1936. In 1937, she apparently had an affair with a married man, Ben Addis, before he was murdered by his wife. In the 1940 census, Ruth is listed as divorced, living with her mother in Lawrence Co., Ohio with her four-year-old son Thomas Jefferson Sloan. She had at that time completed one year in college.
- e. George E., born 1916/17. A George Nance born 8 June 1915 and died March 1972 at Kitts Hill, Lawrence Co., Ohio who might be this same person.

6) Lydia Bell, was born on 21 June 1879 in Lawrence Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. On 31 July 1900, she married James Wells in Boyd Co., Kentucky. He was born 5 October 1872, the son of James and Charlotte (Corn) Wells. They had three children. Lydia was a member of the Zion Baptist Church in Lawrence Co., Ohio. In 1930, the Wells family lived in Mason Twp., Lawrence Co. James died there on 10 August 1943. Lydia died on 27 March 1966 (not 1956) in Clark Co., Ohio after five years of failing health and one week of serious illness. She had lived in Clark County for 13 years. Two funerals were held, one in Clark Co. at the Story Hypes Methodist Church and another at Zion Baptist in Lawrence Co., Ohio where she is buried.



**Lydia (Nance) Wells**

- a. Alva Lasco, was born 9 February 1901. He was almost totally blind, the result of a childhood accident. The 1920 census misspells him as Roscoe. He was recalled as an “exceptionally brilliant child”, and was sent to a Columbus, Ohio blind school for one, maybe two years. He did well there, but was so home-



**Lasco, Roy and Collis Wells**

sick that his parents didn't send him back. He lived in Springfield, Ohio for the last 30 years of his life and became known to many in the city selling newspapers. It was a job he did for 19 years, handling an estimated 900,000 papers on the job. He lived alone with a cocker spaniel dog. He married to Marie Cora Jacobs-Rust on 9 December



1950, but divorced 10 May 1954. He remarried on 13 July 1954 in Indiana to a widow named Myrtle Will. He died on 7 February 1972.

- b. William Collis, born 25 March 1903. He was known by the name Collis. He died on 19 March 1940 at the home of his parents near Wilgus, Ohio. He was not in the best of health, but his death was a sudden shock. His obituary reads that he "accepted Christ as his Savior, was baptized and united with the Fairview Baptist church".
- c. Roy A., born 4 April 1913. He later lived at Clifton, Ohio. Roy was a school administrator and worked at a bank. His wife was named Gladly (died February 1945). He died on 2 February 1981.

7) Lottie E., was born 17 September 1889 in Lawrence Twp., Lawrence Co., Ohio. She was listed as attending school in the 1900 census. She died 23 October 1906 of typhoid fever, following a two week illness, noted to be a "school girl". She was noted in the newspaper article announcing her death that she was a "very sweet and lovable young girl, the friend of all who knew her".



8) Alice, born on 31 August 1891 and died 1 February 1894 of scrofula, a type of tuberculosis affecting the lymph nodes, especially of the neck. She is buried in Lodge Ridge.



9) Nellie B., born 22 June 1894 and married to Henry Clay Fudge on 18 December 1920. She was 26 years old at the time of her marriage. She had attended one year of college at Rio Grande College in 1915. Henry was veteran of World War I, having enlisted on 26 June 1917. He was discharged on 4 June 1919. He served as a private first class in the 15<sup>th</sup> Ambulance Company of the Medical Department and was sent to France to be part of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive there in 1918. He was wounded in action "slightly" on 1 November 1918 during that campaign, the nature of the injury unspecified. Nellie was a school teacher in Lawrence Co., Ohio and a member of the Union Baptist Church. She drove a carriage from Lodge Hill to Paddle Creek every



day and her nephew Rufus rode with her. Henry was a farmer. In 1930, Nellie's mother Matilda was living with her and Henry. In 1917, Henry was described as having grey eyes and black hair on his World War I draft registration card. Then in 1942, he was described as having hazel eyes and black hair and it was further stated that he had a scar on his right eye. It is not known if this scar was from his 1918 injury in France or simply something else. Nellie died in Lawrence Co., Ohio on 28 April 1973 at 12:30 p.m. following an illness of four months. Henry survived, her, but not for long. He died later than same year, on 7 October 1973. He was 83 years old, having been born on 22 January 1890. His parents were James Alexander Fudge and the former Lucy Jane Hayner.



**Susanna Matilda (Platt) Nance with John and Emma Urick**