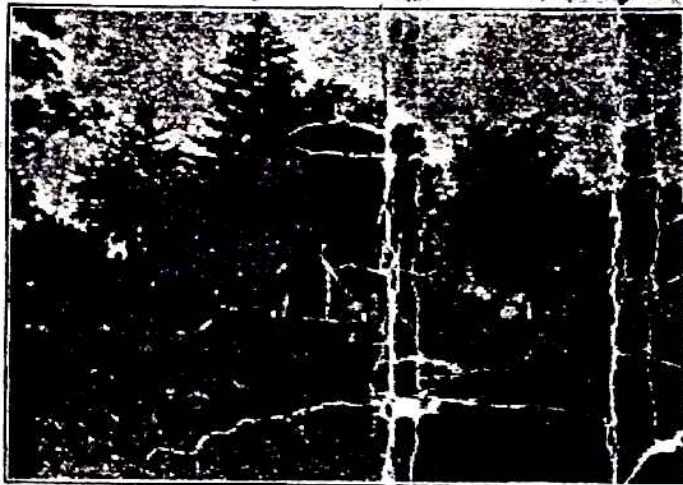


HISTORY

OF THE



THE OLD HOMESTEAD

BUILT IN 1847

SMITH FAMILY

COMPILED SEPT



James Smith



Hanna Foster

JAMES SMITH, born in Newton, Parish of Melrose, Roxburg County, Scotland, May 27, 1794; married Hannah Foster March 4, 1819; died at Harvy Barlow's Sept. 23, 1874, and buried at Danville, Ind.

HANNAH FOSTER (wife of James Smith), born in Virginia Sept. 12, 1799; died at Jehu Parsons', near Plainfield, Ind., Sept. 4, 1872, and buried at Danville, Ind.

When James was but a few months old his parents brought him to America, the voyage across the Atlantic being made in a sail boat, and it required six months to make the trip. They arrived in Philadelphia about the middle of September, 1794. In April of the following year they started for Henry County, Kentucky, arriving there June 5, 1795.

The family lived in Daniel Boone's Fort for two years before it was safe for them to enter a piece of land on which to make their home.

The Indians thronged Kentucky at that time and were very hostile to the early white settlers. This pioneer family endured many hardships from lack of clothing and food. In this early home nine weeks were known to have elapsed, at one time, without bread; the white meat of the turkey was used in its stead and called bread by the children. James grew to be a skilful marksman, and with his gun did much toward supplying meat for his father's table until they could gather wheat, corn and potatoes from the little farm. In March, 1819, he married a woman by the name of Hannah Foster. Soon after they both joined the Presbyterian Church and led devoted lives, always loyal to their church. Every morning for years they were joined together in prayer, each reading a chapter from the Bible. Every evening was closed with a hymn, and the memories of this humble life of the children and grandchildren were preserved.

In 1837 he came to Indiana and entered a claim for 160 acres in Hendricks County, four miles northeast of Danville. Here, for the second time in his life, he took up the task of clearing away the timber and making a farm. Here in Indiana James found game, such as deer, turkeys, quails and squirrels in great abundance, so that a large share of the meat for his family was brought from the woods. After years of toil and privation he was enabled to acquire enough so that his later years were spent in ease and comfort. Through all his life he sought divine help from God, and human aid from the Christian wife, who was noted for her beautiful character, and to whom he was ever ready to give praise for her loving counsel.

James, though possessing a fiery Scotch temper, was exceedingly kind to his family and neighbors. The children of the neighborhood called them Uncle Jimmy and Aunt Hannah.

After the marriage of his daughter Sarah, who was the first of the family to leave home, he began the custom of gathering his children all home to the Christmas dinner. This custom he continued to the end of his life. Since his death his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have met once a year (September 4) at his old home place to spend the day in remembrance of the loved ones who have left us so worthy an example to follow.



Robert Smith



Evaline Darnall

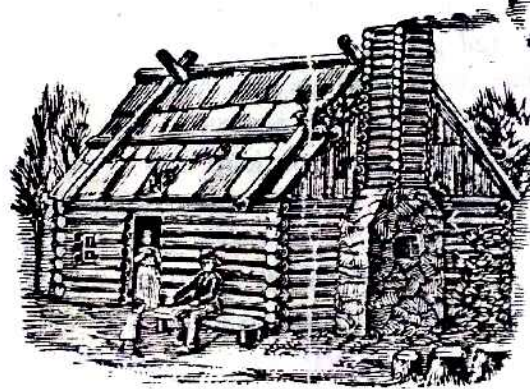
ROBERT SMITH, born in Henry County, Kentucky, March 30, 1820; married to Evaline Darnall March 1, 1849; died at Jehu Parsons', near Plainfield, Indiana, February 18, 1884; Buried at Danville, Ind.

EVALINE DARNALL (wife of Robert Smith), born November 15, 1824; died September 26, 1867, at Dundas, Minnesota, where she is buried.

Robert was the eldest of the nine children in his father's family. His young boyhood days were spent in Kentucky, but when still quite young he began to hear his parents talk of leaving their home on account of the slave trade in that Southern State, so when he was fifteen years old they moved to Indiana, bringing their household goods in a covered wagon to their new home near Danville, where the father had previously bought 160 acres from the Government. Here Robert as a young man helped his father and brothers clear the land. When about twenty-one years of age he went to Russelville, Ind., to learn the carpenter's trade. A year or so after he and his brother Alex went to Missouri. Here he remained about two years, working at his trade. On his return he married Miss Evaline Darnall and in a few months they went to housekeeping in Danville. They lived here until 1853, when Robert, having lost his health, and his wife also being delicate, they moved to Minnesota, hoping to be benefited by a change of climate. The change did not restore their health, and in the early fall of 1867 Evaline died.

After the death of his wife Robert came back to Hendricks County, where he remained until his death, making his home among his brothers and sisters. Uncle Bob, as he was generally known, was a man of unusually kind and genial disposition; was a great favorite with all. He was a remarkable example of how cheerful and pleasant it is possible for one to be while enduring great physical suffering. It was always a great delight to him to take an active part in the family reunions following the custom of his father of gathering the family together at Christmas time. He was greatly missed in the households of all his brothers and sisters, and today in all their homes you will find a treasured picture of Uncle Bob.

There were no children born to them.





Sarah Jane Smith



Harvey Rice Barlow

SARAH JANE SMITH (second child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, Dec. 8, 1822; married to Harvey Rice Barlow, Aug. 13, 1840; died at her old home, near Brownsburg, March 21, 1896; buried in the Barlow graveyard.

HARVEY RICE BARLOW, born in Scott County, Kentucky, April 1, 1818; died Aug. 5, 1872; buried in the Barlow graveyard.

Sarah, being the oldest daughter, early learned to help her mother with the housework and to spin and weave. At that time it was the women's work not only to make the garments, but also to spin and weave the material. Besides making their own, and the boys' and men's clothes, they spun their bed and table linen and wove their blankets and carpets. Aside from the many home duties, Sarah found time to mingle with the young people of the neighborhood and entertain many suitors. She was a very beautiful girl, with a sweet, quiet dignity of manner, which caused her to be much sought after by the young men of her acquaintance. At the age of eighteen she gave her hand to the young schoolmaster, Harvey R. Barlow. They went to housekeeping in a cabin near the schoolhouse, on the land afterwards owned by her brother Alex. Soon after they moved onto a farm, known as the Worrell farm, and later to one about a mile north of the White Lick Presbyterian Church.

Not long after locating here a sad misfortune befell them. It was on the third of September, 1859, while the family were away at church, robbers entered the house and, after plundering it, set it on fire, completely destroying the building and all its contents, leaving the family in very destitute circumstances. Their neighbors and friends at once rallied to their aid, and with liberal donations of material and help soon restored to them a larger and more comfortable house than the one destroyed. They also supplied them with sufficient food and clothing to keep them from suffering through the winter.

Here they lived until the spring of 1868, when they traded for a farm in Iowa. In April of that year they moved. Their son James took the household goods through in a wagon, the rest of the family going by rail as far as Des Moines, this being the terminus of the railroad at that time. Here they were met by the wagon and proceeded to their destination, Indianola, Warren County. Being dissatisfied with this location, in the fall of the same year they returned by wagon to Indiana. On their way back they visited her brother George in Missouri. They again settled on the farm which they had left in the spring, living here in comfortable circumstances until the death of her husband. After which she took up the responsibility of providing for herself and children.

Although this burden was a heavy one she bore it bravely and patiently. The children were soon stimulated by the zeal of the kind and loving mother to join heartily with her in earning a support for themselves. So, by the products of the mother's loom and the harvest from the fields, they lived happily together, until the children were able to provide homes for themselves to which they welcomed their mother. Sarah was a very earnest Christian and for years a faithful worker in the White Lick Presbyterian Church, of which she was a charter member. There were eight children.

Hannah C., born 1842; died 1846.

James M., born Sept. 13, 1845.

Ruth A., born Oct. 23, 1849.

Mira A., born Sept. 14, 1855; died 1897.

Harrison S., born Oct. 15, 1860.

Harvey M., born May 18, 1862.

Two died in infancy.



Alexander F. Smith



Nancy Worrell

ALEXANDER F. SMITH, born in Henry County, Kentucky, November 15, 1824; married Nancy Worrell September 26, 1848.

NANCY WORRELL, (wife of Alexander F. Smith), born in Virginia November 16, 1827; died January 16, 1878; buried at Danville, Indiana.

Alexander was the third child in this family. As he was a lad of thirteen when they moved, he can remember much about their old home and can recall their trip from Kentucky to Hendricks County. He and his brother Robert drove the cattle behind the wagon, on that trip, walking most of the distance, sometimes traveling many miles before coming to a clearing. Like that of his older brother, his boyhood and young manhood was spent on his father's farm, doing the work that fell to the lot of the pioneer boy. Sometimes he hauled grain or drove cattle to Madison or Cincinnati, at that time their nearest markets, and on his return trip brought back groceries, spun cotton, leather and such articles as they could not raise on the farm.

At the age of twenty-three, in company with Robert, he made a trip on horseback to Missouri, thinking to enter a claim there, but after remaining a year decided that Indiana was best. Not long after coming back he married Miss Nannie Worrell and they went to house-keeping on a farm, owned by his brother Robert and himself, a few miles from the father's home. Later he bought a farm adjoining his father's, on which he built, in 1856, a frame house which was among the first of its kind in this neighborhood and yet stands as an old landmark. After his wife's death he still made his home here with his son, until in 1906 they left the farm and moved to Indianapolis.

In the fall of 1899 he, with his son and family, made an extended trip through the southwestern states and along the Pacific coast as far north as Oregon, returning by the way of The Yellow Stone Park and a northern route home, the time required was about one year.

Alex can boast of having seen the first railroad train come into Indianapolis in the year 1847. It has been his privilege to see the ox cart and old mule cars replaced by the automobile and electric trains; the tallow candle and oil lamp out done by the gas and electric light, and distance outwitted by the telephone and wireless telegraph.

A jovial disposition is one of the characteristics of this Smith family and none seemed to have developed it better than Alex. This trait, together with his calm and even temperament, has caused him to be called upon many times to act the part of peacemaker. He was a member of the White Lick Presbyterian Church. There was one child.

James William, born July 18, 1849.



George Smith

*Broader & Brighter
of Rev. N. Smith*



Kate M. Cooper

GEORGE SMITH (fourth child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, January 14, 1827; married Kate Cooper March 18, 1857; died April 17, 1874, near Laclede, Missouri; buried at Laclede.

KATE M. COOPER, born in Shelby County, Kentucky, December 11, 1832; died November 5, 1874, near Laclede, Missouri; buried at Laclede.

George, like his older brothers, found plenty to engage him on his father's farm. His first school days were spent in Kentucky, and afterwards, his father having moved to Indiana, he and his brother Alex attended school near Russelville, Ind. They worked in the mornings and evenings, and on Saturdays gathering corn, cutting and hauling wood to pay for their board. In these early days the school term only lasted through the three winter months. Newspapers and magazines were almost unknown and their books, aside from the Bible and a few school books, were histories and biographies. (Among the first papers to come into his father's home were the Herald and Presbyter and a county paper, published at Danville, called the Ledger.) Letters were sent without stamps, the postmaster collecting postage (twenty-five cents for each letter) from the one receiving the letter.

As George grew older he formed a liking for tools and soon became sufficiently skilled to work at the carpenter's trade, helping to build houses and barns in the neighborhood. After working at carpentering about home for a few years, he traded a gold watch for some land in Iowa, where he went to live. Out in this new country towns were just being built, so he found his trade more profitable than farming. In about two years he disposed of his land and returned to Indiana. At the age of thirty he made a trip to his grandfather's place in Kentucky, where he met a young woman who soon after became his wife. Making a brief visit to his father's home, he gathered together his belongings and packing them in a wagon, he and his wife started west. They settled on a farm near Laclede, Linn County, Missouri, in 1857. The land at this time was a wild, un-

ploughed prairie, and only here and there could be seen a small hut with a little garden patch around it, from which the farmer gathered a meagre support for himself and family. They used teams of oxen hitched to heavy plows for breaking this virgin pasture land.

During the war of 1861 excitement and danger to life was so great that George brought his family back to Indiana and for two years lived on a farm one mile east of Clermont, Marion County. In the fall of 1865 he returned with his family to his farm in Missouri. Much of the property had been destroyed, and, as food and clothing were scarce and very expensive, he found it very hard to keep the wolf from his door. It required several years of hard work and much sacrifice of the comforts of life to regain what was lost during these years of war. On his return to his farm he found, in payment as rent for his land, about 1,000 bushels of corn and 10 bushels of wheat. The corn was sold at a dollar a bushel and from this source he realized enough to buy teams and implements, make the necessary repairs and support his family for the following year. Wheat flour was so costly and scarce that for nine months his family lived on corn bread, except on Sunday morning they were treated to wheat biscuits. It was his custom on Sabbath afternoon to gather his family about him and have them read three or four chapters from the Bible, each, in turn, reading a verse. While in the prime of life, when the hardships were beginning to lessen and the future brighten, early in the spring of 1874, he was suddenly stricken with a disease which in a few days proved fatal. In the fall of this year his wife died.

George was of a companionable disposition, very considerate in regard to the rights of others. He was a man of resolute will, always standing firmly for truth and justice. They were the parents of six children.

Theodore W., born March 4, 1858.

James H., born Oct. 16, 1859.

Belle I., born Oct. 26, 1861.

Robert C., born July 14, 1863.

Edwin M., born Dec. 21, 1864.

Nettie B., born Oct. 17, 1869; died Dec. 13, 1906.

Father of Roy W. Smith



James D. Smith



Sabina Gowdy

JAMES D. SMITH (sixth child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, December 3, 1831; married Sabina Gowdy, February 1, 1855.

SABINA GOWDY, born in Pebble County, Ohio, June 30, 1830; died at her home near Danville, Indiana, March 21, 1894; buried at Danville.

James was a stout, hardy lad, but, like so many boys of today, tired of the routine duties on the farm, so he decided to find an easier line of work. The sight of a tailor sitting with his legs doubled under him on a table appealed most favorably as the style of occupation best suited to him. He dropped the hoe and scythe and took up a needle and thread, with which he intended to make his fortune. It required only two or three weeks of experience to convince James that he was never intended for a tailor, so he returned to the farm and ever after he followed farming for a livelihood.

From boyhood he always delighted in playing pranks on his brothers and sisters and any of his associates who came within his reach. On account of this trait and the frequent exercise of it, James had to be on his guard, for his companions did not miss an opportunity to return his jokes with as much energy as they received them.

At the age of twenty-four he married and, having a touch of the Western fever, he and his wife moved, in a wagon, to Iowa. The journey was long and tiresome, as they could travel only thirty to forty miles a day. While in Iowa he followed teaming, but this suited him no better than the tailor's trade, so he returned to Indiana and bought a farm near New Winchester, Hendricks County, Indiana. Here he lived for several years, then sold this farm and bought another about two miles northeast of Danville, where he lived to see his children all grow up and leave to make homes of their own.

During the Civil War James and his brother Alex, being members of the State Militia, were ordered out by Governor Morton to help suppress the Morgan Raid through southern Indiana.

In 1894 he lost his wife, after which, for a few years, he and his daughter Hattie remained on the farm. Since the marriage of this daughter he has spent his time at the homes of his children or in traveling through the Western and Southern States.

In James there is a blending of his father's Scotch temper and the kind, true-hearted, generous disposition of the Irish, inherited from his mother. He is a man of strong convictions, and is always ready to lend a helping hand in time of trouble or difficulty. For a number of years he has been an elder in the White Lick Presbyterian Church. They were the parents of four children.

Henry A., born Aug. 31, 1856.

William A., born May 2, 1858.

Hannah A., born Jan. 26, 1861.

Hattie R., born Oct. 18, 1864.



Susan Smith



Enos Hadley

SUSAN SMITH (seventh child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, January 28, 1834; married Enos Hadley Nov. 14, 1850.

ENOS HADLEY, born in Hendricks County, Indiana, June 10, 1825; died Nov. 11, 1893, at home of his son Cassius, in Danville; buried at Plainfield.

From childhood Susan was strong and robust, so at an early age she was taught to assist her mother and sister with the housework. One of her hardest tasks was washing dishes—using the old Dutch oven as a dish pan, it being taught in those days that it was a mark of laziness to sit down at your work. Susan was thus compelled to stoop while she washed the dishes, so she often felt that dishwashing was a task indeed. During these early times it was necessary that every girl learn to knit, and with spinning, weaving, sewing, cooking through the day, the knitting was to be done in the evening. Often Susan's eyes would grow weary, as she sat knitting by candle light, and she would long to go to bed, but no, she must knit twenty rounds every evening before bed time. This so impressed her as a hardship that she resolved, should she ever have any daughters, they would never be required to learn to knit, and she kept her resolution.

At the age of sixteen she was married to Enos Hadley of Plainfield, and they moved to his farm, five miles north of this village, where for twelve years they lived in the old log house. For several years Susan did her cooking by the fireplace. Their harvests were large and it required much help to gather them, so that even in her early married life she had a large number to cook for. It was often necessary to make eight or ten pies a day, which she did in a Dutch oven. Besides cooking three meals a day she carried a lunch to the men in the field in the middle of the morning and again in the afternoon. She was so ambitious to be truly a helpmate that she would not allow anyone to assist her with her work if she could possibly do it herself. While the men would still be in the fields she would

tie the younger children to the bedpost, to keep them from harm or from getting into mischief, and go out over the hills for the cows, so by the time the men came in, the milking would all be done. In 1862 they moved from their small log house to their new, large frame one, which was their home for nearly thirty years, after which they left the farm and lived in Plainfield. They lived here but a few years before her husband's death. She then made her home among her children for a time, spending the summers with those in Indiana and her winters with her daughter Clara on the Pacific Coast. For several years she and this daughter have made their home together in Plainfield.

One of her most admirable qualities, recognized by all who know her, is her unselfish disposition. She has the faculty of never brooding over a disappointment, and of looking on the bright side of things and hoping for the best, always putting the will and pleasures of others before her own. They were the parents of nine children.

Jonathan S., born Nov. 7, 1851.

Ellen E., born Sept. 6, 1853.

James A., born July 15, 1855.

Horace E., born March 20, 1858.

Cassius C., born August 9, 1860.

Clara B., born July 6, 1865.

Robert S., born March 5, 1868.

Wilbur E., born Feb. 13, 1870.

Lester B., born July 21, 1874; died Nov. 24, 1876.



Elizabeth Smith



Jehu Parsons

ELIZABETH SMITH (eighth child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, August 7, 1836; married Jehu Parsons January 20, 1859; died at her home near Plainfield, Ind., Jan. 21, 1898; buried at Plainfield.

JEHU PARSONS, born in Guilford County, North Carolina, February 7, 1835.

Elizabeth was about a year old when her parents came to Indiana. she was very delicate as a child, so, while her sisters worked in the house, she was most often given outside chores to do. One of these in which she was much interested, not only as a child but in her mature years, was raising chickens. She was always fond of company and a great favorite among the young people of the neighborhood. Among the popular means of entertainment in this day was the quilting party. The girls of the neighborhood would be invited to one of their homes for the day, spending the hours in quilting until late in the afternoon. After supper the boys would come in and the evening would be devoted to playing pranks, games, and to having a general good time together. Each girl would then be taken home on horseback, seated behind her escort.

Elizabeth, with several of her brothers and sisters, attended the school about one mile from home, in a school house built on the present site of her brother Alex's home place. This school house, the first in that vicinity, was a square, log structure, with a chimney supported by four posts built in the center of the room, with the fire in the open on the earthen floor beneath. This mode of heating did not prove satisfactory, especially on windy days. In time this house was replaced by one which was built like a shed—high in front, with the roof slanting down to the back. On account of its appearance it was known as the Sheep Pen School House.

In 1857 Elizabeth, in company with ten others, united with the White Lick Presbyterian Church at the first meeting held in that meeting house. The frame structure has since been torn down and the present brick one built. She, with her parents and several others of her family, always held their letters in this church. Before the organization of the White Lick Church the family attended the Presbyterian Church at Danville. At the age of twenty-three Elizabeth was married to Jehu Parsons. They made their home in Plainfield for sixteen years, then moved to a farm three miles northeast of Plainfield, where they lived until her death. After her death her husband and daughter Dolia moved to Plainfield.

Betty, as she was generally called, had an exceedingly kind and happy disposition. Her home was always open to all her kindred, and those who ever had the privilege of visiting her will always remember her sweet smile as she came out to welcome them. They were the parents of five children. One child died in infancy.

Flora E., born Dec. 19, 1861.

William E., born Oct. 4, 1863; died Oct. 25, 1873.

Udolia M., born Jan. 24, 1866.

Ettie H., born Sept. 25, 1869.



William D. Smith

WILLIAM D. SMITH, born in Hendricks County Indiana, December 15, 1839; was never married; killed in the Battle of Atlanta, Georgia, July 22, 1864; buried at Marietta, Georgia.

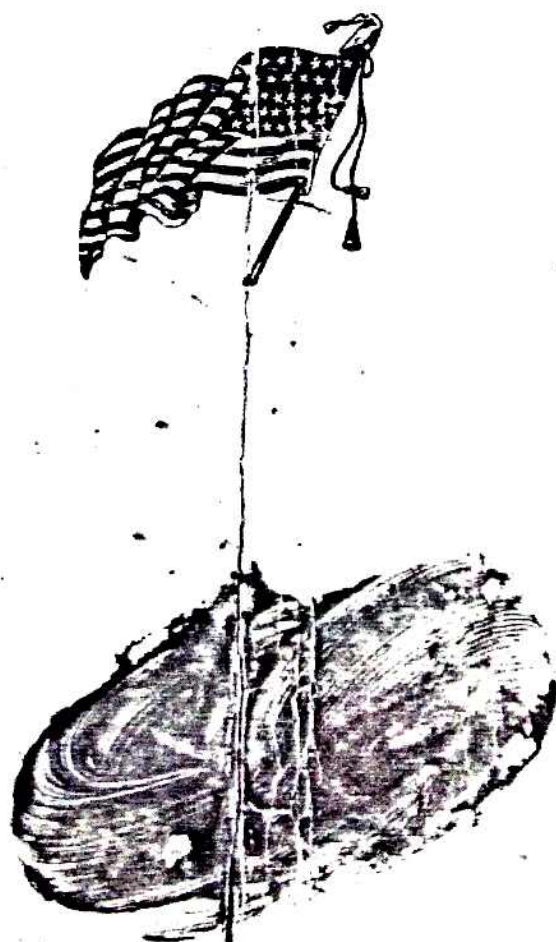
William (the ninth child), being the youngest of his brothers and sisters, remained at home through his youth to young manhood. When the first call came from President Lincoln for 50,000 volunteers to suppress the rebellion of 1861, William responded. He first entered the service as a private in Company A of the Seventh Regiment, served his time out faithfully, and again entered the service as a private in the Fifty-third Regiment. By his soldierly and manly deportment he was promoted to the position of Orderly Sergeant of his company and a little later he was again promoted to a Lieutenancy, and was killed while acting Major. When his regiment was called upon to re-enlist, as veterans, he again entered the service in the spring of 1862. He was in the battles of Missionary Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain and Battle of Atlanta. Copying from an old paper of 1864:

"Lieut. W. D. Smith, of Company A, Fifty-third Regiment of Indiana, was killed, on the 22nd of July last in front of Atlanta, instantly by a ball which struck him near the heart. His body at first fell into the hands of the enemy. They stripped it, all except his coat, and carried away his sword and equipments. Lieut. Smith was not yet in the prime of life. He was admired by all who knew him for his outspoken, noble and generous nature. His parents, who are bowed down in grief at the sad news of his death, survive him, but with the consolation that their son offered up his life in the holiest cause in which blood was ever shed."

He was buried on the battlefield with his comrades, afterwards his brother James went down to the battlefield and had his body removed to the Government cemetery at Marietta, Georgia.

MARTHA (fifth child), born in Henry County, Kentucky, May 31,
~~1820~~; died at the age of three years.

1830



Roy H Smith
Berlin Chla

Compliments of

As D Smith