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THE SHARON FAMILY IN OHIO

The following section begins about 1800 with the children of William and Sarah Sharron. These sons were James Sharon, William Sharon II, Smiley Sharon and John Sharon.

This line of the Sharon family now moved into Ohio. In the next fifty or so years some of the family was to remain in Ohio and others were to venture westward to Illinois. One member of the family, William Sharon, was to venture even further afield to California where he became quite a prominent figure and a United States Senator from Nevada.

This section also covers several other Sharon families that moved first to the western portion of Pennsylvania and then into eastern Ohio. They were William Sharon, son of William Sherran, who married Katherine Eaton; William Sharon, son of James Sherran, who married Esther Barncroft and Hugh Sharon, son of Hugh Sharon, who married Anna Depew and lived first in Trumbull County. The two Williams lived in Jefferson County, Ohio.

The Sharons of Jefferson County

The following portion of this section covers the children of William Sharon and Sarah Smiley Sharon. They had four sons and two daughters. The four sons were: James Sharon, William Sharon (2nd), Smiley Sharon and John Sharon were all born in the 1790s in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. The two girls were the eldest children and were born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. I have absolutely no other information on the daughters. They may have died as children or married back in Pennsylvania. I have no record of them being in Ohio.

All four young sons moved with their parents to Wells Township, Jefferson County, Ohio in about 1802, grew up and married there and spent the rest of their lives there. These are the children about whom I have details.

JAMES SHARON

James Sharon was the eldest child and was named for his grandfather and his great grandfather. James was born in the latter part of 1790. In 1815 he married Martha Eaton. According to Hanna's OHIO VALLEY GENEALOGIES, they had four children, 2 sons and 2 daughters.

Martha Eaton was born in Mt. Pleasant, Ohio on May 2, 1791. She was a daughter of Joseph Eaton and Jeanette Ramsey Eaton. One of Martha's older sisters, Katherine Eaton, married a cousin, William Sharon, in about 1812. The father, Joseph Eaton, was with the Pennsylvania Militia at the siege of Boston. He re-enlisted for three years and fought at the battles of Long Island, Brandywine and Germantown. He wintered at Valley Forge. Joseph Eaton was born in 1756 at Franklin County, Pennsylvania and died in 1832 in Guernsey County, Ohio.

Their eldest son, Joseph Sharon was born in 1820, Jane in 1821 and Smiley in 1826. I am not certain who the second daughter was. She was probably the eldest child, and I believe she was Sarah.

James Sharon died in Jefferson County in 1834. His widow, Martha, moved in with her daughter Jane Sharon Elrick, who was living in Belmont County, Ohio, after James' death. Martha remained with this family and after Jane's death in 1859 remained to help raise the children. Martha passed away in 1870, I assume in Belmont County.

The children grew up and lived in neighboring Belmont County, Ohio.

The following is the information that I have on these children and their families.

Sarah Sharon

Sarah was born about 1818. She married Jonas Bernhard in Belmont County on April 9, 1835. I have a copy of their marriage license.

Beyond this, I know nothing of Sarah Sharon or her family.

Joseph Sharon

Joseph Sharon was born in 1820 in Mount Pleasant, Ohio. Like his brother, he went to Cadiz in Harrison County. It was in Harrison County that he married Elizabeth Jane (Eliza) Maholn in 1846.

Eliza Sharon was the daughter of John Maholn who came to Harrison County in about 1804. John Maholn was born in Pennsylvania in 1795. He married a widow, Martha Collins Bowland on April 4, 1822. Eliza was their eldest child. A history of the Maholn Family may also be found in Hanna's HARRISON COUNTY GENEALOGIES.

Joseph Sharon studied law along with his cousin, the future Senator William Sharon, at Franklin College in New Athens, Ohio a few miles away from home. Joseph was admitted to the bar in Cadiz and practiced there until 1874.

In 1874 he went with his wife to California, like so many other of his cousins, in order to share in the good fortunes of his wealthy cousin, William Sharon.

Joseph Sharon died in California three years later in 1877. His widow, Eliza, returned to Cadiz to live with her son, John Maholn Sharon and his family. She remained with her son until her death in 1882.

They had several children, I have details on these:

JOHN MAHOLN SHARON

John Maholn Sharon was born in Cadiz on July 16, 1849. John Sharon spent his entire life in Cadiz, Ohio. He began a career in banking in 1874 and was made president of the Harrison County National Bank in 1910.

On December 6, 1883, John married Mary C. Cunningham, the daughter of Major David and Laura Phillips Cunningham. I have a copy of their marriage license applied for on December 5, 1883. The Cunninghams were also relatives of ours going back to Pnnsylvania. Some Cunninghams and McCormicks came to Ohio with William Sharon and his mother, Elizabeth McCormick Sharon in the 1790s.

They had two children:

Frederick Sharon was born on February 14, 1887. He married Bessie Baricklow of Cadiz on October 8, 1919. I do not think they had any children.

John Cunningham Sharon was born on March 22, 1889 and died, also in Cadiz, on June 30, 1954. He married Helen C. Kreiger in April of 1917 and they had one child:

JOHN CUNNINGHAM SHARON Jr.

MARTHA SHARON

Martha Sharon was born in Cadiz. She married Henry H. McCormick, a son of John and Sarah Sloan McCormick. These McCormicks were the family that James Sharon married into back in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Henry and Martha returned to Pennsylvania where Henry was the Speaker of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1874.

LEWIS SHARON

In Hanna's OHIO VALLEY GENEALOGIES, we find the mention that Lewis was born in 1822 and married Sarah McKim November 14, 1855. The identical wording was used in the 1890 HISTORY OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY. In both cases these notations were carried in a listing of the children of William and Susanna Sharon. I feel this particular Lewis is the son of Joseph Sharon. There were two Lewis Sharons born a year apart. This initially created some confusion. I have information on both.

In the 1890 HISTORY OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY, volume 2, page 321 in a biography of the Sharon Family, it states,

Lewis was born in 1822. He married Miss Sarah McKim in 1855. They have one child, a son, now attending college. For a while Lewis followed merchandising in Smithfield, then removed to Meigs County, Ohio, where he followed the same business for a while, but finally engaged in farming, which he still follows.

Obviously there was a son, as mentioned, but I do not have his name.

Jane Sharon

Jane Sharon was born in Mount Pleasant on April 13, 1821. Jane Sharon married James Gill Elrick, a native of Ohio, on May 30, 1844. James Elrick was born in 1818.

James Elrick was a carpenter and they lived in Union Township, Belmont County Ohio.

They had four daughters, Ellen or Helen, Clara, Anna and Mary. Jane's mother, Martha Sharon, moved in with them after the death of her father James Sharon.

Jane Sharon Elrick died on September 15, 1859 in Morristown, Belmont County, Ohio. James lived on until 1905.

Their children were:

HELEN ELRICK

Helen was born in Belmont County, Ohio in 1845.

CLARISSA ELRICK

Clarissa was born in Belmont County in 1851.

ANNA ELRICK

Anna was born in Belmont County in 1853.

MARY ELRICK

Mary was born in Belmont County in 1857.

Smiley Sharon

There were two Smiley Sharons in this part of Ohio and both were named after Sarah's family. This, the younger, Smiley was born in Mount Pleasant in 1826.

Smiley married Rhoda Loretta Shotwell about 1854 or 1855. Loretta was a daughter of William Shotwell and Rhoda Beebe. Loretta was born July 27, 1834 and she died in August of 1888. A genealogy of the Shotwell Family may be found in Hanna's HARRISON COUNTY (Ohio) GENEALOGIES.

Smiley and Loretta moved a few miles away to Cadiz in Harrison County where he worked as a carpenter. In the 1860 Ohio census he is shown in Cadiz with a three year old son, William Sharon and a daughter, Mary Sharon, age one. He is listed as a master carpenter and has an apprentice, Cassmore Staup, living with his family.

I have no other information on the Smiley Sharon family at this time.

As of the 1860 census, their children were:

WILLIAM SHARON

William Sharon was born in 1856 in Cadiz, Harrison County, Ohio.

MARY SHARON

Mary Sharon was born in 1858 in Cadiz, Harrison County.

WILLIAM SHARON (II)

William Sharon, the 2nd, was the second son of William and Sarah Smiley Sharon. Like his brothers, he was born in Westmoreland County in Pennsylvania during the later part of 1793 or very early in 1794. He traveled to Ohio with his parents and remained there until his death in 1875.

Like all the Sharons, William was brought up in the Scotch Presbyterian faith, but on November 14, 1814 he married a young Quaker girl, Susanna Kirk. This marriage is recorded in the County Marriage book on January 15, 1815 and in the minutes of the Plymouth-Smithfield Monthly Meeting (these were the recorded events in the Quaker Church).

"January 21, 1815. Susanna Sherron (form Kirk) Discharged. Married."

There is another notation,

"June 20, 1825. Susan Sharron rest."

Susanna was the daughter of William Kirk and Rachel Hutton, and was born in Lack Township of Cumberland County (now in Juniata County), Pennsylvania in 1796. I have a copy of the 1813 Will of William Kirk. This will is recorded in Jefferson County Will Book Number 1 on pages 146 and 147. A transcript is found in the addendum of this work.

In this will Susanna received one hundred dollars and a share in the remainder of his estate. Also in this will, William Kirk made mention of his 400 acre farm lying on Ten Mile Creek in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania which was to be sold. The Kirk's were from Tyrone in Ulster, Northern Ireland and what information that I have on this family is contained in the addendum.

William and Susanna had seven children born between 1816 and 1827. Susannah died in 1833. William Sharon never remarried.

The following is taken from the book A HISTORY OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY, Page 390, published in 1890.

Tanneries were among the first enterprises. The first tannery in Smithfield was started by a man named Moore as early as 1804. Lewis Carey started the second one as early as 1809. William Sharon, the father of Senator Sharon, put in operation the third tannery about 1817. It was situated on the property now owned by William A. Judkins, at the south end of town. He continued the business until 1844, when he sold the stock and rented the yard for three years to George Lee, after which it went down."

The following is taken from Volume IV of the CHRONICLES OF THE BUILDERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH by Hubert Howe Bancroft published in San Francisco in 1892. This section was taken from a Biography of Senator William Sharon, which was contained in pages 22-102 covering his life.

William, the second son and the father of Senator Sharon, was born in 1793. He married Susan Kirk, who was a Quakeress of Scotch descent, an intelligent and kind hearted woman, and very proud of her children. As she died very shortly after the birth of her last child, her children were left at tender years in their father's care. Although his mother was a Presbyterian, he (William) was of the Universalist faith. In temperament he was grave, strong and determined, but withal of a kindly disposition.

He was affectionate in his family relations, and exceedingly fond of his mother, of whom he delighted to speak at all times. He was politic and shrewd in his business transactions, and in the later years of his life, by industry and frugality, amassed quite a competency. From 1817 to 1844 he conducted a tannery, after which he devoted himself to farming. His great integrity and firmness of purpose earned for him the esteem of his neighbors and associates. For twenty years he was justice of the peace of Smithfield Township, and from 1865 to the time of his death in 1875, having reached the ripe old age of eighty-three years, he was a director of the First National bank of Smithfield."

William Sharon is buried in the Old Seceder Cemetery, now called the Presbyterian Cemetery, in Mount Pleasant Township. He is buried along side of his parents.

His Stone reads, 'William Sharon 1875 Age 83.' His wife Susanna was more than likely buried in the Quaker Cemetery, but I have not found records of her burial.

William and Susanna Sharon had seven children: four sons, John, William, Lewis and Smiley and three daughters, Mary Ann, Sarah and Susan. The lives of these children follow.

John Kirk Sharon

John Kirk Sharon, the eldest child, was born in 1816 in Smithfield, Ohio. He studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and married Minerva Headlee in Woodsfield, Ohio in 1841.

As he is in my direct line, his life is covered more fully in a later section on ILLINOIS SHARONS.

Mary Ann Sharon

Mary Ann Sharon was born in Smithfield, Ohio in 1818. She grew up in Smithfield and in 1862 she married Dr. Jacob Hammond of Steubenville, Ohio.

Jacob Hammond was born in Smithfield, Jefferson County in 1808, a son of James Hammond. He studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania from 1831-1832, and then at the Berkshire Medical College in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. He began practice in Steubenville, Ohio and then went to Salem, Ohio for some twenty five years.

They then moved to Steubenville where they spent the remainder of their lives.

The Hammonds had no children.

Sarah Sharon

Sarah Sharon was born in Smithfield, Ohio in 1820.

Sarah never married. I believe she moved to Carrollton, Greene County, Illinois in 1843 with her brother, Dr. John Kirk Sharon.

Sarah later moved to California, more than likely to join her brother William Sharon in San Francisco. Sarah remained in California until her death.

William Sharon 3rd

William Sharon, the 3rd, was the most famous member of the Sharon Family. He was born on January 9th, 1821 in Smithfield.

William Sharon later went to California during the Gold Rush of 1849 and became a millionaire in Real Estate and Silver from the Comstock Lode in Nevada.

He became the first Senator from Nevada in 1875.

William Sharon married Maria Malloy, a sea captain's daughter. One of their children married an English Lord.

His life is more fully detailed later in this history. He was a very colorful gent. He will be covered in the CALIFORNIA SHARONS section.

Lewis C. Sharon

Lewis Sharon was born in Smithfield, Ohio on November 22, 1823 (1825?). I find several conflicting references in early histories. I have quoted one earlier in the section on the other Lewis Sharon, son of Joseph.

In THE HISTORY OF GALLIA COUNTY OHIO, I found the following:

Lewis C. Sharon is a native of Jefferson County, Ohio, where he was born on November 22, 1823. The parents of Mr. Sharon were William & Susan (Kirk) Sharon. His father was born in 1794 and died April 5, 1879. His mother was born in 1796 and died in 1862.

The grandfather of Lewis came to this country from England in the Mayflower and settled with his parents near Carlisle, Pennsylvania. During the Revolutionary War he came to the Fort opposite Wheeling with Zane, to help support the Fort. Wm. Sharon came to Jefferson Co., Ohio with his parents in 1806.

The grandfather of Lewis served eight years with Washington during the Revolutionary War. His grandmother was Sarah Smiley, and she was given a present by Washington in 1782 at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. William Sharon (his father) served in the War of 1812.

Lewis C. was married in Meigs Co., Ohio on October 5, 1858 to Philena Jones. She was born in Meigs Co. on November 16, 1823. She was the daughter of Philip & Mary (Higley) Jones. Philip died 1870 and Mary died 1866. They have one child, William A. Sharon, born October 11, 1859, and who resides at home (this being written in 1881). Lewis had a brother Senator Sharon of California. Lewis Sharon came to Gallia County in 1864, locating in Addison Township, where he is presently engaged in farming. His post office address is Gallipolis, Gallia County, Ohio."

They had one child:

WILLIAM A. SHARON

He was born October 11, 1859.

As to the son, William, I do find a reference in the LDS IGI indicating that William A. Sharon married Jessie E. Bailey in Gallia County, Ohio on May 29, 1882. I have a copy of this marriage certificate.

This is more than likely Lewis' son William. I have nothing else.

Susannah Kirk Sharon

Susanannah (Susan) Sharon was born in Smithfield in 1825. She married Issac Meeks Davis in Belmont County, Ohio on October 10, 1847. They raised a family of six children; two sons and four daughters.

Susan and Isaac Davis went to California in the 1870s to join her brother, William. She was living in California at the time of the Senator's death. Both Susan and her husband, Isaac, died in San Jose, California.

I have no other information on Susan and the Davis family at this time. The children were:

WILLIAM SHARON DAVIS

He was born in 1848 and died in 1921 in California. William married Susan Mae Stone. Susan was born September 21 1860 and died in March 1932. They had four children:

George Irwin William Davis

William Stone Davis born September 1, 1893 and died December 12, 1969. He married Penelope Allen Boden, born 1903 and died 1954. They had one child:

Sherrod Stone Davis born June 6, 1925 and married to Marjorie Bowes.

Pauline Davis

Susannah Kirk Davis

CLARA DAVIS

Clara was born in 1850 according to a Davis History.

LILY DAVIS

I have no information on Lily Davis.

IDA MARY DAVIS

Ida was born in the late 1840s and she married James Monroe Allen. James was born March 14, 1844 and died May 6, 1911. Their children were:

Francis Frederick Allen who married Clara Ethel Elida Dooley. Their children were:

Kirk Monroe Allen born in 1914 and died in 1968. He married Elizabeth Mitchell Newman.

Mary Elizabeth Allen born in 1918. She married Samuel Stevens.

Francis Frederick Allen Junior born in 1922. He married Jean E. McCloud.

Harriett Elizabeth Allen who married John Otis Burrage. They had two daughters:

Kathy Burrage

Elizabeth Burrage

Ruth Mary Allen who married a cousin, Lucius Hamilton Allen. They had one son:

James Allen

Clara Adelaide Allen who never married.

ROSE DAVIS

I have no information on Rose Davis.

BERT DAVIS

I have no information on Bert either.

Smiley Sharon

Smiley Sharon was the youngest child of William and Susanna Sharon. He was born in Smithfield on February 14th, 1827. This Smiley Sharon, the third of this name, married Sarah Ann Hurford on October 26th, 1848 in Smithfield.

Sarah Ann was the daughter of Aquilla Hurford and Rachel Matson. She was a Quaker born in Short Creek, Harrison County, Ohio on May 26, 1831. Aquilla Hurford was born in Short Creek, Jefferson County, a son of Evan Hurford and Sarah Hall and grandson of John Hurford and Sarah Hayes. Rachel Matson was also born in Short Creek, a daughter of Enoch Matson and Sarah Thompson.

Smiley and Sarah Ann Sharon had a family of five. Four sons, and one daughter.

The following is from the HISTORY OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY:

Smiley Sharon resides one mile south of Mount Pleasant, on one of the most beautiful farms in the country, and besides the natural beauty of situation, he has applied all the means that art could devise to add to its natural beauty. Mr. Sharon is largely engaged in the raising of fine stock, especially fine sheep.

Of the five children, I only have complete details on one, WILLIAM EVANS SHARON, and some information on the others.

CLARENCE SHARON

Clarence Sharon was born in Smithfield April 17, 1850. He went to Nevada to be with his uncle

William. He was the Assayer for the Sharon mining operations. He is mentioned in this capacity in the Senator's Obituary. Clarence arrived in Virginia City on April 1, 1873. He lived most of his life in Virginia City, although he spent eight years helping run the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, which was owned by William Sharon. When he returned to Virginia City, he became foreman of the Overman, Caledonia, Belcher, Yellow Jacket, Imperial and other Gold Hill mines for 15 to 20 years, where his brother was superintendent, but this was after their bonanza period was over. In later years he wintered at the Palace Hotel.

He married Eugenie Amelia Buckner in Virginia City, Nevada on April 4, 1877. After they were divorced, he married Amelia Kline in December of 1896.

He died in Virginia City on June 3, 1940.

Here is an article from the Nevada State Journal dated August 17, 1940:

“Virginia City, Nev., August 16 (Special) – Turning back the court records in the historic court house here for nearly half a century Judge Clark Guild yesterday issued an order continuing monthly payments of \$50 to Mrs. Amelia Rigondet of Venice, Calif., from the estate of the late Clarence J. Sharon, who died last June 3. The estate consists of more than \$40,000 in a Reno bank in addition to other property.

On April 15, 1877, in Virginia City, Clarence J. Sharon, nephew of the late Sen. William Sharon, who made a fortune on the Comstock and later became one of the leading financiers on the Pacific Coast, was married to a Virginia City girl, the present Mrs. Rigondet. Clarence Sharon was engaged in mining and in the course of years accumulated a fortune. His wife, Amelia, went to Paris and on October 30, 1895, Mr. Sharon was granted a divorce on grounds of desertion and he was granted custody of the couple's two sons. The late Judge C. E. Mack was the presiding judge. The late Judge Frank Langan represented Mr. Sharon in the action and Mrs. Sharon was represented by W. E. F. Deal.

An agreement was reached and made part of the court records through which Mrs. Sharon was to receive \$60 per month for life in alimony and the agreement provided further that in the event that Mr. Sharon died before his wife she was to receive the payments from his estate.

Subsequently, Mr. Sharon remarried and his second wife was also named Amelia. She survives and lives here and is the administratrix of the estate.

Today William S. Boyle, attorney for the widow, appeared in court with a petition asking the court to make provision for the payment of \$50 per month to Mrs. Rigondet, the first Mrs. Sharon. At some point in the forty-five years since the alimony agreement was made the payments were reduced to \$50 from \$60. The petition was granted by Judge Guild and before the estate is ordered distributed under the will a trust fund will be established to continue the payments during Mrs. Rigondet's life.

The will provides that the estate is to be shared one-third each by the present Mrs. Sharon, by a son, Frank Sharon of Virginia City and a granddaughter, Sally Sharon Parker of Vallejo. One of the sons of the first Mrs. Sharon is dead.

In the 45 years more than \$27,000 was paid out by Mr. Sharon in carrying out the agreement."

He had two children. Both by his first wife:

George Sharon was born in 1878. He was a Colonel in the U. S. Army. Here is an obituary taken from the Nevada State Journal on March 5, 1923. "Obituary of Lt. Col. George B. Sharon, died at a Reno hospital. He was stricken with the recurrence of a malady he contracted about three years ago while serving with the American Expeditionary Forces. Twenty-five years of service. He was born in Virginia City 45 years ago, the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Sharon. His illness reoccurred while he was visiting Virginia City. He enlisted as a second lieutenant at the time of the Spanish American war, and was able to visit home only infrequently. He leaves a wife, Mr. Pauline Sharon, and a daughter, Mrs. Sally Sharon of West Point and a brother, Frank E. Sharon, of Oakland, Cal. A martyr for his country."

Frank E. Sharon was born in 1879. He married Jessie M. Tufts in June 1901 in Virginia City, Nevada.

WILLIAM EVANS SHARON

A complete story of William Evans Sharon life is found in THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN BIOGRAPHY, published by the American Historical Society in 1932, volume 21, pages 53-57.

William Evans Sharon was born in Smithfield on March 22, 1852. He grew up on his parents farm and attended the local public schools. In 1872 at the age of twenty, he traveled to California. Initially he lived with his uncle, William Sharon, and attended a business college. He accompanied his uncle to the silver fields of Virginia City, Nevada and managed several of the famous Comstock Lode Mines. He served for two years in the Nevada State Senate representing Storey County.

On December 25th, 1876 in Virginia City, William Evans Sharon married Lillian Mygatt. Lillian was born in Iowa City, Iowa on January 16, 1858. Her family originally came from England to Boston in 1633 and were the founders of Hartford, Connecticut in 1639. There is a complete genealogy of the Mygatt Family in the Sharon Biography in the above mentioned book.

In 1890 the Sharons moved back to Oakland, California and in 1898 built their home *Roycrofters* at 37 Sharon Avenue in Piedmont. In 1915 when Frederick Sharon (see the story of Senator William Sharon) died, William Evans Sharon took over the control of the Sharon Estate and their vast holdings in California. William Evans Sharon died at his Piedmont home on January 26, 1926. William and Lillian had ten children, seven of whom lived to maturity.

The complete story of this family will be found in the **CALIFORNIA SHARONS** section of this history.

ELLA S. SHARON

Ella Sharon was the only daughter of Smiley and Sarah Ann Sharon. She was born about 1856 in Smithfield.

It was noted that she married and went to California. In the obituary of Senator Sharon, there are references to three nieces living in the San Francisco Area. One was Mrs. S. F. Thorne. This was Emma Sharon, the daughter of Dr. John Kirk Sharon. The other two nieces were listed only as

Mrs. Judge J. M. Allen of San Francisco and **Mrs. Charles McCoy** of Oakland. I do not know which was Ella, but I'm working on it.

FREDERICK HURFORD SHARON

I have no information at all on Fred Sharon.

I have a letter from a Frederick G. Sharon in Elizabeth Park, South Australia who is trying to search out his grandfather who was born in San Francisco in 1853. This man's name was Edward Sharon and his father was named Edward Sharon and his mother was Elizabeth. As Ed was a common nickname for Frederick, perhaps this was the one. At any rate the son, Edward Sharon born in 1853, migrated to New Zealand in 1884 and married there. One of his sons (there were seven children) moved to Australia. Who knows?

FRANK E. SHARON

Frank Sharon was born in 1862 and was living as a boarder with the Mygatts in the 1880 census of Nevada. He was involved in the silver business as an assayer, then went to live with Lillian and acted as a chauffeur and handy man. He had previously owned a taxi company in San Francisco.

SMILEY SHARON

Smiley Sharon was the third son of William and Sarah Smiley Sharon. He was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania on June 25, 1795. He moved with his family to Rush Run, Jefferson County, Ohio in 1802.

Smiley Sharon was named for his mother's family as was a common custom in those days. He grew up in Mt. Pleasant and on June 21st, 1827 married Martha Kithcart.

Martha Kithcart was born in what is now Fayette County, Pennsylvania on June 24th, 1809. She grew up in Fayette County and according to Robert Sherrard's history she moved with her family to Mount Pleasant, Ohio in 1825.

The Kithcart homestead was in the portion of Pennsylvania originally claimed by Virginia. Her grandfather, John Kithcart, obtained the land by an original grant from Virginia in the 1760s. The land was described as being *"in that part of Fayette County east of the Youghiogheny River, near the old Mount Vernon Furnace, six miles from Connellsville, on the road to Mount Pleasant, Ohio, or at least near that road."*

Earlier in the Section on William and Sarah Smiley Sharon, I referred to the book by Robert Sherrard on THE SHERRARD FAMILY OF STEUBENVILLE. This book is the earliest *first hand* account of the Ohio Sharons and is an extremely valuable work. The Sherrard lineage is closely connected to the Kithcart Family. I have a great deal of information on the Kithcart family and this is contained in the addendum of this Sharon History.

Although Smiley was promised in marriage to Martha Kithcart, getting the actual wedding to take place was another matter altogether. Young Robert Sherrard was a key player in this action as shown in the following quotes from his book. Robert had married Mary Kithcart in 1816 and they had four children before Mary died in 1823. After Mary's death, her mother, Elizabeth Kithcart Galloway (then the widow of not only Joseph Kithcart, but also the widow of John Galloway) moved in with Robert Sherrard to help raise his children.

Now the plot thickens. Martha Kithcart was *tending house* for three of her brothers and was therefore not in a position to marry Smiley as she was tied down to other responsibilities at home. Another key player in this early day soap opera was Jane Hindman who was then being courted by the widower, Robert Sherrard. Now to Robert's story...

"... I was urged on by Joseph Kithcart, brother to my first wife, who came from Mount Pleasant every two weeks or so to see and know how matters were progressing between Jane Hindman and me, at which times I reported progress. He was anxious about the matter, as his sister Martha Kithcart who kept house for him and his brother Cunningham, was promised in marriage to Smiley Sharon, and their marriage was to take place as soon as I could marry Jane Hindman, so as to release his mother (Elizabeth) from charge of my family, so that she might go and take Martha's place in having charge of their house." ... This blessed event took place on May 24th, 1827... "I and Jane had not been married very long until mother-in-law Kithcart and her two sons, Joseph and Cunningham, had thoughts of her (Elizabeth) being removed to Mount Pleasant to keep house for them, so that her daughter Martha might be released and be united in marriage, according to promise, to Smiley Sharon." ... "And after this, preparations were made for the marriage of Martha Kithcart to Smiley Sharon, which

was solemnized on Thursday June 21st, 1827, by the Reverend Joseph Anderson, pastor at the time of the Mount Pleasant (Presbyterian) Church, and I and my new wife Jane were at the wedding."

Well obviously all this took place in the days prior to liberated men and women. It seems that then a woman's greatest function was taking care of various houses and macho men. At any rate, Martha was eventually *freed* from the Kithcart household to take her place with Smiley.

Smiley and Martha remained as farmers in Mount Pleasant and went on to raise eight children; five sons and three daughters.

Smiley died on October 16, 1876 and Martha Died on July 2, 1892. Both are buried next to each other in the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Cemetery and their stones are still legible to this day. Their unmarried daughter, Sarah, is buried alongside.

The eight children of Smiley and Martha Sharon are as follows.

William A. Sharon

William A. Sharon was the eldest child of Smiley and Martha Sharon, being born in 1828 in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio. In 1851, he married Harriet Mitchell in Belmont County, Ohio November 20, 1851. Harriet was born in 1831 and was the daughter of John C. and Mary Mitchell. They had one daughter, Lina, in 1857.

Harriet Sharon died in 1857 at the young age of only twenty six years.

On October 18, 1859, William married Harriet's younger sister, Margaretta A. Mitchell. Margaretta was born in 1836. Margaretta was carried as the wife in the Census taken on August 21, 1860. Margaretta died shortly in 1862.

It does look like William tried for a third time, or at least I find yet another marriage record in Belmont County for William A. Sharon and Jennie C. Cooper. They were married on January 18, 1866.

William A. Sharon seems to have spent his entire life in Belmont County, Ohio and he died there in 1913. From a listing of cemetery inscriptions taken from the Scotch Ridge Cemetery in Belmont County, Ohio, I found the following listings:

Harriet M. Sharon 1857 age 26, wife of William A. Sharon and daughter of J. C. and M. Mitchell.

Margaretta A. Sharon 1836-1862, wife of William A. Sharon and daughter of J. C. and M. Mitchell.

William A. Sharon 1828-1913.

There was no stone for Jennie C. Sharon, or at least not in this cemetery.

I believe he had only one daughter, she by his first wife, Harriet:

LENA B. SHARON

Lena Sharon was born in 1852 in Belmont County, Ohio. I have nothing else.

Sarah Jane Sharon

Sarah Jane Sharon was the eldest daughter, being born in 1831. She remained single all her life. She died in 1906 and is buried with her parents in the Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Cemetery.

I have no other details on her at this time.

Joseph Kithcart Sharon

Joseph Kithcart Sharon was the second son of Smiley and Martha Sharon. He was born in Mount Pleasant in 1832 and later married his cousin, Laura Florella Sharon, the daughter of Dr. John Kirk and Minerva Sharon, on May 1st, 1866.

Joseph Kithcart Sharon is in my direct line and his story will be given in a later section on the ILLINOIS SHARONS.

John J. Sharon

John Sharon was born in 1834 in Mount Pleasant, Ohio. In 1856, John and his brother Joseph Kithcart Sharon moved to Carrollton, Greene County, Illinois to join his uncle, Dr. John Kirk Sharon who had gone to Carrollton with his family in 1843 and established a dry goods business.

He married Frances 'Fannie' H. Bowman in Carrollton on September 10, 1864.

The life of John Sharon and his family will be told in the section on ILLINOIS SHARONS.

Charles Cunningham Sharon

Charles Cunningham Sharon was born in Smithfield, Ohio in 1837.

Charles moved to Carrollton, Illinois in 1862 to join his brothers and on June 15, 1870 he married Martha 'Mattie' Harcastle of Carrollton. Mattie was born in Carrollton in 1842.

The life of Charles C. Sharon and his family is included in the section on ILLINOIS SHARONS later in this history.

Alexander D. Sharon

Alexander Sharon was born in Smithfield, Ohio in September of 1839.

He served in the Civil War as a Private in Company B, 157th Regiment of the Ohio National Guard. He served as a prison camp guard.

He never married and moved to San Francisco, California to work with his famous cousin in the Sharon Family Businesses. He worked in the hotel end of the business. The Palace Hotel opened in 1875 and was originally operated by the famous Leland family.

When William Sharon bought the hotel, he placed Alexander in charge of management. Alexander ran the hotel for twelve years until his health began to fail. He was then succeeded by S. F. Thorne, husband of Emma Sharon the daughter of Dr. John Kirk Sharon.

In the 1900 Census of California he is shown living in the Palace and Grand Hotel at the corner of Market and new Montgomery Streets. He died at his home in Pleasanton, California on July 15, 1911 at the age of seventy two.

Martha Ellen Sharon

Martha Ellen Sharon was born in 1842 in Smithfield. She married James T. Theaker in Smithfield about 1860.

According to the obituary of Charles Sharon in 1885, Martha Ellen was listed as a sister living in Ohio at that time.

There were five children. I have no further information on this family.

ROLAND THEAKER

Roland Theaker was born in Smithfield. He married Martha King.

MARTHA THEAKER

Martha Theaker married Donald C. Milner in Smithfield, Ohio.

NELL THEAKER

I have no information on Nell.

LUCY THEAKER

I have no information on Lucy Theaker.

CARLOTTA THEAKER

I have no information on Carlotta Theaker.

Elizabeth Kithcart Sharon

Elizabeth Sharon was born in 1836 in Smithfield, Ohio. Elizabeth married Robert W. Chambers in Smithfield and spent the rest of her life in Ohio.

From the following tombstone inscription it is possible that Elizabeth, the mother, may have died in childbirth or shortly thereafter. The tombstone in the Mount Pleasant M. E. Cemetery reads:

Mrs. Lizzie Chambers wife of R. W. Chambers, Died 1863.

I assume that this is Elizabeth and a record of her death. I have no more information at this time

on her or her family.

There were three daughters:

MILDRED CHAMBERS

I have no information on Mildred.

HELEN CHAMBERS

I have no information on Helen.

ELIZABETH CHAMBERS

From a history of the Sharpless family, I find that the daughter, Elizabeth or Lizzie as she was called was born February 5, 1863 and married Edward B. Jones in Mount Pleasant on June 14, 1883 and they had one child:

Mildred M. Jones

Millie Jones was born on August 12, 1884.

JOHN SHARON

John Sharon was the youngest of the four children of William and Sarah Sharon. He was born on September 23rd, 1798 in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.

He married Eleanor (Helen) Hall in Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio on February 23, 1832. They had nine children, three sons and six daughters.

Helen Hall Sharon was born in Ohio on July 12th, 1812. I do not know who her parents were.

I believe John Sharon worked as a farmer for his lifetime in Mount Pleasant. In the book A HISTORY OF THE UPPER OHIO VALLEY, it is stated that they lived on a beautiful farm located one and a half miles south of Mount Pleasant.

John Sharon died on October 23rd, 1870 and Helen died in 1900. Both are buried in the Seceder Cemetery and their stones remain to this date.

In Hanna's book OHIO VALLEY GENEALOGIES, he mentions the three sons and six daughters. I obtained the names in some old notes of my grand mother Sharon, from the Ohio Census and from a listing of tombstones in the Old Seceder Cemetery in Mount Pleasant Township of Jefferson County.

The following is what I know about the children of John and Helen Sharon.

James Hall Sharon

James H. Sharon was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio in 1833. He seems to have gone to Iowa because on August 22, 1858, he married Amanda L. Van Dorn in Onama, Iowa.

Amanda was born in Mansfield, Ohio on May 26, 1836 and had moved to Iowa with her parents. After the marriage, James and Amanda returned to Mount Pleasant in May of 1859 and moved into the house of his parents. On January 22, 1860, their first son, Edwin Ernest Sharon, was born.

In the 1860 census he was listed in Mount Pleasant as a grocer age 27, Amanda was 25 and Edward was 5 months old. The census was taken June 18, 1860.

They returned to Iowa in September of 1860 and left there for California in May of 1861. Between the winter weather and the Indians, it was decided to take the Oregon Trail to the north. After a hard trip they arrived in Auburn in Wyoming. They remained here until February 1863 when they headed to Boise and the mines there.

The mines were closed in 1865 and the family continued westward. They then moved to what is now Pendleton, Oregon.

Both James and Amanda remained in Pendleton, Oregon for the rest of their lives. He worked as a farmer, established the first school in Pendleton and was a County Clerk. James Died there in 1889.

James and Amanda had five more children, all born in Oregon. They were:

Edwin Ernest Sharon

Edwin was born in Mount Pleasant, Ohio on January 22, 1860. He was editor of the *Pendleton Tribune*. He married Frances B. Purcell on December 12, 1886 in Pendleton. He remained in Pendleton until 1894 when he moved to Portland, Oregon. He remarried in 1923 to Alla L. Osvald. The children were:

BESS SHARON

LELIA SHARON

ALLEN SHARON

Julian L. Sharon

I have no information.

Mary Sharon

Mary Sharon moved to San Francisco.

Arthur Sharon

I have no information.

Jessie Sharon

Jessie moved to Wheeling, West Virginia.

Lura Sharon

Lura Sharon moved to Wheeling, West Virginia.

Elizabeth Sharon

Elizabeth, the first of two daughters so named, was born in 1835 and died in infancy.

Sarah Sharon

Sarah Sharon was born February 21, 1838 and died August 5, 1919 in Pittsburgh, PA. She married Evans Dent Fogle March 24, 1859 in Jefferson County, Ohio. Evans was born January 27, 1829 in Morgantown, West Virginia, and died in Alliance, Ohio June 23, 1880. He was a son of Peter Fogle and Anna Dent Higgs.

After marrying, he served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Then he went into the mercantile business and the family moved to Alliance, Ohio about 1870. He was also a

pharmacist.

They had at least two children, according to the HISTORY OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, and several others according to another source.

MELVILLE SHARON FOGLE

He was born in West Virginia in 1861, and he died in Cleveland, Ohio June 24, 1905. I have no other information on him.

ALBERT JULIAN FOGLE

Bert Fogle was born in Jefferson County, Ohio on February 6, 1864. While in Alliance, he attended Mount Union College. He then studied drugs and did his training in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He returned first to Alliance and then moved to Toronto, Ohio in 1885.

He was a clerk for the John Francy Company and in 1890 set up a partnership with George Pugh and opened a Drug store. In 1900, he married Macy J. Francy and moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma where he opened a wholesale drug company, Rankin, Fogle, Francy Drug Company.

They had one daughter: **Sarah Elizabeth Fogle**

GARRETT THOMAS FOGLE

He was born in Ohio in October 1866, and died in Pennsylvania February 10, 1931. He was a contractor in Pittsburgh. In the 1900 census, his then widowed mother was living with him. He married Willie C. Cato in 1893.

FREDERICK EVANS FOGLE

He was born in 1869 and died in 1900.

EDWIN BRUCE FOGLE

He was born March 28, 1871 and died in Ohio November 23, 1898.

CARL DENT FOGLE

He was born in November 1877 and died in 1933.

WILLIAM FOGLE

He was born in 1879.

Juliet Ann Sharon

Juliet or Julia was born in 1841. She married a Thompson in Ohio.

Grafton Sharon

Grafton Sharon was born in 1845. He was in the Civil War as there was a listing in the National Archives for an application for a pension listing his mother, Helen, in the request.

I have requested the Pension Papers. Grafton may have been killed in the Civil War and the request was being made by his mother. I do not know at this time.

Clarissa Sharon

Clarissa was born in 1844 and died in 1863.

Martha Virginia Sharon

Mattie was born in Mount Pleasant on November 22, 1850.

She married Chauncey Irwin McDonald in Jefferson County on September 15, 1874. Chauncey was a son of Andrew McDonald and Jane Irwin. He was born in Woodlawn, Beaver County, Pennsylvania on November 26, 1846.

They moved back to Beaver County, Pennsylvania and remained there the rest of their lives.

Chauncey ran a saw mill there and also was a bridge builder. He was Postmaster at Woodlawn. Natural Gas was found on his property, and he made a few dollars off that I would guess. He worked for the C & O Railroad building bridges and tunnels for that line in western Pennsylvania.

Mattie died there in April of 1910 and Chauncey died there on August 23, 1923.

Their children were:

CLEMENT B. McDONALD

Clement was born in about 1876 in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. He married Anna Snow.

JOHN SHARON McDONALD

John was born September 10, 1877. He married Myrna Zimmerly and he died in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on February 9, 1942.

CHAUNCEY IRWIN McDONALD Jr.

Chauncey was born May 30, 1879. He married Bessie Lee Dunkle and died in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

MABEL V. McDONALD

Mabel was born in 1880 and died at age two.

HAROLD H. McDONALD

Harold was born July 29, 1881. He married Ola Day on August 4, 1914. He died in Hookstown,

Beaver County, Pennsylvania.

HELEN McDONALD

Helen was born and died in the early 1880s.

John William Sharon

John W. Sharon was born in 1854 and died 1882. He is buried with his parents in Mt. Pleasant in the Old Seceder Cemetery.

Elizabeth Sharon

Elizabeth, the second of this name, was born in 1857. I have nothing more.

WILLIAM SHARON of Jefferson County

At first it was a little confusing with several William Sharons living only two or three miles apart in Jefferson County, Ohio.

One William was my ancestor, married to Sarah Smiley. There was also an older William who died in Jefferson County, Ohio in 1799.

The elder William Sharron was the son of James and Elizabeth Sharron and his life has been detailed in the last section. This section will cover the life and family of his son, William Sharon.

The senior William died and left his will in Jefferson County in 1799. His farm went to his son, this William Sharon. In the 1850 census William is listed as 62 years old and is listed as 68 years old in 1860. He was at least sixteen in 1799 in order to receive the farm and be the executor of his father's estate. With all this in mind he was probably born about 1783 which would place his birth in Tyrone Township, Pennsylvania. He lists Pennsylvania as his place of birth in the Ohio Census.

William Sharon was married twice. His first wife was Jane Richey and they were married on August 29, 1814. It would seem that all the children were a result of this first marriage. Jane died sometime before the mid 1830s.

He married his second wife, Esther Barcroft of Maryland, in Mount Pleasant, Jefferson County, Ohio on March 3, 1835.

According to Hanna's book on Harrison County, Esther was the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Barcroft. Her parents were from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania and the family came to Jefferson County, Ohio in 1835. William and Esther must have married very shortly afterwards.

This Sharon family is a difficult family to trace as I have not come across any descendants and only have very sketchy records. He may have had children early who then went their separate ways and I have no clues as to where to start looking. Hopefully I will stumble on something someday.

At any rate, what I know about the children of this William Sharon comes strictly from the 1850 and 1860 Ohio Census data.

Mary Ann Sharon

Mary Ann was born in 1822. She was single and living at home in the 1850 and 1860 census returns.

Sarah Sharon

Sarah was born in 1824 and was at home and single through the 1860 census.