Jane Cole Wintermote of Darke County, Ohio

WINTERMOTE

Obituary. Jane Cole was born in Washington township, Darke county, O., April 20, i817, and was the first white child born in the township, there being but four families living in the township at the time of her birth. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary C. Druley, in Boston, Wayne county, Ind., March 5, 1902, at the advanced age of 84 years, 10 months and 15 days. In the year 1834 she was married to Leonard Wintermote. She was the mother of three children, one son and two daughters. In September, 1839, the family removed to the far West, locating in Cedar county, Mo., where the husband died December 13th, of same year. The following spring she returned to Darke county, her former home, where she has since resided, of recent years making her home with her two daughters, Mrs. Mary C. Druley, of Boston, Ind., and Mrs. Marilda E. Lott, of Greenville.

She was a charter member of the Coletown Christian Church, retaining her membership in this church till the time of her death. She was the last of the class of charter members of the church of her choice to answer to the summons, "Come up higher." Her highest ambition was to be like her Master, ever going about doing good. Her home was a hospitable home, ever being open to the pioneer ministers of the Gospel, who here found a resting place from their arduous labors. It can be truthfully said of her that "she hath done what she could."

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Her last sickness was of short duration, she being stricken with apoplexy on Monday, March 3d, at about 2:30 p. m., and at 7:10 p. m. on Wednesday, March 5th, she closed her eyes to scenes of earth, to open them to behold the beauty of her eternal home.

She leaves three brothers, two daughters, thirteen grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren and a host of friends and relatives more remote, to mourn her departure. Funeral services were held in the Christian Church at Greenville, O., conducted by Rev. Henry Crampton, after which the re-

This obituary was found in the Wintermote files at the Garst Museum in Darke County, Ohio. The name and the date of publication are unknown.

Jane, born in 1817 to Samuel Cole and Mary Elston, is identified as "the first white child born in Washington township", Darke County, Ohio. According to Elston family history, Leonard Wintermute (Wintermote), a farmer from Wantage, Sussex County, NJ, married Elizabeth Kimber, born in Unionville, NY. Leonard was the son of John Wintermute and Appolonia Westfall. Elizabeth died on July 27, 1834 at the age of 34 in Darke County, Ohio and is buried in the Sharpeye Cemetery in Darke County. Six months later, Leonard, a 40year-old widower with nine children, married 17year-old Jane Cole of Darke County, Ohio. Leonard had three more children with Jane before he died five years later in 1839 in Missouri. Jane never remarried. In the U.S. census records of 1860 and 1870 for Greenville Township, Darke County, Ohio, Jane was living with daughter Mary and her family. In the U.S. census of 1900, she was living in Indiana with Mary and Mary's third husband, Dennis Druly. (Sources: Elston, James Strode. The Elston Family in America. Rutland, VT: The Tuttle Publishing Company, Inc. p. 212; The Tombstone Photo Project, available through the Garst Museum, Darke Co OH; "Joseph Cole." A Biographical History of Darke County, Ohio. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1900; U.S. Census records of 1860, 1870 and 1900.)