

## Mary Cole Wintermote (1835-1914) of Darke County, Ohio

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OBITUARY—WINTERMOTE.  
1914

Mary Cole Wintermote was born near Sharpeye, Darke county, Ohio, October 19, 1833, and died at the home of her son, Charles C. Hoover, at Albia, Iowa, August 7, 1914, aged 78 years, 9 months, and 13 days. She was one of ten children, all of whom have passed on before except two, Mrs. Matilda E. Lott and Mrs. Julia Kerschner, of Iowa. She was married to Ferdinand Hoover May 1, 1856. Three children were born to them, two of whom died in infancy, William A. Hoover, of Gibson City, Illinois, surviving. In August, 1866, she was married to John C. Hoover. Two children were the result of this union, namely, Charles C. of Albia, Iowa, and John Lewis, of Shelbyville, Ill. She was again married in 1880, this time to Dennis Druley, of Boston, Ind., who preceded her in death October 5, 1912. After his death she spent her time with her children in the west.

She was a member of the Christian Church at Coletown from childhood, and what was better, she was a devoted Christian woman, and was in constant spiritual contact with God and Christ. After her marriage to Brother Druley, she became a charter member of the Christian Church at Boston, Wayne county, Ind., where she retained her membership until death.

She leaves one sister, three sons, one step-grandson, Carner N. Druley, whom she raised from infancy, seven grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and many other relatives and a host of friends who sincerely mourn her death.

Her body, accompanied by her three sons, was brought to Greenville, Ohio, and taken to the home of her nephew, Rev. H. L. Lott, at 718 Central Avenue. Funeral services were held in the First Christian Church of Greenville, Ohio, conducted by Rev. C. W. Heoffer, of Richmond, Ind., assisted by Rev. Frankie I. Keys, of Winchester, Ind., and Rev. H. L. Lott of Greenville, O. The remains were buried in the Sharpeye cemetery.

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

Mary Cole Wintermote (Wintermute), daughter of Leonard Wintermote, Jr. and Jane Cole, was born on October 19, 1835 in Darke County, Ohio. She married Ferdinand Hoover on May 1, 1856 in Darke County, when she was 21.

In the U. S. census of 1860 for Greenville Township, Darke County, OH, Mary is listed as living with Ferdinand. Her age is given as 24. Mary's mother and grandfather live with them.

In September of 1863, Mary was widowed (at the age of 28) when Ferdinand was killed in the Civil War battle of Chickamauga in Georgia. According to the U.S. census records of 1860 and 1870 for Greenville Township, Darke County, Ohio and local cemetery records, Mary and Ferdinand had three or four children, of whom only one (William Hoover of Gibson City) survived, In the 1860 census, a son John, age three, is listed along with his parents. He is not mentioned in the 1870 census. William was born in 1861. Two other children of Mary and Ferdinand died young and are buried in the family plot in Sharpeye Cemetery, Washington Township. They are Leonard W. who died March 2, 1861 at 1 year, 6 months, and Henry J. who died October 28, 1866 at 2 years and 7 months. (Curiously, Leonard is not listed in the 1860 census and he would have been an infant at the time.)

The application by Mary C. Hoover for widow's pension states that Ferdinand Hoover was a corporal with Company G, 40th Ohio Volunteers and that she was entitled to receive pay at the rate of \$8 per month, to commence on the 20th day of September 1863, and was to continue during life, unless she remarried, in which case it was no longer payable after the date of such marriage.

In spite of the terms of the pension, Mary married John Hoover three years later, in 1866. Although John had the

same surname as Mary's first husband, they were not brothers, as some descendants have believed. John was born in Ohio and was the son of David and Ann Hoover. (Source: Information from Cole Family notes, as recorded by James Strode Elston in *The Elston Family in America*, Rutland, VT: The Tuttle Publishing Co, Inc. 1942. p. 217). The U. S. census of 1850 for Darke County, Ohio lists David and Ann Hoover, along with six children, including John, age 15. Apparently, Mary's second husband also served in the Civil War. There is a John C Hoover, age 25, listed as a first sergeant with Company E, 40th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (Source: Darke County Ohio Genweb site, Civil War Memorial, Company E transcribed by Wally Garchow and downloaded August, 2007.) John C. Hoover is listed in another record of the Fortieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry (pub. unknown), along with the comment that he was wounded September 20, 1863 in the battle of Chickamauga, GA (in the same battle and on the same day that Ferdinand was killed) and transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps in December of 1863.

By the age of 33, Mary Cole Wintermote had been widowed twice. John died in 1868, two years after marrying Mary. Perhaps John's death so soon after the ending of the Civil War was in some way related to his war service. Mary and John had two children. In the U. S. census of 1870 for Darke County, Ohio, Mary C. Huber (34) is living with her mother Jane Wintermot (53) and 3 children: William (9), Charles (3) and John (1).

Mary married her third husband, Dennis Druly, in 1880, after her children were mostly grown. According to descendant, Julie Middleton Owens, Mary Druly lived long enough to hold her great-grandchild William Samuel Middleton in her arms. She died on August 7, 1914, at the age of 78.

Mary G Druley is buried in the family plot in the Sharpeye Cemetery in Washington Township of Darke County, Ohio, with other Cole family members. In the cemetery inscriptions, Mary's date of birth is given as 19 Oct 1835 and death as 6 Aug 1914. (Source: Darke Co. Ohio Cemetery Inscriptions, Vol. 5 by Anita Short and Ruth Bowers) Mary's obituary lists date of birth as October 19, 1833; however, the date 1835 on her tombstone appears to be more accurate, as it fits with census data. Jane, Mary's mother, is also buried in this family plot.

Mary's application for a Widow's Pension, based on the Civil War service of her husband Ferdinand Hoover, is on the following page.

H ARMY—WIDOW OR DEPENDENT MOTHER. H

The pledging or transferring of a pension, or of a pension certificate, or advancing money on vouchers, is prohibited, and the pension certificate must be shown by the pensioner to the magistrate. Vouchers must be executed on or after the day to which payment is claimed, and if the power of attorney is not presented within three months, a new one will be required. Erasures and interlinations must be specifically noted. The official character of a commissioner of deeds must be certified to; also, that of a notary public (although using a regular seal) whenever required by a pension agent, (Form N.) Vouchers executed before a U. S. Consul, or having his certificate of the official character of a foreign magistrate, are sufficient. Death or remarriage of a widow or mother terminates a pension, and the arrears due at the date of either are immediately payable on surrendering the pension certificate. When a widow or mother dies, the arrears are payable to her loyal children. When no child, the arrears should be paid to an administrator, with proof that he is properly interested, or collects them at the request of the heirs. If an army pension remain unclaimed fourteen months, application must be made to the Third Auditor, with the usual vouchers. A pension is no part of the assets of the estate of a pensioner or liable for his debts. If a pensioner die prior to date of his or her pension certificate, no payment will be made, except in particular cases of invalids provided for by acts of June 6 and July 25, 1866 Christian names in signatures must be written out in full.

Be it known, That I, Mary C Hoover, do solemnly swear that I am the identical person named in an original pension certificate in my possession, which certifies: No.         . That under act of July, 1862, Mary C Hoover, widow of Ferdinand G Hoover who was a Capt Co G 40<sup>th</sup> Ohio Tols in the service of the United States, is entitled to receive pay at the rate of 8 dollars per month, to commence on the 20 day of Sep, 1868, and to continue during life, unless she shall again marry; in which case it is no longer payable after the date of such marriage \*

Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of Jan, 1865, and signed by J. Allsken Secretary of the Interior, and by J. S. Baugh Commissioner of Pensions.

That I have resided in         , (No.          Street,) in the County of         , State of         , for          years past; and previous thereto in         ; and that I have not intermarried †

ALSO, I do hereby constitute and appoint †          my true and lawful attorney, for me and in my name to receive from the agent of the United States for paying pensions in Ohio, State of Ohio, my pension from the 1 day of Mar, 1868, to the 1 day of Sept, 1868. Witness my hand and seal, this          day of         , 1868.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of— 

Post Office address         

STATE OF Ohio, COUNTY OF         , ss:

Be it known, That on the          day of         , 1868, personally appeared before me the above-named Mary C Hoover, and exhibited her certificate, dated Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1865, and made oath, in due form of law, to the truth of the foregoing statement subscribed by her, and acknowledged the above power of attorney to be her free act and deed.

(Adding his official character.)