

MARTIN, ALBERT

Albert MARTIN, a veteran of the Civil war and for many years one of the best known residents of Penn township, who died at his home on the old ALLEN farm on rural mail route No. 2 out of Pennville, in that township, in the fall of 1902 and whose widow is still living there, was a "Buckeye" by birth but had been a resident of this county for nearly forty years prior to his death and had a wide acquaintance hereabout. Mr. MARTIN was born in Harrison county, Ohio, December 14, 1840, and was a son of John and Harriet MARTIN, both of whom also were born in Ohio, members of pioneer families in the "Buckeye" state. Reared in Harrison county, Ohio, Albert MARTIN was living there when the Civil war broke out. He enlisted his services in behalf of the cause of the Union and went to the front as a soldier with the 126th regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, with which command he served for nearly two years or until honorably discharged on account of physical disability. In 1866 he came over into Indiana and located in Penn township, this county, where he presently was married. After his marriage he established his home on the old Allen farm in Penn township and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on October 14, 1902. Since the death of her husband Mrs. MARTIN has continued to make her home on the farm, where she and her family are very comfortably situated.

Mrs. MARTIN was born in this county, Mary Emily ALLEN and is a daughter of William and Eunice (BROWN) ALLEN, the latter of whom was born in Logan county, Ohio. William ALLEN also was an Ohioan by birth, born in Belmont county, and was about sixteen years of age when he came to Indiana with his parents, Moses ALLEN and wife, in 1839, the family settling in Jay county. Moses ALLEN bought the farm on which his granddaughter, Mrs. MARTIN, is now living and established his home there, becoming one of the active and influential pioneers of that neighborhood. Counting Mrs. MARTIN's grandchildren resident on the farm, there thus have been five generations of the Allen's resident there. William ALLEN grew to manhood on that pioneer farm and after his marriage established his home there, becoming- the owner of the original quarter section of the place which had been entered from the Government by his father, and there he spent the remainder of his life, one of the useful and forceful members of that prosperous and progressive community. He and his wife had three children, Mrs. MARTIN and her two brothers, William Roscoe and Horton ALLEN.

To Albert and Mary Emily (ALLEN) MARTIN were born six children. Harriet, Guy, Roscoe, Gertrude, Fleming and Mary, all of whom are living save Fleming, who died November 18, 1917. He married Ivy McCOMMISH, and at his death left his widow and three children, Edward, Albert and Lloyd. Harriet MARTIN married John MURPHY and has four children, Helen, Marian, Julia and Catherine MURPHY. Marian Murphy married Floyd ROBERTSON and has one child, a daughter, Roberta Jean ROBERTSON, thus bringing to Mrs. MARTIN the distinction of being a great-grandmother. Guy MARTIN married Estella BAILEY and has five children, Stacey, Allen, Richard, Bruce

and William. Roscoe MARTIN married Media SAUNDERS and has five children, Violet, Wesley, Ivan, Freda and Victor. Gertrude MARTIN married William BETZ and has four children, Naomi, Thair, Wilmina and Mary Louise BETZ. Mary MARTIN married Victor WITTER and has two children, Emily and Margaret WITTER.

Mrs. MARTIN is a birthright member of the Friends Meeting at Pennville. Her husband was formerly clerk of the Monthly Meeting and for years had been a teacher in the Sunday school. He was a Republican and ever gave a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs. Mrs. MARTIN's grandfather, Moses ALLEN, was one of the active agents of the "underground railroad" in the days before the war when runaway slaves were being assisted by the Quakers on their way to freedom in Canada.

SOURCE: Milton T. Jay, M.D., History of Jay County Indiana, Historical Publishing Co., Indpls. 1922, Vol. II, pp.295-296. Transcribed by Eloine Chesnut.