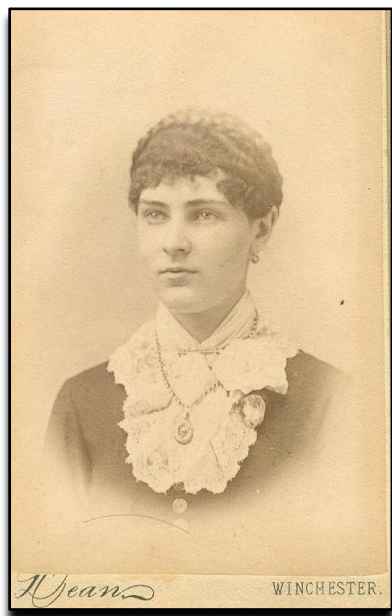


Mary Cole Wintermote (1835-1914) of Darke County, Ohio

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*Mary Cole Wintermote – date and
photographer unknown*

Mary Cole Wintermote (Wintermute), daughter of Leonard Wintermote, Jr. and Jane Cole, was born on October 19, 1835, in Darke County, Ohio. Mary's mother is considered the first non-indigenous child born in Darke County.

Mary's grandfather was Samuel Cole, Jr., a prominent farmer and one of the first individuals of European descent to settle in Darke County, Ohio. In 1817, Samuel, along with his wife Mary Elston, moved from Sussex County, New Jersey when he secured a land claim in Washington Township, Darke County. Samuel conducted the first school in the township, was township clerk in 1823, and was also the first Justice of the Peace.

Mary's maternal family line can be traced back to Barent Jacobsen Cool (also spelled Kool), an employee of the Dutch West India Company, and one of the first emigrants from Holland to settle in New Amsterdam (now New York City) in the mid-seventeenth century.

On May 1, 1856, and just short of her 21st birthday, Mary wed 22-year-old Ferdinand Hoover. The young man was an immigrant from Nagold, Württemberg, Germany who had come to Darke County with his parents and siblings about 1847. His grandparents and four uncles with their families had also immigrated and settled on farms in Darke County about the same time.

Mary and Ferdinand settled on a farm and had three boys over the span of five years. Two died as young children. John Henry the eldest, was born about 1857 and died October 28, 1866. Leonard, the second child, was born about 1859 and died March 2, 1861. William A. Hoover, their third child, was born on January 7, 1861. He was the only child of Ferdinand and Mary to survive infancy.

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. A son John H (Henry), age three, is listed along with his parents. Their infant child Leonard is not listed in this census. Mary's mother and grandfather live with them.

On October 7, 1861, Ferdinand enlisted in the Union Army in the Civil War. He spent nearly two years in service. Sadly, he died on September 20, 1863, in the fierce fighting of the Civil War battle at Chickamauga in northern Georgia. Mary was widowed at the age of 28 with two young children to raise.

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.

On September 13, 1866, Mary forfeited the pension when she married Ferdinand's brother, John C. Hoover, who had also served as a corporal with Company G, 40th Infantry Regiment of Ohio (the same company and regiment as Ferdinand) and had been wounded at the Battle of Chickamauga.

John and Mary had two children: Charles George, born in March of 1867, and John Louis, born March 18, 1869. Unfortunately, John and Mary's life together was short. John C. Hoover died two years later, on the day before Christmas of 1868, perhaps of wounds sustained in battle. Mary was again a bereaved widow with three children under the age of eight to raise.

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 Druley in 1880, after her children were mostly grown. According to descendant, Julie Middleton Owens, Mary Druley 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 Druley is buried in the family plot in the Sharpeye Cemetery in Washington Township of Darke County, Ohio, with other Cole family members.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

William A. Hoover, born on January 7, 1861, the surviving son of Ferdinand and Mary, became a dentist and married Laura Ellen Howver from Mansfield, Illinois in 1888. Laura Ellen was the daughter of George Howver, a Confederate soldier from Singers Glen, Virginia, who had moved north with his wife Sarah Paulsel and their children after the war. William, generally known as Doc Hoover, and Laura Ellen settled in Gibson City, Ford County, Illinois.

Information on Mary's grandfather, Samuel Cole, Jr. comes from the following sources. "Joseph Cole", A Biographical History of Darke County, Ohio. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Co., 1900.)

Beers, W. H. The History of Darke County, Ohio. Chicago: W.H. Beers & Co. 1880. Pg 753.

Samuel Cole is listed in the 1825 Census of Darke County, which listed only males over 31. (Source: Wilson, Frazier. History of Darke County Ohio, Vol 1. Reprinted by the Darke County Genealogical Society 1997. pp 161-163.)

Discrepancies in Mary Cole's age: Mary G Druley is listed as buried in the family plot with other Cole family members. In the cemetery inscriptions, Mary's date of birth is given as 19 Oct 1835

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.

and death as 6 Aug 1914. 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.

The two children of Mary and Ferdinand who died young 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." This age at death is incorrect. Henry would have been about 8 or 9 years old. Curiously, Leonard is not listed in the 1860 census, and he would have been an infant at the time.

Sources of information for Ferdinand Hoover: Roster of Ohio Troops, Fortieth Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry (p 154); U.S. Census records of 1850 and 1860 for Greenville Township, Darke Co., OH; Marriage record, Darke Co. Courthouse; Pension application (online at Fold 3 Military Records) and obituary for Mary Cole Wintermute; Mary's application for a Widow's Pension, based on the Civil War service of her husband Ferdinand Hoover, is at the end of this article.

Additional information on Mary Cole Wintermote's second husband: John C Hoover, age 25, is listed as a first sergeant with Company E, 40th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (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. John is also mentioned in unpublished letters written by his brother Ferdinand to Mary while Ferdinand was serving in the Union Army (some fifty letters generously shared by Julie Owens, another descendant of Ferdinand Hoover).

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.

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 interlineations 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 40th 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 23rd day of Jan, 1868, and signed by J. Pillsbury Secretary of the Interior, and by J. B. 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 23rd, 1868, 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.)