

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Sarah Swartz, daughter of **John Swartz** and **Elizabeth Ohlweiler**, was born on 27 Sep 1805 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, died on 30 Jun 1878 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, and was buried in New Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery, Watson, Clark, Indiana.¹ {FSID: LQXX-Q32}

Sarah married **John Fry**, son of **Abraham Fry** and **Mary C. Smyser**, on 18 Dec 1823 in Clark County, Indiana.² John was born on 11 Aug 1801 in Kentucky, died on 28 May 1886 in Clark County, Indiana, and was buried in New Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery, Watson, Clark, Indiana.³ {FSID: KGJZ-T6V}

They had 12 children: **William Smyser**, **Mary Elizabeth**, **Nancy**, **Abraham**, **Martha Ann**, **John Franklin**, **George Thomas**, **Sarah Elizabeth**, **Barbara Ann**, **Jacob S.**, **Emily Sophia**, and **Louisa Rebecca**.⁴

John Fry moved to Clark County around 1822 and over his long life became well-known for his piety, success as a farmer, and a wide network of family connections. John's younger sister Nancy married Sarah's brother George Swartz shortly before Sarah and John's wedding.⁵ John's other sister Sarah (Sally) Fry married Rev. Peter Henry Bottorff, the brother-in-law of Sarah Swartz's sister Anna Swartz.⁶

As a young man, John inherited 27 acres in Goose Creek, Jefferson County, Kentucky from his father, as well as two enslaved men, Tom and Lewis.⁷ John and Sarah sold his father's land (in a group sale that included George

¹ Elise Swartz Eberhart, *Three Swartz/Schwartz men of Floyd and Clark County, Indiana* (Indianapolis, Indiana: Ye Olde Genealogie Shoppe, p. 286. *This source is full transcribed original records but also factual errors and obvious copying/typing errors, especially in the generations after John Schwartz and Elizabeth Oldweiler. It also appears to be the foundation for several other Swartz genealogies. It should be used with caution and all statements checked against original records where possible. Find A Grave, Sarah Eliza Schwartz Fry, memorial number 72271745. Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, A: 204, Administrators of John Schwartz, deceased; FHL microfilm 1,415,965, item 1. See also [Descendants of John Swartz/Schwartz and Elizabeth Ohlweiler](#), a public ancestry tree maintained by Heather McLeland-Wieser.*

² Clark, Indiana, Marriage Records, 1808 - 1951, C: 90, Fry-Schwartz, 1823; FHL microfilm 1415852 DGS 4476596 image 54; *The marriage return copied onto the opposing page (p 91) is clearly for a different couple F. T. McLintock and Elizabeth Brothers and the name of the officiant is also different. However, the date is the same and the couple's names are the same as in the original record, so an error was made in creating this copy.*

³ *Find A Grave*, digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 27 May 2021), John Fry, memorial number 72271635; see notes on burial; Jefferson, Kentucky, Probate Settlement Books, real estate partition of the estate of Abraham Fry, bk 4 pg 197-200; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org ; accessed 6 Jan 2025) DGS 112435418, image 20+; "Funeral of John Fry," *The Daily Evening News*, 31 May 1886, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 May 2021.)

⁴ "Funeral of John Fry," *The Daily Evening News*, 31 May 1886, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 May 2021); *Also for Nancy Fry*, Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 272 (1910), Nancy Lentz; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com: accessed 5 Jan 2025); *for Abraham Fry*, Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 119 (1912), Abraham Fry; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com: accessed 5 Jan 2025); *for Martha Ann Fry*, Floyd, Indiana, death certificate no. 27202 (1924), Martha A. Boyer; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Feb 2025); *for John Franklin Fry*, Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 118 (1916), John F. Fry; "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," digital image, Ancestry, (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025); *for George Thomas Fry*, Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947 (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) George T. Fry (1921); *for Sarah Elizabeth Fry*, Washington, Indiana death certificate no 10748 (1925) Sarah Eliza Fry Heines(sic); "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," digital image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Feb 2025); *for Emma Sophia Fry*, Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 81 (1915), Emma S. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Mar 2025); *for Louisa Rebecca Fry*, Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 37127 (1925), Louisa R. Robertson; "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," digital image, Ancestry, (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Mar 2025).

⁵ Clark, Indiana, Marriage Records, 1808 - 1951, A: 30, Schwartz-Fry, 1823; FHL microfilm 1,415,852, item 1.

⁶ Jefferson, Kentucky, Marriage Records 1781-1951, Bottorff-Fry, 3 June 1816; FHL microfilm 817,861; *Peter Bottorff and his surety Abram Fry post bond for the marriage. Abraham Fry gives consent for the marriage of his daughter Sally Fry.*

⁷ Jefferson, Kentucky, Probate Settlement Books, "division of the Slaves of Abraham Fry", bk 4 pg 196-1970, DGS 112435418, image 17+; digital images, FamilySearch(www.familysearch.org : accessed 15 Nov 2024).

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

and Nancy (Fry) Swartz, Peter and Sally (Fry) Bottorff, and John's four younger siblings) on 9 February 1827, although the sale was not recorded until 1832.⁸ John "freed" the enslaved man Thomas by an affidavit recorded on 18 Nov 1834, in Clark County, Indiana, stating that Thomas was 22 years of age as of 14 Feb 1834 and had been born the slave of Abraham Fry. The affidavit states both Thomas and John believe that "by his having been removed to Clark County, Indiana from Jefferson County, Kentucky," he is entitled to his freedom.⁹

Shortly after Sarah and John married, her father died. The newlyweds appear in John Swartz's estate records, where they inherited lot #7 (the children inherited 18.74 acre lots each) in the partition of the estate in June 1825.¹⁰ In August 1826, Samuel and Anna Swartz Bottorff sold John her portion of the estate's land and in December 1826 George Swartz and his wife sold his portion to John.¹¹ In 1832, George and Nancy Fry Swartz and John and Sarah Swartz Fry engaged in a swap of portions of the inherited land.¹² Finally, in 1834, John and Sarah sold all the lots from the estate they then owned to Sarah's brother Jacob.¹³

Meanwhile, John and Sarah settled very close by, on 150 acres in Illinois Grant survey, that they had purchased from John's sister Sally and her husband Peter Bottorff.¹⁴ There, surrounded by both of their extended families, they raised their children and created a farm noted for its productivity, tidiness, and prosperity.

John was actively engaged in the local land market, buying and selling town lots in Jeffersonville, which he seems to have regarded as investments. Most of his town lot purchases were sold within 10 years after purchase.¹⁵ Many of his transactions involved family, buying from brothers-in-law, and selling to his sons or other relatives. Indiana sales to their four sons include an 1851 sale to William Smyser, 1856 sale to Abraham, 1858 sale to George Thomas and an 1866 sale to John Franklin. All 4 sales were below market rate and all involved land near the home farm.¹⁶ Youngest son, Jacob S. apparently was given cash rather than land as he purchased his nearby farm, from one of his cousins in 1869.¹⁷ John also bought land in Iowa from the Chariton,

⁸ Jefferson, Kentucky, Commissioners' Deed Book Circuit Court, 4: 559-565 (DGS 8572547, images 308+), Heirs of Abraham Fry to Elias Dorsey, 16 March 1839; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 15 Nov 2024); sale date 9 Feb 1827. *A lengthy court case appears to have followed original sale which was not immediately recorded.*

⁹ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 29: 122, John Fry frees Thomas, 1834; FHL microfilm 1428600 DGS 7857088, item 2. *There does not appear to be a similar affidavit for Lewis or any record of his death. Indiana was not a slave state, although the inhabitants of Southern Indiana were accustomed to dealing with slave owners and frequently returned escaped slaves to their masters. Black former slaves occasionally signed labor contracts with their former enslavers. I cannot find a manumission document, labor contract, or sale record for Lewis. See: Richard F. Nation, *At Home in the Hoosier Hills: Agriculture, Politics, and Religion in Southern Indiana, 1810-1870* (Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2005), p. 187-193.*

¹⁰ Indiana, Clark County, Civil Court Partition; Estate of John Schwartz dec'd, Partition of land, vol 1 pg 301-304, DGS 8054046 images 151+.

¹¹ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, Bottorff Samuel and wife to John Fry, 26: 160. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, Swartz George and wife to John Fry, 25: 211.

¹² Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, Swartz George and wife to John Fry, 29: 122

¹³ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, Fry John and wife to Jacob Swartz, 29: 273.

¹⁴ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 24: 325+, Bottorff, Peter and wife to John Fry, 1826; bk 24 pg 326, FHL microfilm 1428559 item 1, DGS 7857087 image 736.

¹⁵ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 33: 242 & 243, Edward and Henrietta Ames to John Fry, 1839; FHL microfilm 1428612 DGS 7857739 image 433 & 434, item 3; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 36: 404 & 405, Eli and Susannah McCalley to John Fry, 5 April 1845; FHL microfilm 1428614 DGS 7857090, item 1; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 49: 143, John Fry and wife to William Taylor, 1859; FHL microfilm 1,428,620, item 1.

¹⁶ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 41: 662, John and Sarah Fry to William S. Fry, 28 Nov 1855; FHL microfilm 1,428,616, item 1. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 45: 224, John Fry and wife to Abraham, 4 June 1856; FHL microfilm 1,428,618, item 2. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 57: 101, John and Sarah Fry to John F. Fry, 1 Nov 1866; FHL microfilm 1428623 DGS 785099, item 3. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 58: 552, John Fry and wife to George T. Fry, 18 Jan 1869; FHL microfilm 1,428,624, item 1.

¹⁷ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 58: 553, John F. Schwartz and wife Prudence E. to Jacob S. Fry, 1869; FHL microfilm 1,428,624, item 1.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Iowa office of the General Land Office in 1856 and perhaps transferred that land to their eldest son William when he moved his family to Mt Ayr, Ringgold County, Iowa in 1873.¹⁸

John and Sarah were active all their lives in the New Chapel Methodist Church. John was a trustee of the New Chapel Methodist Church, in 1831 and 1833 and again between Jan 1844 and 1848. He served as election judge and recording secretary during his second term. The couple's support of the church continued throughout their lives, although as they grew older that support was primarily financial rather than actively volunteering. They subscribed 25 cents to a fund for new furnishings in 1856, committed to paying \$1 a year toward the salary of the Sexton in 1872, and subscribed \$10 for a new cemetery fence for the church cemetery in 1874.¹⁹ Unlike most of Sarah's brothers, John did not preach or evangelize.

Census records indicate that John and Sarah lived in "Jeffersonville" in 1830, but this is probably an error as the neighbors are the same as their neighbors between 1840-1870 when they are listed in Utica Township, where their home and farm were located.²⁰ They remained on the farm in Utica Township, a short walk from many family members and their church, until their health deteriorated severely in the mid-1870s.

When the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, in 1873, they were both in good health and all their children were living. The short write-up on the anniversary in the Jeffersonville National Democrat indicated they "made no fuss about it."²¹

By 1876, however, the elderly couple were experiencing major health problems, regularly reported in the local papers. John was stricken by "paralysis" and "softening of the brain" (which was probably a stroke) in early December 1876 and was not expected to live.²² Unexpectedly by Mar 1877, he was slowly recovering, although he never regained full capacity.²³ In October 1877, the home farm was rented to Sarah's nephew George Wiley Swartz.²⁴ John and Sarah appear to have moved in with their one of their children, perhaps daughter Nancy Fry Lentz or son George.²⁵ On October 23, 1877, John was declared incapable of managing his affairs and his sons

¹⁸ Ringgold, Iowa, Original land entries, 1854-18821: 100, William S. Fry, 1858 Jan; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 1 Feb 2025.) *William and John appear to have purchased land in adjoining sections at the same time or nearly the same time in 1858. For John this must have been a speculative purchase as he and Sarah were already in mid-life and well established in Indiana.*

¹⁹ New Chapel Methodist Church, "Election of trustees," n. p.; Indiana Historical Society Library, Indianapolis; 1 reel of microfilm covers period 1811-1906. first item is Trustees minute book from 1811 - 1859. Loose papers cover 1842-1906. Book loaned to IHS by member of congregation, loose papers loaned to IHS by Church. Call number F-72. OCLC Number 10336162.

²⁰ 1830 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, Jeffersonville, p. 41, line 4, John Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2024: citing NARA microfilm M19, roll 28; 1840 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, none given, p. 280 (stamped), line 8, John Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M704, roll 75; 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 200, dwelling ?12, family 823, John Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138; 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 506, dwelling 107, family 107, John Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248; 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 605, dwelling 221, family 231, Fry, John; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303.

²¹ "Utica - Dec 17th - John Fry and Sarah Schwartz were married ...," *The National Democrat*, 18 Dec 1873, p. 3, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 May 2021.)

²² "About people - John Fry," *Jeffersonville News*, 1 Dec 1876, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com>); "Personal Points - John Fry," *Jeffersonville News*, 9 Dec 1879, p. 3, col. 3; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 22 Jan 2025.)

²³ "City News About People "Mr. and Mrs. John Fry" *Jeffersonville News*, 25 May 1878, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 22 Jan 2025,)

²⁴ "City News "Wiley Schwartz," *Jeffersonville News*, 23 Oct 1877, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 22 Jan 2025.)

²⁵ *The evidence is inconclusive. Guardianship records show payments to various sons for board and maintenance between 1877 and 1886, but newspaper accounts indicate John, at least, was living with daughter Nancy Lentz by 1880.*

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Abraham and Jacob were appointed as his guardians.²⁶ Sarah was not mentioned in the court proceedings, but her health had been poor for some time. She passed away quietly on June 30, 1878, at the age of 72, just 8 months after their move. Her obituary indicated she had “been an almost constant sufferer for nearly 30 years.”²⁷

John lingered for another 10 years. Guardianship records indicate he lived with various children after Sarah’s death and was probably living with his daughter Nancy Fry Lentz when he died.²⁸ His obituaries, in the Jeffersonville Evening News and the Louisville Courier, gave a detailed account of the funeral and a very brief account of his early life.²⁹ All the children were present at the funeral except sons William and George, who were living “in the West.” John was buried next to Sarah in the New Chapel Church cemetery.³⁰

Theirs appear to have been quiet fulfilling lives.

Children:

1. **William Smyser Fry** was born on 21 Dec 1826 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 3 Mar 1905 in Seattle, King County, Washington³¹, and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Mount Ayr, Ringgold, Iowa.³² {FSID: L7GH-BB1}

William married **Marinda Smith**, daughter of **John Cleghorn Smith** and **Catherine Prather**, on 27 Feb 1849 in Clark County, Indiana.³³ Marinda was born (calculated) on 1 Oct 1828 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 4 Dec

²⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365; O: 219 - 220; P: 112-115; S: 85 - 88 & 306-309; U: 444-448, FHL microfilm 1,415,970; 1415985 & 1414986. *These records are now searchable via the FamilySearch Full Text Experiment but are not accessible outside a Family History Center. This research was done prior to the Full Text Experiment and additional records may come to light because of this new capacity.*

²⁷ "Death of an old lady," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 1 July 1878, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2020); "Mrs. Sarah Fry, wife of John Fry sr. died Sunday," *The Courier-Journal*, 2 Jul 1878, p. 3, col. 3; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025.)

²⁸ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, "Final Settlement of Guardian Accounts for John Fry," U: 286-291. Specifically lists Nancy Lentz "caring for ward" and charges 2 amounts, probably pertaining to the year before and the first 6 months of 1886. Also mentions debts owed the estate by Andrew J. Crum, John McCulloch, John Fry jr., Jacob S. Fry, John R. Motsinger, Joseph Robinson (sic) and John W. Crum and nephew William S. Jacobs as well as rent from nephew George Wiley Swartz, Charges include several payments made to George F. Fry for boarding John fry sr. and Sarah Fry (before she died) as well as for the monument for Sarah. Also includes multiple payments to Dr. Bruner but does not state if these are for care of Sarah or John.

²⁹ "Old Resident of Utica Township Passes Away," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 9 Nov 1925, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025); "Mr. John Fry," *The Courier-Journal*, 30 May 1886, p. 7, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025); (www.newspapers.com ; accessed 2 Feb 2025): "Funeral of John Fry," *The Daily Evening News*, 31 May 1886, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 May 2021. For example: it mentioned that John and Sarah had 14 children, 12 of which were still living, but only 12 children have ever been identified in census, burial records and obituaries of their known children.

³⁰ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 27 May 2021), John Fry, memorial number 72271635; *The last number of the death year on the stone is a bit hard to read and most people say it is a 5 so they have a death date of 1885. But John Fry was under the guardianship of two of his sons from 1878 - 1886 when they began probate proceedings. The newspaper coverage of John's death and funeral was on 31 May 1886.*

³¹ *Find A Grave*, digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 30 May 2021), William S. Fry, memorial number 16773872; *birth date calculated from age at death as on tombstone*; "Death of William S. Fry," *Mount Ayr Record News*, 9 Mar 1905, p. 5, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2022.)

³² *Find A Grave*, William S. Fry, memorial number 16773872.

³³ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, F: 30, Fry-Smith, 189; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Aug 2024); for Marinda's parents see: Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, C: unpagged, Catherine Smith; FHL microfilm 1,415,966, item 1; Eli McCalley and Jacob Schwartz (sic) presented will for probate 13 Jul 1844; *brothers Thomas W. Prather and Isaac Prather executors and guardians of children, brother Isaac to oversee education of son William, her 3 named daughters to live with her mother if she is alive, daughters to be given a good "common English education."*

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

1902 in Mount Ayr, Ringgold, Iowa, and was buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Mount Ayr, Ringgold, Iowa.³⁴ {FSID: L1FG-XV2}

They had 8 children: **Charles Albert, John Otto, Sarah Katherine, Emily Marinda, Martha(died young), William Emmons, Ella Grace, and Elizabeth A.**³⁵

Shortly after their marriage William began purchasing farmland although he already owned a small amount of land according to the 1850 census.³⁶ He purchased part of lot 16 in the Illinois Grant survey from his parents in 1851, specifically part of lot 16 of the Illinois Grant.³⁷ While maintaining their residence in Clark County, William also began, to acquire land in Ringgold County, Iowa, adjoining land his father was purchasing at the same time, probably as speculation.³⁸ In April 1856, William purchased multiple parcels in Ringgold County, Iowa, through the General Land Office, including 239 acres in S1/2 NW of S1 T68 R31 and 200 acres in W1/2 NE S33 T9 R3. He continued acquiring Iowa property, purchasing 260 acres from Ephriam and Mary Cofer in August 1857 and receiving Patent 14535 in 1858.³⁹ Despite these extensive Iowa investments, the family remained in Indiana, appearing in the 1860 and 1870 censuses in Clark County.⁴⁰

³⁴ Find A Grave, (www.findagrave.com : accessed 30 May 2021), Marinda Smith Fry, memorial number 16773866.

³⁵ Ringgold, Iowa, death certificate no. 80-4 (1925), Chas. A. Fry; digital image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 24 Jan 2025); Ringgold, Iowa, death certificate no. 80-4 (1929), John O. Fry; digital image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 24 Jan 2025); ; California Department of Public Health Services, death certificate (1942), Sallie Katherine Fry; digital image, FamilySearch, "California, U.S., Death Index, 1940-1997," FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 24 Jan 2025); California Department of Public Health Services, death certificate 3397 (1930), Emily M. Struthers; digital image, FamilySearch, "California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1939," FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 24 Jan 2025); "U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925," database and images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 24 Jan 2025); 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 16 (506), dwelling 110, family 110, Martha Fry in household of William Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 30 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248; Certificate number 19975, application of William Emmons Fry; NARA; Washington D.C; NARA Series: Passport Applications, January 2, 1906 - March 31, 1925; Roll #: 1569; Volume #: Roll 1569 - Certificates: 19876-20249, 15 Apr 1921-16 Apr 1921; "Ella G. Hickman," Utah, U.S., Death and Military Death Certificates, 1904-1961 digital image, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com ; accessed 24 Jan 2025) ID: 1,9174::0, State file No. 15, handwritten number 255; Delta, Millard County UT. Department of Health, Office of Vital Records and Statistics. Death Certificates, 1904-1961; Series 81448. Utah State Archives, Salt Lake City, Utah.

³⁶ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 192, dwelling ?, family 720, Wm S. Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 30 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138.

³⁷ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 41: 662, John and Sarah Fry to William S. Fry, 28 Nov 1851; FHL microfilm 1,428,616, item 1.

³⁸ See footnote 18

³⁹ Ringgold, Iowa, Original land entries, 1854-18821: 100, William S. Fry, 1858 Jan; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 1 Feb 2025.) *In this record the sale date is 29 Apr 1856 but unlike other records of William's from this same time, the Patent date is 15 Jan 1858; See GLO records for several additional parcels purchased around this time from the Chariton, Iowa General Land Office;* Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, B: 65, Ephriam and Mary Cofer to William S. Fry, 28 Aug 1957; FHL microfilm Film 1705374 DGS 8311955, item 1; Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, Q: 161, Patent 14535 to William S. Fry, 17 Oct 1874; FHL microfilm Film 1705379 DGS 8311982 image 638, item 3; Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, D: 579, Isaac B. and Mary Talmadge to William S. Fry, 5 Nov 1858; FHL microfilm 1705374 item 3 DGS 8311977 image 300.

⁴⁰ 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 16 (506), dwelling 110, family 110, William Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 30 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248; 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 609, dwelling 287, family 301, Fry William F.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 30 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

William registered for the Civil War draft in 1863 in Utica, Clark County, Indiana.⁴¹ Shortly afterwards he and Marinda sold some of their Ringgold County, Iowa property to Edward Thompson and to Reason Moore.⁴² These appear to be lands farther away from the property that eventually became their home.

The couple eventually made the decision to move to Iowa and in January 1873 local newspapers reported their sale of the Indiana farm to brother-in-law John McCullough for \$18,500.⁴³ By December 1873, William was clearly settling in Ringgold County, serving on the Building Committee of Masonic Lodge 170 "Faith Lodge."⁴⁴

The Frys established themselves in Mount Ayr, Ringgold County, though they maintained connections with Indiana, making at least one family visit in July 1874.⁴⁵ The family's social life, travels and triumphs were regularly chronicled in the local newspapers.⁴⁶ William and Miranda continued their land speculations in Mount Ayr and the surrounding countryside, including town lot purchases and rural land acquisitions.⁴⁷ The 1880 agricultural census shows their farm to be one of the largest and most productive in Poe Township.⁴⁸ Their home served as a family gathering place, hosting at least one wedding in November 1886.⁴⁹ The couple's later years included several property transactions with their children, such as the 1894 sale of town lots to their daughter-in-law Sadie E. Fry, wife of John Otto Fry.⁵⁰

Marinda passed away on December 4, 1902, in Mount Ayr, about age 74. William survived her by a few years, dying on March 3, 1905, at age 78. Both were buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Mount Ayr.⁵¹ Their children eventually spread across the country from Iowa to California, Utah and Washington.

⁴¹ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 Feb 2024) ID: 1,1666::0, William S. Fry, Congressional Dist. 2, Class 2, Nm-65, entry 172; Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. NARA.

⁴² Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, E: 64, William S. and Marinda Fry to Edward Thompson, May 1864; FHL microfilm 1705375 item 2 DGS 8311978 image 582; Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, L: 48, William S. and Marinda Fry to Reason Moore, Aug 1868; FHL microfilm 1705378 item 3 DGS 8311981 image 593.

⁴³ "Utica Township - William Fry," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 27 Jan 1873, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 30 May 2021); sells farm to John McCulloch in preparation for move to Iowa.

⁴⁴ Ringgold, Iowa, Miscellaneous records, 1868-1911, A: 126 & 127, *Contract between Alexander S. Wiley and members of Building Committee*, Dec 1873; FHL microfilm 1,705,583, item 2.

⁴⁵ "Brevities - William S. Fry of Mt. Ayr, Iowa," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 30 July 1874, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 30 May 2021.)

⁴⁶ "Mr. W.S. Fry's family started east last Monday on a visit," *Mount Ayr Record News*, 3 Jun 1880, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025); "Another Golden Wedding," *Twice a Week News*, 28 Feb 1899, p. 2, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025); "Local News - Mr. and Mrs. Will E. Fry," *Twice a Week News*, 20 Apr 1900, p. 2, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025); "Two Fires," *Twice a Week News*, 31 Jul 1900, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025).

⁴⁷ Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, Town Lots deeds v C: 238, Morris and Allyn to William S. Fry and Peter Main, Aug 1880; FHL microfilm 1705256 Item 3 DGS 8311972 image 123; Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, Town lot deeds D: 137, William S. and Marinda Fry to J. S. Everett, 15 Apr 1886; FHL microfilm 1705257 item 2 DGS 8311973 image 194; Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, 5: 259, Thomas J. and Emily r. May to William S. Fry, 15 Mar 1888; FHL microfilm 1705396 item 2 DGS 8312062 image 35; and numerous others.

⁴⁸ 1880 U.S. census, Ringgold, Iowa, population schedule, Poe, enumeration district (ED) 201, p. 105B, dwelling 235, family 235, Fry, Wm. S.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 30 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 362.

⁴⁹ Iowa, Iowa, County Marriages, 1838-1934, 342: 80-1017, Hickman-Fry, 3 Nov 1886; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org : accessed 24 Jan 2025.)

⁵⁰ Ringgold, Iowa, Land records, 1855-1927, Town lot deeds F: 134, Marinda and William S. Fry to Sadie E. Fry, 1894; FHL microfilm 1705258 DGS 8311974 image 390.

⁵¹ "Death of Mrs. W.S. Fry," *Twice a Week news*, 5 Dec 1902, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025); "Death of William S. Fry," *Mount Ayr Record News*, 9 Mar 1905, p. 5, col. 1; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 4 Feb 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

2. **Mary Elizabeth Fry** was born on 6 Sep 1828 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, died on 10 Dec 1905 in Clark County, Indiana, and was buried in Union Cemetery, Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.⁵² {FSID: L4BC-D35}

Mary married **Andrew Jackson Crum** on 13 October 1853, in Clark County, Indiana.⁵³ Andrew was born on 2 January 1830 in Prather, Clark County, Indiana son of **William Spangler Crum** and **Mary Prather**. He died 2 April 1916 in Charlestown, Clark County, Indiana and was buried in the Union Cemetery, Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana.⁵⁴

They had eight children: **Oscar, Mary Frances, Sarah E., William A., John Fry, Abraham Lincoln, Benjamin Oren, Olive Blanche**.⁵⁵

Their marriage was first of 3 Crum sibling marriages into the Fry - Swartz network.⁵⁶ Mary E. Fry and Andrew J Crum were firmly rooted in Clark County throughout their lives, with consistent appearances in subsequent census records between 1860 and 1880,⁵⁷ documenting their growing family and established presence in the community.

During the Civil War, Andrew registered for the draft⁵⁸ but did not serve; given his age he probably would not have been drafted. He was actively involved in his community, serving as an appraiser of estates, running for

⁵² Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 106 (1905), Mary E. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025): *Find A Grave*, digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 13 Jan 2025), Mary Elizabeth Fry Crum, memorial number 46879363.

⁵³ Indiana, U.S., Marriage Certificates, 1960-2012, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 March 2025) Mary Fry - Andrew J Crum, 13 Oct 1853, Clark County, Indiana. Indiana State Board of Health. Marriage Certificates, 1958-2012. Microfilm. IARA, Indianapolis, Indiana.

⁵⁴ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 10927 (1916), A. J. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Feb 2025.) *Father is "William Crum" with no middle name*; *Find A Grave*, digital images (www.findagrave.com : accessed 25 Jan 2025), Andrew Jackson Crum, memorial number 46879339.

⁵⁵ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 79 (1912), Oscar Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 6 Feb 2025); *For Mary Frances and Sarah E. Crum see* Clark, Indiana, Wills book, L: 384, Crum, Andrew J.; FHL microfilm 1,415,965, item 2; Jefferson, Kentucky, death certificate no. 21268 (state file number) (1945), William A. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 25 Jan 2025); Jefferson, Arkansas, death certificate no. 3 (1944), John Fry Crum; digital image, "Arkansas, Death Certificates, 1914-1969," digital images Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 25 Jan 2025); *date of death - per certificate 6 Oct 1942 but certificate not issued until 8 Feb 1944 and signature of attending MD is dated 5 May 1943*: Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 31790 (1940), Abraham L. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Feb 2025): Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 31790 (1940), Abraham L.(sic) Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017"(www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Feb 2025): Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 18768 (1940), Mrs. Olive B. Baird; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 25 Jan 2025.)

⁵⁶ Clark, Indiana, Marriage Records, 1808 - 1951, G: 172, Crum-Schwartz, 1862; FHL microfilm 1,415,853, item 1; Clark, Indiana, Marriage Records, 1808 - 1951, J: 248, Crum-Fry, 1871; FHL microfilm 1,415,854, item 2.

⁵⁷ 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 6, dwelling 38, family 38, Andrew Crum; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jun 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248; 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 601, dwelling 162, family 169, Crumm, Andrew J.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jun 2021); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303; 1880 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, enumeration district (ED) 36, p. 282C, dwelling 266, family 271, Crum, Andrew J.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jun 2021); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 269.

⁵⁸ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 3 Mar 2025) ID: 1,1666::0, Andrew J Crum; Married; Age 33, famer, married born IN; residence Utica, Clark, Indiana, USA. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. NARA.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

township government and helping chose routes for new roads.⁵⁹ Mary Elizabeth was a quieter presence in the community, active in church and in the family network but rarely appearing in the official records. She and Andrew may have transferred to the Union Methodist Chapel sometime around their marriage as they do not appear in the extant records of the New Chapel Methodist Church where her family worshiped.⁶⁰ He does not appear to have been prominent in the affairs of the local Methodist chapels.

Andrew Jackson Crum maintained strong ties to the extended Fry family, particularly in relation to his father-in-law John Fry's affairs. He served as bondsman in the original bond for John Fry's guardianship proceedings. He renewed that bond twice and appears in the guardianship accounts in 1880 and 1884.⁶¹

In 1883, Mary and Andrew celebrated their 50th anniversary with a very large party that received a full write-up in the local newspaper.⁶² Sometime between 1884 and 1900 Andrew and Mary "adopted" a child, Lillie Eller.⁶³ The "adoption" may have been informal or a foster situation, as she is not mentioned in Mary's obituary, Andrew's will, or Andrew's obituary.⁶⁴

Mary watched her children grow to adulthood, marry and establish families, before her death on 10 December 1905, at age 77.⁶⁵

In 1910, Andrew was living in the household of son in law, China W. Baird.⁶⁶ However, on 23 December 1911 Andrew married Jane McNealy.⁶⁷ Jane was more than 50 years younger than Andrew, and at the time of the marriage she was his housekeeper.⁶⁸ They created a detailed prenuptial agreement that specified Jane would

⁵⁹ "Utica [News]," *The National Democrat*, 8 April 1880, p. 8, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 29 Mar 2025); "Clark County Farmers' Insurance annual meeting," *The National Democrat*, 15 Sept 1881, p. 5, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 29 Mar 2025); "Circuit Court [News]," *The National Democrat*, 25 June 1885, p. 4, col. 9; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 29 Mar 2025); "Utica [News]," *The National Democrat*, 10 Aug 1894, p. 1, col. 7; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 29 Mar 2025.)

⁶⁰ New Chapel Methodist Church, "Minutes of trustees and other business, 1811-1906" loose papers; Indiana Historical Society Library, Indianapolis, Indiana. *Neither Andrew nor Mary E. appear in the extant records of the New Chapel Church. The Union Chapel was located very near the original lands of Mathias Crum, Andrew's grandfather. Union Chapel was closed with the construction of the Federal Ammunition plant/depot in the 1940s and their records do not appear to exist in any publicly available repository. The Union Cemetery survived and is accessible by appointment with the Depot. Most of the visible stones are recorded on Find a Grave.*

⁶¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365; O: 219 - 220; P: 112-115; S: 85 - 88 & 306-309; U: 444-448, FHL microfilm 1,415,970; 1415985 & 1414986.

⁶² "Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. A.J. Crum of Prather," *The National Democrat*, 16 Oct 1903, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 29 Mar 2025.)

⁶³ 1900 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, enumeration district (ED) 20, sheet 15, p. B, dwelling 339, family 342, Crum, Andrew Jackson; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jun 2021); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 363.

⁶⁴ "Fourth of Big Family - Passes Away in person of Mrs. Mary Fry Crum wife of Jackson Crum," *The National Democrat*, 15 Dec 1905, p. 8, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 5 Jun 2021); "Will Probated - Children remembered in testament of A. J. Crum," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 5 Apr 1916, p. 1, col. 7; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 5 Jun 2021.)

⁶⁵ "Fourth of Big Family - Passes Away in person of Mrs. Mary Fry Crum wife of Jackson Crum," *The National Democrat*, 15 Dec 1905, p. 8, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 5 Jun 2021.) *Her obituary mentions 22 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild but provides very little information on her life except for her lifelong membership in the Methodist Church and her "kindly disposition."*

⁶⁶ 1910 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, enumeration district (ED) 23, sheet 5, p. A, dwelling 105, family 105, Baird, China W.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jun 2021); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 342.

⁶⁷ Scott, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, 9: 70, Crum-McNeeley, 1911; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 31 Mar 2025.)

⁶⁸ "Andrew Jackson Crum, 81, years old...", *Charlestown Hoosier Record*, 5 Jan 1912, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 31 Mar 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

receive \$2,000 upon the marriage and that neither party would inherit from the other upon death and his 1906 will remained in effect.⁶⁹

Andrew died on April 2, 1916, at the age of 86.⁷⁰ His death received considerable attention, with obituaries appearing in both local papers and in "The Courier-Journal" of Louisville, Kentucky, which noted him as an "Aged Farmer" who died of grip after a long illness.⁷¹ His will was probated in 1916, with James E. Taggart named as executor, though William A. Crum was ultimately appointed administrator when Taggart waived his right.⁷² Andrew was buried alongside his first wife in Union Cemetery.⁷³

3. **Nancy Fry** was born on 31 May 1830 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, and died on 10 Sep 1910 in Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.⁷⁴ {FSID: LRQG-XXJ}

Nancy married **Jacob Lentz**, son of John Lentz and Catharine Howk, on 19 Sep 1871 in Indiana.⁷⁵ Jacob was born on 13 May 1807 in Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, died on 17 Dec 1883 in Clark County, Indiana, and was buried in Utica, Clark, Indiana.⁷⁶ {FSID: LHVM-L5J}

They had one son: **John E.**⁷⁷

The second daughter of John and Sarah Fry, Nancy appeared fated to remain at home to care for aging parents until her midlife marriage to next door neighbor and recent widower, Jacob Lentz.⁷⁸ Jacob was much older than Nancy and very well established as a farmer in the Utica neighborhood of the New Chapel Methodist Church,⁷⁹ where he appears as head of household in the 1870 census with two daughter from his marriage to first wife,

⁶⁹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 28: 308, Estate of Andrew J. Crum; FHL microfilm 1428591 DGS 7664705, item 1 image 188.

⁷⁰ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 10927 (1916), A. J. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Feb 2025.)

⁷¹ "A. J. Crum, 86, Native of Utica Township, Died Sunday," *The National Democrat*, 7 Apr 1916, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 5 Jun 2021); "Aged farmer dies of grip," *The Courier-Journal*, 3 Apr 1916, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, Newspapers.com (www.newspapers.com : accessed 25 Jan 2025); "Wills Probated - Children remembered in testament of A. J. Crum," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 5 Apr 1916, p. 1, col. 7; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 5 Jun 2021.)

⁷² Clark, Indiana, Wills book, L: 384, Crum, Andrew J.; FHL microfilm 1,415,965, item 2.

⁷³ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 25 Jan 2025), Andrew Jackson Crum, memorial number 46879339.

⁷⁴ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 272 (1910), Nancy Lentz; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com: accessed 5 Jan 2025.) *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 Jan 2025), Nancy Lentz, memorial number 72229035; *stone gives birth and death years only*.

⁷⁵ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, J: 244, Lentz-Fry, 1871; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 9 Apr 2025.)

⁷⁶ "Local Gatherings," *The Daily Ledger*, 18 Dec 1883, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Apr 2025.) *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025), Jacob Lentz, memorial number 40358992; *Find a Grave memorial gives exact dates of birth and death as well as place of death but photo of stone is not clear enough to determine if these dates are on the stone*.

⁷⁷ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 155, Est of Jacob Lentz sr.; FHL microfilm 1415985 DGS 7664673, item 3 image 107.

⁷⁸ John William Prather jr, *Prater, Prather, Prator, Praytor in America 1620-1800 1-5 generations vol II* (Hendersonville, North Carolina: published by author, 1994), 2: 275; Clark, Indiana, marriage registration, J: 244, Lentz-Fry, 1871.

⁷⁹ 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 608, dwelling 267, family 281, Lentz, Jacob; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: accessed 9 Apr 2025); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303; Real Estate valued at \$7000; Personal Estate at \$6105. Jacob born PA, age 63.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Mahala H. Prather.⁸⁰ He was the father of Nancy's sister in law Catherine, wife of John F. Fry and the father of her cousin, George Wiley Swartz's, wife Maria A.⁸¹

In 1870, before her marriage, Nancy was living with her sister Mary Fry Crum, probably assisting with Mary's growing family. With marriage, Nancy became the stepmother to several of Jacob's children still living in the household. Within a year of their marriage John and Nancy had their only child, John E. Lentz.⁸²

Sometime around 1880 Nancy's father may have moved in with she and Jacob, although he is not recorded on the 1880 census for their household.⁸³ John Fry was living with Nancy at the time of his death in 1886 according to newspaper accounts.⁸⁴

Jacob Lentz passed away on December 17, 1883, at age 76, and was buried in Utica, Clark County, Indiana.⁸⁵ Jacob left a substantial estate but apparently no will. Nancy relinquished her widow's right to administer the estate to her cousin and stepson in law George Wiley Swartz, who posted bond in the sum of 20,000.⁸⁶ In April 1884 Nancy was appointed as the guardian of her son, a minor heir of the estate.⁸⁷ Nancy graciously allowed the estate to equalize and balance the debts of heirs to the estate before taking her widow's 1/3 portion of the estate.⁸⁸ She and young John Lentz appear to have inherited the part of the farm that included the residence.⁸⁹

After John Fry's death, Nancy bought the Fry farm from her siblings⁹⁰ and settled there with her son John. In May 1888, Nancy "apprenticed" a sixteen year old orphan, Annie Rosa Hall, taking her into to her house to give her a common school education and rear her respectably. ⁹¹The 1900 federal census shows Nancy living on the farm in Utica, Clark County, Indiana, with son John E. Lentz and Annie R. Hall age 18.⁹²

⁸⁰ Clark, Indiana, marriage certificate, D: 38, Lentz-Prather, 1834; IARA, Indianapolis.

⁸¹ "Mrs. Geo Fry died," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 5 Sept 1879, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.) Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 421 (1902), Maria Ann Swartz; digital image, Ancestry, *Indiana Death Certificates* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Apr 2021); informant George W. Swartz.

⁸² Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 29505 (registered) (1948), John E. Lentz; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 9 Apr 2025); parents not named.

⁸³ 1880 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 36, p. 271A, dwelling 43, family 43, Jacob Lentz; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 Apr 2025); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 269. *John Fry's whereabouts in 1880 are a complete mystery as he is not enumerated in any Clark County, Indiana household.*

⁸⁴ "Editorial Runaround...."the Fry Neighborhood", *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 12 June 1885, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025); *after mentioning farms of Floyd Fry, John F. Fry and Abe Fry (as well as those of Wiley Swartz, and others)* " on our way to Watson we passed the comfortable homes of Geroge Swartz, Jacob Fry and Nancy Lentz. At the later place we caught a glimpse of John Fry the venerable father of Abram, John and Jacob. He is in pretty good general health although near eighty five but remains speechless."

⁸⁵ *Find A Grave*, Jacob Lentz, memorial number 40358992.

⁸⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 4, Est of Jacob Lentz, sr.; FHL microfilm 1415985, DGS 7664673, item 3, image 32.

⁸⁷ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 155, Est of Jacob Lentz sr.; FHL microfilm 1415985 DGS 7664673, item 3 image 107.

⁸⁸ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, T: 83-89, Est of Jacob Lentz sr.; FHL microfilm 1415986 DGS 7664674, item 1 image 73-76.

⁸⁹ "Editorial Runaround...."the Fry Neighborhood."

⁹⁰ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 76: 374+, Heirs of John Fry to Nancy Lentz, June 1886; FHL microfilm 1428642 DGS 7857108, item 1.

⁹¹ "Adopted Orphans," *Jeffersonville Clark County Republican*, 19 May 1888, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025); "Apprenticeship papers were filed yesterday... on the persons of Annie Rosa Hall age sixteen and Myrtle Elizabeth Shearer, aged eleven years. The former is apprenticed to Mrs. Lentz and the latter to Jacob B. Daily... The girls are orphans and until recently have been inmates of the Cornelia Memorial Orphans Home of New Albany. The considerations are that the grantees rear them respectively (*sic*), give them a common school education, and when they become eighteen years old present them with \$50 in money, a trunk, two suits of good substantial clothing and a copy of Holy Scriptures. Mrs. Lentz and Mr. Daily are both well off and have not children of their own; (*the final sentence is not correct. Both had grown children.*)

⁹² 1900 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 20, sheet 4, p. A, dwelling 69, family 70, John Lentz; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 29 Apr 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 363.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Nancy lived to see her son's marriage and the birth of two grandchildren.⁹³ At her death, at age 80, she received an extensive obituary detailing her family connections and the connections of her stepchildren.⁹⁴

4. **Abraham Fry** was born on 17 Sep 1832 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, died on 24 Aug 1912 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, and was buried in Watson, Clark, Indiana.⁹⁵ {FSID: L5T9-5VR}

Abraham married **Sarah Elizabeth Parks**, daughter of Floyd Parks and Elizabeth Boddy, on 23 Oct 1854 in Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky.^{96,97} Sarah was born on 3 Feb 1834 in Clark County, Indiana, and died on 18 Jul 1859. She is buried in New Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery, Watson, Clark, Indiana.⁹⁸ {FSID: KCVP-VV4}

They had 1 child: **Floyd Joshua**.⁹⁹

Abraham married second **Margaret R. Mann**, daughter of Peter Mann and Lydia Chew, on 5 Sep 1860 in Clark County, Indiana.¹⁰⁰ Margaret was born on 16 Dec 1836 in Indiana, died on 21 May 1922 in Indiana, and was buried in New Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery, Watson, Clark, Indiana.¹⁰¹ {FSID: L5L3-339}

They had 8 children: **Emma P., Frank A., Cora B., Ethel M., Abra Ella, Walter Thomas, Harry James, and Grace M.**¹⁰²

⁹³ 1910 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, enumeration district (ED) 20, sheet 3A, p. 293, dwelling 69, family 70, Lentz, John; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jan 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 363. *Nancy is not enumerated in the 1910 census despite being alive in April 1910. Her son's household includes his 2 children but not his mother and she does not appear elsewhere in the county.*

⁹⁴ "Aged Native Passes Away," *Evening News*, 12 Sept 1910, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025.)

⁹⁵ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 119 (1912), Abraham Fry; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jan 2025); Find A Grave, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 Jan 2025), Abraham Fry, memorial number 72271400.

⁹⁶ Jefferson County, Kentucky, Marriage Registers 1784-1811 74, Fry-Parks, 1854; FHL microfilm 482706.

⁹⁷ Jefferson, Kentucky, Kentucky, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1774-1989, Will of Floyd Parks; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 May 2025); Wills, Vol 6-7, 1862-1872, p 314-318.

⁹⁸ Find A Grave, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 May 2025), Sarah Elizabeth Parks Fry, memorial number 72271762; *stone provides full birth and death dates but not maiden name.*

⁹⁹ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 8542 (stamped) (1923), Floyd J. Fry; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025.)

¹⁰⁰ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001 203, Fry-Mann, 1860; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 Jan 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14730 (1922), Maggie R. Fry; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 5 May 2025.)

¹⁰¹ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14730 (1922), Maggie R. Fry; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 May 2025), Maggie R. "Mann" Fry, memorial number 72271687; *stone provides full birth and death dates but not maiden name.*

¹⁰² Ringgold, Iowa, death certificate no. 80-4 (1937), Emma P. Johnson; digital image, "Iowa, U.S., Death Records, 1880-1968," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); "Death Claims Frank A. Fry," *The Hutchinson News*, 7 Aug 1937, p. 9, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14371 (stamped) (1952), Cora B. Graham; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 33338 (stamped) (1939), Mrs. Ethel M. Jacobs; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14596 (stamped) (1953), Abra Redding; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14392 (stamped) (1932), Walter T. Fry; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007 database, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 3 Mar 2025) ID: 1,60901::0, Harry James Fry. Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 14614 (stamped) (1943), Grace F. Richardson; digital image, "6 Jan 1923, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017" Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Abraham was a successful landowner, who gradually built a substantial estate through multiple land acquisitions. His first documented land purchase occurred in February 1856 when he bought property from his parents, John and Sarah Fry, acquiring part of lot 14 of the Illinois Grant in Clark County.¹⁰³ He continued to expand his holdings in Lot 14, buying land from his brother, William and wife, in 1859.¹⁰⁴ In December 1865, he completed his acquisition of lot 14 of the Illinois grant, purchasing 78 acres from Mary Garner and described as "part of survey 14 of the Illinois grant and another 78 acres from Theodore and Elvira Derringer, all of which acreage was originally the estate of James F. Garner."¹⁰⁵

Abraham also demonstrated business acumen beyond farm management. Following his death, newspaper notices referenced the sale of his investment stocks and bonds¹⁰⁶, indicating that he had diversified his assets beyond real estate. His prominence in the community is evident from multiple newspaper mentions. His family affairs were considered newsworthy; in April 1873, the local newspaper reported that "Abraham Fry's children are all down with the measles."¹⁰⁷ The area where he lived was referred to as "the Fry neighborhood" in a June 1885 newspaper article.¹⁰⁸ His obituary mentioned his lifelong membership in the New Chapel Methodist Church, his lodge associations, and his Democratic Party political affiliation. "In politics Mr. Fry was a Democrat and while not aspiring to office he used his weight and influence with effect in the councils of his party and in the campaigns for election...he...will be greatly missed in all the relations of life, social, business and fraternal."¹⁰⁹

Following concerns about his father's mental capacity, Abraham and his brother Jacob S. Fry were appointed guardians of their father, John Fry, in 1877.¹¹⁰ Court records document their careful management of their father's affairs from 1879 to 1886, with regular accounting submitted to the court.¹¹¹ Their guardianship concluded with John Fry's death in May 1886 although the estate required their attention for a couple more years.¹¹²

Abraham Fry continued to be active in his community well into his later years. He appeared as an active farmer with a highly valuable farm in the 1900 and 1910 census records, still residing in Utica.¹¹³ And it was noted that

¹⁰³ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 45: 224, John and Sarah Fry to Abraham Fry, 4 Jun 1856; FHL microfilm 142,618, item 2.

¹⁰⁴ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 49: 214, William and Miranda Fry to Abraham Fry, 25 Mar 1859; FHL microfilm 1,428,620, item 1.

¹⁰⁵ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 56: 170-171, Mary Garner to Abraham Fry, 5 Dec 1865; FHL microfilm 1,428,623, item 2.

Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 56: 550, Theodore Derringer and wife to Abraham Fry, Oct 1866; FHL microfilm 1,428,621, item 2.

¹⁰⁶ "Sale Notice," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 10 May 1913, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025).

¹⁰⁷ "Morning Items," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 18 Apr 1873, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.)

¹⁰⁸ "Editorial Runaround..."the Fry Neighborhood", *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 12 June 1885, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025.)

¹⁰⁹ "Abe Fry Passes Away," *The National Democrat*, 30 Aug 1912, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.)

¹¹⁰ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,969, item 3.

¹¹¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, O: 219 - 220, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 2; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 3; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 85 - 88, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 286-291, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item 3.

¹¹² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 444-448, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item 3.

¹¹³ 1900 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 20, sheet A, p. 4, dwelling 67, family 72, Fry Abraham; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 May 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 363; 1910 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 22, sheet 7, p. B, dwelling 180, family 185, Fry, Abraham in household of Harry Fry, son; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 7 May 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 342.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

he regularly went into town until a few weeks before his death.¹¹⁴ He wrote his will in 1910 shortly after the death of his sisters Nancy Fry Lentz and Martha Ann Fry McCulloch.¹¹⁵

After a struggle with Brights Disease, Abraham died on August 24, 1912, at the age of 79.¹¹⁶ His death warranted multiple obituary notices, including publications in both Louisville, Kentucky and Jeffersonville, Indiana newspapers.¹¹⁷ His funeral was particularly well attended, the local newspaper reporting "fifteen autos and innumerable vehicles" in a mile long procession from the family farm to the cemetery, an impressive showing for 1912 that highlighted his standing in the community.¹¹⁸

The settlement of Abraham's estate proved contentious. His 1910 will was submitted for probate on September 3, 1912.¹¹⁹ However, it was contested by his oldest son Floyd J. Fry and eventually revoked.¹²⁰ After initial court proceedings, son Walter T. Fry was appointed administrator, and he began liquidating the estate.¹²¹ In addition to the 198 acre farm valued at about \$40,000, the estate included many investment stocks and bonds that were sold in May 1913. The final settlement of the estate was presented and approved in February 1914.¹²²

Margaret outlived Abraham by nearly a decade. In 1920 she resided near the family farm in the home of her daughter Ethel M Fry Jacobs.¹²³ Her obituary was published on May 25, 1922, in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana, with the headline "Funeral of Mrs. Abram Fry Tuesday."¹²⁴ Like her husband, she was buried in New Chapel United Methodist Church Cemetery in Watson, Clark County, Indiana.¹²⁵

5. **Martha Ann Fry** was born on 17 Oct 1834 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, died on 13 Feb 1910 in New Albany, Floyd, Indiana, and was buried in New Albany, Floyd County, Indiana.¹²⁶ {FSID: K2XN-R8G}

¹¹⁴ "Aged Native Passes Away," *Evening News*, 12 Sept 1910, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025.)

¹¹⁵ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 Nov 2024) bk L, pg 130 image 221.) *Submitted for probate by Henry A. Burt one of the witnesses on 3 Sept 1912.*

¹¹⁶ "Aged Native Passes Away."

¹¹⁷ "Long Illness Terminates in the Death of Abraham Fry," *The Courier-Journal*, 25 Aug 1912, p. 10, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025); "Abe Fry Passes Away," *The National Democrat*, 30 Aug 1912, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.)

¹¹⁸ "Crowd at Funeral - fifteen autos and Innumerable vehicles at Abe Fry Obsequies," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 27 Aug 1912, p. 1, col. 7; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.)

¹¹⁹ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 Nov 2024) bk L pg 130.

¹²⁰ "Abe Fry Will Set aside," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 17 Mar 1913, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025); "Notice of Revocation of Will," *The National Democrat*, 4 Apr 1913, p. 4, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025.)

¹²¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 27: 464-466, Abraham Fry; FHL microfilm film 1428540 item 2 DGS 7664704 images 280-281; "Sale Notice," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 10 May 1913, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.0

¹²² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 27: 464-466.

¹²³ 1920 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 22, sheet 6, p. A, dwelling 112, family 113, Maggie Fry, mother in law; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 7 May 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 425; in household of Thomas D. Jacobs.

¹²⁴ "Funeral of Mrs. Abe Fry," *Clark County Journal*, 25 May 1922, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 Feb 2025.)

¹²⁵ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 May 2025), Maggie R. "Mann" Fry, memorial number 72271687; *stone provides full birth and death dates but not maiden name.*

¹²⁶ Floyd, Indiana, death certificate no. 299 (1910), Martha McCulloch; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 7 May 2025); *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 12 March 2025), Martha Ann Fry McCulloch, memorial number 82720262.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Martha married **John McCulloch**, son of Hugh McCulloch and Sarah Guest, on 11 Apr 1856 in Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.¹²⁷ John was born on 3 Jan 1821 in New Albany Township, Floyd, Indiana, died on 13 Jun 1895 in Clarksville, Clark, Indiana, and was buried in New Albany, Floyd, Indiana.¹²⁸ {FSID: KC6Q-G2Z}

They had 7 children: **Charles William, John Franklin, Sarah Frances, James R. (died in infancy), Martha Ann, Edward Martin, and Walter Earle.**¹²⁹

Martha's early life was spent on her parents farm in Utica surrounded by an extended network of cousins.¹³⁰ Following her marriage to John, the couple established their home in New Albany, where they remained though at least 1870.¹³¹ Their children were born in New Albany and John developed his business ventures and began a political life.

John's life exemplifies the American story of a self-made man. Biographical articles in county histories and newspaper accounts noted he "began life as a poor boy on a farm, but, by dint of close economy, hard work and shrewdness, he amassed a fortune until he became one of the wealthiest men around the falls."¹³² As a very young man John cut and hauled wood for residents of Floyd and Clark Counties and saved the income which formed the basis for his future business success.¹³³ At the outbreak of the Civil War, John invested in a Louisville lumberyard followed by further investments in a variety of industrial businesses including a sawmill, rolling mill, gas works and the largest flour mill in New Albany.¹³⁴ By 1882 John was one of the largest stockholders in the New Albany National Bank.¹³⁵ In addition, John and Martha acquired farmland in Clark County, eventually

¹²⁷Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, G: page unreadable, McCullough-Fry, 1856; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 Apr 2025.)

¹²⁸ Find A Grave, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 19 May 2025), John McCulloch, memorial number 82720310; "At Rest - John McCulloch, one of the Oldest Citizen of Clark County, Dead," *Jeffersonville News*, 14 Jun 1895, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Dec 2024;); for parental relationships see "New Albany - Body of Hugh McCulloch exhumed," *The Courier-Journal*, 21 Jun 1904, p. 6, col. 2; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 19 May 2025.)

¹²⁹ Jefferson, Kentucky, death certificate no. 23606 (stamped) (1932), Charles W. McCulloch; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 1264 (1923), John Franklin McCulloch; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); Floyd, Indiana, death certificate no. 27202 (1924); Mrs. John Lancaster, "Two More Aged Folks," *The National Democrat*, 18 Feb 1910, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 7 May 2025); *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 14 Feb 2025) James R. McCulloch, memorial number 8270357; Martha A. Boyer; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 3912 (1939), Edward McCulloch; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Feb 2025); *Walter Earle McCulloch (and all living sibilings)*; Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed) ID: 1,9045::0, Will Record J page 17-31 , image 376-383. Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

¹³⁰ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 200, dwelling ?12, family 823, John Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138; 1860 U.S. census, Floyd, Indiana, population schedule, New Albany, Ward 1, p. 125, dwelling 852, family 852, John McCullough; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 257.

¹³¹ 1870 U.S. census, Floyd, Indiana, population schedule, New Albany, ward 1, p. 273B, dwelling 483, family 398, McCulloch John; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 313.

¹³² "Prominent Man Dying – John McCulloch," *Jeffersonville News*, 31 Jun 1895, p. 4, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025.)

¹³³ "At Rest - John McCulloch, one of the Oldest Citizen of Clark County, Dead," *Jeffersonville News*, 14 Jun 1895, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 19 May 2025.)

¹³⁴ *History of the Ohio Falls Cities and their Counties with illustrations and biographical sketches.*, 2 volumes (1882; reprint, Cleveland, Ohio: L.A. Williams & Co., reproduction by Unigraphic, Inc. 1966), 2: 497.

¹³⁵ *History of the Ohio Falls Cities*, 2: 497.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

owning over 1,000 acres.¹³⁶ John served for 8 years on the New Albany City Council¹³⁷ and was involved in the New Albany Presbyterian Church.

After nearly 20 years in New Albany business and politics, John and Martha moved out of town, "to his farm, two miles above the city on the Charlestown pike."¹³⁸ In 1873 John bought the thriving farm of his brother in law William S. Fry.¹³⁹ This final move brought the family more firmly back into the close knit network of the "Fry Neighborhood" where Martha's brothers Abraham and John lived as well as her sister Nancy and her parents.¹⁴⁰

John was elected as Clark County Commissioner in 1878, which post he held for 3 years.¹⁴¹ John was also a bondsman for Jacob and Abraham Fry in the guardianship of their father John Fry.¹⁴² He continued to renew his bond and contributed financial support to the guardians until John Fry seniors death in 1886.¹⁴³ The couple celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on April 11, 1881, marking 25 years of marriage with a significant community event worthy of newspaper coverage.¹⁴⁴

During their life in New Albany, John and Martha moved from the Methodist faith of her family to a very strong association with the 3rd Presbyterian Church in New Albany Chapel. They continued that strong association after moving back to Clark County, apparently remaining members of the 3rd Presbyterian until Martha's death.¹⁴⁵ In 1883, John began construction of new Presbyterian chapel in New Albany that was dedicated the end of April 1883 as the McCulloch Chapel.¹⁴⁶ John paid for most the building's construction and furnishings.

After a life of achievement and community involvement, John McCulloch died on June 13, 1895, in Clarksville, Clark County, Indiana, at the age of 74. His obituaries described him as "one of the oldest citizens of Clark County."¹⁴⁷ The details of his estate settlement, which featured considerable real estate and extensive stocks and bonds, occupied an entire column in the newspaper, reflecting his substantial wealth.¹⁴⁸

¹³⁶ "Prominent Man Dying."

¹³⁷ *History of the Ohio Falls Cities*, 2: 497.

¹³⁸ "[untitled]," *The Daily Ledger*, 8 Mar 1872, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025); "Mr. John McCulloch has removed to his farm, two miles above the city on the Charlestown pike."

¹³⁹ "Utica Township - William Fry," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 27 Jan 1873, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 30 May 2021.)

¹⁴⁰ "Editorial Runaround...."the Fry Neighborhood", *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 12 June 1885, p. 2, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 9 Apr 2025); 1880 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Jeffersonville, enumeration district (ED) 25, p. 60D, dwelling line 31, McCulloch, John; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 269.

¹⁴¹ "At Rest - John McCulloch, one of the Oldest Citizen of Clark County, Dead."

¹⁴² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, O: 219 - 220, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 2.

¹⁴³ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 3; "inventory filed on the 16th day of October 1877 includes a list of charges to the estate incurred for various supplies and lists John McCulloch among those suppliers."

¹⁴⁴ "[untitled short piece]," *The Daily Ledger*, 11 Apr 1881, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025); "A large number of the relatives and friends of Mr. John McCulloch attended his wedding anniversary, at his farm in Clark County, on Saturday evening. Mr. McCulloch is also considered a citizen of New Albany, being largely interested in the manufactories and real estate in this city."

¹⁴⁵ "Two more aged folks...and Mrs. M. A. McCulloch," *Jeffersonville News*, 14 Feb 1910, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025.)

¹⁴⁶ "McCulloch Chapel - the Dedication Services on Sunday Afternoon," *The Daily Ledger*, 30 Apr 1883, p. 4, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025); lengthy articles regarding the building, decoration, future plans for Sunday school etc.

¹⁴⁷ "At Rest - John McCulloch, one of the Oldest Citizen of Clark County, Dead."

¹⁴⁸ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 May 2025) ID: 1,9045::0, Will Record J page 17-31 , image 376-383. Indiana County District and Probate Courts; "(McCulloch) Will Probated," *New Albany Evening Tribune*, 3 Jul 1895, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025); contents of the will take up an entire column of the newspaper.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Martha continued her strong family connections. She is mentioned in social news visiting her sister in Washington County and hosting her brother's visit from Illinois.¹⁴⁹ Following her father's death, Martha participated in the sale of his property, along with other heirs, selling part of lot 24 of the Illinois Grant to sister Nancy Fry Lentz in June 1886.¹⁵⁰

When Martha died on February 13, 1910, in New Albany at the age of 75, her obituary was in multiple newspaper.¹⁵¹ Her extensive will was considered newsworthy enough to be reported in the local paper on February 25, 1910.¹⁵²

6. **John Franklin Fry** was born on 10 Oct 1836 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 20 Dec 1916 and is buried in the New Chapel Methodist Church cemetery.¹⁵³ {FSID: LW6P-2TQ}

John married **Catherine Lentz**, daughter of Jacob Lentz and Mahala Harley Prather, on 22 Mar 1860 in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana.¹⁵⁴ Catherine was born on August 4, 1840, in Clark County, Indiana and died 24 Nov 1884 in Clark County, Indiana.¹⁵⁵{FSID: LHFY-893}

They had 5 children: **William Leander**, **George E. (died young)**, **Mary Novella**, **John Herbert**, and **Howard Mercer**.¹⁵⁶

John Franklin grew up in Utica Township, Clark County, appearing in his father's household in the 1850 federal census.¹⁵⁷ By the 1860 federal census, he had married Catherine Lentz, and they began establishing their farming

¹⁴⁹ "Olive Branch (news)," *The Salem Democrat*, 6 Oct 1909, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); "Utica, Sept 18," *Jeffersonville News*, 19 Sept 1895, p. 2, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

¹⁵⁰ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 76: 374+, Heirs of John Fry to Nancy Lentz, June 1886; FHL microfilm 1428642 DGS 7857108, item 1.

¹⁵¹ "Two more aged folks...and Mrs. M. A. McCulloch," *Jeffersonville News*, 14 Feb 1910, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025); "Mrs. McCulloch's Funeral To-day," *The Courier-Journal*, 15 Feb 1910, p. 7; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 13 Feb 2025.)

¹⁵² "Will of Mrs. M'Cullouch (sic)," *The National Democrat*, 25 Feb 1910, p. 2, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 19 May 2025.)

¹⁵³ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 597 (registered) (1916), John F. Fry; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 Apr 2025); date of birth Oct 20, 1836; date of death Dec 20, 1916. *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025), John F. Fry, memorial number 72271665.

¹⁵⁴ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, H: 8, Fry-Lentz, 1860; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com ; accessed 12 Feb 2025.) "Funeral of Mrs. Fry," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 27 Nov 1884, p. 4, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025).

¹⁵⁵ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025), memorial number 72271447, Catherine Fry; *stone has only birth and death years*.

¹⁵⁶ Orange, Indiana, death certificate no. 12879 (1930), William L. Fry; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025); 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 606A, dwelling 234, family 246, George E. Fry in household of Fry John F.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303; Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 17327 (stamped) (1946), Mary Novella Frank; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025); Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, T: 47, estate of Jacob Lentz; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item 2; "John Fr. Fry appointed guardian of John H. Fry...minor heirs of Catherine Fry late of Clark County deceased;" Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 61-032873 (1961), Howard M. Fry; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025.)

¹⁵⁷ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 200, dwelling ?12, family 823, John F. Fry in the household of John Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

household in Utica Township.¹⁵⁸ During the Civil War, he registered for the draft on July 1, 1863, in Utica, Clark County, Indiana but did not serve, perhaps because he had a young family.¹⁵⁹

John may have begun adult life as an "edge toolman,"¹⁶⁰ although he listed as a farmer in the 1860 census.¹⁶¹ John prospered as a farm purchasing 53 acres of Illinois Grant survey 15 from his brother Abraham and Thomas W. Prather in 1863 then purchasing 26 improved acres, part of lot 23 of the Illinois Grant from his parents.¹⁶² His third major purchase, 73 acres from Indiana Prather in Illinois Grant survey 12 continuing his practice of adding to his land under cultivation but not developing a single compact farm.¹⁶³

In 1877 John and younger brother George T. filed a guardianship petition for their father, John Fry sr., stating that his father was "of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs."¹⁶⁴ John and George ultimately served as bondsmen for that original petition. He continued to be involved in managing the financial affairs of his parents for the rest of their lives, being a bondsman for several of his brothers as they took turns serving as guardian.¹⁶⁵ John Fry sr. also lived with John F. and his family for a year or two in the nine years after Sarah Swartz Fry's death.¹⁶⁶

Catherine died on November 24, 1884, at the relatively young age of 44, leaving behind 4 children, 2 of whom under age 10. Her funeral was reported in the local newspaper, and she was buried in New Chapel Methodist Cemetery in Watson, Clark County, Indiana.¹⁶⁷ Catherine's death came less than 1 year after her father's and his substantial estate was still in the process of settlement.¹⁶⁸ Following Catherine's death, John Franklin was

¹⁵⁸ 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 16, dwelling 108, family 108, John Fry. jr; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 May 2025); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248.

¹⁵⁹ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 May 2025) ID: 1,1666::0, vol 1, page 142, line 12, 2nd Congressional District. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. National Archives at Washington D.C.

¹⁶⁰ According to one of John's obituaries "he was one of the first edge toolmen in Clark County and in later years farmed." In the census John F. is consistently enumerated as a farmer. "Edge toolmen" is not a common occupation and no definition of "edge tools" indicates the probable nature of the work. He could have been a blacksmith who specialized in making and caring for cutting tools, or he could have been a dealer for an early manufacturer of tools such as woodworking tools or lumbering tools.

¹⁶¹ 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 16, dwelling 108, family 108, John Fry jr; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 May 2025); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248.

¹⁶² Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 53: 398, Abraham Fry & T.W. Prather to John F. Fry, 15 Aug 1863; FHL microfilm 1,428,621, item 3. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 57: 101, John and Sarah Fry to John F. Fry, 1 Nov 1866; FHL microfilm 1428623 DGS 785099, item 3.

¹⁶³ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 59: 154, Indiana Prather to John F. Fry, 2 Mar 1869; FHL microfilm 1,428,624, item 2.

¹⁶⁴ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,969, item 3; "In the matter of the guardianship of John Fry, sr. 76 years old and of unsound mind; petition entered by John F. Fry and George T. Fry....John Fry sr. cannot appear in court without "injuring his health." Court clerk filed rebuttal, so case went to jury who decided in favor of the sons. "it being shown that the said John Fry sr. is the owner of personal property of the probate value of twenty thousand dollars and of real estate the annual rental of which is four hundred dollars." Guardians appointed sons Abraham Fry and Jacob S. Fry.

¹⁶⁵ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, O: 219 - 220, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 2.

¹⁶⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 3; "inventory filed on the 16th day of October 1877."; the inventory includes interest on notes from children or in laws Abraham Fry, William S. Fry, Andrew J. Crum, John McCulloch, John Fry jr., Jacob S. Fry, John R. Motsinger, Joseph Robinson (sic) and John W. Crum and nephew William S. Jacobs as well as rent from nephew George Wiley Swartz. Charges include several payments made to John F. Fry for boarding John Fry sr. and Sarah Fry (before she died) as well as for the monument for Sarah. Also includes multiple payments to Dr. Bruner but does not state if these are for care of Sarah or John.

¹⁶⁷ Find A Grave, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 12 Apr 2025), 72271447, memorial number Catherine Fry; stone has only birth and death years. "Funeral of Mrs. Fry," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 27 Nov 1884, p. 4, col. 4; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025.)

¹⁶⁸ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 12, Est of Jacob Lentz; FHL microfilm 1415985, DGS 7664673, item 3, image 35.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

appointed guardian of their three minor children on January 17, 1885.¹⁶⁹ He managed their affairs conscientiously, providing regular accountings to the court and relinquishing guardianship as each child reached majority. John relinquished guardianship of Mary Novella on January 8, 1886, due to her recent marriage.¹⁷⁰ After John Herbert Fry reached his majority on February 8, 1896, John Franklin. once again provided an accounting and relinquished the guardian role.¹⁷¹ His final accounting for ward Howard Mercer Fry was completed on September 16, 1901, when Howard reached majority.¹⁷²

John married second **Louisa E. Ricketts**, daughter of Larkin Ricketts and Louisa Switzer, on 17 Sep 1885 in Scott County, Indiana.¹⁷³ Louisa was born 9 Sep 1846 in Indiana and died 21 Mar 1926 in Clark County, Indiana.¹⁷⁴
{FSID: L1TB-PK2}

They had no children.

The 1880s were a time of land transactions for John and Louisa, and they began reducing the amount of land they farmed.¹⁷⁵ In 1888 John lost a pedigree bull and two cows to the "Texas Fever" a tick-borne disease spread northwards from Texas by cattle drives into Kansas, Illinois and Indiana.¹⁷⁶

John continued his lifelong association with the New Chapel Methodist Church, attending church functions¹⁷⁷ as well as regular services and ultimately serving at least one term on the Church Trustees. Louisa is not mentioned in church records but according to her obituary she too was an active Methodist.¹⁷⁸

As John's farming activities started to diminish, he became involved in local politics, running in 1892 for Clark County Commissioner Post 1 on 2 party tickets simultaneously, both the People's Party and the Prohibition Party.¹⁷⁹ In 1901, John needed an operation in the hospital in Louisville and shortly afterwards, John and Louisa sold the last of the farmland and bought a house at 313 Meigs Ave in Jeffersonville.¹⁸⁰ In 1905 John was elected to Vice President of the Board of Trustees for the Globe Cement Company and immediately became entangled

¹⁶⁹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, T: 47, Estate of Jacob Lentz; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item 2; "John F Fry appointed guardian of May N. Fry, John H. Fry & Howard M. Fry minor heirs of Catherine Fry late of Clark County deceased."

¹⁷⁰ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 163 - 64, John F. Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,986, item 3; "said ward is still a minor, that is under that age of twenty on years, that on the 22nd of October 1885, said ward intermarried with one Henry M. Frank who was, at the time of said marriage, of full and lawful age.....I file this my report in final settlement with said ward."

¹⁷¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 2: 332-333, John F. Fry; FHL microfilm 1415989 item 2, DGS 7664677 image 120.

¹⁷² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 7: 172, John F Fry; FHL microfilm film 1415991 pg 172, DGS 7664679 image 123.

¹⁷³ Scott, Indiana, Indiana, Marriages 1810-2001 28, Fry-Ricketts, 1885; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 April 2025.) Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 7645 (1926), Louisa R. Fry; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," *Indiana Death Certificates* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 Apr 2025.)

¹⁷⁴ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 7645 (1926), Louisa R. Fry.

¹⁷⁵ "Real Estate Transfers," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 21 Oct 1886, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025); "Real Estate Transfers," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 30 Dec 1886, p. 2, col. 4; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025)

¹⁷⁶ "Utica [news]," *The National Democrat*, 7 Sept 1888, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025.)

¹⁷⁷ "Utica [news]," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 20 Dec 1889, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025); Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 88: 330 ?, Certified recording of election of trustees per Indiana law, 5 Apr 1897; FHL microfilm 1428646 item 3, DGS 7857112 image 553.

¹⁷⁸ "Mrs. Louise Fry dead at 80," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 22 Mar 1926, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025.)

¹⁷⁹ "Official Ballot facsimile," *Jeffersonville News*, 28 Oct 1892, p. 3, col. 3; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025.)

¹⁸⁰ "Local News," *Evening News*, 11 May 1901, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025); "Local News," *Evening News*, 17 Sept 1901, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

in a complex lawsuit between the winning and losing slates of candidates for the company's board. At least 6 separate lawsuits were opened, one of which specifically named John as a defendant. The competing lawsuits drug on for nearly a year, during which John sold his shares in the company and resigned from the board.¹⁸¹

In 1908 John wrote his will¹⁸², although he was still active in affairs of the community. However, health continued to be a concern. Both he and Louisa were very ill with fever, possibly typhoid fever, and spent several weeks in the hospital. This period also saw the death of several siblings. In April 1916, shortly before John's death, he and Louisa sold the last of the acreage in Survey 23.¹⁸³ 7 months later, John passed away suddenly. His death and funeral were widely covered in both the Jeffersonville and Louisville newspapers.¹⁸⁴

John's son in law Henry M. Frank, applied for probate of the will in January 1917 and the estate, which consisted primarily of investments and personal property, was quickly settled.¹⁸⁵ Louisa survived John by 10 years, passing away quietly in 1926 at the age of 80.¹⁸⁶ She was buried next to John in the New Chapel Cemetery.¹⁸⁷

7. **George Thomas Fry** was born on 22 Aug 1838 in Utica, Clark County, Indiana, died on 12 Sep 1921 in Louisville, Clay County, Illinois,¹⁸⁸ and was buried in Orchard Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Clay County, Illinois. {FSID: LHVM-P88}

George married **Edith J. Lentz**, daughter of Jacob Lentz and Mahala Harley Prather, on 28 Dec 1864 in Clark County, Indiana.¹⁸⁹ Edith was born in 1842 in Clark County, Indiana, and died 4 Sept 1879 in Clark County, Indiana.¹⁹⁰ {FSID: LHVM-PH7}

They had 2 children: **Della A.** and **Clarence Ezra.**¹⁹¹

¹⁸¹ "Exciting Struggle for Control of Cement Mill," *Evening News*, 1 Feb 1905, p. 2, col. 1+; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025.) *There are dozens of other newspaper articles detailing the lawsuits and their progress through the courts.*

¹⁸² Clark, Indiana, Wills book, L: 447-448, John F. Fry; FHL microfilm 1415965 item 2, DGS 7664667 image 255-256.

¹⁸³ "Local Talk," *The National Democrat*, 25 Feb 1910, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025); "Real Estate," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 22 Apr 1916, p. 1, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive.com* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 28 May 2025.)

¹⁸⁴ "Passing of John F. Fry," *Jeffersonville News*, 20 Dec 1916, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025); "Funeral of Mr. Fry," *Jeffersonville News*, 21 Dec 1916, p. 1, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025); "Sudden death of John Fry," *The Courier-Journal*, 21 Dec 1916, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025.)

¹⁸⁵ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 29: 92, John F. Fry; FHL microfilm 1428591 item 2, DGS 7664705 image 76; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 30: 259-261, John F. Fry; FHL microfilm 1428591 item 3, DGS 7664705 image 162-163.

¹⁸⁶ "Mrs. Louise Fry dead at 80."

¹⁸⁷ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 31 May 2025), Louise Fry, memorial number 72271675; *stone gives only years. stone type is identical to both John F. Fry's and Catherine Lentz Fry's stones.*

¹⁸⁸ Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947 (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,2542::0, Geroge T. Fry, birthdate 22 Aug 1838, Indiana; death date 12 Sep 1921, Illinois, widowed, father John Fry, mother Sarah Swartz. "Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths, 1916-1947." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2010.

¹⁸⁹ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, I: 465, Fry-Lentz, 1864; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

¹⁹⁰ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, T: 83-89, Estate of Jacob Lentz sr.; FHL microfilm 1415986 DGS 7664674, item 1 image 73-76.

¹⁹¹ Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947 (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,2542::0, Della A. Frye (*sic*), born 3 Apr 1867, Indiana, died 13 Jan 1935, Clary IL. single, father George T. Frye (*sic*), mother Edith J. Lentz. "Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths, 1916-1947." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original records; Clay, Illinois, Probate records, 1837-1925, C: 138, George T. Fry; FHL microfilm 1008922 item 3 DGS 7654508 images 769+; written 1919, submitted for probate 20 Sept 1921.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

As a middle child in a large family, George appeared in his father's household in both the 1850 and 1860 federal census.¹⁹² His initial venture out of the family home was unlike his older brothers early marriages. The defining moment of George's young adulthood came during the Civil War. On August 22, 1862, his 24th birthday, George enlisted as a Private in Company B of the 81st Indiana Infantry Regiment.¹⁹³ His military service was relatively brief, lasting less than a year, as he was discharged on June 27, 1863. He is apparently the only one of the five sons of John and Sarah to have served and he likely participated in at least 7 battles and the Siege of Chattanooga.¹⁹⁴ Although his unit continued to be deeply engaged through 1864, including the Siege of Atlanta and the assault on Kennesaw Mountain, George was discharged shortly after the Siege of Chattanooga. Perhaps he was wounded and seriously ill. However, he does not appear to have applied for a disability pension, and he registered for the draft on the 1 July 1863 Veteran's Registration.¹⁹⁵

On December 28, 1864, George married Edith J. Lentz. Edith and George would have known each other well as there were many intermarriages between their extended families and their parent's farm were close to each other.¹⁹⁶ The couple settled in Utica, where in 1868, George purchased a farm from his parents, John and Sarah Fry, acquiring the north part of surveys 37 and 38 of the Illinois Grant.¹⁹⁷ They were resident on that farm in the 1870 federal census. Their household included their infant daughter Della A. and George's orphaned nephew, Charles Edgar Wayman, aged 12, who had been born in Iowa.¹⁹⁸

Their marriage was cut short when Edith died on September 4, 1879, at the young age of 36, leaving two small children.¹⁹⁹ Her short obit stressed her connections in the widespread Lentz family.²⁰⁰

George's life was marked by extensive involvement in family guardianships and estate matters, reflecting both the interconnected nature of rural communities. In 1877, he joined his brother John F. in petitioning for a guardianship of their father, John Fry, stating that the elder Fry was "of unsound mind and incapable of

¹⁹² 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 200, dwelling ?12, family 823, John Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138; 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 506, dwelling 107, family 107, John Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248.

¹⁹³ Historical Data Systems, Inc. - American Civil War Research Database, "U.S., Civil War Soldier Records and Profiles, 1861-1865," database (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 Jun 2025), George T. Fry.

¹⁹⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/81st_Indiana_Infantry_Regiment

¹⁹⁵ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,1666::0, George Fry; Single; White; age 23; Birth Year abt 1840; Birthplace Indiana; Date 1 Jul 1863; Residence Utica, Clark, Indiana, USA; Congressional District 2nd; Class 3; Series Number Nm-65, Entry 172. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. NARA. *George's age is off almost 2 years but that is not unusual in these records.*

¹⁹⁶ George W. Davis, *Map of Clark County, Indiana, from the latest Official Surveys and Records* (unknown: Chas. A. McCann & David S. Koons, 1875); digital image, *Library of Congress* (www.loc.gov). *For interfamily marriages see bio John Franklin Fry and George Wiley Swartz.*

¹⁹⁷ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 58: 552, John and Sarah Fry to George T. Fry, 18 Jan 1868; FHL microfilm 1428624 DGS 7857100, item 1.

¹⁹⁸ 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 606, dwelling 335, family 347, George P. (*sic*) Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 26 Sep 2021); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303; household includes orphaned nephew Charles E(*dgar*)Wayman age 12 born Iowa.

¹⁹⁹ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025), Edith Fry, memorial number 72271509; *There is no photo of stone. Memorial created 2011 by Gail Black contributor 46916540.*

²⁰⁰ "Mrs. Geo Fry died," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 5 Sept 1879, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

managing his affairs."²⁰¹ The court proceedings revealed that John Fry Sr. owned personal property valued at twenty thousand dollars and real estate generating four hundred dollars in annual rental income—a substantial fortune for the time.²⁰²

Following the death of his first wife's father, Jacob Lentz, George petitioned to be appointed guardian of his children, who were minor heirs of the deceased.²⁰³ The estate was finalized in 1885, but George's guardianship would last until 1892.²⁰⁴

George married second **Nancy Ellen Robertson**, daughter of William Fletcher Robertson and Malinda Carr. Nancy was born on 19 Sept 1847 in Clark County, Indiana and died on 18 Feb 1919 in Louisville, Clay, Illinois.²⁰⁵ {FSID: K83V-DKJ }

They had 3 children: **William Robertson**, **Lena Belle**, and **Emma Malinda**.²⁰⁶

On January 4, 1881, less than two years after Edith's death, George married, as her second husband, Nancy Ellen Robertson Shrader.²⁰⁷ Nancy, was four years younger than George and their families were deeply connected. Nancy's sister Sarah E. Robertson was married to George's younger brother Jacob S. Fry and her younger brother was married to George's younger sister Louisa Rebecca Fry.²⁰⁸

Nancy's family also possessed land holdings in Utica Township near "Fry Corner", and in 1896, she inherited 31 acres as part of the partition of her father's real estate in Survey 26 of the Illinois Grant.²⁰⁹ This inheritance added to the family's property portfolio and demonstrated the interconnected nature of land ownership among Clark County families.

In November 1884, George sold 91.73 acres of Survey 38 Illinois Grant, the same farm he had purchased from his parents.²¹⁰ Sometime between November 1884 and 1886, George and Nancy made the significant decision to leave Indiana. When George and his siblings sold their father's farm, in June of 1886, the family was in Rice County, Kansas where a notary verified the property sale and the signatures of George and Nancy.²¹¹ How much

²⁰¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,969, item 3; "In the matter of the guardianship of John Fry, sr., 76 years old and of unsound mind; petition entered by John F. Fry and George T. Fry;" Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115, Abraham Fry and Jacob S. Fry present their account to the court as guardians of John Fry sr.

²⁰² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 85-88, Abraham Fry and Jacob S. Fry guardians of John Fry sr. "submit their final accounting to the court after the death of said ward."

²⁰³ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 99, George T. Fry petitions to be appointed guardian of his children, minor heirs of Jacob Lentz, deceased.

²⁰⁴ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, T: 87 image 75, Final settlement of the estate of Jacob Lentz deceased on 30 Jan 1885.

²⁰⁵ Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947 (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,2542::0, Nancie E. Fry, born 19 Sept 1847, Clark County, Indiana; died 18 Feb 1919, Louisville, Clay, Illinois, age 71; father Wm. F. Robertson, mother Malinda Carr. "Illinois Deaths and Stillbirths, 1916-1947." Index created from digital images. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2010.

²⁰⁶ Clay, Illinois, Probate records, 1837-1925, C: 138, George T. Fry; FHL microfilm 1008922 item 3 DGS 7654508 images 769+; written 1919, submitted for probate 20 Sept 1921.

²⁰⁷ Clark, Indiana, marriage certificate, Indiana, U.S., Marriage Certificates, 1960-2012, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com) Fry-Shrader, Jan 1881; IARA, Indianapolis; IARA microfilm of original books.

²⁰⁸ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, 1: 184, Fry-Robertson, 1866; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 16 Jun 2025); Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, J: 266, Robertson-Fry, 1878; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)

²⁰⁹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 7: 291-293, partition of the real estate of W. F. Robertson deceased in May 1896.

²¹⁰ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 74: 534, sale of 91.73 acres of Survey 38 Illinois Grant, Nov 1884.

²¹¹ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 76: 374+, Heirs of John Fry to Nancy Lentz, June 1886; FHL microfilm 1428642 DGS 7857108, item 1.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

time they spent in Rice County is unknown. They do not appear to have purchased land. By 1900, they appeared in the federal census in Harter Township, Clay County, Illinois, where they would spend most of their lives.²¹² Sometime between 1910 and 1920 they moved into the small town of Louisville.²¹³ Despite the geographic distance, George maintained strong ties to his Indiana roots, visiting his sisters in Washington and Clark Counties and continuing his involvement in family affairs there.²¹⁴ George also continued the Clark County guardianship of his children by first wife Edith Lentz, relinquishing the role first for Della A. in 1890 upon her majority²¹⁵ and then writing to the court in 1892 to finalize the accounts for Clarence upon his majority.²¹⁶

George's later years were marked by both personal losses. Nancy preceded him in death, dying on February 18, 1919, at age 71.²¹⁷ Her obituary revealed the family's continued connections to Indiana, noting that "Mrs. Marietta Burttt, wife of former Mayor Henry A. Burttt, Jeffersonville, yesterday was notified that her sister, Mrs. Nancy E. Fry, 71 years old, was dead at Louisville, Ill."²¹⁸ Throughout the 1910s, George witnessed the deaths of numerous family members. These included his sisters Nancy Fry Lentz and Martha Ann McCulloch in 1910, brother Abraham Fry in 1912, sister Barbara Ann Fry Motsinger, sister Emma Fry Crum in 1915 and John Franklin Fry in 1916.²¹⁹

George wrote his will on November 28, 1919, ensuring proper disposition of his estate.²²⁰ He lived for nearly two more years, dying on September 12, 1921, in Louisville, Clay County, Illinois, at the age of 83.²²¹ His death was noted in Indiana newspapers, reflecting his continued connection to his birthplace.²²²

Both George and his wives were buried in cemeteries that reflected their final homes—George and Nancy in Orchard Hill Cemetery in Louisville, Clay County, Illinois²²³, and Edith in New Chapel Methodist Cemetery in Watson, Clark County, Indiana.²²⁴

²¹² 1900 U.S. census, Clay, Illinois, population schedule, Harter Township, enumeration district (ED) 4, sheet 14, p. A, dwelling 281, family 281, Fry George T.; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 242; 1910 U.S. census, Clay, Illinois, population schedule, Harter Township, ED 4, sheet 1, p. B, dwelling 15, family 15, Fry George T.; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 21 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 233

²¹³ ; 1920 U.S. census, Clay, Illinois, population schedule, Louisville, ED 11, sheet 3, p. A, dwelling 52, family 55, Fry George T.; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 303.

²¹⁴ "Utica, Sept 18," *Jeffersonville News*, 19 Sept 1895, p. 2, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

²¹⁵ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, Y: 538, George T. Fry guardian of Della A. Fry minor heir of Jacob Lentz; FHL microfilm 1415988 DGS 7664674, item 2.

²¹⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 2: 472, George T. Fry guardian of Clarence E. Fry minor heir of Jacob Lentz; FHL microfilm 1415989 DGS 7664677, item 2.

²¹⁷ Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947 (*Ancestry* : www.ancestry.com), Nancie E. Fry, born 19 Sept 1847, Clark County, Indiana; died 18 Feb 1919, Louisville, Clay, Illinois, age 71.

²¹⁸ "Mrs. Nancy E. Fry," obituary published on 19 Feb 1919 in Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky, USA.

²¹⁹ "Long Illness Terminates in the Death of Abraham Fry," obituary 25 Aug 1912 Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky, USA; "Passing of John F. Fry," obituary 20 Dec 1916 Clark County, Indiana, USA.

²²⁰ Clay, Illinois, Probate records, 1837-1925, C: 138, George T. Fry; FHL microfilm 1008922 item 3 DGS 7654508; image 769+; written 1919, submitted for probate 20 Sept 1921.

²²¹ Illinois, U.S., Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947, George T. Fry, death date 12 Sep 1921, Illinois.

²²² "George T. Fry Died Sunday in Louisville, ILL.," obituary published on 12 Sep 1921 in Jeffersonville, Clark County, Indiana, USA; "George Fry Dead," *Jeffersonville Star*, 13 Sep 1921, p. 1, col. 3; digital images, *Newspaperarchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

²²³ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025), George T. Fry, memorial number 24630701; Orchard Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Clay, Illinois; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 7 Jun 2025), Nancy E. Fry, memorial number 24630707, Orchard Hill Cemetery, Louisville, Clay, Illinois.

²²⁴ *Find A Grave*, Edith Fry, memorial number 72271509. *George purchased this lot in the second addition to the cemetery in 1873 - New Chapel Methodist Church, "Trustees Minute Book and Ledger," p. 60.*

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

8. **Sarah Elizabeth Fry** was born 5 May 1840 in Clark, Indiana, died 19 Mar 1925, and was buried in Old Blue River Christian Cemetery, Washington, Indiana. ²²⁵{FSID: LCMK-3TN}

Sarah married **James Pleasant Hinds**, son of Samuel Preston Hinds and Catharine Wright, on 2 Sep 1861 in Salem, Washington, Indiana.²²⁶ James was born on 25 Mar 1837 in Washington County, Indiana, died on 30 Apr 1919 in Indiana, and was buried in Old Blue River Christian Cemetery, Washington, Indiana.²²⁷ {FSID: L4Q6-739}

They had 5 children: **John Clinton**, **Charles Samuel**, **Louisa Catherine**, **George Washington**, and **Horace Pleasant**.²²⁸

Sarah known by various names throughout her life—including Sarah Eli and Eliza grew up on the Utica farm of her parents, where she appeared in both the 1850 and 1860 federal censuses.²²⁹ No record mentions how Sarah and her future husband James Hinds met but Washington County adjoins Clark County throughout its length and it is not too far from the Utica to the county line.²³⁰

On September 2, 1861, Sarah married James Pleasant Hinds in Salem, Washington County, Indiana.²³¹ The timing of their union coincided with the opening months of the Civil War, a conflict that would soon touch their lives directly. In 1863, James registered for the Civil War draft in Washington County, Indiana, at age 26.²³² Whether he served in the conflict is not documented in the available records, but like many young families of the era, the Hinds faced the uncertainties of wartime and although no service is documented for James, their first child was not conceived until 1863,²³³ so he may have seen service.

²²⁵ Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017 Ancestry (digital images : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,60716::0, Sarah Eliza Fry Heines(sic); date of birth 5/6/1840 age 84 yrs, 10 m, 9 d; widow of James Pleasant Hines; father John Fry; mother Sarah Swartz. Indiana State Board of Health. Death Certificates, 1900-2017. Microfilm. IARA, Indianapolis, Indiana; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 23 Feb 2025), Sarah Eliza Fry Hinds, memorial number 79971573; stone says Eliza Fry and gives years only. Shared stone.

²²⁶ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, H: 121, Hinds-Fry, 1861; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Feb 2025.)

²²⁷ Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017 Ancestry (digital images : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,60716::0, James P. Hinds; born Mar 25, 1837; age 82 yrs 5 m; wife Sarah E. Hinds; father Samuel Hinds; mother Katherine Wright; informant John Hinds. Indiana State Board of Health. Death Certificates, 1900-2017. Microfilm. IARA, Indianapolis, Indiana; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 23 Feb 2025), James Pleasant Hinds, memorial number 79971478; stone says J. Pleasant Hinds and gives years only. Shared stone.

²²⁸ Death certificate no. 7221 (1955), John C. Hinds; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 24 Feb 2025); Monroe, Indiana, death certificate no. 35272 (1949), Charles S. Hinds; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 1 Mar 2025); Death certificate no. 13221 (1933), Louise Sullivan; digital image, *Ancestry*, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 1 Mar 2025); U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007; database, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 1 Mar 2025) ID: 1,60901::0, George Washington Hinds, birth date 15 Dec 1873; father James P. Hinds; mother Eliza Fry, SSN 401227741; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 19 Jun 2025), Horace Pleasant Hinds, memorial number 51551800.

²²⁹ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 200, dwelling ?12, family 823, John Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 138; 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica Township, p. 506, dwelling 107, family 107, John Fry; digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 May 2021); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248.

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²³¹ Clark, Indiana, marriage register, H: 121, Hinds-Fry, 1861.

²³² U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865, digital images, *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 Mar 2025) ID: 1,1666::0, James P. Hinds, married, age 26; birth year 1837, Indiana; Congressional District 2, class , A-K, Vol 1 or 4. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. NARA.

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Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Seeking new opportunities in the post-war period, James and Sarah joined the westward migration to Illinois. By 1867, James had purchased 46.86 acres of railroad land from the General Land Office in Illinois for \$469, paying \$10 per acre.²³⁴ The 1870 federal census found the growing family established in Bowdre Township, Douglas County, Illinois, where they were building their new life on the prairie.²³⁵

The Illinois venture appears to have been temporary, as the family had returned to Indiana by 1880, settling first in Pierce Township, Washington County.²³⁶ Sometime before 1900 they relocated to Orleans, Orange County, Indiana where they lived for around 19 years before finally returning to Washington County, Indiana where they were living when James died in 1919.²³⁷

The Hinds family maintained strong ties to their extended family on both sides. Although James and Sarah had returned to Indiana, James's family were still in Illinois and James and Sarah were profiled in a newspaper article in 1915 celebrating "The Hinds Family - founders of Hindsboro, Illinois."²³⁸ Sarah's family visited often.²³⁹ And as time passed, she appeared in numerous Fry family obituaries.²⁴⁰

James Pleasant Hinds died on April 30, 1919, in Washington County, Indiana, at the age of 82.²⁴¹ His obituary and photo were published in the Salem Democrat on May 7, 1919.²⁴² Sarah survived her husband by nearly six years, appearing as Eiza Hinds, a widowed head of household in the 1920 federal census in Washington Township, Washington County.²⁴³

²³⁴ State of Illinois, Illinois, U.S., Public Land Purchase Records, 1813-1909 (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,3780::0, James P Hinds Price per Acre 10.00, Total Price 469.00, Date 31 Dec 1867, Volume 791, Page 406, Type RR, S6 T14N R10E, Meridian 3, Acres 46.86.

²³⁵ 1870 U.S. census, Douglas, Illinois, population schedule, Bowdre, p. 256B, dwelling 161, family 161, Hinds, J. P.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Feb 2025); citing NARA M593, roll 216.

²³⁶ 1880 U.S. census, Washington, Indiana, population schedule, Pierce, enumeration district (ED) 181, p. 479A, dwelling 80, family 83, Hinds James P.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 321.

²³⁷ 1900 U.S. census, Orange, Indiana, population schedule, Orleans, enumeration district (ED) 100, sheet 19, p. A, dwelling 417, family 446, Hinds James P.; digital images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 23 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 396; 1910 U.S. census, Orange, Indiana, population schedule, Orleans, enumeration district (ED) 117, sheet 8, p. A, dwelling 162, family 164, Hinds James P.; digital images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 23 Feb 2025); citing NARA T624, roll 373; Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,60716::0, James P. Hinds; born Mar 25 1837; age 82 yrs 5 mths; wife Sarah E. Hinds.

²³⁸ "The Hinds Family - founders of Hindsboro, Illinois," *The Salem Democrat*, 1 Sep 1915, p. 1, col. 1-6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaper.archive.com> : accessed 23 Feb 2025.)

²³⁹ "Olive Branch (news)," *The Salem Democrat*, 11 Sept 1912, p. 2, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); "J. W. Crum and wife of Clark County, have been guests at John R. Motsinger's for a few days.....Mr. and Mrs. Pleasant Hinds, of Harristown, visited at John R. Motsinger's Sunday."

²⁴⁰ "Funeral of Mrs. Crum," *The Courier-Journal*, 1 Oct 1915, p. 8, col. 3; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 23 Jan 2025); "Passing of John F. Fry," *Jeffersonville News*, 20 Dec 1916, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 17 Feb 2025); "Sudden death of John Fry," *The Courier-Journal*, 21 Dec 1916, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 17 Feb 2025); "George T. Fry Died Sunday in Louisville, ILL.," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 12 Sept 1921, p. 1, col. 3; digital images, *Newspaperarchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 21 Feb 2025.)

²⁴¹ Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 3 Feb 2025) ID: 1,60716::0, James P. Hinds; born Mar 25, 1837; age 82 yrs 5 m.

²⁴² James P. Hinds," *The Salem Democrat*, 7 May 1919, p. 6, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<http://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 23 Feb 2025); includes photo

²⁴³ 1920 U.S. census, Washington, Indiana, population schedule, Washington Township, enumeration district (ED) 195, sheet 17, p. A, dwelling 420, family 440, Hinds Eliza; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 23 Feb 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 471.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Sarah Elizabeth Fry Hinds died on March 15, 1925, in Salem, Washington County, Indiana, at the age of 84 years, 10 months, and 9 days.²⁴⁴ No Salem, Indiana newspaper appears to have survived for the period of her death and her death was not marked in the Jeffersonville newspapers.²⁴⁵ Sarah and James were buried in Old Blue River Christian Cemetery in Washington County, Indiana.²⁴⁶

9. **Barbara Ann Fry** was born on 1 May 1842 in Utica, Clark, Indiana, died on 19 Nov 1913 in Washington County, Indiana, and was buried in Olive Branch Cemetery, Pekin, Washington, Indiana.²⁴⁷ {FSID: 93QJ-RN4}

Barbara married **John Riley Motsinger**, son of John Riley Motsinger, Sr. and Chloe Lane, on 22 Sep 1863 in Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.²⁴⁸ John was born on 4 Mar 1836 in Washington County, Indiana, died on 18 Nov 1912 in Washington County, Indiana, and was buried in Olive Branch Cemetery, Pekin, Washington, Indiana,²⁴⁹ {FSID: L11D-RY3}

They had 7 children: **Louise Belle, Edward Kerr, an unnamed child who died as an infant, William O., John Fry, Manson Melrose, and Ellis Herman.**²⁵⁰

Barbara Ann Fry's childhood was spent in the rural farming community of Utica Township, where she appeared in her father's household during the 1850 and 1860 federal censuses²⁵¹. The 9th of John and Sarah's children, Barbara was born after her parents had built up their farm and became active leaders in their church and social communities. She was probably close to her sister Sarah Eliza and perhaps Sarah or Sarah's husband introduced Barbara to her husband to be. Like Sarah's husband, John Riley Motsinger, was born into an established Washington County, Indiana farm family.²⁵²

A few months after John registered for the draft in Polk Township, Washington County, he and Barbara married in Jeffersonville.²⁵³ The timing of their marriage coincided with the height of the Civil War, and although John had registered there is no evidence he was called into service.²⁵⁴

²⁴⁴ Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,60716::0, Sarah Eliza Fry Heines(sic); date of birth 5/6/1840 age 84 yrs, 10 m, 9 d.

²⁴⁵ A search of NewspaperArchive, Newspapers.com and Washington County public library websites turned up no microfilmed or digitized newspapers for the first half of 1925 and only a few issues for the second half of 1925.

²⁴⁶ Find A Grave, Sarah Eliza Fry Hinds, memorial number 79971573; Find A Grave, James Pleasant Hinds, memorial number 79971478.

²⁴⁷ "Barbara A. Motsinger," *The Salem Democrat*, 26 Nov 1913, p. 6, col. 2; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); obituary includes detailed biographical information, includes names of parents. Barbara's death certificate does not appear to have survived both online sources and an email to the Washington County Recorder's office show any record. There are some gaps in the Washington County records in the early 1910s.

²⁴⁸ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, H: 293, Motsinger-Fry, 1863; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 Jun 2025.)

²⁴⁹ Washington, Indiana, death certificate no. 150 (1912), John Riley Motsinger; digital image, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 Mar 2025.)

²⁵⁰ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 2 Apr 2025) ID: 1,9045::0, will of John R. Motsinger, Polk Township, Washington County, Indiana, Washington County Will Records, Vol H, 1901-1913, p 553. Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

²⁵¹ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, pop. sch., Utica Township, p. 200, dwell. ?12, fam. 823, John Fry; 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, pop. sch., Utica Township, p. 506, dwell. 107, fam. 107, John Fry.

²⁵² 1850 U.S. census, Washington, Indiana, population schedule, Franklin, p. 383, dwelling 486, family 499, John R. Motsinger; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 27 Jun 2025); citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 179.

²⁵³ Clark, Indiana, marriage registration, H: 293, Motsinger-Fry, 1863.

²⁵⁴ U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,1666::0, John R Motsinger 2nd Congressional District, Class 1, L-Z, Volume 2 of 4. Consolidated Lists of Civil War Draft Registrations, 1863-1865; NM-65, entry 172, 620 volumes. Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. NARA.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

The young couple established their home in Polk Township, Washington County, Indiana, where they would spend their entire married life. By 1864, John was already establishing himself financially, as evidenced by the IRS tax assessment that year showing he owned a horse and carriage.²⁵⁵

John Riley Motsinger steadily grew his farming enterprise throughout his life. In 1893, local newspapers reported that "John R. Motsinger buys Shank farm north of town."²⁵⁶ His success continued into the new century, with another significant property acquisition in 1900 when newspapers noted that "Joel Motsinger has sold the old family homestead to his brother John R. Motsinger."²⁵⁷ This purchase kept the original Motsinger homestead within the immediate family and further expanded John's farming operations. Again in 1904, newspapers reported that "David Gibbons and his wife sold their property to John R. Motsinger," as he continued expansion of his land holdings.²⁵⁸ By 1910, John had achieved sufficient prominence that newspapers mentioned he had named his farm, a practice typically reserved for the most successful agricultural enterprises.²⁵⁹

The Motsinger's became prominent members of their community. John's standing was reflected in local newspaper coverage, which frequently mentioned the family's activities and social connections. Barbara maintained strong ties to her birth family throughout her life and she and her siblings exchanged visits regularly. Newspaper accounts from 1909 noted that "Mrs. Barbara A. Motsinger is visiting relatives in Illinois," in 1911, "Mr. George Fry of Flora Illinois is visiting his sister Mrs. John R. Motsinger. In 1912 and 1913 the visits may have taken a more somber tone as the couple aged, and their children became parents."²⁶⁰ Barbara clearly valued her family and maintained ties despite increasing distances.

John R. was a guarantor for the guardianship of John Fry in the 1870s and 1880s and the estate accounts indicate he and Barbara had participated in her father's care.²⁶¹ Barbara was mentioned in her father John Fry's

²⁵⁵ U.S., IRS Tax Assessment Lists, 1862-1918 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,1264::0, line 29 John R. Motsinger, 28 May 1864, 1 horse carriage, Series: M765; Roll: 2; Description: District 2; Annual Lists; 1864. Records of the Internal Revenue Service. Record Group 58, NARA.

²⁵⁶ "Pekin - John R. Motsinger has bought the Shanks farm," *The Salem Democrat*, 23 Mar 1893, p. 1, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Mar 2025.)

²⁵⁷ "Olive Branch," *The Salem Democrat*, 25 Apr 1900, p. 5, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Mar 2025); "Joel Motsinger...sold the old homestead to his brother John R. Motsinger."

²⁵⁸ "Olive Branch," *The Salem Democrat*, 21 Dec 1904, p. 7, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Mar 2025); "David Gibbons....sold their property at this place to John R Motsinger."

²⁵⁹ "Have you named your farm," *The Republican Leader*, 29 Jul 1910, p. 4, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 26 Jun 2025.)

²⁶⁰ "Olive Branch (news)," *The Salem Democrat*, 6 Oct 1909, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); "Mr. and Mrs. John R. Motsinger are visiting relatives in Illinois this week;" "Olive Branch (news)," *The Salem Democrat*, 16 Aug 1911, p. 7, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); "Mr. George Fry of Flora Illinois is visiting his sister Mrs. John R. Motsinger and relatives at this place with week;" "Olive Branch (news)," *The Salem Democrat*, 11 Sept 1912, p. 2, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); "J. W. Crum and wife of Clark County, have been guests at John R. Motsinger's for a few days....Mr. and Mrs. Pleasant Hinds, of Harristown, visited at John R. Motsinger's Sunday;" "News from the County Olive Branch," *The Salem Democrat*, 9 July 1913, p. 7, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Mar 2025); "Mrs. Barbara Motsinger visited her little great granddaughter Barbara Elizabeth Weaver, at Salem, the 4th and 5th."

²⁶¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,970, item 3; "inventory filed on the 16th day of October 1877.:"; list includes interest on notes from children or in laws - Abraham Fry, William S. Fry, Andrew J. Crum, John McCulloch, John Fry jr., Jacob S. Fry, John R. Motsinger, Joseph Robinson (sic) and John W. Crum and nephew William S. Jacobs as well as rent from nephew George Wiley Swartz.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

obituary in May 1886, and participated in the settlement of his estate in June 1886, when the heirs sold part of lot 24 of the Illinois Grant to Nancy Fry Lentz.²⁶²

Shortly after her father's death Barbara joined the Regular Baptist Church, leaving the Methodist Church that had been so much a part of her family's life and her upbringing. She became a charter member of the Olive Branch Regular Baptist Church in 1889, and all her children eventually joined the church as well.²⁶³

John wrote his will in 1901, which named Barbara as executor and left most of his estate to youngest son Ellis Herman, while listing sums previously advanced to his other children.²⁶⁴ Ellis was a minor at the time the will was written so the funds were left in trust until he reached the age of 21. When the will was probated in Dec 1912 Ellis was almost 30, so no trust proved to be necessary.²⁶⁵

John Riley Motsinger was suffering from chronic nephritis and his health declined in 1912.²⁶⁶ Newspaper reports from November 15, 1912, noted that "John R. Motsinger no better."²⁶⁷ He died on November 18, 1912, at age 76, with Barbara serving as the informant on his death certificate.²⁶⁸ His obituary, published on November 22, 1912, described him as "one of the most prominent farmers of Polk Township," a testament to the reputation he had built over his lifetime. His funeral drew considerable attention, with newspapers noting that "George Fry visiting from Illinois for funeral" and numerous Fry nephews came from Clark County and Iowa.²⁶⁹

Barbara died on November 19, 1913, at age 71, exactly one year and one day after her husband's death.²⁷⁰ She was buried alongside John in Olive Branch Cemetery in Pekin, Washington County, Indiana.²⁷¹ Her obituary was published in multiple newspapers in late November 1913, reflecting her standing in the community.²⁷²

²⁶² "Funeral of John Fry," *The Daily Evening News*, 31 May 1886, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 May 2021); Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 76: 374+.

²⁶³ "Mrs. John R. Motsinger," *The Republican Leader*, 28 Nov 1913, p. 7, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); text is an exact copy of obit that appeared in *The Salem Democrat a couple of days earlier under Barbara Motsinger*.

²⁶⁴ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 7 Jan 2025) ID: 1,9045::0, will of John R. Motsinger, Polk Township, Washington County, Indiana, Washington County Will Records, Vol H, 1901-1913, p 553. Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

²⁶⁵ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 7 Jan 2025) Will of John R. Motsinger attested by witnesses and death of said Motsinger attested, December 1912; Vol H. pages 555 & 556.

²⁶⁶ Washington, Indiana, death certificate no. 150 (1912), John Riley Motsinger.

²⁶⁷ "Olive Branch (news)", *The Salem Democrat*, 15 Nov 1912, p. 8, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 27 Jun 2025).

²⁶⁸ Washington, Indiana, death certificate no. 150 (1912), John Riley Motsinger.

²⁶⁹ "John R. Motsinger - one of the most prominent farmers of Polk Township passed to his reward Monday," *The Republican Leader*, 22 Nov 1912, p. 5, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Mar 2025).

²⁷⁰ No death certificate has been found for Barbara despite searches in local records as well as statewide records. A gap is apparent in the Washington County death certificates for 1913 as there are less than 20 shown when doing a database search using only 1913 as a search criterion.

²⁷¹ "Barbara A. Motsinger," *The Salem Democrat*, 26 Nov 1913, p. 6, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025); detailed biographical information.

²⁷² *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 3 Mar 2025), Barbara Ann Frye (sic), memorial number 8112049; *Find A Grave*, John Riley Motsinger, memorial number 8112118.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

10. **Jacob S(wartz) Fry** was born on 10 Nov 1844 in Indiana, died on 24 Jun 1919 in Pomona, Los Angeles County, California and was buried in Pomona Vallery Memorial Park, Los Angeles County, California.²⁷³ {FSID: G3D6-9ZF}

Jacob married **Sarah Elizabeth Robertson**, daughter of William Fletcher Robertson and Malinda Carr, on 15 Nov 1866 in Clark County, Indiana²⁷⁴. Sarah was born on 22 Feb 1846 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 29 Sep 1896 in Clark County, Indiana and was buried in the Walnut Ridge Cemetery, Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana²⁷⁵. {FSID: LWYJ-FSD}

They had 5 children: **John Robertson, Otis, Arthur B., Burnis, and Ellis Heaton**.²⁷⁶

Jacob's probable middle name likely honored his maternal uncle, Jacob Swartz, reflecting the close relationship between his parents and their Swartz and Fry siblings.²⁷⁷

Jacob appeared in his father's household during the 1850 and 1860 federal census in Utica Township, Clark County.³⁴ In 1866, Jacob married Sarah Elizabeth Robertson, daughter of Utica neighbors, William Fletcher Robertson and Malinda Carr. His brother George and younger sister Louisa would also marry into this family over the next 15 years.²⁷⁸ The couple named their eldest son "John Robertson" honoring both Jacob's father and Sarah's family name.

By 1870, Jacob had established his own household in Utica, appearing as head of household in that year's federal census.²⁷⁹ The young couple apparently joined the family's long-established church, The New Chapel Methodist Church, after their marriage. In 1873 Jacob, along with brothers George T. and John F., purchased cemetery lots in the New Chapel Methodist Church Cemetery. Ultimately, none of his family would be buried in the cemetery.²⁸⁰

²⁷³ California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1939 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,5187::0, Jacob S. Fry; born: about 1845; death date 24 Jun 1919; age 74; Los Angeles [County] California. California Department of Health and Welfare. California Vital Records. *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 4 Feb 2025), Jacob Swartz Fry, memorial number 33799434; *stone does not spell out middle name nor give full dates for birth or death. Memorial, created by Glenn and Tracy Morrow in 2009, does give middle name and full dates.*

²⁷⁴ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, 1: 184, Fry-Robertson, 1866; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 16 Jun 2025.)

²⁷⁵ Works Progress Administration, "Indiana, WPA Death Index 1882-1920," database, Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com : accessed 28 Jun 2025), Sarah Fry; book H-23 on page 15 within the series produced by the Indiana Works Progress Administration; *Name: Sarah Fry; Date: Sept 29, 1896; Location: Jeffersonville; Age: 50 Yr; Source location: County Health Office, M. Varble.*; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 28 Jun 2025), Sarah Robertson Fry, memorial number 69034876: Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 7: 291-293, Est of William Fletcher Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415992 DGS 7664679, item 2.

²⁷⁶ "Death Claims Well Known Pomona Man in Jacob S. Frye (sic)", *The Bulletin*, 25 Jun 1919, p. 3, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 28 Jun 2025.) *Obituary names all 5 sons and where they are living.*

²⁷⁷ *Find A Grave*, Jacob S. Frye (sic), memorial number 33709434. *No record gives a middle name for Jacob, just a middle initial. His gravestone also has only a middle initial but the memorial, created by Glenn and Tracy Morrow in 2009, does give a full middle name and full dates. The middle name of Swartz is very probably, considering that Sarah Swartz and John Fry named several of their children after their siblings, including George, Nancy, John, Elizabeth, Rebecca (a sister in law), and Ann (used twice as a middle name.)*

²⁷⁸ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, 1: 184, Fry-Robertson, 1866; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 16 Jun 2025.) *For marriages of George Fry and Louisa Fry see biographies for those children.*

²⁷⁹ 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 605, dwelling 222, family 232, Jacob S. Fry; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 28 Jun 2025); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 303.

²⁸⁰ New Chapel Methodist Church, "Trustees Minutes and Ledgers," p. 60; Indiana Historical Society Library, Indianapolis; "Sale of lots in Second Addition New Chapel Cemetery" (*writing on top of page in different ink and hand - "continued from page 39" This portion of the Minutes and Ledgers is a mixture of various fund raising pledges and sales of cemetery lots and pews. ; 1 reel of microfilm which covers period 1811-1906. Call number F-72. OCLC Number 10336162.*

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Jacob was not a farmer in the mold of his parents and brothers. Although he bought a small farm where the family lived, most of his land purchases appear to be speculative and his income apparently came from business ventures, public office, and land speculation. In 1869, at age 25, he purchased 24 acres of Illinois Grant survey 24 from his John F. Schwartz and his wife Prudence E. Smith Swartz and added to that 30 additional acres in 1878.²⁸¹ In December 1875, he purchased six acres in survey 23 from his parents, John and Sarah Fry.²⁸² After this purchase his real estate activities expanded into speculation including several undeveloped lots in Jeffersonville and Port Fulton. He made multiple real estate purchases, both independently and in partnership with his brother Abraham Fry between 1881 and 1886.²⁸³ His February 1877 purchase and immediate sale of lot 355 in the "Utica addition" to the Christian Church of Utica may indicate a shift in his church membership from the Methodist church to the Christian Church.²⁸⁴ When he died in 1919, he was a member of the Christian Church in Pomona, California.²⁸⁵

In 1877, Jacob and brother George T. petitioned for guardianship of their father, John Fry, who was declared "of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs."²⁸⁶ This guardianship, directly shared with his brother Abraham, continued until John Fry's death in May 1886, requiring regular court accountings and careful management of the estate.²⁸⁷

Beginning at least in 1882, Jacob was actively engaged in Democratic Party politics in Clark County, serving as County Treasurer for two terms, Elections Inspector, Jeffersonville Appraiser of School Funds, Jeffersonville School Treasurer, and was appointed as a County Police Commissioner and to other local township offices.²⁸⁸ His time in politics was contentious. While serving a County Treasurer he was sued by a local bank regarding supposed back taxes and his accounts were publicly audited after rumors that he was in arrears.²⁸⁹ He was thoroughly castigated in the Republican Newspapers during his terms as Treasurer and as Police Commissioner and was accused of trying to wrangle appointment to various statewide office once he'd been voted out of

²⁸¹ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 58: 553, John F. Schwartz and wife Prudence E. to Jacob Fry, 1869; FHL microfilm 1,428,624, item 1. Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 68: 497, Thomas J. Swartz & wife to Jacob S. Fry 30 acres of Survey 24 of the Illinois Grant, 16 Dec 1878; FHL microfilm 1428628, item 1.

²⁸² Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 66: 128, John Fry to Jacob S. Fry, 30 Dec 1875; FHL microfilm 1428627, item 2.

²⁸³ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 67: 114, Cain et al to Jacob S. Fry Lot 355 of Oliver's Addition, Utica, 19 Feb 1877; FHL microfilm 1428627, item 3; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, Shr. 1: 64, Thomas Taylor to Jacob S. Fry, 8 Aug 1877; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 69: 20, Floyd J. Fry & wife to Jacob S. Fry 60 acres of survey 15 Illinois Grant, 12 Feb 1879; FHL microfilm 1426838, item 2; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 91: 547, Veasy William B. Trustees to Jacob S. Fry, 27 Jul 1891; FHL microfilm 1428648, item 1. *And many others.*

²⁸⁴ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 67: 128, Jacob S. Fry & wife to Christian Church Utica lot 355 in Utica, 22 Feb 1877; FHL microfilm 1426827, item 3.

²⁸⁵ "Death Claims Well Known Pomona Man in Jacob S. Frye (*sic*)."

²⁸⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, N: 365, John Fry; FHL microfilm 1,415,969, item 3; "In the matter of the guardianship of John Fry, sr.

²⁸⁷ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, O: 219 – 220; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 85 – 88; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 444-448.

²⁸⁸ "The Convention and Our Ticker," *The Daily Evening News*, 22 May 1882, p. 2, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); "Official Election Result," *The Daily Ledger*, 11 Nov 1882, p. 4, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); "Commissioners' Court," *Jeffersonville Clark County Republican*, 14 Jun 1888, p. 4, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); "Shortage ?? Denied," *The National Democrat*, 15 Nov 1889, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025.)

²⁸⁹ "Jeffersonville - The First National Bank, by its attorney," *The Courier-Journal*, 28 Jul 1887, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 7 Jul 2025); "A False Charge," *The National Democrat*, 2 Jul 1886, p. 1, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://www.newspaper.archive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

county office.²⁹⁰ In 1892, Jacob was elected Chair of the Central Committee of the Clark County Democratic Party.²⁹¹ He remained interested in elective office and in 1901 he stood for Treasurer again.²⁹² He was not nominated by the county Democrats for the office. Shortly after this defeat Jacob appears to have left politics permanently.

In May 1896 Sarah Elizabeth's father died. She was an heir to the substantial real estate of her father and the partition of the estate had just finished when she died.²⁹³ The local newspaper reported her death with little detail except that she had been ill for several months.²⁹⁴ Sarah Elizabeth was buried in the Walnut Ridge Cemetery in Jeffersonville.²⁹⁵

Jacob next married, as her second husband, **Elizabeth Ingram**, daughter of Col. John Nelson Ingram and Margaret E. McGonnigal.²⁹⁶ Elizabeth was born 2 Mar 1859 in Clark County, Indiana and died 11 Nov 1918 in Pomona, Los Angeles County, California.²⁹⁷

They had no children.

On April 28, 1897, less than seven months after Sarah's death, Jacob married Elizabeth Ingram Wilson, daughter of Colonel John N. Ingram and Margaret E. McGonnigal. Jacob had long-standing political and business ties with John Ingram.²⁹⁸ Elizabeth, known by the nickname "Libby," was twelve years Jacob's junior and was a widow with no children.²⁹⁹ Elizabeth had lived in California with her previous husband³⁰⁰ and may have been the impetus for the family's move to Los Angeles County.

²⁹⁰ "Now let Loose the Dogs of War," *The Evening Journal*, 1 Mar 1897, p. 1, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); "Not by the board that the saloons were closed," *Jeffersonville News*, 8 Sep 1897, p. 1, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025.)

²⁹¹ "The Vote Counted," *The Courier-Journal*, 27 Mar 1892, p. 3, col. 3; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 7 Jul 2025.)

²⁹² "Jacob S. Fry announces himself," *The National Democrat*, 2 Feb 1900, p. 6, col. 4; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); "Coll is nominee for Treasurer," *The National Democrat*, 13 Apr 1900, p. 2, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); *results for Treasurer are actually in the fourth column of text which continues the article.*

²⁹³ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 7: 291-293, Est of William Fletcher Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415992 DGS 7664679, item 2.

²⁹⁴ "Jeffersonville News," *The Courier-Journal*, 28 Sept 1896, p. 8, col. 8; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 28 Jun 2025); "It was thought last night that the wife of Jacob S. Fry could not long survive. She has been sick for many months."

²⁹⁵ *Find A Grave*, Sarah Robertson Fry, memorial number 69034876

²⁹⁶ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, T: 431, Fry-Wilson, 1897; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 28 Jun 2025); "Wilson - Ingram," *The Courier-Journal*, 25 Jan 1882, p. 6, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 12 May 2025); "Mr. W. C. Wilson, of California and Miss Libby Ingram, of Jeffersonville, were married yesterday at 12 o'clock at the residence of the bride's father Col. John N. Ingram...the couple will return to California."

²⁹⁷ California Department of Public Health Services, death certificate (1918), Elizabeth I. Fry; digital image, *FamilySearch*, "California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1939," *FamilySearch* (www.familysearch.org : accessed 30 Jun 2025); birth year - about 1859; death date 11 Nov 1918, age 59, Los Angeles County, CA; *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 28 Jun 2025), Elizabeth Fry, memorial number 33709413.

²⁹⁸ "Shortage ?? Denied"; "Artificial Ice," *The Daily Evening News*, 1 Mar 1890, p. 4, col. 5; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025)

²⁹⁹ *No death record has been found for her first husband and his date and place of death are unknown.*

³⁰⁰ "Wilson - Ingram."

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

In July of 1900 Jacob purchased a stock farm in Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana and in October the family relocated to the newly purchased land.³⁰¹ Jacob maintained connections and economic ties to Jeffersonville but apparently was not satisfied with his new property. By 1908, Jacob and Elizabeth had relocated to Pomona, California. The 1910 federal census found them residing in Pomona, where Jacob had established himself as a rancher.³⁰² However, Jacob and his family appear to have returned to Indiana only once, in Oct 1908 at the death of Elizabeth's brother and father.³⁰³

Elizabeth died on November 11, 1918, in Pomona, at age 59.³⁰⁴ Her obituary ran in both the Pomona papers and the Louisville newspapers.³⁰⁵ Jacob followed her seven months later, dying at age 74.³⁰⁶ The Pomona Bulletin reported his death, describing him as a "Well Known Pomona Man," and his death was covered in the Jeffersonville and Louisville newspapers.³⁰⁷

11. **Emily Sophia Fry** was born on 16 Feb 1847 in Clark County, Indiana, USA, and died on 29 Sep 1915 in Clark County, Indiana, and was buried in Union Cemetery, Clark County, Indiana.³⁰⁸ {FSID: L7NN-F81}

Emily married **John W(illiam) Crum**³⁰⁹, son of William Spangler Crum and Mary Prather, on 17 Oct 1871 in Clark County, Indiana.³¹⁰ John was born on 21 Mar 1848 in Clark County, Indiana, and died on 15 Apr 1919 in Charlestown, Clark, Indiana.³¹¹ {FSID: KD3W-LLM}

They had 2 children: **Samuel M.** and **Arthur V.**³¹²

³⁰¹ "Local News," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 2 Jul 1900, p. 4, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 2 Jul 2025); Former County Treasurer Jacob S. Fry has purchased a stock farm near Bedford, as will locate there with his family this fall. At present Mr. Fry is a member of the local Board of Police Commissioners": "Jeffersonville News," *The Courier-Journal*, 13 Oct 1900, p. 8, col. 7; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 28 Jun 2025); "Jacob S. Fry and family left yesterday overland from Springville, Lawrence County, Indiana, where he purchased a stock farm. Mr. Fry who had held political offices in this county from Treasurer to Polic Commission of the city, said he did not care to vote at the November elections."

³⁰² 1910 U.S. census, Los Angeles, California, population schedule, Pomona, enumeration district (ED) 329, sheet 16, p. A, dwelling 387, family 387, Fry Jacob S.; digital images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 28 Jun 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 87; *Ancestry indexing says Jacob Fey which is clearly an error in reading the enumerators handwriting.*

³⁰³ "Notes of the News from Jeffersonville," *The Courier-Journal*, 21 Oct 1908, p. 7, col. 5; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 7 Jul 2025)

³⁰⁴ California death certificate (1918), Elizabeth I. Fry.

³⁰⁵ "Funeral this P.M. for Mrs. J. S. Fry." *The exact same text appears in the Pomona newspapers and in the Louisville newspapers.*

³⁰⁶ California, U.S., Death Index, 1905-1939 (digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com)) ID: 1,5187::0, Jacob S Fry.

³⁰⁷ "Death Claims Well Known Pomona Man in Jacob S. Frye (sic)."

³⁰⁸ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 81 (1915), Emma S. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 Mar 2025): *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025), Emily Sophia Gry Crum, memorial number 46884088; *memorial says Emily. There is no photo of stone.*

³⁰⁹ *The genealogical record notes the complexity of sorting out multiple John W. Crum in Clark County during this era, with John W(illiam) Crum being distinguished from John W(esley) Crum by their township associations—John William being identified with Charlestown or Utica Township, while John Wesley was associated with Oregon Township. In particular land purchases that don't name the wife are difficult to distinguish. John Wesley Crum made many more land purchases, but all were centered in Oregon Township.*

³¹⁰ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, J: 248, Crum-Fry, 1871; digital images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 7 Jul 2025.)

³¹¹ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 13287 (stamped) (1919), John W. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 7 Jul 2025); *Ancestry has mis-indexed parents as Wm. Crown and Mary Archer. This is a clear misreading of the handwritten death certificate.*

³¹² Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 36452 (1939), Samuel M. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Mar 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 7553 (1939), Arthur V. Crum; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Mar 2025.)

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Emma grew up the second to youngest in her large farming family, appearing in her father's household in the federal censuses of 1850, 1860, and 1870 in Utica Township, Clark County, Indiana.³¹³ Before she was two years old, her oldest brother married and left the family home.³¹⁴

John William Crum was part of a family that had established itself in the region during the earliest settlement period and whose members had intermarried with the Fry and Swartz families many times. 3 of John's siblings married into the Fry-Swartz family - John's brother Andrew J. married to Emma's sister Mary Elizabeth; his brother George married to Emma's cousin Mary Elizabeth Hobson and his brother Cyrus married to Emma's double cousin Nancy Rebecca Swartz.³¹⁵

When John bought 100 acres of survey 54 on 22 Jan 1878³¹⁶, he and Emma settled in Charlestown where they would spend the rest of their lives. John bought another farm in 1891, 40 acres in survey 96, which he then sold to Samuel M. Crum and his wife May Belle in 1894.³¹⁷ In 1910, they sold part of their home farm, 40 acres in survey 54, to their younger, Arthur V. Crum.³¹⁸

Like his brothers-in-law, John was actively involved in local civic and religious affairs. In 1882, the Democratic Party for County Road Supervisor nominated him.³¹⁹ In 1909 he was elected a trustee for Union Methodist Episcopal Church in Utica Township.³²⁰ And he appears as an appraiser of estates, partitioner of property and jury member throughout his life.

The Crum's' financial relationships reveal the complex web of obligations that characterized rural communities. John William Crum appears in the guardianship accounts for John Fry sr. , in both 1880 and 1884, paying interest on outstanding loans from his father in law of at least \$1500.³²¹ At the time of John Fry's death John W. Crum remained indebted to him in the amount of \$2,666.³²² These debt obligations likely stemmed from family land transactions or other business dealings common in the extended Fry family network. In 1893 John served as bondsman, along with Abraham Fry for his sister in law Louisa R. Fry Robertson's guardianship of her 4 minor children.³²³

³¹³ 1850 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, pop. sch., Utica Township, p. 200, dwell. ?12, fam. 823, John Fry; 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, pop. sch., Utica Township, p. 506, dwell. 107, fam. 107, John Fry; 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, pop. sch., Utica Township, p. 605, dwell. 221, fam. 231, Fry, John.

³¹⁴ Clark, Indiana, marriage license and return, F: 30, Fry-Smith, 1849.

³¹⁵ Indiana, U.S., Marriage Certificates, 1960-2012, digital images (Ancestry : www.ancestry.com) ID: 1,61009::0, Mary Fry - Andrew J Crum; Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, G: 56, Crum-Hobson, 1855; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 11 Jul 2025); Clark, Indiana, Marriage Records, 1808 - 1951, G: 172: Crum-Schwartz.

³¹⁶ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 63: 248, John W. Crum from William S. Crum 100 acres of survey 54, 22 Jan 1878; FHL microfilm 142862 DGS 7857104, item 1. *William S. Crum is probably his father William Spangler Crum.*

³¹⁷ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 82: 136, G.H.D. Gibson to John W. Crum 40 acres of survey 96, 17 Oct 1891; FHL microfilm 1428644 DGS 7857110, item 2; Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 84: 349, John W. Crum and Emma S. Crum to Samuel M. Crum and wife 96 acres of survey 96, 17 April 1895; FHL microfilm 142845 DGS 7857111, item 2 image 703.

³¹⁸ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 99: 519, John W. Crum and Emma his wife to Arthur V. Crum, 26 Sept 1910; *unfilmed.*

³¹⁹ "General News - Democrats of Oregon Township...", *The National Democrat*, 23 Mar 1882, p. 5, col. 6; digital images, NewspaperArchive (<https://newspaper.archive> : accessed 8 Jul 2025.)

³²⁰ "Notes of the News from Jeffersonville," *The Courier-Journal*, 22 Aug 1909, p. 3, col. 5; digital images, Newspapers.com (www.newspapers.com : accessed 8 Jul 2025); "A certificate was filed in the office of George W. Stoner, Recorder of Carak County, yesterday afternoon of the election of the following trustees for Union Methodist Episcopal Church, Utica Township...John W. Crum.

³²¹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 85 – 88.

³²² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 444-448.

³²³ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 5: 344, Maude M. Robertson, William O. Robertson et al; FHL microfilm 1415990 DGS 7664678, item 2 image 509.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

In March 1901 Both John and Emma were arraigned before a Grand Jury, arrested and tried on charges of severely beating Grace "Nickles" an orphan girl "taken in from an Orphans Home in New Albany".^{324,325} John ultimately pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced to a \$10 fine plus court costs, while the charges against Emma were dropped.³²⁶

In 1912 the newspapers noted that John and Emma were visiting her sisters Sarah and Barbara and their families in Washington County.³²⁷ And they are regularly recorded at family celebrations such as anniversaries, funerals and weddings.³²⁸ Both sons attended the first Fry Family reunion in 1916, not long after Emma's death.³²⁹ The last 15 years of Emma's life saw the death of 7 of her siblings and she was regularly mentioned in their obituaries.

Emma Sophia Fry Crum died on September 29, 1915, at age 68, after at least a year of ill health and complications.³³⁰ The local newspapers noted her pioneer descent and wide connections across Clark County, recognizing her family's early settlement in the region.³³¹

In January 1919, John experienced what the newspapers described as a "miraculous escape" from an accident involving his buggy and a train, but the accident incident ultimately proved fatal.³³² He died on April 15, 1919, at age 71, from complications arising from his injuries in the accident.³³³ His will divided his personal property evenly between his sons but left his remaining land, 60 acres in survey 54, to his son Arthur in thanks for looking after his father's business and "taking care of him in his old age."

12. **Louisa Rebecca Fry** was born on 16 Oct 1850 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 9 Nov 1925 in Clark County, Indiana, and was buried in Union Cemetery, Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.³³⁴ {FSID: LVSB-N7V}

³²⁴ "Jury Secured," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 9 Mar 1901, p. 5, col. 6; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaper.archive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025); "The grand jury in making the returns yesterday brought in an indictment against J. W. Crum for his mistreatment of Grace Nickles, whom he had taken from an orphans' home in New Albany;" Clark, Indiana, Civil order books 1853-1921 58: 262, State of Indiana vs Emma Crum; State of Indiana vs John W. Crum, 5 Mar 1901; FHL microfilm 2180047 DGS 8052731, item 2 image 170;

³²⁵ *Research in the 1900 census for the Orphanages of Jeffersonville and New Albany show only one girl named Grace of an appropriate age. Grace Keys, age 15 in 1900 was residing in the New Albany orphanage. Age 16 was a usual age for girls in orphanages to be "apprenticed" to families to be taught domestic and basic farm labor skills.*

³²⁶ Clark, Indiana, Civil order books 1853-1921 58: 377, State of Indiana vs Emma Crum no 3494, 8 Oct 1901; FHL microfilm 2180047 DGS 8052731, item 2 image 557; Clark, Indiana, Civil order books 1853-1921 58: 377+, State of Indiana vs John W. Crum no 3495; FHL microfilm 2180047 DGS 8052731, item 2 image 557.

³²⁷ "Olive Branch (news)."

³²⁸ "Long Illness Terminates in the Death of Abraham Fry;" "Aged Native Passes Away"

³²⁹ "Fry Family Hold Re-Union," *The Citizen Record*, 7 Sept 1916, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaper.archive.com> : accessed 11 Jul 2025.)

³³⁰ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 81 (1915), Emma S. Crum.

³³¹ "Of Pioneer Descent were women whose death are recorded: Mrs. John Crum," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 30 Sep 1915, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025.)

³³² "Miraculous Escape for John Crum," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 23 Jan 1919, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive*. (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025); "Accident Finally is Fatal," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 16 Apr 1919, p. 1, col. 7; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025); "John Crum Dies," *The Courier-Journal*, 17 April 1919, p. 9, col. 4; digital images, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com : accessed 8 Jul 2025.)

³³³ "Grand Jury Impaneled...Crum will probated," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 21 Apr 1919, p. 1, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 8 Jul 2025); "personal property to be split evenly between sons...60 acres in survey 54 to Arthur V. Crum for taking care of father in his old age."

³³⁴ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 37127 (1925), Louisa R. Robertson; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 14 Mar 2025); *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025), Louisa R. Fry Robertson, memorial number 18560760; *stone says Louisa R. wife, memorial says Louisa R. Fry Robertson. stone gives full date and is shared with husband and son Elmer and his wife.*

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Louisa married **Joseph Carr Robertson**, son of William Fletcher Robertson and Malinda Carr, on 14 Feb 1878 in Clark County, Indiana.³³⁵ Joseph was born on 17 Jul 1850 in Clark County, Indiana, died on 5 Oct 1893 in Utica Township, Clark, Indiana, and was buried in Union Cemetery, Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana.³³⁶ {FSID: L5D3-4RD}

They had 4 children: **Maud May, William Omar, Elmer Fry, and Clarence Jacob.**³³⁷

Louisa's was the youngest child in her large family. By the time she was born her oldest brother had married and was establishing his own household, and before she turned 3, her oldest sister would also be married and gone. She would grow up in a community tightly knit in kinship bonds and her family an increasingly prosperous part of that network.

Joseph's childhood was spent in the agricultural community of Utica Township, where he appeared in his father's household in both the 1860 and 1870 federal censuses.³³⁸ Joseph was the oldest son of William and Malinda and the only one to survive into adulthood.³³⁹ He and Louisa were near neighbors and had probably known each other from infancy.³⁴⁰ And two of Louisa's brothers married Joseph's older sisters.³⁴¹ The courtship between Joseph and Louisa culminated in a Valentine's Day wedding.

Following their marriage, Joseph and Louisa established themselves in Utica Township, on 78 acres of survey 26 purchased from his father and mother in 1875,³⁴² where they appeared in the 1880 federal census.³⁴³ While Joseph was listed on the census as a farmer he apparently also pursued various business ventures, including retail the dry goods trade, as evidenced by his later suit against George W. Gibson for nonpayment for goods and merchandise.³⁴⁴ This lawsuit, filed on July 24, 1886, drug on until after Joseph's 1893 death and ultimately Louisa received a payment of about 80% of money's claimed in the initial suit.³⁴⁵ During the guardianship of John

³³⁵ Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, J: 266, Robertson-Fry, 1878; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999 (digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed)) ID: 1,9045::0, Record of Wills, 1824-1939; Author: Marion County (Indiana). Circuit Court Clerk; bk EE, pg 533+, image 656+. Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

³³⁶ *Find A Grave*, digital images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025), Joseph Carr Robertson, memorial number 18560696; stone says Joseph C. Robertson, memorial says Joseph Carr Robertson. stone gives full dates. stone is shared with wife, son Elmer and his wife.

³³⁷ Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 60" 033743 (1960), Maude Robertson; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); Clark, Indiana, Marriage records 1810-2001, Robertson-Bushfield, 1933; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); Father Joseph Robertson, Mother Louisa Fry; Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. '58 010976 (1958), Elmer Fry Robertson; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017" (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 81-12539 (1981), Clarence J. Robertson; digital image, Ancestry, "Indiana, U.S., Death Certificates, 1899-2017," (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)

³³⁸ 1860 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 513, dwelling 146, family 146, Joseph Robertson; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 Jul 2025); citing NARA microfilm M653, roll 248; in household of Wm Robertson and Malinda Robertson ; 1870 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, p. 608B, dwelling 268, family 382, Roberston Joseph; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com); citing NARA microfilm M593, roll 608B; in household of W.F. Robertson and Malinda Robertson.

³³⁹ *Younger son William Robertson born c. 1858 appears only in the 1860 census household. There is no other evidence for him.*

³⁴⁰ Davis, *1875 Land Ownership Map of Clark County*.

³⁴¹ Clark, Indiana, marriage registration, 1: 184, Fry-Robertson, 1866; Clark, Indiana, marriage certificate, Indiana, U.S., Marriage Certificates, 1960-2012, Fry-Shrader, 1881.

³⁴² Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 65: 360, William F. Robertson and wife to Joseph C. Robertson, 11 Oct 1875; FHL microfilm 1428627 DGS 7857103, item 1.

³⁴³ 1880 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 36, p. 277b, dwelling 169, family 172, Robinson (sic) Joseph; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 10 Jul 2025); citing NARA microfilm T9, roll 269.

³⁴⁴ Clark, Indiana, Civil order books 1853-1921 33: 578-579, Joseph C. Robertson vs George W. Gibson, 20 Jul 1886; FHL microfilm 2113539 DGS 8053142, item 1 image 665; comments and receipt on judgement entered 15 Jan 1896.

³⁴⁵ Clark, Indiana, Civil order books 1853-1921 33: 578.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Fry in the 1880s, Joseph was listed as indebted to John in the amount \$2500 and regularly paid the interest on the debt to the guardians but had not settled the outstanding loan before he died.³⁴⁶

A particularly troubling family episode occurred in February 1890, when the local newspaper reported that "Mrs. Robertson is a raving maniac," and that she could not be left alone and had been burning all the books in the household. Her condition was attributed to "religious mania" suggesting that Louisa may have experienced some form of mental health crisis or religious fervor that concerned the community.¹⁴ Whatever the issue she apparently recovered and resumed her usual role in the household and in the community.³⁴⁷

Joseph was sick in March 1889 "with pneumonia."³⁴⁸ This illness may have been a harbinger of more serious health problems that would eventually claim his life. However, he recovered enough that his father named him as executor when he wrote his will in 1890.³⁴⁹

Joseph Carr Robertson's life was cut short on October 5, 1893, at the age of 43. His death left Louisa a widow with four young children to raise and significant legal and financial responsibilities to manage. The local newspaper reported the large turnout for his funeral on October 7, 1893, noting the community's esteem for the family.³⁵⁰

In his will, written on March 29, 1893, just months before his death, Joseph left his entire estate "in Indiana and elsewhere" to his wife Louisa and named her as executor.³⁵¹ Louisa promptly filed for probate of his will on October 11, 1893, and was appointed as her husband's administrator, her sureties were her brother Jacob S. Fry and her father in law William F. Robertson.³⁵² The scope of Louisa's responsibilities as a widow was considerable. She had debts to collect as well as debts to pay and after the death of William F. Robertson, she had to manage her children's financial inheritance as well. On August 28, 1895, she was appointed guardian of her four children and their estates, with Abraham Fry and John W. Crum serving as bondsmen.³⁵³ Her financial guardianship duties were complex and lasted until her youngest child, turned 21 in 1906.³⁵⁴ On November 20, 1895, she petitioned the court to sell her children's one-sixth undivided interest in the estate of their deceased grandfather William F.

³⁴⁶ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, P: 112-115; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, S: 85 – 88; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, U: 444-448.

³⁴⁷ "Utica (news)," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 21 Mar 1889, p. 2, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025).

³⁴⁸ "Utica (news)," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 21 Mar 1889, p. 2, col. 3; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)

³⁴⁹ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, I: 299-201, William F. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415964 DGS 7664666, item 2 image 179.

³⁵⁰ "Local Talk," *Jeffersonville News*, 7 Oct 1893, p. 1, col. 2; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)

³⁵¹ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999 (digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed)) ID: 1,9045::0, Joseph C. Robertson; Clark County, Indiana; Will Date 29 Mar 1893; Clark County, Indiana, Will Records, Vol I, pg 347-348. *wife Louisa R. Robertson left entire estate "in Indiana and elsewhere" and named executor. No children named (all were minors).* Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

³⁵² Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 3: 113, Estate of Joseph C. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415989 DGS 7664677, item 3 image 83; *bond in the amount of \$4,000, sureties William F. Robertson and Jacob S. Fry; "The Court," The National Democrat*, 13 Oct 1893, p. 6, col. 8; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)

³⁵³ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 5: 344, Maude M. Robertson, William O. Robertson et al; FHL microfilm 1415990 DGS 7664678, item 2 image 509.

³⁵⁴ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 13: 91-92, Louisa R. Robertson; FHL microfilm 14285376646984 DGS, item 3 image 776 – 777; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 14: 115-116, Louisa R. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1428535 DGS 7664699, item 2 image 88-89; Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 18: 494-496, Louisa R. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1428536 DGS 7664700, item 3 image 280-281; Clark, Indiana, death certificate no. 81-12539 (1981), Clarence J. Robertson.

Descendants of Sarah Swartz and John Fry through the 3rd generation from John and Elizabeth Ohlweiler Swartz

Robertson, so that she could invest the proceeds and actively manage their future assets.^{355,356} She submitted regular accounts to the court for 11 years, with a particularly detailed accounting filed on October 4, 1898 after the closure of William F. Robertsons estate probate.³⁵⁷ In 1920 when Joseph Carr Robertson's uncle David Carr died, leaving "to the children of my deceased nephew Joseph Carr Robertson, (*the children*) living at the time of my decease, 1/6 of said 1/8 part of my estate in equal shares," the adult children all inherited directly.³⁵⁸

Throughout her widowhood, Louisa maintained strong ties to her extended family and community. She remained in on the farm she and Joseph established when they married, and her children Maude and Elmer appear in her household through the censuses of 1900, 1910, and 1920.³⁵⁹ Her continued presence in Utica Township reflected both her deep roots in the community and her commitment to providing stability for her children.

After 32 years of widowhood, Louisa Rebecca Fry Robertson passed away on November 9, 1925, in Clark County, Indiana, at the age of 75. Her obituary appeared in the local newspaper under the headline "Old Resident of Utica Township Passes Away," and gave her parents and their connection to the history of Clark County as well as her children's residences.³⁶⁰ No religious affiliation was mentioned, which is usual for the Fry Family. She had outlived her siblings by a decade.

³⁵⁵ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 6: 17-20, Louisa R. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415991 DGS 7664679, item 1, images 39-41.

³⁵⁶ Clark, Indiana, Deed Records, 1801-1901, 86: 33-34, Louisa R. Robertson to Emma Robertson and Belle J. Robertson the undivided 1/6 of 159 acres of survey 26, 14 Dec 1895; FHL microfilm 14646 DGS 7857112, item 1 image 701-702.

³⁵⁷ Clark, Indiana, Probate Records 1817-1919, 9: 508-511, Louisa R. Robertson; FHL microfilm 1415992 DGS 7664689, item 2, images 306-308.

³⁵⁸ Indiana, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 12 June 2025) ID: 1,9045::0, Record of Wills, 1824-1939; Author: Marion County (Indiana). Circuit Court Clerk; bk EE, pg 533+, image 656+. Indiana County, District and Probate Courts.

³⁵⁹ 1900 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 20, sheet 12, p. B, dwelling 272, family 274, Louisa Robinson; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); citing NARA microfilm T623, roll 363; 1910 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 22, sheet 8, p. B, dwelling 199, family 205, Robertson, Louisa R.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); citing NARA microfilm T624, roll 342; 1920 U.S. census, Clark, Indiana, population schedule, Utica, enumeration district (ED) 22, sheet 11, p. B, dwelling 244, family 245, Robertson Louisa R.; digital images, Ancestry (www.ancestry.com : accessed 15 Mar 2025); citing NARA microfilm T625, roll 425.

³⁶⁰ "Old Resident of Utica Township Passes Away," *Jeffersonville Evening News*, 9 Nov 1925, p. 1, col. 1; digital images, *NewspaperArchive* (<https://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 15 Mar 2025.)