

# by Marjorie Flanigan

## FLANIGAN FAMILY

William Flanigan (Wife unknown)

William & Rebecca Flanigan

Wilford & Jane Rothrock Flanigan

Lillie May

George Edward & Alice  
Hostetter Flanigan

Luther Emery & Nellie  
Bye Flanigan

Arthur Henry & Nell  
Tower Flanigan

David Willis & Ella  
Hostetter Flanigan

( Helen Flanigan

( Rozelle & Butler  
Crawford

( Clifford & Ruth  
Menges Flanigan

( Wilford & Cara  
Flanigan

( Edith & Walter  
Dycus

( David & Coletta  
Roth Flanigan

( Meredith & Margaret  
Flanigan

( Marie & Edward  
Hawk

( Laura Jane &  
Richard Shields

( Paul & Mary  
Flanigan

( Anita & Robert  
Batman

( Karl & Dorothy  
Flanigan

( Edna & Harry  
Niemeyer

( Maurice & Mary Thornbury  
Flanigan

( Martha Jane Flanigan

( Marjorie Flanigan

( Richard & Mary Evelyn  
Hall Flanigan

## FLANIGAN

(Other spellings: Flanagan, Flannigan, Flanegan, Flanekin, etc.)

According to history as told to Clifford Flanigan by his grandmother, Martha Jane Rothrock Flanigan, and his father, George Edward Flanigan, in approximately 1790 five Flanigan brothers arrived from Ireland, having earned their passage on a cattle boat, and settled in New York for a year or so. Later they worked on a canal near what is now Washington D. C., saved their money and then four of them (one remained in New York) came down the Ohio River on a raft, down from the Ohio Falls to the foot of Elizabeth Hill (about 12 miles south of New Albany) where they purchased land at 25¢ per acre.

Every year they made a hoop pole raft and each took his turn every four years going down the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans, where they sold their raft (hoop poles were used to make hogheads and were a commodity needed in daily commerce), furs, hides, etc. They would buy a horse and return to Indiana by the Natchez Trace with the provisions they had purchased. According to George Edward Flanigan's notes, his great-grandfather, WILLIAM, was a flatboatman on the Mississippi River and never returned after a trip down the river with a son.

The WILLIAM FLANIGAN shown in the Crawford County Census of 1850 would have been a son of that great-grandfather. The census, in microfilm at the Fort Wayne Library shows the following:

WILLIAM Flanigan,	age 50, born in New Jersey *
REBECCA FLANIGAN,	age 42, born in Kentucky
Jonathan	age 23, born in Harrison County, Indiana
Samuel	age 19, born in Harrison County, Indiana
John	age 16, born in Crawford County, Indiana
James	age 14, born in Crawford County, Indiana
William	age 12, born in Crawford County, Indiana
<u>WILFORD</u>	age 10, born in Crawford County, Indiana
Nancy J.	age 8, born in Crawford County, Indiana

\*Birth in New Jersey is questioned. Could he have come from the new York/New Jersey area with his father?

The census record of 1840 shows William Flanigan as having seven boys and one girl. There surely are discrepancies as to some birth dates as Bible records show WILFORD'S birth as August 25, 1843. Their home was on Slick Run which was about three miles south of Milltown.

Evidently at the time of the 1850 census, the oldest son, Joseph, had already left home. He took his wife to Fordyce, Arkansas, where he owned a ferry boat. They had several children. Political enemies caused his death by putting poison in his whiskey because of his anti-slavery position. He is buried at Fordyce in Bradley County, Arkansas, on the Saline River. Joseph's widow and children returned in haste and fear to Valley City, Indiana, in a spring wagon. Joseph's second oldest son, who returned with his mother, was the grandfather of the present-day (1977) ex-policeman, William Flanigan, in New Albany.

There are Flanigans buried in Glenwood Cemetery, about five miles south of Elizabeth, as well as in cemeteries in other parts of Indiana and the country.

No information was found as to maiden name, etc., of Rebecca.

This is a copy of an article which appeared in The Crawford County Democrat. It was written by Jacob L. Summers of Milltown. The publication date is unknown. The junior editor may have been Paul Flanigan, son of Arthur H. Flanigan.

#### PIONEER

William Flanigan, the great-grandfather of the junior editor of the Democrat, lived down on Slick Run. His greatest pride was in good horses, of which he never failed to have several of the best.

Uncle Bill, as he was always called, was a good trainer and his horses thoroughly understood and obeyed his orders. Back in the fifties, Summers and Gibbs operated the old Milltown Mills and ground many bushels of grain for Uncle Bill. When he came to the mill it made no difference how small his grist, he would harness his four horses, hitch them to his wagon and drive them to the mill. While waiting for his grist, he would display his horses as well as his horsemanship, which was enjoyed by the group of boys what gathered around, as well as by the older men.

#### Song Heralded Visit

Uncle Bill in those days was an unpromising Democrat, and as he came rattling down the rocky hill into town, with a coarse and husky voice that could be heard all over the town, he would sing:

"Get out of the way, for Polk root is pizen;  
It killed old Clay and Freelinghisen."

(alluding to the Polk and Clay campaign). When the boys heard him coming they would congregate for a good time. Uncle Bill would have his favorite horse perform many amusing tricks which he would sport with the boys.

In those days Slick Run Valley was infested with a loathsome and in many cases a fatal disease called Milk Sick, which has to this day baffled the skill of the best physicians. Old Dr. Ryan was the only doctor in the neighborhood and was a very busy man. On one occasion while passing along he was called in to Uncle Bill's to see a case of milk sick, and not having the required medicine in his pill-bags, told Uncle Bill that when he got home he would send the medicine down.

#### Writer Carried Medicine

On the old doctor's arrival home he prepared some medicine, wrote some directions and told his son Dick and me to take the medicine to Uncle Bill. On our arrival, I being the youngest, Dick in unmistakable terms ordered me to take the medicine in, which to prevent a sound thumping, I willingly did and handed it to Uncle Bill. His education being somewhat limited, he asked me to read the directions, which I did as best I could.

The directions ran something like this: "Medicine to be taken with a liberal use of Apple Brandy". Uncle Bill looked at me with a smile and said, "Sonny, the medicine it all right but the disease is terrible."

I went my way only to learn a short time later that the terrible disease had fastened onto my old friend and baffled the skill of the good Dr. Ryan, and another old Pioneer had passed. Uncle Bill was the father of seven sons, five of whom were soldiers in the War between the States. He died about the year 1860; the exact date is not known by the writer.

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COMPANY E, 38TH INDIANA INFANTRY.

Both Edmund Hostetter and Wilford Flanigan served in the War Between the States. The following information was obtained from books at the Fort Wayne -Allen County Library.

The 38th was organized and mustered into service, for 3 years, at New Albany, Indiana, on September 18, 1861. The fall and winter were passed at Camp Wood on Green River near Mumfordsville, Kentucky.

In February 1862, it moved with Buell's army in campaign against Bowling Green near Nashville.

In May it made frequent and rapid marches to intercept Morgan's Cavalry. The regiment engaged in campaigns through Kentucky and took part in the battle of Perryville.

On November 2, it was placed in the First Division of the 14th Army Corps.

In December 1862, and in 1863, it participated in the battle of Stone River, went to Murfreesboro until campaign against Chattanooga.

On 18th and 19th of September 1863, engaged in battle of Chickamauga.

On November 23rd and 25th took part in the engagements at Lookout Mountain and Mission Ridge.

The regiment re-enlisted on December 28, 1863.

On January 3, 1864, a Veteran Furlough at Indianapolis.

On February 25, 1864, returned to Chattanooga.

On May 7, 1864, marched with Sherman's army in the campaign against Atlanta, engaging in all skirmishes and battles, including the engagement at Jonesboro, in which the 38th carried the rebel works in a charge.

On October 4, marched in pursuit of Hood's retreating army as far as Bayle-ville, Alabama, then returned to Atlanta.

In November it marched with Army of Georgia in campaign through Georgia. After the occupation of Savannah the regiment remained there until February 5 when it again moved, passing through the Carolinas to Goldsboro, taking part in all battles and skirmishes of note.

Went from Goldsboro to Raleigh.

After Johnson's surrender, marched via Richmond and Alexandria to Washington -- a distance of 192 miles -- making the entire distance in 6 days (average 32 miles per day).

From Washington the Regiment was transferred to Louisville and after remaining there for some time, on July 15, 1865, it was mustered out of service.

Reached Indianapolis on July 16, 1865.

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Note: The above covers only the highlights of the material at the library.

The material shows that Edmund Hostetter enlisted August 20, 1861, was commissioned Captain on November 1, 1864 and resigned May 28, 1865 because of poor health.

Wilford Flanigan's name is shown as Welford Flanagan, who was mustered in on September 18, 1861 and mustered out as a veteran on July 15, 1865.

- Marjorie Flanigan  
October 1976

## ROTHROCK

In a book, ROTHROCK FAMILY, by John Angelo Pontz, it is told that three Rockrock family groups settled in America from near Leiselheim, Germany, one of whom was John (Johannas) who arrived in Philadelphia in 1736. He was born in Leiselheim in 1721 and died in 1806 in Northampton County. His wife's name was Anna Margaret.

Johannas and Anna Margaret Rothrock had a son John George who married Elizabeth Romig. George and Elizabeth's son, Peter, was born in 1755, lived in Oneida County New York and moved to Crawford County Indiana.

The above agrees with information handed down in the Rothrock family as follows:

Peter Rothrock was born in Pennsylvania, lived in Burke County, then he and some of the other Rothrocks of his family moved to Oneida County, New York, in 1793.

In 1818, Peter then 63 years of age, his wife Margaret Heidner (Hubner?) age 62, whom he had married in 1785; their son Solomon, age 32; his wife Sally Smallman, age 23; their baby George age 2; Peter and Margaret's son Henry Peter age 26; daughter Mary age 16; and a nephew Henry Rothrock (perhaps the son of Peter's brother), loaded their household goods in a house boat which they had built and "cordelled" the boat up the river to the water shed and crossed the portage. That is, hauled their goods, boat and all, to the headquarters of the Allegheny River, and floated down to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and from there down the Ohio to Jeffersonville.

There, the Ohio River being low, they encountered the falls of the River 25 feet. There was an expert pilot to take the boat over, but that would have cost them \$5.00, which was more money than the whole outfit possessed, so they got work at Jeffersonville making barrels. They all were coopers so they made a little stake and in the spring of 1819 they floated over the falls as the Ohio River, being on one of its annual rampages, had obliterated the falls.

They floated down the Ohio River 60 miles (to about where Leavenworth is today), then up Blue River ten miles where they filed on some land, made a home and lived there until they all died, except Peter, son of Solomon, his wife and baby who later settled several miles up Blue River and built a home and water mill in what is known as Dukes Bend in Crawford County. Henry Rothrock had a water mill and distillery at Wyandotte, Indiana.

As mentioned above, Peter and Margaret had three children:

SOLOMON - born November 23, 1786, died April 22, 1867  
Married Sally Smallman

Henry Peter - born January 1792, died Feb, 22, 1871  
Married Lydia Marshall Bounde

Mary - born Aug. 1, 1802, died July 20, 1892  
Married Joseph Wilson

The mother, Margaret Heidner Rothrock was born Jan. 13, 1755 and died August 8, 1842. She was the daughter of Milcher and Anna Barbara (Fisher) Heidner. She had lived in Bedminster Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Both she and Peter are buried in the Rockrock Cemetery, Wyandotte, Crawford County, Indiana. The others, at least Solomon and Sally, are buried in the cemetery at Thompson's Chapel, Harrison County, Indiana.

ROTHROCK (Continued)

The 1840 census figures for Harrison County, show Solomon Rothrock, wife and six children living at that time.

SOLOMON & SALLY SMALLMAN ROTHROCK were married in New York state - date unknown.

Their children:

George - Born April 16, 1816, died June 8, 1953  
Married Pernilia Hall Gilden

PHILO - Born February 18, 1821, died February 24, 1904  
Married Elizabeth Burnett

Amos - Born March 9, 1823, died March 20, 1906  
Married Ellen Burnett

Alexander - Born August 28, 1829, died February 20, 1849  
Single

Louis ( )  
Joseph ( )  
Mary ( No information found )  
Margaret ( )  
Rebecca ( )

According to notes written by George Edward Flanigan, when George Rothrock died, Philo bought Rothrock's Mill from the estate. The mill was located on Big Blue River at the point known as the Leonard Duke Farm at that time. The mill now (1977) is about ready to fall down though there has been some talk of the state restoring it.

FLANIGAN - ROTHROCK

WILFORD FLANIGAN - Born August 15, 1843  
Died August 17, 1877  
Buried at Thompson's Chapel, Harrison County, Indiana

MARTHA JANE ROTHROCK - Born November 20, 1846  
Died July 10, 1931  
Buried at Milltown, Crawford County, Indiana

WILFORD FLANIGAN & MARTHA JANE ROTHROCK were married January 27, 1867.

Their children:

- Lillie May- Born May 6, 1868  
Single  
Died November 30, 1919  
Buried at Milltown
- George Edward - Born August 23, 1870  
Married Alice Harriet Hostetter  
Died April 10, 1953  
Buried at New Albany
- Arthur Henry - Born September 7, 1872  
Married Nell Tower  
Died April 3, 1948  
Buried at Milltown
- Luther Eary - Born September 7, 1872  
Married Nellie Bye  
Died January 21, 1959  
Buried at Milltown
- David WILLIS - Born July 10, 1875  
Married Ella Martha Hostetter  
Died April 21, 1916  
Buried at Milltown

For a few years, at least, following the death of Wilford Flanigan, Jane (as she was called) and her five children lived in a log house which later burned. After that they lived in a conventional house near St. Joseph Catholic Church a few miles southwest of Milltown and it was there that the boys (Willis at least) would throw down his hoe, go into St. Josephs with other children and learned the Hail Mary. Jane and her family were staunch Methodists. After the sons were married, Jane and Lillie moved to Milltown where Lillie worked in "Flanigan Brothers", the general store owned by her brothers. After some years of co-ownership the brothers scattered to other ventures and Luther took over the store.

(The name "Eary" is spelled as written in the bible of his mother. He later spelled it "Emery").

ROTHROCK (Continued)

The Crawford County, Indiana, census of 1850 shows Philo Rothrock, a farmer, age 50, born in Harrison County; his wife, age 30, born in Harrison County; and four children: Solomon and Emily born in Harrison County; Martha Jane and Lydia born in Crawford County. Other children were born after that census. Philo's wife, Elizabeth Burnett, was born January 21, 1821 and died June 23, 1876 at age 55. Both Philo and Elizabeth are buried in the cemetery at Thompson's Chapel in Harrison County.

PHILO & ELIZABETH were married September 13, 1840.

Their children:

Solomon - Born October 17, 1842; died November 8, 1862  
Married Nancy J. Flanigan (sister of Wilford)

Emily A. - Born October 17, 1844  
Married John White

MARTHA JANE - Born November 20, 1846  
Married Wilford Flanigan

Lydia - Born March 2, 1849  
Married J. C. Rankin

Sara Catherine (Katie) - Born September 12, 1851,  
died September 29, 1903  
Single

John A. - Born March 26, 1853, died April 16, 1925  
Married Kate Burgess

William Henry - Born September 25, 1855, died in 1948  
Married Ballie A. Swarens

George Luther - Born May 20, 1858, died April 15, 1948  
Married Elizabeth Brown, then Ruth Brown

Mary - Born August 22, 1841, died October 17 same year.

After Elizabeth died in 1876, Philo married Carrie Thornbury. They had three sons:

Gordon

Ernest

Raymond

Philo, Carrie and the three sons went to Missouri, near Joplin, in the early 80's. They came back to Indiana in the spring of 1903. She and the sons went back to Missouri in the early winter, leaving Philo with his daughter, Emily. He died February 24, 1904. Carrie Thornbury Rothrock was an aunt (great aunt?) of Mrs. Maurice M. (Mary) Flanigan now (1977) living in Bloomington, Indiana.