

111th Ohio

Buried
I 3588

THE WADE FAMILY HISTORY



DIANA.



JOSEPH GINGERY.

199. Diana Wade-Gingery, was born August 12, 1839, in Union Township, Hancock County, Ohio. In 1845, when six years old, she began attending school at the center of Union Township. She totaled seven years, averaging seven months each, in school. One year her brother, George, was teacher. At the age of fifteen she, with her parents, moved to Hull's Encampment, on the Findlay Pike, in Wood County. In Hancock County she saw the building of the first railroad, the Mad River Road; in Wood County she saw the first County Fair in 1854, and the building of the first railroad, the C. H. and D., in 1859.

On July 4, 1855, she and Joseph Gingery with her parents, went to Grand Rapids to a celebration. The steamboat, "Cora Locks," came up the Maumee River to Grand Rapids. On the next Fourth they went to Bowling Green, and in the evening with several young people, to Grand Rapids to a dance. The dance was in a tavern. The inn-keeper furnished the music, and served up a whole roast pig for dinner.

December 10, 1857, when eighteen years old, she married Joseph Gingery, a farmer, then almost twenty-two years old, and who lived near her own home.

SECOND GENERATION

They had met one spring when she, with Dave Wade's wife, had gone to get garden seeds from his mother. They stayed with her parents until Spring, then moved on a rented farm near Bowling Green. They remained there until Fall and then Joseph's father built them a house on his own place, and they returned there to help with his farm. They remained here until the war, and cleared fifteen acres that was partly slashed.

When the Civil War broke out, feeling in the new country ran high, and finally, September 6, 1862, Joseph felt the need of his country was greater than that of his wife and three little boys, the youngest six months old. He enlisted at Weston and was mustered into service by C. O. Howard at Toledo. He belonged to Company K, 111th O. V. I., Twenty-third Army Corps.

Before he joined the army he bought forty acres of land north of George Wade's place. He paid seventy-five dollars as a first payment, expecting to work and pay the rest. He had material on the place for a house and had planted an orchard. When he enlisted he thought Diana could pay for the place and live on the money he would send home from the army. When he came home on a furlough he made up his mind that this could not be done, so they let the place go back to the man from whom it was bought.

During the war Diana lived with her husband's parents. It fell to the lot of the women very often, to supply the places of their absent husbands, and she helped to do much of the farm work. At one time she, with four or five other women, planted fourteen acres of corn.

Near the close of the war, after having been home once on a furlough, and within three days of the expiration of his enlistment, Joseph Gingery was killed. His death occurred November 30, 1864, in the battle of Franklin, just outside Nashville. He had been with Sherman on the beginning of the "March to the Sea,"

and was sent to Nashville to reinforce Thomas. In the beginning of this battle he was transferred from the wagon train guard to the front, at his own request. His few belongings, including a blanket, a diary, a watch and a testament, together with a letter from his commander, General Thomas, and several letters from members of the company, were sent home and Diana was left poor, in a new country, and with three small boys to care for, a widow, only a little past twenty-five. A small log house had been built adjoining the house of her parents and there, with the inspiration and scant help they could give, she took up her burden and struggled bravely on. She received a small pension and each of the children, until they reached the age of sixteen, were also pensioned.

They lived with her parents until her second marriage. Her father died in the meantime. Times were hard, and several efforts were made to ease off the pressure of poverty. Franklin came with his family, built a house on the old farm and tried to help the others. Here his wife died, and after that he found it necessary to leave and do for himself. Wenman, Jr., took the ten acres with the house Franklin had built, but was not able to help the home-folks sufficiently to make it possible for them to stay together. Diana's mother arranged to will her enough of the estate to pay her for caring for her until death, but the income was too small, even with the help of the little that her growing boys were able to earn, to enable her to do it.

Finally, September 16, 1875, Diana gave up her effort to care for her mother and her boys. At the same time, she relinquished the promised share of the home estate to a brother and married again. Her second husband bore the same name as the first, Joseph Ginery, and was an uncle of the first. He owned a large tract of land near Orville, Ohio, and also a farm near Copley, Ohio. He was a widower with a family of children. They were married in Bowling Green and

immediately removed to Copley, bringing the two younger boys with them and followed soon after by the oldest, Xury.

They lived on this place until the husband's death December 17, 1883. One child was born to them here, Alma L. And again she was widowed with a small child to care for. The three boys were married and her second marriage had cut off her pension but the habits of her earlier years enabled her to live and care for her daughter on a small estate her husband left her. She moved two and one-half miles northwest of Sharon Center, on a small farm which her youngest son, living near, cared for. Here she raised and educated her daughter. In 1896 she bought a small place in Sharon Center, and made it her home for some time. After the marriage of her daughter, Alma, she lived with them until her death.

After a brief illness, which developed into pneumonia, she died at the home of her daughter, north of Wadsworth, Ohio, January 14, 1917.

At the hands of a very few are required the sacrifices she made. She lived to lose two husbands and all of her brothers and sisters. The trials of her life began early and continued long. Yet every new demand was met with a bravery and fortitude that well may be coveted by all. She held fast to her faith, and remained cheerful and hopeful to the end. Her mind and memory were undimmed by age, and she was able to go about the country until within a few days of her death. Hers was a noble, self-sacrificing, heroic life.