

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
White House Special Files Collection
Folder List

<u>Box Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>	<u>Document Date</u>	<u>Document Type</u>	<u>Document Description</u>
12	3	n.d.	Book	"Memoir of the Life and Services of Colonel John Nixon" by Charles Henry Hart. Original printed in Philadelphia 1877. 19 pages. Cover scanned.
12	3	1908	Book	The Families of French of Belturbet and Nixon of Fermanagh and Their Descendants by the Rev. Henry Biddall Swanzy, M.A. 211 pages. Cover scanned.
12	3	12/1969	Brochure	"The Owl" published by and for the Wing Family of America, Inc.. Vol. 62, Boston, Massachusetts, December 1969. Note on cover: Please notice page 4125. 28 pages. Cover scanned.
12	3	n.d.	Other Document	Copy of Nixon family genealogy, family tree. Includes surnames Nixon, Milhous, Brady, etc. 1 page.
12	3	10/12/1971	Report	Note: Noble Melencamp to Diane Humes. Typed report on "President Nixon's Hoosier Roots" by Herbert R. Hill, Editor of Outdoor Indiana. 10 pages total. Note with 9 pages attached.
12	3	09/10/1971	Report	Nixon genealogy materials from Raymond M. Bell. Includes numerous surnames. 5 pages.

MEMOIR

OF THE

LIFE AND SERVICES

OF

COLONEL JOHN NIXON

THE
FAMILIES
OF
FRENCH
AND
NIXON.

1908.

Please notice page 4125



<p>4 Samuel Brady Nixon 1847- 1914 PA OH m 1873</p>	<p>1821-1863 PA OH m 1843 9 Margaret Ann Trimmer 1826-1865 PA OH</p>	<p>17 Hannah c1790-c1827 DE PA 18 Anthony Trimmer c1781-1841 PA m 1824 19 Margaret Hunt 1804-1876 PA OH</p>
<p>Francis Anthony Nixon 1878-1956 OH CA 1908</p>	<p>10 Thomas Wiley Wadsworth 1826-1879 MD OH m 1850</p>	<p>20 Robert Wadsworth 1785-1867 MD OH 21 Elizabeth Lytle 1794-1831 MD</p>
<p>Sarah Ann worth 18 1886 OH</p>	<p>11 Mary Louise Moore 1832-1918 OH</p>	<p>22 Joseph Dickinson Moore 1794-1860 PA OH IA m 1825 23 Jane Brown 1807-1886 OH IA</p>
<p>1913</p>	<p>12 Joshua Vickers Milhous 1820-1893 OH IN</p>	<p>24 William Milhous 1783-1874 PA OH m 1807 25 Martha Vickers 1786-1873 PA OH</p>
<p>6 Franklin Milhous 1848-1919 OH IN CA m 1879</p>	<p>13 Elizabeth Price Griffith 1827-1923 PA OH IN CA</p>	<p>26 Amos Griffith c1798-1871 PA OH m 1820 27 Edith Price 1801-1873 MD PA OH</p>
<p>3 Hannah Milhous 1885-1967 IN CA</p>	<p>14 Oliver Burdg 1821-1908 PA OH IN CA</p>	<p>28 Jacob Burdg 1783-1862 NJ PA OH I m 1807 29 Miriam Matthews 1786-aft 1860 MD PA</p>
<p>7 Almira Park Burdg 1849-1943 OH IN CA</p>	<p>15 Jane Hemingway 1824-1890 OH IN</p>	<p>30 James Hemingway 1801-1893 NJ OH IA m 1823 31 Hope Malmsbury 1804-1865 NJ OH IA</p>

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

Date 10/12/71

TO: Draine Humes - for your
file - and your edification!

Noble Melencamp

President Nixon's Hoosier Roots

Part 2

By Herbert R. Hill
Editor of *Outdoor Indiana*

The 1890s were a period of economic turbulence and unrest in many parts of America, and particularly in the rural Midwest. Frank and Almira Milhous saw a lot of trouble ahead as they prepared to shepherd their children into the 20th Century. Where were they to be educated? How were they all to be clothed and fed?

The nursery business was waning around Vernon. Joshua was dead, and Franklin Milhous was compelled to run *Sycamore Valley Nursery* by himself. Many folks in Southern Indiana were moving to better farmland in the Central or Northern counties of the state, or getting jobs in the rapidly industrializing counties to the North. And there were families making the big jump to the Far West.

Moreover, other Quaker nurserymen had pre-empted the tree-growing business in such larger Indiana communities as Indianapolis, and Frank Milhous was not about to challenge them. Had he done so he probably could have found both spiritual fraternity and economic stability in the Quaker communities which flourished in all directions from the State's capital.

Sand Creek Academy was available some miles to the North, and there was *Earlham College* at Richmond, Indiana, where many *Sand Creek* graduates next enrolled. But much was being said throughout the Quaker world about the new *Friends Preparatory School* which had been established in 1888 in Southern California. In 1901 it was expanded into *Whittier College* although the *Academy* also continued.

Almira Burdg had taught school 10 years before marrying Franklin Milhous when she was 29. His first wife also had been a teacher. There was family as well as Friends interest in the desirability of education.

The town of Whittier, Southeast of Los Angeles, had been founded by Aquilla H. Pickering, a Friends attorney from Chicago. The first meeting of Whittier Monthly Meeting was held in December, 1887. It was subordinate to Pasadena Quarterly Meeting and Iowa Yearly Meeting. That Yearly Meeting, in turn, had been set off from Indiana Yearly Meeting in 1863.

In 1895 Whittier *Quarterly Meeting* was set off from Pasadena, and immediately those two Quarterly Meetings joined in organizing California Yearly Meeting after permission had been duly obtained from all Yearly Meetings, including London.

Hoosier-born Elias Jessup, an *Earlham* graduate, was the first minister of Whittier Monthly Meeting.

The congregation grew rapidly, augmented by newcomers from Indiana, Iowa and Kansas. So did the entire area, which was ostentatiously advertised as a *New Eden* in San Gabriel Valley, with superb climate and an unlimited economic potential. Frontier fares (one-way) on railway coaches cost only \$1 from Chicago, with comparable fares for other Midwestern communities.

Rose Olive Milhous Marshburn (Mrs. Oscar O. Marshburn) and Edith Milhous Timberlake are the only surviving children of Franklin and Almira Milhous. Mrs. Timberlake was the oldest and Mrs. Marshburn the youngest. [See the picture on Page 11 of the October issue of *Outdoor Indiana*.]

Mrs. Marshburn recalls how in later years her parents told her of their increasing interest in Whittier as letters from relatives and friends continued to arrive. They recited the better educational and economic advantages in California and praised the bland climate. It seemed to benefit Franklin's "weak chest."

"My father and mother visited Whittier several times before deciding to make the break," Mrs. Marsh-

burn wrote me recently. "Health, climate, and being closer to a Friends school were their reasons for coming.

"However, the setting for our old farm in Jennings County was very enticing when we were there last June."

This visit by Mr. and Mrs. Marshburn was only four days before the President made his unexpected trip to Vernon. She walked the fields at the farm, waded the creek, and tried to find the direct route the Milhous children took to the District schoolhouse.

Rose Olive Milhous came back to Indiana as a freshman at *Earlham* in 1913-1914. However, she was a graduate of both *Whittier Academy* and *Whittier College*. The other Milhous children had a similar close relationship with the Friends educational opportunities at Whittier.

Thomas Milhous, a brother of Hannah's grandfather Joshua, had moved to Richmond after living in Jennings County a short time. Thus Rose Olive, when an *Earlham* student, was a frequent overnight guest at the Thomas Milhous home. Thomas and his sister Hannah Milhous Mendenhall are buried in *Earlham Cemetery* just West of the campus. Some say that Hannah Nixon was named for Hannah Mendenhall.

Contrary to general belief, the decision by Franklin and Almira Milhous to move to Whittier was not a sudden one. When the die finally was cast, Hannah and her brothers and sisters had a farewell round of outings and visits with their Hoosier neighbors.

[Also, we are now able to identify those in the picture on Page 13 of the October issue as, from left to right: Franklin and Almira Milhous, Hannah, Martha, Ezra, Jane, Edith holding Elizabeth, Grandfather Oliver Burdg on the porch, and Griffith and Mary Alice nearer the fence.]

Franklin and Almira Milhous rented a railway boxcar and loaded

t Butlerville with all their household possessions. They included such furniture as a hickory-seated ladder-back chair, a walnut settee, a claw-foot reading table and the inevitable highly prized corner cupboard. There were also doors and window panes from the Rush Branch house, and a cow and two horses.

However, Franklin Milhous did not sell his nursery until 1904. Every autumn he returned to Indiana to take orders from customers. Every spring he endured the long railway journey again, returning to make deliveries of fruit trees, ornamental trees, berry bushes and shrubs throughout southern Indiana and nearby Kentucky. His wife and one of their daughters usually came also.

On one such trip Rose Olive enrolled for a while at Harmony Hill school. She did not wish to miss any more classes than necessary.

Franklin and Almira spread the word enthusiastically of their new life in California. Thus they influenced more than has been realized, a further pioneer exodus to Whittier.

Hannah also came back to Indiana as often as she could for later visits until she was 18, according to Vernon traditions. Mrs. Marshburn believes Hannah did not return again until 1937, "when she, her husband, and her sons Donald and Edward stopped there on their return after Richard Nixon's graduation from Duke University Law School."

And again in 1951 Hannah visited the Indiana farm, with husband Francis Nixon, en route to Whittier after his three illness-plagued years on the Pennsylvania farm (1947-1950). Richard Nixon at the time was living in Washington as a member of Congress.

As soon as they were actually in California once and for all, Franklin Milhous began developing a "fruit ranch" near Whittier. At first he interspersed English walnut trees with apricots. But soon he observed that he could plant more orange and lemon trees in the same space, and so he became a pioneer in California

While he still owned the Indiana nursery he filled special orders for California neighbors. He also began growing orange trees from seed and gradually developed several fruit farms in Central California.

Arriving Friends came to depend on him for business advice, and so he also engaged in a limited real estate business.

Mrs. Marshburn recalls that her parents had many guests from the Midwest, "who would stay for a few days or an entire Winter." The ties with Indiana continued, reinforced by that lively correspondence in which Quakers delight.

Francis Anthony Nixon was born in Vinton County, Ohio, on December 3, 1878. He died at La Habra, California, near Whittier, on September 4, 1956. Thus his widow, Hannah, survived him by 11 years, as her mother and grandmother in turn were widows for a considerable time.

Francis was the third son of Samuel Brady Nixon and Sarah Ann Wadsworth. Samuel had been born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, on October 9, 1847, and Sarah was born in Hocking County, Ohio, on October 15, 1852. She died in Vinton County, Ohio, January 18, 1886, and he died there on April 28, 1914. They were married in Hocking County in 1873.

Samuel was age 6 when his parents, George Nixon III and Margaret Ann Trimmer Nixon, moved to Vinton County in 1853. George Nixon II, who was born in New Castle County, Delaware in 1784, and his wife, Hannah Wilson, born in Delaware about 1790, had preceded George Nixon III from Washington County, Pennsylvania, to Vinton County in 1844.

George Nixon I, the great-great-great-grandfather of the President, was in the *American Revolution* as an Ensign and later as a Lieutenant. He served under General George Washington at the *Battles of Trenton and Princeton* and later scouted the British when they occupied Philadelphia. George Nixon I was born near New

Castle, Delaware, in 1752 and died in Henry County, Illinois, on August 5, 1842. Just before the *Revolution*—on August 17, 1775—he had married a Delaware neighbor, Sarah Seeds, at Wilmington's Holy Trinity Church. (Earlier called *Old Swedes' Church*, it was Protestant Episcopal at the time. Yet Quaker weddings were sometimes performed there, a practice not permitted by Virginia's Episcopal Churches until after the *Revolution*.)

George Nixon III, the President's great-grandfather, died of wounds received during the *Battle of Gettysburg* in July, 1863. He was a member of Company B, 73rd Regiment of Ohio Infantry, and was buried on the battlefield. On July 5, 1953—90 years after his wounding—Richard Nixon, then Vice-President, went to Gettysburg and placed flowers on his grave.

Another Nixon ancestor, Moses McElwain, was an Ensign in 1756 with militia from his native Lancaster, Pennsylvania. This was at the start of the devastating conflict which in Europe was called *The Seven Years' War* (1756-1763) and which in North America was called the fourth and last of the *French and Indian Wars*. Moses McElwain was the grandfather of Anthony Trimmer, whose daughter Margaret Ann married George Nixon III.

In addition to augmenting British Regulars and Virginia Militia as General Braddock prepared for his ill-fated campaign against the French outpost *Fort Duquesne* (Pittsburgh), the sturdy men of Lancaster, York and Cumberland Counties provided the wagons, teams and drivers for hauling through the wilderness the considerable impedimenta which Europeans insisted were essential for any army. Braddock failed dismally, but the wagon industry centered around Conestoga became a robust business, thriving until advent of the railways around 1850.

These facts are set forth to show that there was in the Nixon family, as in many other Quaker families, a tradition of military service in time of national peril. It is a fallacy to expect



anything else than individual decision by Quakers in such crises, although the Society of Friends, since its organization in England in the 17th Century under the guidance of George Fox, has advocated peaceful solutions to all problems.

Elizabeth Milhous (Mrs. Joshua, and Hannah Milhous Nixon's grandmother) was not only the minister of Hopewell Friends Meeting, but also Superintendent of the Friends Centennial Sabbath School, later called the Harmony Hill Sunday School. Thus she was a most familiar figure to all residents in Bigger Township as well as Campbell Township adjoining Bigger on the North. Both Hopewell Meetinghouse and nearby Grove Meetinghouse were in Campbell.

She was straight and slim as she presided firmly and preached impressively at Hopewell. That Meeting was Orthodox, and there were prolonged periods of silence at Sunday services until "the Holy Spirit moved" a mem-

This is the Lane Back to the Site of the Franklin Milhous Farm in Jennings County, Indiana, as It Looks Today. Hannah Milhous Nixon Lived There Until She Was Age 12.

ber to speak or to pray. It was not pleasing to all members to have worship interrupted by singing. And in 1880 the Western Yearly Meeting, of which Hopewell was a unit, had admonished members "to avoid hymns that use other men's words."

At Sabbath School, however, she as well as the children could be more vocal. She was popular with the children for such graphic pronouncements as "Hell is like burning your tongue."

Joshua and Elizabeth Milhous did not entirely agree about music. Joshua argued that there was only a short distance between the schoolhouse and the Meetinghouse—that children were encouraged to sing together on week-

days and should not be deprived of that expression on Sundays.

He even secretly bought an organ on a trip East, and had it moved into his own house to the consternation of Elizabeth. This episode is an amusing chapter in the popular novel (made into a motion picture), *The Friendly Persuasion*. It was written by a cousin of Richard Nixon, Jessamyn West.

The *Gurneyite* reforms that were first introduced in Indiana in 1837-1840 not only proposed Bible study by Quaker families, but also music. It was not until 1737 that children were accepted as members of the Friends Society and thereafter, if born of Quaker parentage, were referred to as Birthright Quakers. In 1832 Indiana had its first Friends Sabbath Schools. Then, in 1859, the Indiana Yearly Meeting established a General Committee on First Day Scripture Schools.

Thus the Sunday School at last

came to Quakerdom. These Sabbath Schools, plus the revivals, were—finally and much later—the opening wedge for eventual congregational singing and instrumental music in numerous Friends Meetings.

Franklin, oldest son of Joshua and Elizabeth, had learned both singing and evangelism from the Methodists when he attended *Moore's Hill College* in 1867-68. Franklin encouraged his first wife, Sarah Emily Armstrong, to include music in her *Friends Academy* curriculum.

All of the neighborhood children—regardless of family faith—and also many adults attended the *protracted meetings* (Winter revivals) held at Rush Branch Methodist Church. Thus the little Quakers got a glimpse of the way some others responded to the fervid entreaties of the evangelists.

That Methodist congregation at first worshipped at a church one mile East of its present location. Like the Friends, the Rush Branch Methodists observed the old custom of seating men and women on opposite sides of the Church. For a long time the Rush Branch Methodists were too poor to support a minister of their own. So they were served by the Dupont-Ebenezer-Batesville Circuit Rider.

Every Sunday the Milhous clan hitched up their buggies and carriages and drove to the Meetinghouse—going across Rush Branch at the edge of Franklin's property, on up the hill on what is now County Road 50S, past Rush Branch Methodist Church, and then North on present County Road 600E.

As they neared Wicks Ford the unpaved road, pocked by chuck holes and with deep ruts in the frequent mud, wound along an old Indian trail down to Otter Creek. (Like many Southern Indiana streams, Otter Creek had several names. It also was called the South Fork of Vernon Fork of the Muscatatuck River.)

Before transferring to Hopewell Meeting the Joshua Milhous family had worshipped at Grove Meeting (as is explained later). But long since they were faithful members of Hope-

well, where Joshua's wife was the minister.

After fording Otter Creek they would climb the hill and proceed Westward along present County Road 200N until Hopewell Meetinghouse was in full view. [It is suggested you consult the map in the October issue of *Outdoor Indiana*.]

These rural roads often were obstructed by stumps and low-hanging branches until increased traffic cleared them. When things got too bad the Road Superintendent "warned out" the men, 50 at a time, to work the roads in lieu of taxes. But never on a Sunday. The Sabbath was for church-going, and each family faithfully got to its service, regardless of the weather and the roads.

Since Ohio had been settled earlier the rural road conditions were better in Vinton County, where Francis Nixon grew up. After his mother's death in 1886, the seven-year-old boy went to live with an uncle, Elihu Nixon. He attended Ebenezer Methodist Church at Mount Pleasant, but was compelled to quit school after six grades and go to work.

He went to Columbus, Ohio, in 1901 as a streetcar motorman. In 1907 he moved to the warmer climate of Whittier, where he met Hannah Milhous. They were married in East Whittier Friends Meetinghouse when she was graduated from *Whittier College* the next year—on June 25, 1908.

He was six years her senior but their married life was one of complete mutual respect. Born a Methodist and a Democrat, he adhered to Hannah's Quaker religion and Republican politics after he met her.

The Milhous tradition had always been Republican, and before that Whig. At one time Almira (Hannah's mother) jokingly wrote of her father-in-law Joshua:

He was a useful man,
As Republican did vote,
Served on juries often,
And was a man of note.

The young Nixons first lived at Whittier, and then Southeast of there

at Yorba Linda. Francis Nixon was a citrus rancher and then a carpenter. He personally built the two-story frame house at Yorba Linda where their first four sons—Harold, Richard, Francis and Arthur—were born.

In 1922 they returned to East Whittier, where they operated a grocery store called Nixon Market. From 1947 to 1950 they owned a farm in York County, Pennsylvania. You will remember she had always wanted to return to her girlhood rural way of life. Then, with Francis Nixon's health failing, they moved back to East Whittier.

Francis Anthony Nixon died at La Habra, between Yorba Linda and Whittier, on September 4, 1956, as his son Richard was campaigning for re-election as Vice-President.

He is buried at Rose Hill Memorial Park at Whittier, as are the President's mother and his brothers Harold and Arthur.

This cemetery is also the final earthly resting place of President Nixon's grandparents, Franklin and Almira Milhous; his great-grandfather Oliver Burd (father of Almira); and his great-grandmother Elizabeth Price Milhous, the minister of Hopewell Meeting back in Indiana who was the mother of Franklin Milhous.

Others of the family buried at Rose Hill are Griffith Milhous, half-brother of Hannah Milhous; Griffith's wife Cora; and Mary Alice Milhous Cummings, half-sister of Hannah Milhous.

As it was noted in the first part of this article, Joshua Milhous, the nurseryman who was the father of Franklin, is buried in Hopewell Cemetery. Jane Hemingway Burd (the wife of Oliver Burd and mother of Franklin's wife Almira), is buried in Grove Cemetery, East of Hopewell in Jennings County, Indiana.

Grove Monthly Meeting was six years older than Hopewell Meeting. The Grove Meetinghouse and Grove Burying Ground were on the East side of Otter Creek just South of the Wick's Ford Bridge. Two of Joshua's sons, as well as numerous other members of the Burd family, also are buried at Grove.

The site now can be reached only by a narrow gravel road and then a hike on foot. For many years Almira Burdgr Milhous sent money back from California to help maintain the Grove Burying Ground. It is now rather neglected.

Richard Nixon had been born January 9, 1913. Somehow sensing his future fame, his mother decided to give him the middle name of Milhous and thus perpetuate the family identity.

The sons of Francis and Hannah Nixon were: Harold Samuel, born June 1, 1909 and died March 7, 1933; Richard; Francis Donald, born November 23, 1914; Arthur Burdgr, born May 26, 1918 and died in August, 1925; and Edward Calvert, born May 3, 1930.

"All my boys were good boys," said Hannah Nixon, reminiscing when Richard was nominated for Vice-President at the Republican National Convention at Chicago in 1952.

This was no casual judgment by the gentle lady who had worked by the side of Frank Nixon, six days a week, to make the Nixon Market a modest success. She had been an exacting mother without restricting the individual bent of each son. She had wisely *permitted* without being indulgently *permissive*.

The Nixon Market provided a fine forum for the study of human nature and for development of a practical philosophy that could adapt to varying situations without surrendering principle or purpose. Young Abraham Lincoln, clerking at the general store at Gentryville, Indiana, learned to know his neighbors in almost every stance and mood. Now young Richard, busy handling the vegetable department and also making deliveries, was to get rare insight into man's foibles, fables, follies, fatuities and failures.

This experience taught him also that *politics is a realistic and timely adjustment to the situation that prevails*.

An ever-lenient judge of the neighborhood saints was patient and

forgiving Hannah. A most perceptive observer of the sinners was Frank. She was sure of the relative goodness of most men and women. He too was lenient to a point, taught in the East Whittier Friends Sunday School, and agreed that the Inner Light should be a powerful force in the self-salvation of those who really wanted to be saved.

But Frank Nixon was also discerning enough and practical enough to recognize—and so to note in his account books—a fact painfully evident to most ministers' families—that now and again he who prays the loudest of a Sunday also owes the biggest bills for the purchases made on many, many previous Saturdays.

From his plain-spoken, sometimes caustic and always fiercely independent father Richard Nixon inherited his love for competitive sports—an enthusiasm which has earned him the title of *America's No. 1 Football Fan*. Even during the heat of political campaigns he will turn to the sports pages before reading Page 1 of a newspaper, and tune out other programs to get a gridiron telecast or an account of some other athletic contest. He is enthusiastic about them all.

The President has put athletic stars in the front row of his gallery of personal heroes. Foremost among these, it seems to me, is Johnny Unitas, whose quick and daring improvising, whose ice-water nerves and physical courage, have given guidelines for Richard Nixon's own daily conduct.

Football coaches stress "ball control." To seize the initiative and retain it is a key Nixon tactic—in his own political progress and in his efforts as President to keep America ahead of all other nations.

This has never been more evident than in the news-making weeks which have followed his pilgrimage to Vernon. Indeed, it seems that the Hoosier homecoming was a sort of hinge in his personal history—an inspiration for dramatic and decisive action.

Had young Richard grown up in Indiana it is probable that, despite the relatively small size which denied

him a slot as tackle at Whittier, he could have made the football varsity of one of our numerous Hoosier colleges and universities. And if his great talent for managing men in motion could have been activated on the football field, he certainly would not have been content to play tackle. He would have aspired to be the take-charge guy—the field commander—the quarterback.

But at little *Whittier* four decades ago you didn't get substituted unless a starting player broke a leg. And so it was not until he was in the White House that his alma mater thoughtfully—and finally—awarded him a sweater with an honorary *W*.

Nor was his mother a pushover despite her turn-the-other-cheek manner. The neighborhood boys, as did her own sons, recognized her quiet voice of authority. She never complained about what she decided God Himself had decreed. But she did not accept Man-contrived reverses without inquiry as to their justice or the reason for failure.

She had such high hopes for Richard! And he began to fulfill them when he was elected Freshman Class President at *Whittier*, and then Student Council President in his Senior year. He was graduated in 1934, receiving an A.B. degree with high honors. He was second in his class. His major was history and he was outstanding in debating.

He won a scholarship from the Law School of *Duke University* and in 1937 received an LL.B. degree, again with high honors. And also he was President of his Law School Senior Class.

In June he came back West to begin practicing law. He was elected as the youngest member of the *Whittier College* Board of Trustees and has been a Trustee ever since. On June 21, 1940, he married Thelma Catherine (Pat) Ryan, who was born in Ely, Nevada, on March 17, 1913.

Their daughter, Patricia, born February 21, 1946, married Edward Finch Cox on June 12, 1971. Their daughter, Julie, born July 5, 1948, married Dwight David Eisenhower II

on March 31, 1968 (the bridegroom's birthday).

After 30 years as professor of history at *Whittier*, Dr. Paul S. Smith was made President of the College. In the ensuing 18 years it progressed and prospered under his leadership. Dr. Smith is a Hoosier who was graduated from *Earlham*. He is a member of the National Commission planning for the bicentennial of the United States in 1976. He is hoping to establish a Nixon Library at *Whittier College* similar to that organized for other recent American Presidents.

Pearl Harbor changed everything for everybody, and the West Coast finally was threatened with the possibility of enemy invasion. Richard Nixon decided he would enlist for Navy officer training. His mother searched her conscience but did not demur. The decision was his.

In August, 1942, he received a Navy commission as Lieutenant, Junior Grade. He was a Lieutenant Commander when he left the Navy in January, 1946. He had served in the Pacific with the Combat Air Force Command.

Looking around for a young candidate with a good war record who could carry the 12th California Congressional District in November, 1946, Republican strategists chose Richard Nixon. He upset the seasoned Democrat incumbent, and was re-elected in 1948.

His sensational disclosures in the Alger Hiss case gave Congressman Nixon worldwide prominence as an opponent of Communism and subversion. So did his successful campaign for the United States Senate in 1950, and then his election as Vice-President in 1952. But the record also shows that, as a member of the so-called Herter Committee, Congressman Nixon was one of the vigorous proponents of the *Marshall Plan* for American aid to postwar Europe.

If you will not forget these facts you may better understand some of the Right-of-Center views of President Nixon. Such a Centrist believes that somewhere between panic and com-



Francis Anthony Nixon, Father of the President, as He Looked When He Was Married to Hannah Milhous at Whittier, California, in 1908.

plete complacency is the realistic response to any problem or situation.

His mother disdained veneer and gloss as substitutes for substance. She believed completely that knowledge is power, and so she insisted that her sons' studies not be neglected regardless of chores at the store. She cherished the family tradition for education. And so it was that Hannah, or some Whittier librarian, placed in the eager hands of young Richard a copy of Woodrow Wilson's *The New Freedom*.

The book was a clarion call for genuine liberalism—for adaptation and reform of existing institutions rather than destructive radicalism or nihilism. It was the guiding light for many young people long after its first publication in 1913. It painted bright new rainbows and illuminated vast new horizons. It demanded American progress and improvement. And it charted for a *new nationalism* a pattern for persistent World leadership by helping other peoples to attain self-government and self-determination.

Richard Nixon approaches every problem with the patient preparation and meticulous thoroughness of a bacteriologist who is confronted by a long-anticipated epidemic. So he did not stop with *The New Freedom*. He proceeded to devour all of Professor Wilson's writings, from his *Congressional Government* (1889) to his *Constitutional Government* (1908), as well as all of his subsequent *Public Papers*, covering his Governorship at Trenton and his Presidency.

If you would try to plumb the complex mind of Richard Milhous Nixon perhaps the one best guide—at least in published form—would be the writings and addresses of that determined son of a Shenandoah Valley manse—Thomas Woodrow Wilson.

Princeton University's magnificent stone edifices are a continent away from *Whittier's* much younger and less prestigious campus. The waves and winds of Sea Girt are not the same as those at San Clemente. Each individual exercised his own prefer-

ences in choosing sites for quiet contemplation and inspiration. But again and again there have been amazing parallels in the acts and goals of Richard Nixon and our 28th President. They are so repetitious that to understand Richard Nixon you also should study Woodrow Wilson.

Others might think of the lively author F. Scott Fitzgerald and his *This Side of Paradise* in pondering Old Nassau Hall. For Richard Nixon the New Jersey university reflects the studious discipline of the Presbyterian manse at Staunton where Woodrow Wilson was born.

Both President Wilson and President Nixon were compelled by dire international events, as well as a prodding desire for self-justification, to try to bridge the deep chasm of internal dissension which agitated the American people, and at the same time to work desperately to salvage a peace that could be enduring and which would not compromise the honor or the defense of the Nation which they had been chosen to lead.

Both were never more eager to advise than when they addressed young Americans, and particularly young athletes. President Nixon has said repeatedly: "Play the game! Play to win! Be proud of your team! And always be proud of your Country!"

And then he warns: "*America must never stop trying to be Number One! If we ever do stop trying we are through as a free people.*"

While appreciating the necessity for international trade and cooperation, Richard Nixon also has recognized the role of nationalism. He admired completely the dedication to his own nation's security and progress of Winston Churchill, and also of Charles DeGaulle. So he was able to put into focus their personal vanities, peccadillos and ideosyncrasies, and to recognize the heroic leader shining through. President Franklin Roosevelt was less magnanimous, particularly regarding France and DeGaulle.

Richard Nixon has lamented with many of us who have concluded that

had Churchill been earlier in power there would have been no Munich—and had DeGaulle's warnings been heeded when he was a professor at the *War College* at St. Cyr the Maginot Line fiasco might have been prevented. Instead, Churchill was submerged until the Nazi invasion of Belgium and Holland in July, 1940, compelled his installation at No. 10 Downing Street. And DeGaulle was banished to Algeria, finally to emerge as the rallying voice for the French underground resistance from his sanctuary in Britain.

After eight years of loyal and respectful service as Vice-President, throughout which he seems to have been underestimated by a President Eisenhower who did not put as much value on political maneuverability as he had on military mobility, Richard Nixon won the Republican nomination but was defeated for President in 1960. It was his first defeat, and it was followed quickly by another when he ran for Governor of California in 1962.

His critics rejoiced: "Nixon is done!" But throughout the clamor his mother was confident of his destiny and she was not dismayed.

"All my life I have been his campaigner," she asserted. "I believe in Richard's future." And she joined his wife and young daughters in urging that he prepare, persistently and even more thoroughly, for a comeback in 1968.

And it was a comeback that was rare in American politics. William Jennings Bryan had been nominated for President three times, and three times he failed. Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and John Quincy Adams had received insufficient Electoral College votes and then finally went to the White House. Andrew Jackson also prevailed eventually. However, those rebounds were in the first years of the Republic. Since the rise of the party system Grover Cleveland in 1892 was one of the few to return to the top after a Presidential election setback.

Hannah Milhous Nixon did not live to see her son's 1968 victory.



Grave of Joshua Vickers Milhous (December 31, 1820-April 15, 1893) is Today at Hopewell Friends Cemetery in Jennings County, Indiana. He Was a Great-Grandfather of President Nixon.

for a long while she had been certain of its inevitability as she of the eternal presence of Divine presence. She died September 30, 1893. At the funeral at modest East Hopewell Friends Meetinghouse the Rev. Billy Graham, a longtime friend of Richard Nixon, gave an eloquent funeral service.

She believed completely in Quaker individualism and the moderation of Jeffersonian voluntarism. Her humanism and Republican liberalism—a liberalism which is spurned by extremists on both limits of the political spectrum—was based on self-respect, self-

regulation, self-restraint and self-attainment. Her conscience demanded that she take a stand, quietly but firmly, on every confrontation between *right* and *wrong*.

The moral and philosophical influence of Hannah Nixon and of Grandmother Elizabeth Milhous on Richard Nixon cannot be overestimated.

There were both beauty and abundance in the Southern Indiana of Hannah Milhous. But the abundance did not necessarily bring profit in an increasingly competitive marketplace. The expanding consumer needs of

American families as the great new century was approaching demanded sure and steady income for the millions of Middle Class families who are the backbone of the Republic.

The Sun for centuries had beckoned Man in his migrations to travel along the course of its life-giving warmth. The quest to the West induced the rumblings of hundreds of Conestoga wagons through Indiana in *the Great Gold Rush* that began in 1848. Now the lodestone was the comforting California sunshine rather than high hopes for a mineral strike. A new megopolis culture, with millions of recruits from the Midwest, was developing on the seaward side of the Sierras.

Yet (it seems to this Hoosier observer) the oranges and lemons of Yorba Linda and the Whittier neighborhood were not exactly a satisfactory substitute for the less exotic, but far more intimate nursery which the Milhous family had operated on Rush Branch. Certainly they did not abate in Hannah the poignant memories of her girlhood. There is undeniably an aura of pensive withdrawal in the old Quaker community. A visit to the neighborhood today brings a sense of slowed-down existence and of a sure serenity which never can come to a California coast thronged with anxiety-ridden and frustrated millions.

The Milhous homes are gone and the vast Jefferson Proving ground for 30 years has flanked their tenderly tended acres. The West boundary of the big Army compound is the East line of the old Franklin Milhous farm. The site of the Hopewell Meetinghouse is a virtually neglected quadrangle. Only the *Old Hopewell Burying Ground* remains much as it was when last a Milhous relative was laid to rest there.

Hopewell Acre, as the cemetery first was called, was deeded to the Quakers in February, 1867. The land for Hopewell Seminary, immediately North of the Meetinghouse, originally was owned by Joshua Milhous, father-in-law of the school's Assistant Principal, Sarah Emily Armstrong Milhous.



HANNAH MILHOUS NIXON

Mother of President Richard M. Nixon was born on a farm four and a half miles southeast to which her grandparents came in 1854. Hannah's parents moved to California in 1897 when she was twelve years old.

JENNINGS COUNTY JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AN AFFILIATE
OF THE INDIANA JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1888

This Marker, Located on U. S. Highway 50 at Butlerville, Was Dedicated on June 24, 1971, by President Nixon in Ceremonies at the Jennings County Courthouse at Vernon.

Like many another rural Indiana Cemetery, Hopewell seems almost forgotten. It appears to be visited only by a researching genealogist, or the man who is hired by Sand Creek Monthly Meeting to pass periodically through the low corner gate, mow the grass, and make sure that there has been no irreverent intrusion.

But unvisited or unnoticed, it is still sacred ground, and especially sacred to those who have loved ones there buried beneath the silent sod. It is as unassuming as a babe in arms or an old man sitting in the semi-shade. The headstones are not of glossy granite. There are no mausoleums. Even when he came to Vernon, President Nixon found it difficult for his helicopter pilot to identify Hopewell Cemetery.

Perhaps, now, more attention will rightfully be turned to it by the public, and particularly by Hoosiers.

One recent development is of more than passing interest. The old Frank-

lin Milhous property, lying on both sides of Rush Branch and bordering the former Joshua Milhous farm, was bought two years ago by Harold and Frieda Crawford of Columbus, Indiana. He is a great-great-grandson of Thomas Milhous, who was a brother of orchardist Joshua and a great uncle of Hannah Milhous. Thus the tract, tilled this Summer for the first time in 10 years, is again "in the family."

Our map on Page 17 of the October issue could help you find the way. Vernon is 65 miles Southeast of Indianapolis, 75 miles West of Cincinnati, and 55 miles Northeast of Louisville.

Versailles State Park—second largest in the Indiana system—is 24 miles to the East. Clifty Falls State Park and historic Madison are 25 miles to the South. Jackson-Washington State Forest is less than 30 miles to the West. And spacious Cros-

ley State Fish and Wildlife Area is just South of Vernon.

There are many days throughout the year when the Jennings County backroads are as beautiful and almost as uncluttered as in the days of little Hannah Milhous. If you would better understand her—and her distinguished progeny—a personal trip is recommended.

You might even find the sign which President Nixon observed when he stepped from his helicopter at North Vernon's High School campus last June:

**THIS IS MILHOUS
COUNTRY**

**President Nixon, Surrounded
by High School History Students,
as He Spoke on the Steps of the
Courthouse at Vernon on
June 24, 1971.**

RN's

Genealogy Material

(1812) WILLIAM ALMY & (1813) AUDREY BARLOW

William b 1601 S Kilworth, Co Leicester, England; son of
(3624) Christopher d Oct 1624; William at Saugus, near
Lynn, Mass by 1631; brought family from England 1635; to
Portsmouth, R I 1641; d Feb 28-1677; m Audrey b 1603;
they became Quakers

1. Anna Almy bap Feb 26-1627 d May 1709 m John Greeve
2. Christopher Almy (906)
3. John Almy d Portsmouth Oct 1-1676
4. Job Almy d Feb 1684
5. Catherine Almy m1 Bartholomew West, m2 Nicholas Brown

Source: The Almy Family (Historic Families of America)

(1814) THOMAS CORNELL & (1815) REBECCA BRIGGS

Thomas b c1595 Co Essex, England; to Mass c1638; to Ports-
mouth, R I 1640; d c1655 m Rebecca b 1600 d Feb 8-1673

1. Thomas Cornell d May 23-1673
2. Sarah Cornell m1 Thomas Willett, m2 Charles Bridges, m3 John Lawrence
3. Rebecca Cornell m George Woolsey
4. Ann Cornell m Thomas Kent
5. Richard Cornell d 1694
6. John Cornell d 1704 Cow Neck, L I m Mary Russell (ancestors of RMB)
7. Joshua Cornell
8. Elizabeth Cornell (907)
9. Samuel Cornell d 1715

Source: Genealogy of the Cornell Family, by John Cornell, 1902

Raymond M. Bee
10 Sep 1971

(112) JOSEPH BURDG & (113) SARAH MORRIS

Joseph living Monmouth Co, N J 1777; m 1739 or before Sarah

1. Joseph Burdg b c1741 d 1782 Dover Twp, now Ocean Co m Jan 21-1765
2. Jacob Burdg (56) b 4m 5-1743 (Zelpha Gifford)
3. Lydia Burdg m Apr 7-1767 John Gifford

Source: Stuart P Lloyd

(224) JONATHAN BURDG & (225) SARAH ELLISON (?)

Jonathan b L I c1695; in Middletown, N J 1752; in Freehold 1754;
living 1762; may have m Sarah

1. Joseph Burdg (112)
2. Deborah Burdg m Jan 21-1741 James Pew
3. Richard Burdg m1 Mar 24-1744 Susanna Wall b Sep 3-1725 d Feb 2-1754
m2 Feb 22-1757 Hannah Huff
4. David Burdg d 1760 Middletown m Nov 14-1746 Patience Woolley
5. Jonathan Burdg m Nov 14-1746 Mary Morris

(226) RICHARD MORRIS

Richard b c1690 d 1763 Middletown, N J; m1
m2 Jun 19-1741 Mary Porter

1. William Morris d May 1777 m 8m 10-1739 Elizabeth Brewer
2. Sarah Morris (113)
3. Margaret Morris m 1739 or before John Morford
4. Joseph Morris
5. John Morris
6. Mary Morris m Nov 14-1746 Jonathan Burdg
7. Benjamin Morris
8. James Morris d 1769 m lic Jul 18-1753 Leah White
9. Henry Morris
10. Job Morris d 1786 m lic May 17-1760 Mary Ansley

Children of Richard & Mary

- (1) Jacob Morris
- (2) Lydia Morris
- (3) Phebe Morris
- (4) Richard Morris
- (5) Anne Morris
- (6) Lewis Morris
- (7) Rebecca Morris
- (8) Robert Morris
- (9) Catharine Morris
- (10) George Morris

Source: Hist. & Gen. Miscellany, by J E Stillwell, vol IV

(424) JOHN HUSSEY & (425) ANN INSKEEP
John b 1676 d 1733 New Castle Co, Del; m1 Grace d
m2 1703 Ann

1. John Hussey (212)
2. Stephen Hussey
3. Nathan Hussey
4. Christopher Hussey
5. Mary Hussey m Henderson Housstown
6. Anne Hussey
7. Theodate Hussey
8. Content Hussey m John Garretson

(448) DAVID BURDG
David b c1670; witness Great Neck LI 1692; bought
Middletown, Monmouth Co, NJ 1715; dead 1724

1. Jonathan Burdg (224)
2. Daughter m William Collard
3. Uriah Burdg - Middletown - living 1770
4. David Burdg - Middletown - living 1736

(450) RICHARD ELLISON & (451) ELSE
Richard b 2m 7-1660 Braintree, Mass d 1719 Freehol
Co, N J; m Else

1. Ruth Ellison
2. Daniel Ellison
3. Mary Ellison
4. Richard Ellison
5. Susanna Ellison
6. Samuel Ellison
7. Sarah Ellison (225)

(452) LEWIS MORRIS & (453) ELIZABETH ALMY
Lewis b c1655 d 1695 Middletown, Monmouth Co, N J;
(904) Thomas Morris; m Elizabeth b Sep 29-1663 d
m2 John Leonard

1. Lewis Morris
2. Richard Morris (226)
3. ?Thomas Morris
4. Rebecca Morris m John Chamberlain
5. John Morris b Jun 12-1695 d 1769 Farmingdale, N J (Mar 2)
m 1716 Jacomyntie White

(848) JOHN HUSSEY & (849) REBECCA PERKINS
John b Feb 29-1634 d 1707 New Castle Co, Del; m Sep 21-1659
Hampton, N H Rebecca; to New Castle Co 1692

1. Christopher Hussey
2. Jedediah Hussey d 1734 m Esther
3. Rebecca Hussey m Samuel Collins
4. Mary Hussey m Moses Swett
5. Ann Hussey m James Stanyon
6. Susanna Hussey m Richard Otis
7. Bathsheba Hussey m Thomas Babb
8. Charity Hussey m Garit Garitson
9. Content Hussey m Henry Land
10. John Hussey (424)

(896) JONATHAN BURDG
Jonathan b England; living 1681 & 1698 N Hempstead, L I, N Y;
carpenter at Great Neck

1. David Burdg (448)
and others

(900) RICHARD ELLISON & (901) THOMASINE
Richard b 1620 d 1683 New York, N Y; had seven children born
1642 to 1660 Braintree, Mass

1. John Ellison b Aug 20-1650
2. Richard Ellison (450)
- 3.4.5.6.7.

(906) CHRISTOPHER ALMY & (907) ELIZABETH CORNELL
Christopher b 1632 England; d Jan 30-1713 Portsmouth, R I;
m Jul 9-1661 Elizabeth b 1636 d Jan 12-1714; Christopher
owned land in Monmouth Co, N J

1. Sarah Almy b Apr 7-1662 d 1708 m1 Richard Cadman, m2 Jonathan Merihew
2. Elizabeth Almy (453)
3. William Almy b Oct 27-1665 d Jul 6-1747 Tiverton, R I m1 Deborah Cook
m2 Hope Borden
4. Ann Almy b Nov 29-1667 m1 Richard Durfee, m2 Benjamin Jefferson
5. Christopher Almy b Dec 26-1669 d Jul 13-1746 Newport, R I, m1 Joanna
Slocum, m2
6. Rebecca Almy b Jan 26-1671 d 1708 m John Townsend
7. John Almy b & d 1673
8. Job Almy
9. Child d yg

(1800) LAWRENCE ELLISON
Lawrence d Hempstead, L I 1665

1. Richard Ellison (900)
2. Thomas Ellison b 1622 d 1697 Jamaica, L I
3. John Ellison b 1624 d 1688 Hempstead, L I
4. Daughter m Henry Linington