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HISTORY
OF
YOUNGSTOWN
AND
THE MAHONING VALLEY
OHIO

BY
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Blackstone recalls with the greatest pleasure was the Sunday evenings at the old homestead when parents and children, all good singers, gathered together and sang the old Gospel hymns. William Blackstone was a democrat in politics. There were eight children in the family and all are still living: Perry C., a contractor at Youngstown; Ess Braden, a farmer at North Henderson, Illinois; Charles H., a resident of Mercer; Ida L., wife of L. J. Rogers, a farmer in Lawrence County, Pennsylvania; Thomas G.; Calvin R., who is in partnership with his brother Thomas in the dray and transfer business at Girard; Mary, wife of J. N. Hughes, a stock dealer of Mercer County; and Bruce R., who was formerly a lumber man and is a resident of the State of Washington.

Thomas Gordon Blackstone spent his early life on the home farm, attended the nearby schools, where the usual school term began at the close of corn shucking time in the fall and lasted until the sap started flowing in the maple trees in the early spring. At the age of nineteen and continuing for three years he worked with a cousin James Blackstone, buying and shipping cattle to eastern markets, usually to Jersey City. After his marriage Mr. Blackstone was a carpenter one year, and in 1889 came to Hazelton and was employed in the Andruss plant. He has been a resident of Girard since 1894. His first employment was with the A. M. Byers plant. He was the train crew for the Dinky dummy train, acting as brakeman and conductor combined for \$1 a day, while his wife's father was engineer. Later he was promoted to blast furnace work, and after three years with the Byers Company he went to a farm he had bought in Pennsylvania and tilled the soil four years. Returning to Girard in 1902 Mr. Blackstone became associated with King Brothers' furniture and undertaking establishment. He made a thorough study of embalming, and remained with King Brothers three years. In 1907 during his second year as mayor of Girard he engaged in the undertaking business for himself, and has since, in association with his brother, added a dray and transfer business.

Mayor Blackstone is a republican, a member of the Girard Board of Trade, is affiliated with the Junior Order United American Mechanics, the Protective Home Circle, the Knights of Pythias, and is an active Presbyterian, serving as a member of the board of trustees of the church and superintendent of the Sunday school. In December, 1887, he married Minnie Everhart, daughter of Fred Everhart of Greenfield, Pennsylvania. She was born April 20, 1866. They have a son Thomas G., Jr., and an adopted daughter Ellen.

Mrs. NANCY HINE. In her ninety-third year Mrs. Nancy Hine retained her physical and mental faculties to a marked degree, and by her own life and her experience is one of the most interesting links between the bustling modern present and the pioneer history of the Mahoning Valley. Mrs. Hine belonged to two of the oldest and most historic families of Mahoning County. Her own people were the Gibsons, while she was widow of the late Abraham Skinner Hine, a family whose membership has included

some of the best people in Eastern Ohio, not only in recent times but in the pioneer epoch.

The history of the Hine family in America goes back to Thomas Hine, who probably came from England and was a resident at Milford, Connecticut, of recorded date January 28, 1646. His will was made in 1694. His son Samuel Hine was born January 26, 1659-60. The third generation is represented by James Hine, son of Samuel and Abigail, who was born at Milford October 16, 1696, and was known in early Connecticut annals as Lieutenant Hine. He settled at New Milford about 1723. He died April 1, 1774. He was not only a large property owner but his name frequently appears in connection with colonial affairs, including membership in the General Assembly.

Noble Hine, son of Lieutenant James and Margaret (Noble) Hine, was born at New Milford August 12, 1744, and served as an ensign in Colonel White's Regiment, Captain Cowle's Company, during the Revolutionary War. He represented his district in the State Legislature many terms. He died October 1, 1796.

Homer Hine, son of Noble and Patience (Hubbell) Hine, became a distinguished character in Eastern Ohio, and was father of Abraham Skinner Hine. He was born at New Milford July 25, 1776, and graduated with the class of 1799 from Yale College. One of his classmates was Dr. Lyman Beecher, father of Henry Ward Beecher. A graduate of Yale just a century later was his great-grandson, the noted American author Gouverneur Morris. Homer Hine after studying law was admitted to the bar in 1801, and soon afterward came on horseback to the Ohio Western Reserve. He lived at Canfield and in Youngstown, and from 1804 to 1834 was almost continuously a representative in the Ohio Legislature. He was not only an able lawyer, but a man of broad scholarship, and in the absence of a regular minister frequently read sermons in church. When about sixty years of age he retired from practice, and he died July 14, 1856. His home in Youngstown was at Crab Creek, and the Lake Shore depot now stands on part of his old garden. He owned 100 acres there. While he attended the Presbyterian Church he never united with it formally until old age. He was a stockholder in the canal, which took a part of his time. He was associated on terms of friendship as well as professionally with such prominent Mahoning County characters as Judge Newton of Canfield, and also the Whitteseys of Canfield.

October 18, 1807, Homer Hine married Mary Skinner, daughter of Abraham and Mary (Ayers) Skinner of Painesville, Ohio. She was born September 20, 1780, and died December 18, 1882. She had come with her parents to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1805. Her father, Capt. Abraham Skinner, was an officer in the American Revolution and became an extensive land owner in Northeastern Ohio, owning land on which the City of Painesville was built. The children of Homer Hine and wife were Mary Sophia, Henrietta Maria, Samuel, Abraham Skinner, Homer Hubbell, Augustus, Junius and Julius, twins. Samuel died at Poland at the age of seventy-seven; Homer, at Painesville, also aged

seventy-seven; and Augustus at Los Angeles at the age of eighty-three. Samuel was at one time a merchant at Hubbard, and his son Cecil is a well known Youngstown attorney. The daughter Mary Sophia Hine became the wife of Henry Wick, of the prominent Wick family of Youngstown, and later a Cleveland banker. Mary died at the age of eighty-eight. Henrietta Hine married Dudley Baldwin, a Cleveland business man, and died at the age of eighty-six.

Abraham Skinner Hine was born at Crab Creek in Youngstown February 28, 1818, and died March 9, 1866. He was injured on his forty-eighth birthday while tearing down an old building for the purpose of erecting a sugar house in his maple grove. He was known as a capable farmer, and by his own character shared in the honor and esteem paid the Hine family.

October 19, 1848, Abraham Skinner Hine married Nancy Adaline Gibson. Mrs. Hine was born May 21, 1827, a daughter of Robert and Lydia (Marshall) Gibson. Her father, Robert Gibson, was born in Pennsylvania in 1783 and came to Ohio in 1799 with his father, James Gibson, who had been a soldier in the Revolutionary war. The original Gibson farm in Mahoning County is now in the city limits, where the new hospital is being erected. Many of the Gibson family are still represented in Mahoning County.

Mrs. Nancy Hine, though the interests of her mind had touched many subjects and remote places and peoples, has had her personal associations with only two or three homes. At the age of thirteen she moved from a log to a stone house on her father's place. That stone house is still standing and on the ground incorporated in the new park at Youngstown. When she was married more than seventy years ago she came to the farm three miles from the courthouse on the Youngstown-Poland Road, and began housekeeping in a home that had been started by a Mr. Stahl, but was still in an unfinished condition when Mr. and Mrs. Hine went there to live. Most of the timbers of that old home are still retained in the remodeled dwelling, which was thoroughly modernized in 1914. The first year Mrs. Hine cooked the meals at a fireplace. The land of this farm, containing originally 121 acres, had been bought by Homer Hine in 1836. Except about twenty acres immediately surrounding the home all the farm has since been sold to a Realty Company and has been divided and is now rapidly being dotted with homes.

Mrs. Nancy Hine was the mother of the following sons and daughters: Thalia, Henrietta Emma, Adaline Gibson, Mary Ayres, Alice Hine, Anna Belle and Oliver Skinner. The daughter Thalia, born in 1849, became the wife of Rev. Hugh Porter Wilson on September 10, 1873. He had been a Union soldier in the Civil war, afterwards became a Presbyterian minister, and died as a result of his early war service in Oklahoma in 1895. His widow is now living with her sister and mother. Her son Chalmers Blakelee is an attorney at Enid, Oklahoma; Homer is in the real estate business at Los Angeles; Curtis is a member of the staff of the Times at Los Angeles; Oliver is in the real estate business at Los Angeles; Dudley is proprietor of a drug store at

Girard, Ohio; and Alice is Mrs. George Zellers of Youngstown.

Henrietta, who was born in 1851, was married in 1872 to George Edwards, who died at the age of thirty-nine. Mrs. Edwards, who lives at Los Angeles, has two living children, Clyde H., of Washington, D. C., and Mary Ada, a teacher in the Girls Collegiate School at Los Angeles.

Adaline G. Hine, born in 1853, retired in 1917 after a long and active career as a teacher. She graduated from the Poland Union Seminary and later taught there. She was also an instructor at Oberlin College with her sister Mary, taught in the public schools of Oberlin, spent two years at Mount Ayr, Iowa, also taught in Canfield, and in 1889 went to Cleveland, where she was principal of the Barkwill, the Tod and the Quincy schools. She has been active in club and literary work, in the Presbyterian Church and in recent years has devoted herself to her home and her mother.

The daughter Mary, born in 1854, died in 1898, and though on account of an accidental injury in girlhood she never enjoyed strong health, she became a successful teacher and for several years taught at Oberlin.

Alice, born in 1857, was married in 1886 to William Brainard McCarthy and died at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, in 1897. She and her husband had taught in the Poland Union Seminary prior to their marriage. She was the mother of four children: Thalia Veda, wife of J. B. Stolper, an author and teacher of English in the high school at Newark, New Jersey; John Russell McCarthy, who is an author and newspaper man and lives at Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, and some of his poetry has been accorded enthusiastic commendation by the great naturalist John Burroughs; Alice, who is living in Vermont; and Vernon, of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania.

Anna Belle, born in 1860, became the wife of Rev. Charles F. Hook in 1891 and lives at Hudson, New York. Their children are Charles Homer, a teacher; Marshall, Archie and Clark.

Oliver Skinner Hine, the only son, was born July 8, 1865, spent his life as a bachelor, living at home with his mother, and died in 1917. He was always very progressive, in favor of all new moves. His father died when he was eight months old. He was raised on the farm and went to school in Poland a Union Seminary. At sixteen he left school and took up the active work on the farm with his mother. He led a strenuous life and a very successful one, being one of the best farmers in the Mahoning Valley. He was especially interested in stock and raised fine Holstein cattle. He was a member of the Sons of the Revolution, and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was greatly interested in them.

Mrs. Hine and her six daughters all taught school. Mrs. Hine was eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution. Her daughters are doubly eligible, being qualified on both the maternal and paternal side.

At the venerable age of ninety-three, came the closing of the good, gentle and noble life. Retaining her vigor, activity and her keen interest in current affairs, her clear strong intellect to the last. Monday before the passing she told her family that was the first day she was unable to read her N.