

**ROBERT BAILIFF AND ANNIE BUCKNER BAILIFF LEFT THEIR MARK ON THEIR  
COMMUNITY**

**Transcribed By: Ron Cornwell**

The old **BAILIFF CHURCH** is on the north side of the **York-Melrose road**. Just west of this on the south side of the road and back a short distance in a group of cedar trees is the remains of an old well and a hearthstone which was at one time in the home of the pioneer preacher **ROBERT BAILIFF**, who married **ANNIE BUCKNER**. This is said to have been the oldest house in that part of the country [I do not know whether this statement was to have included the **Old Martin Willard** or not.] The County history, Section I, page 446 states that **ROBERT BAILIFF** came here in **1830**, but there are some who question this and think it was at an earlier date. **He gave a deed to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Cemetery about 1835.**

**REV. ROBERT BAILIFF** and **ANNIE BUCKNER BAILIFF** left some descendants who left their mark on this and other communities. Son **THOMAS BAILIFF** was also a well-known preacher of the early days. He married **MALINDA [AUNT LINNY] DRAPER**. They lived on the first road west of the **BAILIFF CHURCH** and north to the first house. This house has a brick kitchen and is a sided up log house built about 1843. It was the daughter of this household, **FIDELIA BAILIFF** that married **WILLIAM BOYD** in 1861. **ROBERT BAILIFF'S** daughter **ANNIE** married a **MCCONN** who was killed in the Civil War. Then she married **SOLOMON LAMB** of **HARDINSVILLE** vicinity. I have heard people down there say they were kin of **SALATHIEL LAMB**.

Another son of **THOMAS BAILIFF** lived north of his parents' home. This was **ED BAILIFF**, whose house was just south from **EMMANUEL DEHL**. There is just an old shell on top of the hill now. About 1882, **ED BAILIFF** built a log house and went to housekeeping. Before that and about the time that **JOE HOEL** started to carry the mail over the Robinson-Marshall Road there was a family by the name of **UMSTOT** living in this location. The **UMSTOTS** kept a store in their house.

**LORENZO DEHL** and his older brother **GIDEON**, born 1886, are sons of **MARY EFFIE BAILIFF**, daughter of **THOMAS** and **MALINDA BAILIFF**. The Robinson-Marshall Road continued due north from the **Ford at the present Raccoon Creek Bridge** past where the **Crow School House** now is [N.E. corner at next cross roads]; it continued north to the road coming west from **West Union** at the home of **C.H. Moore**; it continued north past the **OHIO CHAPEL CHURCH** and north to **OHIO SCHOOL** at the cross road west from Walnut Prairie. The road went down the hill and across the ford at **MILL CREEK**.

From Robinson north to the intersection of the wide road coming east from Porterville, near the heart of the **NEWLIN FAMILY SETTLEMENT** in the old days, there has been practically no change in the location of the north bound road. From this corner by the present **ALLEN KING FARM** we proceed northward to the old **WILLIAM BOYD PLACE**. The setting of what follows is the marriage of **WILLIAM BOYD** and **FIDELIA BAILIFF** in 1861. This was a big affair and turned out much bigger than many intended, for it is said that at least four men of the **HAND FAMILY** marched off to the Union Army more willing than they otherwise might have been.

**SOURCE:** History of the Robinson-Marshall Post Road by **ARTHUR HAND**, Published in Newspaper Vol. XXXVII, No. 125, June 16, 1956. [The only part typed from the newspaper article was the items relating to **ROBERT Bailiff's** family.]