

Fairview, Indiana  
February 25, 1889

### A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CUNNINGHAMS

Related to James J. Cunningham by John Cunningham, Sr.,  
in his ninety-fourth year.

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I was born in Abbeyville District, S.C., near Vienna, on the Savannah River in the year of 1795. My father was also borne there. My grandfather Cunningham came from Belfast Ireland in 1760. The Hayes family came over in the same ship, My great-grand mother's maiden name was Johnson. My father had two sisters, Sallie and Jane. Sallie married a man by the name of Fleming, in S.C. Jane married a man by the name of Samuel Carson, first, afterward one by the name of Moore, in S.C. He also had two brothers, James and John. John married in Elberta County, Ga. John was afterward a colonel in the Revolutionary War and was in the battle of Cowpens, C.C. James never married. My father's father mived to Butler County, Ohio in 1809. Fahtre's grandfather (James) died in 1799 within ten miles of Abbyville District, S.C. His name was Samuel Carson Cunningham. Col. John Cunningham raised a large family, three sons, John, Steward and Frank. The Colonel built a flowering mill on Cold Water Creek, Ga..

My mother's family came over from Belfast, Ireland in 1760 and first came to shore near Charleston, S.C. Father's Mother's brothers, William and Robert Hayes came to Butler County in 1807 or 1808 frm S.C. Jane Hayes, my grandmothers neme sister, married a man by the name Kellough in S.C. Sarah, anothe sister, came to Ohio and married a man by the name of Hamilton in Butler County. Grandmother's name was Marth/Elizabeth. Another sister married a man named Isaac Norton in Ohio. Mry Hayes, my mother's sister

married John Campbell in Ohio. Father's father took a lease on school land 10 miles from Hamilton, in Butler County, Ohio, and afterward bought land on Tanners Creek in Dearborn County, Ind., 25 miles below Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1814, moved to Ohio County, Indiana, near Coles Corner in 1819. Moved from there to Vermillion County, Ill., in 1825 and died there in 1830. My oldest brother, Samuel, died at Detroit, Mich. while a soldier in the war of 1812. I was next oldest of the family. Other brothers aged in the order named: Robert, William, Ezakiel, James, Fleming, Johnson and Franklin; sisters Elizabeth, Jane and Martha.

John Cunningham was born in the State of South Carolina in the year 1795. He was married to Elizabeth Loree in the year of 1807 in Dearborn County, Ind. She was born in New Jersey in the year 1801. Died at the age of 52 years. John Cunningham died in 1889 in the 95th year of his age. Both were buried in the family burying ground on the farm held by the Cunningham family for many years. They were the parents of six daughters and five sons. John H. Cunningham, the father of Austin B. Lloyd G., William W. Bessie and John S. Cunningham. By an earlier marriage, John H. Cunningham was the father of one son, James D. Cunningham. The mother of the later marriage to whom were born the above five children, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Ann Silvers, died Nov. 16, 1914. She and John H. Cunningham, both of Switzerland County, Indiana, were married October 25th, 1871.

The Cunningham generation in their early history were of Scotch-Irish descent. Elizabeth Loree, the mother of John Cunningham's eleven children was of French descent.