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# The Millikin Family

## *of Butler County, Ohio*

A FAMILY HISTORY FROM THE PUBLIC RECORD

*From County Antrim to Hamilton: five generations of doctors, lawyers and soldiers*

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# About this family

*From County Antrim to Hamilton: five generations of doctors, lawyers and soldiers*

James Millikin left County Antrim, Ireland, for Pennsylvania in 1771 and raised eight sons and a daughter on Ten-mile Creek in Washington County. His oldest son, Dr. Daniel Millikin, reached Hamilton on the night of May 7, 1807, with his wife Joan, three children and his brother Samuel, and the histories name him the town's first physician; brothers Robert B. and Andrew followed in 1813 and in 1820 or 1821. Samuel opened Hamilton's first drug store and served two terms as sheriff, while Dr. Robert B. Millikin practiced medicine, sat in the legislature and served as county treasurer. Daniel's son John M. Millikin was elected treasurer of the State of Ohio in 1875, and John M.'s son Col. Minor Millikin was killed leading the 1st Ohio Cavalry at Stone River on December 31, 1862. Robert B.'s son Thomas Millikin practiced law in Hamilton from 1840 until his death in 1899, and by 1905 Thomas's grandson Brandon R. Millikin and Daniel's great-grandson Dr. Mark Millikin were practicing in Hamilton. Every fact below is cited to a public-domain Butler County history.

CHAPTER ONE

# The immigrant

*Generation 1*

## James Millikin and Dolly (McFarland) Millikin

James b. 1752

*Farmed on Ten-mile Creek, Washington County, Pennsylvania*

### TIMELINE

**1752** James was born January 5, 1752, in County Antrim, Ireland, son of James and Martha (Hemphill) Millikin, and came to Pennsylvania in 1771 at nineteen; his brothers William and Robert followed him and lived and died in Greene County, Pennsylvania[1]

**1778** Married Dolly McFarland, a native of Massachusetts, in Washington County, Pennsylvania, March 1, 1778[2]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Their nine children were Daniel, James, John H., Samuel, William S., Robert B., Andrew, Abel and Mary; five of the sons lived in Hamilton and are buried in Greenwood Cemetery[1]

CHAPTER TWO

# The sons who came to Hamilton

*Generation 2*

## Daniel Millikin 1779–1849

*Hamilton's first physician*

*From the original biography*[2]

> "The first regular physician who practiced in Hamilton for a long time, and whose history was identified with it, was Dr. Daniel Millikin. Several of the other members of his family came here with him, or subsequently, and they and their descendants have maintained a distinguished position up to the present time. …"

TIMELINE

**1779** Born February 14, 1779, on Ten-mile Creek in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the oldest child of James and Dolly (McFarland) Millikin; studied at Jefferson College at Canonsburg and read medicine with Dr. John Bell of Greensboro[2]

**1801** Married Joan Minor, daughter of Col. John Minor, at her father's home near Greensboro December 31, 1801[2]

**1807** Left Pennsylvania April 7, 1807, with his brothers John H. and Samuel; with his wife and three children he went down the Monongahela and the Ohio by flatboat and reached Hamilton on the night of May 7, 1807[2]

**1812** Surgeon, and for a time quartermaster, in Colonel Mills's regiment in the War of 1812; state representative in 1816; major-general of the Third Division of Ohio militia; three terms as associate judge of the common pleas court[2]

**1830** Joan died September 28, 1830; he married a second wife and died November 3, 1849[2]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Children: Stephen, John M., Anna, Thomas B., James H., a second Anna, Joan, Mary, Daniel, Jane, James and Otho W.; the first three were born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the rest in Hamilton[2]

## Samuel Millikin and Mary (Hunter) Millikin

Samuel 1786 or 1787–1870

*Kept Hamilton's first drug store; county sheriff*

### TIMELINE

**1786** Born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1786, the fourth son of James and Dolly Millikin; came to Hamilton with his brother Daniel in 1807, studied medicine for a few years, and then opened the first regular drug store in Hamilton[2]

**1813** Married Mary Hunter, daughter of Joseph Hunter of Fairfield Township, September 28, 1813; she died July 12, 1828[2]

**1821** Elected sheriff of the county in the fall of 1821 and re-elected in 1823; moved to Indiana to farm in 1836 and came back to Hamilton in 1864[1]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Their children were Hannah, wife of William Anderson, who died May 25, 1834; James H., a merchant who moved to Decatur, Illinois; and John[2]

## Dr. Robert B. Millikin 1793–1860

*Physician, legislator and county treasurer*

### TIMELINE

**1793** Born December 9, 1793, the sixth son of James and Dolly Millikin; followed his brothers to Hamilton in the spring of 1813 and lived in his brother Daniel's family until he married[1]

**1812** Assistant surgeon in the War of 1812 at Fort St. Mary's; brigade inspector of militia in 1827 and later brigadier general; member of the Ohio legislature 1836 to 1838; county treasurer 1849 to 1850[2]

**1816** Married Sarah Gray December 16, 1816, and was licensed to practice medicine in the spring of 1817[1]

**1816** A sketch of his great-grandson gives the wedding date as December 6, 1816[2]

#### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Kept a drug store in Rossville, now the First Ward of Hamilton, and was its postmaster for many years[1]
- His children who grew up were Samuel, who moved to Missouri; Thomas; and Elizabeth, who married William A. Elliott. He later married Mrs. Ann Eliza Yeaman and died June 28, 1860[2]

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## Andrew Millikin and Adaline (Hunter) Millikin

Andrew 1790–1833

*Clothier and farmer on Pleasant Run*

#### TIMELINE

**1790** Andrew, a son of James and Dolly Millikin, was born April 4, 1790; a clothier by trade, he came to Hamilton in 1820 or 1821[1]

**1822** Married in 1822 Adaline Hunter, daughter of Joseph Hunter and sister of his brother Samuel's wife; later bought a farm on Pleasant Run near Symmes's Corner[1]

**1833** Died on his farm in 1833, the first resident of the county to die in the Asiatic cholera epidemic, leaving a widow and three children[1]

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## Abel Millikin

*Youngest son*

#### IN THE RECORD

- The youngest son of James and Dolly Millikin; lived for many years on the homestead farm on Ten-mile, then moved to Hamilton[1]
- Father of the first wife of Noah C. McFarland and of Dr. Samuel Millikin, who practiced medicine in Hamilton for many years[1]

CHAPTER THREE

# The pioneers' sons

*Generation 3*

## John M. Millikin 1804–1884

*Lawyer, farmer and state treasurer*

TIMELINE

**1804** Born in Greensboro, Greene County, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1804, son of Dr. Daniel Millikin and Joan Minor; came to Hamilton with his parents at three[1]

**1827** Read law with Jesse Corwin and was admitted to the bar at Columbus September 5, 1827; partner of William Bebb, later governor, from 1834 until he retired from practice in 1840[1]

**1831** Married Mary Greenlee Hough September 6, 1831; their children who grew up were Minor, Joseph, Dan and Mary[1]

**1875** Elected treasurer of the State of Ohio in October 1875 and took office January 10, 1876; lost re-election in 1877 and left office January 14, 1878[1]

**1884** Died in April 1884, according to his son Dan's 1905 sketch[2]

## Thomas Millikin 1819–1899

*Lawyer at the Hamilton bar for more than fifty years*

*From the original biography*[2]

> "THOMAS MILLIKIN, who at the time of his death was the oldest practicing member of the Hamilton bar, was born in Rossville, now a part of Hamilton, September 28, 1819. He began his classical studies with Rev. J. G. Monfort in Rossville, in 1832, and then entered Miami University, from which he graduated in 1838. He studied law with Elijah Vance and was

> admitted to the bar in 1840. …”

TIMELINE

**1819** Born in Rossville, now part of Hamilton, September 28, 1819, the second son of Dr. Robert B. and Sarah (Gray) Millikin[2]

**1838** Graduated from Miami University in 1838, read law with Elijah Vance, and was admitted to the bar in 1840; prosecuting attorney for one year from 1843[2]

**1841** Married Mary Van Hook, daughter of William B. Van Hook, at Columbus November 4, 1841; the 1905 history notes the wedding was held in the Ohio penitentiary, where her father was warden[2]

**1852** Helped organize the Hamilton Gas Company and the Hamilton & Lindenwald Electric Transit Company; attorney for the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad from 1852; declined a seat on the Ohio supreme court in 1874[2]

**1894** Mary died January 13, 1894, and Thomas died in Hamilton November 10, 1899[2]

ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Seven children: William B., Robert B., Sallie G., Murray G., Matie M., Ira S. and Julia M.; William served in the 35th Ohio Infantry and Robert B. in the 93rd[2]

## John Millikin and Mary C. (Snively) Millikin

John 1826–1892

*Farmer, miller and agent for Long & Allstatter*

TIMELINE

**1826** John was born in Hamilton October 24, 1826, the youngest child of Samuel and Mary (Hunter) Millikin[2]

**1892** Died August 28, 1892; their children were Adda S., Ella, Henry L., Samuel H., Agnes, Horace F., Mary and John M.[2]

ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Farmed in Vermillion County, Indiana, for seventeen years, came back to Hamilton during the war and went into milling, then was superintendent of agencies for Long & Allstatter for twenty years[3]

- Married Mary C. Snively, daughter of Samuel Snively, a Hamilton tanner who died about 1863[3]

CHAPTER FOUR

# Grandsons of the pioneers

*Generation 4*

## Minor Millikin 1834–1862

*Colonel, 1st Ohio Cavalry; killed at Stone River*

*From the original biography*[3]

> "Though many years have passed since this valiant man fell upon the bloody battlefield of Stone River, his memory is still green in the hearts of family and friends. In the prime of many vigor he responded to his country's call for aid, and, marching to the front with the earliest volunteers, he did brave service against the enemy until he died, a martyr to the cause he loved so well. …"

### TIMELINE

**1834** Born in Hamilton July 9, 1834, the eldest child of Maj. John M. Millikin; studied at Hanover College and Miami University and graduated in law at Harvard[3]

**1862** Killed at Stone River on the last day of 1862 while leading a charge of the 1st Ohio Cavalry against the cavalry of Wharton and Wheeler[3]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Farmed near Hamilton and edited and published the Hamilton Intelligencer[3]
- Married Mary Mollyneaux of Oxford, according to the 1905 history[2]
- First lieutenant of the first cavalry company raised in Ohio, whose officers had to buy most of its horses; then major and colonel of the 1st Ohio Cavalry[3]

## Joseph Millikin

*Professor of languages*

*From the original biography*[3]

> "PROF. JOSEPH MILLIKIN, the second son of May. John M. Millikin, was graduated from Miami University, and later was a student in the Princeton Theological Seminary. He was licensed to preach, and ordained a minister, but withdrew from that work. Subsequently he became Professor of Greek in his Alma Mater, and in connection with the duties pertaining to his chair he gave instruction in the Hebrew language. …"

### TIMELINE

**1873** Professor of Greek at Miami, where he also taught Hebrew; in 1873 became professor of German, French and English at the new Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College in Columbus[3]

**1881** Resigned in June 1881 because of lung disease and died at the old homestead in the fall of 1882, aged forty-two[3]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Second son of Maj. John M. Millikin; graduated from Miami University and studied at Princeton Theological Seminary[3]

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## Dan Millikin

*Physician; professor at Miami Medical College*

*From the original biography*[2]

> "The subject of this brief review is one of the representative physicians and surgeons of Butler county, has been a member of the faculty of Miami Medical College for the past twenty years, while his genial personality and deep appreciation of all that is true and good in humanity has made him in a significant sense humanity's friend and gained to him unequivocal popularity among old and young. His is the buoyant, gracious spirit of perennial youth, and by temperament and mental power he is an optimist. …"

### TIMELINE

**1845** Born in Fairfield Township April 17, 1845, son of John M. and Mary G. (Hough) Millikin[2]

**1863** Studied at the Sheffield School of Yale College 1863 to 1865 and graduated from Miami Medical College in 1875; practiced in Hamilton[2]

**1884** Taught at Miami Medical College from 1884: medical chemistry, then materia medica, and from 1893 medical jurisprudence[2]

**1894** The 1894 Memorial Record says Amanda was a daughter of William Hunter and that they had four children: one died in infancy and a son, Guy, died in January 1894 at seventeen[3]

## Robert Barbour Millikin and Carrie E. (Brandon) Millikin Robert b. 1844

*Civil War officer; clerk of the courts*

TIMELINE

**1844** Robert was born in Hamilton in March 1844, son of Thomas and Mary (Van Hook) Millikin, and studied at Miami University[2]

**1862** Enlisted July 16, 1862, in the 93rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry; resigned as first lieutenant November 22, 1864, because of disability contracted in the service[2]

**1865** Made farm implements from 1865; city clerk of Hamilton 1875 to 1881 and clerk of the courts of Butler County 1881 to 1887[2]

**1865** Married Carrie E. Brandon, daughter of Abel and Martha Brandon of Miami County, at Piqua August 16, 1865[2]

## Ira S. Millikin b. 1852

*Real estate dealer; manager of the electric transit company*

TIMELINE

**1852** Born in Hamilton February 2, 1852, son of Thomas Millikin; studied at the Western Military Academy of Dayton[3]

**1882** Married Lucy A. Bakewell of Louisville, Kentucky, in 1882; she died in Hamilton April 1, 1886, and their two children died in infancy[2]

**1889** Secretary and manager of the Hamilton & Lindenwald Electric Transit Company, organized in July 1889 with his father as president[3]

**1889** Married Zenaide C. Schenck, granddaughter of Sheriff Aaron L. Schenck, November 29, 1889[2]

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## Dr. Samuel H. Millikin b. 1853

*Dentist and merchant*

*From the original biography*[2]

> "The subject of this review is a representative of one of the early established families of Butler county, the history of which covers almost a century. The Millikin family needs no introduction to the people of this county, as since 1807 ie>' have been prominently identified with its growth and progress. The annals of the county record the history of no family more conspicuous or more honorable in the advancement of public thought and action, and none of more diversified interests. …"

### TIMELINE

**1853** Born in Vermillion County, Indiana, February 9, 1853, son of John and Mary C. (Snively) Millikin; the family came back to Hamilton when he was about nine[3]

**1881** Graduated from the Dental College of Cincinnati in 1881; was in the mercantile business in Hamilton for a few years after 1889 and then went back to dentistry[2]

**1886** Married Mary Schelly, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Schneider) Schelly, September 15, 1886; she died January 14, 1897; their sons were Arnold Schelly and Eugene Donald[2]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Worked as a newsboy, spent a year in a photograph gallery, and then followed the carriage blacksmith trade for seven and a half years[3]

CHAPTER FIVE

# The fifth generation

*Generation 5*

## Mark Millikin b. 1868

*Physician in practice with his father*

*From the original biography*[3]

> "MARK MILLIKIN, M. D., of the firm of Millikin & Millikin, was born in Fairfield Township, near Hamilton, March 23, 1868, and is the only living son of Dr. Dan and Amanda (Hunter) Millikin. His boyhood after seven years of age was passed in Hamilton. After attending the high school for three years, he entered the Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, taking a chemical and biological course preparatory to the study of medicine. …"

TIMELINE

**1868** Born in Fairfield Township near Hamilton March 23, 1868, son of Dr. Dan and Amanda (Hunter) Millikin[3]

**1892** Studied at Johns Hopkins University and graduated from Miami Medical College April 1, 1892; then joined his father's practice in Hamilton[3]

**1893** Married May Beckett, youngest daughter of William Beckett, June 29, 1893; one child, Frances[3]

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## Brandon R. Millikin b. 1868

*Attorney, Hamilton*

*From the original biography*[2]

> "This well-known attorney of Hamilton is a representative of one of the most distinguished families in Butler county. He is descended from pioneer stock, and the name of Millikin in Butler county stands for a high

> class of citizenship and, among the males, almost invariably, for a professional career. Dr. Dan Millikin was the first physician in Hamilton. …"

### TIMELINE

**1868** Born in Hamilton August 19, 1868, son of Robert Barbour and Carrie E. (Brandon) Millikin[2]

**1885** Entered Amherst College in 1885, read law for a year with his grandfather Thomas Millikin, and graduated from the Cincinnati law school in 1891[2]

**1895** Married Grace E. Jewett of Wyoming, Ohio, January 9, 1895; children Caroline E., Margaret B. and Jewett[2]

### ALSO IN THE RECORD

- Junior partner in Millikin, Shotts & Millikin; after Thomas Millikin's death the firm became Shotts & Millikin[2]

# Sources

Every fact in this book comes from the public-domain books listed here. The small number after a fact is the book it came from.

1 *A history and biographical cyclopaedia of Butler County (1882)*
archive.org/details/historybiographio1west

2 *Centennial History of Butler County (1905)*
archive.org/details/oh-butler-1905-bowen

3 *Memorial record of Butler County (1894)*
archive.org/details/memorialrecordofoounse

## WHERE THE SOURCES DIFFER

James Millikin and Dolly (McFarland) Millikin: The 1882 history gives the wedding day as March 31 and says Dolly was born near Dartmouth, Bristol County, Massachusetts, a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Barber) McFarland.

Samuel Millikin and Mary (Hunter) Millikin: The 1882 history gives his birth year as 1787 and says he died October 7, 1870, aged 83 years, seven months and nine days.

Samuel Millikin and Mary (Hunter) Millikin: An 1894 sketch of his grandson says instead that he was a physician, served in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, and died at eighty-five.

John M. Millikin: The family record in Dr. Daniel Millikin's 1905 sketch says instead that his first three children, John M. among them, were born in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Dan Millikin: Married Amanda Hunter of Hamilton October 9, 1866; the 1905 history names two children, Dr. Mark Millikin, born March 23, 1868, and Mary, born October 19, 1870, wife of Thomas Beckett.

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