

William Johnston: A Missouri Pioneer and His Descendants is the history of William Johnston, his wife Catherine Miller and their descendants. The epicenter of the history is in Ripley County in southeast Missouri, but the stories go far beyond the borders of Missouri and extend far beyond the continental United States. The genealogy is a compilation of almost 220 years of records, stories, clippings, and photographs. It covers wars, natural disasters, financial booms and busts, personal tragedies, and wild successes.

Farming is at the core of the family and some in the seventh generation are still faming in southeast Missouri. All generations seem to have a general love of the land and respect for nature. Other common threads in the individual stories are a love of family and a willingness to help a neighbor.

While some records give only a sketch of a life or only a name, others offer a more complete picture of a family unit through newspaper clippings, marriage records, and obituaries. The best records are those that include family memories, stories, and photographs shared by Johnston cousins. These are the true treasures. Hopefully, this book will inspire the readers to search out more of these stories and memories in order to grow and expand this database so descendants will have a real understanding of the history of the family.



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