

## FAMILY HISTORY

The Rev. John Milton Whitehead, D.D.

was born near Richmond, Ind., Wayne Co. March 6, 1823  
moved in Sept. 1835 with his family to Rolling Prairie,  
Ind., LaPorte Co.

was licensed to preach Dec. 4, 1844 at age 21

was ordained to Baptist ministry Feb. 26, 1846.

served pastorates in Rolling Prairie, Kingsbury, Door  
Village, and Westville, Ind.

received a D.D. degree from La Grange University in 1862

served as a Chaplain with the Fifteenth Regiment of  
Indiana Volunteers three years 1862-1864

served pastorate in Kankakee, Ill. from 1864-1871

served the North Star Baptist Church in Chicago 1871-1877  
which was destroyed by fire in 1871 in the famous  
Chicago fire, was rebuilt and completely paid off mortgage

served pastorate in Belvidere, Ill 1877-81

served pastorate in Goshen, Ind. 1881-86

served pastorate in Nebraska City, Neb. ca. 1886-90

served pastorate in Silver Lake, Kansas 1887-90

served as missionary in many parts of Kansas and Nebraska  
1890-1908

was a member of the First Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas,  
and served in many capacities wherever there was need

His last official act was the baptism of his oldest grand-  
daughter, Edith Helen Potter, in Dec. 1908.

He died in Topeka, Kansas as the result of a stroke, on  
March 8, 1909, 2 days after his 86th birthday.

He served for many years as Chaplain of the Senate for  
the State of Kansas. His office was across the street  
from the Capitol Building.

He was given the highest honor our country gives, The Medal  
of Honor, by action of the U.S. Congress in 1898.

He married Mary Jane Patterson July 4, 1847. She was his  
loving and faithful companion for nearly 48 years.  
Unfortunately she died two years before this great  
honor was given him, so that she was not there to share  
it with him. Seven children were born to them; four of  
them died in early childhood. Only the youngest child,  
Nellie Edith, married and had children. From Nellie's  
four children are about 70 descendants as of 1987,  
with more to follow in the years ahead.