

F AIRVIEW CEMETERY • BROWNSTOWN, INDIANA

Josephine Brandt Applewhite

Occupant Name: Josephine Brandt Applewhite

Location: **Section A**

Date of Birth: 4/15/1825

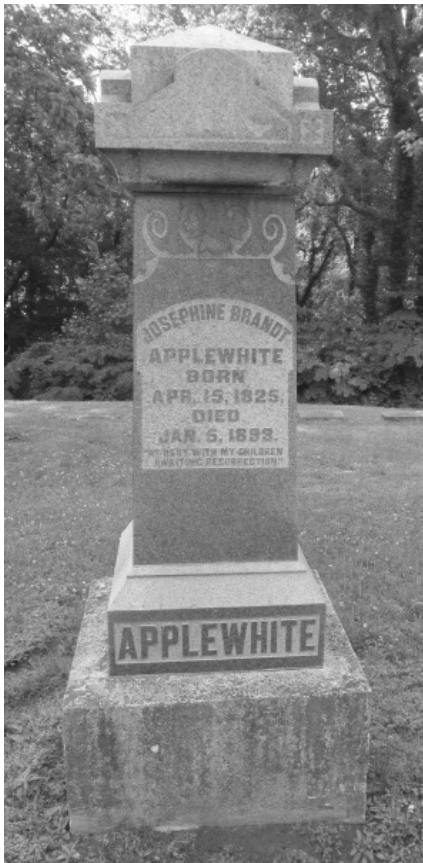
Date of Death: 1/5/1893

Date of Burial: 1893

Veteran: No

Multiple Occupants: No

Comment:



DEATH OF A NOBLE WOMAN.

Mrs. Josephine B. Applewhite.

"Tis at all times and under all circumstances a sad, solemn and melancholy duty to follow the mortal remains of one whom we knew and esteemed in life to the silent "City of the Dead," and see them deposited in the dismal and dreary tomb. But when the Death Angel enters the community and summons to the incomprehensible realms of eternity one endeared to us by the ties that bind through uninterrupted friendship and intimate personal association for a period of three decades, the heart's tendril yields to the strain of anguish, giving utterance to emotions which only those can feel who know from sad experience the bitter pangs which Death inflicts upon near and dear ones as it relentlessly strikes down father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, or other to whom they may be attached through close ties of congeniality or warm friendship.

These reflections involuntarily arose in our mind on Thursday morning early as the announcement was made that the spirit of Mrs. Josephine Brandt Applewhite, the beloved wife of Hon. Ralph Applewhite, had taken its flight to the other and better world. Sad as it is to contemplate her death—much as her devoted husband, her loving children and her many dear friends will miss her; yet, after all, is not the loss of the living the gain of the dead. Of the DEAD! did we say? Yes, so the world denominates it, when speaking of the transition; but that which we call Death is in reality only the beginning of LIFE! Could the drapery which obscures the spirit world from view be lifted, the vision would reveal a happy family group of mother and seven children. If it be true that there is a home for us all beyond the skies—a haven of rest where sickness, sorrow, pain and death are feared and felt no more—and who that beholds the sublime grandeur of nature, the majestic beauty of the firmament on high, with its grand planetary system, far-reaching and limitless in its magnificence and power, can doubt it—who is there that would tear that mother from the happy companionship of those seven dear children, who have been "watching and waiting" for her coming for hours or more years. No, Mrs. Applewhite would not return if she could. Nor would any of the living, however much they may have loved her, call her back to this "vale of tears" if they could. They might wish that she could have abided here a few years longer; but now that she has passed "through the dark valley and shadow of Death," each one bows in humble submission to the Divine Will and innately exclaims: "Thy Will, O Lord, and not mine, be done!"

Mrs. Josephine B. Applewhite was born at Madison, Indiana, April 15th, 1825. She was the daughter of Felix and Cecile Brandt, natives of Switzerland, who emigrated to America in 1815 and settled at Madison, Ind. Mrs. Applewhite had three brothers and four sisters. Of the Brandt family, only one sister survives—Miss Esther, residing at Hanover.

On the 11th of March, 1847, Miss Josephine Brandt and Ralph Applewhite were united in marriage at Hanover, Ind., and went to the State of Mississippi, where they made their home for five years. They returned to Hanover in 1852, and thence came to Brownstown for permanent location, March 1st, 1854. They have resided continuously at Brownstown ever since, with the exception of a few years' residence in Seymour. Ten children were born of the union, only three of whom—Henry, James F. and Berie, wife of Walter L. Benton, are living.

Mrs. Applewhite breathed her last on Thursday morning, January 5th, 1893, at 3:50 o'clock, aged 67 years, 8 months and 20 days. Calmly and peacefully she passed away, surrounded by her husband and children. She died the death of the righteous, passing away like one dropping gently to sleep. She was conscious until a few hours preceding her death, and, although measurably speechless, gave unmistakable indications of the happiness she experienced in being surrounded by her husband and children in her dying hours. The immediate cause of her death was paralysis of the brain. She commenced to decline in health about three years ago, but no alarm was felt until recently, when unerring symptoms of paralysis presented themselves. She was prostrated on the Monday preceding her death, and steadily declined until the moment of dissolution.

From childhood until death, Mrs. Applewhite was a devout, faithful and consistent member of the M. E. Church and an earnest, active and enthusiastic worker in all benevolent organizations connected with the church. Gentle in spirit, amiable in disposition, generous in nature and pleasant in manners, she commanded the friendship and love of all who knew her. As a wife and mother, she was an exemplification of perfection, and no happier home could be found than that presided over by her. As a friend, her devotion was as sincere as her fidelity was enduring in sickness, sorrow and distress, as

was ever like a ministering angel. In acts of charity she excelled, contributing munificently to the poor, needy and suffering from time to time as opportunity offered. Her death leaves a vacancy at the family fire-side, in the church, and in the social circle, that can not be filled. She will be missed not only by her near relatives, but by multitudes of friends, and the little mound beneath which her body reposes will ever be a sacred spot to them.

The funeral took place on Sunday morning, and was largely attended. Appropriate services were conducted at the M. E. Church, by Rev. W. M. Fletcher, who delivered a discourse from 1 Cor., iii, 22, after which the cortege proceeded to the cemetery, where the remains were deposited in their final resting place by the side of the seven children who preceded her to the better land. W. F.