

Robey, 1863-1954, who retained a sharp memory until the final moments of his life, had a phenomenal memory for details regarding the past. His stories made the past come alive. Fortunately, as a schoolboy I started taking notes on theme paper. In the farmyard of his country home he gave me details of the family trek from Eastern Ohio to Illinois, origins of the family, modes of transportation at that time and research saving details regarding his grandfather which related to the late 1790's. His memory was so clear that it made an easier task when verifying names and places of residences as far back as his great grandfather which few persons can do.

Uncle Noah's story is as follows: The Robey family originally came from England. He did not remember the port of the embarkation from England, however, they arrived in America to make their home in Virginia. His ancestors later moved into the western part of the State of Virginia or Maryland. Shortly afterwards they continued on to Greene County, Pennsylvania (at that time a part of Washington County) a county south of present day Washington, Pennsylvania. It was in this area where his grandfather met and married his future wife. Whether children were born to them during their stay in Pennsylvania he did not know, however, they moved on to Guernsey County, Ohio in Richland Township and also resided near Lake Senecaville and later Mt. Emphraim in present day Noble County. Mt. Emphraim is a small village southeast of Cambridge, Ohio, and north of Caldwell, the county seat of Noble County. His father was Middleton Robey born in Ohio in 1832 and his mother was Elizabeth Winnett, daughter of John and Mary Winnett whose parents had met the Robey family in Greene County, Pennsylvania, and who also moved to Richland and Will Townships in Guernsey County. His mother, Elizabeth, had been born in Pennsylvania in 1834 while her family resided there. He stated that his grandfather's name was also Middleton Robey and that his father had been