

disenchanted with the Quaker Society to leave the established strong holds of the Society, moving the frontier to escape the strict regulation of their lives. It appears that this may have been the case with Jonathan. Jonathan's father was in trouble with the Society throughout his life, for drinking, swearing, and marrying out of the Society. Jonathan's uncles and cousins were condemned for gambling, and marrying out of the Church. We can only speculate as to Jonathan's feelings and beliefs. One of his uncles, Nathan Preston, was one of the prominent Quaker leaders in Plumstead Township. Jonathan did attend the one known wedding. On the other hand, Jonathan was probably not a member of the Society, as his parents were disowned. My feeling is that he was probably a religious man, but had mixed feelings about the Society of Friends. He was well enough to be thought of to be made a supervisor in Derry Township in 1808. Yet I feel it likely that the move from Buck's County to Mifflin County was in reaction to the strict Quaker Society of Buck's County.

There is a trail appearing on Mifflin County maps leading from Milford Township over the mountains to Wayne Township called "Huff's Trail". Raymond Bell feels this was likely named for Jonathan Hough, and that he probably lived somewhere along the trail on the Milford township side.

About 1817, George Carson and Ann Hough were married, probably in Mifflin County. George was Presbyterian; Ann was Quaker they were parents of eight children, six boys and two girls: William Huff Carson, born 8 Jan 1818, John Carson, born 13 Nov 1819, Jonathan, about 1820, Elizabeth, 7 July 1822, George, 2 Oct 1827, David, 2 Oct 1827, Washington, 18 April 1830 and Mary Ann, 16 Mar 1833.

In the middle of June, 1831, George and Ann, upon leaving church services one Sunday afternoon, saw two men teaching under a tree. They listened and found they were two Mormon Missionaries, David Whitmer and Harvey Whitlock. They had been commanded to travel to Missouri preaching along the way. (See D&C 52:25). Ann joined the Mormon Church that same month; George joined late in August 1831.

Joseph Smith dedicated the temple site in Independence, Missouri, and designated the surrounding area as Zion. He called all the saints to gather to Zion, instructing those returning to Ohio to inform all Saints; they responded to the call to Zion. In 1832 George and Ann, along with David and Elizabeth Frampton, responded to the call, and traveled some 900 miles, probably mostly flatboat down the Ohio river, then up the Mississippi river to St. Louis and the Missouri river to Independence.

The first week of November, 1833, mobs attacked the Mormons, forcing them to flee to Jackson County. It was very cold; the ground was frozen and it was raining. The Carsons and Framptons fled into the nearby woods. The women tied the tops of some bushes together and spread blankets over them. The children huddled under the blankets all through the night while Ann and Elizabeth stood watch. Ann was holding seven month old Mary Ann and Elizabeth held three year old Elizabeth Ann. The men stayed near the edge of the woods and watched their houses. They returned the next morning to retrieve what possessions they could, and headed for the river bottom.

"The shore of the Missouri River began to be lined on both sides of the ferry with men, women and children, goods, wagons, boxes, provisions, etc., while the ferry was constantly employed; hundreds of people were seen in every direction. Some in tents and some in the open air around their fires, while the rain descended in torrents. Husbands were inquiring for their wives, wives for their husbands, parents for their children, and children for their parents". On November 13, 1833 about two o'clock on the morning of the 13th, we were called by the signs in the heavens. We arose and to our great astonishment all the firmament seemed enveloped in splendid fire-works, as if every star in the broad expanse had been hurled from its course, and spent lawlessly through the wilds of ether. Thousands of bright meteors were shooting through space in every direction, with long trails