

Mary Barker **Smith Cushing**
By Douglas H. Shepard, 2014

Mary Barker **Smith Cushing** (1807 – 1891) was the second wife of Milton Buckingham **Cushing**, Sr., and she was the mother of the Civil War heroes Alonzo **Cushing** and William **Cushing**.

Milton Buckingham **Cushing**, Sr. (1800 – 1847), son of Zattu and Rachel (**Buckingham**) **Cushing** was born on 28 July 1800 in Paris NY. On 25 November 1823 he married Abigail Browning **Tupper** in Zanesville OH. Their four children were: Benjamin Tupper **Cushing** (1825 – 1850), Edward Anselm **Cushing** (1827 – 1852), Rowena Sophia **Cushing** (1829 – 1858) a.k.a. Mrs. Asa **Brown**, and Abigail Elizabeth **Cushing** (1833 - 1834).

Abigail Browning **Tupper Cushing** died in November 1833 in Putnam OH. On 12 June 1836 in Columbus OH, Milton **Buckingham Cushing**, Sr. married Mary Barker **Smith**, daughter of Elisha **Smith** and Mary Butler **Bass Smith** of Salem MA.

Milton Buckingham **Cushing**, Sr. and Mary Barker **Smith Cushing** had seven children: Milton Buckingham **Cushing**, Jr. (1837-1887), Howard Bass **Cushing** (1838-1871), Walter **Cushing** (1839, *died in infancy*), Alonzo Hereford **Cushing** (1841-1863), William Barker **Cushing** (1842-1874), Mary Rachel **Cushing** (1845-1846), and Mary Isabel **Cushing** (1847-?) a.k.a. Mrs. Mary **Bouton**.

Milton Buckingham **Cushing**, Sr. died In Gallipolis OH on 22 April 1847. The same year, Mary Barker **Smith Cushing** moved to Fredonia with her five surviving children. On 12 February 1848, she bought 43 *Cushing Street* (then known as Greene Street).

The 1850 Census records the family as Mary B. **Cushion** [*sic*], 40; Milton B. **Cushion**, 18; Joseph H. [*i. e.* Howard?] **Cushion**, 12; Alonzo **Cushion**, 9; William B. **Cushion**, 7; and Mary S. [*sic*] **Cushion**, 4. By the time of the 1855 Census only Mary B. **Cushing** (47) and her daughter Mary I. (9) remained in Fredonia. They claimed to have been in Fredonia eight years, and Mrs. **Cushing** was identified as a seamstress. In the 1860 Census, Mary was listed as a school teacher.

Mary Barker **Smith Cushing** was assessed for the property on Cushing (Greene) Street at least through 1864, and in neighboring deeds, her parcel was cited as “the Widow **Cushing** lot.” On 18 October 1865, however, she bought 66 *Eagle Street*. Her purchases seem to have been made with help from her birth family, the

Smiths. Mary had sent her boys to military school, again with help from her birth family.

Mary and her daughter remained in Fredonia, and Mary operated a school for small children from her home on Eagle Street. By 1870 Mary was living in Brookline MA in the family of Joshua and Margaret **Loring**. Mary and her daughter eventually ended up in Missouri, but when she died in 1891, Mary Barker **Smith Cushing** was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery in Fredonia. Her grave is in the same section as that of her son Milton and her daughters-in-law Ellen (Nellie, wife of Milton) and Katherine (Kate, wife of William).

Postscript: Because Mary Barker **Smith Cushing's** middle name was **Barker**, it may be incorrectly assumed that she was closely related to either the Hezekiah **Barkers** of Fredonia or the Leverett **Barkers** of Fredonia. However, there does not seem to be a close family connection in either case. Mary Barker **Smith Cushing's** father Elisha **Smith** was the son of Josiah **Smith** and Mary **Barker Smith**, and although the father of Mary **Barker Smith** was Elisha **Barker**, his connection, if any, to the **Barkers** of Fredonia would be distant.