

### **Francis Asbury Worthington (1819-1849)**

Francis was born last of the ten Worthington children on July 16, 1819. He was named after the founding Bishop of American Methodism, Francis Asbury, who was a friend of the Worthington family and a regular guest at Adena. Francis and his brother William had little discipline or guidance in their youth as their father died while they were still young boys.

It was sister Sarah who saw to Francis' education. She took her two sons, nephews, and Francis to Cambridge, Massachusetts, where they attended Harvard University. Sarah rented a home there and cared for the boys while they were in school. It was at a party at this home that Francis met his future wife, Jane Lomax.

After graduation from Harvard, Francis attended medical school and became a physician. He married Jane Lomax in 1843 and they settled in Cincinnati. Francis was a highly respected doctor who was known for "bearing healing and cheerful words." Daughter Alice was born to the couple in 1846. Jane became very ill and died in 1847.

In 1849, an epidemic hit Cincinnati and Francis became ill while caring for his patients. His sister Margaret nursed him for twelve days. Francis refused doctors thinking he could diagnose himself. When his condition worsened, doctors were consulted and they leached him, as was the common practice. Francis died June 17, 1849 at the age of 29.



