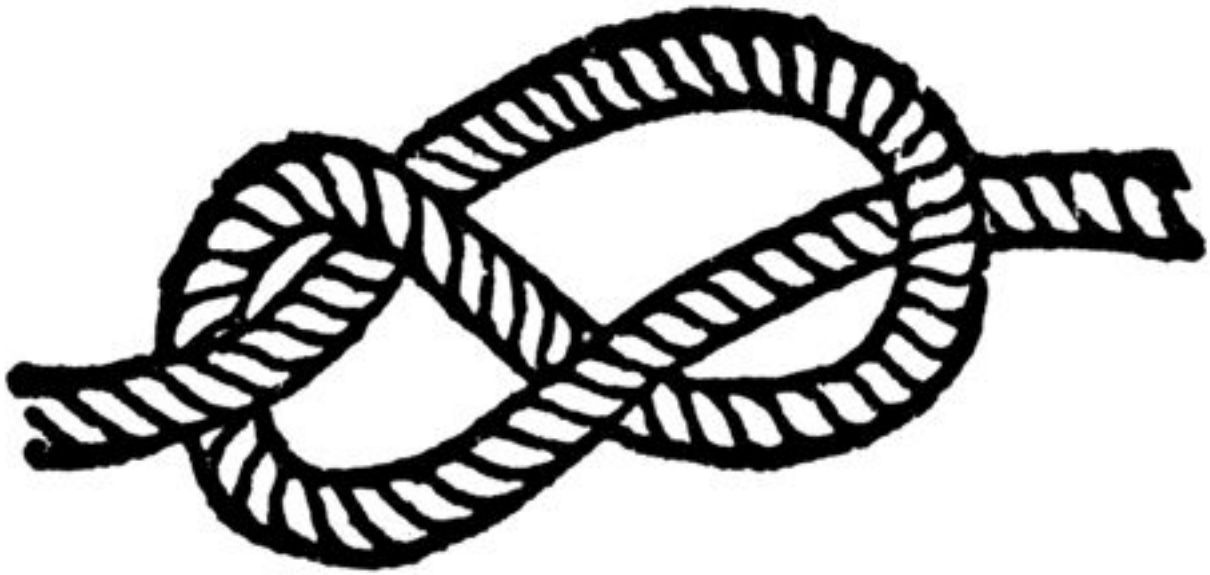
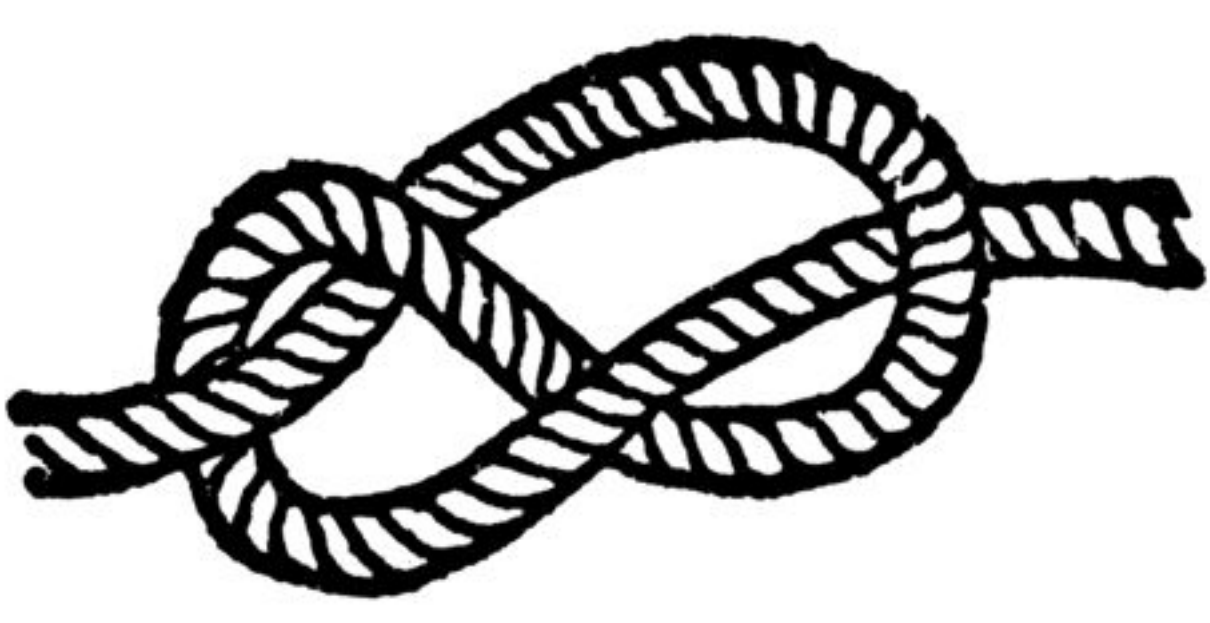
Figure of Eight



a family genealog spanning four generations

Figure of Eight



a family genealog spanning four generations

researched & compiled by ***Ryon Claude Johnston***, Winnipeg

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I offer my gratitude to my best critic, Sister Hope Evon Johnston LaVine, for her mentoring, copy editing and proofreading, working me hard, and rendering the work much improved. I have accepted most of her suggestions. For any shortcomings that might remain, I take full credit myself, with the following qualification . . .

"I am not insensible of the many imperfections which this work might present, but, as errors and inaccuracies are inseparable from the first edition of any book, I hope that generous readers will be both tolerant of its faults, and considerate of its merits."

[adapted from: John O'Hart. Irish Pedigrees; or, the Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation. McGlasham & Gile, Dublin, 1876]

Rcj. (15 Oct 2018)

Figure of Eight

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Proem

The 'figure of eight' reflects balancing circles, a symbol of infinity. It is also a knot that will not slip. Presented here is a study of the genealogy of the family-of-origin of the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons, eight siblings born to Daryl Russell Johnston (1905-1982) and Helen Frances Poston (1914-1948).

Cognates (blood relatives — those of a common gene pool) naturally share, as an extension of the self-evident genetic inheritance, many subtle personality traits and physical characteristics. In the special case of siblings, we share more genes with each other (albeit in unique random combinations, of course) than we do with either our parents or our children. This 'physiogenic' reality is re-enforced by the commonality of our social and cultural experience, and by a lifetime of inter-relationships.

We are each the centre of our own lives, standing at the pinnacle of a long selection process, at the apex of our 'origin pyramid'[1], the unique result of a particular combination of gene-blending. Genealogy is not only a record of 'descendency', but also one of ascendency — as we *succeed*, *supersede*, our forebears, so do we *precede* our offspring, our 'issue'. The gene pool that spawned us funnels through us as the sand in an hour glass. As we are the children of all who have gone before us, so we are the parents of all who come after us.

This 'genealog'[2] depicts 'our people', spanning four (plus) generations of our genitive inheritance. It complements ***Figure of Eight*****: *a family memoir spanning four decades***,[3] refreshing our memories and recounting our story — for ourselves and for our children and their children and children's children . . .

"From out of the eternity of the past
into the eternity of the future . . .
Thus do the generations come and go;
Each yielding its harvest to destruction's scythe.
One fades, another blossoms . . ."

[Anonymous (from Fennimore Times, 10 Oct 1906)]

———————

"'Living in the past'. It's always said pejoratively, as if the past is necessarily inferior to the future, or at any rate less important; nobody's ever condemned for looking forward, only back. But the truth is that we do live in the past, whether we like it or not. That's where our life takes shape. Somewhere ahead, however near or far, is the end. But behind, shrouded in clouds of forgetting, lies the beginning."

[Robert Goddard. Beyond Recall. Corgi Books, London, 1997]

———————

"Soul journeys are elastic in time. They take us not only into the future, but stretch back into past generations and remind us that we can only know ourselves when we know our roots which hold us, ground us, feed us, strengthen us and occasionally give us pain. Sometimes, it can be pretty painful to delve into stories of our past, but soul journeys need to travel into the depths of pain as well as the heights of joy. If we forget those difficult stories of our ancestral past, we will betray the struggles of our ancestors and our soul journeys will be the poorer."

[Loraine McKenzie-Shepherd, 12 Jun 2012. 'Soul Journey' sermon, Augustine United Church, Winnipeg]

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[1] term coined by **Figure of Eight** authour

[2] Ibid.

[3] compilation of family 'round-robin letters' written by the **Figure of Eight** Minnesota Johnstons, with other contributors

Dedicated to our parents, whose union was the conduit of our genes: Daryl Johnston and Helen Poston

Wedding Photograph at Crawford Lake Farm, 14 May 1933



Editor's Opening Comments

Many years ago, I taught high school briefly in Minnesota's then smallest public school: grades K to 12, with just over 100 pupils. Long having an interest in language and in ethnicity, I practiced, while getting to know the students, pronouncing their mostly European names in my best understanding of the originals. They didn't know, didn't want to know, and didn't care. *"When do we get to be just Americans?"* they asked. This experience is reflected in a comment by a character in a novel by American writer Ernest Hemingway: *"Most of our own lovely beauties come from soda counters, and they do not know their grandfather's last name, unless, maybe, it is Schultz. Or Schlitz, he thought."*[4] In our culture, we suffer from collective forgetfulness, societal amnesia. Camilla Gibb pushes the point even further: *"Americans do not stay in a house for generations, there are few generations and little continuity."*[5]

In this work, I hope to provide a counterpoint to this reality, to invite a more wholistic appreciation of our collective heritage. Herein is my portrayal of the origins of the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons, an overview of four generations of 'our people' back to our 2nd great-grandparents: dam and sire, grand dams and grand sires — 30 progenitors, representing 15 families and spanning over 200 years. Family units are presented, profiling each parent individually, and adding photographs and stories where available. While a traditional 'family tree' follows the descendants of a particular person, the intent of this work has been to focus first on *us*, then to trace our genitive inheritance down our origin pyramid — to follow the 'bloodline' backwards, as it were.

As German scientist Leibniz once said, *"naming a thing completes its essence"*.[6] While a conventional genealogy follows only the father's surname, I have chosen to name *all* families, and *each* parent within *each* family, as equally important contributors to our gene pool and to our nurturing — as well as, indeed, through us to successive generations. My goal has been to 'get to know' each of those whose genes we carry. I have done so by learning something of the facts of their lives: their immediate families, their timelines, their personal geographies, for to know anyone, *"one must seek out the people who completed them; even the places."*[7]

Documenting our collective genetic heritage, in Jane Urquhart's words: *"building, sentence by sentence, the long journey through the tangled highways of [our] family's past"*[8], has been a fascinating challenge, and has become a consuming passion. My genealogical research has included that of the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormon) FamilySearch.org, Ancestry.com, and the American Genealogical-Biographical Index [9], as well as a number of additional resources. Using, whenever possible, original source citations, supplemented by site visits, personal knowledge, and family lore, I have found many factual details of the lives of the people in the ***Figure of Eight*** origin pyramid.

While my efforts have been focused on more recent ancestors, getting to know the immediate four generations of our progenitors, the work of other researchers has, in many cases, documented our genetic lineage back much further. I had long thought (vaguely!) of our family as being of Scots-Irish origins (Johnston, Emerson), with a 'French connection' through our maternal great-grandmother (Requa). What I hadn't perceived is the number of families that are of English origin (Hall, Ransom,

---

[4] Ernest Hemingway, 1950. Across the River and into the Trees. Scribner, New York. p. 226

[5] Gibb, Camilla, 2010. The Beauty of Humanity Movement. Penguin Books, Toronto. p. 85

[6] Gottfried Wilhelm von Leibniz, (July 1, 1646 – November 14, 1716) German mathematician and philosopher.

[7] Virginia Woolfe, 1925. Mrs Dalloway. Vintage Classics, London, 2004. p. 135

[8] Jane Urquhart, 2005. A Map of Glass. McClelland and Stewart, Toronto, 2006.

[9] The American Genealogical Biographical Index (AGBI) is one of the most important printed genealogical sources in the United States. Also known as "Rider's Index," it is an every-name index (excluding authors and witnesses) to over 800 printed genealogies and other compiled sources housed at the Godfrey Memorial Library in Middletown, Connecticut. The collection spans more than 100,000 pages and 200 printed volumes.

Poston, Larkin, Palmer, others), who date amongst the earliest Americans, some with documented pedigrees dating back to the 17th and 16th, and even earlier. Where such sources have not been available, I have used my own research to project possible/probable earlier ancestry. Of course, such creative speculation must not extend to excessive 'leaps of faith', for *"unless the facts are right, there is no pleasure in this imaginative game."*[10]

For the most part, I have limited the presentation of each generation to their parents, siblings, partners and children. Had we included all 'extended family', and all allied persons (as, indeed, I have done in the on-line version of my work) the numbers in four generations would be in the thousands. By way of illustration, James Requa, Jr. (1789–1870), himself born posthumously, the father of our 2nd great-grandfather, Alexander Requa (1831-1925), alone reportedly had 70 grandchildren!

Except in the case of the 4th generation (2nd great-grandparents), for whom the information was not consistently available, 1st cousins are identified as well, providing further context for getting to know our people. First cousins share much of our genetic makeup and, often, we have been acculturated, socialized, in the same environment. Our play, our friendships, even our life choices are often interconnected. It is interesting to note the linguistic recognition of this reality in the Spanish word for first cousin, *'primo'*: the primary, the first, the best, the leading, the beginning.

Along with the more mundane revelations of birth, places of residence, marriage and death dates of our immediate forbears, there have been surprises, among them the re-discovery of missing relatives, and the chance connection with distant 'cousins', whose conjoint research has enabled us to share something of each other's journey.

Each generation needs its storytellers. One distant 'cousin', Rev. Amos C Requa, assembled *The Family of Requa* in Peekskill, New York, in 1898. Another, Wyllys Cadwell Ransom, produced *Historical Outline of the Ransom Family of America* in 1905. Our paternal great-grandmother, Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin (1858-1948), shared her memoir *The Story of My Life* in 1943. Paternal great aunt, Rachel Edna "Dede" Johnston, compiled in 1968 *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*. For the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons of my generation, our story has been partially told, in our own words, through the compilation of four decades of our letters to each other as referenced in the proem.

Insofar as I have come to know each of our forefathers and foremothers, I have (audaciously!) imagined a short narrative presenting a slice of his or her life. For these creative non-fictions, I have employed much investigative surmise — thereby discerning, and recording, a personality, a *personage* (*"one distinguished for presence and personal power"*). The intent of these narratives is to convert facts to story — *her*-story and history — *"a sweep of history through personal story"*. The quotations that follow this introduction are meant to frame the philosophical context for these personal narratives. I have discovered that when our ancestors were invited to tell their own stories in this way, in the present tense, they came to life for me.

While I trust that this current project will make a contribution, the process is one which can be much enlightened by input from subsequent generations — our progeny. My invitation, and my hope, is that they will assume the *"mantel of storytelling"*, and, through research and sharing, continue to document our heritage, filling in the blanks where my efforts to date may have fallen short, and adding each new family member.

Family is where our stories begin, but even as we are the (grand)children of all who have gone before us, so are we the (grand)parents of all who come after us. We leave it to the next generations to continue the *"never-ending story"*— for in this process unfolds 'eternal life' . . .

Ryon C Johnston
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
15 October 2018

[10] Hoskins, W.G., 1955. The Making of the English Landscape. Penguin, London, 1985.

About Using This Book

The intent of this work is to provide a resource to 'get to know' each of 'our people', going back four generations. Beyond this *"Introduction",* the eight siblings and our known forebears, are presented in this book, as follows . . .

The section entitled *"**Figure of Eight** Minnesota Johnstons"* presents (in birth order) photos and profiles of my sibling group. Our 1st cousins, so important in the socialization process, are also identified. Finally, our origin pyramid displays (in what most genealogists call a *"pedigree view"*), the ***Figure of Eight*** Family Tree. The ensuing family-of-origin sections introduce four generations of our progenitors, starting with our parents (Johnston/Poston Family). The sequence can be seen at a glance within the origin pyramid itself, reading conventionally — left to right, top to bottom. Each vertical column represents a generation, the most recent to the left. Within each generation, the families are presented with the paternal lines as the first entries, followed by the maternal line entries.

This pattern is articulated in *"The People"* section below, and re-iterated at the start of each chapter. The section which follows it, *"Presentation of the People",* provides the sequence whereby information is presented for each person within each family. As well, there is a key for interpreting the coding of names employed throughout this book (as, also, within the ***Figure of Eight*** Family Tree reproduced from the ancestry.com site) — see page viii).

Articles, photos produced by me are so indicated, while those produced by others are appropriately credited. Online submissions re-copied in this volume are annotated with my ancestry.com 'username': **horttech1**.

An additional short section entitled *"What's in a Name?"* elucidates the evolution of surnames. I have also produced a glossary, *"Relationship Terminology",* to help understand jargon, as well as a *"Timeline of Relevant Historical Events"* to provide context — setting the stage for the events that we and successive generations of our predecessors will have experienced during our/their life-journeys.

At the end of this resource book, an *"Appendix"* provides reports on site visits, the results of enlisted 3rd-party research, and an introduction to the thirty distant 'cousins' with whom I have corroborated.

The People

***Figure of Eight* Minnesota Johnstons — The Eight Siblings**

Hope Evon Johnston
David Lowry Johnston
Darla Corinne Johnston
Roger Palmer Johnston
Cordell Kent Johnston
Ryon Claude Johnston
(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston
Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston

***Figure of Eight* 1st Generation Progenitors — Parents (2+)**

Johnston/Poston Family
Daryl Russell Johnston
Helen Frances Poston
+ Edette "Edith" Regina Kozlowski [11]

***Figure of Eight* 2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents (4+)**

Paternal
Johnston/Larkin Family
(William) Lowry Johnston
Maude Larkin

Maternal
Poston/Palmer Family
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
Edith Belle Palmer
+ Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck

[11] The plus sign (+) preceding a name indicates additional marriage partner(s) — not of direct bloodline.

***Figure of Eight* 3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents (8+)**

Paternal
Johnston/Emerson Family
James Lowry Johnston
Ann Jane Emerson
Larkin/Ransom Family
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
Ellen Augusta Ransom

Maternal
Poston/McCurdy Family
Silas Marion Poston
+ Emma Fullerton
Rachel McCurdy
Palmer/Requa Family
William Harrison Palmer
+ Julia C Manchester
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa

***Figure of Eight* 4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents (16+)**

Paternal
Johnston/Lowry Family
James Johnston
Elizabeth Lowry
Emerson/Mosgrove Family
Edward Emerson
Isabella Mosgrove
Larkin/Emery Family
Elam Loring Larkin
+ Lucy Robinson
Sophronia Emery
+ *Henry Soper
Ransom/Hall Family
Zerah Augustus Ransom
Elvira Louvena Hall

Maternal
Poston/Cartwright Family
Jeremiah Poston
Mary Cartwright
McCurdy/Riddle Family
Archibald "Arthur" McCurdy
Elizabeth Riddle
Palmer/Cornell Family
Henry Palmer
Patience Cornell
Maternal (continued)
+ Mary Ann Kimble
Requa/Andres Family
Alexander "Alex" Requa
Lucinda Belle Andres
+ Susan Almildra Miser

Presentation of the People

For ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons . . .

Photo Presentation
For each sibling (in birth order):
Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
1st Cousins
Four-generation Origin Pyramid (ancestry.com)

For ***Figure of Eight*** Generations 1st – 3rd (parents, grandparents, great-grandparents) . . .

Family Preview (father's Surname/mother's Surname)
For each Parent (fathers, followed by mothers):
Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
Siblings
1st Cousins
Personal Narratives
Gallery: Personal Records of Note
+ For each Step-parent (inserted by chronology of marriage date):
Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
Family's Grandchildren
Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

For ***Figure of Eight*** 4th Generation (2nd great-grandparents) — as above, but . . .

Adding: Relationship Chart (ancestry.com)
Excepting: 1st Cousins

Projecting: Earlier Ancestry
Appending: Surname Origins

Vitae of Direct Ancestors

***Figure of Eight* 1st Generation Progenitors — Parents (2)**

Johnston/Poston Family

Daryl Russell Johnston (1905-1982)	born Minnesota	age at death: 77 – heart failure [12]
Helen Frances Poston (1914-1948)	born Minnesota	age at death: 33 – self-death

***Figure of Eight* 2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents (4)**

Paternal

Johnston/Larkin Family

(William) Lowry Johnston (1878-1939)	born Minnesota	age at death: 60 – accident
Maude Larkin.(1882-1965)	born Minnesota	age at death: 82 – unknown

Maternal

Poston/Palmer Family

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881-1959)	born Minnesota	age at death: 77 – cancer
Edith Belle Palmer (1887-1976)	born Minnesota	age at death: 88 – unknown

***Figure of Eight* 3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents (8)**

Paternal

Johnston/Emerson Family

James Lowry Johnston (1844-1901)	born Ireland; arrived 1863 [13]	age at death: 56 – accident
Ann Jane Emerson (1844-1910)	born Ireland; arrived 1870	age at death: 64 – unknown

Larkin/Ransom Family

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850-1930)	born New York; arrived 1872	age at death: 79 – unknown
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858-1948)	born New York; arrived 1864	age at death: 89 – unknown

Maternal

Poston/McCurdy Family

Silas Marion Poston (1854-1938)	born Ohio; arrived 1855	age at death: 84 – unknown
Rachel McCurdy (1860-1947)	born Minnesota	age at death: 87 – unknown

Palmer/Requa Family

William Harrison Palmer (1833-1925)	born New York; arrived 1873;	age at death: 91 – unknown
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853-1900)	born Wisconsin; arrived 1860;	age at death: 46 – cancer

***Figure of Eight* 4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents (16)**

Paternal

Johnston/Lowry Family

James Johnston (1797-1885)	born Ireland; arrived 1866	age at death: 88 – heat stroke
Elizabeth Lowry (1805-1861)	born and died in Ireland	age at death: 56 – unknown

Emerson/Mosgrove Family

Edward Emerson (1809-1888)	born Ireland; arrived 1870	age at death: 78 – unknown
Isabella Mosgrove (1817-1910)	born Ireland; arrived 1870	age at death: 92 – unknown

Larkin/Emery Family

Elam Loring Larkin (1790-1866)	born Vermont; died New York	age at death: 75 – unknown
Sophronia Emery (1811-1865)	born Vermont; died New York	age at death: 54 – unknown

Ransom/Hall Family

Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834-1915)	born New York; arrived 1865	age at death: 80 – unknown

---

[12] *average natural lifespan — 76.5 years males; 72 years females*

[13] *date of arrival in Minnesota*

Elvira Louvena Hall (1834-1925)	born New York; arrived 1865	age at death: 90 – unknown

Maternal

Poston/Cartwright Family		
Jeremiah Poston (1819-1876)	born Virginia; arrived 1855	age at death: 57 – cancer
Mary Cartwright (1832-1876)	born Ohio; arrived 1855	age at death: 54 – unknown
McCurdy/Riddle Family		
Archibald "Arthur" McCurdy (1834-1886)	born Ireland; arrived 1855	age at death: 52 – nephritis
Elizabeth Riddle (1835-1877)	born Ireland; arrived 1855	age at death: 42 – unknown
Palmer/Cornell Family		
Henry Palmer (1792-1867)	born New York; died Wisconsin	age at death: 75 – unknown
Patience Cornell (1796-1850)	born Massachusetts; died in Ohio	age at death: 54 – unknown
Requa/Andres Family		
Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831-1925)	born New York; arrived 1856	age at death: 93 – nephritis
Lucinda Belle Andres (1834-1893)	born Wisconsin; arrived 1856	age at death: 58 – stroke

The Generations

***Figure of Eight* Ancestry:**

1st	Parents (2)	1905-1914
2nd	Grandparents (4)	1878-1887
3rd	Great-Grandparents (8)	1833-1860
4th	2nd Great-Grandparents (16)	1790-1834

_____

Earlier Ancestry:

5th	3rd Great-Grandparents (32)	1755-1879
6th	4th Great-Grandparents (64)	1718-1854
7th	5th Great-Grandparents (128)	1654-1809
8th	6th Great-Grandparents (256)	1620-1800
9th	7th Great-Grandparents (512)	1608-1762
10th	8th Great-Grandparents (1,024)	1570-1736
11th	9th Great-Grandparents (2,048)	1552-1685 *

The mathematics of our heritage can overwhelm us, yet, considering how few our people are in relation to the billions who have lived during their span of years, it is a truth that we are more like these folks, our kin, than we are like the rest of humanity.

Key to Interpreting Ancestry Records

Asterisk * before name = calculated relationship, or possible/probable relative

Slash / between names = original/optional spellings

Given name in parenthesis (…) = name not normally used

Given name in quotes "…" = affectionate name or 'nickname'

Surname in parenthesis (…) = adoption name, or husband's surname when maiden name is unknown

What's in a Name?

In Europe, the place-of-origin of all known ***Figure of Eight*** forbears, there is evidence that the custom of adding a surname (literally: *"a name beside",* an additional name) began in about 1000 A.D. No doubt, the combination of growing populations and society's increasingly organized bureaucratic structure (particularly with regard to assessing and collecting taxes) necessitated this evolution. While the

* Note, as a reference point, the life span of acclaimed literary genius, William Shakespeare (1554-1616).

emphasis in evolving surnames varied with the particular culture, the origins followed recognizable patterns. Not surprisingly, given the geo-political origins, most surnames in the United States originated in, or via, the British Isles. **NB:** Diminutive endings were sometimes appended, originally chiefly in affectionate personal names — Germanic: -chen,-ken,-ke,-kin; Flemish: -(c)ock; Norman French: -et, -ette, -let, -ot, -otte, -ell, elle; Old Norse: -i, -a, -ki, -ka, -gi, -ga, -ungr, -ingr, -lingr, -hich.

- Characteristic Names (bynames, nicknames) were *"given on account of a strong peculiarity of figure, feature, or character, deed of prowess, eccentricity of dress, speech or carriage"*[14]: Armstrong, Littlejohn, Blunt, Ready, Silver, Palmer, Pettit.
- Patronyms ('font' names) were common, appending to the child's name the forename of the father whose given name (often biblical) became a surname — Andrews, Johns, Williams, Jones, Roberts. In other examples, a prefix or a suffix — O'-, Mac-, Mc- (Gaelic); -son, -kin (English); Fitz- (Flemish); -ovitch (Russian); -owick (Polish) — was sometimes appended to link the child to the father.
- Toponyms (local, residential, locational, habitational, geographic, place names), whether as whole words, often evolved so as to be hardly recognizable, or as prefixes/suffixes: Tre-, Pol-, Pen-/ -town, -ton, -tun, -ham, -burn, -ford, -by.
- Metonyms (trade names) arose basing a surname on a person's work: Smith, Miller, Baker, Taylor, Cartwright. Since these names may be in a foreign (or Old English) tongue, they might not appear outrightly familiar; examples include: *"Skapti, originally a shaft-maker, became a nickname, and afterwards a personal name as Scapti and Scafti, the Scotch form of which is Shafto. Sneypir, a snipper, gives us Snepp and Snape; Dengir, one who whets"*[15]; this practice extended to include the use of official appointment titles: Steward, Alderman, Reeve, Marshall, Clerk (Clark), Butler.
- Adoptive Names, originated with the naming of foundlings, or other bureaucratic intervention, such as the re-naming of immigrants, or with the elective anglicizing of Irish, Jewish, German, and other 'ethnic' names, by way of diminishing discrimination or facilitating cultural assimilation.

[Reference: adapted and amended by ***Ryon C Johnston*** from — www.geocurrents.info/cultural-geography/geography-european-surnames]

Relationship Terminology

Relationship: The state of being related by kindred, affinity, or other alliance

Consanguinity: The relation of persons by blood, in distinction from affinity or relation by marriage; blood relationship, as: lineal consanguinity, collateral consanguinity

Affinity: Relationship by marriage (as between a spouse's blood relations); in contradistinction to consanguinity, or relationship by blood; kinship by marriage or adoption

Relation, Relative: A person connected by consanguinity or affinity; a kinsman or kinswoman; a person related by blood or marriage

Family: People descended from a common ancestor; a person having kinship with another or others; the group comprising two adults and their dependent children, constituting a fundamental unit in the organization of society

Kin (noun), Kindred (adjective): Relatives; persons of the same family or race; relationship by birth or marriage; consanguinity; affinity

Kinsman, Kinswoman, Kinfolk: Male/female relative(s); of the same race or family; one related by blood; kinship; family relationship

Clan: Signifies children or descendants; the tribe being descended from a common ancestor, the

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[14] Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894.

[15] Ibid.

chieftain, as the representative of that ancestor, was regarded as the common father of the clan, and they as his children

Ancestry: A series of ancestors or progenitors; lineage, or those who compose the line of natural descent

Genealogy, 'Genealog': An account or history of the descent of a person or family from an ancestor, a progenitor; enumeration of ancestors and their children in the natural order of succession; a pedigree; lineage

Lineage: Descent in a line from a common progenitor; progeny; race; descending line of offspring or ascending line of parentage

Parentage: Progenitors; parents or ancestors considered with respect to their rank or character, extraction, birth

Forefather, Forebear: One who precedes another in the line of genealogy in any degree, but usually in a remote degree; an ancestor

Progenitor: An ancestor in the direct line; a forefather

Ancestor: One from whom a person is descended, whether on the father's or mother's side, at any distance of time; a progenitor; a forefather; a forebear

Ascendant, Antecedent: Someone from whom one is descended, but usually more remote than a parent or grandparent; an earlier or higher generation

Descendant (noun), Descendent (adjective): A person descended from a particular ancestor; descending from an ancestor; one generation of a specific lineage, birth or extraction; a later or lower generation

Progeny: Descendants; issue; children; offspring; race; lineage

Cognate: Related to, or descended from, a common ancestor; of a common bloodline

Agnate: A person related on one's father's, paternal side

Enate: A person related on one's mother's, maternal side

Pedigree: A line of ancestors; descent; lineage; genealogy; a register or record of a line of ancestors; an 'origin pyramid'

Bloodline: The descendants of one individual; pedigree

Lineal Descent: Descending from the same stock or ancestor, in the same line or branch

Collateral Descent: Descending from the same stock or ancestor, but not in the same line or branch

Generation: A single step or stage in the succession of natural descent; a rank or remove in genealogy; the body of those who are of the same genealogical rank or remove from an ancestor; the mass of beings living at one period; the average lifetime of a person, or the ordinary period of time at which one rank follows another, as a parent is succeeded by a child, (usually assumed to be one-third of a century); an age

Biological Parent: One who begets, or brings forth, offspring; a father or a mother

Adoptive Parent: One who legally accepts as one's own the biological child of another

Foster Parent: One who provides care and security to a child of other parentage, but does not legally adopt

Father: One who has begotten a child, whether son or daughter; a generator; a sire; a male parent

Paternal: Of or pertaining to a father; received or derived from a father; hereditary; as, a paternal estate

Mother: A female parent; a woman who has borne a child

Surrogate Mother: A woman who bears a child on behalf of another woman, either from her own egg fertilized by the other woman's partner, or from the implantation in her uterus of a fertilized egg from the other woman

Maternal: Of, or pertaining to, a mother

Degree of Kinship: The level of relationship between two persons related by blood, such as parent to

child, one sibling to another, grandparent to grandchild, uncle to nephew, cousins to cousins; calculated as one degree for each generational step from a common ancestor

Grandfather, Grandmother: A father's or mother's parent; an ancestor in the next degree above the father or mother in lineal ascent

Great-Grandfather, Great-Grandmother: The father or the mother of one's grandfather or grandmother

2nd Great, 3rd Great, etc.: Abbreviations for great-great-grandfather (2nd great-grandfather), great-great-great grandfather (3rd great-grandfather), etc.

Child: A son or a daughter; a male or female descendant in the first degree; the immediate progeny, issue, or offspring of a parent

Foundling: A child abandoned by biological parents

Orphan: A child whose biological parents have both died

Grandson, Granddaughter: A son's or daughter's son or daughter

Sibling, Full-sibling: A person's brother or sister; children with both parents in common

Half-sibling: Children with but one parent in common

Brother: A male person who has the same father and mother with another person, or who has only one of them in common; in the latter case, he is more definitively called a half-brother

Sister: A female who has the same parents with another person, or who has only one of them in common; in the latter case, she is more definitively called a half-sister (the correlative of brother in gender)

Uncle: The brother of one's father or mother; also applied to an aunt's husband; the correlative of aunt in gender

Aunt: The sister of one's father or mother; the correlative of uncle in gender; also applied to an uncle's wife

Great Uncle/Aunt: An uncle/aunt of one's parents

Nephew, Niece: The son or daughter of a brother or a sister, or of a brother-in-law or sister-in-law

Grand Nephew, Grand Niece: The grandson or granddaughter of one's brother or sister; the children of a niece or nephew

Great-Grand Nephew/Niece (often just 'great' alone): The great-grandchild of one's sibling

First Cousin: The son or daughter of an uncle or aunt; one's parents' nephews and nieces; having the same grandparents

Second Cousin: The first cousin of one's parents; having the same great-grandparents

3rd, 4th, 5th Cousins, etc.: 3rd cousins have the same 2nd great-grandparents; 4th cousins have the same 3rd great-grandparents, etc.

Cross-cousins: The children of a brother and a sister

Parallel-cousins: The children of two brothers or two sisters

Cross x marriage: Two siblings marry two siblings

Double-cousins: If two siblings marry two siblings ('cross x marriage'), their offspring will be double first cousins; while regular first cousins share only one set of common ancestors, double first cousins share all lineal and collateral relatives

Removed: Distance by degrees in relationship; from different generations — the words 'once removed' indicates a difference of one generation; 'twice removed' means that there is a two-generation difference, etc.

In-law: A relative by marriage

Brother-in-law, Sister-in-law: The brother, sister of one's husband or wife; also, the husband, wife of one's sister; sometimes, the husband/wife of one's wife's sister

Father-in-law, Mother-in-law: The father, mother of one's husband or wife

Son-in-law, Daughter-in-law: The husband, wife of one's daughter

Step-father/mother: The husband/wife of one's parent by a previous, or subsequent, marriage

Step-brother/sister, Step-sibling: A brother/sister by the previous, or subsequent, marriage of one's parent

Step-son/daughter: A child of one's wife or husband by a former, or later, marriage

Step-cousin. The son or daughter of someone's step-uncle or step-aunt. The step-son/daughter of someone's uncle or aunt.

[Reference: adapted and amended by ***Ryon C Johnston*** from — www.myrelative.com/html/definitions.html]

Timeline of Relevant Historic Events

1513–1522 Spanish Conquest of Central and South America

1566 San Agustín (Florida) begins the oldest, continuously-occupied European settlement in continental United States

1605–1610 European colonization of the Americas begins in earnest: 1605 Sieur de Mons and Samuel Champlain establish Port Annapolis Royal (Nova Scotia); 1607 Jamestown Colony (Virginia) is 1st permanent English Settlement in North America; 1608 Quebec City (Quebec); 1609 Sante Fe (New Mexico); 1610 Cuper's Cove (Newfoundland)

1609–1690s Ulster Plantation in six northern counties of Ireland; 1639 Scottish Presbyterian Army quells Irish revolt, and stays; 1696-1698 border Scots flee to Ireland to escape famine

1620 Plymouth landing of the Mayflower in Massachusetts with British religious refugees, sailing from exile in Holland

1750s–1820s trans-Appalachian westward movement in American is aided by blazed trails, by the Ohio River and by canals: 1825 Erie Canal opens; 1829 Welland Canal links Lake Ontario and Lake Erie

1760 France capitulates American holdings in Ohio, Illinois, and Canada to Britain

1760s–1830s the Industrial Revolution introduces dramatic changes in manufacturing processes from hand production methods to machines, new chemical manufacturing and iron production processes, improved efficiency of water power, the increasing use of steam power and the development of machine tools, as well as the transition from wood and other bio-fuels to coal

1775 United States Post Office is created on July 26 by decree of the Second Continental Congress, replacing the colonial Crown Post — Benjamin Franklin heads it briefly

1776–1783 American colonies declare independence from Britain; Revolution ends with Treaty of Paris

1778 James Watt and Matthew Boulton render fundamental design improvements in the steam engine, accelerating industrial development in Britain and beyond

1790–1834 *Figure of Eight* 4th generation progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents are born

1803 Louisiana Territory is purchased from Napoleon; Northwest Territory becomes Ohio

1804–1806 Lewis & Clark Expedition seeks a practical route across the western half of the Continent

1812–1815 War of 1812 between USA and Britain impacts Canadian border

1815 eruption of Mount Tambora, a strato-volcano in Indonesia, occasions mid-summer frosts in New York State and June snowfalls in New England and Newfoundland and Labrador in what came to be known as the *"Year Without a Summer"* (1816)

1821 Michael Faraday (UK) develops electric motor

1826–1900 photography invented: first permanent photographic image (1826, Niépce); permanent negative images using paper soaked in silver chloride and fixed with a salt solution, then positive images by contact printing onto another sheet of paper (1834, Henry Fox Talbot); *'carte-de-visite'* photography in Paris, leading to worldwide boom in portrait studios (1854, Adolphe Disderi); 1900 Kodak Brownie box roll-film camera introduced, bringing photography to the home

1830 Oregon Trail comes into use by settlers migrating to the Pacific Northwest

1833–1860 *Figure of Eight* 3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents are born

1830s–1880s railway building boom in the United States, superseding waterways and horse-drawn wagons as primary modes of transportation: 1830 Baltimore & Ohio Railroad officially opens with 14 miles of track; by the 1850's it links Baltimore to Akron, on the Erie Canal, then on to Chicago, as well as to Cincinnati and on to St. Louis; 1847 Wisconsin's first railroad is chartered; 1862 the first rails in the State of Minnesota are laid; 1869 first transcontinental railway is completed at Promontory Summit, Utah Territory

1844 the first public telegram in America, *"What hath God wrought?"* sent by Samuel Morse

1845–1855 Irish potato famine – more than 750,000 die and another two million leave their homeland aboard the 'coffin ships' for Great Britain, Canada, and the United States

1858 Minnesota Territory, existing since 3 March 1849, is granted statehood 11 May

1858 first trans-Atlantic telegraph cable is laid

1861–1865 War of Rebellion (Civil War) officially ends slavery

1862 Homestead Act – anyone 21 or older, or the head of a family (including freed slaves and women), who has never taken up arms against the U.S. government, may file an application to claim a federal land grant

1872 Levi Strauss patents blue jeans

1876 Scottish-born Canadian Alexander Graham Bell invents the telephone

1876 John Deere, founded in 1837, expands its range of agriculture equipment to include the tractor

1877 Quaker Oats goes on the market

1878–1887 *Figure of Eight* 2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents are born

1878 American-born Thomas Alva Edison develops improved, commercially useful, electric light bulb

1883–1888 the explosion of Krakatoa creates volcanic winter-like conditions worldwide – including powerful winter blizzards

1884 British engineer Edward Butler constructs the first petrol (gasoline) internal combustion engine, inventing the spark plug, magneto, coil ignition and spray jet carburetor

1886 Karl Benz in Germany produces first automobiles

1887 Interstate Commerce Act, directed at the railroad industry to ensure fair prices, is the first federal law to regulate private industry in the United States

1893–1971 universal women's suffrage, recognition of the right of women to vote and to stand for office, evolves: 1893 New Zealand; 1894 Australia; 1916 Manitoba, Canada; 1920 USA (19th Amendment); 1928 UK; 1948 United Nations (International Law); 1971 Switzerland

1894–1901 Italian inventor Marconi experiments with radio-magnetic signaling culminate in the first wireless signal received across the Atlantic

1905–1914 *Figure of Eight* 1st Generation Progenitors — Parents are born

1900s–1930s air travel becomes reality; 1903 Wright Brothers and others achieve first powered flights; 1914 Ukrainian Igor Sikorsky develops the forerunner of passenger airliners (and bombers!); 1927 Charles Lindbergh makes the first trans-Atlantic flight

1900s–1930s 'automobile era' becomes reality in American life: 1903 Ford Motor Company is formed, launches the development of the Model T in 1908; 1913 Henry Ford develops the assembly line concept for mass production of affordable automobiles; 1927–1931 Ford Model A starts from $385, sells many millions

1914–1919 WWI (USA enters the war in 1917)

1920 commercial radio broadcasting begins

1921 after 800 years of English rule, the Irish Free State is established

1924 Immigration Act limits immigration *"to preserve the ideal of American homogeneity"*!

1929 stock market crash heralds the Great Depression of the 1930s

1933–1947 *Figure of Eight* Minnesota Johnstons — The Eight Siblings are born

1935 in the U.S., the Rural Electric Administration is created to bring electricity to rural areas

1939–1945 WWII (USA enters the war in 1941; drops atomic bombs on Japan in 1945)

1939 President Roosevelt demonstrates television at New York World Trade Fair

1941 Konrad Zuse, working alone in Germany, develops the first working programmable computing machine

1950–1953 Korean War

1955 Jonas Salk develops a polio vaccine; mass vaccination effectively ends the disease

1956 U.S. Interstate Highway System (Ike's Highways) commissioned

1957 Soviet Union launches *"Sputnik"* – first space flight

1959 completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway brings oceanic transport into the heart of the North American continent

1961–1973 USA is involved in war in Viet Nam

1962 President John F. Kennedy is assassinated

1969 USA spaceship *"Apollo 11"* lands man on Earth's moon

1975 Olivetti presents the world's first personal computer with built-in floppy disk

[Reference: compiled by ***Ryon C Johnston*** from — www.wikipedia.com]

About Ancestry.com

"*Ancestry.com LLC is a privately held online company based in Lehi, Utah. The largest for-profit genealogy company in the world, it operates a network of genealogical, historical record and genetic genealogy websites. As of June 2014, the company claimed to provide access to approximately 16 billion historical records, and have over two million paying subscribers and, as of February 2018, more than seven million AncestryDNA customers."* [16]

Ancestry was founded in 1983 by two Brigham Young University graduates to publish genealogical information, initially from the LDS (Mormon) records. Access to their extensive resource base is by subscription membership. The website offers useful tools to facilitate in developing personal profiles of users' ancestors by searching various worldwide sources, official and otherwise: census records; military records; school yearbooks; birth, marriage, and death (BMD) registries; phone directories; city directories, immigration and emigration records; ship logs; newspapers. In most cases, users are enabled to view excerpts from original documents, as well as content summaries. Saved facts build personal profiles, to which can be added photos and stories created by the user or obtained from other sources. The computer-based program calculates relationships, and builds the saved data into a family tree. Members may download the resultant GEDCOM [17] files to their computers or portable devices, and offer gift access to their family trees. Various printing services are also available.

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[16] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancestry.com]

[17] a plain text (usually either ANSEL or ASCII) containing genealogical information about individuals, and meta data linking these records together

"Every ending is arbitrary...the beginning of something else. All history is written backwards...we are here; and it and its participants are there. They are long gone; at the same time, they are in our hands..." [adapted from Margaret Atwood, 1993. The Robber Bride. Seal (McClelland-Bantam), 1994, Toronto]

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"A Native American storyteller begins telling his tribe's story of creation: 'Now I don't know if it happened this way or not, but I know this story is true.' " [Marcus J. Borg. Reading the Bible Again for the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously but Not Literally. Harper Collins, 2001, New York]

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"There can be an emotional truth to actual events, but it may be very hard to depict that truth by attempting to transcribe them. It may be that those emotional truths are much better expressed in a work of fiction." [John Barber. Vincent Lam's first novel, about Vietnam, has makings of a masterpiece. The Globe and Mail, 22 Apr 2012, Toronto]

_____

"There exists a 'spectrum of truth', a mythical rainbow of many colours, extending from fantasy to fact." [Ryon C. Johnston, excerpted from unpublished journal entry. Reflexions, 5 Jan 2013, Winnipeg]

_____

"The past is very close, if you approach it the right way . . ." [Knowledge Network Television, British Columbia, 22 Dec 2014]

Figure of Eight

Minnesota Johnstons — The Eight Siblings

Photo Presentation
Hope Evon Johnston
David Lowry Johnston
Darla Corinne Johnston
Roger Palmer Johnston
Cordell Kent Johnston
Ryon Claude Johnston
(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston
Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston

Presentation Sequence . . .

For each Sibling (in birth order)

Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)

Step-siblings

1st Cousins

Four-generation Origin Pyramid (ancestry.com)

The ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons — The Eight Siblings

Photo taken at the time of Mother Helen's funeral, February 1948 —
from left: Hope with Ryon, Roger, Darla with Suzanne, Cordell, Beth, David



Photos taken on various occasions between 2004 and 2010, in birth order . . .


Hope Evon Johnston LaVine (17 November 1933 –)


David Lowry Johnston (9 April 1936 –)


Darla Corrine Johnston Solberg Fisher (13 September 1937 –)


Roger Palmer Johnston (13 June 1939 – 3 September 2004)



Cordell “Cork” Kent Johnston (24 April 1941 – 17 February 2009)



Ryon Claude Johnston (25 July 1944 –)



(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston Nelson Lund (3 March 1946 –)



Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston Dornquast Bekius (28 October 1947 –)

ancestry



Hope Evon Johnston

BIRTH 17 NOV 1933 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living
sister

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
17 Nov 1933 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
birth record errantly shows middle name as 'Yvonne'

Age 6 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
eldest of four children (1-6) in multi-generational parental home at Crawford Lake farm

Age 14 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • self-death at home

Age 17 — **Marriage**
13 Apr 1951 • Minneapolis-Wold-Chamberlain Field, Minnesota
naval chaplain conducting
Durund Hayes LaVine (1923–1986)

Age 17 — **Graduation**
May 1951 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation (salutatorian)

Age 18 — **Residence**
1951-1952 • Trabuco Canyon, Orange, California
1st child born here 8 Mar 1952 at Oceanside, San Diego, California

Age 19 — **Residence**
1952-1967 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
family farm near parental home; four children born here

Age 34 — **Residence**
1967-1993 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
at farm near Zerkel, Rice Township, 17 miles S of town; various occupations and activities, including farming, bar/restaurant owner/operator; youngest child born here; note, laterally, absences for employment

Age 48 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home; Hope discovers body

Age 52 — **Death of Husband Durund**
13 Feb 1986 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
burial at Middle o' Nowhere Cabin

Age 55 — **Education**
May 1989 • Bemidji, Beltrami, Minnesota
participant in Study Abroad Program in Sweden; undergraduate degree from Bemidji State University; BA in English Literature & BS (cum laude) in Mass Communication

Age 56 — **Occupation**
1989-1993
newspaper editor: Warroad Pioneer (1989-90); Bemidji Pioneer (1990-91); The Desert Trail, Twentynine Palms, Calif. (1991-92); Mahnomen Pioneer (1992-93)

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Durund Hayes LaVine 1923–1986

- **Dawn Arlys LaVine** 1952–
- **April Joy LaVine** 1953–
- **Daniel Timothy LaVine** 1955–
- **Gwen Ida LaVine** 1957–
- **Lauren Lloyd LaVine** 1965–
- **Casey Scranton LaVine** 1975–

Sources

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1940 United States Federal Census

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 2

United States Obituary Collection

Age 60 — **Residence**
1993-2001 • Saint Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
employee with Brother Roger's firm: Vikeland Sales; several residences, particularly Pierce Butler Rte

Age 68 — **Residence**
2001-2006 • Cannon Falls, Goodhue, Minnesota
self-emploment as copy editor

Age 71 — **Death of Partner Wendell Gilbert**
9 May 2005 • Cannon Falls, Goodhue, Minnesota
receives special mention in his obituary, 14 May 2005

Age 74 — **Residence**
aft 2007 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
several residences; several employers, including Daughter Dawn's DawnWann Greenhouse

ancestry



David Lowry Johnston

BIRTH 9 APR 1936 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living
brother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
9 Apr 1936 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota

Age 3 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
2nd of four children (1-6) in multi-generational parental home at Crawford Lake farm

Age 11 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948
self-death at home

Age 18 — **Graduation**
Jun 1954 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 19 — **Residence**
1955-1957 • Camp Lejeune, Parris Island, North Carolina
U.S. Marine Muster Rolls

Age 20 — **Marriage**
25 Jul 1956 • Angola, Steuben, Indiana
civil wedding

Joyce Marie Koin (1934–)

Age 21 — **Occupation**
1957-1960 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
employment with grandfather in civil engineering; President, from 1959, of Frank Poston Construction Co. Inc., 3307 NW 14th St.

Age 24 — **Education**
1960-1963 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
student at University of Minnesota; BS degree in Electrical Engineering, May 1963

Age 27 — **Residence**
1963-1993 • Rochester, Olmstead, Minnesota
engineer with IBM; achieves several patents

Age 33 — **Adoption of Son Melvin**
abt 1969 • Rochester, Olmstead, Minnesota
adopts aboriginal child from Dauphin, Manitoba, during what will come to be known in Canada as "The 60's Scoop"

Age 46 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home

Age 57 — **Employment**
1993-1998 • Rochester, Olmsted, Minnesota
computer systems consultant with own firm: Cygnus Consulting

Age 62 — **Residence**
1998-2004 • Park Rapids, Clearwater, Minnesota
builds and operates LoonSong B&B at Heart Lake, rural Itasca

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Joyce Marie Koin 1934–

- **Kurtis Daryl Johnston** 1957–
- **Kimberly June Johnston** 1958–
- **Melvin Benny Flatfoot (Johnston)** 1963–
- **Kristy Lorie Johnston** 1966–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1940 United States Federal Census

Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls, 1798-1958

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

Age 68 — **Relocation**
2004 • Rochester, Olmstead, Minnesota
returns to Rochester; post-retirement employment, includes home-handyman services

ancestry



Darla Corinne Johnston

BIRTH 13 SEP 1937 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living
sister

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
13 Sep 1937 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota

Age 2 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
3rd of four children (1-6) in multi-generational parental home at Crawford Lake farm

Age 10 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 17 — **Graduation**
May 1955 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 17 — **Marriage**
13 Sep 1955 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Theodore "Ted" Aldean Solberg (1935–)

Age 18 — **Residence**
1955-1992 • Montrose, Wright, Minnesota
resides, sequentially, in two rural homes along old Highway 25 near Solberg in-laws

Age 43 — **Employment**
aft 1980 • Wright and Hennepin Counties, Minnesota
intermittent out-of-home employment: Tonka Toys, Prudential Insurance, others

Age 45 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home

Age 53 — **Residence**
1990-1995 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
estimated - US Public Records gives 1993 address at 715 Schubert Dr.

Age 54 — **Divorce**
14 Feb 1992 • Wright, Minnesota
Theodore "Ted" Aldean Solberg (1935–)

Age 59 — **Residence**
1996-1999 • Cokato, Wright, Minnesota
approximate

Age 61 — **Death of Daughter Teresa**
25 Sep 1998 • Olmsted, Minnesota
car accident

Age 62 — **Marriage**
25 Sep 1999 • Howard Lake, Wright, Minnesota
Darla's residence is Cokato
Patrick Michael Fisher (1951–)

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Theodore "Ted" Aldean Solberg 1935–

- **Bonita Rae Solberg** 1956–
- **Heidi Jo Solberg** 1957–
- **Teresa Lee Solberg** 1958–1998
- **Todd Tracy Solberg** 1959–
- **Sara Laureen Solberg** 1962–
- **Heather Jill Solberg** 1964–
- **Shane Aldean Solberg** 1968–
- **Bliss Amy Solberg** 1976–

Spouse

Patrick Michael Fisher 1951–

Sources

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Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995

Minnesota, Marriage Collection, 1958-2001

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

ancestry



Roger Palmer Johnston

BIRTH 13 JUN 1939 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH 03 SEP 2004 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
brother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
13 Jun 1939 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
middle name is after Grandma Poston's maiden surname

Age 0 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
at 10 months, the youngest of four children (1-6) in multi-generational parental home at Crawford Lake farm

Age 8 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 17 — **Education**
1956 • Chicago, Cook, Illinois
attended North Park College one year on scholarship

Age 17 — **Graduation**
May 1957 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 18 — **Education**
1957-1959 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
attended University of Minnesota for parts of three years

Age 22 — **Farming Venture**
1961 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
joint farming venture with father and college friend, as Crawford Lake Farms

Age 22 — **Marriage**
3 Mar 1962 • Hennepin, Minnesota
Nan Fritzi Pauley (1939–2010)

Age 23 — **Occupation**
1962-2002 • Minnesota
entrepreneur: shop keeper, salesman, business owner (Vikeland Sales, St Paul; Kato Engineering, Mankato; Waldorf Paper, St Paul)

Age 28 — **Marriage**
1 Dec 1967 • Codington, South Dakota
groom's address stated as Mankato, Minnesota
Cathey Sue Cordes (1946–)

Age 28 — **Divorce**
abt 1967 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
Nan Fritzi Pauley (1939–2010)

Age 31 — **Adoption of Son Adam**
aft 1970 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
1st wife's child after divorce

Age 34 — **Divorce**
14 May 1974 • St. Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
Cathey Sue Cordes (1946–)

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Nan Fritzi Pauley 1939–2010

- **Caitlin Mary Johnston** 1962–
- **Sabrina Rose Johnston** 1966–
- **Adam Thomas-Scott Johnston** 1970–

Spouse & Children

Cathey Sue Cordes 1946–

- **August Stewart Johnston** 1970–

Spouse

Patricia Kay Junkman 1956–

Sources

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U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 2

Web: Obituary Daily Times Index, 1995-2012

Age 34 — **Divorce**
14 May 1974 • St. Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota

Cathey Sue Cordes (1946–)

Age 43 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota

of heart failure at home

Age 44 — **Residence**
1983-1993 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota

26 Mississippi River Blvd N

Age 47 — **Marriage**
6 Sep 1986 • Ramsey, Minnesota

Patricia Kay Junkman (1956–)

Age 54 — **Residence**
1993-1999 • Hudson, St Croix, Wisconsin

229 Rivercrest Dr, overlooking the St Croix River

Age 59 — **Residence**
1998-2002 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota

2nd residence in condominium on Bank St. SE (Nicollet Island)

Age 60 — **Residence**
1999-2004 • Luck, Polk, Wisconsin

retirement farm; also maintained 2nd residence in St Paul at 724 Edgar Ave., at times with Sister Suzanne

Age 63 — **Divorce**
abt 2002 • Minnesota

Patricia Kay Junkman (1956–)

Age 65 — **Death**
03 Sep 2004 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota

of cancer in hospice

ancestry



Cordell "Cork" Kent Johnston

BIRTH 24 APR 1941 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH 17 FEB 2009 • Robbinsdale, Hennepin, Minnesota
brother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
24 Apr 1941 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
born at home; ostensibly named after Cordell Hull, then Secretary of State in the administration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt; mother dubs him 'Dell'

Age 6 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 18 — **Graduation**
May 1959 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 18 — **Marriage**
20 Jun 1959 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Dorothy Kathleen "DJ" Anderson (1942–)

Age 18 — **Military**
1959-1960 • Camp Lejeune, Parris Island, North Carolina
Marine Corps basic training

Age 19 — **Occupation**
1960-2008 • Minnesota
Dunwoody-trained journeyman plumber, laterally self-employed (Clearwater Plumbing, Plymouth Plumbing, Mr. Rooter)

Age 29 — **Self-employed Greenhouse Operator**
1970-1978 • Zerkel, Clearwater, Minnesota
owner/operator of Johnston Gardens, a greenhouse Springplant production business

Age 29 — **Adoption of Daughter Leslie "Kate"**
abt 1970 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
daughter of a Texas university student

Age 37 — **Divorce**
27 Nov 1978 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
Dorothy Kathleen "DJ" Anderson (1942–)

Age 41 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home

Age 43 — **Marriage**
23 Jun 1984 • Clark, Nevada
she brings her two sons (Tommy and Nicky Ronia into the marriage)
Patricia "Patty" Joan Gallagher (1954–)

Age 45 — **Residence**
1986-2009 • Maple Grove, Hennepin, Minnesota
US Public Records, Vol. 1

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Dorothy Kathleen "DJ" Anderson 1942–

- **Kent Douglas Johnston** 1959–
- **Kelly Donald Johnston** 1960–
- **Leah Lynn Johnston** 1966–
- **Leslie Marie "Kate" (Johnston)** 1970–

Spouse & Children

Patricia "Patty" Joan Gallagher 1954–

- **Thomas K Ronia** 1975–
- **Nicholas K Ronia** 1979–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995

Minnesota, Marriage Collection, 1958-2001

Nevada, Marriage Index, 1956-2005

Social Security Death Index

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Phone and Address Directories, 1993-2002

U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1

United States Obituary Collection

Web: Obituary Daily Times Index, 1995-2012

Age 55 — **Residence**
1996-2001 • Crosslake, Crow Wing, Minnesota
cottage

Age 61 — **Residence**
2002 • Garrison, Crow Wing, Minnesota
cottage

Age 67 — **Residence**
2008-2009 • Tucson, Pima, Arizona
seasonal residence in Green Valley

Age 67 — **Death**
17 Feb 2009 • Robbinsdale, Hennepin, Minnesota
of lung cancer at North Memorial Hospital; survived by: ex-wife and four children; wife, and two children; seven grandchildren

ancestry



Ryon Claude Johnston

BIRTH 25 JUL 1944 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
25 Jul 1944 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
at 1:10 PM; 9 lb, 7 oz; middle name is after Claude Poston, Grandpa Frank's brother. Baby Book entry, 5 Nov 1944: "His name is 'Ryon Claude Daryl' Mummy says."

Age 3 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 17 — **Graduation**
Jun 1962 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation (National Honor Society)

Age 18 — **Marriage**
19 Dec 1962 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo Presbyterian Church
Beverly Ann Kottke (1944–)

Age 21 — **International Student Exchange**
1965-1967 • West Germany
participant in work-study exchange program: Carl-Duisberg Gesellschaft, Dec 1965 to Mar 1967

Age 22 — **Birth and Death of 1st Child**
6 Jun 1967 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
pre-mature birth; lived four hours in incubator; died of hyaline membrane disorder

Age 23 — **Degree**
Mar 1968 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
Batchelor of Science (BS Honors) in Agriculture, University of Minnesota — major in Horticulture; minor in International Agriculture

Age 23 — **Emigration & Further Education**
Apr 1968 • Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
granted 'landed immigrant' status upon arrival; 2nd child, Chad, born Saskatoon, 3 Sep 1968; research assistant at University of Saskatchewan (1968-1969); MSc in Horticulture (1971); NB: citizenship awarded in Winnipeg (1985)

Age 25 — **Horticultural Employment**
1969-1993 • Alberta & Manitoba, Canada
instructor, Olds College, AB (1969-1970/1974-1976); agricultural procurement, Campbell Soup Company (1970-1972); salesman, Professional Gardener, Calgary, AB (1987-1989); consultant, Hort-Tech Services (1990-1993)

Age 26 — **Degree**
14 May 1971 • Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada
Master of Science (MSc) in Horticulture Science, University of Saskatchewan — Thesis topic: Differential Moisture Sensitivity in the Life Cycle of Selected Vegetable Crops

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Beverly Ann Kottke 1944–

- **Baby Boy Johnston** 1967–1967
- **Chadwick Emerson Johnston** 1968–
- **Newell Graham Johnston** 1970–

Spouse & Children

Hazel Moira Blennerhassett 1947–

- **Jennifer Linda Flint** 1977–
- **Christopher James Flint** 1980–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

Canadian Phone and Address Directories, 1995-2002

Canadian Phone and Address Directories, 1995-2002

Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

Minnesota Marriage Collection, 1958-2001

Age 28 — **Self-employment**
1972-1984 • Portage la Prairie & Oakville, Manitoba
intermittently, owner/operator of family businesses: Frohnhof Country Market and Oakville's Ingleside Greenhouses

Age 32 — **Horticultural Rehabilitation Work**
1976-1990 • Saskatchewan & Manitoba, Canada
Churchill Park Greenhouses, Moose Jaw, SK (1976-1978); Sprucedale Industries, Austin, MB (1982-1984); Manitoba Council of Rehabilitation Workshops, Winnipeg (1985-1987); Work & Social Opportunity Greenhouse, Winnipeg (1989-1990)

Age 36 — **Ministry**
1980-1982 • Clandeboye, Manitoba, Canada
week-end & seasonal appointment as Lay Minister in two-point charge (with Winnipeg Beach) for Selkirk Presbytery, United Church of Canada

Age 38 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home; Ryon leads funeral service at Buffalo

Age 41 — **Divorce**
2 Dec 1985 • Brandon, Manitoba, Canada
Beverly Ann Kottke (1944–)

Age 44 — **Marriage**
03 Sep 1988 • Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
co-habitation from Apr 1987; wedding at Augustine United Church - Rev. Karen Toole-Mitchell presiding; bride brings two Flint children (8, 11) into marriage
Hazel Moira Blennerhassett (1947–)

Age 49 — **Self-employed Greenhouse Operator**
1993-2009 • Roblin, Manitoba, Canada
co-owner/manager, with spouse, of Prairie Gardener Greenhouses

Age 65 — **Retirement to Winnipeg**
Nov 2009 • Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
retirement to Winnipeg environs; commences over-wintering in warmer climes; compiles Figure of Eight: a family memoir spanning four decades & Figure of Eight: a family genealog spanning four generations

ancestry



(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston

BIRTH 3 MAR 1946 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living
sister

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
3 Mar 1946 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
first name (unused) reflects name of sister of mother's grandfather, William Harrison Palmer

Age 1 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 18 — **Marriage**
11 Apr 1964 • Wright, Minnesota
Charles Le Roy Nelson (1942–2013)

Age 18 — **Graduation**
May 1964 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 24 — **Fostering Child**
1970-1976 • Montrose, Wright, Minnesota
fostered "Jimmy" from 9 months to 6 years of age (see story)

Age 31 — **Divorce**
16 Mar 1977 • Stearns, Minnesota
Charles Le Roy Nelson (1942–2013)

Age 32 — **Study Abroad Program**
1978-1979 • England and Israel
participates in international student program (Nov 78 - Feb 79), extended either end by travel in Europe

Age 34 — **Occupation**
1980-2008 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
career in social work, especially geriatric services, with Hennepin County

Age 35 — **Degree**
1981 • St Cloud, Stearns, Minnesota
BSW in Social Work from St Cloud State University

Age 36 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home

Age 37 — **Education**
1983-1985 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
graduate studies at University of Minnesota; MSW, Masters In Social Work, with a licensure through the State of MN as a Clinical Social Worker (LICSW)

Age 58 — **Marriage**
19 Dec 2004 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
(Garrett) John Lund (1943–2009)

Age 63 — **Death of Husband John**
13 Apr 2009 • St Anthony, Hennepin, Minnesota
after long struggle with lymphoma

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Charles Le Roy Nelson 1942–2013

- **Peter Bradley Nelson** 1966–
- **Eric Carlisle Nelson** 1967–
- **James Allen Kjeldahl** 1970–

Spouse

(Garrett) John Lund 1943–2009

Sources

Ancestry Sources

Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002

Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995

Minnesota, Marriage Collection, 1958-2001

ancestry



Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston

BIRTH 28 OCT 1947 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
DEATH Living
sister

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
28 Oct 1947 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
middle name apparently derived from combination of Father's Aunt "Rae" (Mary Rebecca Johnston), and his maternal grandmother, Ellen Augusta Ransom; NB: "Rae" Johnston married Mother's Uncle Julian Palmer – the couple fostered Helen after parent's divorce

Age 0 — **Death of Mother Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
self-death at home

Age 17 — **Graduation**
May 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Buffalo High School graduation

Age 18 — **Marriage**
27 Dec 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Thomas Wayne Dornquast (1944–2000)

Age 18 — **Military Wife**
1965-1968
various postings during husband's training to rank of captain in US Army; 1st child, Mathew, born 15 May 1966 in Massachusetts

Age 24 — **Divorce**
3 May 1972 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Thomas Wayne Dornquast (1944–2000)

Age 28 — **Occupation**
1975-1981 • Minnesota
criminal justice agent

Age 28 — **Degree**
1975 • St Cloud, Stearns, Minnesota
BA in Criminal Justice

Age 32 — **Marriage**
5 May 1980 • Milaca, Mille Lacs, Minnesota
he brings into the marriage his two children: Chamaine and Jacqueline
Virgil Gene Bekius (1948–)

Age 35 — **Death of Father Daryl**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure at home

Age 35 — **Degree**
1982 • St. Cloud, Stearns, Minnesota
MS in Psychology from St Cloud State

Age 37 — **Occupation**
1984-2009
psychologist, counselour, clinician; licenced in MN, AZ, CO, WA, as well as nationally

Family

Parents

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse & Children

Thomas Wayne Dornquast 1944–2000

- **Matthew Durund Dornquast** 1966–
- **Nathan Marsh Dornquast** 1968–
- **Raelene Nicole Dornquast** 1970–

Spouse & Children

Virgil Gene Bekius 1948–

- **Chamaine Catharyn Ann Marie Bekius** 1971–
- **Jacqueline Jean Elizabeth Ann Bekius** 1973–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **Minnesota Birth Index, 1935-2002**
- **Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995**
- **Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995**
- **Minnesota, Marriage Collection, 1958-2001**
- **Minnesota, Marriage Collection, 1958-2001**
- **U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1**
- **U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1**
- **U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 1**

Age 38 — **Divorce**
17 Jul 1986 • Stillwater, Washington, Minnesota

Virgil Gene Bekius (1948–)

Age 39 — **Residence**
1986-1988 • Saint Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota

Age 42 — **Residence**
1989-1994 • Phoenix, Maricopa, Arizona
employment as EAP (employee assistance program) counselor

Age 48 — **Residence**
1995-2000 • Seattle, King, Washington
MH (mental health) out-patient clinician

Age 48 — **Residence**
1995 • Aurora, Arapahoe, Colorado
employment as EAP (employee assistance program) counselor

Age 54 — **Residence**
2001-2009 • Twin Cities, Minnesota
724 Edgar Ave. with Brother Roger; licensed psychologist (Woodbury); managed care clinician (Blue Cross/Blue Shield)

Age 62 — **Retirement**
2009 • Ajijic, Jalisco, Mexico

Age 67 — **Relocation**
June 2015 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
returns to Minnesota; resumes reception & dispatch employment (AAA)

Figure of Eight Step-siblings [1]

Children of Step-mother Edith Kozlowski Eels Johnston

Children of Edith Kozlowski & John Eels

Arlene Edith Eells (1924-2002)

"When Arlene Edith Eells was born on August 22, 1924, in Superior, Wisconsin, her father, John, was 29, and her mother, Edette, was 19. She married Gerrard "Gunnar" Kermit Hedberg on September 29, 1962, in Pine, Minnesota. She died on November 24, 2002, in Kerrick, Minnesota, at the age of 78."

Myrtle Ione Eells (1928-2000)

"When Myrtle Ione Eells was born on June 7, 1928, her father, John, was 32, and her mother, Edette, was 23. She married Howard Henry Herman Weege on April 14, 1948. She died on May 11, 2000, in Rockford, Minnesota, at the age of 71."

Burnadette Josephine Eells (1930-)

"When Burnadette Josephine Eells was born on February 12, 1930, in Marshall, Minnesota, her father, John, was 34, and her mother, Edette, was 24. She married John Pomogalla on March 7, 1956, in Hughes, South Dakota. She had four brothers and five sisters."

Walter Myron Eells (1931–2013)

"When Walter Myron Eells was born on June 29, 1931, in Goodridge, Minnesota, his father, John, was 36 and his mother, Edette, was 26. He had three brothers and six sisters. He died on October 26, 2013, in Duluth, Minnesota, at the age of 82."

John Williams Eells (1932-1973)

"When John Williams Eells was born on December 21, 1932, in Goodridge, Minnesota, his father, John, was 37 and his mother, Edette, was 27. He had three brothers and six sisters. He died on April 25, 1973, in Sandstone, Minnesota, at the age of 40."

Edith Eleanor Virginia Eells (1935-)

"When Edith Eleanor Virginia Eells was born on January 27, 1935, her father, John, was 39, and her mother, Edette, was 29. She married George L Myers on August 6, 1960, in Pine, Minnesota. She had four brothers and five sisters."

Guy Richard Hugo Eells (1937-2003)

"When Guy Richard Hugo Eells was born on June 11, 1937, in Washington, Minnesota, his father, John, was 41 and his mother, Edette, was 32. He married Sandra L Moore on October 6, 1962, in Pine City, Minnesota. He died on April 21, 2003, in Sandstone, Minnesota, at the age of 65."

Faye Ramona Eells (1939-)

"When Faye Ramona Eells was born on April 22, 1939, in Pine, Minnesota, her father, John, was 43, and her mother, Edette, was 34. She married Darcy R Williams on September 30, 1961, in Pine City, Minnesota. She had four brothers and five sisters."

Opal Mae Eells (1941-)

"When Opal Mae Eells was born on April 14, 1941, in Pine, Minnesota, her father, John, was 45, and her mother, Edette, was 36. She married Clarence E Mattson on March 10, 1962, in her hometown. She had four brothers and five sisters."

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[1] Step-siblings' Life Stories by ancestry.com ancestry

Dayton Patrick Stephan Eells (1943-1979)

"When Dayton Patrick Stephan Eells was born on May 30, 1943, in Pine City, Minnesota, his father, John, was 47 and his mother, Edette, was 38. He had three brothers and six sisters. He died on December 3, 1979, in Hennepin, Minnesota, at the age of 36."

Figure of Eight 1st Cousins [2]

Children of Father Daryl's siblings

Children of Aunt Majel Johnston & Frank Aldrich

Janice Faye Aldrich (1936-2009)

"When Janice Faye Aldrich was born on January 27, 1936, in Buffalo, Minnesota, her father, Frank, was 34 and her mother, Majel, was 28. She married her first husband in 1956 in Buffalo, Minnesota. In 1988 she married her second husband in Anoka, Minnesota. She died on May 5, 2009, in Duluth, Minnesota, at the age of 73."

Marjory Ellen Aldrich (1937-)

"When Marjory Ellen Aldrich was born on August 19, 1937, in Buffalo, Minnesota, her father, Frank, was 35 and her mother, Majel, was 29. She had one brother and one sister. She married her first husband, Ronald James DesMarais, on April 5, 1956, in Buffalo, Minnesota. On November 19, 1965, she married her second husband, Stanley C Peterson, in Cokato, Minnesota."

Gerald Harvey Aldrich (1939-)

"*When Gerald Harvey Aldrich was born on April 1, 1939, in Buffalo, Minnesota, his father, Frank, was 37 and his mother, Majel, was 31. He had two sisters. He married Marlene Caron Tripplet on January 5, 1963, in his hometown. They have three children."*

Children of Uncle Jim Johnston & Ruth Anderson

Judith Ann Johnston (1938-)

"When Judith Ann Johnston was born on November 18, 1938, in Colorado, her father, James, was 28 and her mother, Ruth, was 22. She lived in Grand Junction, Colorado, in 1938 and moved to Boulder, Colorado, sometime between 1938 and 1959. She had one sister."

Diane Elaine Johnston (1941-2012)

"When Diane Elaine Johnston was born on May 15, 1941, her father, James, was 30 and her mother, Ruth, was 24. She married Reginald "Rex" Earle Stucker on December 2, 1959, in Grand Junction, Colorado. She had four children by the time she was 24. She died on November 9, 2012, in Mesa, Arizona, at the age of 71."

Children of Aunt Maureen Johnston & George Fischer

James Arthur Fischer (1941-)

"When James Arthur Fischer was born on June 8, 1941, in Blue Earth, Minnesota, his father, George, was 29 and his mother, Maurene, was 26. He had two sisters. He married Marylee Carlson on July 7, 1963. They have two children."

Sally Rae Fischer (1942-1987)

"When Sally Rae Fischer was born on October 3, 1942, in Blue Earth, Minnesota, her father, George, was

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[2] 1st Cousins' Life Stories by ancestry.com

30 and her mother, Maurene, was 28. She married Michael Dwight Walton on August 23, 1966. They had three children during their marriage. She died on March 14, 1987, in Elmore, Minnesota, at the age of 44."

Jowon Maurene Fischer (1943-)

"When Jowon Maurene Fischer was born on July 30, 1943, in Blue Earth, Minnesota, her father, George, was 31 and her mother, Maurene, was 29. She married James Sven Hogstad on July 11, 1964. She had three children by the time she was 27. She had one brother and one sister."

Children of Mother Helen's siblings

Children of Uncle Reuben Poston & Bea Johnson

Barbara Joy Poston (1948-)

"When Barbara Joy Poston was born on July 30, 1948, in Bemidji, Minnesota, her father, Reuben, was 35 and her mother, Beatrice, was 29. She was married three times. She has one brother."

Thomas Dale (Poston) (1954-)

"When Thomas Dale (Poston) was born on May 30, 1954, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, his father, Reuben, was 41 and his mother, Beatrice, was 35. He married Sandra "Sandy" M Bouldin and they had two children together. He then married Diane (Poston) in 1995. He has one sister."

Figure of Eight Four-generation Origin Pyramid

ancestry

Figure of Eight Origin Pyramid

Minnesota Johnstons
B: Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
M:
D:

Daryl Russell Johnston
B: 26 Nov 1905 Freeborn, Minnesota
M: 14 May 1933 Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
D: 4 Nov 1982 Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota

(William) Lowry Johnston
B: 6 Aug 1878 Freeborn, Minnesota
M: 24 Aug 1904 Minnesota
D: 14 Mar 1939 Wright, Minnesota

James Lowry Johnston
B: 28 Aug 1844 Ireland
M: 15 Apr 1872 Pennsylvania
D: 12 Mar 1901 Minnesota

James Johnston
B: Jul 1797 Ulster, Ireland
D: 30 Jul 1885 Delaware, Iowa

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry
B: abt 1805 Fermanagh, Ireland
D: 6 Aug 1861 Ireland

Anne Jane Emerson
B: 10 Nov 1844 Ireland
M: 15 Apr 1872 Pennsylvania
D: 31 Mar 1910 Minnesota

Edward Emerson
B: 15 Jul 1809 Ireland
D: 18 May 1888 Minnesota

Isabella Mosgrove
B: 13 Oct 1817 Ireland
D: 17 Jan 1910 Minnesota

Maude Larkin
B: 5 Apr 1882 Freeborn, Minnesota
M: 24 Aug 1904 Minnesota
D: 18 Mar 1965 Wright, Minnesota

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
B: 29 Jul 1850 New York
M: 26 Nov 1879 Minnesota
D: 10 Jan 1930 Minnesota

Elam Loring Larkin
B: 25 Dec 1790 Rutland, Vermont
D: 1 Aug 1866 Clinton, New York

Sophronia Emery
B: 1811 Franklin, Vermont
D: 23 Apr 1865 New York

Ellen Augusta Ransom
B: 26 Aug 1858 New York
M: 26 Nov 1879 Minnesota
D: 30 Mar 1948 Minnesota

Zerah Augustus Ransom
B: 3 Jul 1834 Clinton, New York
D: 18 Apr 1915 Minnesota

Elvira Louvena Hall
B: 19 Feb 1834 New York
D: 1 Feb 1925 Wright, Minnesota

Helen Frances Poston
B: 13 Oct 1914 Pennington, Minnesota
M: 14 May 1933 Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
D: 31 Jan 1948 Wright, Minnesota

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
B: 8 Jul 1881 Minnesota
M: abt 1910 Minnesota
D: 16 Jan 1959 Oklahoma, Oklahoma

Silas Marion Poston
B: 25 Jun 1854 Adams, Illinois
M: 5 Dec 1880 Anoka, Minnesota
D: 15 Nov 1938 Minnesota

Jeremiah Poston
B: 11 Feb 1819 Virginia
D: 2 Dec 1876 Minnesota

Mary F Cartwright
B: 31 Jul 1832 Meigs County, Ohio
D: 13 Dec 1886 Minnesota

Rachel McCurdy
B: 9 Jun 1860 Ramsey, Minnesota
M: 5 Dec 1880 Anoka, Minnesota
D: 11 Oct 1947 Minnesota

Archibald McCurdy
B: 1834 Ireland
D: 25 Jun 1886 Anoka, Minnesota

Elizabeth Riddle
B: abt 1835 Ulster, Ireland
D: 3 Feb 1877 Anoka, Minnesota

Edith Belle Palmer
B: 15 Dec 1887 Mower, Minnesota
M: abt 1910 Minnesota
D: 30 Aug 1976 Kenosha, Wisconsin

William Harrison Palmer
B: 15 Jan 1833 New York
M: 18 Mar 1873 Minnesota
D: 12 Jan 1925 Mower, Minnesota

Henry Palmer Jr.
B: 8 Feb 1792 New York
D: 20 Apr 1867 Grant, Wisconsin

Patience Cornell
B: 14 Feb 1796 Massachusetts
D: Aug 1850 Morrow, Ohio

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
B: 7 Oct 1853 Wisconsin
M: 18 Mar 1873 Minnesota
D: 11 Mar 1900 Mower, Minnesota

Alexander "Alex" Requa
B: 7 Oct 1831 New York
D: 17 Apr 1925 Newton, Missouri

Lucinda Belle Andres
B: 11 Sep 1834 Oneida, New York
D: 19 May 1893 Mower, Minnesota

Figure of Eight

1st Generation Progenitors — Parents (2+)

Johnston/Poston Family

Daryl Russell Johnston
Helen Frances Poston
+ Edette "Edith" Regina M Kozlowski

Presentation Sequence . . .

Family Preview (father's Surname/mother's Surname)
For each Parent (fathers, followed by mothers):
- Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
- Siblings
- 1st Cousins
- Personal Narratives
- Gallery: Personal Records of Note

+ For each Step-parent (inserted by chronology of marriage date):
- Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)

Family's Grandchildren
Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Figure of Eight

1st Generation Progenitors — Parents 1/1

Johnston/Poston Family

Daryl Russell Johnston
Helen Frances Poston
+ Edette "Edith" Regina M Kozlowski

Johnston/Poston Family Preview

Figure of Eight parents, Daryl Russell Johnston (1905-1982) and Helen Frances Poston (1914-1948) will have known each other from an early age. Helen's maternal uncle, Julian Palmer, had a late-life second marriage to Daryl's paternal Aunt Rae Johnston. This couple foster-parented Helen *"through the grades"* after her parents' divorce. Brother-in-laws Lowry Johnston and Julian Palmer liked to get together opportunely for lawn games and camaraderie, providing contact amongst the various offspring. By 1931, with Helen, younger by nine years, finishing high school, she and Daryl were corresponding in earnest with an eye to a future together.

The couple married at the Johnstons' Crawford Lake farm in May 1933, making their home intermittently with Daryl's parental family. Inter-generation relationships were not always harmonious prompting experimentation with other living arrangements. For parts of 1935-1936, the young couple, with their first child, resided in Oklahoma City, where Daryl was employed with our maternal grandfather, Frank Poston, in sewer installation work.

For many years, the family operated a general farm, which by preference leaned to horticultural production, but also included dairy cattle, pigs, and laying hens. Water was supplied from a well, until the arrival of electricity, pumped by a windmill which stood in the center of the yard surrounded by a three-story white frame house with cedar shingles, and a cluster of red outbuildings: workshop, barn with silo, granaries, chicken house. Incorporated into the yard west of the house was a steel-framed, glass-covered greenhouse which had been purchased and assembled by Daryl shortly after marriage. The greenhouse was sheltered on its north side by a grove of trees, dominated by towering cottonwoods, which were a landmark notable for several miles.

After our paternal grandfather Lowry Johnston's accidental death in March 1939, Grandma Maude absented herself for periods from the farm home, which would always continue to be in her name. She worked for a time in Strong's Greenhouses in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where her brother, Jay, was the manager, and also made extensive visits to Son James' family home in Colorado. After Mother's self-death in January 1948, Grandma Maude returned permanently to help rear the eight motherless children, ranging from three months to 14 years in age, reigning as the family matriarch while each grew up and moved from the family home to other pursuits. By 1956, the last of the cattle had been shipped, allowing full attention to commercial gardening, 'truck farming' as it was dubbed in that time and place.

The farm, of a size common to the area, was 80 acres, less that which was under the lake. The surrounding rural community was peopled largely with recent immigrants, mostly of Germanic and Scandinavian origin, and the only nearby church was Lutheran. Our school, of the 'one-room country school' type, was about a mile-and-a-half walk along the lakeshore, near the church. The small woodlots that remained and the marshy areas near the lake and the nearby Crow River were havens for birds and other wildlife, and presented seemingly endless playground and, sometimes, hiding places for the young tribe and their mates. The steam trail from the smokestacks of trains passing a mile south were a picturesque part of the scenescape.

Father's natural aging, and the departure in turn of each grown child, meant a dwindling labour force, and correspondingly, increasing economic pressure until steps were required to consolidate ownership, pay mortgage arrears, and, eventually, in 1963, to sell the farm.

Soon after Grandma Maude's death in 1965, our father married her part-time care-giver, the mother of a next-door neighbour, herself the mother of 10 children. After living out the four-year lease that was part of the farm sale terms, Daryl and Edith lived for several years in an apartment in Minneapolis, working in a commercial greenhouse. Upon retiring, they returned to rural life, first to a site on the Crow River, occupying a little house build by long-time neighbour friends, the LaVines, in-laws of eldest child, Hope, of the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons. Still later, the elderly couple resided in Clearwater County in a house purchased for them by Sons David and Roger. It was there, divorced and alone, that Daryl would die of a heart attack in 1982, the second of his sibling group to pass. Of his eight birth-children, only Darla would remain permanently in Wright County.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (11 Feb 2015)

ancestry



Daryl Russell Johnston

BIRTH 26 NOV 1905 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
DEATH 4 NOV 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
father

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
26 Nov 1905 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 4 — **Residence**
28 Apr 1910 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 8 — **Relocation to Wright County**
abt 1913 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
parents purchase farm near Lake Charlotte; youngest sister, Maurene, born here in 1914

Age 15 — **Residence**
1920 • Rockford, Wright, Minnesota
with parents and three siblings

Age 19 — **Graduation**
1924 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
from Buffalo High School, where all his children would eventually also graduate

Age 20 — **Education**
abt 1925 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
attends Dunwoody Institute to pursue his interest in radio

Age 21 — **Move to Crawford Lake Farm**
bef Aug 1927 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota

Age 25 — **Employment**
abt 1930 • Sioux Falls, Lincoln, South Dakota
works 6-8 months at Strong's Greenhouse where maternal Uncle Jay Larkin is in management (see Strong's Florist story)

Age 27 — **Marriage**
14 May 1933 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
wedding at Crawford Lake farm; the couple are step-1st cousins through Daryl's paternal aunt, (Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston, and her husband, Helen's maternal uncle, Julian Manchester Palmer

Helen Frances Poston (1914–1948)

Age 30 — **Purchases Greenhouse**
9 Oct 1936 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
purchases knock-down Lord & Burnham Greenhouse for assembly at Crawford Lake farm [ref: bill of sale from Harold Waldo]

Age 31 — **Residence**
1936 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
US City Directories; laborer; resident w. Helen and Hope at rear 2101 NW 21st; brief period of employment with Father-in-law Frank Poston

Age 33 — **Death of Father Lowry**
14 Mar 1939 • Rockford, Wright, Minnesota
car-train accident at Dickinson Crossing

Family

Parents

(William) Lowry Johnston 1878–1939

Maude Larkin 1882–1965

Spouse & Children

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

- **Hope Evon Johnston** 1933–
- **David Lowry Johnston** 1936–
- **Darla Corinne Johnston** 1937–
- **Roger Palmer Johnston** 1939–2004
- **Cordell "Cork" Kent Johnston** 1941–2009
- **Ryon Claude Johnston** 1944–
- **(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston** 1946–
- **Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston** 1947–
- **Minnesota Johnstons**

Spouse

Edette "Edith" Regina Marie Kozlowski
1905–1997

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1910 United States Federal Census**
- **1920 United States Federal Census**
- **1940 United States Federal Census**
- **Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002**
- **Minnesota Divorce Index, 1970-1995**
- **Minnesota Marriage Collection, 1958-2001**
- **Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980**
- **Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980**
- **Social Security Death Index**
- **U.S. City Directories (Beta)**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **Web: Minnesota, Birth Index, 1900-1934**

Age 34 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
shown as "renter", head of household, with Wife Helen & four children (10 mo–6 yr); "owner", widowed mother, Maude (58) present

Age 54 — **Farm Ownership Transfer**
31 Oct 1960 • Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota
siblings sign Quit Claim Deeds; original farm mortgage (22 Jun 1931, Wright County Book 63 of Mortgages, p. 68 on E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of S20 T119 R25 W), in foreclosure, is redeemed in names of Daryl & Maude Johnston (see Cert. of Redemption)

Age 55 — **Death of Friend**
26 May 1961 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
death of long-time lady friend Vella Clara Lee, widow of Garret C DeVries; the DeVries's had been friends of Daryl's mother

Age 57 — **Farm Sale**
Jun 1963 • Rockford Township, Wright , Minnesota
announces farm sale to family over lunch; sold to Dr. Sandeen, Buffalo, for $16K, plus four year pre-paid lease.

Age 59 — **Death of Mother Maude**
18 Mar 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
at Ebenezer Residence

Age 59 — **Marriage**
21 Jun 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Edette "Edith" Regina Marie Kozlowski (1905–1997)

Age 62 — **Residence**
1967-1972 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
accepts job with Son Ryon's employer: Johnson Wholesale Florist in St. Anthony Village; lived at 1030 - 18th Ave NE

Age 71 — **Relocation to Clearwater County**
abt 1976 • Zerkel, Clearwater, Minnesota
lives at rural property purchased by Sons David & Roger

Age 75 — **Divorce**
8 Oct 1981 • Clearwater, Minnesota
Edette "Edith" Regina Marie Kozlowski (1905–1997)

Age 76 — **Death**
4 Nov 1982 • Bagley, Clearwater, Minnesota
heart failure; cremation; gravestone at Lakeview Cemetery, Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota

Siblings of Daryl Russell Johnston

Majel Ellen Johnston (1907-1995) m. Frank Harold Aldrich (1901-1988)

Majel graduated from Mankato Teachers College and taught briefly in southern Minnesota before marrying a Buffalo area dairy farmer. After raising three children, Janice, Marjory and Gerald, she resumed her teaching activities until retirement age. Her many pupils would include Nephew Ryon's youngest sisters-in-law, and Niece Hope's children. As well as being actively involved in the life of Mother Maude, she was always supportive to Daryl's family. When the farm succeeded to Jerry, Majel and Frank reserved a plot of land upon which they built a retirement home.

James Larkin Johnston (1910-1981) m. Ruth L Anderson (1916-1995)

Brother James graduated in 'manual training' from Stout Institute, Menomonie, Wisconsin. He pursued a career as a shops and physical education teacher in Pueblo, Craig and Grand Junction, Colorado. Their daughter Judy would remain unmarried, following a career as a nurse and social worker, while Diane pursued family life. Upon retirement to Phoenix, Arizona, James continued to work with machine shop training under the Manpower Development Act. Their choice to live at a distance from his family-of-origin was punctuated by very occasional visits to Minnesota, during one of which Uncle Jim would re-shingle the Crawford Lake farmhouse roof.

Maurene E Johnston (1914-1966) m. George Arthur Fischer (1912-1985)

Maureen, the youngest child, was born in Buffalo after the parental family moved there in about 1913. After high school, she would live with Aunt Rae and Uncle Julian Palmer in Blue Earth where she worked as a clerk. There she would meet her husband and they would operate a home-decorating store, coincidentally also Uncle Ernest Corr's profession. They had three children: James, Sally, and Jowon. Their annual visits to the Buffalo farm to visit Mother Maude would opportunely be reciprocated, treks to Daryl's family-of-origin in Blue Earth and Kiester being an important part of the growing up years for the younger ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

1st Cousins of Daryl Russell Johnston

Children of Father Lowry's Siblings

Stepson of Aunt Rae Johnston, son of Julian Palmer

Bruce Bartlett Palmer (1908-1973)

Children of Aunt Marge Johnston & Ed Bufkin

Dale Edwin Bufkin (1912-1989)
Vern Emerson "Pud" Bufkin (1914-1994)
Clyde Everett Bufkin (1920-1979)

Children of Aunt Emily Johnston & Ernest Corr

Ned Sanford Corr (1911-1988)
Earl Ernest Corr (1912-2001)
Dorothy Jane Corr (1917-)

Children of Mother Maude's Siblings

Children of Aunt Edith Larkin & John Catlin

Dorothy Fern Catlin (1906-1995)
Theodore John Catlin (1907-1990)
Eileen Nell Catlin (1909-1986)

Children of Uncle Jay Larkin & Phyllis Hull

Fern Doris (Larkin) (1909-1983)

Donald Jay Larkin (1917-2003)
Elaine Larkin (1920-2004)

Children of Aunt Ferne Larkin & Nordahl Hoel

Gwendolyn Hoel (1912-1961)
Robert Malcolm Hoel (1913-2001)
Grant W Hoel (1921-2005)

Child of Aunt Nell Larkin & Ernie Anderson

Barbara Beth Anderson (1921-1986)

Narrative: *"Growing Up and Leaving Home"*

They say that life is a process of growing up and leaving home. Looking back, I would have to admit that, while I obviously grew up, I basically never did leave home. I still remember the first farm in Freeborn County, where the first three of us were born. Odd in a way that I've never been inclined to go back there. What would there be to go back for? My Johnston grandfather, James, was dead and gone four years before I was born, and Grandmother Anne Jane, five years later. I guess if things had gone a little differently, their place might always have been our home, my father, Lowry, being the eldest son. But, for whatever reasons, when my father married he chose his own farm nearby, moving on later to be near to Mother's sister, Edith, here in Wright County. Our youngest sister, Maurene, was born just over the way at what we called the Lake Charlotte Farm. Just about the time, when I was leaving high school, we made our third and final move here to Crawford Lake Farm.

I often think about things that I wish I had asked my father. He wasn't, naturally, a talker, nor did we have what I would call a close relationship. So, I didn't ask — couldn't I guess, and he didn't say. Why not stay on his parental farm in Freeborn County when he was newly married, where he was surely needed and wanted? I can well understand his subsequent relocation to Wright County to keep his wife happy — no easy challenge, I think. But, why the move from Lake Charlotte to Crawford Lake? That I don't know. I was of age, and well into the whole experience of farming — I didn't know anything else. Looking back, I think I could have, should have, been part of the decision-making process, but I wasn't given that chance.

I s'pose that I learned my lessons well, as I experience a similar difficulty to communicate with my own children. It's not a process that I understand very well myself. If they asked me, I would happily declare that I love them and value their opinions. Yet, when it comes right down to it, I cannot bring myself to say as much, let alone to discuss my decisions with them in advance of taking independent action. Nor, of course, have they sought pre-approval for their important life choices. So, separate solitudes, we marched to different drummers, and, more often than not, when we are together, silence reigns.

Now, here I am in an emptying house, or next thing to it. With the exception of eight months working in a greenhouse for Uncle Jay, my mother's brother in Sioux Falls, before my marriage, and about a year working with Helen's father, Frank, in Oklahoma City after the birth of our first child, I have known no other home than that of my parents. The kids are mostly gone, their mother too, of course. As is the woman who might have replaced her, had I had the courage to confront Mother, who, for better or worse, is still here with us. She is of a strong temperament, and quite inclined to speak her mind! And since she stepped back into the household after my Helen took her life, making it possible for me to keep the eight children and carry on, she holds the 'high moral ground'. She has always been 'the boss' — my boss (and, technically, my landlady!).

My sisters, Majel and Maureen, escaped the family fold in the usual way — by marrying out of it. We see Maureen and George about once a year when they check in on Mother, and then, at the earliest opportunity, head for the tavern in town. Majel, on the other hand, has always been nearby, has always been a helpful presence, and I have no bones to pick there. If I thought in those terms, I would say that she's been my 'best friend'. She has been supportive to my wife, when I had one, and to our kids, and she has taken on a lot in relation to Mother over the years.

My relationship with little brother, Jim, has been a somewhat different story. I have always experienced him as a spoiled competitor, a little snot of a kid. Like me, he was given a chance to go off and study

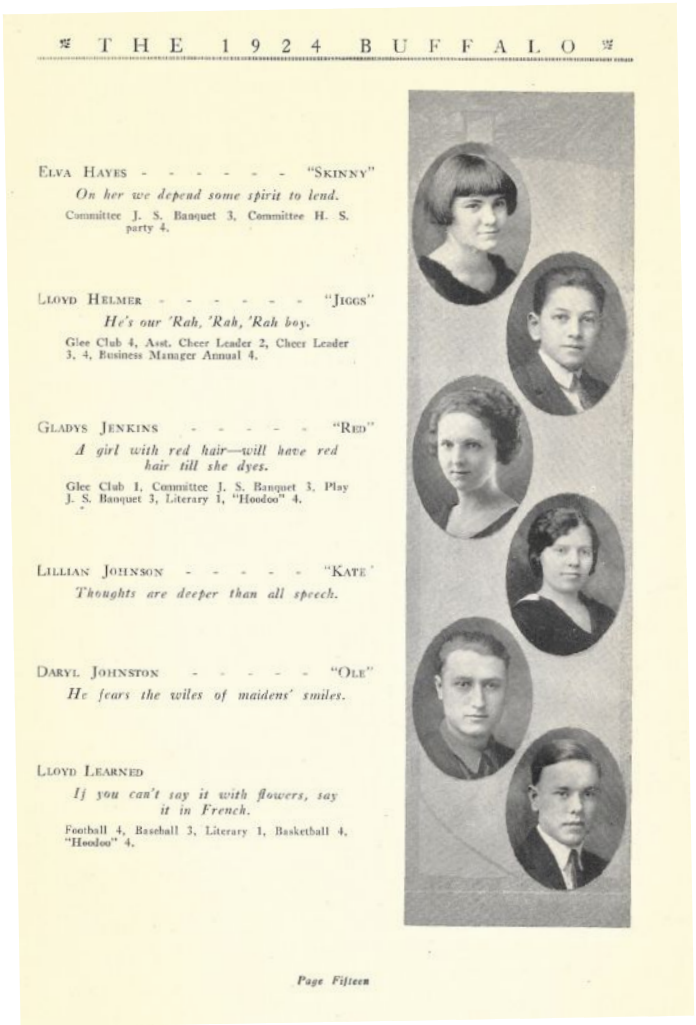
something other than farming. Unlike me, he stuck with it, then used his training in industrial arts as a stepping-stone out of the grasp of family. He moved half-way across the country, married a local girl in Colorado and never looked back. Other than the funeral when our father was killed by a train in '39, he hasn't darkened the door since. Actually, to be fair, he did come to shingle the house roof in the early 50's. Those blue shingles were bought with the last of Frank Poston's money after Helen's death. Now, however, he reminds me of the long-standing tension between us when he reads me the riot act about being asked to sign a quit-claim deed to relinquish his share of the family farm, though I have been operating it as my own all these years. It's not as though we have any choice with a mortgage foreclosure underway!

So here I am, still at home — a partial boss on a farm technically belonging to our mother. There are days when I feel that I still have much life to live, but I cannot yet imagine how that might look, nor where that might be. Meantime, I will struggle on here, and, as they say, *"What will be, will be"*. The old Swedes in our church are much inclined to add when they hear truth spoken, *"Ahem!"* — oops, I meant to say *"Amen!"*

Daryl Russell Johnston, May 1960, Crawford Lake Farm, Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota [as imagined by Son ***Ryon C Johnston***, 13 Jul 2016; rev. 16 Sep 2016]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Daryl's Senior High School Photo, 1924



THE 1924 BUFFALO

ELVA HAYES - - - - - - "SKINNY"
On her we depend some spirit to lend.
Committee J. S. Banquet 3, Committee H. S. party 4.

LLOYD HELMER - - - - - - "JIGGS"
He's our 'Rah, 'Rah, 'Rah boy.
Glee Club 4, Asst. Cheer Leader 2, Cheer Leader 3, 4, Business Manager Annual 4.

GLADYS JENKINS - - - - - "RED"
A girl with red hair—will have red hair till she dyes.
Glee Club 1, Committee J. S. Banquet 3, Play J. S. Banquet 3, Literary 1, "Hoodoo" 4.

LILLIAN JOHNSON - - - - - "KATE"
Thoughts are deeper than all speech.

DARYL JOHNSTON - - - - - "OLE"
He fears the wiles of maidens' smiles.

LLOYD LEARNED
If you can't say it with flowers, say it in French.
Football 4, Baseball 3, Literary 1, Basketball 4, "Hoodoo" 4.

Page Fifteen

Employment Reference Letter, 11 September 1931

M. M. STRONG, PRES. JAY A. LARKIN, V. PRES. J. F. STRONG, SECRETARY

STRONGS FLORISTS

HOME GROWN
CUT FLOWERS AND PLANTS
FLORAL DESIGNS
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

MEMBERS FLORISTS TELEGRAPH DELIVERY ASS'N
FLOWERS BY WIRE EVERYWHERE

STORE, 208 SO. PHILLIPS AVE.
PHONE 1235
GREENHOUSES, 1400 W. 6TH ST.
PHONE 110
ALL STOCK GROWN IN SIOUX FALLS

Sept. 11th, 1931.

Holm & Olson, Florists,
St Paul, Minn.

Gentlemen;-

The writer has been acquainted with Daryl Johnston all his life and has found him to be steady, industrious, efficient and intelligent far above the average.

He was employed by this company for about eight months and left us at his own volition to go back home to assist his father on the farm. We would have been glad to keep him with us indefinitely and we were sorry to have him leave at the time that he did.

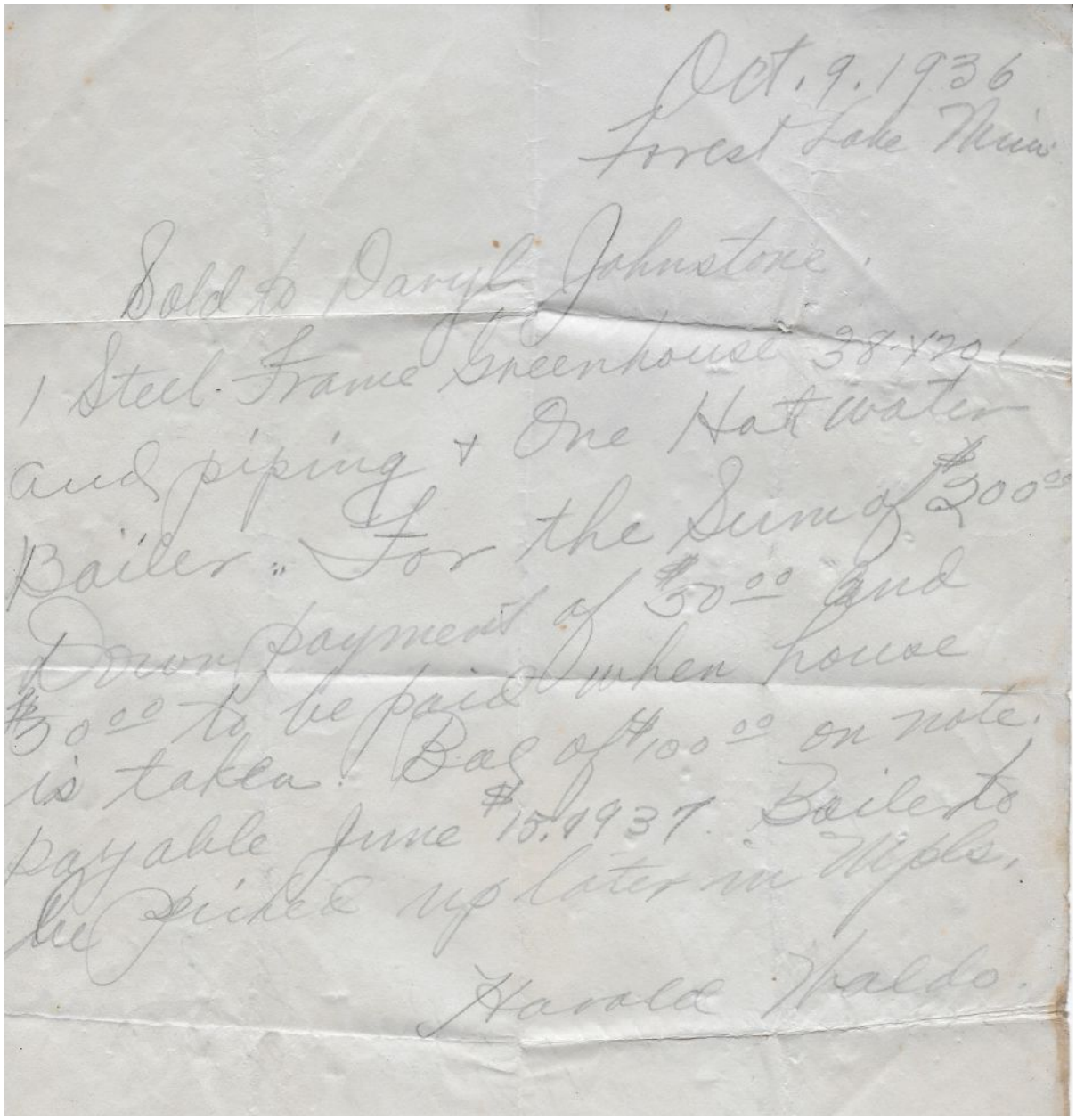
He now tells us that he desires to go back into a greenhouse where he can learn to be a grower. We offered to take him back here with us but he desires to work nearer the home of his parents and asked us to write a letter to your company.

We are pleased to do this for him, assuring you that you will find him to be a young man of value in whatever work he undertakes.

We are ,

Very truly yours,
Strongs Florists,
By Jay A. Larkin

Greenhouse Invoice, 9 October 1936

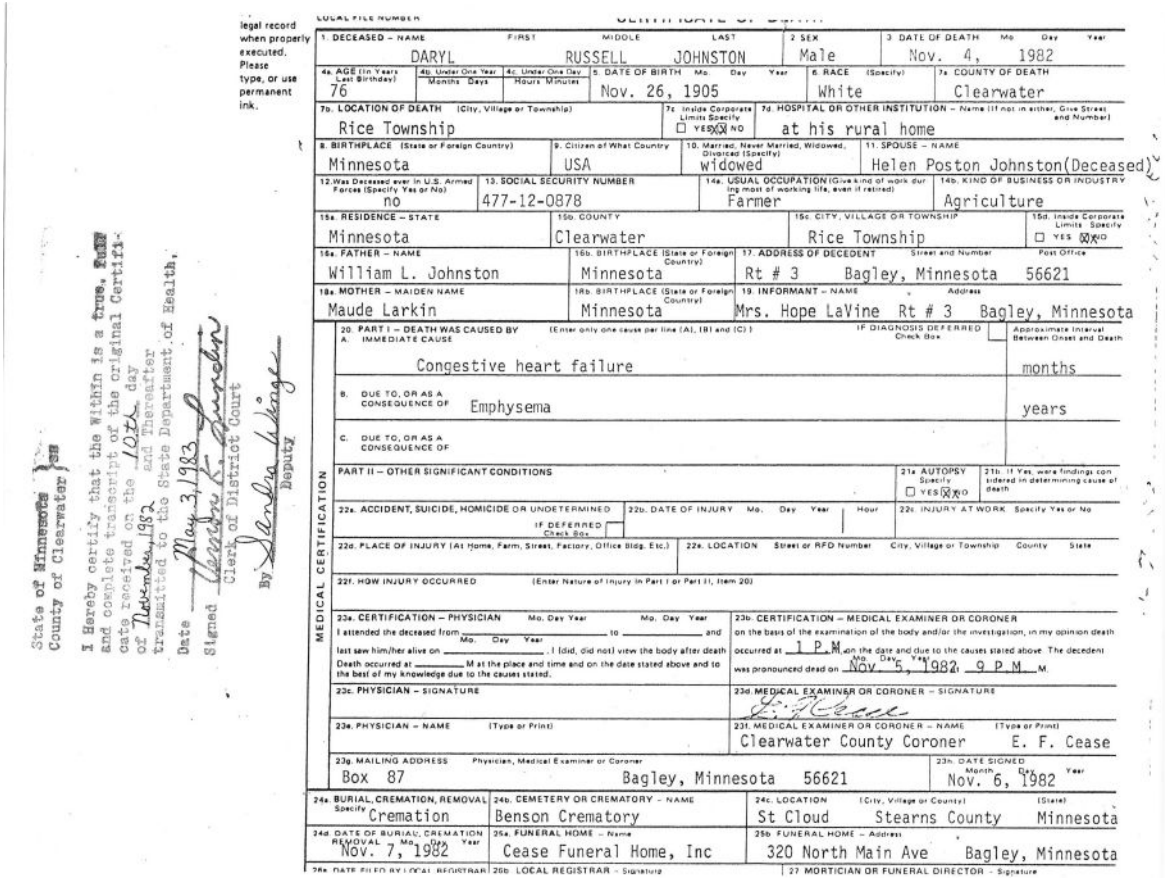


Oct. 9. 1936
Forest Lake Minn.

Sold to Daryl Johnstone,
1 Steel Frame Greenhouse 38 x 70
and piping & One Hot water
Boiler. For the Sum of $200.00
Down Payment of $50.00 and
$30.00 to be paid when house
is taken. Bal of $100.00 on note
payable June 15. 1937. Boiler to
be picked up later on Wyles.

Harold Waldo.

Death Certificate



State of Minnesota }
County of Clearwater }

I Hereby certify that the Within is a true, full and complete transcript of the original Certificate received on the 10th day of November, 1982 and Thereafter transmitted to the State Department of Health.

Date May 3, 1983
Signed Sandra K. Snyder
Clerk of District Court
By Sandra Wiege Deputy

legal record when properly executed. Please type, or use permanent ink.

1. DECEASED – NAME	FIRST: DARYL	MIDDLE: RUSSELL	LAST: JOHNSTON	2 SEX: Male	3. DATE OF DEATH: Nov. 4, 1982
4a. AGE (In Years Last Birthday): 76	4b. Under One Year Months Days	4c. Under One Day Hours Minutes	5. DATE OF BIRTH: Nov. 26, 1905	6. RACE (Specify): White	7a. COUNTY OF DEATH: Clearwater
7b. LOCATION OF DEATH (City, Village or Township): Rice Township	7c. Inside Corporate Limits Specify: ☐ YES ☒ NO	7d. HOSPITAL OR OTHER INSTITUTION – Name (If not in either, Give Street and Number): at his rural home			
8. BIRTHPLACE (State or Foreign Country): Minnesota	9. Citizen of What Country: USA	10. Married, Never Married, Widowed, Divorced (Specify): widowed	11. SPOUSE – NAME: Helen Poston Johnston(Deceased)		
12. Was Deceased ever in U.S. Armed Forces (Specify Yes or No): no	13. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER: 477-12-0878	14a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work during most of working life, even if retired): Farmer	14b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY: Agriculture		
15a. RESIDENCE – STATE: Minnesota	15b. COUNTY: Clearwater	15c. CITY, VILLAGE OR TOWNSHIP: Rice Township	15d. Inside Corporate Limits Specify: ☐ YES ☒ NO		
16a. FATHER – NAME: William L. Johnston	16b. BIRTHPLACE (State or Foreign Country): Minnesota	17. ADDRESS OF DECEDENT – Street and Number: Rt # 3	Post Office: Bagley, Minnesota 56621		
18a. MOTHER – MAIDEN NAME: Maude Larkin	18b. BIRTHPLACE (State or Foreign Country): Minnesota	19. INFORMANT – NAME: Mrs. Hope LaVine	Address: Rt # 3 Bagley, Minnesota		

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION

20. PART I – DEATH WAS CAUSED BY (Enter only one cause per line (A), (B) and (C).) — IF DIAGNOSIS DEFERRED Check Box ☐ — Approximate Interval Between Onset and Death

A. IMMEDIATE CAUSE: Congestive heart failure — months

B. DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF: Emphysema — years

C. DUE TO, OR AS A CONSEQUENCE OF:

PART II – OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS

21a. AUTOPSY Specify: ☐ YES ☒ NO — 21b. If Yes, were findings considered in determining cause of death

22a. ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, HOMICIDE OR UNDETERMINED — IF DEFERRED Check Box ☐ — 22b. DATE OF INJURY Mo. Day Year Hour — 22c. INJURY AT WORK Specify Yes or No

22d. PLACE OF INJURY (At Home, Farm, Street, Factory, Office Bldg. Etc.) — 22e. LOCATION Street or RFD Number City, Village or Township County State

22f. HOW INJURY OCCURRED (Enter Nature of Injury in Part I or Part II, Item 20)

23a. CERTIFICATION – PHYSICIAN — Mo. Day Year — Mo. Day Year

I attended the deceased from _____ to _____ and last saw him/her alive on _____. I (did, did not) view the body after death. Death occurred at _____ M at the place and time and on the date stated above and to the best of my knowledge due to the causes stated.

23b. CERTIFICATION – MEDICAL EXAMINER OR CORONER

On the basis of the examination of the body and/or the investigation, in my opinion death occurred at 1 P.M. on the date and due to the causes stated above. The decedent was pronounced dead on Nov. 5, 1982, 9 P.M. M.

23c. PHYSICIAN – SIGNATURE

23d. MEDICAL EXAMINER OR CORONER – SIGNATURE: E. F. Cease

23e. PHYSICIAN – NAME (Type or Print)

23f. MEDICAL EXAMINER OR CORONER – NAME (Type or Print): Clearwater County Coroner E. F. Cease

23g. MAILING ADDRESS Physician, Medical Examiner or Coroner: Box 87 Bagley, Minnesota 56621

23h. DATE SIGNED: Nov. 6, 1982

24a. BURIAL, CREMATION, REMOVAL Specify: Cremation	24b. CEMETERY OR CREMATORY – NAME: Benson Crematory	24c. LOCATION (City, Village or County) (State): St Cloud Stearns County Minnesota	
24d. DATE OF BURIAL, CREMATION REMOVAL: Nov. 7, 1982	25a. FUNERAL HOME – Name: Cease Funeral Home, Inc	25b. FUNERAL HOME – Address: 320 North Main Ave Bagley, Minnesota	
26a. DATE FILED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR	26b. LOCAL REGISTRAR – Signature	27. MORTICIAN OR FUNERAL DIRECTOR – Signature	

Funeral Program

The Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me; thy rod and
thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the
presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow
me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

IN MEMORY OF

Daryl Russell Johnston

DATE OF BIRTH

November 26, 1905

DATE OF DEATH

November 5, 1982

PLACE AND TIME OF SERVICES

Peterson Chapel — Buffalo, Minnesota
November 8, 1982 7:00 p.m.

OFFICIATING

Ryan Johnston

ORGANIST

April Larson

INTERMENT

Lakeview Cemetery — Buffalo, Minn.

ancestry



Helen Frances Poston

BIRTH 13 OCT 1914 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
DEATH 31 JAN 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
mother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
13 Oct 1914 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

Age 6 — **Residence**
1920 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
with both parents and both brothers (6, 8)

Age 7 — **Residence**
1921-1925 • Blue Earth, Faribault, Minnesota
ref: Helen's Baby Book; under the care of Uncle Julian Palmer and future husband's aunt, "Rae" Johnston Palmer

Age 8 — **Parents' Divorce**
abt 1922 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota

Age 8 — **Father's Re-marriage**
29 Apr 1923 • Royal Oak, Oakland, Michigan

Age 14 — **Death of Brother Robert**
1928 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida
car-pedestrian accident

Age 16 — **Residence**
1930 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
with Town Treasurer Mother Edith, and Bro Reuben

Age 18 — **Education**
1932 • Hibbing, Saint Louis, Minnesota
Hibbing High School graduation; followed by commencement of nursing program

Age 18 — **Marriage**
14 May 1933 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
wedding at Crawford Lake farm; the couple are step-1st cousins through Daryl's paternal aunt, (Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston, and her husband, Helen's maternal uncle, Julian Manchester Palmer
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905–1982)

Age 21 — **Residence**
1935 • Rockford, Wright, Minnesota
at Crawford Lake farm; as referenced in 1940 US Census

Age 22 — **Residence**
1936 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma

Family

Parents

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
1881–1959

Edith Belle Palmer 1887–1976

Spouse & Children

Daryl Russell Johnston
1905–1982

- **Hope Evon Johnston**
  1933–
- **David Lowry Johnston**
  1936–
- **Darla Corinne Johnston**
  1937–
- **Roger Palmer Johnston**
  1939–2004
- **Cordell "Cork" Kent Johnston**
  1941–2009
- **Ryon Claude Johnston**
  1944–
- **(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston**
  1946–
- **Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston**
  1947–
- **Minnesota Johnstons**

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1920 United States Federal Census
- 1930 United States Federal Census
- 1940 United States Federal Census
- Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002
- U.S. City Directories (Beta)
- U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

apartment at rear of 2101 NW 21st Street; Husband Daryl works with Helen's father, Frank

Age 25 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota

with Husband Daryl, four eldest children and widowed mother-in-law, Maude

Age 33 — **Death**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota

self-death about 8:30 PM at home; Coroner: C L Roholt, Waverly; registered # H-90-1; filed 4 Feb 48, Herbert Beise, Registrar/W E Petersen, Sub-registrar (& Embalmer); Emb. Lic. #1807; F D Lic. #1031

Siblings of Helen Frances Poston

Robert Poston (1912-1928)

Eldest brother Robert was brain-damaged in a swing-board accident at school in his childhood. He was an energetic supporter of his single-parent mother. Unbeknownst to her, he would solicit coal and other supports from their neighbours. He was killed at age 16 in a car pedestrian accident in Tampa, Florida, where he had gone to work with Father Frank.

Reuben Roger Poston (1913-1976) m. Beatrice "Bea" Adele Johnson (1918-1976)

Brother Reuben stayed at home the longest, at least he was home-based while he was a college student. During World War II, he was a soldier in the Army, returning wounded in 1945. He achieved his doctor's degree, becoming a teacher, administrator and dean at schools and colleges in Madelia and Bemidji, Minnesota; LeMars, Iowa; Carthage, Illinois; and Kenosha, Wisconsin. He outlived both of his siblings, as well as their mother, although in the latter case not by much. Reuben, his mother Edith, who had lived near to them at Kenosha in her final years, and his wife, Bea, all died in the same year.

1st Cousins of Helen Poston

Children of Mother Edith's Half-siblings

Children of Aunt Clarissa Palmer & Dwight Griswold

Vera Ellen Griswold (1890-1984
Dwight P Griswold (1893-1954)
Florence C Griswold (1897-1983)

Children of Uncle Clarence Palmer & Anna Sitzer

Willard Sitzer Palmer (1903-2004)

Children of Uncle Clarence Palmer & Clara Baxter

Margaret Jeanette Palmer (1915-2009)

Children of Uncle Julian Palmer & Maude Bartlett

Bruce Bartlett Palmer (1908-1973)

Children of Mother Edith's Full-siblings

Children of Aunt Fanny Palmer & Irven Wood

Donald B Wood (1908-)
Wilbur Palmer Wood (1910-1942)
Lawrence Irven Wood (1914-1973)

Children of Uncle Arthur Palmer & Flora Lucas

Arthur Wesley Palmer (1922-)
Milton Dean Palmer (1929-2005)

Children of Father Frank's Siblings

Children of Aunt Mattie Poston & Arthur Baltz

Sidona Elizabeth Baltz (1932-2012)

Children of Uncle Richard Poston & Ina Torma

Ernest Richard Poston (1923-1993)
Ruth Ina Poston (1926-)

Children of Aunt Mary Poston & Arvid Mattson

Patricia A Mattson (1931-1998)
Arvid Elroy Mattson (1933-)

Narrative: "*Sometimes, I Just Can't"*

Sometimes I wish that I could be more like my mother. I suppose that's every girl's wish. Well, maybe not! But, in my case, my mother was one to never complain. I still remember the time when our pig tried to follow us to town, and even then, I didn't know her to get any more than exasperated – didn't swear even, although that's no surprise since she never did that. I'm pretty good-natured myself, if I may say so, at least that's the feedback I get from other people. Nobody ever knows what goes on inside one's own head – except oneself, of course. But there are times, and it seems to be increasingly so, when I am in a very complaining mood! And this is one of them . . .

I grew up without a father. My brother was killed by a car when he was a teenager. I got pregnant very young, which put paid to any aspirations I might've had to use my very considerable brain for something other than being a mother and a housewife. Now I've got a husband who is emotionally inaccessible (although I love him dearly, of course!). I am compelled to live with my mother-in-law – *not* what every girl would wish for! So help me there have been times when I could scream! Confidentially, I sometimes do. There has been at least one occasion when we even resorted to hair pulling (you remember the old expression about getting in one another's hair). She is a very strong-willed woman, these days, perhaps, more frustrated than is her usual wont, and in fairness to her, she was widowed relatively young, has been living in a house full of someone else's children, and has to put up with a recalcitrant daughter-in-law to boot! I've never been much of a housekeeper, so she's got lots to complain about there. She lives in the smallest room in the house — downstairs off the kitchen, practically a goldfish in a glass bowl. There is never enough money — don't we all know that! She misses her children, and *their* children, except for Majel, of course, who lives close by, and is a godsend to all of us. What would we do without our Majel: a still voice in any storm, and a lifesaver to me personally. Of course, she has her own family, and a job as a teacher besides.

So, I can be understanding, when it comes to mother-in-law. And I can be understanding (maybe to a lesser extent!), when it comes to an emotional distant husband. He never really had a chance to grow up and leave home, and now he has, in addition to his dominant mother, and a wife, eight children to support — as my uncle Julian was known to say, (although I, of course, can't say it out loud!): *"a piss pot full of children!".* Just this evening we had words, and he has stomped off, yet again, in grim-faced silence, to do the barn chores. But, as I am in complaining mode, well — mood and mode! — I shall mention that he's not very available to me. And, unlike his mother, I am not *"an island unto myself".*

Sometimes, I just can't. I just can't! Sometimes, I am too tired to get ready for bed. With this child, I have averaged one pregnancy every year-and-a-half of my marriage. If it weren't for my older girls, who are willing and able enough, and who read me like a book, and help whenever they are able, I'm sure I couldn't, wouldn't, have made it this far.

Oh, I have people out there who love me, and worry about me — I know that! There's my dear brother, Reuben and my sister-in-law, Bea. And there's Aunt Rae, in Blue Earth, who helped raise me *"through the grades",* when Mother couldn't cope on her own with three little children. But, they are not *here*. They are out of reach to me here. Daryl's sister Majel is a godsend, but has her own family to care for and we don't see her much. Grandmother Rachel, who has been telling me for years that I'm having too many children, is a distant force that I never really got to know and don't actually see in person. And, of course, there's Mother, dear Mother! She writes to me often from her 'wee house' in Hibbing. Her heart is with me always — I know that. I feel that! But I get to see her just once a year, and that experience is better in theory than in practice. Mother Maude is, of course, here at those times, and some of the children have to give up their bedroom to accommodate, and the tension, during those precious visits, preciously *few* visits, is sharp as a knife!

Oh, oh! *"Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, nobody knows my sorrow. Sometimes I'm up, sometimes I'm down. Oh, yes, Lord. Sometimes I'm almost to the ground…"* Woe is me! Whoa is me! What shall I

do? What shall I . . .? What shall . . .? What . . .?

Helen Frances Poston, Jan 1948, Crawford Lake Farm, Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota [as imagined by Son ***Ryon C Johnston***, 23 Jan 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Welcome Baby Helen

Grandpa Palmer greets the parents and welcomes Grandchild Helen Poston, gifting her a baby book, in which this card becomes an entry . . .

> *Brownsdale, Minnesota*
> *October 17, 1914*
>
> *Dear Children,*
>
> *I extend hearty congratulations on the birth of that daughter.*
> *I hope she will be as smart and as handsome as her brothers.*
> *Her name is all right — one I wanted to give her mother, but was over-ruled.*
> *Two grandchildren in three days! I think that is fine.*
> *Love to all, including Helen Frances,*
>
> *W. H. Palmer*

Twin Cousins Story

When William H Palmer writes from Brownsdale, Minnesota, where he is postmaster, to welcome newest grandchild, Helen Frances Poston (born 13 October 1914), he adds the comment: *"Two grandchildren in three days! I think that is fine."* The other grandchild was Lawrence Irven Wood (born 10 October 1914).

Lawrence's mother, Helen's aunt and namesake, Frances "Fanny" Palmer Wood (1876-1932), was the oldest full-sibling to Helen's mother Edith Belle Palmer Poston. When Frances married the family's pastor eight years earlier, Edith, then still single, was the bridesmaid. Each of the new babies was the third child of their parents. Not surprisingly, these two babies would be dubbed "*twin cousins'"* throughout their childhood.

At the time of their births, Lawrence's family lived in Rochester, Olmsted County, Minnesota, where Father Irven was a Methodist Episcopal minister, while Helen's family lived in Thief River Falls, Pennington County, where Father "Frank" managed The McCurdy Ice Company, a family business.

Helen would be raised, after Thief River Falls, in Hibbing and Brownsdale and Blue Earth, Minnesota. She married farmer Daryl R Johnston (1905-1982), the nephew of Mary Rebecca "Rae" Johnston, who had married Helen's Uncle Julian M Palmer. Helen, who would bear eight children before her untimely demise by her own hand on 31 January 1948, was buried at Buffalo, Minnesota.

Lawrence's family, after Rochester, would follow father's profession to postings in Appleton, Wisconsin, and Sheridan and Cheyenne, Wyoming, where Mother "Fanny" died. Lawrence was educated at The University of Indiana at Marion, and DePauw University at Greencastle, Indiana and, after service in WWII, entered the law profession. Eventually marrying a Maryland girl, Ella E Beam (1922-2015) in 1968, he died soon after on 9 June 1973. While his death occurred in Virginia, his remains were interred in a military cemetery in his wife's home state.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (3 Oct 2015)]

Poston/Palmer Family, ca 1914



Girl Scout Helen, ca 1924



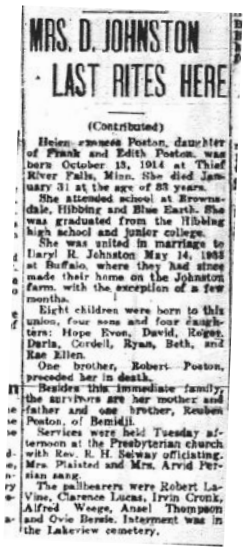
Helen's Grad Photo, ca 1932



Helen with 1st Child, Hope, ca 1935



Death Announcement in Wright County Journal Press, February 1948



MRS. D. JOHNSTON
LAST RITES HERE

(Contributed)

Helen Francis Poston, daughter of Frank and Edith Poston, was born October 13, 1914 at Thief River Falls, Minn. She died January 31 at the age of 33 years.

She attended school at Brownsville, Hibbing and Blue Earth. She was graduated from the Hibbing high school and junior college.

She was united in marriage to Daryl R. Johnston May 14, 1933 at Buffalo, where they had since made their home on the Johnston farm, with the exception of a few months.

Eight children were born to this union, four sons and four daughters: Hope Evon, David, Roger, Darla, Cordell, Ryan, Beth, and Rae Ellen.

One brother, Robert Poston, preceded her in death.

Besides her immediate family, the survivors are her mother and father and one brother, Reuben Poston, of Bemidji.

Services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Presbyterian church with Rev. R. H. Selway officiating. Mrs. Plaisted and Mrs. Arvid Persian sang.

The pallbearers were Robert LaVine, Clarence Lucas, Irvin Cronk, Alfred Weege, Ansel Thompson and Ovie Bersie. Interment was in the Lakeview cemetery.

MRS. D. JOHNSTON LAST RITES HERE *(Contributed)*

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Death Certificate



MINNESOTA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Division of Birth and Death Records and Vital Statistics
18123
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

CA
86

Wright

Mrs Helen F. Johnston

Female White

Daryl Johnston 41

Oct. 13, 1914

Minnesota

Frank Poston

Minnesota

Edith Bull

Minnesota

Buffalo, Minn.

Buffalo, Minn.

Buffalo, Minn.

Jan 31 1948

Commemoration — 60 year anniversary of the death of . . .

Helen Frances Poston
Born at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, 13 October 1914
Youngest child of Edith Belle Palmer & Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
Brothers: Robert, Reuben
Married: Daryl Russell Johnston, 14 May 1933
Children: Hope, David, Darla, Roger, Cordell, Ryon, Beth, Suzanne
Died at Crawford Lake Farm, Buffalo, Minnesota, 31 January 1948

Mother was related to our father in the following way:

Her mother, our Grandmother Edith, had a half-brother, Julian, who was a career journalist and newspaper publisher:

- Franklin Co. Recorder, Hampton, Iowa
- Mower Co. Transcript
- Polk Co. Journal
- Faribault Co. Register, Blue Earth, Minnesota.

After being widowed, he married on the 7th of September 1916, our Great Aunt Rae (Mary Rebecca Johnston), who was Father's paternal aunt. Mother, being of a divorced family and poor, spent some of her childhood with this uncle and his wife, attending school in Blue Earth. Thus, it was that our parents, 'cousins' by marriage, had opportunity to meet on family visits.

Helen and Daryl married in 1933, proceeded to issue eight children, the oldest 14 years, the youngest three months at the time of her death, by her own hand, on 31 January 1948. The rest, as they say, is history . . .

"The dead are only those amongst us who are walking elsewhere." [Margaret Shaw-MacKinnon, quoting John Moriarty in: Irish mystic left his mark. Winnipeg Free Press, 23 Sep 2007]

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (13 Jan 2008; rev. 11 Feb 2015)]

ancestry



Edette "Edith" Regina Marie Kozlowski

BIRTH 25 MAR 1905 • Willow River, Pine, Minnesota
DEATH 10 SEP 1997 • Sandstone, Pine, Minnesota
stepmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
25 Mar 1905 • Willow River, Pine, Minnesota

Age 5 — **Residence**
1910 • Norman, Pine, Minnesota

Age 15 — **Residence**
1920 • Bruno, Pine, Minnesota

Age 18 — **Marriage**
17 Oct 1923 • Pine County, Minnesota
John Williams Eells (1895–1946)

Age 25 — **Residence**
1930 • Moylan Township, Marshall, Minnesota
farming; three children; Brother-in-Law Martin (20) present

Age 30 — **Residence**
1935 • Pennington, Minnesota

Age 35 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Partridge, Pine, Minnesota
eight children

Age 41 — **Death of Husband John**
5 Jun 1946 • Sandstone, Pine, Minnesota

Age 59 — **Residence**
1964 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
resident w. Daughter Myrtle Weege; assisted as caregiver for Maude Larkin Johnston on neighbouring farm

Age 60 — **Marriage**
21 Jun 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905–1982)

Age 76 — **Divorce**
8 Oct 1981 • Clearwater, Minnesota
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905–1982)

Age 92 — **Death**
10 Sep 1997 • Sandstone, Pine, Minnesota
burial: Bruno, Pine, Minnesota near mother's grave

Family

Parents

Edward S Kozlowski 1880–1946

Kathrine A Schoumaker 1885–1936

Spouse & Children

John Williams Eells 1895–1946

- **Arlene Edith Eells** 1924–2002
- **Myrtle Ione Eells** 1928–2000
- **Burnadette Josephine Eells** 1930–
- **Walter Myron Eells** 1931–2013
- **John Williams Eells** 1932–1973
- **Edith Eleanor Virginia Eells** 1935–
- **Guy Richard Hugo Eells** 1937–2003
- **Faye Ramona Eells** 1939–
- **Opal Mae Eells** 1941–
- **Dayton Patrick Stephan Eells** 1943–1979

Spouse

Daryl Russell Johnston 1905–1982

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1910 United States Federal Census**
- **1920 United States Federal Census**
- **1930 United States Federal Census**
- **1940 United States Federal Census**
- **Ancestry Family Trees**
- **Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002**
- **Minnesota Marriage Collection, 1958-2001**
- **Minnesota, Divorce Index, 1970-1995**
- **Social Security Death Index**
- **U.S. Public Records Index, Volume 2**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007**
- **Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011**

Johnston/Poston Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Daryl Johnston & Helen Poston

Children of Hope Johnston & Durund LaVine

Dawn Arlys LaVine (1952-)
April Joy LaVine (1953-)
Daniel Timothy LaVine (1955-)
Gwen Ida LaVine (1957-)
Lauren Lloyd LaVine (1965-)
Casey Scranton LaVine (1975-)

Children of David Johnston & Joyce Koin

Kurtis Daryl (Johnston) (1957-)
Kimberly June Johnston (1958-)
Melvin Benny (Johnston) (1963-)
Kristy Lorie Johnston (1966-)

Children of Darla Johnston & Ted Solberg

Bonita Rae Solberg (1956-)
Heidi Jo Solberg (1957-)
Teresa Lee Solberg (1958-1998)
Todd Tracy Solberg (1959-)
Sara Laureen Solberg (1962-)
Heather Jill Solberg (1964-)
Shane Aldean Solberg (1968-)
Bliss Amy Solberg (1976-)

Children of Roger Johnston & Nan Pauley

Caitlin Mary Johnston (1962-)
Sabrina Rose Johnston (1966-)
Adam T (Johnston) (1970-)

Children of Roger Johnston & Cathey Cordes

August Stewart Johnston (1970-)

Children of Cordell Johnston & Dorothy Anderson

Kent Douglas Johnston (1959-)
Kelly Donald Johnston (1960-)
Leah Lynn Johnston (1966-)
Leslie Marie “Kate” (Johnston) (1970-)

Children of Ryon Johnston & Beverly Kottke

Baby Boy Johnston (1967-1967)
Chadwick Emerson Johnston (1968-)
Newell Graham Johnston (1970-)

Children of Beth Johnston & Charlie Nelson

Peter Bradley Nelson (1966-)
Eric Carlisle Nelson (1967-)

Children of Suzanne Johnston & Tom Dornquast

Matthew Durund Dornquast (1966-)
Nathan Marsh Dornquast (1968-)
Raelene Nicole Dornquast (1970-)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Wedding Announcement and Photo

Sweethearts



Faribault County Register,
Blue Earth, Minnesota
Spring 1933

------- Relatives here are in receipt of an announcement telling of the marriage of Miss Helen Frances Poston of Hibbing and Daryl Russell Johnston of Buffalo, Minnesota, which was solemnized Monday evening at the home of the groom's parents. Miss Poston made her home here with her uncle, J. M. Palmer for a number of years while attending the grades. She is a graduate of the Hibbing High School. Mr. Johnston is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnston, who reside on a farm near Buffalo, Minnesota. He owns and operates a fruit farm joining his father's. The young folks will make their home there.

Marriage Certificate, Daryl and Helen



Certificate of Marriage

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF HENNEPIN S.S.

I Hereby Certify, that on the 13 day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and 33 at Buffalo in said County I the undersigned, a minister of the Gospel did join in the holy bonds of Matrimony according to the laws of this State.

Daryl C. Johnston of the County of Wright State of Minnesota and Helen L. Coulon of the County of Hennepin State of Minnesota in presence of

Mazel E. Johnston

Witnesses.

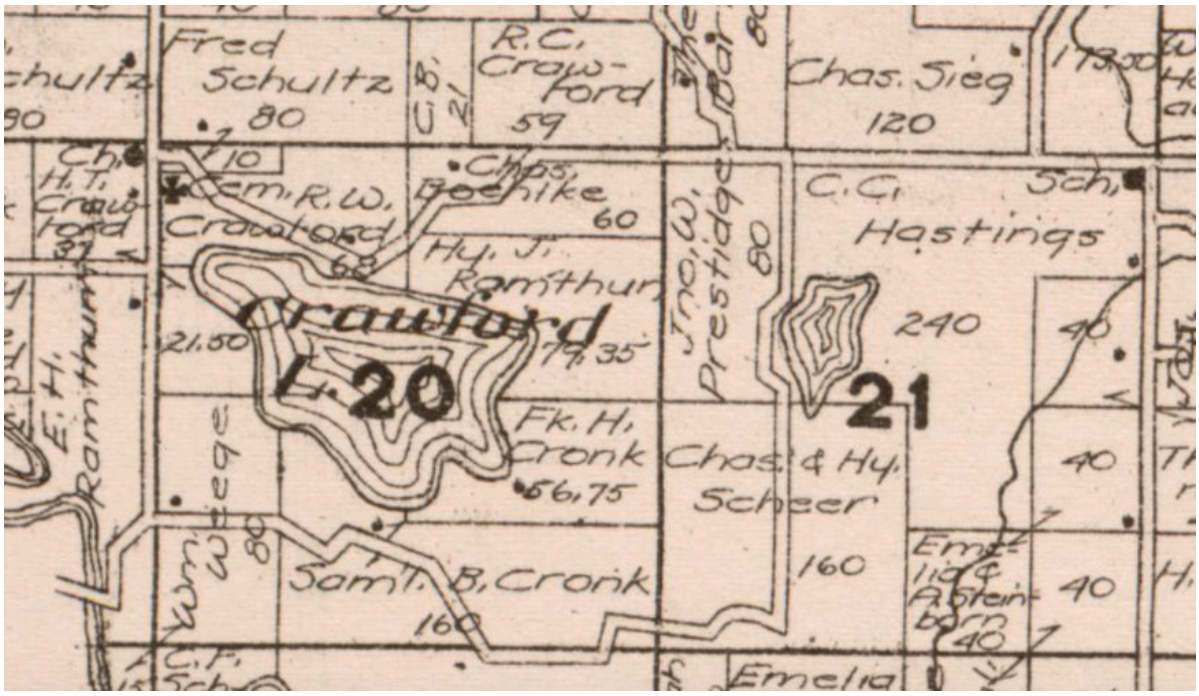


David, Hope, Cordell, Darla, Roger, ca 1944



Suzanne, Beth, Ryon, ca 1950

Crawford Lake Farm



Section 20 Township 119 Range 25
Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota
1916 Plat Map detail courtesy of:
[http://geo.lib.umn.edu/plat_books/stateofmn1916/counties/wright.htm]

The farm where the **Figure of Eight Minnesota Johnstons** were born and raised was immediately S of Crawford Lake — the 80 acres to the E of Wm. Weege. The house in which we lived (see spot on map above the name 'Sam'l') is believed to have been built about 1913 by carpenter/ farmer, Jack Hayes, maternal grandfather to our brother-in-law, Durund LaVine, for Sam'l B. Cronk. It is quite possible that our paternal grandparents purchased the parcel directly from him, when they moved there in 1927.

This 1916 Plat Map, reveals early property owners' named Crawford — namesakes of the Lake. Descendants of Cronk, Ramthun, Weege were classmates of ours decades later. Our one-room country school was NW of the Lake, perhaps marked as 'Ch', or perhaps not built yet. The church nearby, marked with a cross, was German Lutheran, attended by many of our neighbours.

The building shown on the Fk. H. Cronk property SE of the Lake, was during our childhood just a remnant foundation — a repository for household detritus from our Cronk neighbours, whose then-current farmyard was apparently not yet built in 1916.

There are notable inaccuracies on this hand-drawn "map" of the area, obvious to those of us who lived there and fondly remember the details. In particular, the road past our farmhouse, as it progressed E and then N, actually routed to the E of the un-named lake, later to be on the property of our eldest sister, Hope, after her marriage to Durund (see C. C. Hastings land).

Ryon C Johnston (18 Dec 2016; rev. 24 Dec 2016)

Certificate of Redemption, Crawford Lake Farm, 31 October 1960

CERTIFICATE OF REDEMPTION
NO. 12648

I, the undersigned, as Conservator of Rural Credit of the State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that Daryl Johnston, one of the heirs at law of William Lowry Johnston, deceased, has paid to the State of Minnesota the sum of Two Thousand, Five Hundred, Three Dollars and twenty-five one-hundredths dollars in redemption from the foreclosure of that mortgage made by W. L. Johnston (who was also known as William L. Johnston and who in proceedings in the Probate Court of Wright County, Minnesota, was described as William Lowry Johnston), and Maude Johnston, his wife, which mortgage was dated June 18, 1931, and was recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds of that county on June 22, 1931, in Book 63 of Mortgages on Page 68, whereby such mortgagors mortgaged to the State of Minnesota the following described real estate situated in that county, viz.:

The East Half of the Southwest Quarter of section twenty (20), township One Hundred Nineteen (119) North, Range Twenty-five West

and in which foreclosure proceedings the sheriff of that county sold such real estate on September 12, 1960, to the State of Minnesota, and executed a certificate of such sale to the State of Minnesota which was recorded in the office of such Register of Deeds on September 14, 1960, in Book 124 of Deeds on Page 205.

Daryl Johnston, aforesaid, has made such redemption in his own behalf and in behalf of Maude Johnston aforesaid as owners of the land aforesaid.

Dated October 31st, 1960.

Irving C. Rasmussen
As Conservator of Rural Credit

Executed in Presence of:

[illegible]

Mary H. Prylinger

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

On this 31st day of October, 1960, personally appeared before me Irving C. Rasmussen to me known to be the Conservator of Rural Credit for the State of Minnesota and the person who executed the foregoing Certificate of Redemption and he acknowledged that he executed the same as his free act and deed and as the free act and deed of the State of Minnesota.

Mary H. Prylinger

Mary H. Prylinger, Notary Public, Ramsey County, Minn.
My Commission Expires June 18, 1962

Marriage Certificate, Daryl and Edith



CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE

STATE OF MINNESOTA, County of Wright, ss

I Hereby Certify that on the twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-five, at Buffalo, in said County, I the undersigned a minister of the Gospel did join in the Bonds of Matrimony

Daryl Russell Johnston

a resident of the County of Wright, State of Minnesota, and

Edith Fells

a resident of the County of Wright, State of Minnesota,

in the presence of

Mr. Clarence E. Fortune
Mrs. Frank Aldrich
Witnesses

Donald D. Haines

P.O. ADDRESS 105 NE 2nd Ave
Buffalo, Minnesota

Figure of Eight

2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents (4+)

Paternal Line	Maternal Line
1 Johnston/Larkin Family	**2 Poston/Palmer Family**
(William) Lowry Johnston	Francis Ernest Poston
Maude Larkin	Edith Belle Palmer
	+ Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck

Presentation Sequence . . .

Family Preview (father's Surname/mother's Surname)
For each Parent (fathers, followed by mothers):
    Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
    Siblings
    1st Cousins
    Personal Narratives
    Gallery: Personal Records of Note
+ For each Step-parent (inserted by chronology of marriage date):
    Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
Family's Grandchildren
Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Figure of Eight

2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents 1/2

Johnston/Larkin Family

(William) Lowry Johnston

Maude Larkin

Johnston/Larkin Family Preview

Figure of Eight paternal grandparents, (William) Lowry Johnston (1878-1939) and Maude Larkin (1882-1965), were married in August 1904 in Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota. The officiant was Rev. Malcolm Martin, the place was the Presbyterian Church. As was common amongst Lowry's clan, the newlyweds honeymooned at Uncle James and Aunt Bella Emerson Newell's home in Plainview, Minnesota. Maude had boarded at the Johnston house, while she taught at the Johnston school. From this experience grew, as well as the aforementioned marriage, lifelong friendships, especially with Lowry's sister, Marge,

The parental Johnston/Emerson family had been bereaved in July 1901 by the accidental death of Father James Lowry. It is not clear why William Lowry, as the eldest son, did not take over the family farm. Instead, he and Maude established their own farm nearby, where the first three of their four children were born. In about 1913, they relocated to Wright County, near Maude's older sister, Edith "Ede" Catlin, on a farm near Lake Charlotte in Rockford Township. Youngest daughter, Maureen, would be born there. The children attended Hopkins School located just across the Rockford–Buffalo Road. All four children eventually graduated from Buffalo High School.

The young family would relocate twice more within the same township, once in the immediate neighborhood in 1922, and again in 1927, this time a dozen or so miles southwest, to the south shore of Crawford Lake. This sandy farm of 80 acres would eventually be home to the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

Maude's parents, and, briefly, her grandmother, also relocated in 1922, for the 'severaleth' time in their lives, from Alden, Minnesota, to nearby Buffalo, enabling them to take a larger part in the lives of the growing, multi-generational family group. By then, Maude and Ede's sister, Nell, was also living in the community.

Eldest child, our father, Daryl, was of the Buffalo graduating Class of 1924. After a brief experimentation with training as a radio technician at Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis, he returned home, working as a farm labourer for his parents and for other area farmers. His interest in horticulture led him to work for a time at Strong's Greenhouses in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, managed by Uncle Jay Larkin. By 1932, in an uneasy partnership with Father Lowry, a greenhouse had been added to the home farm. At the time of his marriage in 1933, a newspaper announcement suggested that Daryl *"owns and operates a fruit farm joining his father's"*. After a period of experimentation with alternate work with her father in Oklahoma City, he brought his wife home to stay, and the spacious three-story farm house began to fill up again.

Daughter Majel had become a teacher, marrying an area farmer in 1934. Son James, after a brief stint in the military, also trained as a teacher, in the field of industrial arts, would take up permanent residence in his bride's home state of Colorado. Youngest daughter, Maureen, boarded for a time after high school with Lowry's sister, Rae, at Blue Earth, Minnesota, where she would meet and marry a painter/decorator, and stay.

On a foggy morning in March 1939, perhaps going out to the general store for pipe tobacco, or back to the old neighborhood for a visit, Lowry was killed in a car/train accident at Dickinson Crossing near Rockford. Maude, nominally remaining head-of-household, absented herself for periods from the farm home, which would continue to be in her name. She worked for a time in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota, greenhouses managed by Brother Jay, also making extensive visits to Son James' family home in Colorado. After Daughter-in-Law Helen's self-death in January 1948, 'Grandma Maude' returned permanently as reigning family matriarch to 'mother' the eight grandchildren, ranging in age from three months to 14 years.

In 1960, with only the three youngest grandchildren left at home, Son Daryl negotiated quit-claim deeds with his siblings, making arrangements to redeem a mortgage foreclosure, thus leaving himself and Maude as owners of the home farm. These steps not proving adequate to achieve financial stability, the place was sold, just two years before Mother Maude's 1965 death, bringing an era to a close.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 Jul 2016; rev. 23 Nov 2017)

ancestry



(William) Lowry Johnston

BIRTH 6 AUG 1878 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
DEATH 14 MAR 1939 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
paternal grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
6 Aug 1878 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
birth registered 11 Sep 1878

Age 2 — **Residence**
1880 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
youngest of four children, so far

Age 21 — **Residence**
01 Jun 1900 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
still in parental home with seven sibs (12-24); eldest, (Mary) Rebecca "Rae", has moved on

Age 22 — **Death of Father James**
12 Mar 1901 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 26 — **Marriage**
24 Aug 1904 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
officiant: Rev. Malcolm Martin; Presbyterian Church; honeymoon at Lowry's Uncle James and Aunt Bella (Emerson) Newell's home in Plainview, Minnesota

Maude Larkin (1882–1965)

Age 26 — **Residence**
12 Jun 1905 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
Minnesota Census: Emmons P.O.; 25 years in district; no children yet

Age 31 — **Death of Mother Ann Jane**
31 Mar 1910 • Keister, Faribault, Minnesota

Age 31 — **Residence**
28 Apr 1910 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
two children (2, 4); own farm w. mortgage; mostly German and Scandinavian neighbours; of the Emerson extended family, only Sam & Ida still in the Township

Age 35 — **Relocation to Wright County**
abt 1913 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
Lake Charlotte farm - 80 acres Section 2, and 5 acres S1 T119N R25W of 5th PM (NB: see 1915 Plat Map); Church and Hopkins School across road to the south; youngest child, Maurene, born here

Age 40 — **Residence**
12 Sep 1918 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
WWI Draft Registration Card: tall, medium build; light brown eyes, dark brown hair; self-employed farmer

Age 41 — **Residence**
11 Feb 1920 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
at Lake Charlotte Farm; four children (5-14)

Age 43 — **Land Purchase**
02 Feb 1922 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
moves to next section east: W 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 1 (except 20 acres) & SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 S1 T119N R25 to +/- 100 acres; NB: shown on 1915 Plat as Wm. O. Esterly; commences 33 year mortgage from Federal Land Bank, St. Paul

Age 48 — **Relocation to Crawford Lake Farm**

Family

Parents

James Lowry Johnston 1844–1901

Anne Jane Emerson 1844–1910

Spouse & Children

Maude Larkin 1882–1965

- **Daryl Russell Johnston** 1905–1982
- **Majel Ellen Johnston** 1907–1995
- **James Larkin Johnston** 1910–1981
- **Maurene E Johnston** 1914–1966

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

bef Aug 1927 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
purchases 80 acres (less 10 acres lake) on S side of Crawford Lake: S20 T119N R25W of 5th PM; NB: date deduced from last semi-yearly payment on previous farm at Lake Charlotte made Jan 1927

Age 51 — **Residence**
22 Apr 1930 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
youngest three children at home; eldest, Daryl, missing from the list (working in Sioux Falls with Uncle Jay Larkin at Strong's Greenhouses)

Age 60 — **Death**
14 Mar 1939 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
car/train accident at Dickinson Crossing near Rockford; funeral at Buffalo Presbyterian Church, Rev Russell Nelson presiding; internment at Masonic (now Lakeview) Cemetery

Siblings of (William) Lowry Johnston

Mary Rebecca "Rae" Johnston (1873-1960) m. Julian Manchester Palmer (1869-1940)

Rae, the eldest, was born in Pittsburgh. Until marrying widower Julian Palmer, owner and editor of the Faribault County Register, she was a spinster schoolteacher. Stepson Bruce Palmer would make a name for himself in journalism, as well as ambassador to Ceylon. Rae would foster-parent Julian's niece, Helen Frances Poston, for about five of her early school years following her parents' divorce. Her teenage nephew and niece, Ned and Dorothy Corr, would live with them during their widowed mother's terminal illness. Niece Maureen Johnston would also board in their Blue Earth home before marriage. Rae was reportedly *"ready of speech and always well-informed in regional, local and world affairs"*.

Elizabeth Jane "Eliza" Johnston (1875-1930)

"Elizabeth Jane, the second daughter, was somewhat retarded. However, she did her housework tasks very well, enjoyed life, and was fond of birds, flowers and music. She had a long illness which terminated in death after five days in a complete coma."

Anna Bella "Annabel" Johnston (1876-1962)

Annabel, too, remained unmarried. She lived two years with an Aunt Ann Carrothers in Iowa. Kiester's 'Queen of Hats', she was in the millinery and dressmaking business from an early age, taking over a business started by her sister Rebecca. *"For 25 years, Annabel made every hat she sold, keeping abreast of the latest trends. Her work was always in demand."*

John Emerson Johnston (1880-1916)

"John, a victim of asthma from childhood, sought relief in Denver and Seattle, where he was in the grocery business with his brother-in-law Ed Bufkin. The temporary relief from asthma wore off after a couple years, and he returned to Kiester, where he lived with four spinster sisters. Here he died in 1916 from complications of asthma and a stroke, aged 36."

Clara Margaret "Marge" Johnston (1882-1976) m. Edwin George "Ed" Bufkin (1885-1962)

Aunt Marge was a schoolteacher. She married Iowa college classmate, Ed Bufkin. Good friend, Maude Larkin Johnston, would comb her hair for the wedding. Uncle Ed was always connected with the grocery business. They would live in Iowa, Colorado and Washington before settling back in Minnesota, first in St. Paul, until Ed's retirement, and then Kiester, where Ed became the school custodian. She would bear three sons: Dale, Clyde, and Vern; the latter, always known as "Pud", would reside with her throughout her life.

James Mosgrove Johnston (1884-1917)

James, with his brother John, continue to farm after their father's death, but moved to Kiester in 1908, where *"James easily found work in the young growing community. He collapsed at the funeral of his brother John in 1916, and a year of illness followed, culminating in his death at the age of 33 in 1917."*

(Sarah) Emily Johnston (1887-1939) m. Ernest Elmer Corr (1884-1922)

Emily married Ernest Corr of Kiester, who was an expert in painting and paper hanging. For a time, they

operated a cinema in Thompson, Iowa. Her husband died young from post-surgical trauma, and Emily returned to Kiester, where she became a telephone operator for several years before succumbing to cancer. Daughter Dorothy became a beautician, while Sons Ned and Earl both learned the printing trade in their Uncle Julian's business, later becoming editors in their own right.

Rachel Edna "Dede" Johnston (1888-1986)

Dede, the youngest, remained single, teaching school for 28 years, then serving as a cook in Kiester schools for 10 years. She also *"took care of several invalids in their private homes".* She would produce a genealogy of Mother Anne Jane's family — The Emerson Family Tree: 1870-1968, which is quoted, in part, above.

1st Cousins of (William) Lowry Johnston

Children of Father James' Siblings

Children of Uncle John Johnston & Rebecca Fallis

William Lowry Johnston (1856-1921)
James Johnston (1858-1860)
James Hastings Johnston (1861-1905)
Robert Johnston (1864-1865)
Elizabeth "Eliza" J Johnston (1866-1948)
Ann "Annie" Searight Johnston (1870-1879)
Susan Johnston (1872-1873)

Children of Aunt Anna Johnston & Christopher Carrothers

Elizabeth "Bessie" Lowry Carrothers (1863-1934)
John Thomas Carrothers (1865-1865)
Mary Jane Carrothers (1866-1950)
James "Jimmie" Johnston Carrothers (1868-1950)
Sarah Ann Carrothers (1870-1870)
William Lincoln Carrothers (1871-1967)
Thomas Henry Carrothers (1874-1936)
George W Carrothers (1876-1966)

Child of Aunt Susan Johnston & John Moore

James Lowry Moore (1860-1924)

Children of Aunt Susan Johnston & William West

William West (1868-1869)
Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane West (1869-1936)

Children of Mother Anne's Siblings

Children of Uncle James Emerson & Margaret Hazle

Isabella "Belle" Margaret Emerson (1865-1962)
Mary "Minnie" Ida Emerson (1866-1950)
Mathilda "Tillie" L Emerson (1868-1973)
Irene Jane "Jessie" Emerson (1870-1974)
Clara Elizabeth "Elsie" Emerson (1872-1926)
Robert Waldo Emerson (1874-1894)
Rosa Jeanette Emerson (1876-1949)
Walter James Emerson (1878-1963)
James Henry Emerson (1880-1880)
Maude Leone Emerson (1882-1968)

Children of Uncle John Emerson & Clara Linehan

Isabella "Belle" C Emerson (1870-1965)
John E Emerson (1871-1967)
Clara Mayme "Mae" Emerson (1873-1933)
William H Emerson (1874-1884)
James "Jim" Alexander Emerson (1876-1968)
Samuel J Emerson (1879-1920)
Robert Garfield Emerson (1880-1947)
Clarence Mosgrove “Moss” Emerson (1883-1944)
Harry Melville Emerson (1888-1968)
Fred L Emerson (1893-1912)

Children of Uncle William Emerson & Mary Harvey

Isabella "Belle" M Emerson (1871-1959)
John Alexander Emerson (1873-1951)
Edward Harvey Emerson (1876-1959)
Joseph Howard Emerson (1877-1964)
Samuel Ralph Emerson (1879-1962)
Elizabeth "Lyda” Maude Emerson (1881-1940)
Sarah "Sadie" Rebecca Emerson (1886-1972)
Wilson William Emerson (1888-1966)

Children of Aunt Mary Emerson & Samuel Beatty

Edward Washington Beatty (1877-1948)
Mary Jeanette Beatty (1879-1939)
Samuel E Beatty (1880-1954)
Isabella Margaret "Daisy” Beatty (1885-1966)

Children of Uncle Edward Emerson & Isabella Wilson

Flossa M Emerson (1882-1944)
Franklin M Emerson (1882-1956)

Children of Aunt Isabella Emerson & James Newell

Helen Arabella Newell (1897-1972)

Children of Uncle Robert Emerson & Mary Wilson

Lynn Arthur Emerson (1890-1985)
(William) Leslie Emerson (1892-1977)
Edward Monroe Emerson (1893-1962)

Children of Uncle Thomas Emerson & Mary Blackmun

Queen Victoria Emerson (1892-1982)
Thomas Wesley Emerson (1893-1895)
Henry "Harry" L Emerson (1896-1976)
Ralph Blackmun Emerson (1903-1967)

Children of Uncle Samuel Emerson & Ida Sarah Mosgrove

John Mosgrove Emerson (1900-1984)
Margaret M Emerson (1907-2004)

Children of Aunt Sadie Emerson & Frederick McKee

Samuel Alexander McKee (1876-1894)
Frederick W McKee (1878-1902)
Lillian Eleanor McKee (1881-1940)
Grayce Emerson McKee (1896-1987)

Children of Uncle Harry Emerson & Katherine Bunworth

Madge K Emerson (1896-1944)
(Alice) Adelaide Emerson (1909-1983)

Narrative: *"A Good Game of Horseshoe"*

I come from a large family circle, having 75 first cousins, if you can imagine! At one time, there were 17 or 18 of us in the school across from our farmyard in Mansfield Township. Over the years, people, knowing me to be quiet and reserved by nature, have asked me whether I minded being part of such a large clan. Well, to be honest, since I knew nothing else, it didn't really occur to me to mind it or not mind it, it was just something that was. It certainly made it easy to make up a baseball team, and I was never short of friends or company.

Our folks, Maude's and mine, were all just plain working folks, much like us. The Johnstons and the Emersons were Scots-Irish of recent origins in this country, my parents and all their people being born in the old country, in County Fermanagh, in what is today Northern Ireland — generations of farmers and stonemasons. Maude's folks, the Larkins and the Halls and the Ransoms, on the other hand, have been around in this country since before it was a country — generations of soldier-farmers. Some of the ancestors were even on the Mayflower, and others were related to Benjamin Franklin, an early American statesman that everyone knows by name.

Now here's a conundrum: If your forbearers are Scots-Irish, are you more likely to inherit the dourness of the Scotsman, or the outgoingness and the 'gift of gab' of the Irish? My father, in addition to being a farmer, and before that a stone mason, was a Sunday school superintendent and an auctioneer and a funeral preacher, so it speaks for itself which side of that heritage *he* came out on. On the other hand, my reticence to speak at all hazards a reputation approaching meanness — just ask my dear wife! Oh, I like people well enough. It's just that I prefer them one at a time, and even then, not *all* the time.

Being, by contrast to my father, quite introverted, I was quite determined, when it came time to marry, that we should have a place of our own. I guess people found this an odd choice in the circumstances, and certainly Mother objected. Father had died just three years before, and, while I was not the oldest of the offspring, I *was* the eldest son. It would have been perfectly logical that I should stay on and run the farm after marriage. I had had lots of time to think about it, as I had been the 'man of the house' between father's sudden death upon falling out of a carriage, and the time of my marriage four Summers later. Bringing a wife and the inevitable children into a household already full of people was not my idea of familial bliss. So, when I married the live-in school teacher in 1904, we took over a near-by farm previously rented by our family, as well as all the equipment that was to be spared. That provided us a place of our own, where we lived for about eight years – had three children there. Mother and my brothers, none of whom were very well, and those sisters who had no other place, continued on as best they could on their own. That didn't last very long, though. In 1908, the family made the tough decision to sell up and move into town. Mother's lifelong best friend, her sister Mary Beatty, lived in Keister, where they became next-door neighbours.

Meantime, Maude's older sister Edith was nicely settled up in Wright County, where she had married the local doctor. Their parents were getting on in years, and the talk was of them relocating there as well. All things considered, we thought it best to make that move — a woman needs to be near her family. Maude is of a strong personality, and, as the old saying goes, *"The rooster may rule the roost, but the hen rules the rooster."* That has always been true at our house, that's for sure! So off we went to join *her* tribe — ten years ago now. I never thought that I would be leaving Freeborn County.

Our fourth child, Maurene, was born here. Maude says that's enough! In 1922, we 'bit the bullet', and signed a mortgage for the William Esterly place, we didn't actually move, just changed farms here near Lake Charlotte. The Catlin in-laws have always had a car, of course, and, as we have the space, and farm chores to keep us home, our place tends to be the 'picnic grounds' on weekends. So, Maude has her grandmother, her parents, two of her sisters and their children, as well as our own.

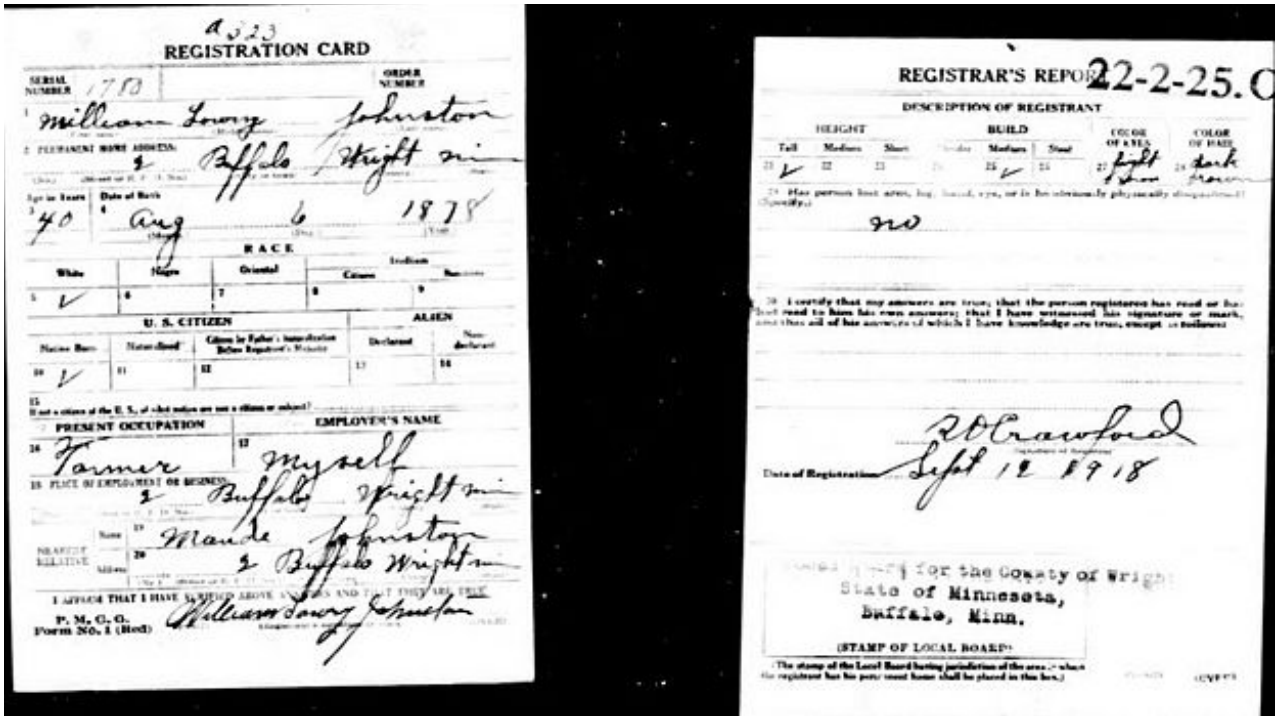
Mostly, I keep out of the way, do my work, keep quiet, live a lot inside my head. My horses are good company, and I enjoy a quiet pipe with a neighbor on occasion. I am not a reader, and I'm not much into 'fun', but I do like a good game of horseshoe.

With the help of a good hired man, we do manage to make rare occasional visits ‘down home’ where my people are — although there’s fewer of them all the time. My mother died before we left the area, and most of the Emerson clan have dispersed to various points since. And we were back there twice over the years to attend my brothers’ funerals. My eldest sister, Rae, has married Palmer, the newspaperman in Blue Earth, and he is always good for a game of horseshoe when we make it down that way. His niece, Helen, is living with them since her parents divorced. She is the apple of Uncle Julian’s eye, and I think my son, Daryl, is the apple of *her* eye, although she is still just a little girl. Time will tell where that might be going . . .

(William) Lowry Johnston, July 1923, Lake Charlotte Farm, Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota [as imagined by Grandson ***Ryon C. Johnston***, 18 Nov 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

WW I Draft Registration



REGISTRATION CARD

SERIAL NUMBER 170 — ORDER NUMBER

1 William Lowry Johnston

2 Buffalo Wright Minn

3 Age in Years 40 — 4 Date of Birth Aug 6 1878

5 RACE: White ✓ — Negro — Oriental — Indian

6 U. S. CITIZEN: Native Born ✓

7 ALIEN: Declarant — Non-declarant

8 PRESENT OCCUPATION: Farmer

9 EMPLOYER'S NAME: Myself

10 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Buffalo Wright Minn

11 NEAREST RELATIVE: Maude Johnston

12 Address: Buffalo Wright Minn

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

William Lowry Johnston

P. M. G. O. Form No. 1 (Rev)

REGISTRAR'S REPORT 22-2-25.C

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT: Tall — Medium ✓ — Short

BUILD: Slender — Medium ✓ — Stout

COLOR OF EYES: light

COLOR OF HAIR: dark

Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he otherwise physically disqualified? (Specify.) no

I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or has had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

20 Crawford

Date of Registration Sept 12 1918

for the County of Wright State of Minnesota, Buffalo, Minn.

(STAMP OF LOCAL BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box.)

Car-Train Accident, Wright County Journal Press, Buffalo



His Car Is Wrecked Tuesday Afternoon Near Dickinson

Evidently unable to see an approaching Soo Line train because of frosted windows, L. W. Johnston, Buffalo farmer, was killed when his car was hit by the train, Tuesday afternoon, at Dickinson Siding. Mr. Johnston lived but a short time.

Johnston was alone in his car. The train crew did not see the automobile and had arrived in Minneapolis before they received any word of the accident, it is said.

Meanwhile, another auto with Beryl Hayes and others arrived at the scene of the accident. They found Johnston under the wrecked car. They notified some men at the Rockford town hall who were conducting the annual township election. They picked up the mortally injured man and brought him to the farm home of George Gilbert where he died shortly after.

Dr. Ted Catlin was called and found the victim to be a brother-in-law of his own parents.

Johnston had been driving along through a heavy mist which frosted the windows of cars and iced the roads, and it is believed that he did not see the approaching train. It is believed that his car was almost clear of the tracks when it was hit.

Mr. Johnston was 60 years of age. He lived on his farm five miles southeast of Buffalo where he had been many years. He was quite well known in this vicinity and was highly regarded by all. His tragic death comes as a shock to the community.

The funeral will be held Friday afternoon from the Presbyterian church in Buffalo.

He leaves, besides his wife, two sons and two daughters: Daryl of Franklin township; James of Pueblo, Colo.; Mrs. Frank Aldrich of Buffalo and Maurine Johnston.

Two Killed in Collision

A bus driver and a truck driver were killed when the two heavy vehicles collided head-on on the ice coated pavement of highway No. 12 five miles east of Litchfield, Minn., Tuesday night.

Eleven other persons were injured, three of them critically. The collision occurred at 7:45 p.m. on a straight stretch of highway, shortly after the west-bound Northland Greyhound bus left Darwin, Minn. The road was covered with ice from the sleet storm late in the afternoon, and the air was filled with flying snow.

The dead:

Clyde R. Ball, 33, of Morris, Minn., driver of the bus.

Clarence Hagen, 34, of Atwater, Minn., driver of the truck.

Ball died on the way to the Litchfield hospital, and Hagen died in the hospital at 9:30 p.m.

Lived in Buffalo

Arthur Haglund, injured driver, who formerly lived in Buffalo, is reported to have died from injuries received.

W. L. JOHNSTON FUNERAL RITES HELD FRIDAY

Funeral services were conducted in the local Presbyterian church on Friday, March 17th for William L. Johnston, who passed away on Tuesday from injuries received when a Soo Line passenger train struck his car as he was crossing the tracks at Dickinson Siding as reported in last week's Journal-Press.

William Lowry Johnston, son of James L. and Ann Jane Emerson Johnston, was born at Mansefield, Minn. on August 6, 1878. His early life was spent in that community. He was united in marriage to Miss Maude Larkin at Alden, Minn. on August 31, 1904. Until 1913 they resided in Mansefield when they moved to the Buffalo community where they have lived since that date. Two sons and two daughters have been born to this marriage: Daryl of Buffalo, James of Pueblo, Colo., Mrs. Mabel Aldrich of Buffalo and Maurene of Blue Earth.

Mr. Johnston was 60 years, 7 months and 8 days old when he passed away. Left to mourn his loss are his wife, four children, six grandchildren and four sisters: Mrs. J. M. Palmer of Blue Earth, Mrs. E. G. Bufkin of St. Paul, Annabel and Edna Johnston of Klester, Minn., besides many other relatives and friends in this community and the southern part of the state. His parents, two brothers and two sisters have preceeded him in death.

Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Russell Nelson, with Mrs. Russell Nelson singing three solos: "Sweet Bye and Bye," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and "Have Thine Own Way Lord." Burial was made in the Masonic cemetery.

The following friends of Klester and Blue Earth have given a contribution to missions in memory of Mr. Johnston: Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Emmons, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Luebke, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Weber, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Sweiven, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Heenan, and Miss Lucille Thompson.

Obituary, Wright County Journal Press, Buffalo

Hometown Version of Train Accident, Alden, Minnesota

Former Aldenite Was Killed When Struck By Train

A very sad accident occurred near Buffalo, Minn. Tuesday afternoon, March 14, when Lowry Johnston, a former Alden man, was struck by a train in a blinding snow storm.

Mr. Johnston had been attending a town meeting and was returning home alone, when the accident occurred. He was a farmer, and was well known in Alden having married Maude Larkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Larkin, old residents of Alden. Mr. Johnston is a relative of E. W. Beatty and members of the late J. M. Emerson family. He has two sisters living in Kiester, who left immediately for Buffalo. Not much could be learned at this writing of the facts of the accident. He leaves a wife and four children.

ancestry



Maude Larkin

BIRTH 5 APR 1882 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
DEATH 18 MAR 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
paternal grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
5 Apr 1882 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 18 — **Residence**
1900 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 19 — **Graduation**
Jun 1901 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
high school graduation (2X year); along with Bro Jay & Cousin Susie Stone

Age 19 — **Employment**
1901-1904 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
country school teacher, first at Johnston school; boards at the recently bereaved Johnston home; would later teach at some of the same schools as her mother: Buckeye, Garlock

Age 22 — **Marriage**
24 Aug 1904 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
officiant: Rev. Malcolm Martin; Presbyterian Church; honeymoon at Lowry's Uncle James and Aunt Bella (Emerson) Newell's home in Plainview, Minnesota

(William) Lowry Johnston (1878–1939)

Age 23 — **Residence**
12 Jun 1905 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
Emmons P.O.; two years in district; no children yet

Age 28 — **Residence**
28 Apr 1910 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
two children (2, 4); own farm w. mortgage; mostly German and Scandinavian neighbours

Age 31 — **Relocation to Wright County**
abt 1913 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
follows eldest sibling Edith Catlin to Buffalo area; farm near Lake Charlotte; youngest child, Maurene, born here; children attend Hopkins School across the Rockford-Buffalo Road

Age 37 — **Residence**
12 Feb 1920 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
at Lake Charlotte Farm; four children (5-14)

Age 39 — **Land Purchase**
2 Feb 1922 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
family moves to next section east: W 1/2 of SE 1/4 of Section 1 (except 20 acres) & SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 S1 T119N R25 to +/- 100 acres; NB: shown on 1915 Plat as Wm. O. Esterly; commences 33 year mortgage from Federal Land Bank, St. Paul

Age 40 — **Parent's Relocation**
abt 1922 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
aging parents relocate from Alden to be close to three daughters; eventually into Edith Catlin's home

Family

Parents

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin 1850–1930

Ellen Augusta Ransom 1858–1948

Spouse & Children

(William) Lowry Johnston 1878–1939

- **Daryl Russell Johnston** 1905–1982
- **Majel Ellen Johnston** 1907–1995
- **James Larkin Johnston** 1910–1981
- **Maurene E Johnston** 1914–1966

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1940 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Age 45 — **Relocation to Crawford Lake Farm**
bef Aug 1927 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
dated by last payment on previous mortgage

Age 47 — **Death of Father Lucius**
10 Jan 1930 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
at Daughter Edith's home in Buffalo

Age 48 — **Residence**
22 Apr 1930 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
at Crawford Lake Farm; youngest three children at home; eldest, Daryl, missing from the list, is working at Strong's Greenhouses in Sioux Falls, SD where Bro Jay A. Larkin is V. Pres.

Age 56 — **Death of Husband William Lowry**
14 Mar 1939 • Rockford, Wright, Minnesota
car/train accident at Dickinson Crossing near Rockford; estate transfers to her the sole title to farm

Age 57 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
at Crawford lake Farm with Son Daryl & family; Daughter Majel is married at Buffalo; Son James in military (?); Daughter Maureen is an 'office girl' at Blue Earth, living with Aunt Rae Johnston Palmer

Age 65 — **Death of Daughter-in-Law Helen Poston**
31 Jan 1948 • Rockford Township, Wright, Minnesota
Gra'ma takes over co-parenting role of the 'Figure of Eight' Minnesota Johnstons

Age 65 — **Death of Mother Ellen**
30 Mar 1948 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
at Daughter Edith's home in Buffalo

Age 78 — **Farm Ownership Transfer**
31 Oct 1960 • Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota
three youngest children sign Quit Claim deeds; original farm mortgage (22 Jun 1931, Wright County Book 63 of Mortgages, p. 68) on E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of S20 T119N R25W, in foreclosure, is redeemed in names of Daryl & Maude Johnston (see Cert. of Redemption)

Age 82 — **Death**
18 Mar 1965 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
dementia sufferer; died at Ebenezer Home; burial at Lakeview Cemetery, Buffalo; survived by four children, 16 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren

Burial
Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota, USA

Siblings of Maude Larkin

Edith Anna Larkin (1880-1959) m. John Jefferson Catlin (1880-1966)

Edith, the eldest, married a doctor from Delano, Minnesota, and they settled in 1905 in Buffalo, where he established a small clinic which functioned, in those days, as the Town's hospital. Their eldest son, Theodore, would join him in the practice, and, between them, they would provide the medical care for the various children and grandchildren as well as the community at large. Other children were Dorothy and Eileen. Father Lucius and Mother Ellen Larkin would move close to three daughters about 1923, and eventually into Edith's home. John had a long-term liaison with a woman he married after Aunt Edith's death.

Jay Augustus Larkin (1884-1958) m. Phyllis Ann Hull (Millard) (1887-1981); Jessie Faye Hotalling (1885-1964)

Brother Jay would prove to be a bit of a character. Uncle John and Aunt Edith sponsored his education. In his senior year at law school, a week after meeting her at a party, he eloped with an American Indian girl, to whom he was married for over 30 years, and who bore three children: Doris, Donald and Elaine. After teaching school for a year in rural Crookston, Minnesota, he returned to the University of Minnesota to get his law degree. He practiced law with the Department of Indian Affairs in Phyllis' hometown of Winnebago, Nebraska, eventually becoming County Attorney at Pender, Nebraska. In 1920, he became partner in a law firm in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, but after three years switched to floristry, and divorced, eventually marrying his employer/partner's widow, with four children of her own. Maude and her son, Daryl, would each take a turn working in Strong's Greenhouse, which Jay managed.

Ferne Augusta Larkin (1887-1974) m. (Ove) Nordahl Hoel (1884-1944)

Ferne married in Alden, Minnesota, the local Norwegian preacher's son, turned banker. Nordahl's brother, Harry, and Ferne's little sister, Nellie, would board for a time in their Alden home. In 1921, with their three children: Gwen, Robert, and Grant, they relocated to Evanston, Illinois. By 1930, Nordahl was a vice president of the Chicago Joint Stock Land Bank, and the family lived in a $75,000 home, well-to-do in those days. Nordahl took early retirement in 1937 for health reasons. After he died in Tucson, Arizona, where they had gone to spend the Winter, Ferne continued on in Evanston.

Ellen "Nell, Nellie" W Larkin (1888-1979) m. Ernest Rudolph Anderson (1886-1964)

Nell, the youngest, became a rural schoolteacher (a profession that apparently ran in the family), living at times with her parents and at times with married sister Fern in Alden. In 1915, she followed sisters Edith and Maude to Buffalo where she married a local. Husband Ernest would become County Auditor, while Nell served many years as Deputy County Registrar. In retirement, they would operate the Buffalo Golf Course, owned by Brother-in-law John Catlin. Their daughter, Barbara, would marry in California, raise two daughters, divorce, and marry again.

1st Cousins of Maude Larkin

Children of Father Luce's Step-siblings

Children of Uncle Lorenzo Larkin & Agnes Mason

Aaron Mason Larkin (1842-1913)
Ann Elizabeth Larkin (1843-)
Martha Calista Larkin (1844-1930)
Ira Larkin (1846-)

Children of Uncle Lorenzo Larkin & Julia Griffith

Henry Griffith Larkin (1848-1909)
Orrel Towne Larkin (1860-)
Alpha Bigelow Larkin (1863-1927)

Lucy R Larkin (1867-)
Johanna Larkin (1868-)

Children of Aunt Martha Larkin & Bood Morgan

Mary Morgan (1836-1837)
Elam L Morgan (1839-1864)
Electa Lucy Morgan (1842-)
Lorenzo L Morgan (1844-1845)

Children of Heman Soper & Emily Reynolds

Franklin Soper (1856-)
Herbert Soper (1857-)

Children of Father Luce's Sibling

Adopted Child of Uncle Jacob Larkin & Martha DeLong

Wallace Levi Jones-Larkin (1873-1954)

Children of Mother Ellen's Siblings

Children of Uncle Albert Ransom & Florence Carroll

Carroll Louvena Ransom (1908-)
Alice Alvira Ransom (1911-)
(James) Harvey Ransom (1916-2002)

Children of Uncle Frank Ransom & Ida Putney

Dillis L (Ransom) (1900-1966)

Narrative: *"Not Much of a Life"*

When it comes right down to it, it hasn't been much of a life!

As children, we got tootled around from one place to another in Minnesota and Dakota Territory. While I was too young at the time to understand about work and money, it became clear to me as I grew older that my folks were not very settled. Father was a farmer, and then he was a mason, and then he was a drugstore keeper, and then he was a farmer again, and then a labourer, and I don't know what all. I think mother would really like to have been a schoolteacher for much longer, but in those days married women were not allowed to be schoolteachers. As a girl, she had spent a year with her father, Grandpa Ransom, on an Indian Reservation in what is today North Dakota, and I think she never quite got over that that big adventure. It must've been a struggle for her to be constantly moving about. Ede and I were born on the home farm in Manchester Township, next door to various relatives, including Mother's parents and uncles and aunts, as well as Father's brother, Jay. But after Mother's folks got the 'Dakota Fever', it seemed like we were forever moving from pillar-to-post. First, my parents ran her folks' farms, and after that didn't work out so well, we trailed along after them to the West. My three younger siblings were all born in Dakota, where we lived in various places over an eight-year period.

Even after we moved back home, we didn't stay long in the windy house on the hill that had been my first home. If they weren't partnering with Uncle Jay, who was ailing by then, they were on some scheme with Mother's cousin, John Hall, raising pigs (which all died of the cholera!). When Father had finally had enough of farming (or thought he had!), they moved us into town in a little house on the outskirts of Alden. The reason given was so that we could be closer to a proper school. Mother took up dressmaking, and Father did painting and masonry and whatever other jobs he could find, although he still called himself a farmer. Years later, my parents were off to Nebraska, of all places, to run a farm for a year for the Indians. Brother Jay lived there by then with his Indian wife and her little girl. Our youngest sister, Nell, got married there during that time, and those of us who could get away all traipsed out there to the wedding.

When we were old enough, each of us girls, and Brother Jay, too, became teachers like our mother, in some the same schools. My first teaching job was at Johnston School over in Mansfield Township. It was my first time away from home, and I think mother was more concerned than I was. She delivered me there by horse and buggy, and it felt to both of us like a long ways away. The school was right next door to the Johnstons' farm, and I boarded in their big house where all nine of the family's children had been born and raised. The family was newly bereaved, as their father had died in a tragic accident, mysteriously falling out of his carriage on his way home from town. I wonder whether he had been drinking, although nobody talks about that, of course. Most of the children still lived at home, and a couple of the youngest girls were in my school. Marge, who was my age, and also a teacher, became my best and life-long friend. The eldest son, William, who liked to be called 'Lowry', was the lead hand at running the farm while I stayed with them. He would become my husband.

Lowry and I stayed in the area for eight years, on a nearby farm of our own, where our first three children were born. The time came when the Johnston home place was sold, and the family moved into Kiester. Mother Johnston lived as a semi-invalid for some years before her death. Most of her Emerson Clan, Lowry's uncles and aunts and cousins, had moved on to other parts. My parents were experiencing an empty nest, and there was talk of them moving up to Wright County to be near their eldest child and her family. We moved, too — not just once, but, eventually, three times!

Sister Ede is married to the local doctor here in Buffalo. Mother lives with them since Father died, now almost ten years ago. Nell is here, too. She and her husband have good jobs with the County. Sister Ferne married a banker, and has never had to work a day in her life since. They live in Chicago — he drives a fancy car, she dresses to the nines, they put on a bit of a show on the rare occasion when they make it back to Minnesota to see us. I feel like the poor cousin — a 'country mouse'.

Work, work, work, and never any money, and never a new frock. What I have in the cupboard are hand-me-downs from Ferne, who is my size, and has more money than she knows what to do with. Most of the time, I'm too busy to wear them anyway. If I'm not cooking, I'm doing laundry. If I'm not canning, I'm making soap. If I'm not in the garden, I'm gathering the eggs. The only thing I don't do is milk the cows.

If that weren't enough, we have had Daryl's family living under the same roof. Daughter Helen is a sweet girl, but not much of a housekeeper. I think she would rather sit in the corner and write poetry, if she were given the chance. To give her credit, she was raised a town girl, and, too, the babies keep coming — there will soon be a fourth! The work load and the noise level keep rising. I love them all of course. Today, little Hopie is watching me with big sad, concerned eyes, as I sit by the stove in the living room, a comforter wrapped around me, unable to budge from the rocking chair. Helen, bless her heart, brings me tea, which grows cold in my hands. Lost in thought, reviewing my life, frozen inside, I feel that I may never get up from this chair. Lowry was killed this morning in a train crash . . .

Maude Larkin Johnston, 14 March 1939, Crawford Lake Farm, Rockford Township, Wright County, Minnesota [as imagined by Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 22 Nov 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

The Larkin Sisters: Family History from a Cookbook

In 1949, the staff and students of the Alden School produced the Blackhawk Centennial Cookbook, a book which, for me, has come to symbolize our Gra'ma Maude, providing a link with the past and an important, practical, dependable source of information about our family roots. When my wife, Hazel, and I made enquiries at the Freeborn County Historical Society during a site visit in 2013, we met one of the ladies who had helped produce the Blackhawk Centennial Cookbook while a student at Alden in 1949.

The four Larkin sisters must have taken by storm the Alden Consolidated School, Alden, Minnesota. Their brother, Jay Larkin (Sioux Falls, South Dakota) **Class of 1901**, no doubt had his hands full to keep an eye out for them.



Edith Larkin (Mrs. John Catlin, Buffalo, Minnesota) **unlisted graduation about 1899**

Maude Larkin (Mrs. Lowry Johnston, Buffalo, Minnesota) **Class of 1901**

Fern Larkin (Mrs. O. N. Hoel, Evanston, Illinois) **Class of 1904**

Nellie W Larkin (Mrs. Ernest Anderson, Buffalo, Minnesota) **Class of 1907**

As corroborated by Gra'ma Maude's mother, Great-grandmother Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin, in her 1943 memoir, The Story of My Life, two of her children, siblings Jay and Maude, shared a school class which included their cousin Suzie **Stone**.

Stone: Descendants of Great-grandmother Larkin's 1st Cousin, Lillian F. Hall (1860-1888) — Suzie **(Class of 1901)** and her sibs, Webster **(Class of 1902)** and Paul **(Class of 1903)**

The name **Hall** shows up in the Cookbook, as well, this being the maiden name of Ellen Larkin's mother, 2nd Great-grandmother Elvira **Hall** Ransom.

> **Hall:** Descendants of Great-grandmother Ellen Larkin's 1st Cousin Edmund Wolcott Hall (1843-1918) — the children of his son Daniel Kenyon Hall (1878-1959): Everett **(1928)**, Elliot **(1932)**, Harriet **(1937)**; and of his son Alvin Mason Hall (1869-1954): Bernice **(1935)**.

In 1904, Gra'ma Maude, then a teacher in rural Freeborn County, Minnesota, would marry our grandfather (William) Lowry Johnston, fourth child and first son of a large family of Irish immigrants who had settled in nearby Mansfield Township. His mother, our great-grandmother, Anne Jane Emerson (1844-1910), was a sister to the **Emersons** mentioned below. The Cookbook lists of graduating students include several descendants of these Emerson ancestors: **Beatty**, **Emerson**, **Holway**.

> **Beatty:** Grandchildren of Mary Emerson Beatty (1846-1924) — children of her son, Edward Jackson Beatty (1877-1948): Bernard **(Class of 1927)**, Elinor **(1932)**, Ruth **(1936),** and Homer **(1937)**
>
> **Emerson:** Grandchildren of Samuel N Emerson (1858-1950) — children of his son, John M (1900-1984): Betty Jean **(Class of 1944)**, John **(1948)**
>
> **Holway:** Descendants of James Mosgrove Emerson (1836-1921) — children of his daughter Matilda "Tillie" Lenore (1868-1973): Cleon **(Class of 1913)**, Argyle **(1914)**, Bernadine **(1918)**, Marjorie **(1925)**; also, children of Cleon (1895-1964): Muriel **(1944)**; and children of Argyle (1896-1979): Ross **(1944),** Nancy **(1949)**

It is interesting to note that Mary Ida "Minnie" Emerson (1866-1950), another daughter of James Mosgrove Emerson, married Benjamin Moran Hall (1867-1945), another 1st cousin to Great-grandmother Ellen. This childless couple, living in the same town, would have been known to the Larkin Sisters.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (16 Mar 2008; rev. 16 Nov 2017)]

My Memory of Gra'ma

Unique as Grandmother Maude may have been, I now see that she came as part of a set — I seldom think of her without remembering her siblings.

Great Uncle Jay was owner/operator of a greenhouse flower shop in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. I only

remember meeting him once. I was impressed with his story that my next older brother was named after Cordell Hull, then Secretary of State.

Great Aunt Edith, the eldest, married a doctor – quite an accomplishment for an Irish farm girl. Was it her good looks or her intelligence which won her such a prize? By the time I knew her, she was a crabby, old, white-haired lady, cynical and critical. Edith's husband, Doctor John, must have delivered us all, and her son, Ted, was my doctor through childhood, and beyond. He provided my pre-marital examination, mandatory for obtaining a license to marry. He also later delivered my first son, short-lived and un-named, by emergency caesarean section. Edith's daughter, Eileen, was a practical nurse, working as a nurse's aide in the family medical practice. Ted and Eileen had another sibling, Dorothy (Petersen), who lived in Florida and Washington, D.C.

Great Aunt Ferne, the boldest, the best looking (in a glamorous sort of way), the most adventurous (or, at any rate, apparently the least firmly rooted), married a businessman, lived far away, came to see us in a big car. Our cousin, Gerald, remembers them as being distinctly out of favour at the Aldrich household (home of her niece Majel), because Fern's husband, Nordahl, earned his living administering farm mortgage foreclosures. Gra'ma reported Grandfather Lowry once saying that one could not have earned as much money as Nordahl had honestly. Aunt Fern had a son Robert in Florida, a daughter Gwen, a son Grant in the military.

Great Aunt Nell, the youngest, thin-faced and of a nervous disposition, married a mild, soft-spoken man, a career civil servant at the municipal level. Uncle Ernie, when we knew him, managed the golf course in our town, owned by Brother-in-law John Catlin. My earliest memories of them are associated with a 1939 Ford coupe, black. They had a daughter, Barbara, in California.

Quite probably our Gra'ma, with her farmer-husband, our grandfather, Lowry Johnston, followed her older sister Edith, as family members are wont to do, to Buffalo in Wright County. Their third farm in the area would be the birthplace of our generation, the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons. There, with the untimely deaths, first of her husband, and then of our mother, Gra'ma became the reigning matriarch of our family, and a major force in our lives.

[***Ryon C. Johnston*** (16 Mar 2008; rev. 23 Nov 2017)]

Maude with Sister-in-law Marge & Ed Bufkin, ca 1958



Obituary, Wright County Free Press

Obituray of Maude Larkin

Maude Larkin was born Apr. 5, 1882 at Alden, Minn. She was the second child in a family of five born to Ellen and Lucius C. Larkin. Most of her early life was spent in southern Minnesota where she met and married Wm. Lowry Johnston August 31, 1904.

They made their home on the Johnston farm near Kiester until 1912 when they moved to a farm 8 miles southeast of Buffalo. With the exception of two years in Sioux Falls, So. Dak., she spent her life since then in the vicinity of Buffalo.

There remain four children: Daryl R. Johnston and Mrs. Frank Aldrich of Buffalo, Mrs. George Fischer of Blue Earth, and James L. Johnston of Grand Junction, Colorado. Also two sisters, Mrs. Nell Anderson of San Bernardino, Calif., and Mrs. Ferne Hoel of Evanston, Ill., 16 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

Her husband, Lowry, passed away March 14, 1939 in a tragic train-car accident. One brother, Jay Larkin; sister, Mrs. Edith Catlin and daughter-in-law, Mrs. Daryl Johnston, preceded her in death.

Funeral Memoriam

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

THE 23rd PSALM

In Memory Of
MAUDE JOHNSTON

Born
APRIL 5, 1882

Passed Away
MARCH 18, 1965

Services Held
MARCH 21, 1965
THE PETERSON CHAPEL
BUFFALO, MINNESOTA

Officiating
REV. PAUL PETERSON

Organist
MRS. EARL PETERSON

Vocalists
REV. and MRS. JAY RUSTHOVEN

Interment
LAKEVIEW CEMETERY
BUFFALO

Johnston/Larkin Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Lowry Johnston & Maude Larkin

Children of Daryl Johnston & Helen Poston

Hope (Yvonne) Evon Johnston (1933-)
David Lowry Johnston (1936-)
Darla Corinne Johnston (1937-)
Roger Palmer Johnston (1939-2004)
Cordell Kent Johnston (1941-2009)
Ryon Claude Johnston (1944-)
(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston (1946-)
Suzanne Rae Ellen Johnston (1947-)

Children of Majel Johnston & Frank Aldrich

Janice Faye Aldrich (1936-2009)
Gerald Harvey Aldrich (1939-)
Marjorie Ellen Aldrich (1939-)

Children of James Johnston & Ruth Anderson

Judith “Judy” Ann Johnston (1938-)
Diane Elaine Johnston (1941-2012)

Children of Maurene Johnston & George Fischer

James Arthur Fischer (1941-)
Sally Rae Fischer (1942-1987)
Jowon Maurene Fischer (1943-)

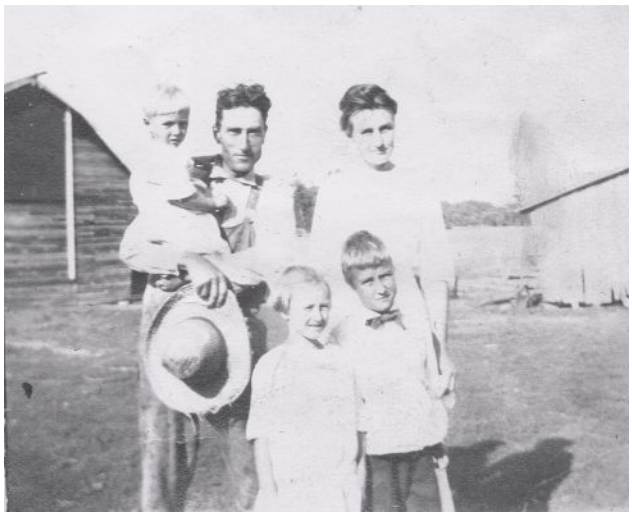
Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Johnston/Larkin Children at Emmons Area Farm, Freeborn County, ca 1912

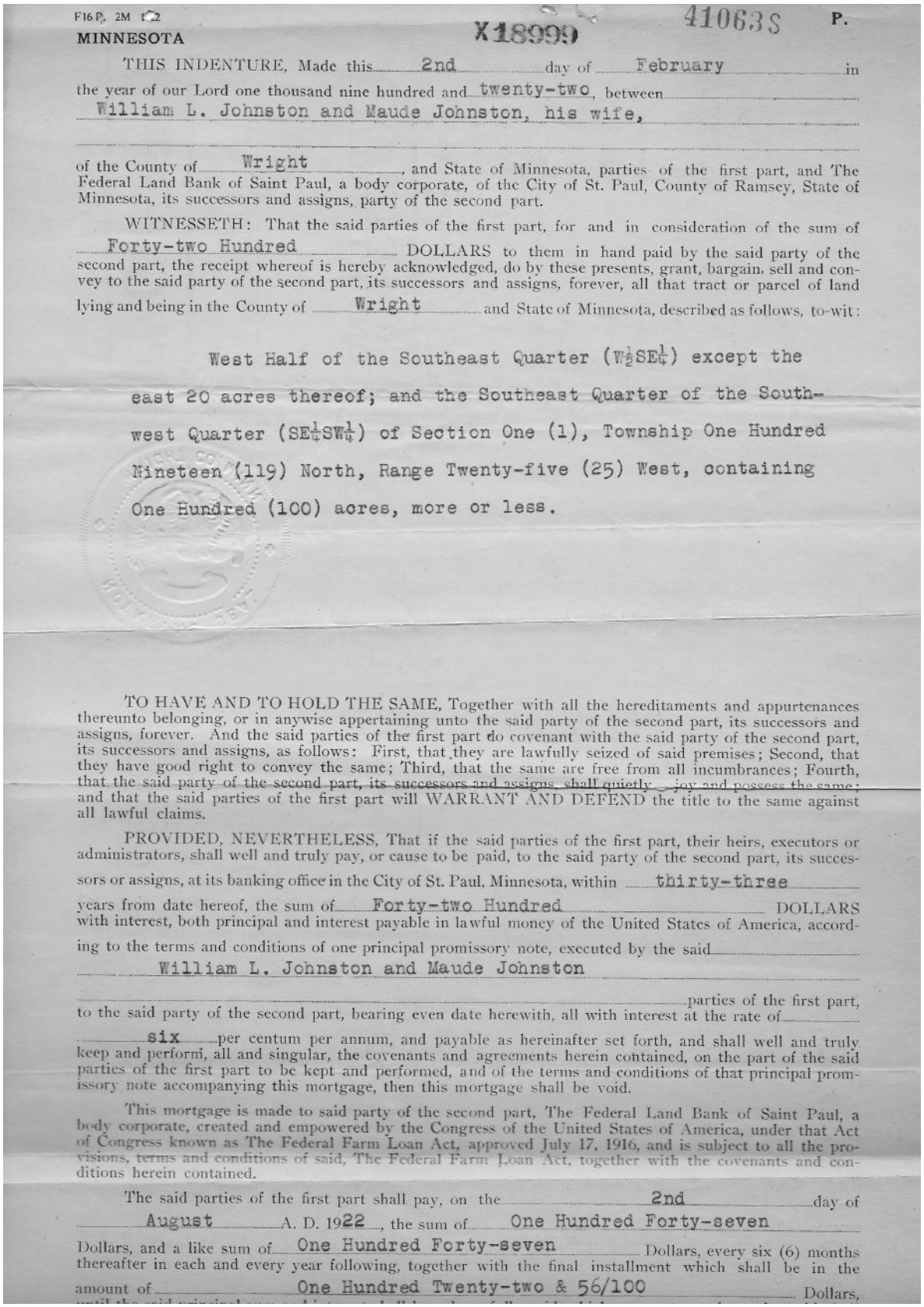


Johnston/Larkin Family at Lake Charlotte Farm, Wright County, ca 1913





Mortgage on 2nd Lake Charlotte Farm, 2 February 1922



F16 P. 2M 1-22 X18999 41063 $ P.

MINNESOTA

THIS INDENTURE, Made this 2nd day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two, between William L. Johnston and Maude Johnston, his wife,

of the County of Wright, and State of Minnesota, parties of the first part, and The Federal Land Bank of Saint Paul, a body corporate, of the City of St. Paul, County of Ramsey, State of Minnesota, its successors and assigns, party of the second part.

WITNESSETH: That the said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Forty-two Hundred DOLLARS to them in hand paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do by these presents, grant, bargain, sell and convey to the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns, forever, all that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Wright and State of Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit:

West Half of the Southeast Quarter ($W\frac{1}{2}SE\frac{1}{4}$) except the east 20 acres thereof; and the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter ($SE\frac{1}{4}SW\frac{1}{4}$) of Section One (1), Township One Hundred Nineteen (119) North, Range Twenty-five (25) West, containing One Hundred (100) acres, more or less.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAME, Together with all the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining unto the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns, forever. And the said parties of the first part do covenant with the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns, as follows: First, that they are lawfully seized of said premises; Second, that they have good right to convey the same; Third, that the same are free from all incumbrances; Fourth, that the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns, shall quietly enjoy and possess the same; and that the said parties of the first part will WARRANT AND DEFEND the title to the same against all lawful claims.

PROVIDED, NEVERTHELESS, That if the said parties of the first part, their heirs, executors or administrators, shall well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, to the said party of the second part, its successors or assigns, at its banking office in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, within thirty-three years from date hereof, the sum of Forty-two Hundred DOLLARS with interest, both principal and interest payable in lawful money of the United States of America, according to the terms and conditions of one principal promissory note, executed by the said William L. Johnston and Maude Johnston parties of the first part, to the said party of the second part, bearing even date herewith, all with interest at the rate of six per centum per annum, and payable as hereinafter set forth, and shall well and truly keep and perform, all and singular, the covenants and agreements herein contained, on the part of the said parties of the first part to be kept and performed, and of the terms and conditions of that principal promissory note accompanying this mortgage, then this mortgage shall be void.

This mortgage is made to said party of the second part, The Federal Land Bank of Saint Paul, a body corporate, created and empowered by the Congress of the United States of America, under that Act of Congress known as The Federal Farm Loan Act, approved July 17, 1916, and is subject to all the provisions, terms and conditions of said, The Federal Farm Loan Act, together with the covenants and conditions herein contained.

The said parties of the first part shall pay, on the 2nd day of August A. D. 1922, the sum of One Hundred Forty-seven Dollars, and a like sum of One Hundred Forty-seven Dollars, every six (6) months thereafter in each and every year following, together with the final installment which shall be in the amount of One Hundred Twenty-two & 56/100 Dollars,

A Good Game of Horseshoe, Crawford Lake Farm, about 1927



from left: Sons Daryl & James, Lowry, Brother-in-law Julian Palmer

A Family Occasion at Crawford Lake Farm, about 1945



from left: Darla*, Daughter Maurene Fischer/Joey**, David/Corky*, Sister-in-law Marge Bufkin/Ryon*, Sally**, Maude, Hope/Roger*, Daughter Majel Aldrich; grandchildren: * = Johnstons; ** = Fischers

Figure of Eight

2nd Generation Progenitors — Grandparents 2/2

Poston/Palmer Family

Francis Ernest Poston

Edith Belle Palmer

\+ Laura “Flora” Constance Arnebeck

Poston/Palmer Family Preview

Figure of Eight grandparents, Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881-1959) and Edith Belle Palmer (1887-1976) married in about 1910. They had become acquainted at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, while both were students there. They started their married life in his parental community of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Frank worked as the manager of the family icehouse business, which bore his mother's maiden name, McCurdy.

As well, he worked in civil construction. He directed the construction of a stretch of Minnesota Highway 72 north from Bemidji to Baudette, Minnesota, designed ingeniously in the 'corduroy road' fashion. His was the reportedly the first successful attempt to build a road through the peat bogs east of Upper Rice Lake, and is thought to still be the undergirding of the modern highway.

Their three children were all born at Thief River Falls between 1912 and 1914. At least one Winter the family spent at a lumber camp in the North, possibly associated with the road construction project. Grandmother Edith cooked for the logging crew, experiencing the challenges of WWI home-front rationing, including many failed attempts to bake bread with potato flour. Half-log 'rockers' under Baby Helen's buggy created a 'bumpy road' to produce the desired lulling effect.

By 1920, the family would be settled in Hibbing in St. Louis County. The marriage did not last long. Scandal around an extra-marital liaison of Frank's would lead to a divorce, and the local nurse involved would later become his second wife.

Grandfather Frank and Laura "Flora" would move on to Michigan and Florida and Oklahoma, as Frank pursued a career in practical civil engineering. He would be supportive to our father, Daryl, and his daughter, our mother, Helen, in various ways over the years, offering employment to the young married couple, later with financial support for farming input costs, and with home upgrades after Helen's self-death. ***Figure of Eight*** brothers, David and Cordell, both worked with his sewer installation company in Oklahoma City in the 1950s, the elder brother, David, eventually managing the company.

Grandmother Edith remained in Hibbing, working variously as town treasurer and high school matron, raising their children single-handedly. Their youngest child, Helen, would attend "the grades" at Uncle Julian Palmer's house in Blue Earth, Minnesota, where she met and eventually married, farmer's son, Daryl Johnston, nephew of "Rae" Johnston, Uncle Julian's late-life second wife. Eldest son, Robert Poston, brain-injured in his youth in a school playground accident, would die as a teenager in a car-pedestrian accident outside Father Frank's home in Tampa, Florida. Middle child, Reuben, remained home the longest, attended university, became a military officer in World War II, went on to a noteworthy career as a teacher, school administrator, college professor and dean.

Grandmother Edith, born and raised and living in Minnesota all her life, eventually relocated to a senior's residence in Kenosha, Wisconsin, near the home of her surviving child Reuben and his family. Her floor-length grey hair, her ever-present twinkly-eyed smile, and the annual box of personalized Christmas gifts endeared her to her grandchildren, the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (rev. 15 Jul 2016)

ancestry



Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston

BIRTH 8 JUL 1881 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
DEATH 16 JAN 1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
maternal grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
8 Jul 1881 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota

Age 14 — **Residence**
1895 • Prairie View, Wilkin, Minnesota

Age 19 — **Residence**
1900 • Barnesville, Clay, Minnesota

Age 23 — **Residence**
14 Jun 1905 • North, Red Lake, Minnesota
still with parents on the farm; eldest, with seven sibs (5 - 21)

Age 25 — **Residence**
1906 - 1909 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
US City Directories; addresses at 1623 Taylor and 784 Simpson, shared with siblings Sidona and Bertha while all were Hamline U. students

Age 27 — **Residence**
1908 • Saint Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
entry in "The Liner" re: Hamline Univ. Prep. Class, along w. sibs Sidona & Bertha, as well as future bride Edith Palmer

Age 29 — **Residence**
1910-1917 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
ref: US City Directories; involved in ice business, road construction; children born here

Age 29 — **Marriage**
abt 1910 • Minnesota
met at Hamline University in St. Paul, where Frank was a track star

Edith Belle Palmer (1887–1976)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1911 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
manager of McCurdy Ice Co., where Bro George is employee and also resides with Frank and Edith at "end of 8th St. near River"

Age 35 — **Occupation**
Mar 1917 • Clementson, Lake of the Woods, Minnesota
family spends 3 months at a Winter lumber camp [ref: Helen's Baby Book]; possibly in relation to road building contract in the area

Age 37 — **Residence**
06 Sep 1918 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
WW I Draft Registration; married; res. at 2528 - 1st Ave.; trenching contractor; tall, medium build, brown eyes, black hair

Age 37 — **Death of Brother George**
15 Oct 1918 • France
WWI casualty

Family

Parents

Silas Marion Poston 1854–1938

Rachel McCurdy 1860–1947

Spouse & Children

Edith Belle Palmer 1887–1976

Robert Harrison Poston
1912–1928

Reuben Roger Poston Dr.
1913–1976

Helen Frances Poston 1914–1948

Spouse

Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck
1898–1980

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1900 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1940 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Michigan, Marriage Records, 1867-1952

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980

Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980

U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900

U.S. City Directories

U.S. City Directories

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. School Yearbooks

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Web: Oklahoma, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918

Age 38 — **Residence**
12 Jan 1920 • Stuntz Township, Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
ditching contractor; w. spouse and three children (5 - 8)

Age 41 — **Divorce**
abt 1922 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
family lore says local nurse, Laura Arnebeck, is correspondent in the marriage break-up

 **Edith Belle Palmer** (1887–1976)

Age 41 — **Marriage**
29 Apr 1923 • Royal Oak, Oakland, Michigan
bride is previous mistress from Hibbing, listed as 'nurse from Duluth'; Half-brother Henry Arnebeck is 'Father' in marriage record; officiant W.F. Hetzel; witnesses Fred C. & Miss L.C. Steurer of Royal Oak; Film #2342757, Dig. Folder #4210120, Image #16

 **Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck** (1898–1980)

Age 43 — **Residence**
1924 • Royal Oak, Oakland, Michigan
US City Directories: resident on Breckenridge Ave.; listed as 'excavation contractor'

Age 44 — **Residence**
1925 -1929 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida
dates estimated; brain-damaged eldest child, Robert, dies in a car accident here 1928

Age 47 — **Death of Son Robert**
1928 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida
in a car-pedestrian accident - details vary in family lore

Age 49 — **Residence**
1930-1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
US City Directories; w. Wife Flora/Laura from 1932 at 3308 NW 14th); variously shown as a watchman (Oil Equip. Mfct.), cement worker, excavator; from 1952, listed as 'Sewer Contractor'; by 1957 as Frank Poston Construction Co.

Age 57 — **Death of Father Silas**
15 Nov 1938 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

Age 58 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
US Census confirms address at 3308 14th NW; shown as 'factory watchman'; with Wife Flora

Age 66 — **Death of Mother Rachel**
11 Oct 1947 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

Age 66 — **Death of Daughter Helen**
31 Jan 1948 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
self-death

Age 70 — **Death of Sister Bertha**
10 Apr 1952 • Carlton County, Minnesota
of cancer

Age 77 — **Death**
16 Jan 1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
of metastasized prostate cancer; burial Memorial Park Cemetery

Siblings of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston

Bertha Mae Poston (1883-1952)

Bertha remained single. She attended Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, along with Frank and Sister Sidona. She achieved a 5-year degree, possibly in social work, and there is a possible record of her working as such in 1920 in Maine. The 1940 Census reports her as a 'chicken rancher' in Pine County, Minnesota.

Sidona Poston (1885-1968)

Sidona was also unmarried. After university, she returned to their hometown as a teacher. She remained there, interrupted only briefly for a stint at a St Paul school, sometimes living in the parental home, until retirement. Subsequently, she became secretary and eventual shareholder with Frank's construction companies. After her brother's death, she moved in with Sister Mattie in Oregon.

George Silas Poston (1887-1918)

George shared work experiences with his brother and, for a time during Frank's first marriage, a home. While a messenger-carrier with the troops in France during WWI, he was killed by shrapnel. The several months that he was reported only as 'missing' will have been a stressful time for the family at home. In due course, Mother Rachel would take advantage of a travel grant program for grieving mothers to visit his gravesite.

Claude Roland Poston (1890-1990) m. Frances "Fanny" Scovell (1896-1990)

Claude was a blue-eyed, brown-haired version of his older brothers. At the time of WWI registration he was farming on his own in near-by Cass County. Accumulating a year of university, he eventually became a public accountant at Moose Lake in Pine County, Minnesota. Claude had one or two post-retirement employments, including artificial insemination agent for dairy herds. The couple remained childless.

Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston (1894-1976) m. Arthur John Balz (1886-1953)

Mattie became a degree social worker. In her 30s, she married a fellow lodger at her Chicago boarding house. Arthur was a divorced labourer *cum* dance school manager, the son of German immigrants. They returned to Minnesota where they had one daughter, Sidona, named after her aunt. Mattie and Sister Sidona eventually co-habited in Oregon.

Richard Golden Poston (1896-1991) m. Ina Johanna Torma (1901-1993)

Richard, named after grandfather and an uncle, would follow brother Frank to St. Louis County, where he spent his life associated with the mining Industry, working variously as teamster, trucking company owner/manager, equipment operator, and, eventually, mining administrator. He and Ina lived near Frank's first wife, our grandmother Edith, in Hibbing, shoveled snow from her sidewalks. The children, Ernest and Ruth, would be good friends to their cousins.

Mary Elizabeth Poston (1900-1965) m. Arvid R Mattson (1901-1988)

The youngest sibling, Mary, attained three years of university. She married Swedish-descendant, Arvid, and they relocated to Oregon, where he worked as an equipment operator and mechanic in the logging industry. Their two children, Patricia and Arvid, were of an age with Uncle Frank's eldest grandchild, Hope, of the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

1st Cousins of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston

Children of Father Silas's Siblings

Children of Uncle Ashford Poston & Effie Davis

Maude Annette Poston (1878-1922)

*Children of Aunt Lucinda Poston & *John Koller*

Mary Koller (1869-)
Julia Koller (1872-) George Koller (1875-)

Children of Aunt Linda Poston & John McCurdy

Mathilda “Mattie” McCurdy (1881-1942)
Myrtle Belle McCurdy (1882-1967)
Jesse Claude McCurdy (1884-1888)
Norma Hazel Rene McCurdy (1889-1959)

Children of Uncle Jerry Poston & Mary Jaax

Florence Gertrude Poston (1898-1946)
John Matthew Poston (1899-1949)

Children of Uncle Richard Poston & Lucy Rioux

Uriah “Uri” L Poston (1885-1965)
Iva Irene D Poston (1887-1975)
John Earl Poston (1888-1915)
Herbert Lesley Poston (1893-1968)
Howard Joseph Poston (1899-1980)

Children of Uncle John Poston & Gertrude Jaax

Ethel Madeline Poston (1890-1961)

Children of Aunt Mary Poston & John Wiltse

Blanche Wiltse (1887-)
Guy Elmer Wiltse (1889-)
Ralph A Wiltse (1892-)
John Stanley Wiltse (1894-)

Children of Aunt Emma Poston & Curtis Lindley

Adele F Lindley (1909-)

Children of Mother Rachel’s Siblings

Children of Uncle John McCurdy & Linda Poston

Mathilda “Mattie” McCurdy (1881-1942)
Myrtle Belle McCurdy (1882-1967)
Jesse Claude McCurdy (1884-1888)
Norma Hazel Rene McCurdy (1889-1959)

Children of Uncle Matthew McCurdy & Louisa Ramph

Elisabeth “Lizzie” McCurdy (1880-1966)
Mary McCurdy (1881-1881)
Eva McCurdy (1882-1965)
(Clinton) Edwin McCurdy (1884-1947)
Mable Maud McCurdy (1889-1930)
Cora Willeta McCurdy (1895-1967)
Harry McCurdy (1899-1917)

Narrative: *“Persona Non-grata”*

I met Edith when my sister's, Bertha and Sidona, and I were students at Hamline University in St. Paul. We were all members of the ‘preparatory class’ of 1908, and Palmer and Poston are pretty close together in the alphabet. So, proximity, not to mention her striking beauty, made it easy to start a relationship. She was also a sorority sister to both of my sisters. We were all rural folk – ‘fish out of water’, so to speak, amongst all the seemingly more sophisticated urbanites. I always had an eye for the girls, and

being a track star led me to think that I was in demand and that emboldened me I suppose. Being that bit older, 27 at the time, and eager to get on with my life, I had more than just flirtation in mind.

By 1910, we were married, university was behind us, and we were back in my hometown of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, immersed in the work world. As farm folk, and physically well-built to boot, my brothers and I knew what work was. As the eldest in a family of eight I had learned early to be a take-charge kind of guy. We started McCurdy Ice Company, harvesting two-hundred pound blocks of ice from the river in the Winter, storing it in a big warehouse packed in sawdust to keep it frozen, and then delivering it for customers' ice boxes to keep their food cold in the Summer.

Edith and I had our children in TRF, at the end of 8th Street near the river. Brother George lived with us, and was my right-hand man in the ice company. The Great War first took brother George away from the business, and then took his life. I didn't have the heart to keep the business that we had built together going after that. In any case, I could see that the coming of electricity would soon put paid to the demand for ice, and we had already begun to move on to other things.

I did some trenching contracting, and even took on a contract for a major road construction project up North. My idea for that job required us to have a supply of logs for a corduroy roadbed. That was trying living in a lumber camp in the Winter in the Great Northwoods, especially for the cook, but it was a good Winter for Edith and the kids and I, being close together as a family. And we certainly learned a lot!

One thing I had *not* learned, sadly, was to keep my 'eye for the girls' focused on the one I was married to. It wasn't long after our relocation to Hibbing, that I got entangled with a local nurse, still young and slim and with her Scandinavian good looks. I guess my mid-life crisis had set in, and I was restless. I didn't mean for a marriage breakup to happen, really! I thought I was just chasing a bit of skirt on the side, but I guess Laura thought she was procuring a husband. First thing I knew, she was charging things in my name in the local shops. I think Edith was the last to know, informed, it seems, by the gossip amongst the ladies at her church. It got messy, of course, as these things do — even including a couple of arrests. In the end, I had little choice but to leave town. There was a point when I asked Edith to take me back, but she wasn't having any of that. I had become a *persona non-grata* anywhere in Minnesota, as far as my family were concerned.

Laura and I were married in Michigan, with her mother present and her half-brother, Henry, standing in as 'Father'. We found work there and stayed a year or two before moving on. One thing led to another, and we spent the best part of five years in Florida trying to establish a new life in a new place. The second big mistake of my life, adding insult to my family's injury, was failing to keep our Robert safe from harm the Summer he came to live and work with us in Tampa.

Only my dear Helen, our youngest, kept in touch with me. Once we were relocated to Oklahoma City, where I became quite successful in the trenching business installing septic lines for the City, she and her husband accepted a job on a trial basis with my company. They brought my darling granddaughter, and lived in an apartment just down the street. I immediately liked Daryl. He provided an intellectual stimulation that was sorely lacking in my life. But city life was not for him — no surprise there! — and they returned to his first love — farming — just in time for the birth of my second grandchild, their first son, David. I supported them from a distance by sending money whenever they got up their courage to ask, especially after Daryl lost his father and they were having a real struggle of it. Some would call it 'guilt money', but I really did my best to help out, to make a difference. In the end, we lost Helen, too. The last cheque I sent — too late! — was to put plumbing in the house to help them cope with eight children.

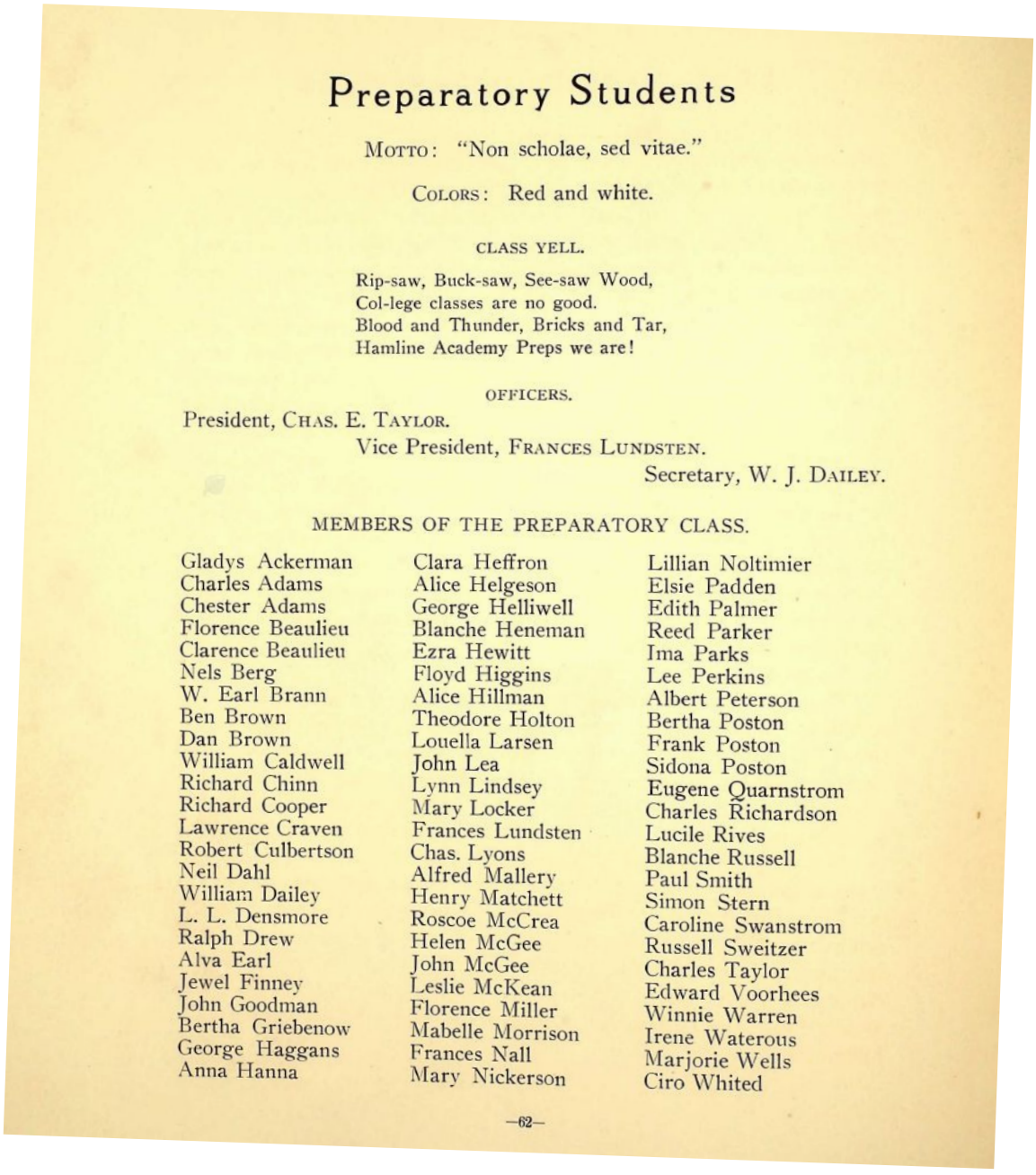
Daryl and I still correspond. Our letters are about politics and economics and religion. I send magazine articles that I think will interest him. I suppose that I will never be much more a part of that family's life than I am now, although I can hope that someday one or more of the children will choose to come here to get to know me.

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston, 1948, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, Oklahoma [as imagined by Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 24 Nov 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Hamline University Yearbook, St Paul, Minnesota, 1908

Note Frank Poston with Sisters Bertha and Sidona, as well as future wife Edith Palmer . . .



Preparatory Students

MOTTO: "Non scholae, sed vitae."

COLORS: Red and white.

CLASS YELL.

Rip-saw, Buck-saw, See-saw Wood,
Col-lege classes are no good.
Blood and Thunder, Bricks and Tar,
Hamline Academy Preps we are!

OFFICERS.

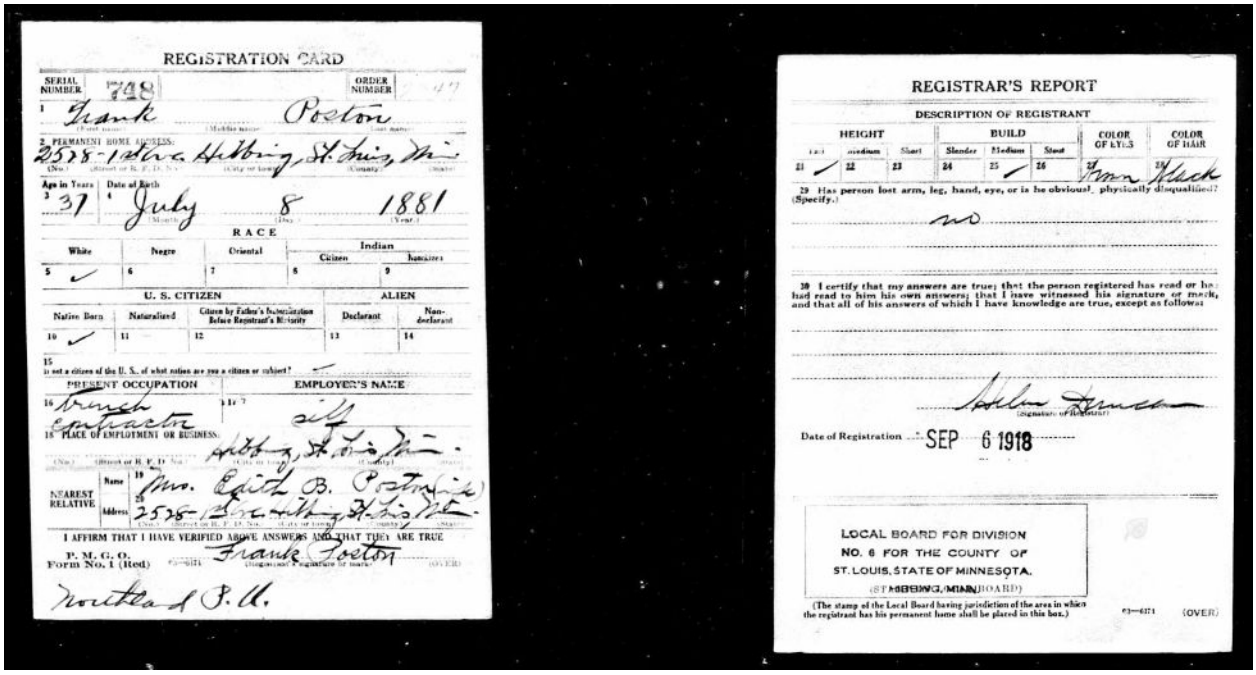
President, CHAS. E. TAYLOR.
Vice President, FRANCES LUNDSTEN.
Secretary, W. J. DAILEY.

MEMBERS OF THE PREPARATORY CLASS.

Gladys Ackerman
Charles Adams
Chester Adams
Florence Beaulieu
Clarence Beaulieu
Nels Berg
W. Earl Brann
Ben Brown
Dan Brown
William Caldwell
Richard Chinn
Richard Cooper
Lawrence Craven
Robert Culbertson
Neil Dahl
William Dailey
L. L. Densmore
Ralph Drew
Alva Earl
Jewel Finney
John Goodman
Bertha Griebenow
George Haggans
Anna Hanna
Clara Heffron
Alice Helgeson
George Helliwell
Blanche Heneman
Ezra Hewitt
Floyd Higgins
Alice Hillman
Theodore Holton
Louella Larsen
John Lea
Lynn Lindsey
Mary Locker
Frances Lundsten
Chas. Lyons
Alfred Mallery
Henry Matchett
Roscoe McCrea
Helen McGee
John McGee
Leslie McKean
Florence Miller
Mabelle Morrison
Frances Nall
Mary Nickerson
Lillian Noltimier
Elsie Padden
Edith Palmer
Reed Parker
Ima Parks
Lee Perkins
Albert Peterson
Bertha Poston
Frank Poston
Sidona Poston
Eugene Quarnstrom
Charles Richardson
Lucile Rives
Blanche Russell
Paul Smith
Simon Stern
Caroline Swanstrom
Russell Sweitzer
Charles Taylor
Edward Voorhees
Winnie Warren
Irene Waterous
Marjorie Wells
Ciro Whited

—62—

WW I Draft Registration, 6 September 1918



REGISTRATION CARD

SERIAL NUMBER 748 ORDER NUMBER 477

1 Frank Poston

2 PERMANENT HOME ADDRESS: 2538 - 1st Ave. Hibbing, St. Louis, Minn.

3 Age in Years 37 4 Date of Birth July 8 1881

RACE

White	Negro	Oriental	Indian	
			Citizen	Indian
5 ✓	6	7	8	9

U. S. CITIZEN — ALIEN

Native Born	Naturalized	Citizen by Father's Naturalization Before Registrant's Majority	Declarant	Non-declarant
10 ✓	11	12	13	14

15 If not a citizen of the U. S., of what nation are you a citizen or subject? —

PRESENT OCCUPATION: 16 Trench contractor — EMPLOYER'S NAME: 17 self

17 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS: Hibbing, St. Louis, Minn.

NEAREST RELATIVE: 19 Name Mrs. Edith B. Poston — 20 Address 2538 - 1st Ave. Hibbing St. Louis Minn.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE

Frank Poston

P. M. G. O. Form No. 1 (Red)

Months of S. U.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT

DESCRIPTION OF REGISTRANT

HEIGHT			BUILD			COLOR OF EYES	COLOR OF HAIR
Tall	Medium	Short	Slender	Medium	Stout		
21 ✓	22	23	24	25 ✓	26	27 Gray	28 Black

29 Has person lost arm, leg, hand, eye, or is he obviously physically disqualified? (Specify.) no

30 I certify that my answers are true; that the person registered has read or he had read to him his own answers; that I have witnessed his signature or mark, and that all of his answers of which I have knowledge are true, except as follows:

Date of Registration SEP 6 1918

LOCAL BOARD FOR DIVISION NO. 6 FOR THE COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, STATE OF MINNESOTA. (ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD)

(The stamp of the Local Board having jurisdiction of the area in which the registrant has his permanent home shall be placed in this box.)

(OVER)

My Memories of Grandpa Frank Poston

Early History

During the three years that we were to work together, Grandpa Frank shared many stories with me about his life. He shared about his life with his brothers and the workings of the family business in Northern Minnesota.

When the Poston family lived near Thief River Falls, the contractor who was supposed to fill the city ice house defaulted on the contract. With only weeks left before ice melt and a nearly empty ice house, Frank's father contracted to fill the ice house. The family filled the ice house in two weeks, normally a task that took larger crews three months to accomplish. They invented new tools and processes and worked three shifts a day using electric lighting. Within two more years the Poston family contracted and filled all the ice houses up and down the Red River and surrounding communities. Most ice houses were filled in one week. They built enough special tools and hired enough people so that they could fill ice houses in three or four cities simultaneously. Frank took over the ice business in the Thief River Falls area and in the summer they delivered the ice.

Later, Frank got into the construction business and took on a failed contract to build a road across the muskeg swamp east of Red Lake North to Baudette (today's route MN72). The previous contractor had moved dirt for two years out into the swamp and bog. They would work till frost and come back in the spring to find most of the previous years work had sunk out of sight. They defaulted and walked away from the contract. Frank had read about the wooden pilings holding up Amsterdam and other Dutch lowland cities these past 1000 years or so. He contracted for all the timber ½ mile on either side of the road (spruce and tamarack). He got a crew together in the winter and harvested all the timber and moved the logs to the sides of the roadway. The next spring they layered the timber on the road bed and covered it with 6 inches of soil. Then another layer of logs and more soil and so on until the road bed quit sinking. This method proved feasible and a stable road bed was established across the muskeg swamp. All the dirt was moved with a team of horses and a man walking behind guiding a metal scope containing about 1/3 yard of dirt. The corduroy roadbed was just over 30 miles long and worked from both ends. As the two

pieces met in the center each team and driver had to walk 30 miles round trip each day to deliver 1/3 yard of fill. Over 100 teams were used at each end as the project neared completion. This road bed is the foundation underlying the asphalt road MN 72 still in use today. Frank was extremely proud of this accomplishment.

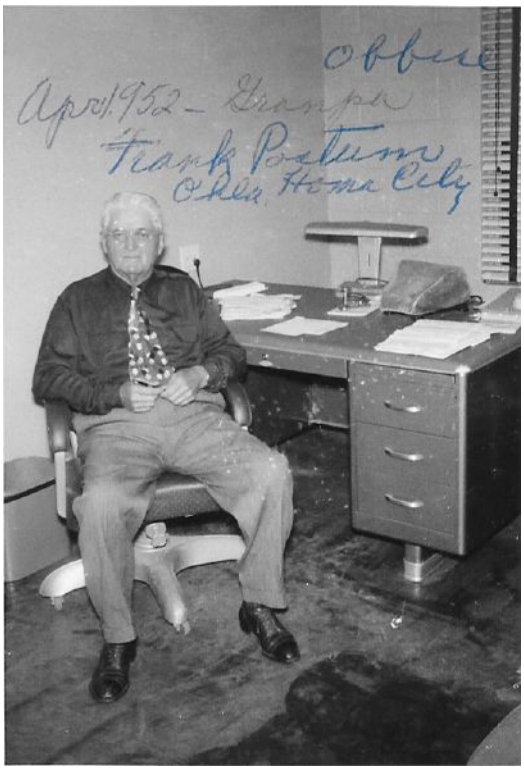
Personal Experience

My first memory of my grandfather Frank was when he attended my mother Helen Poston Johnston's funeral in 1948. He already had a head of snow white hair, but he had a strong, well-muscled frame. He was quick with a smile and spent some time talking with me about my farm life. He made a favorable impression on me.

The Summer of 1952 (I was 16), my sister, Darla, and I were invited to go see Grandpa Frank. I don't know the details of the financial arrangements, but I suspect Grandpa Frank pressured Father to let us make the trip and paid for the Greyhound tickets. I believe it was a two-week trip. We spent 30 hours on the bus. He took me to several job sites during our stay and introduced me to the foreman, machine operator, and the workers in the trenches. He made me feel very special.

The next time I heard from Grandpa Frank was after my discharge from the Marine Corps. My wife, Joyce, and I had moved to the Minnesota farm in late January of 1957 for a short time until I could find work. He asked me if I would be interested to move to Oklahoma City to become part of his business. I accepted, and by mid-May we were packed up on our way to Oklahoma City to become an employee of Frank Poston Construction Company.

We spent the next three years in Oklahoma City; May of 1957 to July 1960. I started my freshman year at Oklahoma City University and Grandpa Frank immersed me in his business. He treated me as a full partner right from the beginning. We surveyed prospective job sites together, made up the bids together, he taught me the geology of the area and how to recognize the materials removed from bore holes, he had me attend all bidding meetings to learn about the competition and who were the key players in the construction business in the area. He had me survey small jobs, make up the bids for the jobs and, if we won the bid, he had me do the job using a portion of his crew.



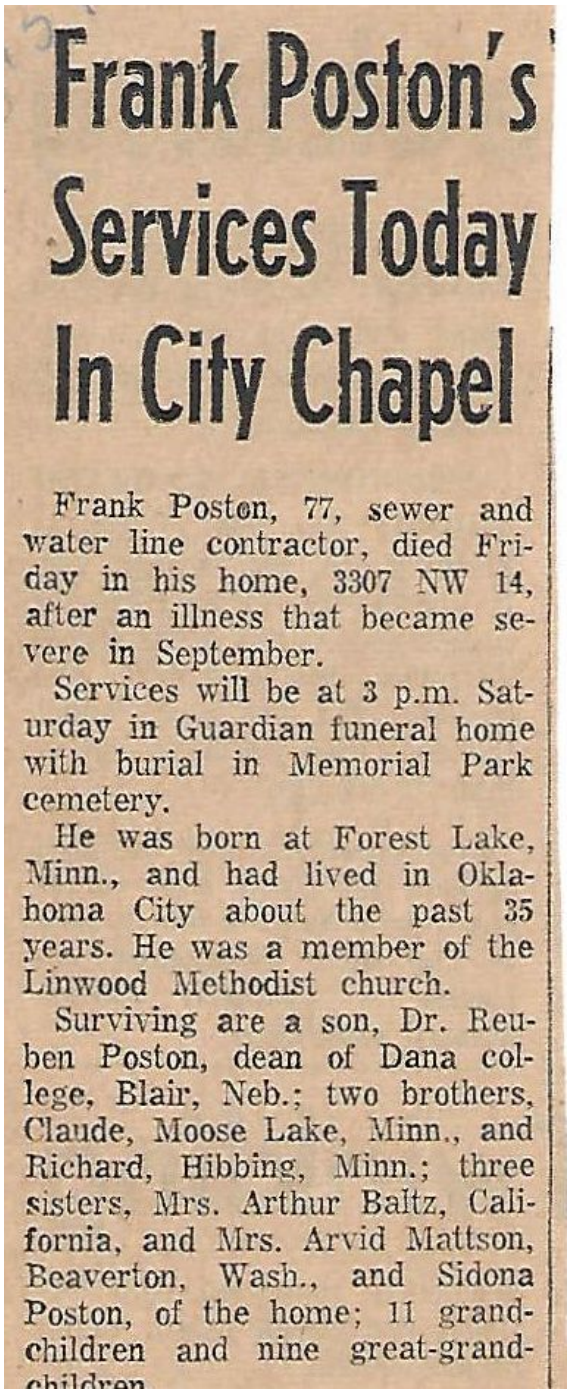
Frank Poston Construction incorporated after my arrival — Frank, his sister Sidona, myself, a retired lawyer, and a retired Certified Public Accountant were the stock holders. After Grandpa's death in 1959, the city council revoked our license to do work in the city. They had never licensed Frank Poston Construction Inc. to do work in the city, they just "allowed" us to do work based on the license Frank Poston Construction held. As soon as he died, I was unable to do any work in the city. All bids were denied because we didn't have a license.

His crew shared many things about Grandpa Frank: his horrible driving record, his fairness, his support of employees when they had special needs, his honesty, and his work ethic. Frank took great care of his employees. Some had drinking problems and their paychecks often didn't get home to their wives. He would personally deliver their paychecks to their wives and take them to the bank to deposit them. He set up bank accounts for the wives that

the husbands could not access. He paid for alcohol recovery treatment for several of them. His workers didn't have health insurance and Frank paid hospital bills for some of them that couldn't afford to pay their bills. He paid his help partial wages when work was slow to keep the crew together. He was a fair man with a big caring heart, and I learned much from him.

[by Grandson David L Johnston, 11 Mar 2012; edited by ***Ryon C Johnston***, Dec 2013]

Funeral Service Announcement



Frank Poston's Services Today In City Chapel

Frank Poston, 77, sewer and water line contractor, died Friday in his home, 3307 NW 14, after an illness that became severe in September.

Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday in Guardian funeral home with burial in Memorial Park cemetery.

He was born at Forest Lake, Minn., and had lived in Oklahoma City about the past 35 years. He was a member of the Linwood Methodist church.

Surviving are a son, Dr. Reuben Poston, dean of Dana college, Blair, Neb.; two brothers, Claude, Moose Lake, Minn., and Richard, Hibbing, Minn.; three sisters, Mrs. Arthur Baltz, California, and Mrs. Arvid Mattson, Beaverton, Wash., and Sidona Poston, of the home; 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren

horttech1 originally shared this on 06 Sep 2018

ancestry



Edith Belle Palmer

BIRTH 15 DEC 1887 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
DEATH 30 AUG 1976 • Kenosha, Kenosha, Wisconsin
maternal grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
15 Dec 1887 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota

Age 7 — **Residence**
5 Jun 1895 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
shown as (7), with parents and three Iowa-born older siblings: Fannie (19), Arthur (14), Dora (11); Father Wm. "public school teacher"

Age 12 — **Residence**
20 Jun 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
with widowed father Wm., postmaster, & several siblings; Stepbrother Julian is already a printer; at 12, she is youngest of 2nd family; Aunt Laura Requa is present as housekeeper

Age 13 — **Residence**
1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
in parental household

Age 13 — **Death of Mother Letitia**
abt 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
death before 20 Jun 1900 US Census

Age 21 — **Residence**
1908 • Saint Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
Hamline Univ. Yearbook "The Liner"; in Prep. Class, along w. future husband Frank Poston & his sibs: Bertha, Sidona

Age 22 — **Residence**
19 Apr 1910 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
at home with only Father Wm., postmaster, & Sis Dora

Age 23 — **Marriage**
abt 1910 • Minnesota
met at Hamline University in St. Paul, where Frank was a track star
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881–1959)

Family

Parents

William Harrison Palmer
1833–1925

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
1853–1900

Spouse & Children

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
1881–1959

- **Robert Harrison Poston**
  1911–1928
- **Reuben Roger Poston Dr.**
  1913–1976
- **Helen Frances Poston**
  1914–1948

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1900 United States Federal Census
- 1910 United States Federal Census
- 1920 United States Federal Census
- 1930 United States Federal Census
- 1930 United States Federal Census
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Social Security Death Index
- U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900
- U.S. City Directories
- U.S. City Directories (Beta)
- U.S. School Yearbooks
- U.S. School Yearbooks
- U.S. WWII Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947
- Web: Minnesota, Obituary Index, 1891-2003
- Wisconsin Death Index, 1959-1997

Age 24 — **Residence**
1911 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

US City Directories; address reported as "end of 8th St. near River"; Frank is Mgr. of McCurdy Ice Co., Bro. Geo. is employee, boarding with Frank and Edith

Age 24 — **Residence**
1911-1917 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

children born here; Frank in construction business and ice business; at time of Reuben's birth 1913, mother listed as 'homesteader', which she later confirms in a letter as "the claim at Thief River"

Age 29 — **Residence**
Mar 1917 • Clementson, Lake of the Woods, Minnesota

family spends 3 months at a Winter lumber camp [ref: Helen's Baby Book]; possibly in relation to husband's road building contract in the area

Age 29 — **Residence**
Sep 1917 • Baudette, Lake of the Woods, Minnesota,

receiving father's mail here

Age 30 — **Residence**
Jan 1918 • International Falls, Koochiching, Minnesota

receiving father's mail here Jan, Apr

Age 30 — **Residence**
11 Nov 1918 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota

ref: newspaper article about Son Reuben's WWII wound (see gallery)

Age 32 — **Residence**
12 Jan 1920 • Stuntz Township, Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota

with spouse and three children (5-8); Frank is listed as "ditching contractor"

Siblings of Edith Belle Palmer

Half-siblings — Children of Father William & 1st Wife, Julia Manchester

Clarissa P Palmer (1862-aft 1940) m. Dwight Hubbard Griswold (1860-1928)

Eldest half-sibling Clarissa was 10 years old when their mother Julia died. She would marry, at 23, a banker from Nebraska. Of their three college-educated children, Son Dwight would become military officer, governor of Nebraska, senator, and diplomat. After her husband's death, she lived with school teacher daughter Vera; they traveled to Europe together.

Clarence Albert Palmer (1865-1959) m. Anna M Sitzer (1873-1905); Clara Belle Baxter (1884-1966)

Clarence got his university degree, worked his lifetime in the printing industry as a proofreader. His first wife died young, leaving Son Willard, who would become a Methodist minister. He also had a daughter, Margaret, with 2nd wife Clara. They relocated mid-life from St Paul, Minnesota, to Mount Morris, Illinois.

Julian Manchester Palmer (1869-1940) m. Maude Bartlett (1876-1914); Mary Rebecca "Rae" Johnston (1873-1960)

Julian was a life-long newspaper man, for 37 years owner-publisher of the Faribault County Register at Blue Earth, Minnesota. He would bring seven-year-old son, Bruce, into his childless second marriage. His home with Rae would be shared with several relatives over the years. Notably, they would provide a home to Edith's daughter Helen *"through the grades"* after the divorce of her parents.

Full-siblings — Children of Father William & Mother Letitia Requa

Frances "Fanny" Palmer (1876-1932) m. Irven Brackett Wood (1880-1959)

Fanny lived at home with twice-widowed father William, who became one of the oldest postmasters in Minnesota. She was a school teacher until her marriage after age 30 to their Methodist Episcopalian pastor. They moved frequently with their three Minnesota-born sons, living in Wisconsin and Colorado, ultimately Wyoming, where she died and Irven remarried. Son Wilbur Palmer Wood also became a Methodist Minister.

Arthur Requa Palmer (1880-1973) m. Flora Lucas (1887-1972)

Arthur went to post-secondary school at the Metropolitan Church Home Bible School and Children's Home in Waukesha, Wisconsin, was ordained by this Methodist organization and spent his career working with them, variously as literature salesman, minister, teacher. They had two children, Arthur and Milton.

Dora E Palmer (1883-1957)

Dora received a Grade 7 education, further education being hampered by her epilepsy. She remained single, was a perpetual presence in the parental home for many years. Presumably precipitated by Father William's death in 1925, she became an 'inmate' in an epileptic institution in Cambridge, Isanti County, Minnesota, where she resided at the time of 1940 US Census, as well as at the time of her death. Family lore says that Dora spent many Summers with Sister Edith.

1st Cousins of Edith Belle Poston

Children of Father William's Siblings

Children of Uncle Phillip Palmer & Angeline Brodt

Joseph Henry Palmer (1844-1903)
Mary Jane Palmer Patterson (1847-1906)
Emmet Jacob Palmer (1858-1896)
Joachim Palmer (1859-1870)
Frances "Fanny" E Palmer (1864-1912)

Children of Aunt Elizabeth Palmer & Thomas Hosmer

William Henry Palmer (1841-1926)

Children of Uncle Horatio Palmer & Lydia Ellis

Almarion S Palmer (1842-1881)
Emeline “Emma” B Palmer (1854-1936)
Alfred J Palmer (1859-)

Children of Uncle Horatio Palmer & Emily McIntosh

Lydia Sylvia Palmer(1864-1912)

Children of Father William’s Step-siblings

Children of John McIntosh & Teressa Parker

Clarence S McIntosh (1862-1870)

Children of Emily McIntosh & Nathan Stewart

Olive Ann Stewart (1865-1905)
Charles Stewart (1869-)
Mary “Minnie” Stewart (1872-1896)

Children of Mother Lettie’s Siblings

Children of Aunt Dora Requa & Adelbert Folsom

Lloyd Truman Folsom (1884-1967)
Alice L Folsom (1894-)

Children of Aunt Eliza Requa & Harry Bussell

Blanche E Bussell (1885-)
Minar Lewis Bussell (1887-1967)
Emeline “Emily” Almeda Bussell (1891-1944)

Children of Uncle James Requa & Lottie Hutchins

Dorothy M Requa (1897-)
James Harold Requa (1899-1975)
Ronald Alexander Requa (1902-1984)
Lucinda Luana F Requa (1904-)
Charlotte H Requa (1914-)

Children of Aunt Rachel Requa & Edward Reese

Mary Margaret Reese (1909-1992)

Children of Aunt Mary Requa & Frank Miller

Frank Miller (1895-)

Children of Aunt Mary Requa & William Briggs

Rachel “Rae” Almeda Briggs (1900-1966)

Children of Uncle Alexander Requa Jr. & Rose Nielsen

Alexander Requa III (1908-1976)
Marion Requa (1910-)
Charley Requa (1912-1991)

Children of Mother Lettie’s Step-siblings

Children of Albert Perkins & Isabel Wilson

Arthur Wilson Perkins (1901-)

Children of Mary Perkins & William LaNear

Almildra E LaNear (1907-1978)
David A LaNear (1908-1994)
John LaNear (1914-1984)

Narrative: *"They Call Me 'Posty' Here"*

I was the youngest of my father's family of seven, a child of my mother Lettie, his second wife. The Palmers had moved west from New York by covered wagon, first to Ohio, and then to Wisconsin. Father's first wife, Julia, died just 10 years after they were married. I didn't know their children, my half-siblings, well. Clarissa was 25 years older than I. She was married to a bank president. One of their children went on to become governor of Nebraska during the war years. Only Julian of that first family was close. He was in the newspaper publishing business at Blue Earth. He and his second wife took in my Helen for several years after Frank left me, when I just couldn't cope. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

I met Frank at Hamline University in St. Paul. He was a big man with the sports, and with the ladies too, I guess. We had a dozen good years together. I got my three children from him. I never did understand what went wrong, but I guess it was God's will that he just couldn't stay. Frank's family were great about it — to me, though not to him! I think Richard, an administrator in the mines, was always embarrassed about his brother. After my children were grown, he used to come and shovel my walk sometimes. He and his wife, Ina, and their family were always good friends to us. Our boys were in school together. Another brother, Claude Poston, a public accountant, lived not far away.

Our Robert was brain damaged from a head injury when a swing board hit him at school. After Frank left, Robert (we always called him 'Robert'!) did his best to be my 'little man'. He found odd jobs for money, and our neighbors told me later that he sometimes went door-to-door and asked for help, extra coal and such. When he reached 16, he went off to work with his father in Florida. I didn't want to let him go. Frank promised me that he would look after him, yet he was killed by a car while crossing the street in front of their house in Tampa. My Robert!

Son Reuben stayed home the longest in our 'wee house' in Hibbing. When he wasn't off at the war, or away at university, he was always prepared to help look after me. He was the smart one, worked hard to put himself through school, got his degrees. Not that Daughter Helen wasn't smart — quite the contrary! One of my memories is of her sitting on the floor after school, back-to-back with her girlfriend, reading. She could never get enough of that. I missed having her at home during the early school years when she was with Brother Julian and his late-life second wife, Rebecca Johnston — "Rae" we called her. That's where Helen met her husband, Rae's nephew, Daryl, a young farmer from Buffalo.

Of course, we lost our Helen, with all those little children at home. My mother died when I was only 13, so I know very well what that feels like. Thank goodness that Grandmother Maude was there to step into the role for all those years. Until these last years, I made my annual visit, and I always tried to send a parcel at Christmas time. What a tragedy for that family, and what a loss for all of us — my darling little girl!

I did what I could to raise the children alone, and somehow we always managed. After Frank left us, we were still out on the farm. When we needed to go to town, there was nothing to be done for it but I had to bundle up the kids put them in the wagon, harness up the horse and start off. As if I didn't have a hard enough time of it, we had a pig that insisted on following us most of the way. I can laugh about it now, though it wasn't funny then. Things got easier after we moved to town. I found some good positions, working as the Treasurer for the Village of Stuntz, and, for some years, as the Matron at the high school. Of course, once the children were grown up and had families of their own, I had my friends, who called me 'Posty' — we always called each other by our last names. I played the piano at our church.

It seemed like Reuben and Bea and their children were always on the move: Bemidji Technical School, Blair College in Nebraska, Carthage College in Illinois, but they always kept in touch, and visited in the Summer. Now that they are just up the road here at Kenosha, one or the other of them seems to make it

in to see me almost every day, which must be hard when they are so busy, especially with Bea now being not well with her diabetes and all.

I have had a good life. I've never been one to complain. I am still 'Posty' here, and I still play the piano for our little church services, or just to sing in the evenings, and my many grandchildren and great grandchildren come to see me when they can. Just last week my Helen's youngest boy, Ryon Claude Daryl to his mother, was here with his wife, making a visit before their planned move to Canada. I suspect that they are expecting, although they didn't breathe a word of that to me. I believe I shall write them a letter today.

Edith Belle Poston, April 1978, Kenosha, Kenosha County, Wisconsin [as imagined by Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 30 Jan 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Mower County History

Image of America: Mower County, Minnesota
Author(s): Mower County Historical Society
ISBN: 9780738519920
# of Pages: 128
Publisher: Arcadia Publishing, 2002

Notes relevant to Requa/Andres, Palmer/Requa families — late 19th and early 20th centuries Mower County, Minnesota:

- See picture of Mower Co. Officials in 1891, with Alexander Requa, County Treasurer, p. 11
- Note that in 1870, the Southern Minnesota Railroad extended to Austin from La Crosse, Wisconsin (later purchased by the Milwaukee Railroad), p. 24
- See picture of the new Grand Meadow High School, 1897 where William Harrison Palmer will have taught, p. 25
- See photo before 1910 of Edith Belle Palmer with the "Brownsdale Girls", p. 26
- *"The Bussell Hotel of Grand Meadow was built by Harry and Eliza (Requa) Bussell in 1925, a thing of beauty inside and out built with fine bricks. It had spacious guest rooms, steam heat, and an applicant bath…"*, p. 53

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (11 Jan 2014)]

Hamline University Yearbook, St Paul, Minnesota, 1908

Note 'Sorority Girl' Edith Palmer, with future sister-in-Laws, Bertha & Sidona Poston, and Fraternity member, future husband Frank Poston . . .



Zaraphathian and Ingelow Societies

MOTTO: Onward and upward.
COLORS: Red and white.
FLOWER: Red carnation.

ZARAPHATHIAN ENROLLMENT:

Clarence Beaulieu
Nels Berg
Ben Brown
D. O. Brown
Richard Chinn
Lawrence Craven
Robert Culbertson
William Dailey
L. L. Densmore
Alva Earl
John Goodman
George Haggans
George Helliwell
Floyd Higgins
Theodore Holton
John Lea
Henry Matchett
Lee Perkins
Frank Poston
Eugene Quarnstrom
Charles Richardson
Russell Sweitzer
Paul Smith
Charles Taylor
Edward Voorhees
Ciro Whited

YELL:

Hulla-ba-loo! Hulla-ba-loo!
Zaraphathians! Hamline "U!"

INGELOW ENROLLMENT:

Gladys Ackerman
Florence Beaulieu
Bertha Griebenow
Anna Hanna
Clara Heffron
Alice Helgeson
Blanche Heneman
Alice Hillman
Louella Larsen
Mary Locker
Frances Lundsten
Helen McGee
Florence Miller
Mary Nickerson
Frances Nall
Lillian Noltimier
Elsie Padden
Edith Palmer
Bertha Poston
Sidona Poston
Lucile Rives
Blanche Russell
Caroline Swanstrom
Winnie Warren
Irene Waterous

YELL:

Hobble! Gobble! Razzle! Dazzle!
Ziss-bum-ba!
Ingelow! Ingelow! Rah! Rah! Rah!

—169—

Edith Poston Re-elected Stuntz Township Treasurer, 15 Mar 1929



VIII. HIBBING, MINNESOTA, FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1929.

Winners in Township Election Are Given Outstanding Majo

EDITH POSTON
Re-elected as Township Treasurer.

EDWARD POLKINGHORN
Assessor Elect

INCREASE IN MINING EMPLOYES APPLY FOR WORK

H. M. LOCKWOOD
Who was easily the victor in the Supervisorship race.

Edith Belle Palmer Poston with Daughter Helen and Son Reuben, about 1930



ancestry



Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck

BIRTH 4 APR 1898 • Vestfossen, Buskerud, Norway
DEATH 25 JUN 1980 • New York
step grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
4 Apr 1898 • Vestfossen, Buskerud, Norway
at Laura's marriage shows mother's name as Constance Olson; Soc. Sec. record says Matilda Hansen

Age 3 — **Arrival**
1901
as reported in 1930 census

Age 22 — **Residence**
1920 • Hibbing, St Louis, Minnesota
single, sharing duplex (?) with Dix couple; no occupation listed

Age 25 — **Marriage**
29 Apr 1923 • Royal Oak, Oakland, Michigan
bride is previous mistress from Hibbing, listed as 'nurse from Duluth'; Half-brother Henry Arnebeck is 'Father' in marriage record; officiant W.F. Hetzel; witnesses Fred C. & Miss L.C. Steurer of Royal Oak; Film #2342757, Dig. Folder #4210120, Image #16

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881–1959)

Age 26 — **Residence**
1924 • Royal Oak, Oakland, Michigan
res. on Breckenridge Ave.; Frank is listed as 'excavation contractor'

Age 27 — **Residence**
1925-1929 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida

Age 32 — **Residence**
1930-1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
US City Directories; w. Husband Frank; until 1952 as Flora, thereafter as Laura; during this time she becomes a naturalized citizen (Entry # 221-P, Docket 5)

Age 41 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
1940 Census confirms residence at 3308 14th

Age 60 — **Death of Husband Frank**
16 Jan 1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma

Age 61 — **Death of Sister Hilma**
23 Apr 1959 • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Oklahoma
Hilma had relocated to OK City to be near her sister

Age 82 — **Residence**
May 1980 • Jefferson, Schoharie, New York
last benefit location as shown on Social Security record: 13692

Age 82 — **Death**
25 Jun 1980 • New York
pos. rec.; burial as Flora Poston, near Husband Frank in Memorial Park Cemetery, Oklahoma City

Family

Parents

Carl Bernhard Arnebeck (Hanson)
1872–1903

Mathilda Edenstrom 1866–1899

Spouse

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
1881–1959

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1940 United States Federal Census

Michigan, Marriage Records, 1867-1952

Minnesota Naturalization Records Index, 1854-1957

Oklahoma, Naturalization Records, 1889-1991

Social Security Death Index

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Web: Oklahoma, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012

Finding Laura "Flora" Arnebeck Poston

Posted 18 Dec 2013 by horttech1

BillArnebeck Dec 08, 2015

From my point of view I completely ignore it. Or use one as an alias.

horttech1 Dec 08, 2015

OK, that's great, thanks!

But how do we reconcile the mother listed on the Marriage Cert., with the mother listed on Soc. Sec. Rec.???

BillArnebeck Dec 08, 2015

Here's what I have using the actually records:

At her marriage in 1886 Mathilde is named: "Edenstrom." At birth of Hilma in 1887, Mathilde is named: "Karlsd." At her death on April 6, 1899 in Vestfossen Mathilde is named: "Hansen," residing at Arnebak.

horttech1 Dec 07, 2015

Ancestry has finally picked-up on the marriage record that I had previously found only on the Mormon site. Interestingly, a current 'hint' for Laura/Flora shows her mother as Mathilda Hansen, not Constance Olson, as shown on the marriage record. Can you offer any further clarification?

For your interest, since we last talked, I have visited Frank and Flora's OK City residence and grave sites, and have taken some pictures.

horttech1 Jan 23, 2012

Thank you so much. This certainly seems like the right connection, right down to calling her Laura. Interesting discrepancies between your info and the marriage record in Michigan, which shows Father Henry and declares birthplace as Florence, Italy. Hopefully, we will talk again to sort this all out. Meantime, I will continue to try to build an accurate picture from what you have shared.

BillArnebeck Jan 23, 2012

The lady with the unusual name was my great aunt Laura. Henry Armback (Arnbeck, Arnebeck) was Laura's half brother. Their father was Carl Bernhard Hanson Arnebeck (etc.)Frank Poston was Laura's husband. Frank and Laura had no children and lived in Oklahoma City. Hope this helps.

horttech1 Jan 22, 2012

Someone of this unusual name, born 1898, Mother Constance Olson, Father Henry Armback was married to my Grandfather Francis Ernest Poston in Michigan in 1923. For some reason, Ancestry.com is not finding her, except in your tree. Can you please assist with more information? Thank you . . .

Ryon C Johnston originally shared this story 18 Dec 2013 recording a conversation on Ancestry.com message board after finding a reference on the Mormon website to our maternal grandfather's 2nd marriage in Michigan in 1923.

Poston/Palmer Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Frank Poston & Edith Palmer

Children of Reuben Poston & Bea Johnson

Barbara Joy Poston (1948-)
Thomas Dale (Poston) (1954-)

Children of Helen Poston & Daryl Johnston

Hope Evon Johnston (1933-)
David Lowry Johnston (1936-)
Darla Corinne Johnston (1937-)
Roger Palmer Johnston (1939-2004)
Cordell Kent Johnston (1941-2009)
Ryon Claude Johnston (1944-)
(Lillis) Beth Joy Johnston (1946-)
Suzanne Rae-Ellen Johnston (1947-)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

The Poston Children: Helen, Reuben, Robert, Hibbing, Minnesota, about 1922



Divorce Decree and Judgement, 5 Oct 1922

Clerk's Form No. 26.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, } ss.
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS }

IN DISTRICT COURT
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Edith Poston
PLAINTIFF,

Against

Frank Poston
DEFENDANT,

JUDGMENT AND DECREE

October 5th, 1922

This cause having been regularly placed upon the Calendar of the above named Court for the June, A. D. 1922, General Term thereof, came on for trial before the Court on the 8th day of August, A. D. 1922, and it appearing that the summons herein had been duly served upon the defendant above named, more than Thirty days previous to the date of said trial, and that said defendant was in default of any appearance herein whatsoever, and the court after hearing the evidence adduced at said trial and being duly advised in the premises, did on the 20th day of September, A. D. 1922, duly make and on the 29th day of September, 1922, file its findings and order for Judgment herein.

Now pursuant to said order and on motion of C. G. Anderson Attorney for Plaintiff, it is hereby adjudged and decreed, that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between said Plaintiff and Defendant be and the same are hereby dissolved, and said parties absolutely divorced from each other.

That she have the care and custody of her children namely, Robert Harrison Poston, Reuben Roger Poston and Helen Frances Poston.

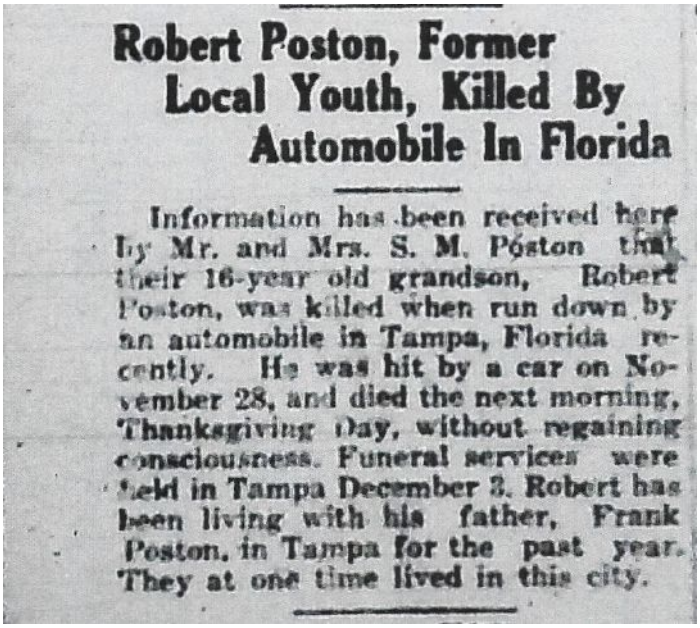
That the Plaintiff be granted as permanent alimony for the maintenance and support of her and her children the sum of Fifty Dollars ($50.00) per month, payable on the first day of each and every month, and commencing with the first day of October, 1922.

That the defendant pay the sum of Fifty Dollars ($50.00) attorney's fees to Plaintiff's attorney on or before the first day of October, 1922.

That she have her costs and disbursements herein taxed and allowed at the sum of Seventeen & 02/100 Dollars ($17.02)

WITNESS, The Honorable Edward Freeman Judge of the District Court aforesaid, at Hibbing, this 5th day of October, in the year of our Lord one Thousand nine hundred and twenty-two

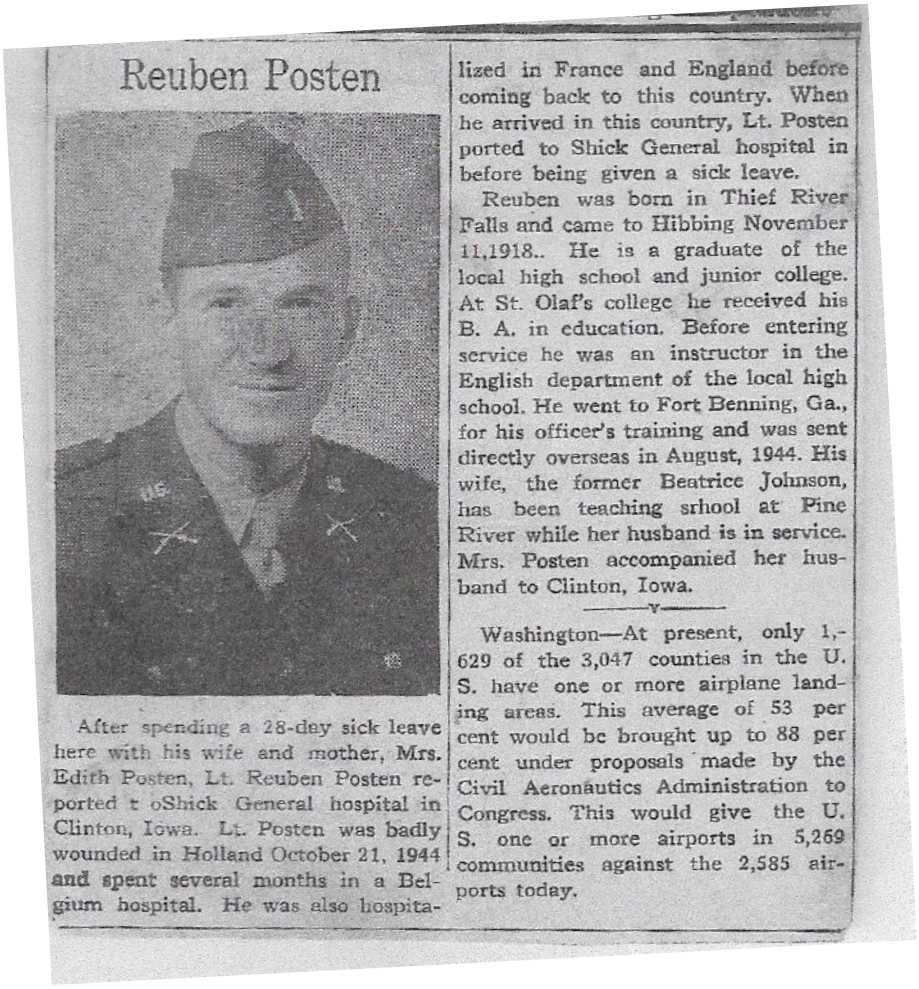
Death of Son Robert, Tampa, Florida, 29 Nov 1928



Robert Poston, Former Local Youth, Killed By Automobile In Florida

Information has been received here by Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Poston that their 16-year old grandson, Robert Poston, was killed when run down by an automobile in Tampa, Florida recently. He was hit by a car on November 28, and died the next morning, Thanksgiving Day, without regaining consciousness. Funeral services were held in Tampa December 3. Robert has been living with his father, Frank Poston, in Tampa for the past year. They at one time lived in this city.

Reuben Poston Wounded in Holland, 21 Oct 1944



Reuben Posten

After spending a 28-day sick leave here with his wife and mother, Mrs. Edith Posten, Lt. Reuben Posten reported t oShick General hospital in Clinton, Iowa. Lt. Posten was badly wounded in Holland October 21, 1944 and spent several months in a Belgium hospital. He was also hospitalized in France and England before coming back to this country. When he arrived in this country, Lt. Posten ported to Shick General hospital in before being given a sick leave.

Reuben was born in Thief River Falls and came to Hibbing November 11,1918.. He is a graduate of the local high school and junior college. At St. Olaf's college he received his B. A. in education. Before entering service he was an instructor in the English department of the local high school. He went to Fort Benning, Ga., for his officer's training and was sent directly overseas in August, 1944. His wife, the former Beatrice Johnson, has been teaching srhool at Pine River while her husband is in service. Mrs. Posten accompanied her husband to Clinton, Iowa.

Washington—At present, only 1,629 of the 3,047 counties in the U. S. have one or more airplane landing areas. This average of 53 per cent would be brought up to 88 per cent under proposals made by the Civil Aeronautics Administration to Congress. This would give the U. S. one or more airports in 5,269 communities against the 2,585 airports today.

Figure of Eight

3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents (8+)

Paternal Line

1 Johnston/Emerson Family

James Lowry Johnston

Ann Jane Emerson

2 Larkin/Ransom Family

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin

Ellen Augusta Ransom

Maternal Line

3 Poston/McCurdy Family

Silas Marion Poston

+ Emma Fullerton

Rachel McCurdy

4 Palmer/Requa Family

William Harrison Palmer

+ Julia C Manchester

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa

Presentation Sequence . . .

Family Preview (father's Surname/mother's Surname)
For each Parent (fathers, followed by mothers):
    Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
    Siblings
    1st Cousins
    Personal Narratives
    Gallery: Personal Records of Note
+ For each Step-parent (inserted by chronology of marriage date):
    Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)
Family's Grandchildren
Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Figure of Eight

3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents 1/4

Johnston/Emerson Family

James Lowry Johnston

Anne Jane Emerson

Johnston/Emerson Family Preview

Figure of Eight paternal great-grandparents, James Lowry Johnston (1844-1901) and Anne Jane Emerson (1844-1910), would have known each other as children and youth in Fermanagh County, Ulster Province, Ireland (now 'Northern Ireland'). Their parents' farms were about a mile apart, and the families likely shared involvement in the Tattykeeran Church of Ireland in Townland Coolrakelly, and in the National School, located on the Emerson/Mosgrove place across the Many Burns River in Townland Edenagilhorn. He was the youngest of five known living children. She was the fifth child of 13 — all born in their mother's Mosgrove ancestral home.

Evidence of these connections is that in 1863, upon coming of age, James travelled to the New World in the company of Anne's two eldest siblings, Margaret and John Emerson. He would proceed on to Allegheny (later to be absorbed into Pittsburg, Pennsylvania), where his own siblings, William and John Johnston, and Anne's brother, William Emerson, as well as several other 'homelanders', some of whom would become in-laws, already lived and worked.

In 1866, after the death of James' mother and at the time of the emigration of the residual family, he returned to Ireland to *"take charge of his father's farm"*. Returning in 1870, he spent a year on the elder James' farm in Delaware County, Iowa, getting to know his nephews and nieces, his sister, Anna Carrother's children, before returning to Pittsburg.

In 1872, when Anne, two years after her arrival in Minnesota with the residual Emerson family group, travelled east to visit her brother, William, James proposed to her, and they made arrangements to be married. There they tarried several years, James working at stone masonry, the off-farm trade that he had learned in Ireland. Their first child (Mary) Rebecca, our great aunt, "Rae", would be born there in 1873. By 1875, they had made the shift to Minnesota, not far from her parental family, onto previously-cleared land adjoining the farms of Anne's brother, and James' life-long friend, William Emerson, as well as James' widowed brother-in-law, William West.

The Johnston/Emerson farmstead, on a nice flat piece of land near the grid road, was protected to the north by a wooded escarpment. The family home was built into the south-facing slope in such a way as to provide ground-level entry access to each of its three stories. The one-room country school, diagonally across the road to the south, would, at times, boast as many as 18 next-generation cousins in attendance.

The family farmed a full 1/4 section (160 acres) with a variety of livestock, as was typical of a 'general farm' in the day, including a small dairy of up to 20 cows. A dozen horses carried out the work. There may have been additional, rented farm land. Daughter Dede reported in her work, *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968*), that *"over the years, several young Swedes worked for the family and learned the language."*

James, having a certain loquacity — the Irish 'gift of the gab' — would serve variously on township and school boards, as auctioneer, and, occasionally, as funeral director. As both James and Anne were members of the Church of England with Methodist leanings — their marriage in Pennsylvania was in the Methodist Episcopal Church. The realities of rural pioneer life favoured involvement in the local church, the United Brethren in the village of Mansfield. James would serve as the long-time Sunday school superintendent. At the age of only 56, he would succumb to a concussion suffered after falling from a horse-drawn carriage on nearby 'Niebuhr Hill'. His funeral, very much noted and well attended in the community, was conducted jointly by ministers from both denominations. Widowed Anne, having quite a family of, by then, grown young folks at home, managed to carry on with the farm for a time.

After eldest son, ***Figure of Eight*** grandfather (William) Lowry, set up a farm of his own after marrying the live-in school teacher, our grandmother, Maude Larkin, the home place became increasingly a burden and was sold by auction in 1908. The residual family, with half a dozen of the nine offspring still at home, moved into the town of Kiester, next door to Anne's sister, Mary Beatty. Our great-grandmother, Anne, a long-time sufferer of stomach and liver ailments and a *''semi-invalid''*, died at home in 1910.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (17 Feb 2015; rev. 29 Nov 2017)

ancestry



James Lowry Johnston

BIRTH 28 AUG 1844 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
DEATH 12 MAR 1901 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
28 Aug 1844 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
a birth record of Sep 1940 matches parental information; this may have been a brother who died as an infant (see 'Confirming Birth' story); interestingly, the 1870 US Census records in Iowa would seem to corroborate the earlier birthdate for James Lowry

Age 16 — **Death of Mother Elizabeth "Ellie"**
06 Aug 1861 • Coolrakelly, Fermanagh, Ireland
possible death record of mother under the name of Ellen

Age 19 — **Arrival**
02 Oct 1863
via Canada in the company of neighbour-friends, John & Margaret Emerson, who would subsequently become his in-laws

Age 19 — **Settles in Pennsylvania**
abt 1863 • Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
resides near other Fermanagh emigrants: Brothers William & John, and future Brother-in-Law, William Emerson; practices Irish-learned trade as stone mason

Age 22 — **Immigration of Father, Sister**
1866 • New York City, New York
immigration of Father James & Sister Susan's Family in Fall 1866

Age 22 — **Returns to Ireland**
abt 1866 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland
obituary reports that he returned for three years "to attend his father's farm"

Age 26 — **Residence**
1870 • Adams, Delaware, Iowa
briefly resident with Father James, Brother-in-Law William West, Nephew James Lowry Moore, others; listed in US Census as 'farm laborer' (birth year reported as 1840!)

Age 27 — **Returns to Pennsylvania**
abt 1871 • Pittsburg, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
resumes Irish trade as stonemason

Age 27 — **Marriage**
15 Apr 1872 • Allegheny, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
bride travels by train from Minnesota to marry previous Irish neighbour, family friend (see A Love Story); Rev. Herr, pastor of Methodist Episcopal Church officiates

Anne Jane Emerson (1844–1910)

Age 28 — **Residence**
08 Feb 1873 • Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
birth of first child, (Mary) Rebecca "Rae"

Age 31 — Occupation
1875-1901 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
farmer, funeral director, auctioneer; serves on town and school boards and is long-term Mansfield U. B. Sunday School Superintendent [ref: R. Edna Johnston, The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1970)] — see also: obituaries

Age 31 — **Relocation to Minnesota**

Family

Parents

James Johnston 1797–1885

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry 1805–1861

Spouse & Children

Anne Jane Emerson 1844–1910

- **(Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston** 1873–1960
- **Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane Johnston** 1875–1930
- **Anna Bella "Annabel" Johnston** 1876–1962
- **(William) Lowry Johnston** 1878–1939
- **John Emerson Johnston** 1880–1916
- **(Clara) Margaret "Marge" Johnston** 1882–1976
- **James Mosgrove Johnston** 1884–1917
- **(Sarah) Emily Johnston** 1887–1939
- **(Rachel) Edna "Dede" Johnston** 1888–1986

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Iowa, Select Marriages, 1809-1992

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Web: Minnesota, Obituary Index, 1891-2003

1875 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
purchases farm SW, 1/4 OF S18 T101N R23W, three miles west of Emerson parents-in-law, and next-door to brothers-in-law, William West and William Emerson; not enumerated in 1 May 1875 Mn Census, but 2nd child, Eliza, reportedly born July 1875 in Minnesota

Age 35 — **Residence**
16 Jun 1880 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota
farming; four children (1-7); Brother-in-Law William West & family nearby

Age 40 — **Death of Father James**
30 Jul 1885 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa

Age 46 — **Death of Brother John**
04 Apr 1891 • Allegheny, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
John's will, dated 30 Mar 1891 and probated 20 Apr 1891, cancels a debt owed by Brother James

Age 50 — **Residence**
14 Jun 1895 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
farming; nine children (6-22); various in-law families close by

Age 55 — **Residence**
01 Jun 1900 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
eight children at home (12-24); eldest, Rebecca, a school teacher, is away

Age 56 — **Death**
12 Mar 1901 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
at home, following a road accident, reportedly having cried a farm sale on 8 Mar; record: Batch B51995-9; Sys Origin: Mn - EASy; source film: 1315842 (p.51); home service conducted by Rev. H. D. Chambers and J. A. Bly; burial: Fairview Cemetery, Kiester

Siblings of James Lowry Johnston

John Johnston (1831-1891) m. Rebecca Fallis (1832-1880); m. * Mary Moorhead (1844-1895)

John, the eldest, married a neighbour girl, Rebecca Fallis, in 1855. They emigrated right away, presumably traveling with Sister Ann and Brother William. Their eight children were born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Indeed, John would live out his life there. He is listed in the 1880 US Census as a salesman for a soap factory. John and Rebecca's children would retain close contact with Sister Anna's in Iowa, and his will references forgiveness of money owed him by Brother James.

Anna "Annie" Johnston (1833-1919) m. Christopher W Carrothers (1828-1891)

Anna, (variously recorded as Anne, Annie), would live five years in Pittsburgh before marrying homeland neighbour Christopher in 1860. They would move immediately to Iowa where Christopher had brothers. There they would farm for the rest of their lives, bearing nine children, six of whom survived to adulthood. At various times, their home would be shared with parental family members: Nephew James Lowry Moore, Father James, Brother James Lowry's daughter Anna Bella. A double amputee, Anna spent her final years in a wheelchair, at the family farm in the care of her sons, Will and Thomas.

William Lowry (?) Johnston (1834-1871?)

Little is known about Brother William. He may have been drafted to the Civil War. His remains are buried in the family plot with Father James and Sister Susan in Silver Creek, Delaware, Iowa. Obviously, he died young, and apparently single. There is, however, a conflicting record for a matching William, a married farmer, dying one year earlier in the same town of arsenic poisoning. This could have been our William with an error in date reporting. There exists family lore suggesting that the poisoning of William and Sister Susan happened in a single incident, and that it may have been deliberate, from soup served by William's wife (see story), though official records of such an event have not been found.

*** Robert Johnston (1835-1875)**

At the same time that James Lowry's three siblings and father were living in Manchester, Iowa, there was a Robert Johnston operating a boarding house with his Irish-born (County Tyrone) Catholic wife, Mary Jane McConnell. Their seven children were born in New York, New Jersey and Iowa. While some

researchers believe that he was 'family', the only indication of relationship with James Lowry's parental family is that they knew each other, and that they are buried in the same cemetery. In 1873, prompted by James' brother-in-law, William West's intention to leave Iowa, this Robert Johnston sued him *"on account and verbal contract"*. Of course, coming as these folks were from six northern counties of Ireland (Ulster Province), the Protestant/Catholic religious divide alone might explain family disharmony.

Susan Johnston (1835-1870) m. John Moore (1835-1865); m. William West (1836-1908)

Susan had a short and difficult life. She married while still in Ireland, and bore a son there. After her husband, John Moore, died very young, she remarried in May 1866. The family of three, accompanied by Father James Johnston, arrived in New York City aboard 'The Iowa' in the Fall of 1866. She would bear two more children in Iowa before dying at age 35 of arsenic poisoning. Her infant son William died one month later of measles, and was buried next to her in the family plot. William West would relocate with surviving daughter, Elizabeth, to Minnesota in 1873, near to the Emerson Clan. He eventually remarried (twice), and lived next door to Brother-In-Law James Johnston at Mansfield before moving on to a homestead in South Dakota.

(Elizabeth?) Jane Johnston (1838-1851)

We have located a birth record for this sister, but no death record. The first name is speculative based on the fact that several siblings re-used that name for their children. Notes from R. Edna "Dede", apparently dating from her work on *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, suggest that Jane died at age 13 in Ireland, which would have been before her older siblings began to emigrate.

*** James Johnston (1840-)**

Interestingly, there is also a birth record of a James born in 1840 at Edensop, the family's post office district in Coolrakelly Townland. As this does not match the reported birthdate of James Lowry, it is possible that this child died in infancy, and that his name was 'reused' at the time of our great grandfather's birth four years later. Further obfuscating the situation, at the time enumeration in Father's Iowa household during the 1870 Census, James Lowry's birthdate was given as 1840.

Narrative: *"Two Baseball Teams!"*

Well, what can I say for myself? I am 51 years old, a father of nine, an active churchman, and an auctioneer, as well as, first-and-foremost, a farmer. I like to think that I am my own man, still successfully resisting wearing the Levi's that are all the rage.

My beloved Anne Jane is a bit ailing these days. The doctor doesn't quite know what the problem is, but what can one expect after having nine children? Some of them are quite grown up by now, and all promise to be good people. Family has always been her life. That's usually the way for women. She was one of 13 children herself, and with the exception of those several years in Pittsburgh, where I was a stonemason and our first child was born, she has always lived in the bosom of family. Even there, her brother William was one of our neighbors. Her father's house is just three miles east of our Minnesota farm, and we are surrounded by Emerson in-laws and outlaws.

Family closeness is unfamiliar to us Johnstons. First of all, there aren't as many of us, and then, too, several of us have died already. Secondly, my father never was as good a farmer, nor as good a businessman, as old Edward Emerson, so we were not as settled, not as *emplaced*, as her family was. That's a word I just learned the other day from an old neighbour lady whose husband we were preparing to bury. Another neighbour, one of the many Germans in the area, tells me that their word would be *bodenfest*. What I'm trying to say is that we didn't stay together as a family to the same extent, nor did we remain where we were planted. We had pretty much all left the 'old blighty' long before our mother died. That must have been hard for her, come to think of it. Anna and William were off to America while they were still in their 20s, and she would never see them again — nor, of course, her grandchildren. Well, only one — Sister Susan married in Fermanagh County, and little James was born there, though they didn't stay long. While oldest Brother John and his wife Rebecca also married in Ireland, their first child wasn't born until after they got to Pittsburgh. I followed soon enough after, when my friends, Anne's siblings, John and Margaret Emerson, and I crossed the 'big pond' in '63. We went first to their cousin

James Bamford's in Ontario. We had all been neighbours back home, and went to the same school and the same church. (James had changed his name to Banford when he got over here, and he explained us that those of his brothers who went to Australia had done the same thing.) When we went our separate ways, I made my way down to Pennsylvania, where several other 'homelanders' were already settled, including my brothers, my friend, Anne's brother, William Emerson, and young Beatty, who would later marry another of Anne's siblings, Sister Mary Emerson. I lived with Brother John and his wife Rebecca and their growing little tribe for a while.

My sister, Anna, and two or three of her husband Christopher Carrothers' brothers, had headed out to Iowa by that time. When, after our mother's death, our old man figured he didn't have much to stay for, and joined my sister Susan and her second husband, William West, when they traveled over with little James Lowry Moore in tow. They joined the Carrothers in Iowa. After trying again to work with the old man for a year or so on his Iowa farm, I soon high-tailed it back to Pennsylvania. Anne Jane followed me, and there we married and started a family of our own.

If you don't count Brother-in-Law William West, who now lives next door to us here with his second wife, what's left of my family is still in Iowa, including Father's brothers and their offspring. They're not very far away really, but I've got a farm to run here, and anyway we never did have much of a relationship, and for the 20 years that we have lived here, almost none at all! It is true that our Annabel did spend a couple of years with my sister Anna's family, learning millinery, but mostly we have kept ourselves to ourselves here.

So, the Emersons are my family, really, and I think our children think of them that way, too. Certainly, we couldn't have done what we have without them — carved a successful 160-acre working farm out of the woods and the prairie. Their help and their company has made all the difference. When the children go over to the 'Johnston School' just across the road, there have sometimes been as many as 18 first-cousins in the group. That's two baseball teams!

James Lowry Johnston, July 1895, Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 4 Jan 2013; rev. 14 Sep 2016]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Confirming Birth?

25 Sep 1840, Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland

There exists a birth record [PRONI microfilm MIC 583/3, baptisms 1788-1841] for a James Johnston with parents at Edenasop House; this record might document the birth of James Lowry Johnston, usually reported as 28 Aug 1844, or, plausibly, it could be the record of a previous child who died and whose name was then re-used for a subsequent sibling. No corresponding death record has been found. It is interesting to note that in the 1870 US Census for the household of James Johnston (1797-1885) in Delaware County, Iowa, a James Johnston in residence is shown as 30 years of age (i.e., born 1840).

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 30 Aug 2014

Death Announcements

'Tis our sad duty to report the death of Jas. L. Johnston, one of Mansfield's most upright pioneer residents who died suddenly Tuesday morning. The deceased had only being ailing a few hours. He was a good neighbor and a kind and loving father and husband. He leaves a wife and nine children and every resident of Mansfield to mourn the loss of his death. He was born in Ireland and moved to Minnesota in the 60's where he has resided ever since. The funeral occurred Thursday. The interment was made in the Kiester cemetery and a large funeral possession followed the remains to their last resting place.

Freeborn County Times
Albert Lea, Minnesota, p.10
15 Mar 1901 (above)

Freeborn County Times
Albert Lea, Minnesota, p.7
15 Mar 1901 (right)

INJURIES PROVE FATAL.

J. L. Johnston, of Mansfield, the Victim of a Runaway Accident.

James L. Johnston, the well known Mansfield farmer, died Tuesday morning as the result of injuries received in a runaway accident. While returning home from Alden Saturday, Mr. Johnston was thrown from his wagon at the Niebuhr hill, striking on his head on the frozen ground. When found about two hours later he was still unconscious. He was taken home, and Sunday morning was able to be around the house, but complained of severe pains in his head. Monday afternoon his condition became critical, and he died early Tuesday morning. The funeral services were conducted from the home and from the U. B. church, of Mansfield, yesterday afternoon by Rev. H. D. Chambers, of this city, and interment took place in the Kiester cemetery.

James Lowry Johnston was born August 28, 1844, in Fermanagh county, Ireland. He came to America in 1863, settling on a farm in Deleware county, Iowa. He was married in 1872 to Jane Emerson, and two years later the couple moved to Mansfield township, this county, where they have since resided. The wife and nine children survive the deceased. Mr. Johnston was a man of considerable prominence in the public affairs of his township, and was well known throughout the county. He was active also in church circles and for many years has been superintendent of the Sunday school at the U. B. church, Mansfield. His death came as a shock to the community, and the family receive the deepest sympathy of all in their bereavement.

Obituary

KIESTER.

This community was greatly shocked at learning the death of Mr. James L. Johnston, which occurred at his home in Mansfield, Tuesday, March 12th, aged 56 yrs. Mr. Johnston was one of Mansfield's old settlers, and was highly respected by all who knew him. The funeral services were held at the U. B. Church at Mansfield, conducted by Rev.'s D. L. Chambers of Albert Lea, and J. A. Bly of Kiester. A large number of relatives and friends came to pay their last respects to the deceased, which shows the esteem in which Mr. Johnston was held. The remains were laid to rest in the Kiester cemetery. Mr. Johnston leaves a wife and nine children to mourn the loss of a loving husband and kind father.

Alden Advance, Alden, Minnesota, p.4
26 Mar 1901 (above)

Alden Advance, Alden, Minnesota, p.5
26 Mar 1901 (right)

Died

Mr. James Lowry Johnston, departed this life after a very brief illness of only some 12 hours, at his home in the town of Mansfield, Freeborn county, Minn. Mr. Johnston was a native of Ireland, being born in Fermanagh county, Oct. 28, 1844, and returned to God Mar. 12, 1901.

Mr. Johnston came to America in 1863 and after remaining some three years, returned to his father land, abiding on the old homestead, having charge of his father's farm But his mind's eye was on America, and in 1870 he returned to America, locating in Delaware Co., Iowa, and after a brief stay at that place he went to Pittsburg, Pa. In 1876 he moved to Mansfield, which has been his continual home and where his family now reside.

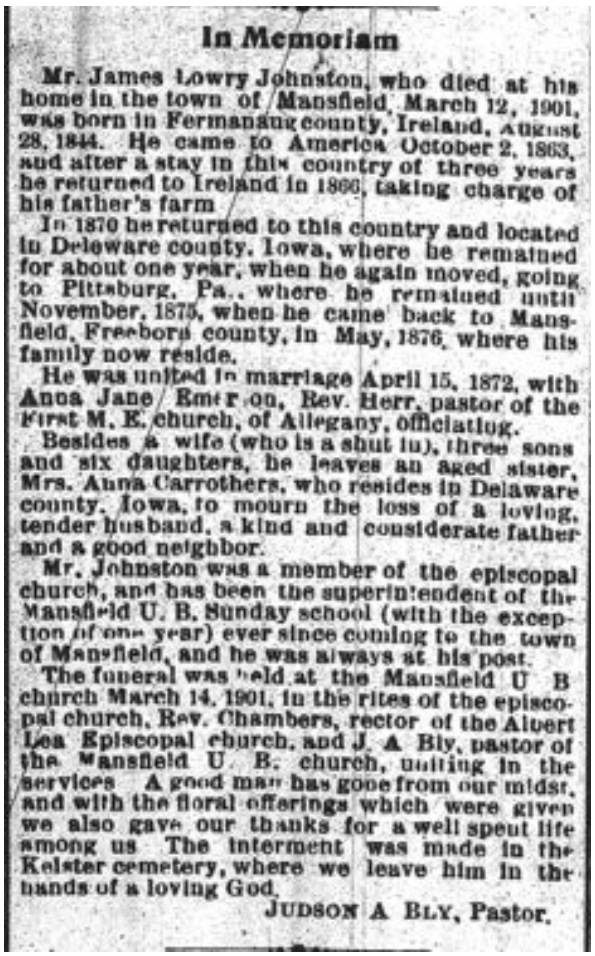
He was united in marriage to Miss Anna Jane Emerson, April 15. 1872, Rev. Herr officiating.

He leaves to mourn his death, an invalid wife, three sons, six daughters, an aged sister, Mrs. Anna Carrothers of Iowa, and a host of friends. He was a kind and loving husband, a helpful father and a good neighbor.

Mr. Johnston was a member of the Episcopal church, but because of the lack of a church of his choice, he has made the United Brethren church the one in which he has worked. He has been the Supt. of their Sunday school ever since coming to Freeborn county, and was always at his post.

The funeral was held in the Mansfield church, Rev.'s Chambers of Albert Lea and Bly officiating. A large company of friends met together to pay the last tribute of respect to the one whom they had learned to love. The interment took place at Kiester, March 14, 1901.

Death Announcements, Memorium



In Memoriam

Mr. James Lowry Johnston, who died at his home in the town of Mansfield, March 12, 1901, was born in Fermanagh county, Ireland, August 28, 1844. He came to America October 2, 1863, and after a stay in this country of three years he returned to Ireland in 1866, taking charge of his father's farm.

In 1870 he returned to this country and located in Delaware county, Iowa, where he remained for about one year, when he again moved, going to Pittsburg, Pa., where he remained until November, 1875, when he came back to Mansfield, Freeborn county, in May, 1876, where his family now reside.

He was united in marriage April 15, 1872, with Anna Jane Emerson, Rev. Herr, pastor of the First M. E. church, of Allegany, officiating.

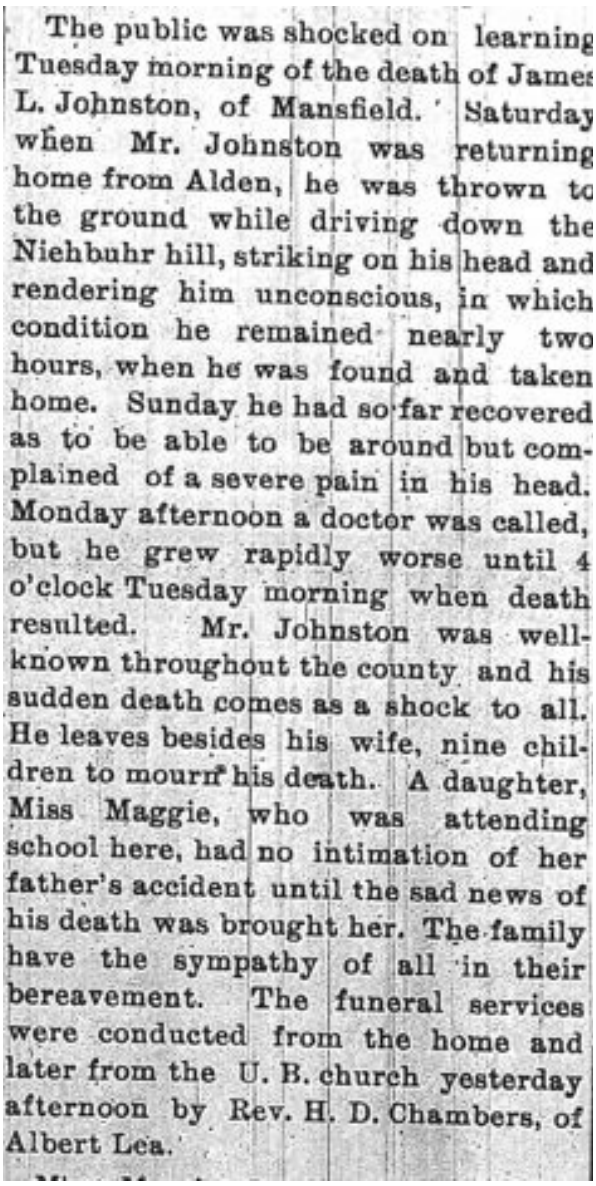
Besides a wife (who is a shut in), three sons and six daughters, he leaves an aged sister, Mrs. Anna Carrothers, who resides in Delaware county, Iowa, to mourn the loss of a loving, tender husband, a kind and considerate father and a good neighbor.

Mr. Johnston was a member of the episcopal church, and has been the superintendent of the Mansfield U. B. Sunday school (with the exception of one year) ever since coming to the town of Mansfield, and he was always at his post.

The funeral was held at the Mansfield U B church March 14, 1901, in the rites of the episcopal church, Rev. Chambers, rector of the Albert Lea Episcopal church, and J. A Bly, pastor of the Mansfield U. B. church, uniting in the services. A good man has gone from our midst, and with the floral offerings which were given we also gave our thanks for a well spent life among us. The interment was made in the Kelster cemetery, where we leave him in the hands of a loving God.

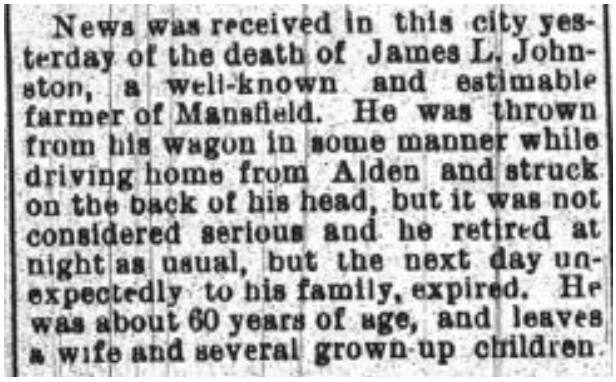
JUDSON A BLY, Pastor.

Freeborn County Standard
Albert Lea,Minnesota, p.8
27 Mar 1901



The public was shocked on learning Tuesday morning of the death of James L. Johnston, of Mansfield. Saturday when Mr. Johnston was returning home from Alden, he was thrown to the ground while driving down the Niehbuhr hill, striking on his head and rendering him unconscious, in which condition he remained nearly two hours, when he was found and taken home. Sunday he had so far recovered as to be able to be around but complained of a severe pain in his head. Monday afternoon a doctor was called, but he grew rapidly worse until 4 o'clock Tuesday morning when death resulted. Mr. Johnston was well-known throughout the county and his sudden death comes as a shock to all. He leaves besides his wife, nine children to mourn his death. A daughter, Miss Maggie, who was attending school here, had no intimation of her father's accident until the sad news of his death was brought her. The family have the sympathy of all in their bereavement. The funeral services were conducted from the home and later from the U. B. church yesterday afternoon by Rev. H. D. Chambers, of Albert Lea.

Freeborn County Times
Albert Lea, Minnesota, p.10
15 Mar 1901



News was received in this city yesterday of the death of James L. Johnston, a well-known and estimable farmer of Mansfield. He was thrown from his wagon in some manner while driving home from Alden and struck on the back of his head, but it was not considered serious and he retired at night as usual, but the next day unexpectedly to his family, expired. He was about 60 years of age, and leaves a wife and several grown-up children.

Freeborn County Standard
Albert Lea, Minnesota, p.5
13 Mar 1901

ancestry



Anne Jane Emerson

BIRTH 10 NOV 1844 • Edinagilhorn Townland, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
DEATH 31 MAR 1910 • Kiester, Faribault, Minnesota
great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
10 Nov 1844 • Edinagilhorn Townland, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
birth record in Church of Ireland (Anglican) at Tempo; she and her 12 siblings were all born in the master bedroom above the parlor in the ancestral Mosgrove home

Age 26 — **Arrival**
1870
at 25, the eldest of nine children arriving with the family group

Age 27 — **Marriage**
15 Apr 1872 • Allegheny, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
bride travels by train from Minnesota to marry previous Irish neighbour, family friend (see A Love Story); Rev. Herr, pastor of Methodist Episcopal Church officiates

James Lowry Johnston (1844–1901)

Age 29 — **Residence**
1873 • Pittsburgh, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
they about 3 years; James is a stone mason; 1st child, (Mary) Rebecca "Rae", is born here

Age 31 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
abt 1875 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
purchased 1/4 section railroad land 3 miles W of parental Emerson farm; next door to Brother William Emerson and husband's brother-in-law, William West

Age 36 — **Residence**
1880 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
farming; four children (1-7)

Age 51 — **Residence**
1895 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
farming; nine children (6-22); also boarding 24 year old farm labourer

Age 56 — **Residence**
1900 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
eight children at home (12-24); eldest, Rebecca, is away; Brother John Emerson is enumerator for this US Census — he records his sister as Jane A Johnston!

Age 56 — **Death of Husband James L**
12 Mar 1901 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
at home, three days after suffering a road accident

Age 60 — **Residence**
26 Jun 1905 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota
seven grown children still home, running the farm and working out: two are teachers, two dressmakers, one domestic; William Lowry, Mary Rebecca not present; apparently also a 22-year-old boarding farm labourer in residence

Age 62 — **Residence**
1906 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
Plat Map shows 160 acres (1/4 Section); several Emersons, Wm. West, Fred McKee continue to reside in neighbourhood

Age 64 — **Farm Sale at Auction**
1908 • Mansfield Township
family remnant removes to Kiester Village; Mother is described

Family

Parents

Edward Emerson 1809–1888

Isabella Mosgrove 1817–1910

Spouse & Children

James Lowry Johnston 1844–1901

- **(Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston** 1873–1960
- **Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane Johnston** 1875–1930
- **Anna Bella "Annabel" Johnston** 1876–1962
- **(William) Lowry Johnston** 1878–1939
- **John Emerson Johnston** 1880–1916
- **(Clara) Margaret "Marge" Johnston** 1882–1976
- **James Mosgrove Johnston** 1884–1917
- **(Sarah) Emily Johnston** 1887–1939
- **(Rachel) Edna "Dede" Johnston** 1888–1986

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Territorial and State Census, 1849-1905

U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860-1918

by Daughter R. Edna in Emerson Family Tree: 1870-1968, as 'semi-invalid'; her sister, Mary Beatty, is nearby

Age 65 — **Death**
31 Mar 1910 • Kiester, Faribault, Minnesota
at home, a!er "su"ering twenty years with stomach and liver trouble"; interment: Fairview Cemetery, Kiester; System Origin: Minnesota-EASy; Source Film #: 2118577; Ref. #: 3682

Siblings of Anne Jane Emerson

James Mosgrove Emerson (1836-1921) m. Margaret "Maggie" Graham Hazle (1844-1929)

James, the eldest, would be the first of the family to come to America. After first surviving a shipwreck and becoming staff on its replacement ship, he then worked briefly on the Great Lakes in the shipping industry. In Michigan, he met and married a Scottish girl, and started a family. They traveled by covered wagon to Minnesota, where they built a sod home, homesteading for most of a decade before moving to Alden. He would become postmaster, assessor, justice of the peace, and druggist — a trade he had apprenticed in Ireland.

Margaret "Maggie" Emerson (1838-1931) m. Thomas W "Naters" Wilson (1844-1911)

Maggie emigrated first to Canada in 1863 with her brother John, along with friend and neighbour James Lowry Johnston, who would later marry into the family. She worked as a seamstress, lived with the family of her Irish cousin, James Banford, until relocating to Minnesota in 1870, the same year that the rest of her parental family arrived directly from Ireland. She married Scottish-born Thomas Wilson, two of whose sisters would later become her sisters-in-law. While Tom was a public servant in Albert Lea, serving as treasurer, register of deeds, county commissioner, mayor, and school board trustee, Maggie boarded teachers and served noon meals at schools.

John H Emerson (1840-1932) m. Clara Linehan (1849-1896)

Upon arrival with his sister in Canada at 20 years of age, John worked for a year as a farmer and then went to find his older brother James, who was a pilot on a Lake Erie freighter. After James married in Michigan, John began work as an engineer, building bridges in several states. Eventually, both brothers would farm in Mansfield Township, the family seat after 1870. With his orphaned New Orlean's wife, Clara, he would have 10 children, like his brother before him. In 1905, at the age of 65 and widowed, John started a second homestead in North Dakota. He spent his final years with Son Robert.

William Emerson (1842-1903) m. Mary Harvey (1844-1928)

Following a pattern quite different from that of his older siblings, William emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1866, where he learned the butchering trade. There he married an Irish girl, niece of his landlady. The community of Irish 'homelanders' in the Pittsburgh area would consist of many of his neighbours from home, including his future brothers-in-law: stonemasons James Lowry Johnston and Samuel Beatty. He, too, eventually purchased a farm near the Emerson relatives in Mansfield Township, next door to Sister Anne Jane's brother-in-law, William West. William and Mary would donate land for the first United Brethren Church in the area, where their eldest daughter, Belle, staged a 'gay nineties' wedding which provided an excuse for a huge Emerson family reunion in 1894. William would be the first of the family group to pass away.

Mary Emerson (1846-1924) m. Samuel Beatty Sr. (1842-1935)

Like her sister Anne Jane, Mary would travel to Pittsburgh to marry a 'homelander', and as had Anne Jane and James, she and Sam would tarry in Pennsylvania for several years starting their family, eventually of four children. They, too, relocated to Minnesota, where, finding farming to be not to their satisfaction, Sam became postmaster, later director and president of the First National Bank in Kiester. Mary and Anne Jane were lifelong neighbours and friends.

Edward Emerson Jr. (1849-1925) m. Isabella "Bella" Wilson (1848-1933)

Edward Emerson married a Wilson sister-in-law of Sister Maggie from nearby Twin Lakes, where he continued to operate the family gristmill, run by a waterwheel. A work accident prompted them to leave that business and join Brother John in North Dakota, continuing a trend to the relocation of the Emerson

family. Edward and Bella had twin children: Frank; and Flossie, who remained single, becoming a homesteader and a locally notable taxidermist.

Isabella "Bella" Emerson (1851-1941) m. James P Newell (1837-1917)

Isabella (there would be many in the Emerson clan with this name!) married an Irishman whose teaching experience in Columbia County, Wisconsin would acquaint him with the Wilson family, later of Twin Lakes, Freeborn County, Minnesota. Through this connection this couple would meet. They relocated to Plainview, Wabasha County, where James continued to teach. Their home and beautifully landscaped yard would become a honeymoon site for a number of the Emerson clan members. Sister Maggie would spend the last 10 years of her life with widowed Bella. Bella in turn would finish her years with Daughter Helen Peabody in Duluth, St Louis County. Helen became a major collaborator with her 1st cousin (Rachel) Edna "Dede" Johnston in producing *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968).*

Robert Emerson (1853-1933) m. Mary E Wilson (1852-1923)

Robert would work at the Wilson flour mill for several years, and like two of his siblings before him, marry into the Wilson family. Later, he would join his cousin William Emerson in the drugstore business. Younger brother, Harry, would eventually become a partner. Robert was quite civic minded, becoming Elmore's first mayor and a member of the school board. He and Mary would rear three children, one of whom, Leslie, would continue his father's pharmacy and jewelry store. Another, Lynn, would become a university professor at Cornell.

Thomas A Emerson (1855-1915) m. Mary Agnes Blackmun (1868-1938)

After 'apprenticing' on his father's farm, Thomas purchased a quarter-section nearby, adjoining Sister Anne Jane and James Johnston's farm. He married the local schoolteacher, and would have three children with Mary, the eldest, curiously, named Queen Victoria in 1892. He eventually joined two of his Emerson nephews in a meat market in Elmore. He was a horseman, a passion that would cost him his life in a freak accident with a runaway team.

Samuel N Emerson (1858-1950) m. Ida Sarah Mosgrove (1869-1940)

Samuel, the *"seventh son"* did not become a *"prophet",* as he liked to tease, quoting the bible, but rather continued the original family homestead, as did his children, John and Margaret, after him. Farming was in his blood, and he never really left home, staying on with 'Grandma Isabella', eventually accruing ownership. He married a Canadian girl, who, like his mother, was nee Mosgrove, quite probably kin.

Sarah "Sadie" Emerson (1861-1949) m. Frederick McKee (1846-1934)

Sadie (also "Sayde") learned the millinery trade and worked in shops in Elmore, Alden and Albert Lea, before a late marriage to Scots-born Fred McKee. Fred brought three children, recently motherless, into the marriage. Only Stepdaughter Lillian, born 1880, would survive to become a lasting member of the new family, older sister and friend to Sarah and Fred's own child, Grayce. After farming several years, the family would move to Albert Lea, where Fred became vice president of the State Bank. Sadie spent the last 15 years of her life with her daughter at Hopkins, Minnesota.

Henry "Harry" Wilson Emerson (1864-1934) m. Katherine Viola Bunworth (1872-1962)

The youngest sibling, only six years old when the family group came to Minnesota, wanted to be a medic, though settled for pharmacy, joining Brother Robert, first in the Elmore drugstore, and later in one in Kiester. He and Katherine, of German/Irish descent, had two children: Madge, who would marry a nearby farmer of German descent; and Adelaide, who would live permanently at home. After Robert's death, Katherine, then a septuagenarian, remarried and lived on another 20 years in Anoka, Minnesota.

1st Cousins of Anne Jane Emerson

Children of Father Edward's Siblings

*Children of Uncle * John Emit Emerson & Isabella Armstrong*

* Robert Emerson (1820-1899)

* Edward Emerson (1821-1893)
* Thomas Emerson (1827-)
* James Emerson (1830-1910)

Children of Uncle William Emerson & Mary Wilson

William Emerson (1823-) — stayed in Ireland
John Emerson (1824-1917) — stayed in Ireland
James Emerson (1826-) — stayed in Irelands

Children of Aunt Margaret Emerson & James Bamford

(Jane) Susan Bamford (1828-1912) — stayed in Ireland
William Bamford (1828-1908) — stayed in Ireland
James Banford (1834-1921) — to Canada
George E Banford (1836-1907) — to Australia, then California, then Canada
John Bamford (1838-1911) — stayed in Ireland
Robert Bamford (1843-1921) — stayed in Ireland
Edward Bamford (1847-1921) — stayed in Ireland
Margaret Banford (1848-) — to Australia
Mary Bamford (1850-1930) — stayed in Ireland

Children of Uncle Robert Emerson & Aunt Ann Mosgrove

Mary Ann Emerson (1837-) — to New York
William Emerson (1838-1934) — to Australia
Jane Emerson (1838-) – to New York
James Emerson (1840-1879) — to Australia
Margaret Emerson (1844-) — to Australia
Elisabeth "Eliza" Emerson (1849-) — stayed in Ireland
Isabella Emerson (1850-) — to Australia
Edward Robert Emerson (1853-1910) — to Australia
Robert Wilson Emerson (1853-1930) — to Australia
Thomas Mosgrove Emerson (1854-1938) — stayed in Ireland

Children of Uncle Thomas Emerson & Margaret Alexander

Noble Emerson (1840-) — stayed in Ireland
Mary Jane Emerson (1849-1907) — stayed in Ireland
William Emerson (1851-1933) — to Minnesota, then Washington
Mathilda "Tillie" Jane Emerson (1855-) — stayed in Ireland
Bella Margaret Emerson (1864-1880) — stayed in Ireland

Children of Mother Isabella's Siblings

Children of Aunt Ann Mosgrove & Uncle Robert Emerson

Double-cousins, see above . . .

Narrative: "*The Little School Marm"*

I wrote to my Rae today. Just a postcard really. Rae is the eldest of our brood, and the first to leave home. Which is just nature's way, I guess. I'm not much of a writer. Most of us were lucky to get six years of school before the teachers ran out of things to teach us, being young themselves. The school was on my father's land just across the road from the house we were born in. It sat on a little triangular field where our cows grazed when we weren't in the school — and sometimes when we were! There was a kind of wrought-iron gate across the end of the field nearest the barn and we were *supposed* to keep it closed when we came and went. The Johnstons came to the same school. That's how we got to know each other, really. We only had to walk about 300 feet to get to school, but they had to come a mile up over Graham's Hill, down past the old mill, and across the Many Burns on the steppingstones to get to

school. We went to church together, too, at Tattykeeran, just past the Johnston farm.

I was the fifth of 13 children myself, all born upstairs, as I am told, in the main bedroom above the parlor (I was obviously there, but, of course, I don't remember). It was the same home where Mum had been born, and probably in the same bedroom. On the Many Burns River in Edenagilhorn Townland — that's like our 'Township' here. There were several more after me, and I do remember those births. We had a good life there, surrounded by family — Emersons and Mosgroves. Almost too many to count. But when the 'migration fever' struck and my folks decided to pack it up and follow their oldest three to the new world, *"the land of milk and honey",* as they say — well, what was I to do? A young woman of 20 and more than ready to be married. My own beau, James Johnston, family friend and classmate and what have you, was already over there somewhere waiting for me (at least I hoped he was waiting!). I certainly wasn't going to get left behind! Anyways, that was a long time ago, now.

Our Mary Rebecca, always "Rae" to me, was born in Pennsylvania, where I had gone by train two years after we made the big trip to Minnesota. Supposedly, I was going to help out my sister-in-law. Brother William, who had already been there for several years, had married an Irish girl named Mary, his landlady's niece, I think she was, and they had a new baby. Of course, I knew that my James was there close by, just across the river in Allegheny, but if my parents also knew that, they didn't let on that they did. I hadn't been there but a day or two when we were caught in quite a blizzard, and James used the excuse of not being able to go to work to wade through the snow and across the river ice to pay us a visit. That was the day that he proposed! That was 25 years ago now, and there has been no going back.

There was quite a community of Irish people in Pittsburgh, that being where most of the ships landed from Derry — Londonderry, as us Scots-Irish preferred to call it, the port of our home county of Fermanagh. So, a lot of our folks ended up in Pittsburgh: Beattys, Carrothers, Johnstons, and I don't know who all else, neighbours and friends from home. We did get back to Minnesota as soon as we could, where all my people were, even Brother William and Mary, by then. James' folks were in Iowa mostly, although by the time we got back to Minnesota, his brother-in-law, William West, had bought the farm next to William and Mary, which was also next door to where we ended up. My best friends have always been in my family. Except for James, of course.

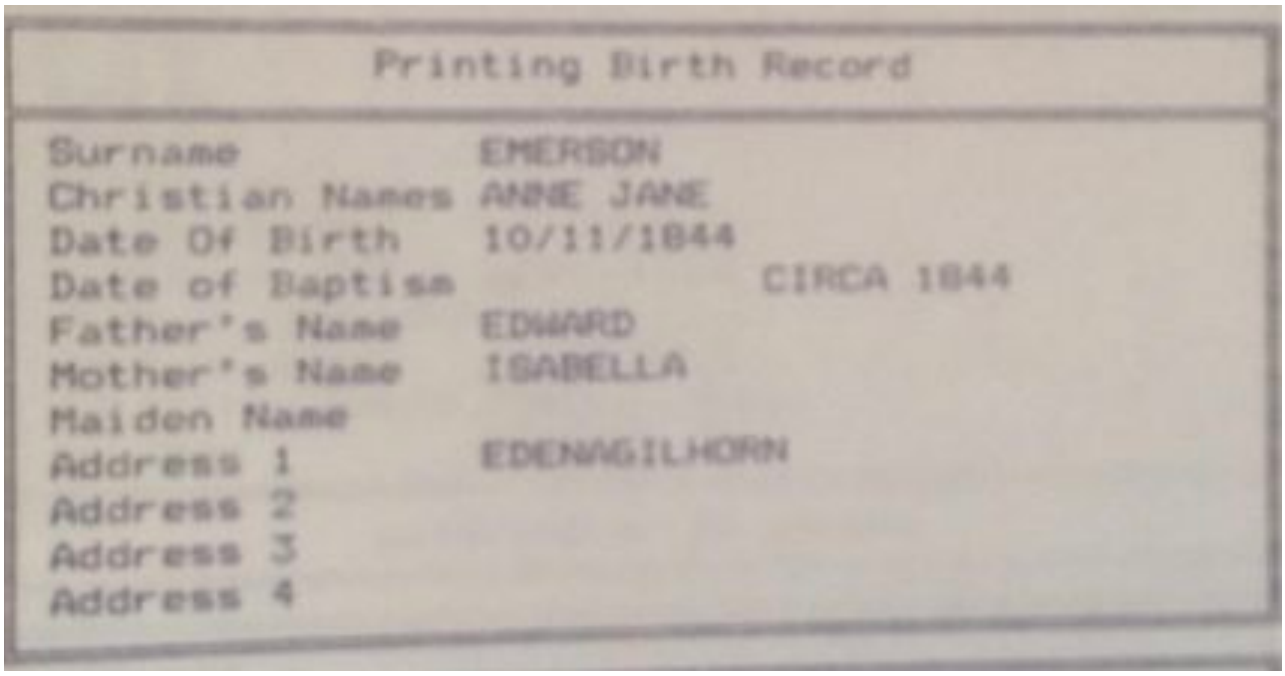


Now Rae is away teaching in a one-room school, and even if we still have eight at home, I miss her and worry about her. She really looks the part — my girl, the little school marm! So far as I know, nobody has asked for her hand yet, but you never know.

Anne Jane Emerson, 1897, Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 06 Feb 2013; rev. 29 Nov 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Birth Record from Tempo Church of Ireland



Printing Birth Record

Surname	EMERSON
Christian Names	ANNE JANE
Date Of Birth	10/11/1844
Date of Baptism	CIRCA 1844
Father's Name	EDWARD
Mother's Name	ISABELLA
Maiden Name	
Address 1	EDENAGILHORN
Address 2	
Address 3	
Address 4	

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this photo, taken 26 Oct 2010, Tempo, Fermanagh

Anne Jane and Sisters, Kiester, Minnesota, about 1908

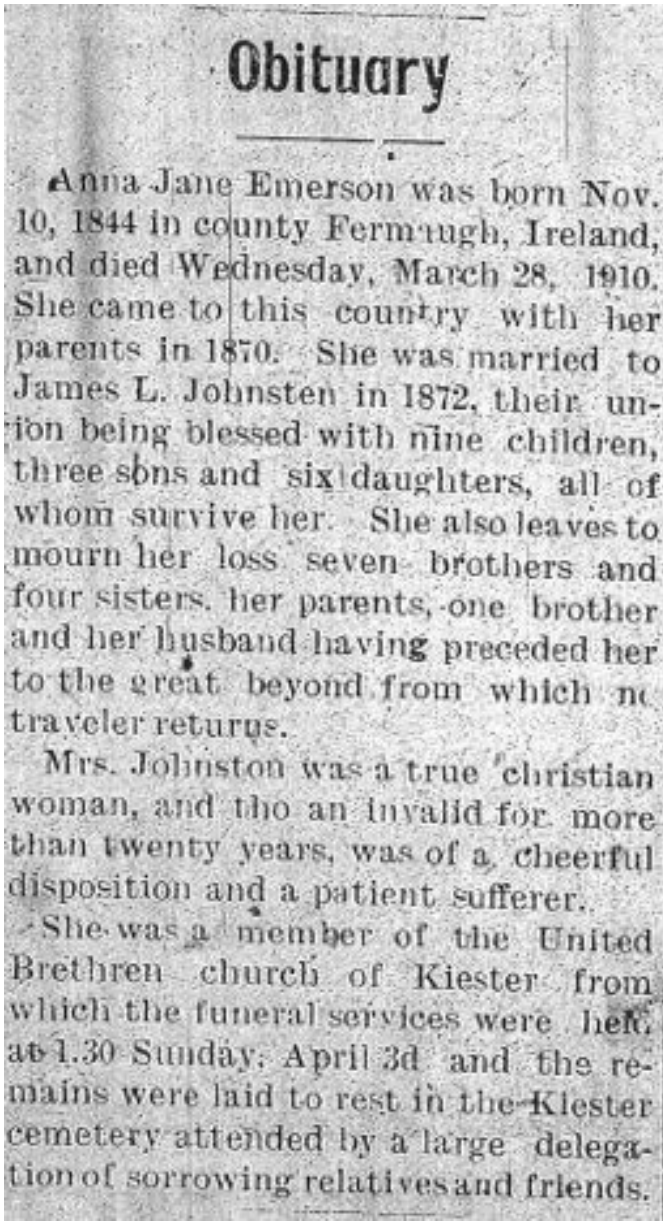


from left: Isabella Emerson Newell, Anne Jane Emerson Johnston (enlarged), Mary Emerson Beatty, Sarah Emerson McKee

Death Announcement, Obituary

Alden Advance, Alden, Minnesota, p.1
7 Apr 1910 (below)

Times-Enterprise, Albert Lea, Minnesota, p.4
13 Apr 1910 (on right)



Obituary

Anna Jane Emerson was born Nov. 10, 1844 in county Fermaugh, Ireland, and died Wednesday, March 28, 1910. She came to this country with her parents in 1870. She was married to James L. Johnsten in 1872, their union being blessed with nine children, three sons and six daughters, all of whom survive her. She also leaves to mourn her loss seven brothers and four sisters, her parents, one brother and her husband having preceded her to the great beyond from which no traveler returns.

Mrs. Johnston was a true christian woman, and tho an invalid for more than twenty years, was of a cheerful disposition and a patient sufferer.

She was a member of the United Brethren church of Kiester from which the funeral services were held at 1.30 Sunday, April 3d and the remains were laid to rest in the Kiester cemetery attended by a large delegation of sorrowing relatives and friends.



DIED — After suffering for over twenty years from a complication of diseases, Mrs. Anna Jane Johnston died at her home in Kiester Minn., March 31. 1910. She was born in Fermanagh county, Ireland Nov. 10, 1844, being 65 years 4 months and 21 days old at the time of her death. She leaves six daughters and three sons seven brothers four sisters and two grand children besides a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn her death. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. L. Williams from the U. B. church. The choir consisted of nephews and nieces of the deceased.

Mrs. Johnston was a lover of flowers while with us and when taken away her many friends showed the greatest respect and esteem by contributing floral offerings to her memory. The folowing relatives and friends from a distance were present at the funeral.

Her daughters Mrs. E. G. Bufkin of Mason City, and Mrs. E. E. Corr of Minneapolis, E. G. Bufkin, Mrs. A. E. Bufkin, Prof. G. B. Jackson Mason City, Ia., Thos. H. Carrothers Ryan, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Brundin, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Newell and daughter Helen, Fred McKee and daughter Grace, Jas. A. Emerson, Geo. McCall of Albert Lea, Mr. and Mrs. James M., Walter J. and Miss Maude Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Holway and sons Argyle and Cleon, of Alden, Minn., Mrs. O. S. Low, Northwood, Iowa, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Emerson, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. A. Emerson and Mrs. John Ingalls, Elmore Minn.

Her two brothers John H. Emerson of Bowbells N. D., and Edward of Ambrose, N. D., and a sister Mrs Fred McKee were not able to attend the funeral.

Mrs. Johnston was a very patient sufferer. During all her years of pain and trial not one word of complaint or murmuring ever passed her lips.

She was always bright and cheerful — always speaking words of encouragement and dearly loved to see others happy and enjoying themselvs especially the young.

Johnston/Emerson Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of James Johnston & Anne Jane Emerson

Step-son of Rae Johnston; Son of Julian Palmer & 1st wife, Maud Bartlett

Bruce Bartlett Palmer (1908-1973)

Children of Lowry Johnston & Maude Larkin

Daryl Russell Johnston (1905-1982)
Majel Ellen Johnston (1907-1995)
James Larkin Johnston (1910-1981)
Maurene E Johnston (1914-1966)

Children of Marge Johnston & Ed Bufkin

Dale Edwin Bufkin (1912-1989)
Vern Emerson "Pud" Bufkin (1914-1994)
Clyde Everett Bufkin (1920-1979)

Children of Emily Johnston & Ernest Corr

Ned Sanford Corr (1911-1988)
Earl Ernest Corr (1912-2001)
Dorothy Jane Corr (1917-)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

A Love Story

> *"Back in 1872, when my father, James Lowry Johnston, then a stone mason, was working in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, my mother, Anne Jane Emerson, was visiting in the home of her brother Wm. Emerson in Pittsburgh. A severe snowstorm & blizzard came on so my father could not work, so like a young lover of today – he went across [the] river to Pittsburgh – so they decided to be married that day...thus James L. did have to miss work [again] later on, at the time planned for the marriage [to] take place – April 15, 1872."*

[Excerpted by ***Ryon C Johnston***, Apr 2013, from a letter to Hope Evon Johnston, on the occasion of her wedding, from Great Aunt (Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston Palmer, 1873-1960, Blue Earth, Minnesota, 13 April 1951]



horttech1 originally shared this on 3 Mar 2015

Johnston Farmhouse in Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota, ca 1905



[Ref: Johnston, R. Edna "Dede", 1968. *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, p. 27]

Johnston/Emerson Family at the Time of Sister Lizzie's Funeral, February 1930



from left: Dede, Lowry, Annabel, Emily, Marge, Rae

Figure of Eight

3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents 2/4

Larkin/Ransom Family

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin

Ellen Augusta Ransom

Larkin/Ransom Family Preview

While ***Figure of Eight*** maternal great-grandparents, Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850-1930) and Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858-1948), both hale from the same part of New York, they met in Manchester Township in Freeborn County, Minnesota.

Ellen would write in her memoirs that there was quite a community of *"old-home folks"* in their chosen new state. As a girl of about 15 she became enamored of the visiting brother of one set of such neighbours. She had arrived with her parents and two little brothers when she was only seven — she would always remember well the long migration by wagon, boat and rail — along with the families of maternal uncles, Albert and Julius Hall, the latter being married to Father Zerah Ransom's twin sister, Zadah.

Luce Larkin, possibly swayed by a budding love interest, soon opted out of his drugstore business in Kansas, and commenced farming with his brother in Manchester Township, biding his time until the neighbour girl, Ellen, returned from a one-year commitment with her father on an Indian reserve in Dakota Territories, and finished growing up. The couple would marry in 1879 when Luce was 29 and Ellen was 21.

What follows is an interesting story. They would have a series of farm experiences in three states, always short stints, and usually involving land owned by various relatives — Luce's brother, Jay Larkin; Ellen's father, Zerah Ransom; Uncle Julius Hall; Cousin John Hall. In-between-and-around, there were returns to operating drugstores, Luce's recurrent health issues being cited as a factor. The three youngest children were born in Dakota Territory (South Dakota after November 1889).

Back in Minnesota, they would move to the outskirts of Alden village to enable better schooling for the family of then-teenagers. On subsequent census records, Luce would be reported variously as painter, mason, labourer, while Ellen would be noted as a dressmaker. In her memoirs, Ellen declares that she would like to have taught school much longer than she did, but it seems that married women were not allowed to be teachers in those days. Interestingly, three of their daughters would take turns as teachers, in many cases in the same schools where their mother had taught between the ages of 15 and 21.

Eventually, Ellen's parents lived with them at Alden. After Father Zerah's death in 1915, with Mother Elvira living at the time back in Dakota with Son Albert, Ellen and Luce made one more attempt at successful farming, this time in Nebraska on the land of Son Jay's Indian in-laws. Youngest daughter, Nellie, would stage her wedding there in the Fall of 1916.

By 1922, with all the children grown up, married, and *"out of the nest"*, the aging couple would make their final move from Alden, in Freeborn County, to Buffalo, in Wright County, Minnesota, where three of their girls had established themselves with families. Great-Grandfather Luce died in Daughter Edith Catlin's home early in 1930, shortly after their 50th wedding anniversary. Thereafter, Great-Grandmother Ellen moved in with the Catlin Family, and saw out her days as the family matriarch, writing The Story of My Life in 1943. She reports visiting opportunely with the multi-generational home of Daughter Maude Johnston at their Crawford Lake farm, as she would until her death in March 1948. Her passing marked a second family bereavement that season, as ***Figure of Eight*** mother, Helen Frances Poston Johnston, had taken her own life in January.

Great-Grandmother Ellen's obituary reports that at the time of her death she was survived by all five of her children,14 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

This is part of our story . . . **Ryon C Johnston** (17 Feb 2015; rev. 14 Sep 2016)

ancestry



Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin

BIRTH 29 JUL 1850 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
DEATH 10 JAN 1930 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
29 Jul 1850 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 0 — **Census**
28 Nov 1850 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
poor little Luce, now 4 months old, evidently got missed by the census taker

Age 10 — **Residence**
29 Aug 1860 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 14 — **Death of Mother Sophronia**
23 Apr 1865 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 16 — **Death of Father Elam**
1 Aug 1866 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 20 — **Residence**
1870 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
with Cousin Elam L Larkin (1826-)

Age 21 — **Residence**
1871-1872 • Newton, Harvey, Kansas
drug store operator; Cousin Joel Hayes farms nearby at Iola, Allen County, one of the first farmers west of the Neosha River

Age 22 — **Residence**
1872 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
purchased farm land near his brother, Jacob: W 1/2 of NE 1/4 of S20 T103N R22W

Age 24 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
with Bro Jacob and his wife, Mattie

Age 29 — **Marriage**
26 Nov 1879 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
Presbyterian, Dr. Abbott, officiating; this minister would have a significant role in three generations of family services, marriages and funeral

Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858–1948)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1880 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
farmer; no children yet; Brother Jacob & Mattie next door; Ellen's cousin Edmund Hall, with Clara & three children, is 2nd house over

Age 34 — **Relocation to Dakota Territory**
abt 1884 • Spink, Dakota Territory
lived eight years on the Prairies at Redfield, Shannon, Crandon, on farm, also operating another drugstore; three youngest children born in Dakota (statehood in Nov 1889)

Age 44 — **Enters Partnership**
1894-1897 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
invited by Ellen's cousin, John Hall, to trial a joint farming venture on the latter's 2nd-generation farm

Age 47 — **Death of Brother Jacob**
abt 1897 • Albert Lea, Freeborn, Minnesota
loss of life-long friend, Bro "Jay"

Family

Parents

Elam Loring Larkin 1790–1866

Sophronia Emery 1811–1865

Spouse & Children

Ellen Augusta Ransom 1858–1948

- **Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin** 1880–1959
- **Maude Larkin** 1882–1965
- **Jay Augustus Larkin** 1884–1958
- **Ferne Augusta Larkin** 1887–1974
- **Ellen "Nell" Larkin** 1888–1979

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Minnesota, Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

South Dakota Births, 1856-1903

South Dakota Births, 1856-1903

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Age 50 — **Residence**
1900 • Alden village, Freeborn, Minnesota
sells the farm in Manchester Township to an R. M. Hall, and moves to town; still identifies himself as a 'farmer'; all five children are at home

Age 54 — **Residence**
26 Jun 1905 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
labourer; Ellen, dressmaker; their eldest Edith A (24), and youngest Nellie W (17) are both teachers; Maude, has married and le! home (her son, Daryl, born in November that year)

Age 60 — **Residence**
1910 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
painter; Ellen listed as dressmaker; Nellie (21) is country school teacher, still at home; also both of Ellen's parents!

Age 66 — **Residence**
1916 • Pender, Thurston, Nebraska
one year farming on Daughter-in-Law Phyllis's family farm; Daughter Nellie is married here in the Fall

Age 70 — **Residence**
1920 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
Luce & Ellen living alone; he is 'labourer - mason'

Age 72 — **Relocation to Buffalo**
1922 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
near to three daughters & families

Age 79 — **Death**
10 Jan 1930 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
in Daughter Edith Catlin's home, after taking ill at Christmas dinner; interment at Alden

Siblings of Lucius “Luce” Cutler Larkin

Half-siblings, Children of Father Elam & Lucy Robinson

Martha Larkin (1817-1845) m. Reuben "Bood" Morgan Jr. (1812-1895)

Eldest half-sibling Martha (Father Elam was married twice) had a difficult life. She married a man of problematic character, bore him five children, only one of whom appears to have survived to adulthood — only to be killed in the Civil War. After her early death at age 28, Reuben married her 1st cousin Jane Jennette Larkin, and added two more children. For a time, the second couple continued as next door neighbours to the parental Larkins.

Lorenzo Dow Larkin (1821-) m. Agnes Mason (1820-1847); m. Julia Griffith (1830-1892)

Lorenzo remained in New York, was a farmer, living next door to his father and stepmother at Beekmantown. His first marriage to Agnes yielded four children, with another five from his second marriage to Julia. Later in life, he became a butcher in the town of Plattsburgh, New York. He would finish his days as a widower in the home of Daughter Lucy Pike.

Half-siblings, Children of Mother Sophronia & 1st Husband * Henry Soper

Heman H Soper (1833-) m. Emily Reynolds (1837-)

Herman was a teenager when mother married Elam Larkin. When he came of age, he farmed in New York, married Emily Reynolds, had two children, got involved in the Civil War. Emily’s brother(?) Erastus, sometimes a live-in farm labourer with the Sopers back in New York, would move on to Minnesota, where he and his family would eventually be near-neighbours of both Luce Larkin, and his brother Jay.

Mary J Soper (1835-)

Mary was 12 when mother joined the Larkin household, so would have been ‘big sister’ to help rear the younger Larkin boys.

Sibling, Child of Father Elam & Sophronia Emery

Jacob “Jay” H Larkin (1847-1897) m. Martha “Mattie” A DeLong (1848-1936)

Brother Jay married in New York, came out to visit Mattie's brother, Lewis, whose first wife had died and left him with a young family and an aged father. The Larkins stayed, purchased a farm near the Halls and the Ransoms in Manchester Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota. During the inevitable rounds of socializing with these and other former New York compatriots, Jay's brother, Luce, on holiday from his Kansas pharmacy business, would meet young Ellen Ransom, and the rest, as they say, is history. Jay and Luce were life-long friends. Luce and Ellen's only son would be named after Uncle Jacob, and all the children would spend much time in the home of their childless aunt and uncle. In 1885, during the time that Luce and Ellen lived in Dakota, Jay and Mattie adopted a neighbour lad.

1st Cousins of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin

Children of Father Elam's Siblings

Children of Uncle John Larkin & Sarah Wood

* Mary Larkin (1812-)
* Benjamin Wood Larkin (1819-)
Elam L Larkin (1826-)
Adelia Larkin (1827-1910)
Eleazer John Larkin (1829-1891)
Caroline E Larkin (1832-)

Children of Uncle Ira Larkin & Jane Ostrander

Jane Jennette Larkin (1818-1855)
Edgar J Larkin (1820-)
Martha Christiana Larkin (1833-1914)

Children of Uncle Hiram Larkin and Mary Marshall

Sarah Ann Larkin (1821-)
Phoebe Sophia Larkin (1823-1857)
Elkanah Ashley Larkin (1826-1899)
Jonathon Gilbert Larkin (1828-1829)
Nehemiah Loring Larkin (1829-1864)
James E Larkin (1832-1911)
Electa Mariah Larkin (1834-1888)
Hiram Nelson Larkin (1837-)
Albert Marshall Larkin (1843-1862)

Children of Aunt Mary Larkin & Asa Hayes

Christiana Hayes (1816-1901)
Enoch Hayes (1817-1874)
Hiram N Hayes (1818-1899)
Loyal Hayes (1819-)
Loring Hayes (1822-)
Harriet Hayes (1825-)
Mary Hayes (1830-)
Charles Hayes (1833-)
John Hayes (1835-1918)
Joel P Hayes (1840-1913)

Children of Uncle Loyal Larkin & Caroline Phelps

Christopher C Larkin (1823-1898)
Charlotte Maria Larkin (1826-1909)
Cornelia Larkin (1827-1920)
(Hanna) Louisa Larkin (1831-)
Dexter Trow Larkin (1833-1911)

Pliny Larkin (1834-1834)
Lorinda Larkin (1835-1846)
George W Larkin (1837-1888)
Charles Seymour Larkin (1839-1918)
Caroline Elizabeth Larkin (1841-1870)
Levi Larkin (1843-1843)

Children of Uncle Alonso Larkin & Margaret (Larkin)

Emily E Larkin (1829-)
Margaret Larkin (1831-)
Daniel Larkin (1834-)
Ann M Larkin (1836-)
Charlotte Larkin (1837-)
Sylvanus O Larkin (1842-)
Luther R Larkin (1844-1912)
Mary "May" C Larkin (1849-)

Children of Mother Sophronia's Siblings

Children of Aunt Almira Emery & Marcus Bidgood

Remington J Bidgood (1833-1921)
Paulina S Bidgood (1835-1912)
Fayette Bidgood (1837-)
Samuel S Bidgood (1838-1918)
Harrison Bidgood (1841-1900)
Jacob Foster Bidgood (1843-1921)
William H Bidgood (1846-1927)
Emery Bidgood (1848-1924)

Children of Uncle Daniel Emery & Hannah Leahy

Joshua Emery (1835-1913)
Washington Emery (1838-)
Henry Emery (1841-)

Children of Uncle Enoch Emery & Alzina Canfield

Huldah A Emery (1843-)
Almon C H Emery (1846-1915)
Nancy C Emery (1848-1875)
Russell B Emery (1849-1869)
William W Emery (1850-1906)
Hester M Emery (1853-1878)
James Emery (1855-)
Albert R Emery (1859-1877)
Enoch Emery Jr. (1861-1892)

Narrative: *"A Wandering Minstrel"*

I feel like a wandering minstrel, though I don't sing. Back in Clinton County, New York, I was the youngest of (I say now, looking back on it) a rather strange family. My father Elam was married twice. When his Lucy Robinson died, Father married my mother, Sophronia, who already had two children, Heman and Mary Soper. So there were six offspring altogether, their births spread out over four decades. My oldest half-sister, Martha Larkin, is 33 years older than I! My older brother, Jacob — we always called him Jay — was 12 years younger than Mary Soper, the youngest of our mother's first family. So, with just three years between us, and the only ones with matching parents, Jay and I were always the close. As I write this, I am just about the only one left of the whole lot.

When Ellen and I went back to the old New York stomping grounds last month with Alvin Hall, her cousin, Edmund's, son, it was mostly my nephew, Orey Larkin, that showed us around. Orey is a pharmacist, and so is his son Hanford after him — maybe they got the idea from me — so we had lots of notes to compare. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

After our parents died, Jay and I bunked in with nearby relatives until we came of age. We both caught the 'Western Fever', as it seemed nearly everyone did in those days. Jay married and ventured off to Minnesota. They first went to help out Mattie's brother, Lewis DeLong, who had lost his wife there. They found that they liked it so much that they stayed on, bought a farm in Manchester Township, Freeborn County.

While Jay only ever wanted to be a farmer, like most of the rest of our clan back in Upstate New York, I had this notion of something different, something better, as I figured it, so I had meantime taken myself off to Kansas to find our cousin, Joel Hayes. Joel had gone West to find a place where a man of small means could more easily and more quickly acquire a home. He was a farmer/soldier like our forebears, had survived the Civil War, and was a bit of a hero of mine. I intended to try my luck at whatever I could find — a young buck full of confidence, you know. I found work in a drug store at Newton, not far from where Joel and Hannah were starting their family in Iola. I got along that well with the old boy who owned it that he took me on as a partner.

Well, that went along just fine until I visited Jay and Mattie up in Freeborn County, Minnesota. There was a whole settlement of folks from back home there. It was almost like *being* back home, and I guess I *had* been a bit homesick. Then, too, it wasn't five minutes before I had my eye on a neighbour girl already. So, when Jay offered to help me buy a piece of land next door, I stayed. I got the girl, too, in the end — the shining star of my life — though, naturally, she kept me waiting until she grown was up first.

Trouble is, I never could really settle into farming, so I guess my first instincts were right. Well, I tried — Lord knows, I tried. Besides our home place, we ran farms for her father and her Uncle Julius, when they moved to Dakota Territories; for my brother, later on when he was ailing; for Daughter-in-law Phyllis's folks on an Indian reserve in Nebraska; with Ellen's cousin John Hall back in Minnesota. And in-between-and-around, I tried a couple more drug stores until my health began to fail. We mostly gave up farming then, and for more than 20 years, back at Alden, I worked at odd jobs — painter and mason, mostly, before we relocated, one last time, here to Buffalo near three of our daughters.

So, you name it, I've done it — a wandering minstrel who doesn't sing. Was I any good at any of it? Well, I've got my own opinion, of course. And, no doubt, Ellen will have hers! Let me just say that I have had a very patient wife. When it's all done-and-said, and said-and-done, we have made it, somehow, this far. And we have our son and four daughters, and they all have their families, and now my working days are well and truly over, and I can't say I'm sorry for that!

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin, July 1928, Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 11 Jun 2013; rev. 28 Nov 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Obituary from Wright County Journal-Press, 10 January 1930, Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota



LUCIUS C. LARKIN PASSES IN HIS 80TH YEAR

Funeral Held Wednesday From Catlin Home—Interment In Lakeview Cemetery

DEATH CAME FRIDAY

The funeral of Lucius C. Larkin, whose death occurred Friday at 8:30 p. m., took place Wednesday. The service was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Catlin at 2 p. m., Rev. R. Roberts of the Presbyterian church officiating. Howard Mithun, accompanied by Mrs. Paul Maehling, sang two selections: "The Father's Love" and "God's Will Be Done." Interment was made in the Masonic cemetery in Buffalo.

Lucius Cutler Larkin was born in Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York, July 29, 1850, where he grew to manhood. At the age of 21, he came west to Newton, Kansas, where he became a pharmacist. In the winter of 1872, he went to Alden, Minn., and with his brother, engaged in farming. Most of the remainder of his life was spent there, until he moved to Buffalo in 1922, to be near his family.

He was married in 1879 to Ellen A. Ransom. To them were born five children, namely: Mrs. J. J. Catlin, Mrs. W. L. Johnston and Mrs. E. R. Anderson of Buffalo; Jay A. Larkin of Sioux Falls and Mrs. O. N. Hoel of Evanston, Ill., who with his widow, remain to mourn his death. He also leaves fourteen grandchildren and one great grandson.

Mr. and Mrs. Larkin celebrated their golden wedding just six weeks previous to his death.

Deceased was a man of character, and had the respect of everyone. He was honest, sincere, and possessed great ability.

At the funeral service, the following beautiful poem by Robert Louis Stevenson was read at the request of the bereaved wife:

"Though he that ever kind and true
Kept stoutly step by step with you,
Your whole long, gusty lifetime through,
Be gone a while before—
Be now a moment gone before—
Yet doubt not; yet the seasons shall restore
Your friend to you.
He has but turned a corner—still
He pushes on with right good will
Through mire and marsh, by heug and hill
That self-same arduous way
That you and he through many a doubtful day
Attempted still.
He is not dead, this friend—not dead,
But in the path we mortals tread
Got some few trifling steps ahead
And nearer to the end;
So that you, too, once past the bend,
Shall meet again, as face to face, this friend
You fancy dead.

Push gayly on, strong heart; the while
You travel forward mile by mile,
He loiters with a backward smile,
Till you can overtake;
And strains his eyes to search the wake,
Or whistling as he sees you through the brake,
Waits on a stile."

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 10 Jun 2013

ancestry



Ellen Augusta Ransom

BIRTH 26 AUG 1858 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
DEATH 30 MAR 1948 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
26 Aug 1858 • Chazy, Clinton, New York

Age 2 — **Residence**
1860 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
as infant, mislabeled as Helen Brissett (the surname of other grandchildren), with parents in household of Ransom grandparents

Age 7 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
1865 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
with parents, and families of Uncles Julius & Albert Hall on land procured previous season by Uncle Daniel Hall

Age 12 — **Residence**
1870 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota, USA
Post Office: Albert Lea; with carpenter father, housekeeper mother and three little brothers (4-8)

Age 15 — **Education**
1873 • Wells, Freeborn, Minnesota
begins teacher's training; boards with Cousin Edmund and Clara Hall Family

Age 16 — **Occupation**
1874-1879 • Freeborn County, Minnesota
teaching intermittantly from age 16 until marriage: Peck, Blackman, Buckeye, Pettit, Alden, Garlock, Rice Schools

Age 19 — **Employment**
1877-1888 • Fort Berthold, Dunn, North Dakota
one year of employment as clerk at Indian Agency where Father Zerah is Farm Superintendent

Age 21 — **Marriage**
26 Nov 1879 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
Presbyterian, Dr. Abbott, officiating; this minister would have a significant role in three generations of family services, marriages and funeral

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850–1930)

Age 22 — **Residence**
1880 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
Luce is farmer, next door to Jacob & Mattie Larkin; eldest child, Edith, is born here

Age 24 — **Switch Farms**
1882 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
when Father Zerah Ransom and Uncle Julius Hall catch "Dakota Fever", they persuade Luce and Ellen to operate their Minnesota farms; Maude is born; Cousin Bernice Hall, who had been living with Ellen's parents, moves in to help

Family

Parents

Zerah Augustus Ransom 1834–1915

Elvira Louvena Hall 1834–1925

Spouse & Children

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
1850–1930

- **Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin**
  1880–1959
- **Maude Larkin** 1882–1965
- **Jay Augustus Larkin** 1884–1958
- **Ferne Augusta Larkin** 1887–1974
- **Ellen "Nell" Larkin** 1888–1979

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

1940 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

South Dakota Births, 1856-1903

South Dakota Births, 1856-1903

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Age 26 — **Relocation to Dakota Territory**
abt 1884 • Spink, Dakota Territory
live eight years on the Prairies at Redfield, Shannon, Crandon, on farm and another drugstore; three youngest children born in Dakota Territory (statehood in Nov 1889)

Age 33 — **Return to Minnesota**
abt 1891 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
return to original Minnesota farm; Luce also tends ailing Brother Jay's land next door

Age 36 — **Switch Farms**
abt 1894 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
move to Cousin John Hall's farm closer to Alden for improved schooling; Ede lives in Alden town with Uncle Jay & Aunt Mattie

Age 39 — **Move into Alden Village**
abt 1897 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
rented acreage on outskirts of town; children go to Alden School

Age 42 — **Residence**
1900 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota, USA
all five children (12-19) at home; Luce still listed as 'farmer'

Age 46 — **Residence**
20 Jun 1905 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
Luce is 'labourer', Ellen 'dressmaker'; Maude not present; Edith & Nell are teachers; Jay & Ferne students

Age 52 — **Residence**
1910 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
Ellen's parents now in residence; Nellie (22) still at home

Age 56 — **Death of Father Zerah**
18 Apr 1915 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 58 — **Residence**
1916 • Pender, Thurston, Nebraska
one year farming on Daughter-in-Law Phyllis's family farm; Daughter Nellie is married here in the Fall

Age 62 — **Residence**
1920 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
with spouse in own home; Lucius shown in US Census as 'wage-earning mason'

Age 64 — **Relocation to Buffalo**
1922 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
to be near to three daughters and their families

Age 66 — **Death of Mother Elvira**
1 Feb 1925 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
in Daughter Ellen Larkin's home

Age 71 — **Golden Wedding Anniversary**
25 Nov 1929 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
also the anniversary of the births of eldest grandchild, Daryl Johnston, and eldest great-grandchild, "Jack" Peterson

Age 71 — **Death of Husband Luce**
10 Jan 1930 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
at home of Daughter Edith Catlin

Age 71 — **Residence**
11 Apr 1930 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
US Census: widowed; with Daughter Edith Catlin's Family

Age 77 — **Residence**
1935 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
reports in her memoirs visiting Summers at Daughter Maude Johnston's farm, and also with Daughter Nell Anderson

Age 81 — **Residence**
1 Apr 1940 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
as widowed mother-in-law in Daughter Edith Catlin's home

Age 85 — **Writes Memoirs**

1943 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
see The Story of My Life, 1943

Age 89 — **Death**
30 Mar 1948 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
dies in Daughter Edith Catlin's home; interment at Alden;
obituary reports 14 grandchildren, 30 great grandchildren

Siblings of Ellen Augusta Ransom

James Harvey Ransom (1861-1940) m. Rose J Harris (1863-1922); m. Grace A Burnett (1892-1985)

Younger brother, Harvey, named after an uncle, took two degrees from Wabash College and his PhD from University of Chicago. Excepting a stint as a chemist in a refining and smelting plant in Michigan, his career was mostly in university teaching at Wabash, Purdue and Vanderbilt, where he was department head. He would complete his career as Head of Chemistry at Milliken in Decatur, Illinois, writing several textbooks. His first wife, Rose, was sister to the wife, Jessie, of his double-cousin, Stanley Hall. After Rose's death, Harvey married Grace, the daughter of Rose's double-cousin, Isabella Elsey. There would be no issue, from either marriage.

Albert "Bert" Walworth Ransom (1864-1939) m. Florence Mae Carroll (1875-1970)

Middle brother, Albert, apprenticed with the Redfield Journal for four years before purchasing a half-share. When he sold that and moved to Watertown, South Dakota, he bought a half-share a daily newspaper that would be called Hopkin's and Ransom's Public Opinion. By 1915, they had rejoined his parents in Mitchell, South Dakota, where Albert, with his Brother Frank, would operate Educator Supply Company. Albert and Florence had three children, Carroll Louvena, Alice Elvira, and James Harvey (obviously named after Uncle Harvey and Great Uncle James). Except that each child received a university degree, little is known of them.

Frank Leslie Ransom (1865-1947) m. Ida Mae Putney (1868-1949)

Youngest sibling, Frank, received an associate bachelor's degree from Redfield College, then stayed on as instructor in mathematics, as did his new, Wisconsin-born wife, Ida. With Brother Albert, they would make their career operating Educator Supply Company. While Brother Albert was investor, secretary/treasurer and manager, Frank was the president. This company would eventually be owned and operated by Frank and Ida's adopted son, Dillis. Amongst its publications would be a book of quotations compiled by Ida in 1915. Their household included, at various times, Ida's parents, her sister, Effie, and Jesse Mabel Hall, daughter of Cousin Stanley.

1st Cousins of Ellen Augusta Ransom

Children of Father Zerah's Siblings

Children of Aunt Lucy Ransom & Henry Brissette

Milton Harvey Brissette (1843-1897)
Leslie Walworth Brissette (1846-1914)
(Guy) Ransom "Ranny" Brissette (1849-1863)

Children of Aunt Zadah Ransom & Julius Hall

Stanley Augustus Hall (1855-1932)
Florence Nightingale Hall (1859-1937)
Ransom Brissette Hall (1866-1916)

Children of Mother Elvira's Siblings

Children of Uncle Daniel Hall & Sarah Ann Watts

Edmund Wolcott Hall (1843-1918)
John Orville Hall (1844-1920)
Ophelia "Dolly" Hall (1846-1921)

Children of Uncle Julius Hall & Zadah Ransom
Stanley Augustus Hall (1855-1932)
Florence Nightingale Hall (1859-1937)
Ransom Brissette Hall (1866-1916)

Children of Uncle Albert Hall & Susan Goodsell

L Monroe Hall (1854-1877)
Mahala "May" A Hall (1859-1916)
Benjamin "Bennie" M Hall (1865-1945)
William Winthrop Hall (1870-1894)

Children of Uncle Alvin Hall & Mellie O'Brien

Lillian "Lillie" Frances Hall (1860-1888)
(James) Fremont Hall (1864-1894)
Edith Margaret Hall (1866-1937)
Benjamin "Bennie" Franklin Hall (1870-1870)
Bernice "Bernie" Elvira Hall (1870-1951)

Children of Uncle Alvin Hall & Sarah Elliot

Ara Elliot Hall (1872-1873)
Julia N Hall (1875-1877)

Narrative: *"The Old Sweet Story"*

"It seemed that one family blazed the trail to one part of the state, but there were a few families ahead of us: the Smith's, Hoard's, Whitney's and Hurd's; several families, from our own New York, came out the next year or so. Many of them were old friends in the East. There were the Fishers, Lyons, Comstocks, Reynolds, DeLongs, and another family of Smiths. These all settled in our district and were a part of our church attendance and our school. Later came the Streets, and Parks families, giving us a very pleasant and enjoyable company of old eastern friends."

"Then a few years later Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Larkin, a young married couple, came out to visit a brother, Mr. DeLong. Mrs. DeLong had recently passed away and left a young family so they stayed on to help with the family and her aged father. They liked the West so much that they rented a farm near Alden and started out farming in earnest."

"There was also a family by the name of Sanders that we were more or less acquainted with. The daughter, Lauretta, was one of Father's pupils. So, he invited her to go home with him and spend the weekend with me. Sometime during the week, we had received an invitation from Mr. and Mrs. Norton and their son, Nelson, to take dinner with them on Saturday and spend the evening. Mother's family, the Curriers of Lodi, Illinois, had married some of the Norton family and that called forth the invitation. Before arriving at their house, we found that their neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Larkin, were also invited guests. With them was Mr. Larkin's brother, Lucius, who was visiting them for a few days and was soon to return to his home and business at Newton, Kansas."

"After the dinner was eaten and the room cleaned, the son, Nelson, suggested we four young people take possession of the room while the older people adjourned to the living room. We had taken Miss Lauretta along with us so we four spent the evening very pleasantly playing table games and had a good time, generally. I never expected to see Mr. Larkin again.

"That winter our school and the one we called the Hopkins School were having spelling contests. The real contest was between Miss Hattie Hopkins and my cousin, Monroe Hall. The contest was with much

general interest, and the room was always filled with spectators. Among them were the Larkin family and their brother who was still with them. Someone heard the news that the brother had decided to remain permanently. The two brothers purchased a farm together in our own neighborhood. It was just a short distance from where we had spent our first winter in the cold house on the hill. We also spent four years there after our return from Dakota. By the way, my cousin, Alvin Hall, and family had built a splendid farmhouse there for themselves, the family consisting of his wife and one daughter, Bernice. This is where I visited and made my home when I returned to the "old home town of Alden."

"The Larkins were all very public spirited and made a splendid addition to our church and Sunday school and all social gatherings, in general. Once Mr. Larkin was kind enough to drive me back to my school on Sunday afternoon with their lovely gray horses, Steve and Eagle."

"I have not said very much about boyfriends as they say now. My schoolwork and my year at Fort Berthold had taken my time and thoughts for the most part. But during the year when I was fifteen, Lucius Larkin (Luce we called him) and I had been good friends. We were not what you might call "special friends" until within the last two or three years. One day he told me the old sweet story and I gave my promise that someday I would become his wife. He had purchased a farm near his brother's farm so he had a home ready for me. He persuaded me to give up my latest school assignment at Rice Lake and be married. Father and Mother gave their consent so we made our plans for the wedding: the evening before Thanksgiving on November 26, 1879."

Ellen Augusta Ransom, 1943, Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota [excerpted by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston*** from Ellen's memoirs: The Story of My Life, 1943]

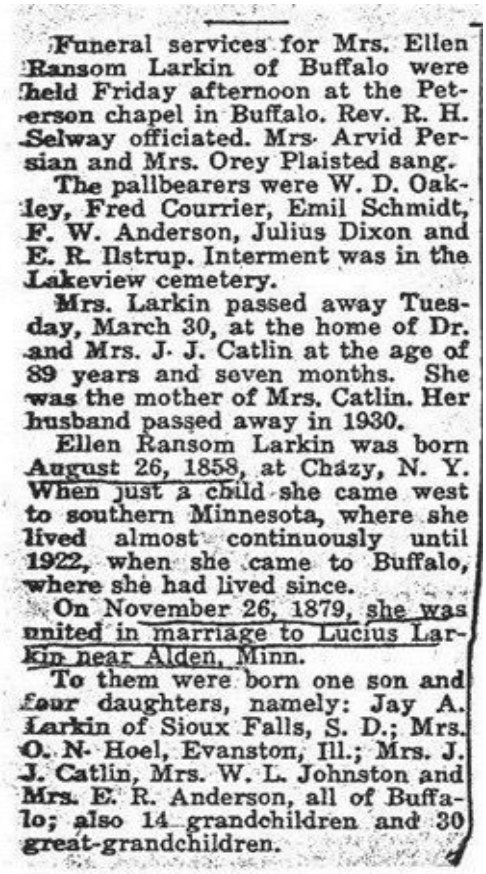
Gallery: Personal Records of Note



Ellen Augusta Ransom, about 1876, Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 27 May 2014

Obituary, Wright County Journal-Press, 30 March 1948, Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota



Funeral services for Mrs. Ellen Ransom Larkin of Buffalo were held Friday afternoon at the Peterson chapel in Buffalo. Rev. R. H. Selway officiated. Mrs. Arvid Persian and Mrs. Orey Plaisted sang.

The pallbearers were W. D. Oakley, Fred Courrier, Emil Schmidt, F. W. Anderson, Julius Dixon and E. R. Ilstrup. Interment was in the Lakeview cemetery.

Mrs. Larkin passed away Tuesday, March 30, at the home of Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Catlin at the age of 89 years and seven months. She was the mother of Mrs. Catlin. Her husband passed away in 1930.

Ellen Ransom Larkin was born August 26, 1858, at Chazy, N. Y. When just a child she came west to southern Minnesota, where she lived almost continuously until 1922, when she came to Buffalo, where she had lived since.

On November 26, 1879, she was united in marriage to Lucius Larkin near Alden, Minn.

To them were born one son and four daughters, namely: Jay A. Larkin of Sioux Falls, S. D.; Mrs. O. N. Hoel, Evanston, Ill.; Mrs. J. J. Catlin, Mrs. W. L. Johnston and Mrs. E. R. Anderson, all of Buffalo; also 14 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 27 May 2014

Larkin/Ransom Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Luce Larkin & Ellen Ransom

Children of Edith Larkin & John Catlin

Dorothy Ferne Catlin (1906-1995)
Theodore John Catlin (1907-1990)
Eileen Nell Catlin (1909-1986)

Children of Maude Larkin & Lowry Johnston

Daryl Russell Johnston (1905-1982)
Majel Ellen Johnston (1907-1995)
James Larkin Johnston (1910-1981)
Maurene E Johnston (1914-1966)

Children of Jay Larkin & Phyllis Hull

Fern Doris Larkin (1909-1983)
Donald Jay Larkin (1917-2003)
Elaine Larkin (1920-2004)

Children of Ferne Larkin & Nordahl Hoel

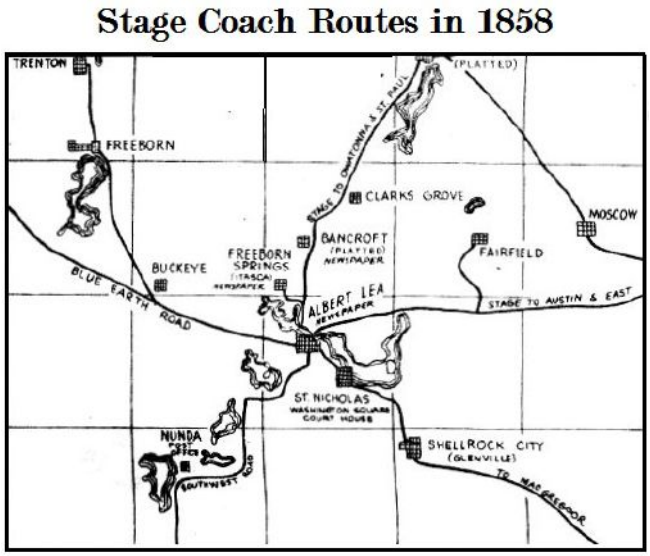
Gwendolyn Hoel (1912-1961)
Robert Malcolm Hoel (1913-2001)
Grant W Hoel (1921-2005)

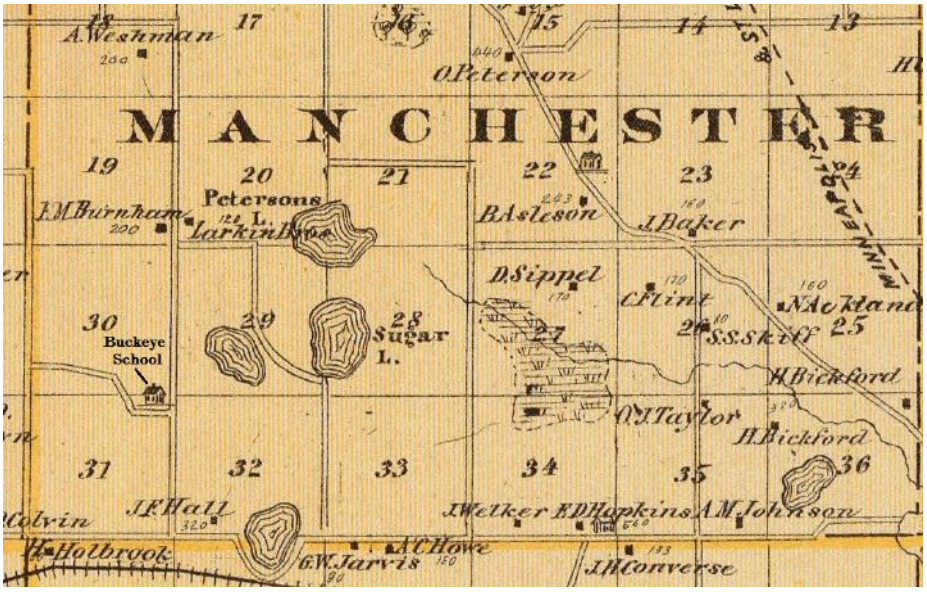
Child of Nell Larkin & Ernie Anderson

Barbara Beth Anderson (1921-1986)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Buckeye, Manchester Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota





Buckeye District and Buckeye School were repeatedly mentioned in ***Figure of Eight*** Great-grandmother Ellen Ransom Larkin's memoir *"The Story of My Life, 1843*". Her father taught there, and his daughter, Ellen, while several of her daughters all both attended *and* taught as well.

[Buckeye credits: (Elliot) Charles Ash, descendant of J F Hall in Section 32; see also Larkin Bros in Section 20]

Mrs. Walker's Millinery Store, 1874



Freeborn County standard. Pub Date October 1, 1874

THREE GIRLS WANTED

at Mrs. Walker s Millinery Store, to learn the Dress-Making business.

Come IMMEDIATELY.

The attention of the ladies of this vicinity is respectfully called to

CLARK'S NEW METHOD OF CUTTING DRESSES.

On exhibition and for sale at her Store

Mrs. C F. WALKER.

Albert Lea, Sept. 10, 1874.

In this advertisement, [credit (Elliot) Charles Ash, ***Figure of Eight*** 4th cousin (see Appendix C)], Mrs. Walker seeks three apprentices for her store. In her autobiography, our great-grandmother, Ellen Ransom Larkin mentions that she learned dressmaking one Fall while working in Mrs. Walker's store. Ellen would have been about 16 at the time of this ad, and likely took one of the positions. In the 1905 Minnesota Census at Alden, Ellen, age 46, lists herself as 'dressmaker'.

Larkin/Ransom Family Event, probably Summer 1912



from left, adults: Lowry Johnston, Nordahl Hoel, Luce Larkin, Maude Larkin Johnston, Ede Larkin Catlin, Ellen Ransom Larkin, Ferne Larkin Hoel, John Catlin

Note, that while the timing of this photo is challenging, the two grandchildren present would likely be James Johnston (b. Aug 1910), and Eileen Catlin (b. Mar 1909). The several older grandchildren would have been playing elsewhere, and the baby, Gwen Hoel (b. Jan 1912) having her nap. Another photo (see 'The Larkin Sisters' story in Grandparents, Section IV, p. 15) shows that Daughter Nell Larkin was present on the same day, and probably snapped this photo. The cursive label says *"Larkins, Buffalo",* though they did not live in Buffalo until 1922, so this event may have been at the Catlin home.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (29 Nov 2017; rev. 15 May 2018)]

1908 Postcard — Alden, Freeborn County, Minnesota



ALDEN, a city in Alden and Carlston Townships, settled in 1858, was organized April 3, 1866. The railway village was platted in 1869, and the track was completed to this place January 1, 1870; it had station on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad; it was incorporated on March 4, 1879, and reincorporated in March 1908; it has had a post office since 1866.

[ref: www.lakesnwoods.com/Alden.htm]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 13 Jul 2013

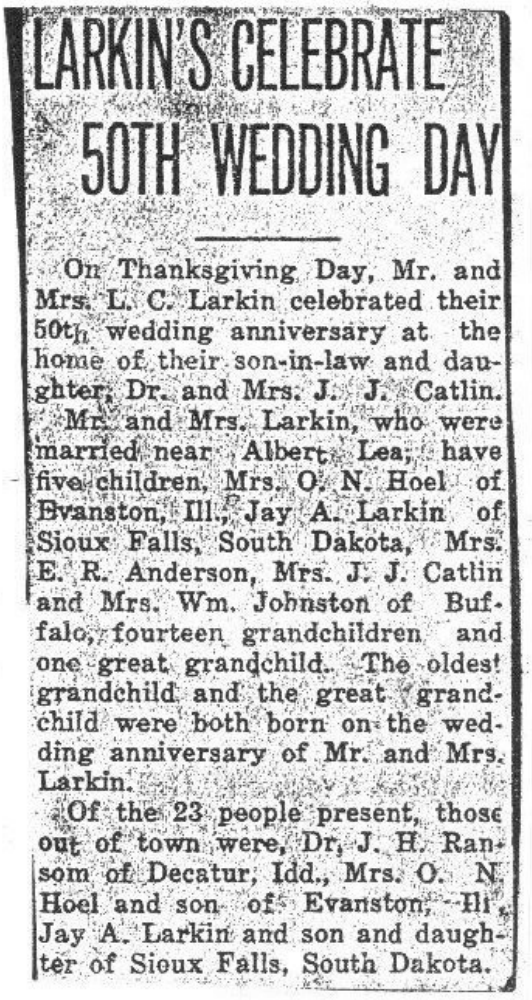
2013 — Alden Main Street Today



[photo credit: ***Ryon C Johnston***]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 13 Feb 2015

Larkin/Ransom Golden Wedding Anniversary, 26 November 1929, Wright County Journal-Press, Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota



LARKIN'S CELEBRATE 50TH WEDDING DAY

On Thanksgiving Day, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Larkin celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Catlin.

Mr. and Mrs. Larkin, who were married near Albert Lea, have five children, Mrs. O. N. Hoel of Evanston, Ill., Jay A. Larkin of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Mrs. E. R. Anderson, Mrs. J. J. Catlin and Mrs. Wm. Johnston of Buffalo, fourteen grandchildren and one great grandchild. The oldest grandchild and the great grandchild were both born on the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Larkin.

Of the 23 people present, those out of town were, Dr. J. H. Ransom of Decatur, Idd., Mrs. O. N. Hoel and son of Evanston, Ill., Jay A. Larkin and son and daughter of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Note that the eldest grandchild, ***Figure of Eight*** father, Daryl Johnston, and the eldest great-grandchild, Jack Petersen (mother nee Catlin), shared birthdays with their grandmother, Ellen Ransom Larkin.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (29 Nov 2017)]

Figure of Eight

3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents 3/4

Poston/McCurdy Family

Silas Marion Poston

\+ Emma Fullerton

Rachel McCurdy

Poston/McCurdy Family Preview

Figure of Eight great-grandfather, Silas Marion Poston (1854-1938), grew up in a log cabin built by his father on the north shore of Forest Lake, Minnesota, just north of what is today known as the Twin Cities. An historical bio about him, written in 1902, has said that there were daily bands of roving Indians in the area during his youth there. The family's land lay mostly in Township 33 (later known as Wyoming Township) of Chisago County. Many of the neighbours were immediate relatives, siblings of Father Jeremiah and their descendants, Americans from *"time out of mind"*, who had arrived in 1857 from Virginia, via Ohio and Illinois, prior to Minnesota statehood.

Not far away, to the northwest, in a community called Linwood, lived our St. Paul-born great-grandmother, Rachel McCurdy (1860-1947), who's Irish-born, Gaelic-speaking parents had recently settled in the area. While today that community is in Anoka County, there was a time when Chisago's boundary extended that bit further west, giving their farm also a Wyoming address. One way or another, the two families apparently knew each other quite well, as two sets of siblings would cross x marry.

Our great-grandparents' marriage was the second for Silas. There is, doubtless, a story there, as the girl was only 15 at the time, and there may have been a baby prior to the marriage. In any event, the young wife died within five years. Family lore has it that he was so traumatized by her early demise that his hair turned white at the time, when he was only 25. Silas and Rachel were married within the year. At the time, Rachel was already in the role of 'mother' at home with her widowed father and three younger brothers, ages seven to thirteen. It is quite probable that she continued in that role for several years, as Silas did salvage work and teamstering, sharing two different Minneapolis apartments with siblings. By 1891, with all their parents deceased, and with five children of their own, Silas and Rachel were prime candidates to start a new life. They had saved enough money, probably supplemented by inheritance, to make the big move 'back to the farm', purchasing land out on the prairies near Barnesville in Wilkin County. In 1894, they purchased a second, neighbouring farm just north over the line into Clay County. After several years of preparation work on this unbroken plot, the family relocated there in 1898. Their efforts included the construction of several outbuildings, as they made plans to switch from grain to livestock production. Rachel's brother, Archie, and his wife, Lydia, would join them at Barnesville, where Archie became a policeman.

Ever ones to seize opportunities to progress to 'bigger and better' things, in 1905 they purchased 160 acres of Chippewa lands from the federal government, this time many miles away, near the bustling community of Thief River Falls. The township of North, in the early years located in Red Lake County, later became incorporated into Pennington County. Their dairy farm was near enough to town that their actual residence had shifting addresses in the City, described variously as 'north end of LaBrie', 'north end of Main', and, still later, 'Fairfield Addition'. The prime location offered a market for the milk (later including a Bridgman's ice cream factory), as well as opportunities both for good educations and good work experience for the growing family, now eight, aged five to 23.

Times were good — in the second decade of the new century, the eldest three children, Frank, Bertha, and Sidona were simultaneously enrolled at Hamline University in St. Paul, sharing off-campus accommodation. There, Frank would meet and marry ***Figure of Eight*** maternal grandmother, Edith Belle Palmer, and bring her home to his hometown to start a family of their own. All three of Frank and Edith's children — Silas and Rachel's first grandchildren — would be born in Thief River Falls.

One of the family's projects, in the days before electric refrigeration, was the McCurdy Ice Company, sawing ice blocks from the river in Winter and packing them in sawdust for warm-season delivery. Son Frank was the manager, while Son George was an employee boarding with his newly-married older brother. George was drawn into World War I, where he served as a messenger, until being killed by shrapnel in the dying days of the war. Many years later, Rachel would take advantage of a War Mothers' Pilgrimage Grant, making a pilgrimage to his graveside in France.

Eventually, the four younger children would take their turns at university, and make there in the world. Five of the children married, four of those produced offspring. By the time of Rachel's death in 1947, there were eight grandchildren (one deceased), and seven great-grandchildren, with another due in two weeks. This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (21 Feb 2015; rev. 14 Sep 2016)

ancestry



Silas Marion Poston

BIRTH 25 JUN 1854 • Quincy, Adams, Illinois
DEATH 15 NOV 1938 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
25 Jun 1854 • Quincy, Adams, Illinois

Age 3 — **Residence**
21 Sep 1857 • Township 33, Chisago, Minnesota

Age 6 — **Residence**
1860 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
Township 33, Chisago County came to be known as Wyoming Township

Age 10 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
with parental family, third of eight children; see photo of parent's log home at S end of property on N shore of Forest Lake, actually in Washington County

Age 16 — **Residence**
1870 • Marine, Washington, Minnesota
the known parental Poston property was partly in Wyoming Township, Chisago County, extending into Forest Lake Township, Washington County; for a time Marine on St. Croix claimed jurisdiction

Age 20 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Kasota, Le Sueur, Minnesota
with parental family on farming venture between 1874 to 1877, as reported in Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, 1902; Silas says that this is where he "began life for himself"

Age 21 — **Marriage**
aft 1875 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
Emma is with parents in May 1875 MN Census; NB: her father, R. M. Fullerton, had reportedly performed marriage service for Silas' sister, Larinda; (see also "Mystery Baby" story)

Emma L Fullerton (1859–1880)

Age 22 — **Death of Father Jeremiah**
2 Dec 1876 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota

Age 25 — **Death of Wife Emma**
11 Feb 1880 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota

Age 25 — **Residence**
03 Jun 1880 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
back home as widower with widowed mother and her remaining five children; Brother Ashford close by with wife & child; Silas is also 'counted in' with Fullerton in-laws in this US Census

Family

Parents

Jeremiah Poston 1819–1876

Mary Cartwright 1832–1886

Siblings

Ashford Dow Poston 1850–1893

Lucinda Catherine Poston 1851–

Melinda "Linda" Belle Poston 1856–1948

(Jeremiah) Golden Poston 1860–1922

Richard Henry Poston 1862–1922

John Roland Poston 1864–1936

(Frances) Mary Poston 1865–1932

William Grant Poston 1868–

Elsie Poston 1869–1875

Imogene "Emma" Comfort Poston 1871–

Irene Poston 1874–1888

Spouse & Children

Emma L Fullerton 1859–1880

*** Baby Boy Poston** 1874–

Spouse & Children

Rachel McCurdy 1860–1947

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston 1881–1959

Bertha Mae Poston 1883–1952

Sidona Poston 1885–1968

George Silas Poston 1887–1918

Claude Roland Poston 1890–1990

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

1930 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Family Data Collection - Individual Records

Minneapolis, Minnesota Directories, 1889-91

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Land Records

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

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Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900

U.S. City Directories

Age 26 — **Marriage**
5 Dec 1880 • Linwood Township, Anoka, Minnesota
the Poston and the McCurdy parents had been near-neighbours between 1863 & 1870; two sets of siblings would cross x marry

Rachel McCurdy (1860–1947)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1884-1889 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
salvage work and teamster; sharing a house on 19th St. NE with siblings Irene & Wm., carpenter & painter; Jeremiah G., teamster; Richard H., carpenter, is next door; nearby on Monroe is John R., confectioner

Age 32 — **Death of Mother Mary**
13 Dec 1886 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota

Age 36 — **Residence**
1890-1891 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
teamster; Taylor Ave

Age 37 — **Relocation**
1891 • Wilkin County, Minnesota
ref: Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, 1902; reports this farm as four miles southeast of Barnesville

Age 40 — **Residence**
13 Jun 1895 • Prairie View Township, Wilkin, Minnesota
Farmer; spouse and six children; P.O. is at Barnesville, Clay County

Age 46 — **Residence**
1900 • Barnesville Township, Clay, Minnesota
Farmer; eight children; this farm is NW 1/4 Section 34 as referenced in the History, as well as on Plat Map; purchased 1894, occupied from 1898; this farm is also four miles SW of Barnesville

Age 48 — **Civic**
1902 • Barnesville Township, Clay, Minnesota
"a Republican; member Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Twnshp. supervisor two terms; school director two years, very active part in local affairs" Source: Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, 1902

Age 50 — **Land Purchase**
04 Feb 1905 • North Township, Red Lake, Minnesota
purchase of 160 acres of 'Chippewa Lands' in S12 T155N R40W; 'patent' signed by President Theodore Roosevelt, filed at Crookston, Minnesota (see Land Purchase document)

Age 50 — **Residence**
14 Jun 1905 • North Township, Red Lake, Minnesota
MN Census: farmer; w. spouse and eight children at home (5-23)

Age 56 — **Residence**
1910-1930 • North Township, Pennington, Minnesota
US Census records; occupation listed as drayman, farmer; residence variously listed as N end Main and N end La Bree near Thief River Falls city limits (NB: Red Lake/Pennington County boundaries were apparently re-drawn between 1905 and 1910)

Age 57 — **Residence**
1911-1934 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
US City Directories: res. on the north edge of the City, w. land extending beyond; some progeny always at home: Mary, nurse; Mattie & Sidona, teachers; Claude, farm labourer; in early years, Frank and family (also George) nearby, operate McCurdy Ice Co.

Age 64 — **Death of Son George**
8 Oct 1918 • Dunsuy-Meuse, France
'killed in action' in WWI (see stories)

Age 74 — **Death of Grandson Robert**
29 Nov 1928 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida
newspaper reports car-pedestrian accident previous day (see story)

Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston
1894–1976

Richard Golden Poston 1896–1991

Mary Elizabeth Poston 1900–1965

U.S. City Directories

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011

Age 82 — **Deaths of Siblings**
22 Nov 1936 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
death of Brother John, whose passing marks loss of six of the eight siblings who had reached adulthood, leaving only Silas and Sister Melinda

Age 84 — **Death**
15 Nov 1938 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
rites by Rev. E. A. Cooke from Erickson & Lund Funeral Home; burial: Greenwood Cemetery (Blk 3 Lot 92 Grave 7); survived by wife, seven children, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren (see obituary)

Siblings of Silas Marion Poston

Ashford Dow Poston (1849-1893) m. Effie May Davis (1858-1922)

Eldest sibling, Ashford, appears to be the only Poston to remain in the Forest Lake area, where, excepting for a brief stint before his early death when he is a loans-officer in the Twin Cities, he was a farmer. Widowed Effie and their only child, Maude, would relocate to Montana.

Lucinda Catherine Poston (1851-) m. * John G Koller (1844-)

Older sister, Lucinda, would establish a record for the diversity of names attributed to her in official records: Larinda, Lauriana, Lavinia. She married German-born Forest Lake neighbour, John Koller, with whom she had three children. Interestingly, the wedding service was performed by R M Fullerton, the father of Silas' first wife, Emma. In the 1880 US Census, general merchant John was listed as 'divorced' and he had the children.

Melinda Belle Poston (1856-1948) m. John Dow McCurdy (1854-1928)

Younger sister, Melinda Belle, cross-married to Brother-in-Law John McCurdy, a near neighbour from Anoka County. John was a painter and home decorator in Minneapolis, with an interlude as a real estate agent. After 1920, the retirement-aged couple would follow their three surviving children, married daughters Mattie, Myrtle, and Norma to Washington State.

Jeremiah "Jerry" Golden Poston (1860-1922) m. Mary A Jaax (1857-1931)

Jerry married late to a Forest Lake neighbour of German descent, widowed by her husband's tragic accidental death. Mary brought two Abel children and, with Jerry, would have two more. The couple moved to Minneapolis where Jerry pursued salvage work, teamstering, and, eventually, became a grading-contractor.

Richard Henry Poston (1862-1922) m. Lucy Henrietta Rioux (1863-1942)

Richard married a girl of French Canadian stock, a neighbour in Forest Lake. They would have five children. They moved around Minnesota a bit, eventually settling in Aitkin County. He was a day-labourer associated with the lumber industry. Three of their sons would become lumber camp managers. Lucy and all the surviving offspring would relocate to Flathead County, Montana, after Richard's death.

John Roland Poston (1864-1936) m. Gertrude Jaax (1867-1928)

John started his career as a confectioner in Minneapolis. After his marriage to Sister-in-Law Mary Jaax's sister, Gertrude, he became a telephone company technician, a profession he shared with Son-in-Law Osterman, husband of only child, Daughter Ethel. For a while they shared a house. In later years, John and Gertrude operated a grocery store.

(Frances) Mary Poston (1865-) m. John M Wiltse (1859-)

Sister Frances, namesake of Silas' eldest child, moved, soon after her marriage in Forest Lake, to New York, where John was a telephone lineman. They would have four children.

William Grant Poston (1868-) m. Mary "May" Freiwald (1870-)

Typical of the family, William was a jack-of-all-trades. In Minnesota, he was a carpenter and painter. At the time of his marriage to English-born, May, he was a gardener for the city of Billings, Montana. Later, they showed up near Sister Mary Wiltse's family in New York, where he became an electrician.

Imogene "Emma" Comfort Poston (1871-) m. Curtis W Lindley (1863-)

Emma and Curtis married in Minneapolis. They became lecturers in Indian and public schools, living in boarding houses in New York, where their daughter Adele was born, and later in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Irene Poston (1873-1888)

After their mother's death in Forest Lake, youngest daughter Irene shared a residence on 19th Street NE in Minneapolis with Brother Silas, scavenger, and Brother William, carpenter. She died there at 15 years of age.

1st Cousins of Silas Marion Poston

Children of Father Jeremiah's Siblings

Children of Uncle Ashford Poston & Margaret Parkinson

Mary Elizabeth Poston (1842-1892)
William Branson Poston (1844-1899)

Children of Uncle Ashford Poston & Margaret Butt

Margaret L Poston (1859-1930)
Dennie "Nettie" A Poston (1861-1931)
Alice Monema Poston (1865-)
Emma May Poston (1868-1928)

Children of Aunt Rebecca Poston & George Simmons

George W Simmins (1844-)
Jeremiah P Simmins (1846-1915)
Richard Wesley Simmins (1849-1941)
William Jackson Simmins (1851-1909)
Ashford Wilson Simmins (1853-1939)
Rebecca Ann Simmins (1856-)
John Henry Simmins (1858-1862)
Charles Reuben Simmins (1861-1862)
Joseph Lincoln Simmins (1865-1944)

Children of Uncle Richard Poston & Lucinda Castle

Margaret Rebecca Poston (1858-1881)
Armineous Whitney Poston (1860-1926)
Joseph F S Poston, Gen. (1863-1903)
Mary Ella Poston (1866-1930)
Richard Hezekiah Poston (1868-1936)
Hattie Lucinda Poston (1871-1936)
Thankful Bella Poston (1874-1920)

Children of Aunt Elizabeth Poston & Thomas Buck

George Nelson Buck (1852-1930)
Charles Webster Buck (1855-1861)
Anne Rebecca Buck (1858-1927)
William "Willie" Henry Buck (1861-1930)
Frank Newton Buck (1865-1924)
Ransom Ezra Buck (1868-1930)
Sarah E Buck (1870-1887)

Children of Father Jeremiah's Half-siblings

Children of Aunt Eliza Poston & Branson Stipe

Richard Stipe (1848-1936)
William Stipe (1850-1930)
Mary Catherine Stipe (1852-1980)
Sarah Elizabeth Stipe (1855-1931)
Eliphalet Stipe (1859-1933)
Malinda Ann Stipe (1861-1936)

John Wesley Stipe (1862-1942)
Emma L Stipe (1864-)
Theodore Stipe (1866-1920)
George Grant Stipe (1868-1944)
Mary Henrietta Stipe (1870-1955)
Edward J Stipe (1872-1940)
Milton Stipe (1875-)

Children of Aunt Rhoda Poston & Reese Peoples

Walter A Peoples (1855-)
Robert P Peoples (1856-1860)
Annie Peoples (1859-1900)
Adda "Addie" May Peoples (1860-1943)
Sherman Peoples (1866-)
John Roland Peoples (1872-1948)
Carrie Alice Peoples (1876-1955)

Children of Uncle Silas Poston & Samantha Haskins

Eva Estelle Poston (1856-1857)
Emma "Emily" Alice Poston (1857-1908)
Mary Poston (1859-1920)
Minnie A Poston (1861-1920)
Benjamin Franklin Poston (1864-1911)
Lillie (Nellie) M Poston (1869-1929)
Hattie (Mattie) Poston (1873-1924)

Children of Uncle Eliphalet Poston & Mary Ann Stafford

Georgiana G A Poston (1868-1876)
Elizabeth C Poston (1875-1877)
Mary May Poston (1878-1929)

Children of Uncle Eliphalet Poston & Orvilla Lorance

Uva Len Poston (1890-1938)
Eliphalet Franklin Poston (1892-1970)
Cecile Zerah Poston (1897-1989)

*Children of Aunt Mary E Poston & * Hezekiah Richey*

Mary J Richey (1869-)
Louelle Richey (1873-)

Children of Aunt Margaret L Poston & Isaac Shrader

Mary C Shrader (1860-)
Eva M Shrader (1863-)
Sarah E Shrader (1867-)
Olive E Shrader (1868-)
Rosa Shrader (1871-)

Children of Uncle Elias Poston & Sarah Jenkins

Minneola Poston (1875-)
Jessie B Poston (1876-)
Carrie Alice Poston (1879-1956)

Children of Mother Mary's Siblings

Children of Uncle William Cartwright & Hannah Miller

Sarah Alice Cartwright (1856-1898)
James H Cartwright (1857-1907)
(Nancy) Sophrona Cartwright (1858-1924)
Elizabeth E Cartwright (1860-1934)
William Andrew Cartwright (1864-1931)
(Daniel) Franklin “Frank” Cartwright (1866-1907)
(Hannah) Della Cartwright (1868-1907)
George E Cartwright (1870-1907)

Children of Aunt Lucy Cartwright & John Linthicum

Emeline “Emma” Rosetta Linthicum (1853-1927)
Sarah F Linthicum (1855-1911)
John Charles Linthicum (1859-)
Ida B Linthicum (1863-1906)

Children of Uncle Francis Cartwright & Mary Long

Emma B Cartwright (1867-1939)
Lorinda Cartwright (1869-1870)

Children of Aunt Emma Cartwright & John Owen

Cornelia E Owen (1858-1924)
Mary Etta Owen (1860-1938)
Annie “Anna” B Owen (1863-)
Edgar Pert Owen (1867-)
Daniel C Owen (1869-)
Fredrick “Freddie” Owen (1872-)
Oliver “Ollie” B Owen (1876-1959)
David Lawrence Owen (1882-1910)

Children of Aunt Elsie Cartwright & Nelson Carey

Jessie B Carey (1870-)
Robert Thomas Carey (1873-1924)
George Francis Carey (1875-1957)
William Nelson Carey (1879-1882)

Narrative: *“My Own Two Hands”*

Well, it's 1905 and I'm 50 years old. I've been farming most of my life, and I have just purchased my first real farm. Actually, I had bought land once before in 1894 in Section 34, Barnesville Township in Clay County. That time, Rachel and I were farming nearby on rented land in Wilkin County. It took four years, working on it whenever we could, before we had 50 acres of land cleared and broken, and had built a shanty and a small barn so that we could move onto it. We added on after we moved in, both to the house and to the barn — the house because the family was growing, and the barn because I was looking forward to getting into livestock in a big way.

But this new farm is going to be a *real* farm! It's 160 acres of the finest Chippewa lands with the patent signed by President Teddy Roosevelt himself. It is no easy matter to buy land from the Indians — all Indian land is considered to be government land, and I've been working on this deal for a while. I had to drive the team and sleigh all the way to Crookston to file the final papers. That was in February, and wouldn't you know it, we had a real blizzard along the way, just for good measure. This land won't need much breaking. It is open prairie country, not as flat as the old lake bottom over by Barnsville, but better farmland. It is in Red Lake County, in a place they just call ‘North’, although I rather expect both names will change over time, as seems to happen.

I was born in Illinois, but it wasn't five minutes before my parents packed up the covered wagons and moved to the Minnesota Territory. Many of the Poston tribe made the trip. I was the third child in our

family. My little sister Melinda was born the year after we arrived in Minnesota, and there were seven more after that. Our new home, a log cabin build by our father, was set in Indian territory and roving hunting bands were to be seen almost every day. Father was a carpenter and a farmer, and those were the trades we young folks learned.

My first experience of farming on my own was on rented land in Le Sueur County back when I was 20. The grasshoppers ate the crops two years in a row, and what with that and losing my first wife, Emma, life was not going well for me. Father had died while I was trying to make a go of it on my own, so we had gone back to Washington County to help out, when she died of the typhoid.

Needing a wife and help-meet again, I didn't waste any time finding Rachel. We had known each other when we were both children and lived near each other in that corner where Chisago and Anoka and Washington Counties all come together. After our marriage, Rachel and I lived at the McCurdy's. Rachel's mother had died, and she was needed at home to help raise the younger boys. But for me the City beckoned — I needed work! I figured that my best resource was my own two hands, and there were two little mouths to feed at home.

Our home wasn't far from the 'Twin Cities', as folks had started calling Minneapolis and St Paul, and there was work to be had there. Paying work! I was used to hard work, clearing and grubbing the land, but city-work was something I had to learn. From about 1884 until 1891, I kept a place in Minneapolis, often living with siblings — moved once or twice during that time. I made it home to Rachel, most times, on Saturdays, pretty well always on Sundays. Rachel and her sister, Mattie, the only girls in that family, looked after their brothers and Father-in-law Archie, as well as our own growing family, in the McCurdy home place at Linwood. The old man died during that time, but we kept on with this rather awkward arrangement, until I could stand it no more.

In 1891, we took what savings we had, our small share of the inheritance from the sale of Poston and McCurdy lands, loaded up what possessions we had, and headed west. Our eldest, Frank, was 10 at the time, and Claude just a year old. Of course, we have since had three more — a great little workforce to farm this new land. Along with the value of hard work, I hope that I'll be able to teach the children something of what I learned in the city during those years of salvage work (scavenging, I called it!) and teamstering. One way or another, there isn't much that I can't do, and I reckon that I can help them learn to make their way in the world as I have done. It's Spring, and we are on the new place, and, *"The good Lord willing and the crick don't rise!"*, the future looks bright from here.

Silas Marion Poston, April 1905, North Township, Red Lake County, Minnesota [as imagined by Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 29 Oct 2103; rev. 05 Jan 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Silas Poston Biography

Silas Poston Bio

Silas M. Poston, well known throughout Barnesville township and that section of Clay county Minnesota, was born on a farm in Adams county, Illinois, in 1854. His father, Jeremiah Poston, came into Minnesota the following year, and was among the very early pioneers of the state. He was born in Virginia and his forefathers had resided in this country for many generations. His wife, Mary Cartright, was born in Illinois, and of her children eleven lived to reach maturity.

Silas M. Poston was the third member of his parents family and was educated in Washington county, Minnesota, at a time when but most limited schooling was to be had on the frontier. The school house was a log structure, a mile and a half from home. There was hard farm work to be done, and young Silas early learned the meaning of hard work in helping to clear and grub the land. It was the day of the Indian, and roving bands of the aborigines were to be seen daily.

In 1874 Mr. Poston left home and began life for himself. He bought a team and started in farming in Blue Earth county where he continued until 1877. His first crop was entirely destroyed by grasshoppers and the second season the crop was greatly damaged, 1875-6. In 1877 he went back to Washington county to spend some four or five years in both Washington and Chisago counties.

Mr. Poston was married in 1880 to Miss Rachel McCurdy. She was born in St. Paul and her parents were natives of Ireland. Her father, Archibald McCurdy, was both a farmer and a carpenter. He was married in Philadelphia.

Mr. and Mrs. Poston are the parents of the following family: Francis E., Bertha M., Sidona, George Silas, Claude R., Martha I., Richard G., and Mary E., all of whom were born in Minnesota.

After their marriage Mr. Poston moved to Anoka, where he spent a year and then made his home in Stillwater for some four years. In 1884 he moved to Minneapolis where he did teaming until 1891. That year he came to Wilkin county and located on a farm four miles southeast of Barnesville. There he farmed up to 1898.

In 1894 he bought his present farm in section 34, Barnesville township, Clay county, which consisted of all raw prairie at the time of his purchase. In 1898 he moved on this tract of land and began making it fit for farming. He already had fifty acres broken and at once put up a shanty twelve feet square, and a barn 14 x 28 feet. Now he has a house 16 x 24 feet with an addition 12 x 16 feet, and a barn, 14 x 52 feet. All the machinery the place requires for its successful operation is on hand, and, though Mr. Poston had been mostly engaged in grain farming, he contemplates working rapidly into stock.

He is a Republican and was formerly a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In Barnsville township he has been supervisor two terms and school director two years, and since his coming here has taken a very active part in local affairs.

Source: Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, published 1902.

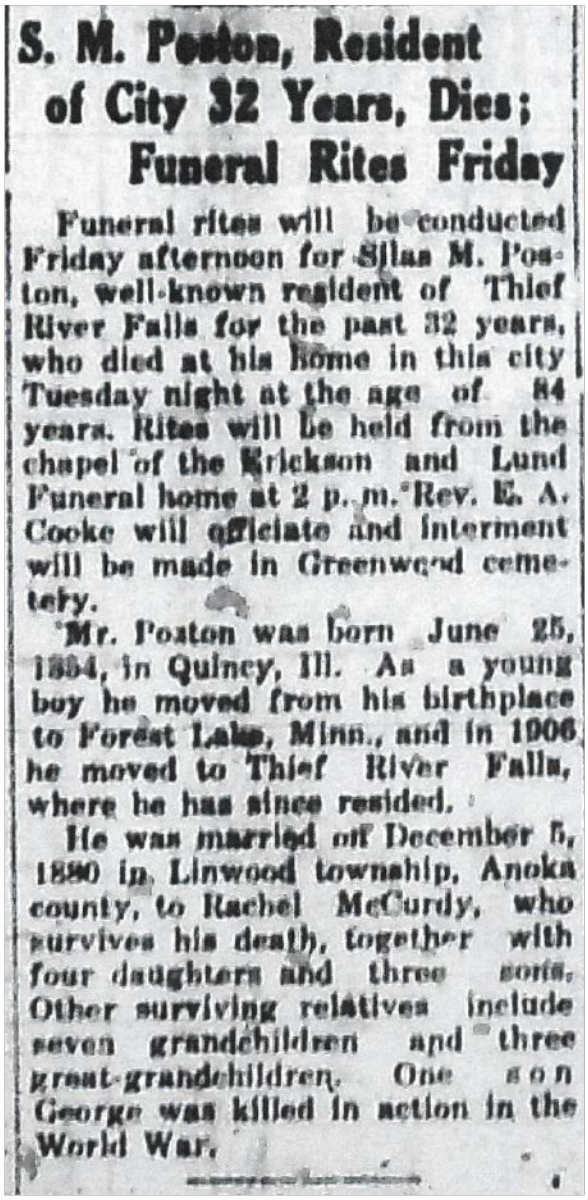
Date: 1902

Place: Barnsville Township, Clay, Minnesota

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 24 Apr 2014

Death Announcement, 17 November 1938

Thief River Falls Times, p.1



S. M. Poston, Resident of City 32 Years, Dies; Funeral Rites Friday

Funeral rites will be conducted Friday afternoon for Silas M. Poston, well-known resident of Thief River Falls for the past 32 years, who died at his home in this city Tuesday night at the age of 84 years. Rites will be held from the chapel of the Erickson and Lund Funeral home at 2 p. m. Rev. E. A. Cooke will officiate and interment will be made in Greenwood cemetery.

Mr. Poston was born June 25, 1854, in Quincy, Ill. As a young boy he moved from his birthplace to Forest Lake, Minn., and in 1906 he moved to Thief River Falls, where he has since resided.

He was married on December 5, 1880 in Linwood township, Anoka county, to Rachel McCurdy, who survives his death, together with four daughters and three sons. Other surviving relatives include seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. One son George was killed in action in the World War.

ancestry



Emma L Fullerton

BIRTH 5 JUN 1859 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
DEATH 11 FEB 1880 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
wife of great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
5 Jun 1859 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota

Age 1 — **Residence**
1860 • Baytown, Washington, Minnesota

Age 5 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
with parents Robert and Cynthia, and four siblings

Age 11 — **Residence**
1870 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
in parental home, with six sibs (1-17); father is farmer

Age 15 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
in parental home with five sibs (6-19), all girls; also a David Abbott (17, b. Iowa)

Age 16 — **Marriage**
aft 1875 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
Emma is with parents in May 1875 MN Census; NB: her father, R. M. Fullerton, had reportedly performed marriage service for Silas' sister, Larinda; (see also "Mystery Baby" story)

Silas Marion Poston (1854–1938)

Age 20 — **Death**
11 Feb 1880 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
burial: United Methodist Cemetery, Lot 21, Grave 5; another researcher offers: "Emma died of typhoid and the story that has passed down in my family is that Silas was so devastated when he lost her that his hair all turned white." Alice Harris

Family

Parents

Robert M Fullerton 1826–1909

Cynthia S Abbott 1828–1903

Spouse & Children

Silas Marion Poston 1854–1938

*** Baby Boy Poston** 1874–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012

Mystery Baby Poston, 25 February 1874, Kasota, Le Sueur, Minnesota

Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980 [FHL Film # 1320252] shows a male child born 25 Feb 1874 in Kasota Township, Le Sueur County, Minnesota, to S. Poston and Mother Luces. I speculate that this might be a child of our great-grandfather, Silas Marion Poston (then 19), known to be living there at the time, and the girl who was, or would become, his first wife: 15 year old, Emma L Fullerton, after which the parents might have returned to their respective parental homes (see 1875 Mn Census records for Kasota & Wyoming).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Aug 2014; rev. 19 Feb 2015)]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 19 Aug 2014

ancestry



Rachel McCurdy

BIRTH 9 JUN 1860 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
DEATH 11 OCT 1947 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
9 Jun 1860 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota

Age 1 — **Residence**
1861-1875 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
in parental household on land purchase 9 Jan 1861; address changes with each census are political boundary changes and do not reflect relocations

Age 16 — **Death of Mother Elizabeth**
3 Feb 1877 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota

Age 19 — **Residence**
8 Jun 1880 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
with widowed father and three youngest siblings (7-13); Sister Martha (18) has 'farmed out' in Anoka town as a maid

Age 20 — **Marriage**
5 Dec 1880 • Linwood Township, Anoka, Minnesota
the Poston and the McCurdy parents had been near-neighbours between 1863 & 1870; two sets of siblings would cross x marry

Silas Marion Poston (1854–1938)

Age 26 — **Death of Father Archibald**
28 Jun 1886 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota

Age 28 — **Residence**
1888-1891 • Minneapolis, Hennepin, Minnesota
Silas retains residences in the Twin Cities for salvage and teamster work, sometimes with siblings; Rachel may be resident in parental home in Anoka County with her two teenage brothers

Age 35 — **Residence**
1895 • Prairie View, Wilkin, Minnesota
farming with six children (1-13), down to baby Martha

Age 40 — **Residence**
1900 • Barnesville, Clay, Minnesota
all eight children at home (3 mo-18 yr); US Census reports her parents as Gaelic speaking!

Age 45 — **Residence**
14 Jun 1905 • North, Red Lake, Minnesota
all eight children (5-23) at home

Age 50 — **Residence**
1910 • North Township, Pennington, Minnesota
Frank no longer at home; apparent address change reflects changes in political boundaries

Age 51 — **Residence**
1911 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
US City Directories; address reported as "end of La Bree Ave N near limits" several younger children at home

Family

Parents

Archibald "Arthur" McCurdy
1834–1886

Elizabeth Riddle 1835–1877

Spouse & Children

Silas Marion Poston 1854–1938

- **Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston**
  1881–1959
- **Bertha Mae Poston** 1883–1952
- **Sidona Poston** 1885–1968
- **George Silas Poston** 1887–1918
- **Claude Roland Poston** 1890–1990
- **Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston**
  1894–1976
- **Richard Golden Poston** 1896–1991
- **Mary Elizabeth Poston** 1900–1965

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1860 United States Federal Census**
- **1870 United States Federal Census**
- **1870 United States Federal Census**
- **1880 United States Federal Census**
- **1900 United States Federal Census**
- **1910 United States Federal Census**
- **1920 United States Federal Census**
- **1930 United States Federal Census**
- **Ancestry Family Trees**
- **Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957**
- **U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900**
- **U.S. City Directories (Beta)**
- **U.S. City Directories (Beta)**
- **U.S. World War I Mothers' Pilgrimage, 1930**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011**

Age 58 — **Death of Son George**
15 Oct 1918 • France, U.S. Military Forces
see stories

Age 60 — **Residence**
1920 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
only Claude (29) still at home; Rachel's parents again reported as Gaelic-speaking

Age 67 — **Residence**
1927-1934 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
US City Directories; address reported as "end of Main St. N"; Dau. Sidona teaches school, lives at home

Age 68 — **Death of Grandson Robert**
28 Nov 1928 • Tampa, Hillsborough, Florida
car-pedestrian accident

Age 70 — **Military**
1930
US WWI Mother's Pilgrimage request - Surname Deceased: Poston; Given Name Deceased: George S Rank: Private; Organization: Co. L, 132d Inf Cemetery: Meuse-Argonne

Age 70 — **Residence**
1930 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
Silas and Rachel now alone on the farm in North Township (T 154, R 43); US census indicates Fairfield Add'n.; Rachel's parents specified as born Northern Ireland

Age 72 — **Arrival**
5 Aug 1932 • New York, New York
returns from Cherbourg, France from solitary visit to Son George's WW I military gravesite

Age 74 — **Death of Brother Daniel**
bef 1935 • Saskatchewan, Canada
possible record of death of Brother Daniel, whose passing marks loss of all six siblings

Age 78 — **Death of Husband Silas**
15 Nov 1938 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota

Age 86 — **Civic**
bef 1947 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
member W.C.T.U, American Legion Auxiliary, Good Cheer Club and the Community Church (see obituary)

Age 87 — **Death**
11 Oct 1947 • Thief River Falls, Pennington, Minnesota
the last of her parental family to pass; Rev. D. T. Beadle conducted last rites at Community Church; survived by seven children, 13 grandchildren; burial Greenwood Cemetery

Siblings of Rachel McCurdy

John Dow McCurdy (1855-1928) m. Melinda Belle Poston (1856-1948)

Eldest sibling, John, born in Philadelphia, worked on the parents' farm in Linwood, Anoka County, until his marriage at 26 to the sister of Rachel's husband Silas. The couple would have a farm of their own nearby. After Mother's death in 1877, Father's death in 1886, and the loss of Son Jesse in 1888, they moved into Minneapolis, where John entered the home-decorating business, specifically painting and wallpapering, a business which for a time involved Brother Daniel, as well. By 1905, he had become a real estate agent; their three daughters were still at home, the eldest, Pearl, noted as a teacher of mathematics and English. By the end of John's life, the parents had joined their several children in the Pacific Northwest, living with Daughter Myrtle Belle in Tacoma, Washington, where he had resumed home-decorating work.

Matthew McCurdy (1857-1933) m. Louisa A Ramph (1860-1930)

Matthew was the first of the tribe to be born in Minnesota, in the year statehood was declared. He, too, worked on the home farm until his marriage at age 23 to a neighbour girl. Their first child was born in Faribault, Rice

County in 1885. Three years later they returned to Linwood Township and purchased 160 acres of their own, most of which passed to Brother Archie in 1895 when Matthew and Louisa relocated to Whatcom County, Washington. There, the last two of their seven children were born. Matthew continued farming and, with Brother Daniel, manufactured cedar shingles. After 1920, Matthew would become a commercial gill-net fisherman, while Louisa resides separately, first with Daughter Mabel in California, later with Daughter Elizabeth back in Washington.

Martha "Mattie" Jane McCurdy (1862-1895) m. Patrick Bradley Gallagher (1857-1923)

Younger sister, Mattie, became a maid in the Cutter household in nearby Anoka in 1880. She was 18, and her sister Rachel had just married. At 25, she married Catholic in Montana, where Patrick was co-operator of Ulm House in Great Falls. She died, very young and without issue, back in Minneapolis after surgery at St. Mary's Hospital.

Archibald "Archie" McCurdy, Jr. (1865-1925) m. Lydia E (McCurdy) (1872-)

Younger brother, Archie, was only 11 when their mother died, and by the time he turned 15 his two sisters had also left the home. After Father's death five years later, he worked for a time as a teamster in St. Paul, probably with Poston in-laws. After his marriage, he and Lydia returned to the home farm for a time, with Brother Joseph in residence as a labourer. By 1900, they had followed Sister Rachel Poston's family to Barnesville, Clay County, Minnesota, where he became a policeman. This couple remained childless. Archie died back in Minneapolis at age 59.

Daniel McCurdy (1868-1935)

Like 'Archibald', 'Daniel' has historically been a common name amongst the McCurdys. During the period between the 1880s and the 1940s, there were several Daniel McCurdys resident in Minnesota, in the Twin Cities and in Duluth; most were railway workers. *Our* Daniel came of age on the farm at Linwood in the late 1880s. Between 1895-99, when Bro Matthew had moved out West, and Sis Rachel had relocated to Barnesville, Minnesota, Daniel would live with Brother John's family on Pierce NE in Minneapolis, working together as painters and paper hangers. By 1900, he would be working with Brother Matthew in Washington making cedar shingles. Subsequently returning to the Twin Cities, Daniel resumed his home-decorating work from a base on Jackson Street in Minneapolis. In February 1920, at the age of 51 and still single, he boarded the Northern Pacific from St. Paul to Winnipeg, identifying himself as a farmer seeking land at Hughton, Saskatchewan.

Joseph McCurdy (1873-1918) m. * Laura Paulina Larsen (1872-1917)

Youngest sibling, Joseph, was just three when Mother Elizabeth died, and 13 when Father Archibald died, so the sibling group will have had a large part in parenting him. It is probable that after her marriage, Sis Rachel lived in or near the parental home until the teenage boys were grown. These younger boys demonstrated that the proximity of older relatives provided them with options. In the Minnesota Census of 1895, both Joseph and Daniel are included as 'farm laborers' with Cousin(?) * John S McCurdy at Lent in Chisago County, while Daniel would also be enumerated with Brother John in Minneapolis, and Joseph with Brother Archie in Linwood.

1st Cousin of Rachel McCurdy

Child of Father Archie's Sibling

*Child of probable uncle, * John McCurdy & * Jane Lindsay*

* John Steele McCurdy (1857-1925)

Narrative: *"I'll Be Joinin' Him Soon"*

"I like your curls, girl" he used to say to me. More likely that he likes the girl, I thought. *"There will never be another you!",* he used to sing to me. *"You can say that again,"* I said. It was fine for him sweet-talkin' me, his family comin' from Virginia as they did, Americans from time out of mind. But being a street-smart Irish girl, born of parents who spoke the 'blessed Gaelic', I figure I was a match for him.

I got to know Si through my friend Emma from church camp. She used to tell me all about him, in letters mostly. Even though our families lived in the same area, I didn't actually meet him until their weddin'. And I guess I liked his sweet-talkin', because when she died so young, it didn't take us long to get better acquainted.

I met my oldest great-grandchild the other day. She was here with her Uncle Reuben, our Frank's boy. Little Hopie is my granddaughter, Helen's, girl. She's 13 and pretty as a picture. Not that I had much to say. Nor she. What's an old lady got to offer the youngin's these days? Pity they were just here for the afternoon. Had we had more time together, we could've baked cookies or something, and maybe gotten to know each other better. She's the oldest of eight kids, same as her grandfather, Frank, was.

I've never forgiven Frank for runnin' off on that family. They've all been payin' the price for it ever since. Especially that boy Robert, who got killed tryin' to find his father. Leastways, that's the way I got the story. His Edie was a good woman — smart, good lookin', a good mother, too. He should've stuck it out, worked out their differences. The Postons always did have an eye for the women. I guess I was lucky that my Si just stuck to the sweet-talkin'. I followed wherever he wanted to go, and I gave him eight children.

Only George is gone, and that's through no fault of his own. Or ours! It was that blame war. The 'Great War' they called it, the "*war to end all wars"*. Ha! We've had another one since that that was even worse, haven't we? I could see the second one comin', though no one agreed with me at the time. The war was over before we got word that George was, indeed, killed — not just missin'! That young captain's letter, when it finally came after Christmas, brought the worst possible news, after all the waitin' and hopin'. Came a time when I could stand it no longer, I just had to go see where my boy had fallen. So, when Uncle Sam offered grants for war mothers to make pilgrimages to their sons' graves, I wasn't about to miss my chance. When I turn 70, I started makin' plans, and there was no stoppin' me. Si wasn't well enough anymore, and never had been one to travel anyways. And the children, well, they all had their own lives, so I just went on my own. It was the only big trip I ever took. I rode one of Mr. Hill's toys, the Great Northern Railroad, all the way from Thief River Falls to New York City, and then round-trip passage on *The Manhattan*. It wasn't far from port at Cherbourg, France to where George's gravesite was, with all those white crosses laid out in rows. I did my mournin' there, in a way I just couldn't seem to do at home. I was gone pretty well a month altogether. Course, we weren't farmin' that much anymore, Si being near 80 at the time.

Except for Brother John's wife, who's married to Silas' sister, Melissa, out in Washington, I'm the last of our generation. Even my little brothers, that I was mother to when our mother died, are long gone from this world. It's nearly 10 years ago now since my Si left me, and I feel in my bones that I'll be joinin' him soon.

Rachel McCurdy Poston, 1946, Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, Oct 2013; rev. 20 Feb 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Obituary, 16 Oct 1947

Thief River Falls Times, p.4



MRS. S. M. POSTON, LOCAL RESIDENT 45 YEARS, IS DEAD

Funeral Services Held Wednesday Afternoon for Respected Citizen

Funeral services were conducted at the Erickson and Lund chapel Wednesday afternoon for Mrs. Rachel Poston, who died at her home north of this city Saturday, Oct. 11th. At the time of her passing she had reached the age of 87 years. Rev. D. T. Beadle conducted the rites and interment was made at Greenwood cemetery.

Mrs. Poston was born June 9, 1860 at Anoka, where she was united in marriage to Silas M. Poston. They moved from Anoka to Stillwater, later to Minneapolis and Barnesville, and to Thief River Falls in 1902, where she has made her home since. She was a member of the W. C. T. U., American Legion auxiliary, Good Cheer club and the Community church of this city.

Left to mourn her passing are four daughters, Miss Bertha Poston of Sturgeon Lake, Miss Sidona Poston of Park Rapids, Mrs. Martha Baltz of LaCanada, Calif. and Mrs. Mary Matteon of Beaverton, Oregon; three sons, Frank of Oklahoma City, Claude of Moose Lake and Richard of Nibbing, seven grandchildren and eight grandchildren. Her husband, parents, a sister, six brothers, and one son who was killed in world war I preceded her in death.

Poston/McCurdy Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Silas Poston & Rachel McCurdy

Children of Frank Poston & Edith Palmer

Robert Harrison Poston (1912-1928)
Reuben Roger Poston (1913-1976)
Helen Frances Poston (1914-1948)

Children of Mattie Poston & Arthur Baltz

Sidona Elizabeth Baltz (1932-2012)

Children of Richard Poston & Ina Torma

Ernest Richard Poston (1923-2014)
Ruth Ina Poston (1926-)

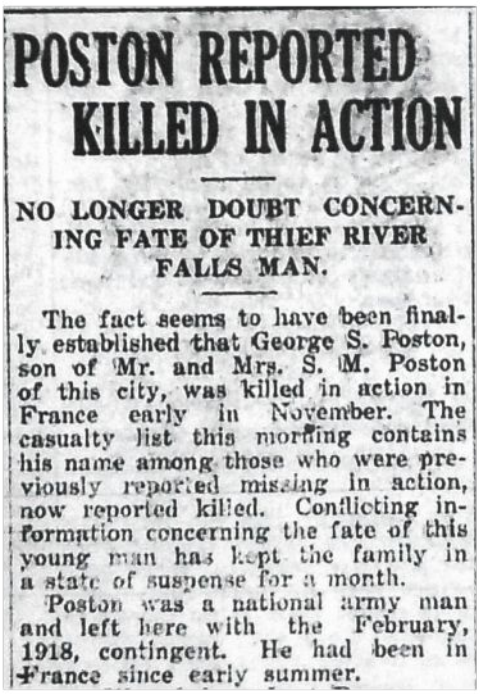
Children of Mary Poston & Arvid Mattson

Patricia Ann Mattson (1931-1998)
Arvid Elroy Mattson (1933-)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

George Poston Death Announcement

Thief River Falls Times, 12 December 1918, p.12 . . .



POSTON REPORTED KILLED IN ACTION

NO LONGER DOUBT CONCERNING FATE OF THIEF RIVER FALLS MAN.

The fact seems to have been finally established that George S. Poston, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Poston of this city, was killed in action in France early in November. The casualty list this morning contains his name among those who were previously reported missing in action, now reported killed. Conflicting information concerning the fate of this young man has kept the family in a state of suspense for a month.

Poston was a national army man and left here with the February, 1918, contingent. He had been in France since early summer.

George Poston Tribute

Thief River Falls Times, p.1, 6 Feb 1919; Unit Commander Captain Charles Wise, 132nd Infantry, Dunsuy-Meuse, France, gives a belated account of the circumstances surrounding the death . . .

BRAVELY MET A SOLDIER'S DEATH

TRIBUTE PAID TO GEORGE S. POSTON BY CAPTAIN OF HIS COMPANY.

HIT BY SHELL FRAGMENTS

RISKED LIFE AS A DISPATCH BEARER WHERE DANGER WAS GREATEST

Among the brave young men from Pennington county who answered the call to duty as a soldier in the war just closed and who will not return is George S. Poston, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Poston of this city. More than the usual amount of interest has centered in the fate of this young man because of the conflicting reports received concerning him. It was not until after the close of the war that the fact of his having fallen in battle was established beyond a doubt, although he met death while on duty with his command on the night of Oct. 8.

Last week a letter was received by Mrs. Poston from Capt. Charles E. Wise, 132nd Infantry, commanding the unit to which George Poston was attached, giving an account of the circumstances surrounding his death. The letter, which shows the high regard in which the young man was held by his officers, is as follows:

Sorrow Amid Rejoicing.

"Dear Mrs. Poston: In the midst of the general rejoicing following the successful close of the great world war, we think of those who have sacrificed their all in the cause of liberty. It is to you, the bereaved mother of one of these heroes, that I am writing this in the hope that I may in some measure answer the questions in your mind with reference to the sad event.

"On Oct. 6 our battalion was attached to the Fourth division and assigned to a sector in Bois de Fay—a wood between Septsarges and Dunsur-Meuse. This sector proved to be a very dangerous one and brought out the real man in everyone.

Stood Out Prominently.

"One of those who stood out most prominently was George Poston. He was a company runner and time and time again he took messages thru shelled areas, never faltering. He could always be depended on to carry out his task.

Struck by Fragment.

"On the night of Oct. 8 he was sent back as guide for the ration party. The rations were secured and the return trip begun. As the party was crossing a valley south of Bois de Fay the Germans put down a heavy barrage and a fragment from one of these shells hit and instantly killed George Poston. When the news was brought to me I was greatly shocked. His death meant a great deal to me both personally and in the carrying out of the work in hand.

Was Himself Wounded.

"I hope you will pardon this delay as I was wounded on Oct. 12 and returned to the company on Dec. 24. If there are any questions you have in mind, do not hesitate to ask them."

Land Purchase, 4 February 1905

The United States of America.

Chippewa Lands
CERTIFICATE No. 1835

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

Whereas, Silas M. Poston, of Marshall County, Minnesota,

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office at Crookston, Minnesota, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Silas M. Poston according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An Act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," and the acts supplemental thereto, for the West half of the North East quarter, the North West quarter of the South East quarter and the North East quarter of the South West quarter of Section twelve in Township one hundred and fifty-five North of Range forty West of the Fifth Principal Meridian in Minnesota, containing one hundred and sixty acres

according to the official plat of the survey of the said lands returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, which said tract has been purchased by the said Silas M. Poston

Now know ye, That the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said Silas M. Poston and to his heirs, the said tract above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances, of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said Silas M. Poston and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I Theodore Roosevelt PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these letters to be made patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

L.S.

Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the fourth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand ~~eight~~ nine hundred and five, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-ninth

BY THE PRESIDENT: T. Roosevelt

By F. M. McKean *Secretary.*

C. N. Brush *Recorder of the General Land Office.*

6—017

Figure of Eight

3rd Generation Progenitors — Great-Grandparents 4/4

Palmer/Requa Family

William Harrison Palmer

\+ Julia C Manchester

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa

Palmer/Requa Family Preview

Figure of Eight great-grandparents, William Harrison Palmer (1833-1925), and Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853-1900), were married at Fillmore, Minnesota, on 18 March 1873. Letitia had recently been one of William's students. For him it was the second marriage, his first wife, Julia C Manchester, having recently died at 27 of typhoid fever. The three children — Clarissa, Clarence, and Julian, had been placed with extended family in the interim. The eldest, Clarissa, was 11 years old, the youngest, Julian, just four at the time of the second marriage.

William and Lettie (sometimes "Lucy"), proceeded to have four more children — Fannie, Arthur, Dora, and our grandmother, Edith Belle. The family would move about as required for father's work as a school teacher and principal. They lived at St Charles, Winona County, at the time of the 1875 Minnesota census. The first three of their children were born in Iowa between 1876 and 1883. Eventually, the family relocated back to Minnesota to a place called Brownsdale, Red Rock Township, in Mower County near to Lettie's parents at Grand Meadow. Their youngest child, Edith, would be born there in 1887. Here the family would remain for the rest of the parent's lives. Father William served in the community as teacher/principal, and, upon retirement, as long-time postmaster, one of the oldest in the State at the time of his retirement.

Having served in the Civil War, William chose an active part in local branch of the Grand Army of the Republic, a veteran's service club, serving at times as chaplain, a role he had apparently served in the war itself. Interestingly, one of his children, Fanny, would marry a minister, and one of his children, Arthur would become one. The same was true of two grandchildren — all were Methodists.

By the time of the June 1900 US Census, William was widowed for the second time, with five mostly-grown children still living at home and Sister-in-law Laura Requa keeping house. The oldest daughter, Clarissa, was, by then, married to a banker in Nebraska. Their son, Dwight Palmer Griswold, would go on to become a Nebraska governor (1940-1946), later to be appointed to ambassadorial assignments to Germany (1947) and Greece (1947-1948), and, finally, to be elected as a US senator (1952-1954).

Third child, Julian Manchester Palmer, would for 37 years — most of his career, be owner and editor of the Faribault County Register at nearby Blue Earth. Julian's second marriage in 1916 would be to Mary Rebecca Johnston, ***Figure of Eight*** great aunt "Rae", providing a link between our maternal and our paternal families. Our mother, Helen, spent part of her childhood in their household, and it was through this connection that she and our father, Daryl, would meet at family social events. There are photographs of our grandfather, Lowry Johnston, playing lawn games with his brother-in-law, Julian Palmer, while our father, then a teenager, looks on.

Great-Grandmother Letitia died of metastasized breast cancer at the age of 46. Great-Grandfather William would live to be 92, survived by all seven children, 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. When Father-in-law Alexander Requa died in Neosha, Missouri, his remains were sent to Minnesota and a joint funeral service was staged for him and William Palmer. Both William and Lettie lie buried in unmarked graves on the parental Requa Family site in Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, Minnesota.

Ryon C Johnston (18 Jan 2014; rev. 2 Dec 2017)

ancestry



William Harrison Palmer

BIRTH 15 JAN 1833 • Hector, Schuyler, New York
DEATH 12 JAN 1925 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
15 Jan 1833 • Hector, Schuyler, New York
ref: bio in 1911 History of Mower County Minnesota; also obituary

Age 7 — **Relocation to Chautauqua**
abt 1840 • Chautauqua County, New York
Brothers Phillip & Horatio married here in 1841 & 1842

Age 13 — **Relocation to Ohio**
1846 • Chester, Morrow, Ohio
with residual parental family; ref: 1911 History of Mower County Minnesota

Age 17 — **Residence**
1850 • Chester, Morrow, Ohio
with parents, older sister, Lillis; Sis Elizabeth Hosmer & Family live nearby

Age 18 — **Relocation to Wisconsin**
1851 • Grant County, Wisconsin
with residual parental family; ref: bio in 1911 History of Mower County Minnesota; Father Henry purchases land here in 1851

Age 22 — **Residence**
1855 • Potosi Township, Grant County, Wisconsin
WI Census Index - no details

Age 24 — **Civic**
1857 • Lancaster, Grant, Wisconsin
serves as Village Officer in role as 'Marshall'; ref: 1881 History of Grant County, Wisc., Western Hist. Soc., Chicago, p. 655

Age 27 — **Residence**
12 Jun 1860 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
teacher in common school; owns some land; resident with Father Henry, Stepmother Mary Ann & her two children; other siblings in the same community

Family

Parents

Henry Palmer Jr.
1792–1867

Patience Cornell
1796–1850

Spouse & Children

Julia Cornelia Manchester
1841–1870

- **Clarissa P Palmer**
  1862–1946
- **Clarence Albert Palmer**
  1865–1959
- **Julian Manchester Palmer**
  1869–1940

Spouse & Children

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
1853–1900

- **Frances "Fanny" Palmer**
  1876–1932
- **Arthur R Palmer Rev.**
  1880–1973
- **Dora E Palmer**
  1883–1957
- **Edith Belle Palmer**
  1887–1976

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1850 United States Federal Census
- 1850 United States Federal Census
- 1860 United States Federal Census
- 1860 United States Federal Census
- 1870 United States Federal Census
- 1880 United States Federal Census
- 1900 United States Federal Census
- 1910 United States Federal Census
- 1920 United States Federal Census
- Iowa, Births and Christenings Index, 1857-1947
- Iowa, Births and Christenings Index, 1857-1947
- Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Age 30 — **Residence**
1 Jul 1863 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
Civil War Draft registration: married teacher (30)

Age 37 — **Death of Julia C Manchester**
22 Feb 1870 • Elkador, Clayton, Iowa
of typhoid fever

Age 37 — **Residence**
10 Jun 1870 • Strawberry Point, Boardman Township, Clayton, Iowa
high school principal, boarding w. Parch Family; two eldest children are with Sis Elizabeth Hosmer at Patch Grove, Wisconsin; baby Julian is harboured by Bro Philip & Angeline Palmer at Brodtville

Age 40 — **Marriage**
18 Mar 1873 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
William is school principal at nearby village of Preston; Letitia is one of the pupils (see her obit)

 **Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa** (1853–1900)

Age 42 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • St Charles, Winona, Minnesota
with spouse and three children (6-13) from 1st family; Cousin (?) Elias Palmer nearby

Age 43 — **Residence**
1876 - 1883 • Iowa
first three children of second family born in Orchard & Carpenter, Mitchell County (obit reports principalships in counties of Nashua, Chickasaw and Floyd)

Age 47 — **Residence**
1880 • Orchard, Mitchell, Iowa
teacher; with spouse and two children (4, 11)

Age 52 — **Residence**
1 May 1885 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
with "Lucy" and five children (4-23), includes her own: Arthur (4) & Fanny (9); Iowa-born Dora (2) is not listed!; also present is F. Glenn (37) - long-time family connection from 1st marriage (see Julia C Manchester Disambiguation)

Age 62 — **Residence**
1895 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
Minnesota Census reports 'public school teacher'; with "Lucy", one Minnesota-born child Edith (7) and her three Iowa-born older siblings: Fannie (19), Arthur (14), Dora (11)

Age 64 — **Occupation**
1897 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
transitions from 45 year teaching career, which included seven principalships in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota, to become postmaster at Brownsdale

Age 67 — **Death of Wife Letitia**
11 Mar 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
records vary: Su 4 Mar or Su 11 Mar

Age 67 — **Residence**
20 Jun 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
widowed postmaster; Sister-in-Law Laura A Requa (27) is in residence as housekeeper; four children at home: Julian is 'printer', Fanny is 'teacher'

Age 72 — **Residence**
14 Jun 1905 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
postmaster; with three daughters: Fanny (28), 'school teacher', Dora (22), Edith (19)

Age 77 — **Residence**
19 Apr 1910 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
still the village postmaster; Dora & Edith still at home

Age 87 — **Residence**
1920 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota

retired for 10 years from public life, he now calls himself a 'truck farmer'; only Dora still at home

Age 91 — **Civic**
bef 1925 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
Methodist Episcopalian church member, and for some years chaplain of Henry Rogers Post #11, Grand Army of the Republic

Age 91 — **Death**
12 Jan 1925 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
burial at Oakview Cemetery, Austin, Morrow, Minnesota in Requa family plot beside 2nd wife Letitia Requa; survived by seven children, 13 grandchildren & two great-grandchildren; joint service 22 Apr with Father-in-Law Alex Requa

Siblings of William Harrison Palmer

Siblings, Children of Father Henry & Mother Patience Cornell

Phillip Cornell Palmer (1816-1887) m. Angeline Brodt (Braudt) (1820-1903)

Eldest brother Phillip, named after Grandfather * Phillip Cornell, married in Chatham, Columbia, New York. The first two of their five children were born there before migration in covered wagons to Wisconsin with the Germanic Braudt Clan in 1847. There would a lifetime of farming, and the establishment of a community (Brodtville).

Lydia Palmer (1818-)

Lydia was presumably named after maternal grandmother, * Lydia Devol. There is no record of this sister, suggesting that she did not reach adulthood.

Elizabeth Palmer (1821-1880) m. Thomas Hosmer (1816-1850)

Elizabeth married farmer Thomas in New York. They accompanied her parents to Ohio, farmed next door until he died there. She and the children would move on to Wisconsin, owning land in Patch Grove, the next town to Father Henry and her brothers. In 1860, Son William H would be farming the land. Sister Lillis lived with them. For a time around 1870, while Bro William was boarding in Iowa, and Julia C was ill with a new baby, Elizabeth harboured their two eldest, with the help of Bro Horatio's & Lydia's teenage daughter Emeline.

Lillis G Palmer (1823-1876)

Lillis remained single, accompanied her parents to Ohio, then to Wisconsin. Named after Great Grandmother * Lillis Seabury Cornell, she would herself become the namesake, three generations later, of ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnston: (Lillis) Beth Joy (1946-). In 1860, the census showed her as a milliner, living in Patch Grove with Sis Elizabeth and Nephew William Hosmer.

Horatio R Palmer (1826-1864) m. Lydia Emeline Ellis (1823-1862); m. Nancy Emily McIntosh (1846)

Horatio would have a short and intense life. He married Lydia while still in New York and their two children were born there, 11 years apart. After the move to Wisconsin, they lived next door to Father Henry, Lydia died. Horatio married his step-sister, Emily. He was killed at age 38 in the Civil War, just shortly after the birth of their daughter, Lydia Sylvia. Eldest son, Almarion, may have been a soldier as well.

Step-siblings, Children of Father Henry's 2nd wife, Mary Ann Kimble

John L McIntosh (1844-1864) m. Teressa Harriet Parker (1844-1910)

Step-brother John married a girl from nearby Lofton, Wisconsin. They reportedly had a baby boy, who did not live long. John, too, was killed in the Civil War in the same month as Horatio. Teressa remarried to a man her father's age, with a large family of his own. After joining the Wilson household, she proceeded to have seven more children, including two sets of twins.

(Nancy) Emily McIntosh (1846-) m. Horatio R Palmer (1826-1864); m. Nathan S Stewart (1842-)

Emily, the youngest of Mary Kimble Beeman McIntosh Palmer's children, married her step-brother, Horatio Palmer. After his demise, she does not appear to have participated in raising his previous children, nor her own daughter Lydia Sylvia, who would live nearby with Grandmother Mary. Emily's re-marriage was to another Civil War soldier, and she gave birth to three Stewart children.

1st Cousins of William Harrison Palmer

*Child of Uncle * Wilbur Palmer* [speculated — see 'Possible Family Ties' story under ***Figure of Eight*** 4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents (Palmer/Cornell Family)]

* Henry W Palmer (1820-)
and others . . .

Narrative: *"Teacher, Preacher, Postmaster, Gardener"*

It's interesting how similar our family stories are, although Lettie, being 20 years younger than I, was born after her family got to Wisconsin, whereas I had ridden in the wagon. Two New York families heading west for a better life – a common story in the middle part of the last century.

In our case, it took us more than years to make the trip, with a stop in Ohio when Mother took ill. Before we left, she had shared with me something of her premonition, surprising me, startling me too, of course, I being just 14 at the time and not used to confidences from parents, especially not about death. Mother in fact, died and was buried there in Ohio. We arrived at Wyalusing, Wisconsin, four years after my brother Philip and his in-laws. Sister Lillis, and Sister Elizabeth Hosmer's family, whose husband had also died in Ohio, were with our contingent. Upon arriving in Wisconsin, we settled next door to Phillip and the Braudt Clan.

Unlike my 'old man', the farmer, I was bent on an academic career, and became a teacher. Within the decade, I started married life with Julia. We had only just started a family when the Civil War got underway, and the able men were disappearing at a great rate. I was at first a recruiter, then joined the throng in battle as a captain and as a chaplain. While I somehow managed to survive, Brother Horatio, wasn't so lucky. Despite his more advanced age, he insisted on signing up, as did most of the men in Grant County. He and our step-brother, John McIntosh, were in the same regiment, died in the same month.

Little Julian was but an infant when Julia died of typhoid, just across the Mississippi at Clayton, Iowa, where I accepted my first principalship. We were a family in crisis. My sisters stepped into the breach and kept two of the children until I could get my life back together. Sister-in-law Angelina looked after Baby Julian. Later, I took a job at Preston, Minnesota, where I met Lettie. She was one of my students, actually. Maybe it was our common history that helped us get on so well. In any case, my children needed a mother. They loved her, and she, being herself the eldest of a large family, fit smoothly into the role of mother. I loved her, too.

Mostly thanks to Lettie, Julia's three children, with a little help and a lot of encouragement, have done well for themselves. Clarissa married a bank president. Clarence became a proof-reader, and his little brother, Julian, went a step or two further, becoming a newspaper writer, editor and, eventually, publisher of his own paper over in Blue Earth.

An academic career means moving a lot, at least it did for me – in all, I held seven principalships in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota. Lettie's and my first three children were born in Iowa, each at a different location, and after that it was back to Minnesota. We came here to Brownsdale to be near Lettie's family. Our youngest, Edith, was born here. When Lettie fell ill and died 14 years ago at age 27, right at the end of the school term, when Edie was just 10 years old. Lettie's spinster sister, Laura Requa, stepped into the breach, staying on with us for a while. She eventually joining her twice-widowed sister Mary in California.

After that, there was no 'move' left in me. My school career had served me well, and I had become the village postmaster, something I feel better able to handle as I get older. I have the satisfaction of a successful tribe, two of whom, Arthur and Fannie, became teachers themselves. And I have my loyal

Dora`s helpful care and company. Brownsdale has continued to be my home, and I guess it'll see me through.

And now, in addition to my gardening, I have the privilege of watching my grandchildren grow. Last week, there arrived two more new ones – twin cousins, so to speak! One of them was a little girl to Daughter Edith, her third child. When Edith was born, I wanted to name her Helen, but I got overruled by the 'other boss'. When I learned that Edith had named her own daughter Helen, I sent a congratulatory postcard telling her just that little story.

William Harrison Palmer, 18 Oct 1914, Brownsdale, Mower County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, rev. 4 Dec 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

William Harrison Palmer Disambiguation

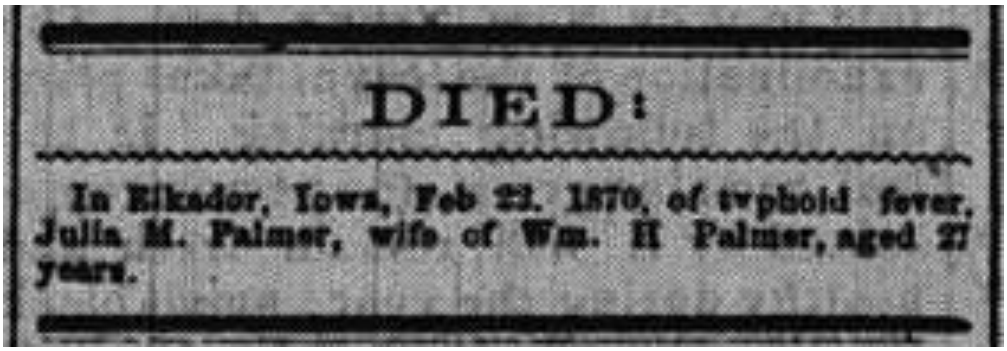
William Henry Harrison (1773-1841) was a locally famous Indian fighter in upstate New York and a general in the War of 1812. He would later become the 9th US President. In those days, it was popular to name one's children after important military and political figures.

There were several locally-born William H Palmers in New York at about the same time, as well as one born in Ireland. One, with an exact name and the same birth year as ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandfather, enlisted in the Civil War on 22 August 1862 with the 134th in the infantry at Middleburgh, Schoharie, New York. His military record shows "deserted at the Battle of Gettysburg".

Our great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer (1833-1925) had moved on to Ohio, and then Wisconsin, before Civil War enlistment on 14 October 1861 at Lancaster: Co. B, 43rd Wis. Vol. Inf.; assigned to the 10th Regiment at Camp Holton, Milwaukee; serving as captain and chaplain [ref: 1881 History of Grant County, Wisc., Western Hist. Soc., Chicago]. He would have two wives, seven children, would serve a long life in Wisconsin, Iowa & Minnesota as school teacher and principal, county treasurer, village postmaster.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (rev. 4 Jan 2014; rev. 23 Feb 2015)]

Julia Manchester Death



DIED:

In Elkador, Iowa, Feb 23, 1870, of typhoid fever, Julia M. Palmer, wife of Wm. H Palmer, aged 27 years.

[ref: Memorable Happenings in the Grant County Herald Newspaper 1870-1879 v.II; Issue 700308 p.3a, c.4; 8 Mar 1870, Grant, Wisconsin]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 21 May 2014

Postmaster Palmer Bio, Brownsville, Mower County, Minnesota, 1911

W. H. Palmer, one of the oldest postmasters in the state, has served the public of Brownsdale since 1897, when he first received his appointment. He was born in the town of Hector, Schuyler county, New York, January 15, 1833, son of Henry and Patience (Cornell) Palmer, the former a native of Columbia county, New York, and the mother of Taunton, Mass. W. H. Palmer was taken to Ohio by his parents at the age of thirteen, and at the age of eighteen came to Grant county, Wisconsin, where he was teaching school at the outbreak of the Civil war. He continued to teach during the stirring years of 1861-63, and then in 1864 enlisted in Co. B, 43rd Wis. Vol. Inf. When he returned from the army he resumed teaching, and continued that vocation some thirty years in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. For some years W. H. Palmer has been chaplain of the Henry Rogers Post, No. 11, G. A. R. By his first wife, Julia Manchester, he had three children: Clarissa, Clarence and Julian. After her death, in 1873, he married Letitia Requa, daughter of Alexander Requa, and they have four children: Fannie, Arthur, Dora and Edith. Fannie married Rev. I. B. Wood and Edith married Frank Poston.

[Ref: F. Curtiss-Wedge, 1911. History of Mower County Minnesota. Cooper, Chicago. p. 687]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 21 May 2018

William Harrison Palmer Obituary (1/2)

Austin Daily Herald
Tuesday, Jan. 13, 1925
Austin, Minnesota

CIVIL WAR VET. AGED 92 DIES AT BROWNSDALE

W. H. Palmer, Soldier, Teacher, Postmaster, Is Called

LONG CAREER TEACHING

Active In Schools Of Northwest For 45 Years

Brownsdale, Jan. 13.—W. H. Palmer, 92 years old, a Civil War veteran and for 45 years a school teacher in the northwest, died Monday. He was one of the oldest postmasters in the state, and served the public of Brownsdale since 1897, when he first received his appointment. He was born in the town of Hector, Schuyler county, New York, January 15, 1833, son of Henry and Patience (Cornell) Palmer, the former a native of Columbia county, New York, and the mother of Taunton, Mass. W. H. Palmer was taken to Ohio by his parents at the age of thirteen, and at the age of eighteen came to Grant County, Wisconsin, where he was teaching school at the outbreak of the Civil war. He continued to teach during the stirring years of 1861-63, and then in 1864 enlisted in Co. B, 43rd Wis. Vol. Inf. When he returned from the army he resumed teaching, and continued that vocation some thirty years in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. For some years W. H. Palmer has been chaplain of the Henry Rogers Post No. 11, G. A. R. By his first wife, Julia Manchester, he had three children: Clarissa, Clarence and Julian. After her death, in 1873, he married Letitia Requa, daughter of Alexander Requa, and they had four children: Fannie, Arthur, Dora and Edith. Fannie married Rev. I. B. Wood and Edith married Frank Poston.

Surviving him are seven children, thirteen grand children and two great grandchildren. His second wife died in Brownsdale several years ago.

Mr. Palmer's teaching career started in Grant County, Wisconsin, 73 years ago. Since then he has been principal of schools at Brownsdale, Le Roy, St. Charles, Platteville and Prairie Du Chien, Wisc., and Elkader and Nashua, Ia. He retired from public life about 15 years ago and has been living with his daughter, Dora.

Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday afternoon from the Methodist church, of which he was a member, with burial at Austin.

William Harrison Palmer Obituary (2/2), Faribault County Register

VOLUME XXXVIII

OLD INSTRUCTOR PASSED AWAY

TAPS SOUNDED FOR OLDEST TEACHER IN NORTHWEST

W. H. Palmer Taught School For Forty-five Solid Years—First School Taught Seventy-Three Years Ago.

W. H. Palmer, father of the editor of this paper, died at his home at Brownsdale, Minnesota, Monday afternoon, January 12, 1925, at 2:15 o'clock, at the advanced age of 92 years lacking three days.

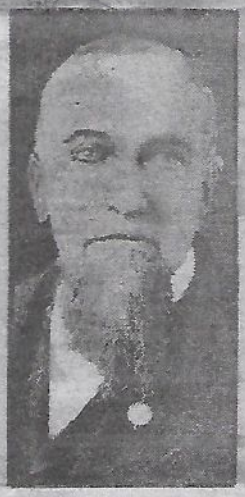
Deceased was born at Hector, Schuyler county, New York, January 15, 1833. His parents were Henry and Patience Cornell Palmer. He moved with his parents, when a lad, to central Ohio, where they resided a few years, and then they moved to Grant county, Wisconsin, in the late forties. When a young man only 19 years of age he began teaching school, 73 years ago. The building was of logs and he boarded around, two weeks in one place. Four school houses have stood where he first taught. Later he taught at Platteville and Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.

Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Julia Cornelia Manchester at Patch Grove, Wis., December 19, 1860. The children of this union are Mrs. Clarissa Griswold, of Gordon, Nebraska; Clarence A. Palmer, of St. Paul, Minn. and Julian M. Palmer, of this city.

The late Mr. Palmer was a volunteer soldier in the Civil War in the George K. Shaw Co., and served in the vicinity of Nashville, Tenn., most of the time during his enlistment.

Later he was principal of schools at Elkader, Iowa, where his wife died February 22, 1870, of typhoid fever where there was an epidemic at the time.

Later Mr. Palmer taught at Preston, the county seat of Fillmore county, this state, and while teaching here he was married to Miss Lucinda Letitia Requa, at Fountain, Minn., March 18, 1873. There were born to them Mrs. Fanny Wood, of Denver, Colo.; Arthur R. Palmer, of Brownsdale, Minn.



Reprinted by Courtesy of The Milwaukee Journal

WILLIAM H. PALMER, Deceased

Among other places where Mr. Palmer taught during the forty-five years of solid teaching were at St. Charles, LeRoy and Brownsdale, Minn., and Nashua, Iowa. His pupils, many of whom are in the seventies and eighties, are scattered throughout the United States from the gulf to Canada, and the Atlantic to the Pacific coast.

His second wife died March 4, 1900. Since then he has lived with his daughters, who have kept house for him. He was postmaster for seventeen years at Brownsdale, until the age limit barred him from the service.

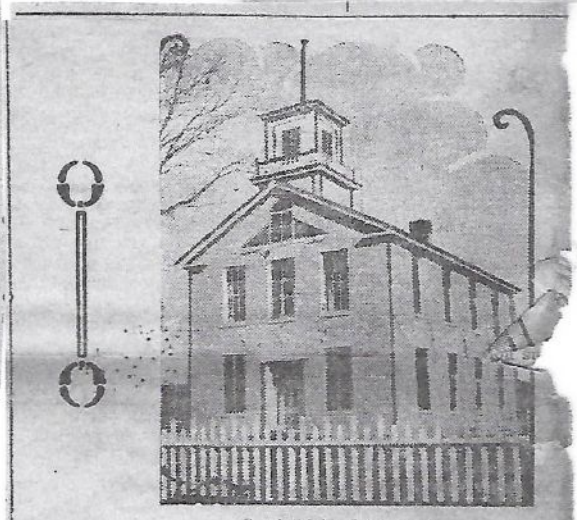
He has always lived a consistent Christian life, and his children realize that he left them a legacy of vastly greater worth than the wealth of this world, in the sterling character that he exhibited. He was always interested in the church.

Deceased's father was born in 1792, during George Washington's first presidential administration. Father was the youngest son of the family. His oldest brother, who died 38 years ago, would have been 108 years old now, had he lived.

There have never been any deaths among father's descendants, and there are seven children, thirteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The late Mr. Palmer's father-in-law, Alexander Requa, of Neosho, Missouri, is still living at the advanced age of 93 years.

The funeral was held at the home at Brownsdale, 2 o'clock last Wednesday afternoon, and at the Methodist church at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. DeMarce, the pastor, officiating. Interment was made at Oakdale cemetery, Austin.

All the children were present excepting Mrs. D. H. Griswold, of Gordon, Nebr., whose health would not permit the journey.



Reprinted by Courtesy of The Milwaukee Journal

Stone School House At Prairie du Chien, where W. H. Pa
At Close of Civil War.

ancestry



Julia Cornelia Manchester

BIRTH JUL 1841 • Missouri
DEATH 22 FEB 1870 • Elkador, Clayton, Iowa
wife of great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
Jul 1841 • Missouri
see Find A Grave for birth date (death Feb 1870 at age 28 years, 7 months); and 1860 US Census for birth place

Age 18 — **Residence**
16 Jun 1860 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
1860 US Census p. 12/17; as 'domestic' in Robert Glenn household (NB: Son Clarence Palmer, shows up in 1880 as a labourer in that household, and Fanny Glenn of that household shows up in William Palmer's household in Mower County, Minnesota in 1885)

Age 19 — **Marriage**
19 Dec 1860 • Patch Grove, Wyalusing Township, Grant County, Wisconsin
Rev. Reuben R. Wood, officiating (ref: Grant County [Wisc.] Herald 1870-1879 v. II; Issue 60De29, p.3a, c.3); County Record 03 p.092



William Harrison Palmer
(1833–1925)

Age 28 — **Death**
22 Feb 1870 • Elkador, Clayton, Iowa
of typhoid fever (ref: Grant County [Wisc.] Herald 1870-1879 v. II; Issue 700308, p.3a, c.4); she leaves three children (1-8)

Family

Parents



Manchester
1820–

Spouse & Children



William Harrison Palmer
1833–1925



Clarissa P Palmer
1862–1946



Clarence Albert Palmer
1865–1959



Julian Manchester Palmer
1869–1940

Sources

Ancestry Sources



1860 United States Federal Census



Ancestry Family Trees



U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current



Wisconsin Marriages, 1835-1900



Wisconsin Marriages, pre-1907

Julia C Manchester Disambiguation

Surprising as it may seem, in the 1850s and 1860s, there were apparently two Julia C Manchester's in the Patch Grove/Wyalusing/Brodtville community of Grant County, Wisconsin.

One of them, born in Missouri in 1827, descended from David Manchester (1790-1860) and Jane Rawlings (1806-1860), married one William Fitch on the 27th of June 1854. At the time of the June 1860 U.S. Census, they have two children Walter S (3) and Alice L (6/12). This family would in 1870 and 1880, be living in California with additional children, including Zala, obviously named after Julia's sister.

In 1860, a 16-year-old Missouri-born Adeline Manchester is 'domestic' in the next-door-but-one Nathaniel Kindall household at Wyalusing. Adeline is the middle name of the Julia C Manchester Fitch's sister Zala. It was common practice to honour family members by naming children after them. The presence in the same community of these folks of common origin, also with naming coincidences, is a strong clue to their family connections.

There was also a Darius Manchester in the community, boarding with the Clayton family at Patch Grove as 'carpenter's apprentice'. This might be another family-of-origin connection, though his parents John L and Margaret, with another son, Dennis, hale from New York, and a search of their ancestry profiles reveals neither a Missouri connection, nor the presence of either a Julia or an Adeline in their immediate family.

The second Julia C Manchester, born about 1843 is, as yet, of unknown origin, but would seem to be unrelated to the other resident Manchesters. On 16th June 1860, an 18-year-old Missouri-born Julia Manchester is 'domestic' in the Robert Glenn household at Wyalusing. This is the girl who would marry New York-born ***Figure of Eight*** Great-Grandfather William Harrison Palmer (then 27), on the 16th of December 1860.

Interestingly, their son Clarence Palmer, then 15, would be listed as a farm labourer in this Glenn household in the 1880 US Census in Wyalusing Township. Fanny Glenn, born about 1848 and present in the Glenn household in both aforementioned censuses, would show up in 1885 as care-giver in the Mower County, Minnesota, home of William Palmer with his second family.

On another occasion, years later a 'Sheriff' Glenn, obviously interested, showed up at the local newspaper with a clipping supplied by "Native Son" Julian Palmer, describing the successful careers of Julia's and William's two sons: Julian, publisher; Clarence, proof-reader. [Native Son, 4 Apr 1906, Fennimore, Grant, Wisconsin: Fennimore Times 1900-1909; Issue 06Ap04, p.2, a.1] The Glenn Family and the Palmer/Requa Family were obviously long-time acquaintances.

Julia and William would have three children altogether: Clarissa P (1862); Clarence Albert (1865); and Julian Manchester (1869). Curiously, Mother Julia's birth location is variously described in the census records of her children as: Missouri, Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota. She died of typhoid in Clayton County, Iowa, on 22 February 1870, and her children were harboured with William's Palmer siblings back in Grant County, Wisconsin, until Father William remarried in 1873.

These two Julia C Manchesters would have known each other. In 1860, the Fitches were next door neighbours of Elizabeth Hosmer (38) and Lillis G Palmer (36), sisters of William Harrison Palmer, who lived nearby with his father, Henry Palmer Jr., and Step-mother Mary, and her two children. William's brother, Phillip Palmer, married into the Brodt (Braudt) Family, also lived nearby, as did Brother Horatio with his family.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (28 Dec 2013; rev. 5 Dec 2017)]

ancestry



Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa

BIRTH 7 OCT 1853 • Columbus, Columbia, Wisconsin
DEATH 11 MAR 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
7 Oct 1853 • Columbus, Columbia, Wisconsin
ref: obituary in Wykoff Messenger, 15 March 1900; eldest child of 11 (named Letitia Lucinda after Step-grandmother Letitia Ruton and Mother Lucinda Andres)

Age 7 — **Residence**
1860 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
this census says Lettie born NY!

Age 17 — **Residence**
1870 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
in parental home; census says Carimona post office

Age 19 — **Marriage**
18 Mar 1873 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
William is school principal at nearby village of Preston; Letitia is one of the pupils (see her obit)
William Harrison Palmer (1833–1925)

Age 21 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • St Charles, Winona, Minnesota
one year residency, with three step-children, none of her own yet

Age 23 — **Residence**
1876-1883 • Mitchell County, Iowa
three oldest children born in Orchard & Carpenter

Age 27 — **Residence**
1880 • Orchard, Mitchell, Iowa
with spouse and two children (4, 11)

Age 31 — **Residence**
1 May 1885 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
with William & four children (4-23), includes her own: Arthur (4) & Fanny (9) ; NB: Iowa-born Dora (2) is not present (perhaps hospitalized with her epilepsy?); household also includes an F. Glenn (37) – long-time Palmer family connection from 1st marriage

Age 32 — **Occupation**
1885 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
operates Barnard & Elliott, milliners; ref: 1911 History of Mower County

Age 36 — **Civic**
1890s • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
prominent temperance worker, including three years County President of W.C.T.U.; leader and Sunday school superintendent in Methodist Episcopal church

Age 39 — **Death of Mother Lucinda**
19 May 1893 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota

Age 41 — **Residence**
8 Jun 1895 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
with William (teacher) and four children (7-19)
Age 41 — Re-marriage of Father Alexander
28 Aug 1895 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri

Family

Parents

Alexander "Alex" Requa 1831–1925

Lucinda Belle Andres 1834–1893

Spouse & Children

William Harrison Palmer 1833–1925

- **Frances "Fanny" Palmer** 1876–1932
- **Arthur R Palmer Rev.** 1880–1973
- **Dora E Palmer** 1883–1957
- **Edith Belle Palmer** 1887–1976

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Web: Minnesota, Obituary Index, 1891-2003

Age 46 — **Death**
11 Mar 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota
obit index says Su 4 Mar; apparently of metastasized breast cancer; funeral service by ME Rev. Hilbish, ass't by Rev. McCausland of Alden; burial at Oakview Cemetery, Austin, Morrow County, Minnesota on Requa Family plot – no headstone present

Siblings of Letitia Lucinda Requa

Full Siblings, Children of Father Alexander and Mother Lucinda Andres

Doresta “Dora” A Requa (1857-1942) m. Adelbert Folsom (1857-1922)

Until her marriage, Dora lived at home, taught school. She would be the namesake of one of Lettie’s children. Adelbert and Dora would precede several other siblings west, where he became a real estate agent in Washington, and then a fertilizer dealer in California. They would have two children. For a time, Sister Rachel, a school teacher, lived with them.

Lizzie Requa (1859-1859)

Third child, died in infancy.

Fannie Requa (1860-1860)

Fourth child, died in infancy.

Eliza B Requa (1861-1934) m. Harry Brown Bussell (1861-1928)

Eliza’s husband, Harry, was a Maine-born farmer, turned town justice and real estate agent. In 1928, they would build a fine eight-room hotel in Grand Meadow, Minnesota, which Daughter Blanche would eventually manage. They had four children altogether. For a time, after her parents’ break-up, Granddaughter Florence would live with them.

Benjamin F Requa (1863-1865)

Sixth child, died in childhood.

James H Requa (1866-1924) m. Charlotte "Lottie" Luella “LuLu" Hutchins (1901-1993)

James would follow Sister Dora Folsom and family to Everett, Washington, where he married Iowa-born Lottie. They would raise four children. His work was in the administrative side of the grocery business. For a time, Missouri-born cousin, Edith F Requa, would live with them. After his death, Lottie would run a group home in Oregon, where residents included two of their grandchildren.

Rachel Almeda Requa (1868-1932) m. Edward Byron Reese (1864-1930)

Rachel would live with Sister Dora and Adelbert Folsom for a while in Everett, Washington, teaching school. She would marry late, raise one child. As is the way with ministers, her husband’s profession, they would move several times before settling in Vancouver, Washington.

Mary J Requa (1871-1941) m. Frank Miller (1863-1895); m. William J Briggs (1849-1910)

Mary lived a varied life, married twice to farmers. The second wedding was held at Father Alexander’s late-life home in Neosha, Missouri. She had a child by each husband. After being widowed the second time, she moved to California, where she would live first with Daughter Rachel Watson and family, and then with Sister Laura. Interestingly, in the 1930 US Census, visiting Sister Eliza R Bussell (accompanied by her resident granddaughter, Florence) got enumerated twice, first with the Requa sisters in California, then again back home to Minnesota.

Laura A Requa (1873-1937)

Laura remained single. Upon Sister Lettie’s death, Brother-in-Law William H Palmer’s second bereavement, she lived with his family to help out. As had several of her siblings, she eventually made the move to the West, living the last 15 or 20 years of her life in Los Angeles County, California, near Requa relatives, and, for a time, with widowed sister, Mary J Briggs.

Alexander Requa Jr. (1876-1912) m. Rose R Nielsen (1888-1963)

Alexander, the youngest sibling, became a miner in Nevada, died young, perhaps in a mining accident. His wife Rose, of Danish descent, took herself back to her California parental family to give birth, posthumously, to their youngest. For a time, she apparently couldn't manage as a single parent. While she lived with her brother Charles, her three kids were in a children's residence elsewhere in Los Angeles County. They would later re-join her, and she would eventually live permanently with the eldest, Alexander Requa III, and his family. Sister-in-Law Laura A Requa was nearby.

Step-siblings, Children of Father Alexander's 2nd wife, Susan Miser

Albert Winton Perkins (1874-1940) m. Isabel Wilson (1875-)

Albert married at his step-parents's home in Neosho. He would become a newspaper editor in St Louis and Baltimore. He and Isabel had one son, Arthur.

Arthur Lee Perkins (1875-1941) m. Susan M Barnes (1878-1962)

Arthur also married at Neosho. Like his brother, he became a newspaper editor, spending his life in Galveston, Texas.

Mary Virginia Perkins (1877-1960) m. William Amos LaNear (1877-1936)

Mary was just 18 when mother re-married. She would live in the Requa household until she married carpenter William. They continued on next door for a couple of decades before relocating to New Mexico. She would finish her days as the widowed mother in Daughter Almildra Gonzales' household in Texas.

1st Cousins of Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa

Children of Father Alexander's Siblings

Children of Aunt Amy Requa & Samuel Johnson

reportedly eight children, including:
Samuel M Johnson (1856-1921)

Children of Uncle Isaac Requa & Elizabeth Whitehead

Mary E Requa (1835-1891)
Adrianna "Adrienne" D Requa (1847-1922)

Child of Uncle Isaac Requa & Elizabeth Kirkley

William I Requa (1866-)

Children of Uncle Abram Requa & Elizabeth Lyon

Alice Requa (1849-1918)
Charles H Requa (1850-1916)
Lillian Requa (1857-1860)
Elizabeth Requa (1860-1860)
Florence A Requa (1861-)

Children of Uncle Henry Requa & Caroline Johnson

Charles Requa (1840-1840)
Emeline Requa (1842-1922)
Abram Requa (1846-1847)
Alzuma Requa (1848-1850)
Henry James Requa (1851-1938)
James H Requa (1853-1871)
Celia Requa (1858-)
William Harkness Requa (1860-1933)

Mark Milton Requa (1864-)

Children of Aunt Rachel Requa & James Sebring

William H Sebring (1840-1926)
Mary M Sebring (1842-1924)
Rachel Sebring (1842-)
Elizabeth Sebring (1844-)
Alfred A Sebring (1846-1862)
Henrietta “Etta” E Sebring (1849-)
James Edward Sebring Jr. (1852-1902)
Emeline Sebring (1854-)
Cecelia Sebring (1855-)
Francis A Sebring (1859-)

Children of Aunt Elizabeth Requa & Jeremiah Van Riper

Teresa Van Riper (1846-)

Children of Uncle James Requa & Celia Parker

reportedly five children, including:
Fanny E Requa (1854-1860)
Grace Requa (1858-1870)
Arthur Augustus Requa (1864-1931)

Children of Uncle Benjamin Requa & Emma Prickett

Edith Frances Requa (1894-1953)
Glode B Requa (1896-1913)

Children of Aunt Mary Jane & John Lester

reportedly five children, including:
Anna Lester (1867-)

Children of Samuel Requa & Celia Enright

Walter James Requa (1875-1947)
Frank J Requa (1876-1963)
Agnes J Requa (1878-1880)
Olive A Requa (1879-1880)
Benjamin Requa (1880-1885)
Howard Bengham Requa (1887-1967)
Harvey “Harry” E Requa (1895-1918)

Narrative: “Mister Palmer”

There were 23 years between my birth and that of my youngest brother, Alex. We are an interesting family. My parents were farmers who came from New York by covered wagon. Mother birthed me in Wisconsin, and my 10 brothers and sisters in Minnesota. What with the three of them dying in infancy, our age spread, and the fact that Dora and James have moved to Washington, Alex to California, and that Laura and Rachel have stayed single and come and go when-and-where they please, we haven't really been able to stay close.

I'm married to a teacher-turned-principal. He was *my* principal actually, when we lived at Fountain in Fillmore County. He is twenty years older than I am, and he brought three children with him into the marriage. William — I still sometimes catch myself calling him “Mister Palmer” — really *couldn't* manage a family without a wife. The three children had been ‘farmed out’ amongst his siblings until after our wedding. I didn't mind adopting them, a ready-made family! We just carried right on and had four more of our own.

We have been luckier than most. They all lived and they've all done well. Well, except for poor little Dora, who was born with epilepsy. She was in-and-out of hospital for the first couple of years, but we manage quite well at home now. While we moved a lot in the early years with William's job, it was really never for very far. Two states, yes, but pretty much neighboring counties just the same.

Our little Edith is 13 this year. She's a great pal to her sister Dora, and they are both enjoying Brownsdale School. Arthur, still at home at 20, is well on his way to becoming a teacher like his dad. In fact, pretty well all our lot are still at home. I guess I've spoiled the children in the end. Fanny is showing no signs of leaving. She, too, plans to be a teacher. William and Julia's youngest, Julian, is well into his career at 31, but seems happy with my cooking. His older brother, Clarence, is working in St. Paul near his fiancée, with a plan to be married in the Fall.

William's eldest, Clarissa, a lot like her mother I am told, has ventured out into the world. She is married to a banker in Nebraska. They have three children, our only grandchildren so far. I've got lots of time, being younger, but poor William is already 67, and beginning to talk about retirement. I'll believe that when I see it! Maybe he has gotten enough of little ragamuffins at his work all these years to not miss having lots of grandchildren. We don't see the ones we have much, only at Christmas, but their mother is a good one to write. Their father, Dwight, is a talker. A bit of a 'big shot' really. I guess it goes with the job. And the money! I swear, with his personality and background, and Clarissa's strength of character, that those Griswold children will go far. Politicians, maybe!

I feel fortunate that we were able to return to the area, to this community where my children could be near their grandparents (while it lasted!). After many years in Iowa, our youngest was born back here. Mother Lucinda died seven years ago, so Edie can barely remember her grandmother. My father surprised us all by moving away soon after, and starting a new life in Missouri. He's been remarried for a while to a woman named Susan, who is two years younger than I, his eldest daughter. She has three children the same ages as ours, which brings the grand total for Father up to 14 children. That's just counting the ones that survived! Mother lost three along the way, which was hard for all of us, of course.

Of all my surviving brothers and sisters, only Mary and Eliza are still in the community, both married to local farmers. The others seem to have all caught the 'Western Fever'. Sister Doresta, namesake of our Dora, was the first to leave. Her husband became a real estate agent in Washington, and one-by-one the others followed along. While it is exciting to think about their adventures in new places, I'm a bit of a homebody myself. And poor William (he gives me a look, when I say that!), was born in New York and has had a lifetime of relocations, doesn't even want to think about it. So here we'll stay . . .

Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa, Jan 1900, Brownsville, Mower County, Minnesota [as imagined by Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, rev. 25 Feb 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Letitia “Lettie” Lucinda Requa Obituary (right)

Palmer/Requa Grandchildren

Grandchildren of William & 1st wife, Julia Manchester

Children of Clarissa Palmer & Dwight Griswold

Vera Ellen Griswold (1890-1984
Dwight P Griswold (1893-1954)
Florence C Griswold (1897-1983)

Children of Clarence Palmer & Anna Sitzer

Willard Sitzer Palmer (1903-2004)

Children of Clarence Palmer & Clara Baxter

Margaret Jeanette Palmer (1915-2009)

Children of Julian Palmer & Maude Bartlett

Bruce Bartlett Palmer (1908-1973)

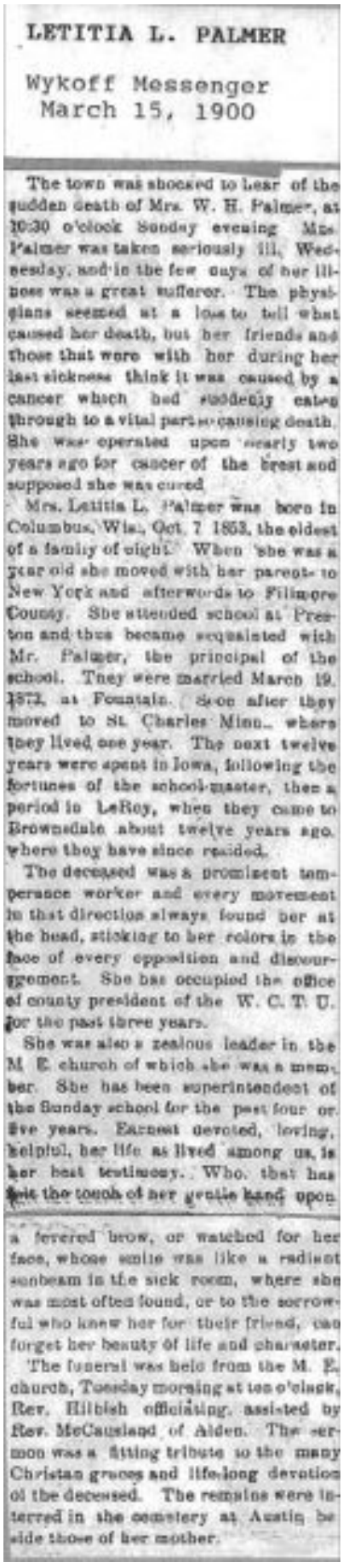
Grandchildren of William Palmer & Letitia Requa

Children of Arthur Palmer & Flora Lucas

Arthur Wesley Palmer (1922-)
Milton Dean Palmer (1929-2005)

Children of Edith Palmer & Frank Poston

Robert Harrison Poston (1912-1928)
Reuben Roger Poston (1913-1976)
Helen Frances Poston (1914-1948)



LETITIA L. PALMER

Wykoff Messenger
March 15, 1900

The town was shocked to hear of the sudden death of Mrs. W. H. Palmer, at 10:30 o'clock Sunday evening. Mrs. Palmer was taken seriously ill, Wednesday, and in the few days of her illness was a great sufferer. The physicians seemed at a loss to tell what caused her death, but her friends and those that were with her during her last sickness think it was caused by a cancer which had suddenly eaten through to a vital part, causing death. She was operated upon nearly two years ago for cancer of the breast and supposed she was cured.

Mrs. Letitia L. Palmer was born in Columbus, Wis., Oct. 7 1853, the eldest of a family of eight. When she was a year old she moved with her parents to New York and afterwards to Fillmore County. She attended school at Preston and thus became acquainted with Mr. Palmer, the principal of the school. They were married March 19, 1873, at Fountain. Soon after they moved to St. Charles Minn., where they lived one year. The next twelve years were spent in Iowa, following the fortunes of the school-master, then a period in LeRoy, when they came to Brownsdale about twelve years ago, where they have since resided.

The deceased was a prominent temperance worker and every movement in that direction always found her at the head, sticking to her colors in the face of every opposition and discouragement. She has occupied the office of county president of the W. C. T. U. for the past three years.

She was also a zealous leader in the M. E. church of which she was a member. She has been superintendent of the Sunday school for the past four or five years. Earnest devoted, loving, helpful, her life as lived among us, is her best testimony. Who, that has felt the touch of her gentle hand upon a fevered brow, or watched for her face, whose smile was like a radiant sunbeam in the sick room, where she was most often found, or to the sorrowful who knew her for their friend, can forget her beauty of life and character.

The funeral was held from the M. E. church, Tuesday morning at ten o'clock, Rev. Hilbish officiating, assisted by Rev. McCausland of Alden. The sermon was a fitting tribute to the many Christian graces and life-long devotion of the deceased. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Austin beside those of her mother.

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Marriage Record

Lettie Requa marries her widowed Preston School principal, William Palmer

ancestry.com

Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950

Name:	**Wm H Palmer**
Gender:	Male
Marriage Date:	18 Mar 1873
Marriage Place:	Fountain, Minnesota
Spouse's Name:	Lucinda L Raqua
Spouse Gender:	Female
Event Type:	Marriage
FHL Film Number:	1316804

Source Information:
Ancestry.com. *Minnesota, Marriages Index, 1849-1950* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.
Original data:

"Minnesota Marriages, 1849–1950." Index. FamilySearch, Salt Lake City, Utah, 2009, 2010. Index entries derived from digital copies of original and compiled records.

Description:
This database is an index extracted from more than 450,000 marriage records from Minnesota.

© 2011, The Generations Network, Inc.

Daughter Fanny's Wedding, 14 August 1906, Brownsdale, Minnesota

Austin Weekly Herald, 14 Aug 1906

PALMER-WOOD

The wedding of Rev. Irven Brackett Wood and Miss Fanny Palmer was solemnized Wednesday evening, August eighth, at the First Methodist Episcopal church of Brownsdale, Minn.

The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion, draped and festooned with ropes of green, and effectively ornamented with many ferns and palms.

The Bachelor Girls, Miss Swift, Miss Harrington, and Miss Arnold were ushers. Miss Robertson rendered the marches and accompaniments for the solos given by another Bachelor Girl, Miss Clark.

Promptly at eight o'clock "O Promise Me" was sung, and at the conclusion of the postlude the groom, attended by his best man, Mr. George H Bugbee, and Rev. Dr. Rule, Presiding Elder of Winona District, were at the altar awaiting the arrival of the bride, who was preceeded by the little ribbon bearers, Etta May Bugbee and Krete Iorns; her bridesmaid, Miss Edith Palmer, and the little flower girls, Florence Griswold and Julia Gillette, who strewed the path of the bride with petals of sweet peas. The strains of the Lohengrin march announced the coming of the bride, who entered alone, bearing an exquisite shower bouquet of white sweet peas.

Dr. Rule read the solemn ring service, the bride and groom knelt with him in prayer, after which the prayer-song "O, Perfect Love" was sung.

Following the benediction the bridal party preceeded the friends to the home of Mr. Palmer, where Mr. and Mrs. Wood received the congratulations and good wishes of their relatives and intimate friends.

Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Gillette, Miss Swift and Miss Clark.

An interesting feature was the throwing of a flower by the bride into a group of girls, she on whom it fell being the one destined to be the next bride. Miss Arnold was thus designated. amid much merriment. Miss Griswold received the ring and Miss Effie Wood the thimble.

The house was prettily decorated with massed sweet peas in all tints, and garlanded with ropes of green. Misses Griswold and Sadie Wood delighted the audience with their rendition of piano selections, and Miss Arnold sang most pleasingly and artistically.

The bride's gown was of sheer chiffon fashioned in elegantly simple style. She wore a veil and presented the appearance of an unusually beautiful bride, which was entirely typical of the beauty of soul and character for which she is universally loved and admired.

The bridesmaid, Miss Edith, was gowned in white, and carried pink sweet peas.

Rev. Wood is to be congratulated upon having won a bride so admirably qualified by qualities of mind and heart to assist him in his work of ministering to the souls of men. It seems one of those marriages, which must certainly bring blessing to the world. Miss Palmer's long experience as a teacher in the Brownsdale school and her devotion to the various departments of the work of the church and its co-organizations will enable her to supplement the pastoral work of Rev. Wood most efficiently. Rev. Wood is the pastor of the Brownsdale M. E. Church, and has won the hearty support and co-operation of his people. He is a man of rare ability in the most important department of his work, sermonizing, and is a type of the cheery, happy Christian pastor.

The guests from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Griswold, Misses Vera and Florence Griswold, of Gordon, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. J M. Palmer of Blue Earth City, Minn., Mr. Clarence Palmer of Minneapolis, Mr. Arthur Palmer of White Bear Lake, Mr. Irvin Palmer, of Wisconsin, Mr. Geo. H. Bugbee, (cousin of the groom) and Miss Etta May Bugbee of Minneapolis, Miss Rose Arnold of Brainerd, Miss Lillian Robertson of Alden, and Rev. Donaldson of Grand Meadow.

Rev. and Mrs. Wood will visit Mr. and Mrs. Julian M. Palmer at Blue Earth City, on their wedding trip.

They cleverly evaded the would-be rice throwers and escaped by team to Lansing, disappointing a crowd which gathered at the depot to witness their departure.

Griswold/Palmer Family, ca 1907, Nebraska (Daughter Clarissa centre)



Brownsdale Girls, ca 1910, Brownsdale, Minnesota (Daughter Edith front row left)



Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents (16+)

Paternal line

1 Johnston/Lowry Family

James Johnston

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry

2 Emerson/Mosgrove Family

Edward Emerson

Isabella Mosgrove

3 Larkin/Emery Family

Elam Loring Larkin

\+ Lucy Robinson

Sophronia Emery

\+ * Henry Soper

4 Ransom/Hall Family

Zerah Augustus Ransom

Elvira Louvena Hall

Maternal Line

5 Poston/Cartwright Family

Jeremiah Poston

Mary Cartwright

6 McCurdy/Riddle Family

Archibald "Arthur" McCurdy

Elizabeth Riddle

7 Palmer/Cornell Family

Henry Palmer

Patience Cornell

\+ Mary Ann Kimble

8 Requa/Andres Family

Alexander "Alex" Requa

Lucinda Belle Andres

\+ Susan Almildra Miser

Presentation Sequence . . .

Family Preview (father's Surname/mother's Surname)

For each Parent (fathers, followed by mothers):

Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)

Relationship Chart (ancestry.com)

Siblings

Personal Narratives

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Earlier Ancestry:

a. Finding Family of ...

or

b. Origin Pyramid

Surname Origins

+ For each Step-parent (inserted by chronology of marriage date):

Profile: Facts, Family, Sources (ancestry.com)

Family's Grandchildren

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 1/8

Johnston/Lowry Family

James Johnston

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry

Johnston/Lowry Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, James Johnston (1797-1885) and Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry (1805-1861), were married in 1828 in the Colebrooke Church of Ireland, Aghalurcher Parish, very near the Colebrooke Estate — the main landowner for the region, and Elizabeth's employer until her marriage. The register showed them to be *"of this parish".* They would live together for over 30 years and bring eight children into the world. James was primarily a farmer, apparently moving several times within the immediate vicinity, as evidenced by births of children in Tattyreagh Townland, as well as in Coolrakelly. By 1855, James was noted on their son John's marriage certificate, not as a farmer, but as a labourer.

The 1832-1834 Aghavea Parish Tithe Assessment records show the family on 32 acres in Townland Coolrakelly. Another James Johnston (possibly Sr.) held 13 acres in neighbouring Creagh Townland. There was also a Fallas (Fallis) in Creagh — John, the eldest son of our James and Elizabeth, would marry Rebecca Fallis before emigrating to America.

In 1859, our James Johnston appears on County Fermanagh Land Survey records as the *"occupying head of household"* on 26 acre Parcel #6, near the south end of Townland Coolrakelly. The public access to the peat bog, just down the hill, ran right through the yard site. Edenasop House, next door, provided the post office. Nearby was the Mary Sharpe farm, home of Miss Eleanor Jane, the Sunday school teacher at Tattykeeran Church of Ireland, the family's church just visible down the road to the south.

In immediately-neighbouring townland, Edinagilhorn, lived the Emerson/Mosgrove Family. A National School was located on their leasehold, across the road from their residence, near the bridge over the Many Burns River. To get to the school, the Johnston children would walk about a-mile-and-a-half — along the Coleborough Road, then down the hill past the ruins of an ancient hill fort, and an old mill, crossing the river on stepping stones. The Johnston/Lowry Family children would have known the 13 Emerson children as classmates, Sunday School members, and friends.

Son James Lowry Johnston, our great-grandfather, would travel to North America in 1963 with Margaret and John Emerson. After a short stay in Canada with a cousin of the Emersons, James would join another Emerson sibling, William, in Alleghany/Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.[1] James' brother John, and Sister Anna, were already there, married to other 'homelanders'. Ann Jane Emerson, travelled to Pennsylvania shortly after her 1970 arrival in Minnesota with the rest of her parental family. Ostensibly there to visit her brother, she would re-connect with, and marry, our great-grandfather, James Lowry Johnston. They would tarry in Pennsylvania for several years. James continued to work as a stonecutter. Their first child was born there before they moved to a farm Freeborn County, Minnesota.

In 1866, after Mother Elizabeth's death in Ireland, the residual Johnston family, Father James, Daughter Susan with her child, James Lowry Moore, and her second husband, William West, would make the giant leap to the New World, first joining previously-emigrated family members in Pittsburg, and then moving on to settle near Daughter Anna Carrothers, whose family had meantime relocated to Manchester, Delaware County, Iowa.

After a period of farming on his own account, ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, James, would eventually live with the Carrothers Family until his death in 1885 of heat stroke while working in the family garden.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (27 Feb 2013; rev. 9 Dec 2017)

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[1] *"Allegheny City (1788) is the name of a former Pennsylvania municipality now reorganized and merged into the modern City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was annexed by Pittsburgh in 1907."*

[Credit: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia]

ancestry



James Johnston

BIRTH JUL 1797 • Fermanagh, Ulster, Ireland
DEATH 30 JUL 1885 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
Jul 1797 • Fermanagh, Ulster, Ireland

gravestone says 1800

Age 30 — **Marriage**
6 Apr 1828 • Aghalurcher Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland

PRONI microfilm MIC 583/3; Colebrook Church of Ireland; noted in marriage certificate as "both of this Parish"

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry (1805–1861)

Age 35 — **Tithe Applotment Book**
1832-1834 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland

ref: Tithe Applotment Book (10/16; MFA 63/1 National Archives, Dublin); 32 acres, with tithe calculated on oats @ 12s/6 per barrel

Age 38 — **Residence**
1835-1838 • Tattyreagh, Aghalurcher, Fermanagh, Ireland

Daughters Susan & Jane reported as born here; the apparent transiency may be explained by a move between land parcels — the landlord (Brooks Estate) is constant in both Coolrakely and Tattyreagh Townlands

Age 43 — **Residence**
1840 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland

Son * James recorded as born at Edenasop (a house/district at S end of Coolrakelly Townland)

Age 54 — **Death of Daughter Jane**
1851 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland

calculated from 'age at death' reported in correspondence of R. Edna Johnston, 1968

Age 57 — **Residence**
Mar 1855 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh

marriage certificate of Son John shows Father James as 'labourer' resident at Edenasop, Coolrakely Townland

Age 62 — **Residence**
1859 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland

26 acres, sub-leased from Wm. Cooke, Lot 6; Emerson Families nearby at Creagh and Edenagilhorn Townlands; also, Bamford, Fallis, Moore, Carrothers; Sir Victor Brooke is landlord, has box pew in nearby Tattykeeran Church

Age 64 — **Death of Wife Elizabeth "Ellie"**
6 Aug 1861 • Coolrakelly, Fermanagh, Ireland

surmised from local record reporting death of an Ellen Johnston at Edenasop

Age 69 — **Arrival**
20 Oct 1866 • New York
ref: New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957; from Ireland via Glasglow, Scotland on the 'Iowa'; accompanied by Daughter Susan, her new husband Wm. West, and her son James L. Moore

Age 69 — **Land Disposition**

Family

Parents

*** James Johnston Sr.** 1776–1848

*** Elizabeth (Johnston)** 1778–1844

Spouse & Children

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry 1805–1861

- **John Johnston** 1830–1891
- **Anna "Annie" Johnston** 1833–1919
- **William L Johnston** 1834–1870
- ***Robert Johnston** 1835–1875
- **Susan Johnston** 1835–1870
- **(Elizabeth?) Jane Johnston** 1838–1851
- ***James Johnston** 1840–1844
- **James Lowry Johnston** 1844–1901

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1870 United States Federal Census**
- **1880 United States Federal Census**
- **Ancestry Family Trees**
- **Iowa Cemetery Records**
- **Iowa State Census Collection, 1836-1925**
- **Ireland, Griffith's Valuation, 1848-1864**
- **New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957**
- **Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **Web: Iowa, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012**

1866-1870 • Coolrakelly, Fermanagh, Ireland
Son James Lowry returns from America to "tend his father's farm" for parts of four years [ref: his obituary]; the Johnston name was struck from the roll in 1870; the leasehold for Plot 6 was combined with that of Wm. Bamford, Plot 7 [ref: PRONI records]

Age 72 — **Death of Son William L**
7 May 1870 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa
arsenic poisoning of married farmer; NB: alternately reported as single, 7 Apr 1971, though family lore says that his death was in same incident as that of Sister Susan

Age 72 — **Death of Daughter Susan**
8 May 1870 • Adams, Delaware, Iowa

Age 73 — **Residence**
5 Aug 1870 • Adams, Delaware, Iowa
on 90 acre mixed farm; with Daughter Susan's family and Son James (30); two West girls (probable sisters of her husband, Wm.): Jane 25, Eliz 26, noted as 'housekeepers'; Robinsons, Swindells nearby

Age 75 — **Court Case**
11 Mar 1873 • Delaware County, Iowa
a Robert Johnston sues Wm. West for $100 "on account and verbal contract" before the latter leaves the State; Father-inlaw James Johnston is named as co-defendant.

Age 83 — **Residence**
1880 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa
counted in with Daughter Ann(a) Carrother's family in US census

Age 87 — **Residence**
1 Jan 1885 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa
continues with Daughter Ann(a)'s family in Iowa Census

Age 88 — **Death**
30 Jul 1885 • Prairie, Delaware, Iowa
of heat stroke, while working in the family garden; burial: Silver Creek Cemetery, Adams (Masonville), Delaware, Iowa

Relationship between James Johnston & ***Figure of Eight***

James Johnston (1797 - 1885)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of James Johnston
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Possible Siblings of James Johnston

Figure of Eight great aunt, R. Edna “Dede” Johnston, author of *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968),* says in preparatory correspondence dated 1966, that her grandfather, our 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, had *“other brothers who came to the United States”*. Indeed, a * Hugh Johnston (1800-1878) and a * Thomas Johnston (1796-1880) in the same neighborhood as James in Fermanagh County, Ireland, apparently left the County Fermanagh community at about the same time. While these suggested people and relationships are very speculative, they might indicate directions for future research.

*** Thomas Johnston (1796-1895)**

A record of a 'Declaration of Intent to Become a Citizen' was filed on 30 Aug 1862 for a Thomas Johnston in Dubuque County, Iowa. Prior to statehood, the Iowa Territories were registered as Dubuque County, which today encompasses Delaware County where James settled. The Last Will & Testament, of a Thomas A Johnston, was probated on 25 Apr 1895, Dodge Township lists wife Mary and eight children as heirs.

*** Hugh Johnston (1801-)**

The 1871 UK Census shows a Fermanagh-born Hugh Johnston (1801-) with spouse, Ann (1820) and four children, born in England between 1857 and 1864.

Narrative: *"These Old Hands"*

One of the things I hadn't expected in America, although I should've realized, is the cultural diversity. In all my years in Ireland there were just two 'solitudes'. There was *them* — the 'real' Irish, they were our neighbours and sold us things in the shops, but rarely were they our friends. And there was *us* — the Scots-Irish folks. Here in Iowa, there are people from pretty much every white-skinned country I've ever heard of. Our neighbours here, the ones that aren't Scots-Irish, are mostly European, German and such.

We came over on the boat after my Elizabeth died, what was left of the family — Daughter Susan; her second husband, William West, and her little boy, James Moore, who's middle-name is Lowry after his grandmother; and me, already a tired old man.

I called my dear wife "Ellie". We were married just 52 years ago today! She wore some kind of Spring flowers in her hair. Had stayed up late the night before braiding them. Snowdrops, I think she called them. They were everywhere in the pasture grass. I had never paid them much attention until that day. I smile to think of it, and smiling isn't something I do often.

Mostly what I remember about Ireland are the peat bogs and the rocks, and we had lots of those. I might've been a better farmer if I'd had a better piece of land. We moved around a bit, so our young ones were born in two or three places. The best leaseholds were for those with a bit of money to afford to buy the rights to them. We ended up in a place called Edenasop in Coolrakelly Townland. A lot of people called their address after the yard that had the post. Edenasop House was just next door to us.

The communal peat bog was at the bottom of our hill. For me, that made our place more valuable. Peat was our fuel supply in those parts. It was very handy having the bog on our own land, not only for our own needs, but also because the access path to it ran right through our yard, so we had a steady stream of people to talk to, leastwise at those times when the rain and the farm work allowed peat cutting, which wasn't often. Besides that, all we had was a bit a grazing land, so when we weren't milking cows, or harvesting peat, we were stoneworkers. (Oops! I almost said *stoned* workers — there was plenty of that around, and not just amongst the 'real Irish'.) Sometimes, it was hard to keep food on the table. You know the old saying about *"fighting life out to keep life in".* So there really weren't much for prospects for the lads when they got older.

It wasn't much of a life in some ways. We had already lost two children. One was our 13-year-old Janie. The other was just a baby, little James Junior. We re-used his name when our youngest, James Lowry, was born. Except for the little Moore boy, who was the only one to be born in Ireland, poor Ellie never got to see any of her grandchildren.

Son John married the Fallis girl, and then off they went. Although they do write once in a while, a card at Christmas time, we hadn't seen them since they'd settled in Pittsburgh right after he wedding. Not much to go on!

When our youngest, James Lowry, came of age, he crossed the big pond with three of our Emerson neighbours — neighbours and friends. I guess he and I never really did get along that well. Well, I don't blame him really. I was an old man already by the time he came along. He went back to Ireland, just as we were leaving there, took over our leasehold for a while. I don't know as he was that interested in farming, but, of course, his sweetheart was still there with her parents. He did spend a year with me here

in Iowa about the time the Emerson Clan made the trip over. That experience reminded us both that he was maybe better off on his own, away from the 'Old Man'. After that bittersweet year, he went back to Pittsburgh, practiced the stonemason trade he'd learnt in the old country. Anne Jane took the train out there to marry him and they stayed long enough to have their first child. Now they're on a farm up in Minnesota with quite a start on a brood of their own. I'd like to see more of them all, but they have their lives — farms to run and lots of family already, what with the Emerson clan all around them.

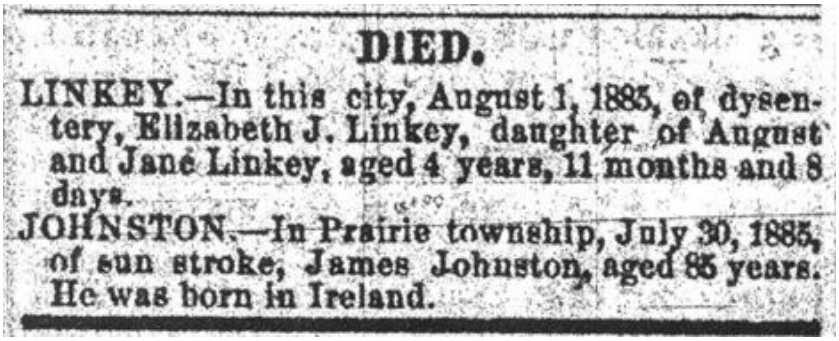
After the very suspicious deaths ten years ago of Daughter Susan, along with her brother, William, her baby boy died soon after with measles. Her second husband remarried and took little Elizabeth up there to Minnesota, next-door to the others.

Of course, I have my daughter, Anna. I've been living with the Carrothers up here at the 'Wigwam' for the last while. There's not much work left in me, I'm afraid, but I guess I've done my share of that over the years. Anyways, I don't eat much, and with their all their tribe, and this good Iowa farmland, I don't think they have much need for these old hands!

James Johnston, April 1880, Prairie Township, Delaware County, Iowa [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 22 Mar 2013; rev. 11 Dec 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Death Announcement in The Democrat, 7 Aug 1885, Manchester, Delaware, Iowa



DIED.

LINKEY.—In this city, August 1, 1885, of dysentery, Elizabeth J. Linkey, daughter of August and Jane Linkey, aged 4 years, 11 months and 8 days.

JOHNSTON.—In Prairie township, July 30, 1885, of sun stroke, James Johnston, aged 85 years. He was born in Ireland.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 23 Apr 2013

Transcription of the matching announcement in The Manchester Press, Issue 8532, 7 August, 1885 read:

> *"James Johnston, 85, was found dead due to heat prostration, near the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. Carrothers, in Prairie Township."*

James Johnston News Story of Death, Manchester, Delaware, Iowa, 8 Aug 1885



James Johnston
Manchester Press
Aug 8, 1885

—The death of Mr. James Johnston, which is recorded under the proper heading in another column, was very sudden. The old gentleman, who was living with his daughter, Mrs. C. Carrothers, in Prairie, left the house, Thursday forenoon, of last week, saying that he would go to the garden and procure vegetables for dinner. His not returning at dinner time was thought nothing strange, as he had been accustomed to going under the shade of the trees, near by, and sleeping. A short time after, however, being fearful that he might be affected by the excessive heat, search was instituted, and he was found lying dead under a tree near by. He was undoubtedly prostrated by the heat, and lying down passed peacefully away. Mr. Johnston was born in Ireland, and came to this county many years ago, where he leaves a large circle of relatives and friends. He was 85 years of age at the time of his death.

[News story of James Johnston's accidental death, 30 July 1885, at Daughter Anna Carrother's farm home, 'The Wigwam', in Prairie Township, Delaware County, Iowa, where he had resided for some years.]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this, 23 Apr 2013

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of James Johnston (1797-1885)

In County Fermanagh, *Johnston* has ranked within the most numerous four surnames throughout much of

the history of Ulster Province, known as Northern Ireland. The Clan was reportedly relocated *en masse* from Dumfriesshire in Scotland early in the Ulster Plantation of the early 17th century[2]. At the time of the Griffith's Valuation of Tenements (land survey) of Fermanagh in 1859, there were 268 entries for Johnston heads-of-household in Fermanagh.

The most convincing evidence for the geographic *locus* of the family-of-origin of the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons is the close connection that our Johnston/Emerson great-grandparents and their extended families displayed. The Emerson/Mosgrove family (our 2nd great-grandparents), lived with their 13 children in the ancestral Mosgrove home on the Many Burns River at the conjunction of Townlands Edenagilhorn, Creagh and Coolrakelly. There was a 'national school' on their property in Edenagilhorn. The Tattykeeran Church of Ireland, now decommissioned, was within a mile in Coolrakelly. In the middle of the 19th century, in an agrarian part of Ireland, it is likely that close relationships grew out of such proximity — being near neighbours, attending the same churches and/or schools.

The following summaries of available resources point to probable specifics of origins and relationships for ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston (1797-1885) . . .

Tempo Church of Ireland Records

A search through birth/marriage/death (BMD) records in Tempo Church of Ireland (C of I), in the nearest larger town center, for relevant Johnstons of the surrounding townlands reveals the following:

Johnstons of an age to be our James' parents (+/- 1775-1850)

Thomas	Cullion	1776-1843
Robert	Tempo	1779-1843
James (& Eliz.)	Creagh	1776-1848

Johnstons compatriot with our James (1797-1885) — pos. sibs/cousins

Joseph (& Sarah)	Edenagilhorn	
Alex (& Eliz.)	Tattinweer	
Richard	Drumderg	1798-1861
Jane	Cullion	1794-1848

Johnstons of an age to be our James' nephews/nieces (born +/- 1833-1844)

Mary Anne	Edenagilhorn	1846-
Margaret	Tattinweer	1844-

Tithe Applotment Book of 1832-1834

At the time of the tithe assessment in Aghavea Parish, a James Johnston held 32 acres in Coolrakelly, while a James Johnston (Sr. ?) held 13 acres in neighbouring Creagh, and a Con Johnston held 9 acres at Lisboy. (There is also a Fallas/Fallis? in Creagh — our 2nd great-grandparent's eldest son, John, would marry a Fallis.)

In Edenagilhorn, a Jas. Johnston (this is more likely meant to be Jos. — see Griffiths Valuation 25 years later) held 13 acres. At this earlier time, the Mosgroves still held lease to the land in Edenagilhorn east of the town of Tempo: James — 10 acres, John — 10 acres.

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[2] THE PLANTATION OF ULSTER — Some of the Irish chiefs having adhered to the famous Hugh O' Neill, Earl of Tyrone, in the war against the English Queen, Elizabeth, six entire counties in Ulster, namely Armagh, Tyrone, Derry, Donegal, Fermanagh, and Cavan, were confiscated in the beginning of the seventeenth century in the reign of King James the First. These territories were transferred to some English, but mostly Scottish, settlers denominated 'Undertakers' and 'Planters', hence the project was called the *"Plantation of Ulster".* [Johns O'Hart. Irish Pedigrees; or, the Origin and Stem of the Irish Nation. McGlasham & Gile, Dublin, 1876.]

Griffith's Valuation of Tenements of 1848-1864 (1859 for County Fermanagh)

In the two parishes that we believe to be the home area to the family-of-origin of our 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, there were 45 Johnston leaseholders, including three James Johnstons in Parish Aghavea and six in Aghalurcher at the time of the land survey of County Fermanagh in 1859.

Our James Johnston appears on 26-acre Parcel 6, near the south end of Townland Coolrakelly (see appended record information and maps in the appendix under 'Fermanagh County Site Visit'). The immediate lessor was one William Cooke. The public access to the peat bog just down the hill ran right through the yard-site. Edenasop House, next door, functioned as the postal address. Also in Coolrakelly, iss the Sharpe farm — presumably the parental home of Miss Eleanor Jane Sharpe, the young folks' Sunday School teacher, mentioned in Aunt Dede's book: Emerson Family Tree (1868-1970). The farm of the Bamfords (*Banford* in Canada and Australia), in-laws and cousins of the Emersons, is nearby.

In immediately-neighbouring Townland Edenagilhorn live the future in-laws' family, that of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Edward Emerson. A National School shows up on their lease, across the road from their house, and near the bridge over the Many Burns River. Another neighbouring townland, Creagh, shows two William Emersons: one on a farm — presumably Edward's older brother, William Emerson, Jr.; the other in a house — presumably William Emerson, Sr.

Also in Edenagilhorn at this time are two Johnstons: Joseph Sr. and Joseph Jr. For a variety of reasons, including that at least one of this pair was a medical doctor, also that they, correspondingly, held properties up in the largely Catholic Slieve Beagh Mountains, it seems less likely that they were immediate family. (NB: Descendants of these Edenagilhorn Johnstons still live in nearby townlands, and I am in correspondence with them.)

In next-door Townland Lisboy there are lease occupiers Thomas Johnston (14 acres) and Hugh Johnston (house only). It appears form local government records that their building sites were vacated at about the same time as that of James (see 3rd-Party Research Report in Appendix). Aunt Dede's noted in preparation her book, that our James had *"other brothers who came to the United States."*

Speculation: That, based on physical proximity with each other, and with prospective parents, James and Elizabeth Johnston (see Tempo C of I BMD records above), as well as the apparent removal dates from the area, that Thomas and Hugh are possible brothers of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, **James Johnston (1797-1885)**.

Brooke Deeds of 1713-1916

Because our James's land in Coolrakelly was sub-leased from William Cooke, his parcel does not show up under his own name in the Colebrooke Estate records — Brooke Deeds, but *this one* for his possible father, James, in nearby Creagh, does appear:

> **D998/26/377:** 21 Aug. 1820 — Lease from Henry Brooke, Colebrooke, Co. Fermanagh, to James Johnston, Creagh, Co. Fermanagh, of 13a. 5r. 17p. of Creagh, Co. Fermanagh, for the lives of James Johnston and Thomas Thompson: (1) Reserves right to make a road; (2) Rent £13 12s. 1d.; (3) Thirteen days work of man and horse and thirteen hens or fifteen pence in lieu of each days work and sixpence in lieu of each hen; and, (4) Corn, etc, to be ground at mill of Henry Brooke, payment for not doing so £5.

Speculation: At this point, based on religion, geographic proximity, and appropriate dates, I accept as the following as *probable* (denoted by *) parents of our 2nd great-grandfather, **James Johnston (1797-1885):**

*** James Johnston**

Birth 1776 in Fermanagh, Ireland
Death 11 Jan 1848 in Creagh, Aghavea, Fermanagh

*** Elizabeth (Johnston)**

Birth 1778 in Fermanagh, Ireland
Death 5 Mar 1844 in Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Oct 2012; rev. 21 Dec 2017)]

Johnston Surname

In form, at least, the Johnston surname is Scottish, deriving from the place of that name near Annandale, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, after a Norman or Saxon clan chieftain named John, who purchased a tract of land in the area in the 12th century from the Earl of Annandale, grandfather of Robert the Bruce. Instead of taking on the straightforward *patronymic* 'Johnson', the descendants of the legendary knight adopted the *habitational* (geographic or place) name, originally 'John's town', as their surname, with variants such as Jonistoun, Johnistoun, Johnston(e). This clan became one of the strongest and most unruly of the Border clans. In the late 16th century, a long feud, notorious for its ferocity, with another, larger clan, the Maxwells, earned for the victorious clan, a reputation of dubious distinction as "*the gentle Johnstons".* [Scott, Sir Walter. Fair Maid of Perth. 1828]

The 'Ulster* Plantation' was a scheme of the English crown, begun about 1609 to forcibly resettle displaced Scottish border *reivers,* and to send English non-inheriting younger sons on a venture to *"pacify and civilise"* the unruly native Irish. When the disruptive border clans were eventually 'pacified' and scattered in about 1613, many fled to Ulster. Many Johnstons form these migrations, like large numbers from the other clans — Elliots, Nixons, Carrothers, Armstrongs, Grahams, etc. — settled in Fermanagh, where the Johnston surname has ranked among the four most-numerous in the County ever since.

As well as the Dumfriesshire Johnstons, many others in Ulster, both of Scottish and native Irish origin, reportedly adopted the Scots-Irish name during a period of 'anglicization'. Thus, some of the MacEoins, which in the Irish language translates to 'son of John' (*Johnson*), the McKeowns, the Maclans of Caithness, the MacShanes (a branch of the O'Neills) of the Armagh/Tyrone district, changed their names to Johnston. [Courtesy of: Edward MacLysaght's "Surnames of Ireland"]

(* NB: Ulster was an historic province of Ireland today incorporating the six northeastern counties; the 1921 partition of Ireland resulted in the former Ulster Province becoming part of the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland).

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, emigrated from County Fermanagh, Ireland in 1866, settling in Delaware County, Iowa.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (25 Jan 2014; rev. 21 Dec 2017)]

<u>Additional References:</u>

i. http://www.himandus.net/hofh/hepburn/johnston/_johnston.html
ii. Johnston, David E. A History of the Middle New River Settlements and Contiguous Territory. Standard Publ., 1906

ancestry



Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry

BIRTH ABT 1805 • Drumroo, Aghalurcher Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
DEATH 6 AUG 1861 • Edenasop, Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
abt 1805 • Drumroo, Aghalurcher Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
ref: death record of an Ellen (possibly "Ellie") Johnston of Edenasop, a house and postal address in Coolrakelly Townland

Age 20 — **In Service**
1825-1828 • Colebrooke, Aghalurcher, Fermanagh
in domestic service at Colebrooke House before marriage

Age 23 — **Marriage**
6 Apr 1828 • Aghalurcher Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
PRONI microfilm MIC 583/3; Colebrook Church of Ireland; noted in marriage certificate as "both of this Parish"
James Johnston (1797–1885)

Age 27 — **Residence**
1832-1834 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland
ref: Tithe Applotment Book (10/16; MFA 63/1 National Archives, Dublin); 32 acres with tithe calculated on oats @ 12s/6 per barrel

Age 30 — **Residence**
1835-1838 • Tattyreagh, Aghalurcher, Fermanagh, Ireland
Daughters Susan & Jane reported as born here

Age 35 — **Residence**
25 Sep 1840 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland
a son, *James, recorded as born at Edenasop (a postal district at south end of Coolrakelly Townland)

Age 38 — **Death of Son *James**
bef 1844 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh
(see Souter Research Report in Gallery); surmised that this child died in infancy, with subsequent sibling, James Lowry (reportedly born 28 Aug 1844) inheriting his name

Age 46 — **Death of Daughter Jane**
abt 1851 • Coolrakelly, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland
based on family lore referencing death at 13 years

Age 56 — **Death**
6 Aug 1861 • Edenasop, Coolrakelly, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland
probable from death record of an Ellen (possibly "Ellie") Johnston: PRONI microfilm MIC 583/7; note that Husband James and residual family emigrated to join USA family, arriving NYC 20 Oct 1866

Family

Parents

*** John Lowry Sr.** 1770–1840

Spouse & Children

James Johnston 1797–1885

- **John Johnston** 1830–1891
- **Anna "Annie" Johnston** 1833–1919
- **William L Johnston** 1834–1870
- ***Robert Johnston** 1835–1875
- **Susan Johnston** 1835–1870
- **(Elizabeth?) Jane Johnston** 1838–1851
- ***James Johnston** 1840–1844
- **James Lowry Johnston** 1844–1901

Sources

Ancestry Sources

Ancestry Family Trees

Relationship between Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry & ***Figure of Eight***

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry (1805 - 1861)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Possible Siblings of Elizabeth “Ellie” Lowry

*** John Lowry Jr. (b. abt 1795) m. Elizabeth (Lowry) (1796-1876)**

Present at Drumrue in 1833 Tithe Applotments, and at Drumroo in 1859 Griffith’s Land Tenancy Valuation. It is speculated that there were two children. A probable record of Elizabeth’s death is registered at Lisnaskea; there is also a will record for her with named beneficiary Robert Lowry.

*** William Lowry (b. abt 1796)**

Present at Drumrue in 1833 Tithe Applotments, but not listed at Drumroo in 1859 Griffith’s Land Tenancy Valuation.

Narrative: *“Keeping the Peat Fires Burning”*

I have lived my whole life within sight of the beautiful *Sliabh Beagh* Mountains. I could see them off to the south out the kitchen window at the farm where I grew up, and I can see them out of my attic window at Colebrooke House where the staff quarters are. I wouldn’t have it any other way. Unlike my beau, James, who speaks longingly about a bigger world, I’m happy right here. It’s home, *my* home, and I have no desire to go anywhere else. The green so green it hurts the eyes. The wildflowers in the meadows. The bees in the brambles in the hedge rows. The smell of the peat and the cows. The cool climate. The gentle Irish rain. Tomorrow is our wedding day, and after that, I know, *he* will be the boss, but if he thinks he’s going to drag me off somewhere, anywhere else but here, he’s got another think coming.

James grew up nearby here, too. Well, everybody I know did. It is a small world — just the way I like it! Us Protestant Scots-Irish farmer folk here are really in our own little world. The Brookes own all the land for miles around. They’re English, of course, and got their land generations ago by fighting for the king. They have a reputation for being good stewards of the land, and so they are well liked. There are trout in the streams again, thanks to them. Lady Brooke is a special lady. And a good boss lady, I guess, although I don’t have much to do with her myself, so it’s not like I know her personally. But the truth is that I‘m more than ready to get a home of my own. James has a place for us on a small tenant farm just east of here at Tattyreagh. You can see it from Colebrooke, if you know just where to look. We’ll be able to walk home after the wedding. But, of course, I’ll be too dressed up for that. I don’t know what he has up his sleeve for transport. I hope it won’t be a team of oxen. Maybe he’ll carry me all the way. Ha!

I actually met him swimming at the Crievehill Quarry. A bunch of us girls from here sneaked up there on a warm night last Summer. Our work was done and there was a full moon and we were feeling brave and adventuresome. Of course, we hadn’t expected company, certainly not of the opposite sex! But it was all very on the up-and-up. It felt real natural somehow in the moonlight. There were no rude comments, no

teasing, hardly any giggling. We are all adults, after all. Well, just a fair bit of water splashing. It was only after we got our clothes back on, that I felt suddenly quite shy. He was the only one of the boys, *men*, that was going our way after. Having been up in that neighbourhood to visit his parents, he had to head back to his own place before the cows were ready for morning milking, he said. As the moon was mostly behind the clouds by then, we girls were glad for a chaperone. I guess he had his eye on me, because when we lagged a bit behind the others, he took my hand. When he did that, he touched my heart.

That was last Summer, and now it's Spring again. After keeping the peat fires burning all Winter at the big house, I look forward to tending my very own. It is time, and I can hardly wait!

Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry, 5 April 1828, Colebrooke House, Colebrooke Demesne, Fermanagh [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 2 Mar 2013; rev. 16 Dec 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Possible Death Record for Elizabeth Lowry

"I also found an Ellen Johnston of Edenasop, Aghavea, who was buried in Aghalurcher on 6th Aug 1861, aged 56. That fits quite well but you would expect it to be Elizabeth rather than Ellen. She would have been born c 1805, which is just right for a marriage in 1828."

[Reference: PRONI (Public Records Office Northern Ireland) Record, as described under item 13, page 4, of Elwyn Soutter research report, 7 Nov 2012] (see 3rd Party Research Report in Appendix)

Speculation: that this record is valid for ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Elizabeth Lowry Johnston, Ellen being either a middle name used by preference, or an errant reporting of an affectionate name, "Ellie".

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (11 Nov 2015)]

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry (1805-1861)

There is a death record that is a compelling match for our Elizabeth, though under the name of 'Ellen Johnston' of Edenasop, Aghavea, who was buried in Parish Aghalurcher on 6 Aug 1861, aged 56. That fits quite well, and Ellen (or "Ellie") may have been a preferred middle name, or an affectionate name. She would have been born circa 1805, which is just right for a marriage in 1828. I have accepted this in lieu of any other record.

Her husband, James Johnston, was born in 1897. We believe that the couple lived at Coolrakelly Townland near Tempo (see the preceeding story: Finding the Family of James Johnston). In the early 19th century, one usually lived out one's life in a somewhat circumscribed geographic district. This would have been especially true for a single female, therefore it is safe to assume that she originated close by. At the time of their marriage at Aghalurcher Church of Ireland in 1928, our Elizabeth Lowry was said to be *"of this parish".* This may be because she was working in the Parish (family lore has her 'in service' at Colebrooke House — the big landholding estate in the immediate area, at one time about 30,000 acres), but more likely she was already a local before taking that employment.

The best available historic documentation for Ireland is the Griffith's Valuation of Tenements 1848-1864. These records show the occupants, normally leaseholders, of both the land and the buildings (by head of household only), as well as the 'immediate lessor'. In that time, most land had been confiscated earlier from the Irish inhabitants (usually Catholic), and granted to English and Scottish landlords (usually Protestant), who leased the land out under long-term contracts to (usually English and Scottish) tenants. In some cases, a leaseholder sub-leased to a third party. (NB: since the Land Ownership Act of 1909, the occupants are usually the owners, and the big estates have mostly dwindled to their 'home

demesnes'.)

From the Griffith's Valuation, we learn that there were a number of Lowry's (about 17 head's-of-household) on leased lands in adjacent Tyrone County (Fivemiletown, just up the A4 from Aghalurcher Church toward Belfast, is in Tyrone). These Lowry holdings seem to be in a zone between Omagh and Armagh, centred around Craigavon, some 30 miles distant from Elizabeth's subsequent home in Fermanagh County. There were two gentrified Lowry landlords, Robert W and James C, probably brothers, with almost 1000 tenants. These 'Lowrys of Pomeroy' were apparently co-related with the Lowry-Corry's of Castle Coole at Enniskillen, Fermanagh.

D. Samuel Carrothers of nearby Townland Farnagh, Lisbellaw, who knows his own family history back to the 1st Ulster Plantation about 1613, and, at nearly 80 years of age is very knowledgeable about area residents; he believes that the local Lowry's were likely 'seeded' out of Pomeroy, Tyrone, where the landed gentry were Lowrys, related to the Lowry-Corrys of Castle Coole, Enniskillen. There is apparently a relevant statue with a plaque at Pomeroy.

In 1859, when the Griffith's survey of County Fermanagh was done, there were no Lowry's in Aghavea Parish, where the Johnston/Lowry Family lived. With the exceptions of Townland Templecarn up near Irvinestown, 30 miles northwest, where John and Armour Lowry were major immediate lessors of some scores of properties, and the Lowry-Corrys of Castle Coole, Enniskillen, there were just nine Lowry (sometimes Lowrey, never Lowery) occupants, as follows:

- **In Aghalurcher Parish: Samuel, Henry & Hugh Lowry of Townland Mullaghfad**

These Lowrys were Catholic, lived up in the Slieve Beagh Mountains to the south, where historically the area Catholics were driven, reportedly often at the point of a bayonet. While our Elizabeth might have come down out of the hills to seek employment in the 'big house' of the land-owning Brooke Family, it is unlikely that she would have left her faith to marry a Protestant Johnston. The custom of the day was that the woman married in her church, thereafter attending her husband's, but, especially in Ireland, that did not work well across the Protestant/Catholic divide.

- **Also in Aghalurcher Parish: John Lowry of Townland Drumroo**

A likely candidate to be family to our Elizabeth, they lived very close-by to both Colebrooke House, where our Elizabeth was employed, and to the Johnston farmlands. They were Church of Ireland, they were farmers, and they had been in the area for some time. A John Lowry, possibly the father or grandfather of the 1859 occupant at Drumroo, was a flax contractor in Fermanagh in 1796. In the Tithe Applotment Book (1833), there were a John and a William Lowry at Drumrue, and an Anne Lowry at next door Drumgoon. Also there is a baptism recorded at Maguiresbridge Church of Ireland on 16 Jun 1843 for one-month-old Anne, daughter of John and Anna Lowry of Drumroo. Descendants of these Lowrys, the Beacoms, are still in occupancy today (see "The Lowry/Beacoms of Drumroo" following).

- **In Parish Cleenish: Alexander Lowry of Townland Drumad; Richard Lowrey, of Tattymacall**
- **In Parish Enniskillen: George and William Lowry of Townland Tonystick; John Lowry of Townland Shanco; there is at Breandrum Cemetery, Enniskillen a grave stone for a William (1819-1889)**

All of these Lowry's of Fermanagh are candidates to be our Elizabeth's family, may in fact be inter-related, and should be considered in any further research. D. Samuel Carrothers believes that the Shanco Lowrys and the Tattymacall Lowrys are of the same family; that Shanco was the 'home place'; and that the residual Shanco family relocated to New Zealand about 1872 (interview notes Oct 2012).

It is interesting to note that the Ireland National Censuses of 1901 and 1911 [www.census.nationalarchives.ie], the only Irish census records surviving intact, shows that these family groups, with some changes, were still pretty much in place at that more recent time. This is helpful in identifying relationships and religion, as well as in tracking current residents. The Lowrys, Lowerys, Lowreys (these spellings vary with the source) in Fermanagh (excepting the Lowry-Corry's at Castle Coole) were:

In 1901 Census

1. The Catholic Lowrys at Mullaghfad, Mullaghfad DED (Registration District)
2. A small family group of Presbyterian Lowrys at Tattymacall, Lisbellaw DED — Sarah (82, born in Tyrone!), Julia (38), and next door, Wm. (55, born in Tyrone!), w. 3 children: Sarah E.V. (Evie?, 25), James (15), Jessie Mand (Maud?,13); NB: the eldest, Sarah (b. abt 1819), would be the right age to be a sister-in-law to our Eliz. Lowry Johnston; the noted Tyrone births are a significant clue
3. A family of Church of Ireland Lowrys at Ballylucas, Castle Coole DED — Robert (29), Rebecca (26), w. 2 children: Sarah Jane (4), Alexander Robert (1); NB: the current Drumroo Lowry/Beacoms remember a Sarah Lowry, who married a John Sommerville of nearby Tamlaght Village

In 1911 Census

1. The Catholic Lowrys at Mullaghfad, Mullaghfad DED (Registration District)
2. Of the Presbyterian Lowrys at Tattymacall, Lisbellaw DED, only Julia Marie (50) remains; a Presbyterian grocer, James (62), from County Donegal appears in Enniskillen
3. An Eliz. Lowry shows up at Drumroo, Lisbellaw with sons John Thomas, Alex. (These folks appear to have been missed in the 1901 census!) — this will be the widow of Robert Lowry (1821-1899), probable son of the John Lowry in the 1859 Griffiths Valuation; NB: this Robert Lowry, is the right age to be a brother, cousin, or possible nephew, to Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry

Speculation: In my considered opinion, the Drumroo Lowry/Beacoms are the most likely immediate family connection for our Elizabeth Lowry. My tentative work on their genealogy is shown below (and is available on Ancestry.com). At this point, based on religion, geographic proximity and appropriate dates, I accept as *probable* (denoted by *) parent of our 2nd great-grandmother, **Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry Johnston (1805-1861)**:

*** John Lowry, Sr.**

Birth abt 1770 in Ireland
Death abt 1840 in Drumroo, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh, Ireland

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Oct 2012; rev. 19 Dec 2017)]

Relevant Correspondence

Date: Sat, 16 Nov 2013 10:10:49 -0500

Hi, my name is Gordon Ramsey and I am attempting to do research into the Lowry Family. I have spoken with Winston Beacom, who told me about you and your research. I am connected to two families of Lowry's. My great-great-grandfather was Richard Lowry from Tattymacall, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh, who married into the Beacoms, and down the line there was me, and also Winston, whose mother was a Lowry. I was speaking to some Lowry descendants during the Summer, who came from New Zealand — again they were the Tattymacall descendants. As I am now retired, I spend a lot of time researching the family tree — different branches. Hope to hear from you soon and good hunting . . .

Probable Family Connection — Drumroo Lowry/Beacoms

A John Lowry, possibly the father or grandfather of the 1859 occupant at Drumroo, had been a flax contractor in Fermanagh in 1796. The Tithe Applotment Book (1833), shows a John and a William Lowry at 'Drumrue', and an Anne Lowry at next door Drumgoon. There was a baptism recorded at Maguiresbridge 'Church of Ireland' (C of I) on 16 June 1843 for one-month-old Anne, daughter of John and Anna Lowry of Drumroo. In the Griffith's Valuation of Tenements (1859) there was a John Lowry at Townland Drumroo, Aghalurcher Parish. They were C of I, they were farmers, and they had been in the area for some time. Descendants of these Lowrys, the Beacoms, are still in occupancy today.

Speculation: that ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry, fits into the genealogy of these folks — the Lowrys of Drumroo, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, as follows . . .

I. John Lowry Sr. (b. abt 1770) a 1796 listed flax grower in Fermanagh
   a. m. unknown (speculated 2+ children)

b. John Lowry Jr. (b. abt 1795) present at Drumrue in 1833 Tithe Applotments, and at Drumroo in 1859 Griffith's Land Tenancy Valuation)
c. William Lowry (b. abt 1796) present at Drumrue in 1833 Tithe Applotments, but not listed at Drumroo in 1859
d. Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry (1805-1861), our 2nd great-grandmother

II. Son * John Lowry Jr. (b. abt 1795)
a. m. Elizabeth (Lowry) (1796-1876) (speculated 2 children)

III. John Lowry III (abt 1820) m. Anna (abt 1800-) (speculated 1 daughter, Anne)
a. Robert Lowry (1821-28 May 1899)

IV. Son Robert Lowry (1821-28 May 1899)
a. m. Elizabeth Phare (Fair/Phair) (1841-7 Jun 1913) (2 children)
b. John Thomas Lowry (1868-15 Feb 1940)
c. Alexander Lowry (1875-20 Dec 1960) unmarried

V. Son John Thomas Lowry (1868-15 Feb 1940)
a. m. Margaret Todd (1873-22 May 1953) (2 children)
b. Lily Lowry (b. bef 1919) m. Parkinson
c. Annabella Lowry (25 Mar 1919-9 Aug 2002)

VI. Daughter Annabella Lowry (25 Mar 1919-9 Aug 2002) (1 child)
a. m. James Acheson French Beacom (1914-31 Dec 1999)
b. Winston Ernest Beacom (abt 1954, living)

VII. Son Winston Ernest Beacom (abt 1954, living)
a. m. Phyllis Elizabeth (Beacom) (aft 1969, living) (4 children)

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (22 Oct 2012; rev. 16 Dec 2017)]

Lowry Surname

The surname 'Lowry', in *"an astonishing range of variations",* may have come to us from any of three sources:

- It may be a northern English and Scottish surname, brought by returning crusaders of the 12th century — possibly a diminutive form of the personal name 'Lawrence', which derives from the Latin *Laurentus*, *"The City of Laurels",* in Italy. The laurel was the symbol of victory, and this probably helped account for the popularity of the name and the number of variants and diminutives it generated.
- The name is also known in England as the *habitational* (local, place, geographic, or location) name Lowery in Devon, after the Old English personal name *Leofa* or *Lufa* plus *-worðig,* 'enclosure'; and in France as Lowry, from *Loury*.
- If Irish, the surname is said to derive from the ancient pre-10th century Gaelic personal name *Ó Labhradha*, 'spokesman', the one chosen to speak on behalf of the community, originally given to the chieftain of the ancient Irish *Ulaidh/Ulidia ('*Ulster'), of the *Ulidi or Uluti* tribe, declaring the bearer to be a native born son or daughter of the *Labrainni* (Clan Laurin or Lavery).

The 'Lowry' surname, although uncommon in Ireland, arrived in Ulster as a result of 17th century soldiers/settlers arriving there from Scotland — mostly in County Tyrone (neighbouring Fermanagh to the east).

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry, *might* have come from Catholic Irish stock, present nearby in the *Slieve Beagh*, a low 'mountain' range visible to the south of her known home, but, *more likely*, she was of Presbyterian/Anglican Scottish/English origin. She is the only one of four generations of our (grand)parents who did not live in the New World; she died in County Fermanagh, Ireland in before 1866.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (25 Jan 2014; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

<u>References:</u>

iii. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lowery
iv. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Lowry#ixzz1tvgKRwge

v. http://www.ancestry.com [Bob Lowry article]
vi. http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=lowery
vii. Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894.

Johnston/Lowry Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of James Johnston & Elizabeth "Ellie" Lowry

Children of John Johnston & Rebecca Fallis

William Lowry Johnston (1856-1921)
James Johnston (1858-1860)
James Hastings Johnston (1861-1905)
Robert Johnston (1864-1865)
Elizabeth "Eliza" J Johnston (1866-1948)
Ann "Annie" Searight Johnston (1870-1879)
Susan Johnston (1872-1873)

Children of Anna "Annie" Johnston & William Carrothers

Elizabeth "Bessie" Lowry Carrothers (1863-1934)
John Thomas Carrothers (1865-1865)
Mary Jane Carrothers (1866-1950)
James "Jimmie" Johnston Carrothers (1868-1950)
Sarah Ann Carrothers (1870-1870)
William Lincoln Carrothers (1871-1967)
Thomas Henry Carrothers (1874-1936)
George W Carrothers (1876-1966)

Children of Susan Johnston & John Moore

James Lowry Moore (1860-1924)

Children of Susan Johnston & William West

William West, Jr. (1868-1870)
Elizabeth "Eliza/Lizzie" Jane West (1869-1936)

*Children of * Robert Johnston & Mary Jane McConnell*

Mary Johnston (1860-1870)
Ellen "Ella" Frances Johnston (1861-1937)
Ida Johnston (1864-1937)
William Henry Johnston (1866-1943)
Robert E Johnston (1868-1874)
Margaret Ann Johnston (1870-1943)
Robert Washington Johnston (1874-1934)

Children of James Johnston & Anne Jane Emerson

(Mary) Rebecca "Rae" Johnston (1873-1960)
Elizabeth Jane "Eliza" Johnston (1875-1930)
Anna Bella "Annabel" Johnston (1876-1962)
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878-1939)
John Emerson Johnston (1880-1916)
(Clara) Margaret "Marge" Johnston (1882-1976)
James Mosgrove Johnston (1884-1917)
(Sarah) Emily Johnston (1887-1939)
(Rachel) Edna "Dede" Johnston (1888-1986)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Possible Family Ties

*** Robert Johnston (1835-1875) m. Mary Jane McConnell (1832-1907)**

A Robert Johnston married Mary Jane McConnell, an Irish girl from Tyrone, on 10 July 1858 in New York City. The first four of their seven children, who survived to adulthood, were born in New Jersey. The family relocated to Manchester, Delaware, Iowa about 1869, where they would operate a boarding house. While Robert and Mary Jane did, ultimately, live in the same community as the Johnston/Lowry Family, and they all knew each other, the relationship does not appear to have been a close one. In fact, there was an 1873 court case against William West, also naming James Johnston, *"on account and verbal contract"* (see court document following). Of course, families become estranged from each other for various reasons. A key one in Ulster might have been that Robert and Mary broke the social taboo against Protestant/Catholic weddings!

While there has been some indication by other researchers that Robert is a member of the Johnston/Lowry Family, there is yet no convincing evidence for this. On the contrary:

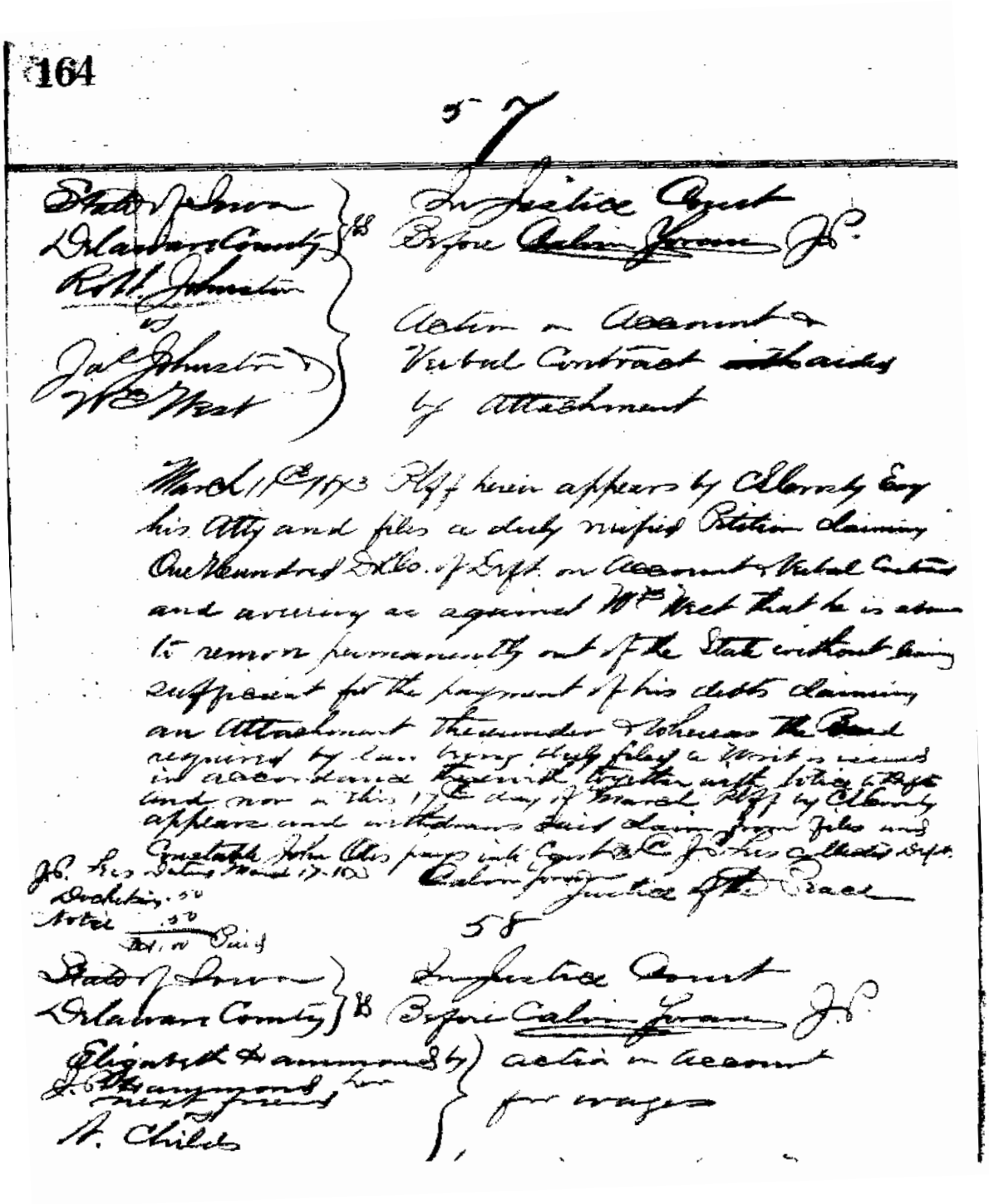
- there is no verification of kinship, either through birth or marriage records, although there is for most of James and Elizabeth's known children;
- known Johnston/Lowry daughter, Susan, was born 14 Jun 1835, whereas Robert's birth is recorded as 15 Jan 1835 — too close! (albeit, caution is required here as sometimes a record is for a baptism date);
- with the exception of the referenced lawsuit, there is no evidence of inter-relationships between Robert's family and the various confirmed members of the Johnston/Lowry Family;
- in no instance did Robert name his children after James Johnston or Elizabeth Lowry, which would have been the custom of the day;
- Robert did not follow either of the career paths common in James' family, farming and stonecutting/masonry;
- although Robert's burial is in the same churchyard, and the headstones are proximate, they do not share a common plot with the Johnston/Lowry Family.

This Robert Johnston might be a nephew/cousin. R. Edna "Dede" Johnston, author of *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, noted in preparatory correspondence dated 1966, that her grandfather, our 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, had other brothers who also emigrated. Indeed, a * Hugh Johnston (1800-1878) and a * Thomas Johnston (1796-1880) lived in the same neighborhood as James in Fermanagh County, Ireland, and apparently left that community at about the same time as James. While I have included * Robert Johnston (1835-1875) as a possible/probable (as denoted by the *) son of the Johnston/Lowry Family, further research on a possible family connection is indicated.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (28 Aug 2014; rev. 23 Dec 2017)]

Record of Delaware County Court Case, 17 March 1873

* Robert Johnston sues William West for $100 *"on account and verbal contract"* prior to the defendant leaving the State. James Johnston is named as co-defendant . . .



164

5 7

State of Penn
Delaware County } ss
Rob't Johnston
vs
Jas Johnston
Wm West

In Justice Court
Before Calvin Green J.P.

Action on Account &
Verbal Contract with Jas
by Attachment

March 17th 1873 Plff herein appears by Clearly Esq his Atty and files a duly verified Petition claiming One Hundred Dollars of Deft on Account & Verbal Contract and averring as against Wm West that he is about to remove permanently out of the State without having sufficient for the payment of his debts claiming an Attachment thereunder & whereas the Bond required by Law being duly filed a Writ is issued in accordance therewith together with writ of Plff and now at this 17th day of March Plff by Clearly appears and withdraws said claim from files and Constable John Ellis pays into Court $ for his fees & disp.
Calvin Green Justice of the Peace

J.P. Fees Dates March 17-1873
Docketing .50
Total .50
Rec'd Paid

58

State of Penn
Delaware County } ss

In Justice Court
Before Calvin Green J.P.

Elizabeth Hammond by
S. Thompson her
next friend
R. Childs } vs

action on account
for wages

James Johnston with parents at Edenasop House (the Irish postal address of the Johnston/Lowry Family). This record *might* document the birth of James Lowry Johnston (1844-1901), usually reported as 28 August 1844, or, plausibly, it *may* be the record of a previous child who died and whose name was then re-used for a subsequent sibling. No corresponding death record has been found. It is interesting to note that in the 1870 US Census for the household of Father James Johnston (1797-1885) in Delaware County, Iowa, a son, James Johnston, in residence at the time is shown as 30 years of age (i.e., born 1840).

Speculation: That there was a son born to James Johnston and Elizabeth Lowry on 25 Sep 1840, whom they named 'James', and that this child did not live long, and that when they again bore a son, on 28 Aug 1844, they also named him 'James', in memoriam, adding the middle name 'Lowry'. As for the discrepancy in James Lowry Johnston's birthdate reported in 1870 in Iowa, such clerical errors were, in fact, common in census records.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (30 Aug 2014; rev. 13 Nov 2015)]

Coolrakelly Johnston/Lowry Family

Coolrakelly Johnston's

When I explained to the young gardener at Colebrooke House the other day that I was following my hood ornament, just to see where it would lead me, he got a good chuckle: "Bravely going where no man has ever gone before . . ." Today, Irish luck is with me again!

I find a man painting the window trim on an obviously old stone house. Meeting a typically warm reception, I offer that he is beautifully tending the ancestral home of my Emerson forefathers. Samuel Jennings is about 52. His father bought the place from a man named Nelson, who had purchased it from the estate of a little Catholic lady from Cork, named Small. The store they operated may have been transferred to older Brother William Emerson, or his son William, when in 1870 our GGGrandfather Edward left the Mosgrove ancestral home, just over the Many Burns Bridge and down the road a piece, to emigrate to Minnesota. The store continued until the late1990's, had fuel pumps, a post office, a real red British phone box.

Later, at Samuel's suggestion I enlist the help of another, older incomer, Victor Prentice, whose family purchased a neighbouring farm from the Savages 70 years ago. "He has the best memory of anyone around." He and Son Ernest operate a modern dairy farm within a stones throw of the Johnston farm, about a mile down the Coleborough Road from the Emerson's of Creagh Cross, just before the road to the Tattykeeran Church leaves to the right. Old Victor concludes our chat with an invitation to return, and then we share a walk to the site, long since just a *cavan*, a small hollow on the hillside, where our family's house once stood 140 years ago on Lot #6: 26 acres of good grazing land along the old public right of way to the peat bogs, in the Townland of Coolrakelly, Barony of Magherastephana, Poor Law Union of Lisnaskea, Parish of Aghavea, County of Fermanagh, Ireland.

RCJ. 21 Oct 2012

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this 21 Oct 2012

Irish Residence Record, 1862

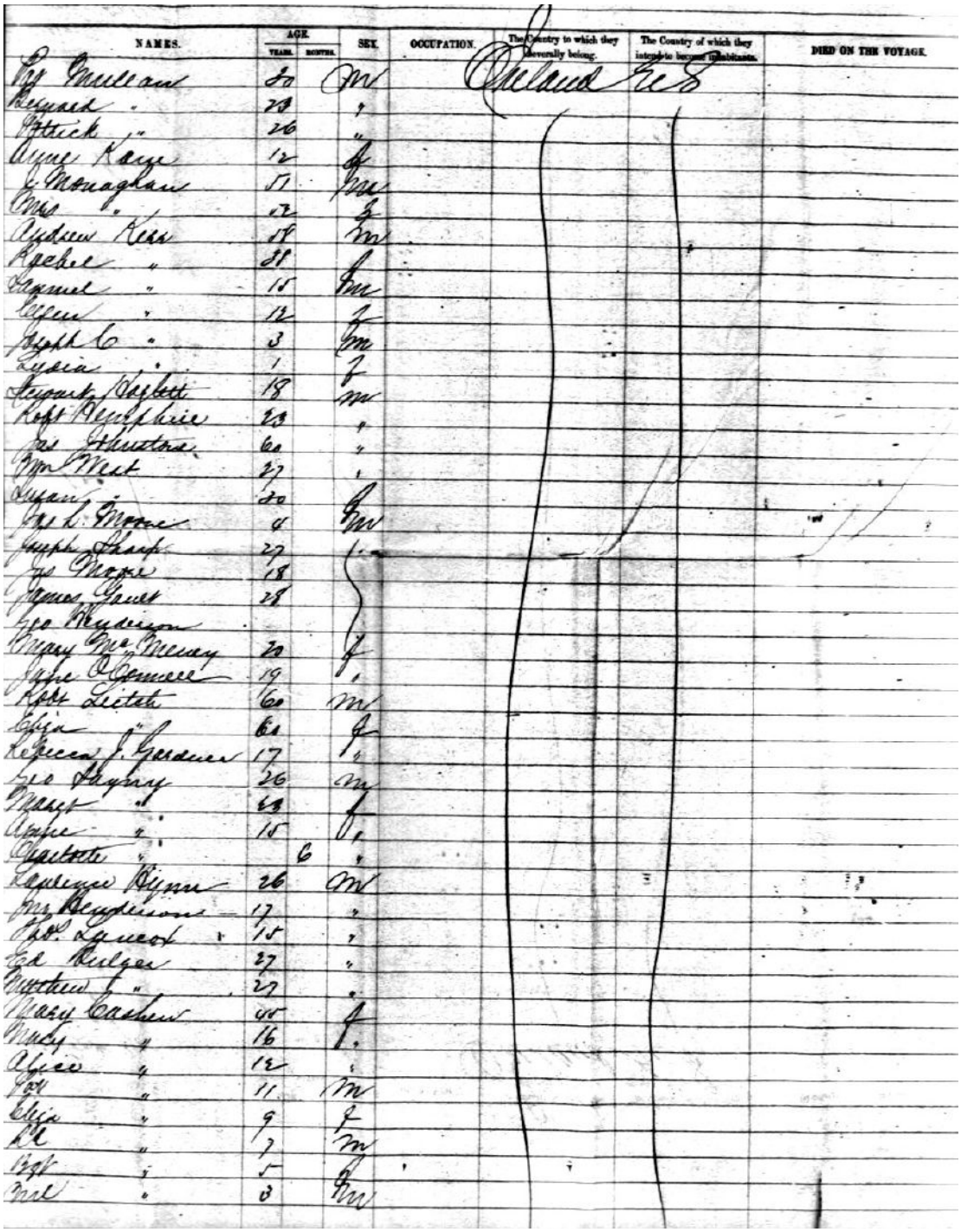
Griffiths Valuation Record Information

Tenant	
Family Name 1	JOHNSTON
Forename 1	JAMES
Landlord	
Family Name 2	COOKE
Forename 2	WILLIAM
Location	
County	FERMANAGH
Barony	MAGHERASTEPHANA
Union	LISNASKEA
Parish	AGHAVEA
Townland	COOLRAKELLY
Place Name	COOLRAKELLY
Place Type	TOWNLAND
Publication Details	
Position on Page	8
Printing Date	1862
Act	15&16
Sheet Number	23
Map Reference	

NB: There is a barely-legible, hand-written record at PRONI (Public Records Office of Northern Ireland), corresponding to the above record, showing James Johnston as deleted in 1870 from map-referenced Parcel 6, which was then joined to neighbouring Parcel 7— lessee William Bamford, lessor Sir Victor A Brooke. [ref: Soutter Research Report in Appendix B]. This corresponds well with James, Sr.'s 1866 departure (see ship log) and Son James Lowry's return for several years to run the Irish farm (as reported in his obituary).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (9 May 2018)]

Johnston/Lowry Family's New York Arrival Aboard 'The Iowa', 20 October 1866



NAMES.	AGE. YEARS.	AGE. MONTHS.	SEX.	OCCUPATION.	The Country to which they severally belong.	The Country of which they intend to become Inhabitants.	DIED ON THE VOYAGE.
Jas Johnston	60		M		Ireland	U.S.	
Susan "	30		F				
Patrick "	26		M				
Agnes Kane	12		F				
E. Monaghan	51		Male				
Mrs "	52		F				
Andrew Kerr	18		Male				
Rachel "	28		F				
Samuel "	15		Male				
Eugene "	12		F				
Joseph C "	3		Male				
Lydia "	1		F				
Benjamin Corbett	18		Male				
Robt Humphries	23		"				
Jas Stewartson	60		"				
Wm West	27		"				
Susan "	30		F				
Jas L. Moore	4		Male				
Joseph Sharp	27		"				
Jas Thorpe	18		"				
James Grant	28		"				
Geo Stevenson							
Margt McElheney	20		F				
Jane O'Connell	19		"				
Robt Leitch	60		M				
Eliza "	60		F				
Rebecca J. Gardner	17		"				
Geo Sydney	26		M				
Mary "	23		F				
Agnes "	15		"				
Charlotte "	6		"				
Lawrence Flynn	26		M				
Jno Stephenson	17		"				
Robt Agnew	15		"				
Ed Rutger	27		"				
Matthew J "	27		"				
Mary Cashen	55		F				
Mary "	16		"				
Alice "	12		"				
Jos "	11		M				
Eliza "	9		F				
Ed "	7		M				
Eph "	5		"				
Mel "	3		"				

NB: see mid-page on Ship's Log: Jas. Johnston (60), Wm. West (27), Susan " (30), Jas. L. Moore (4)

This document, and the previous Court Case record, were supplied via correspondence with Susan (Swindell) of California, a genealogy researcher whose husband is a 2nd great-grandson of * Robert Johnston. She reports: *"I continue my quest to prove that Robert was a son of [**Figure of Eight** 2nd great-grandfather] James".* (see Susan Swindell in Appendix C, Distant Cousin Corroborators)

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (22 Dec 2017)]

Poisoning Mystery

William Johnston and Susan Johnston Moore West, 8 May 1870, Adams, Delaware, Iowa

Family lore speaks to the mysterious deaths of a brother and a sister by arsenic poisoning, as reflected in an enquiry to the Delaware County Historical Society by Susan's 2nd great-granddaughter living in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania (see Carol Arndt in Appendix C, Distant Cousin Corroborators) . . .

The information I am seeking is in regard to my great, great grandmother Susan Johnston Moore West and her brother William Johnston. They died May 8, 1870 and were killed.

This is the history my mother's family has:
"Susan Johnston had a tragic death as did her brother, William. She was at her brother's home and his wife had made soup. Both Susan and William died from taking this soup. It was detected there was strycnine in the soup, and suspicion was centered on William's wife as someone had seen her put a powder in it. Why she did it this never was solved and sometime later she and her young son left the community and her whereabouts were never know. William and Susan both died and are buried in the same grave in the church cemetery."

At the time this happened Susan was married to my great, great grandfather, William West. They had a baby daughter who was 6 months old at the time, this baby girl was ... Elizabeth Jane West. In adulthood, she became my great
grandmother, Elizabeth Jane West Armstrong. After Susan died, Elizabeth was taken in by her mother's sister, Ann Carrothers, and her husband. She lived with the Carrother's until her father, William West, remarried a woman named Rebecca Moore. After William's 2nd wife died, he married a widow, Mrs.Joseph Heany. They eventually went to South Dakota where he died and is buried.

This family history was given to my mother by a cousin of my great grandmother,
Elizabeth. This cousin told my mother that she had heard the family talk of their
tragic deaths many times but that detail from so long ago were hard to remember.

Great, great grandma, Susan Johnston West and her brother are buried at Silver Creek Church Cemetery, Ryan Iowa. I was at their burial site one time. The stones read:

10/25/2007
Page 2 of 2

Sacred is the memory of Susan, the beloved wife of Wm. West
Who departed this life May 8, 1870.
Aged 34 yrs. 11 months
— oft of my days. I shall go in the gates of the grave deprived of the just due of my years.

Next to this grave is the grave a baby boy, William.
His stone reads: William ... son of Wm. and Susan West.
Who died ... June 21, 1869
1 yr and 6 months old.

ancestry [**horttech1** originally shared this 26 Feb 2015]

The Wigwam

> *"The Christopher Carrothers home was on a hill called the Wigwam, so named because long ago Indians camped there from time to time. The Wigwam in early days was about an acre of wild cherry, poplar, and plum trees, and much hazel brush. The first Carrothers house was of logs, of course, and stood south from the site of the frame dwelling built later and still occupied as it was originally. When the time came, Christy built the large frame house at almost the crest of the hill, and this was long the family home. North of the house was a large orchard. The farm land sloped away from the buildings on all sides. A windmill topped the rise of ground to the east in the 600 acres, a mill that is still in important use. This farm was one of Delaware County's most imposing farm properties. When the farm descended to the brothers, Wm. L. and Thomas H., they built large stock barns on the place. These brothers formed a partnership and for years carried on an expansive stock-breeding farm, dealing in both pure-bred cattle and horses. In 1921 they dissolved this partnership and sold the farm."* [Swindell, Blanche. The Silver Creek Story. 1952. p. 91]

Chris Carrothers was the husband of Anna "Annie" Johnston (1833-1919), the daughter of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, who spend his last years at the Wigwam, dying there of heat stroke under a shade tree in the family garden. [***Ryon C Johnston*** (13 Nov 2015)]

Extended Family Connections — Robinson, *et. al.*

In the notes backgrounding her book, *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, ***Figure of Eight*** great aunt, R. Edna "Dede" Johnston made the comment that any Robinsons living today in that part of County Fermanagh (whence came her Johnston/Emerson parents) would be probable relatives.

My research suggests our connection with 'Robinson' to be through the mother-in-law of her aunt, our 2nd great-aunt, Anna "Annie" Johnston Carrothers (1833-1919). While Dorcas Robinson (1794-1835) died in Ireland, as did her husband, John Carrothers (1766-1863), several of their children emigrated, and to all evidence, so did some of her Robinson cohorts.

"Robinson, Iowa, was founded around the turn of the previous century, named after the Robinson family of southwestern Delaware County. Alexander Robinson, one prominent Robinson, built a farm 1.5 miles north of the town site. William B. Robinson operated the Farmers Savings Bank of Robinson and the Robinson Lumber and Grain Company, circa 1914. The Chicago, Anamosa and Northern Railroad (CAN) passed through Robinson, built in 1912 and proposed for electrification in 1916. The CAN Railway was sold for scrap during World War II." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robinson,_Iowa]

In his book, *History of Delaware County, Iowa, Vol. III, 1834-1934*, Belle Bailey reports that James Robinson and his Swindell (Swindle) and McKay relatives, immigrants from Ireland who had settled first in the Pittsburg region, came to Adams Township on an exploratory trip as early as 1852. The 1894 Plat Map of Adams Township, wherein lies the unincorporated community of Robinson, lists both Alex and W.B. Robinson; also John, Robert, James, Eliza, Mathilda. In her book, *Silver Creek Iowa Centennial History, 1952*, Blanche Swindell quotes George E Crothers (Carrothers), nephew of our 2nd great-aunt, Anna, in reference to his childhood friends, W.B. and Wesley Robinson, as well as to Aunt "Tillie" (Mathilda?), mother of W.B. Robinson.

Figure of Eight 2nd great-aunt, Anna "Annie" Johnston Carrothers, living in the next jurisdiction to the north, Prairie Township, was actively interconnected with a network of 'homelanders': Carrothers, Johnston, Swindell (Swindle), Graham, Robinson, Fair/Phair. Quite naturally, our pioneering forebears, in relocating to the *"brave new world"*, settled near to people they already knew from home. And, equally naturally, proximity with the new neighbourhoods prompted reinforcement of those connections through subsequent marriages: Swindell(male)/Carrothers(female), Graham/Carrothers, Swindell/Johnston, Johnston/Swindell (twice), Carrothers/Robinson (thrice). Amongst other things shared, many of them were members of the Methodist Church, built at Silver Creek, Adams Township, in the 1860s.

There is much scope here for further genealogical research . . . [***Ryon C Johnston*** (rev. 22 Dec 2017)]

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 2/8

Emerson/Mosgrove Family

Edward Emerson

Isabella Mosgrove

Emerson/Mosgrove Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Edward Emerson (1809-1888) and Isabella Mosgrove (1817-1910), were married in Tempo, County Fermanagh, Ireland, on the 1st of January 1838. The custom of the day was for the marriage to be in the bride's church, in this case Presbyterian, and for the family to thereafter follow the husband's religious practice, in this case Church of Ireland.

Following the traditional pattern, whereby the youngest daughter brought her husband into her family's household which was expected to continue to include her parents, the couple settled into the Mosgrove ancestral home in Edenagilhorn Townland. The house wherein at least three generations of Mosgroves had been born, is still extant today. Edward and Isabella proceeded to have 13 children of their own, all birthed in the centre bedroom upstairs, right above the parlor.

During the family's tenure, the original 13-acre farm, by incorporating the plots of neighbouring relatives, grew to 33 acres. In addition to producing the usual menagerie of farm livestock, the family supplied themselves and their neighbours with convenient essentials by operating a small general store in one of the outbuildings. Their barn stood across the road on the bank of the Many Burns River.

From a point near the barn, a public path crossed the river on stepping stones, leading past the ruins of an old mill. Further up the hill, skirting the remnant boulders of an ancient hill fort, the path wended its way to Tattykeeran, the Family's church.

Their property was a leasehold from the 33,000 acre Brooke Estate. It incorporated a 'national school', set on the small triangular meadow between the barn and the stone bridge, a stone's throw to the north, that passed over the Many Burns River. The national school system was introduced into Ireland in 1831, with about 1,500 schools (later known as 'public elementary', and still later as 'primary' schools) in Ulster Province ('Northern Ireland' since 'partitioning' in 1921).

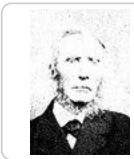
About 1863, seduced by the allure of better prospects in the New World, the four eldest Emerson children made the trip to America. Accompanied by their future brother-in-law, James Johnston, they were received by Bamford (Banford) relatives in Canada as an initial stopping place. In August 1870, the residual Emerson family with the nine youngest children (aged six to 26), accompanied by the now-elderly father-in-law, James Mosgrove, undertook to make the passage themselves.

Edward's older brother, William, and his wife Mary, (also a Wilson like her mother-in-law), farmed just across the Many Burns Bridge in Creagh Townland on what may well have been the Emerson 'home place'. Their farm was about 59 acres, and their home, with the address of 14 Tates of Aghavea, was rather grand. This property, now called 'Creagh House', once held the local post office, and from an early date sported a classic red British telephone box. Following the closure of the Emerson/Mosgrove farm store upon that family's 1870 emigration, it would become the area's general store, complete with a petrol pump. The present owner reports that the 1890's deed was one of the earliest leaseholds in County Fermanagh to transfer to the occupant's ownership. Legislation enacted in 1909 facilitated the break-up of the large estates for benefits deemed to be mutual.

The Emerson/Mosgrove homestead in America (120 acres in Sections 22 & 23/Township 101N/Range 23W) in Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota, would prove to be the base for a prolific multi-generational clan, again with a nearby country school full of their offspring, this time *grand*children. At the time of the couple's 50th wedding anniversary in 1886, all their then-adult children were still living, and all but one of the 13 still resided in Freeborn County. The parental farm with its replacement home, rebuild after a major fire in 1897, would remain in the family with the descendants of Son Samuel for another century.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (3 Mar 2015; rev. 27 Dec 2017)

ancestry



Edward Emerson

BIRTH 15 JUL 1809 • Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland
DEATH 18 MAY 1888 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
15 Jul 1809 • Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland

Age 26 — **Marriage**
1 Jan 1836 • Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland
Presbyterian wedding; registered Enniskillen, 1850; theirs is a 'cross x marriage' as Edward's brother, Robert, marries Isabella's sister, Anne

Isabella Mosgrove (1817–1910)

Age 27 — **Residence**
1836-1870 • Edenagilhorn Townland, Fermanagh, Ireland
the couple stay on with her parents in the Mosgrove ancestral home; she births 13 children in the main bedroom above the parlor

Age 36 — **Death of Mother Mary**
abt 1845 • Fermanagh, Ireland

Age 50 — **Residence**
1859 • Edenagilhorn, Aghavea, Fermanagh, Ireland
Griffith's Valuation of Tenements; 33 acres + some adjacent land over the river in Coolrakelly; Landlord is Brooke; Emerson land includes the national school house; four acres subleased to a Johnston Mosgrove (Wife Isabella's uncle?)

Age 61 — **Arrival**
1870 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
preceded by four eldest children, they sell out in Ireland, emigrate with younger nine children, Isabella's father, Jas. Mosgrove; sailing aboard the 'Moravian' from Derry to Montreal, Quebec thence by train to Sarnia, Ontario, and on to Albert Lea, Minn.

Age 61 — **Death of Father William Sr.**
14 Feb 1871 • Creagh, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh, Ireland

Age 65 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
five children at home (11-25) as well as Irish/Canadian Nephew James Banford (33)

Age 71 — **Residence**
1880 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota
four children at home (15-27)

Age 75 — **Residence**
1 May 1885 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
five children at home (20-34); McGee in-laws next door; Son John H Emerson is the census enumerator

Age 76 — **Golden Wedding Anniversary**
1 Jan 1886 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
50th Anniversary, celebrated in their home

Age 78 — **Death**
18 May 1888 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota

Family

Parents

William Emerson Sr. 1773–1871

Mary Wilson 1780–1845

Siblings

***John Emit Emerson** 1796–1891

William Emerson Jr. 1802–1874

Robert Emerson 1807–1882

(Mary) Margaret Emerson 1807–1895

James Emerson 1818–1879

Thomas Emerson 1822–1906

Spouse & Children

Isabella Mosgrove 1817–1910

- **James Mosgrove Emerson** 1836–1921
- **Margaret "Maggie" Emerson** 1838–1931
- **John H Emerson** 1839–1932
- **William Emerson** 1842–1903
- **Anne Jane Emerson** 1844–1910
- **Mary Emerson** 1846–1924
- **Edward Emerson Jr.** 1849–1925
- **Isabella "Bella" Emerson** 1851–1941
- **Robert Emerson** 1853–1933
- **Thomas A Emerson** 1855–1915
- **Samuel N Emerson** 1858–1950
- **Sarah "Sadie" Emerson** 1861–1949
- **Henry "Harry" Wilson Emerson** 1864–1934

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1880 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Ireland, Griffith's Valuation, 1848-1864

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011

Relationship between Edward Emerson & ***Figure of Eight***

Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
2nd great-grandfather
V
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Edward Emerson

*** John Emet Emerson (1796-1891) m. * Isabella Armstrong (1800-1847)**

Eldest sibling, John, reportedly relocated to Canada. There are three possible traces for John Emerson in Canada. One, an Ontario provincial land surveyor, was Church of England, lived at Hungerford, Hastings County, amongst other Irish families with familiar Fermanagh names (Noble, Graham, Maguire), died of 'old age'. Another, a Presbyterian farmer in Halton County, died 1 Sep 1873 at age 72 of 'nephritis'. The third, and likely the best, candidate (with dates as shown above) emigrated to Quebec in 1847 with three sons, his wife dying at sea *enroute*. The residual family farmed there, subsequently moving on, first to New York, then to Wisconsin, and, finally, to Little Falls, Minnesota.

William Emerson Jr. (1802-1874) m. Mary Wilson (1804-)

Brother William apparently farmed just across the Many Burns Bridge in Creagh Townland on what was likely the Emerson 'home place'. Their home, apparently with the address of '14 Tates of Aghavea', was rather grand, and has been maintained very well to date. It held a post office and, from an early date, sported a classic red British telephone booth. Later the site included a general store, complete with a petrol pump. In 1841, the farm was 22 acres; by 1859 it was 59 acres. At the latter date, a William Emerson (the father or the son?) lived just up the road at Creagh Cross, on land upon which a Methodist church has stood since 1878.

(Mary) Margaret Emerson (1807-1895) m. James Bamford (1796-1882)

Margaret married into the neighbourhood Presbyterian farm family of Bamford (Banford, in the New World to which three of their nine children would emigrate). Son James was the first to do so, and would become a touchstone in Canada for Emerson cousins. He would also live briefly with the Edward and Isabella Emerson in Minnesota prior to his Ontario marriage to a girl of Irish descent. Interestingly, there was a triple cross x marriage in this family as three Bamford brothers married three Murphy sisters. Sons William and Edward would operate a Coolrakely farm next door to ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston.

Robert Emerson (1807-1882) m. Anne Mosgrove (1812-1896)

Brother Robert married Isabella's sister, Anne. They would settle near other Emerson relatives in Ratoran Townland, a few miles to the northwest of Tempo. Six of their 10 children would emigrate to Australia, two to New York, with only two remaining in Ireland. The descendants of one of these, Thomas Mosgrove Emerson, have occupied their Ratoran farm unto the present day, and, through a Graham marriage, on other farms in the area. The 'Grahams of Killycloughy', age compatriots of ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons, are the 4th cousins of our father, Daryl (see story: A Tale of Two Families).

James Emerson (1818-1879)

Brother James apparently remained single, continued farming in the home area.

Thomas Emerson (1824-1893) m. Margaret Alexander (1828-1906)

Youngest brother, Thomas, and his wife, Margaret, of 'Noble' descent (no pun intended!) would also choose to live amongst the Ratoran Emerson clan. Four of their five offspring continued on in Ireland. The family farm, residence finally of Daughter Mathilda, would be known into living memory as *"Tillie's Farm*". Son William would eventually join his cousin, Edward and Isabella's son, Robert, as partner in a drugstore business venture at Janesville, Minnesota.

NB: For more detail about Emerson siblings and their offspring, see story: *"The Parental Family of Edward Emerson (1809-1888)".*

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (3 Mar 2015; rev. 30 Dec 2017)]

Narrative: *"Ready to Go"*

I've come down here by the river tonight just to sit and think. Just there are the steppingstones which my family has used all these years; by me, to get to the one acre field on the other side; by the neighbour children, to cross this way to the school that stands in our little triangular pasture by the bridge (with an iron gate that they don't always remember to close); and by all of us, to make the hike up to the Tattykeeran Church. The children head up first for Sunday School, and the missus and I walk up later, at least when the weather's fine.

I shall miss this place. Fact is, I worry that we might be getting too old to be uprooting, let alone going halfway around the world! I 'spect my siblings, and the neighbours, think we're crazy, although they wouldn't say so in our hearing. This move has been on the cards for years, since James, our eldest, struck off to America on his own. Ever since then, he would give us no peace. His tales about *"the land of milk and honey"* lured our next three children over there soon after, and I think about half our neighbours, too. It's the times! I reckon James is right — *"over there",* the *"New World",* may well be the *"promised land".* I came to decide that the only way that the rest of our restless tribe is going to get there is if I take them. Both Anne Jane and Mary have beaus there already. I suppose they think that I don't know all about it, that not being the kind of thing girls talk about with their fathers. Both young Johnston and young Beatty have joined up with our William in Pittsburg.

James would have inherited this place, had he stayed, that being the way things work around here. Not that we actually own our farm. None of us do — all the land around here is held by leasehold. Come to think of it, we've been landlords ourselves. Years ago, when Isabella's Uncle Johnston got too old to farm his 10 acres, we asked to get it added to our lease, and then we sub-let a smaller plot back to him and Jane for as long as they lived. Owned, or leased, it amounts to pretty much the same thing. The Mosgroves built the house we're in, three generations ago, and we have added the barn. Now, young Bernard McCaffrey will take on our lease, so the occupancy of this land will revert to the 'real Irish' — the ones who were here originally, before the English came to take it away from them. So, in 300 years the place has come full circle.

We got some considerable cash for the value of the leasehold, and for the buildings and the cattle. We were able to sell the farm equipment, too. Wish we could've taken everything with us, since we'll be starting over in Minnesota. Well, I guess we're ready to go. We've hired two rigs to get us, and what gear is coming with, transported up to the train at Fintona tomorrow for the start of the big trip.

James and Maggie will help when we get there, of course. He's already lined up a homestead for us pretty much next-door to their place. Their little tribe is all girls, so far, and very young. Izzy can't wait to see them. And we've still got five boys of our own in tow, so we'll make it all work somehow. One step at a time! First thing is we've got to get ourselves there. Should've started out sooner, it being already the 12th of August tomorrow. We're going to have a long trip and a busy Fall to be ready for a Minnesota Winter. Daughter Margaret writes that she'll meet us once we get to Albert Lea, the closest town where we can hire a rig. She says James has lined up a good carpenter, and Maggie's folks, the Hazles, have apparently got room for us for the time it takes to build a house of our own.

I think they're excited to have us coming. It's been a dozen years since we've seen James, and have yet to meet his wife and our grandchildren. After experiencing every sort of adventure, including shipwreck, he worked for a while as a sea captain on the Great Lakes as they are called, before marrying Maggie, moving west by covered wagon, building a sod house. For some years now, he has been running a drugstore in a little town called Mansfield in Freeborn County, Minnesota.

"Man's-field"; "free-born" — with names like *that* how can anyone go wrong? It does sound like the right place for displaced Irish farmers alright. Truth be known, I am kind of excited myself, but I try not to let that show. Tomorrow is the first day of the rest of our lives! We shall see. Right now, it's off for a good night's sleep. Izzy will be wondering where I've got to.

Edward Emerson, 11 August 1870, Townland Edenagilhorn, County Fermanagh, Ireland [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston*****,** 02 Mar 2013; rev 28 Dec 2017]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

The Parental Family of Edward Emerson (1809-1888)[1]

Father: William Emerson
Birth 1773 in Creagh, Fermanagh, Ireland
Death 14 Feb 1871 in Fermanagh, Ulster, Ireland
Mother: Mary Wilson (1780-1845)

As many as four unknown children have been reported; of the seven known, all but two children, Edward and John, stayed in Ireland, but of 40+ grandchildren all but 14 emigrated to USA, Canada, Australia . . .

* John Emet Emerson (1796-1891) m. * Isabella Armstrong (1800-1847) — family to Canada, 1847
  a. * Robert Emerson (1820-1899)
  b. * Edward Emerson (1821-1893)
  c. * Thomas Emerson 1827-1911)
  d. * James Emerson (1830-1910)

William Emerson (1802-1874) m. Mary Wilson (1804-) — on Emerson home farm at Craigh Townland
  a. William Emerson (1823-) * Jane Millikan (1823-) — three children
  b. John Emerson (1824-1917) m. Ellen Mosgrove (1824-) — one child
  c. James Emerson (1826-)

(Mary) Margaret Emerson (1807-1895) m. James Bamford (1796-1882) — farm at Cavanaleck Townland, three children emigrated
  a. Jane Susan Bamford (1828-1912) m. Galbraith Moffat (1829-1913) — five of 13 children emigrated to Canada, USA, Hong Kong
  b. William Bamford (1828-1908) m. Mary Anne Murphy (1838-1908) — childless
  c. * Ann Bamford (1831-1913)
  d. George E Banford (1836-1907) m. Ellen Sheehan — three children born Aus, one Ca, two in BC
  e. John Bamford (1839-1911) m. Jane Dixon (1844-1884)
  f. James Banford (1840-1921) m. Mary Ann Stewart (1850-1922) — seven Canadian children
  g. Robert Bamford (1844-1921) m. Marjorie Murphy (1849-1921) Cloncallick Townland, four + children
  h. Edward Bamford (1847-1921) m. Jane Murphy (1847-1914) — nine children, three to Can, one NY
  i. Margaret Bamford (1848-) — to Australia
  j. Mary Bamford (1850-1930) m. John Crawford (1846-1914) — eight children, at least one to USA

Robert Emerson (1807-1882) m. Anne Mosgrove (1812-1896) — on farm at Ratoran Townland (of 10

[1] This document is presented as an update of a section entitled THE ANCESTORS OF EDWARD EMERSON found on page 6 of ***Figure of Eight*** great aunt, R. Edna "Dede" Johnston's work: *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968).*

children, eight emigrated to Australia)

a. Jane Emerson (1837-) — to New York
b. Mary Ann Emerson (1837-) m. James Reynolds (1835-) — to NY w. 11 Irish-born children
c. William Emerson (1838-1934) m. Mary Louisa Wilson (1855-1933) — eight Australian children
d. James Emerson (1840-1932) m. Susannah "Susan" Banford (1841-1898) — two Aus children
e. Isabella Emerson (1842-1921) m. William Waugh (1838-1920) — seven Australian children
f. Margaret Emerson (1844-1926) m. John Allen (1840-1919) — six Australian children
g. Elisabeth "Eliza" Emerson (1849-1912) — own house on the Ratoran farm
h. Edward Robert Emerson (1853-1910) m. Mary Jane Farrell (1870-1941) — to Australia
i. Robert Wilson Emerson (1853-1930) — to Australia
j. Thomas M Emerson (1854-1938) m. Ellen Little (1864-) on Ratoran farm — four children (one of whom married a Graham — see story: *"A Tale of Two Families")*

Edward Emerson (1809-1888) m. Isabella Mosgrove (1809-1910), our 2nd great-grandparents – on Mosgrove farm at Edenagilhorn Townland; four of 13 children emigrated to America; parents and the remaining nine children followed in 1870 (see ancestry.com profiles for list of children)

James Emerson (1818-1879) — apparently single; farm at Derrycrum Townland, County Fermanagh

Thomas Emerson (1824-1893) m. Margaret Alexander (1828-1906) — on farm at Ratoran Townland

a. * Mary Jane Emerson (1849-1907) m. William Smith (1840-)
b. William Emerson (1851-1933) m. Mabel Baker (1869-1928) — pharmacist in Mn, Wa
c. Noble Emerson (1853-1930)
d. Mathilda "Tillie" Jane Emerson (1855-1941) — "Tillie's Farm" in living memory
e. Bella Margaret Emerson (1864-1921)

Speculation: Other candidates to be offspring of William and Mary Emerson include * Nobel Emerson (1809-1892), married to a Margaret, was on a farm at Cavanalough Glebe in 1864. Their daughter Mary Emerson Fleming Cluff was widowed, remarried in Ontario. The naming of Thomas and Margaret's son 'Noble' might be a clue to a familial link.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 Apr 2013; rev. 28 Dec 2017)]

Obituary from Freeborn County Standard News

> Died — At his home in Mansfield, Freeborn May 18, 1888, Edward Emerson, aged 78 years, 10 months and 3 days.
>
> Mr. Emerson was born in County Fermanagh, near Enniskillen, Ireland, July 15, 1809. He came to America in August, 1870, and settled in Mansfield, which has been his home ever since. He was converted and joined the Methodist church early in life. After coming to this country, he joined the United Brethren church, in which he lived an honored, faithful, working member until death. It was said over his coffin by one who had known him from youth that his was a life without a single blot or stain to mar it. He was married to Isabella Mosgrove, Jan. 1, 1826, with whom he lived over 52 years, and who still survives him. He was the father of 13 children, 8 sons and 5 daughters all of whom together with his faithful wife and a large number of grandchildren gathered around his coffin to look for the last time on the face of one they loved so well. The funeral was held at his home after which his remains were borne to the quiet Mansfield cemetery, his eight sons acting as bearers. They were followed by one of the largest company of people that ever met in that part of the country. His life was one of usefulness and he died in great peace. *"Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his."* E.J. Reed, Pastor
>
> Freeborn County Standard newspaper; Albert Lea, Minnesota, May 23, 1888; Page Eight.

ancestry **dianaswangiles** originally shared this on 21 Jul 2013

Creagh House

Townland Creagh, Parrish Aghavea, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland

Believed to be the Emerson ancestral home place, home to at least four generations of Emersons — [Photo credit: ***Ryon C Johnston***, Oct 2012]



ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 25 Feb 2013

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Edward Emerson (1809-1888)

Figure of Eight great aunt, R. Edna "Dede" Johnston's work, *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968),* presents a brief outline of the known ancestors of our 2nd great grandfather, Edward Emerson (1809-1888), suggesting definite knowledge of only one generation prior to Edward, his father, William, and his mother, Mary Wilson. This sketch has been fleshed out subsequently by myself and other researchers, giving us a good, if still partial, picture of our grandfather's siblings and their children and descendants (see story: *"The Parental Family of Edward Emerson (1809-1888)".*

The introduction to Aunt Dede's work also offers a teasing reference to ancestry in common with noted American author Ralph Waldo Emerson. As would be expected of famous people, the research into the latter's origins is well documented back to 1450 in Durham, England. It would appear, pending further research, that the Thomas Emerson (1584-1666), who migrated to Ipswich, Massachusetts, had several siblings, at least one of whom stayed in the United Kingdom. There would be as many as five generations between this branch of the family and the confirmed records of *our* branch of Emersons.

Brooke Deeds of 1713-1916

Reportedly amongst the first settlers of County Down in Ulster, the first appearance of our branch of Emersons in County Fermanagh, where Edward's father, William, is known to have lived, is the following entry in the Brooke Deeds 1713-1916 [http://www.ulsterancestry.com/ua-BrookeDeeds.html]:

> **D998/26/2:** 5 Oct. 1733 Lease from Henry Brooke, Colebrooke, Co. Fermanagh, to Isaac Emmerson, Jane Emmerson and Thomas Cluff, Edenagilhorn, Co. Fermanagh, for the lives of Wm Emmerson and James Emmerson at rent of £27 together with 12 pence per pound receivers'

fees, nine hens if demanded or four pence in lieu of each hen, and relating to Edenagilhorn, 170A Plantation, Co. Fermanagh.

Speculation: Of the people indicated, Isaac Emerson & Jane (nee Cluff?) could well be the great grandparents of our Edward, and one of their sons, William or James, his grandfather. Where we next pick up our probable line is a property lease referenced over 100 years later in neighbouring Townland Creagh:

> **D998/26/602:** 15 Apr. 1841 Lease from Sir Arthur B. Brooke, Colebrooke, Co. Fermanagh, to Wm Emerson, Creagh, Co. Fermanagh, of 22a. 23p. of Creagh, Co. Fermanagh, reserving 9a. 1r. 12p. of turf bog adjoining, for the lives of Henry Francis Brooke and Mathew James Burnside: (1) Reserves right to make a road; (2) Rent £14 17s. 2d.; (3) Seven days work of man and horse and fourteen hens or fifteen pence in lieu of each days work and sixpence in lieu of each hen; and, (4) Corn, etc, to be ground at mill of Sir Arthur B. Brooke, payment for not doing so £2. Courts, Leet. Courts, Baron.

Griffith's Valuation of Tenements of 1848-1864 (1859 for County Fermanagh)

In 1859, the Griffith's Valuation of Tenements shows a William Emerson (Sr.?) in a house, and a William Emerson (Jr.?) on a neighbouring farm. The 1862 Ordinance Survey map shows the post office and a telephone at the site of the Emerson farm, apparently known as "14 Tates of Aghavea". This property continued as a general store, later complete with a petrol pump, to within living memory.

In 1876, a William Emerson (III?) requested of Victor Brooke, the landlord, that he might *"give his interest in"* part of his Creagh lease for the purpose of erecting a Primitive Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, which is still in use at Creigh Cross (junction) today.

The Emerson farm at Creagh was reportedly deeded in the 1890's, the 7th parcel in all of Fermanagh to revert to private hands. Since the Land Ownership Act of 1909, the occupants are usually the owners, and the big estates have mostly dwindled to their home demesnes.

An interesting cluster of Emerson families at Townland Ratoran, to the northwest of the town of Tempo, apparently preceded the location there of two of our Edward's brothers, Robert and Thomas, and would likely have been of the same clan. Future research, perhaps linking these people to Edward's father, our 3rd great grandfather, William, might reveal the thread back to Emerson origins in England (as referenced in the known progenitor family tree of American writer genius, Ralph Waldo Emerson).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (25 Feb 2013; rev. 16 Nov 2015)]

Emerson Surname

The 'Emerson' surname appears to have originated as a *patronymic*, meaning "son of Emery or Amery". The root seems to be the Germanic personal name, Emar/Emaurri/Emmes (with variants in several languages: Norse, Heimir; French, Emme/Emmo/Emminga/Emmins; Danish, Emme; Swedish, Hemmet/Hemming; Dutch, Emous) composed of the elements *amal,* 'bravery' or 'vigour', (alternately, Haimericus, with the root *haim,* 'home') and *ric/rik,* 'rule' or 'power'.

The name was reportedly introduced into England by the Norman French, first appearing as a surname in records in the early 14th Century as Aimeric, Hemeri and Emryson. Early Amerys, Emerys and Emersons were found throughout England, especially in Durham in the northeast. Today, it is a very common surname occurring with much variation, including Emberson and Emmerson.

Figure of Eight 2nd great grandfather, Edward Emerson emigrated from County Fermanagh, Ireland in 1870 to Freeborn County, Minnesota. A Thomas Emerson, who reportedly shared a common ancestry with our family line, emigrated from Durham to Ipswich in Massachusetts Colony in the 17th century, and would become an ancestor of the America writer, Ralph Waldo Emerson.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Nov 2015; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

References:

i. Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and

Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894.
ii. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emerson_(surname)
iii. http://www.ancestry.ca/name-origin?surname=emerson
iv. http://www.selectsurname.com/emerson.html
v. https://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Emerson

ancestry



Isabella Mosgrove

BIRTH 13 OCT 1817 • Edenagilhorn Townland, Fermanagh, Ireland
DEATH 17 JAN 1910 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
13 Oct 1817 • Edenagilhorn Townland, Fermanagh, Ireland
of the third Mosgrove generation born in the ancestral home place on the Many Burns River

Age 18 — **Marriage**
1 Jan 1836 • Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland
Presbyterian wedding; registered Enniskillen, 1850; theirs is a 'cross x marriage' as Edward's brother, Robert, marries Isabella's sister, Anne

Edward Emerson (1809–1888)

Age 19 — **Residence**
1836-1870 • Edenagilhorn, Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland
the couple stay on with her parents in the Mosgrove ancestral home; she births 13 children in the main bedroom above the parlor

Age 51 — **Death of Mother Anne**
06 Jun 1869 • Edenagilhorn, Tempo, Fermanagh, Ireland

Age 52 — **Arrival**
Aug 1870 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
preceded by four eldest children, they sell out in Ireland, emigrate with nine youngest children and Father Jas. Mosgrove; sailing aboard the 'Moravian' from Derry to Montreal, Quebec thence by train to Sarnia, Ontario, and on to Albert Lea, Minnesota

Age 54 — **Death of Father James**
20 May 1872 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 57 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
seven children at home; also Irish/Canadian nephew, James Banford (21)

Age 67 — **Residence**
1 May 1885 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
five children at home

Age 68 — **Golden Wedding Anniversary**
1 Jan 1886 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
50th Anniversary, celebrated in their home

Age 70 — **Death of Husband Edward**
18 May 1888 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota

Age 83 — **Residence**
1900 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
widowed; continues on the farm with Son Sam and Canadian wife, Ida Sarah Mosgrove, possibly a relative with parents from Ireland

Age 85 — **Death of Son William**
5 Jan 1903 • Kiester, Faribault, Minnesota
cancer victim

Age 87 — **Residence**
26 Jun 1905 • Mansfield Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
still with Sam and Ida, who now have a son James M (4)

Age 92 — **Death**

Family

Parents

James Chittoch Mosgrove 1789–1872

Anne Rutledge 1786–1869

Spouse & Children

Edward Emerson 1809–1888

- **James Mosgrove Emerson** 1836–1921
- **Margaret "Maggie" Emerson** 1838–1931
- **John H Emerson** 1839–1932
- **William Emerson** 1842–1903
- **Anne Jane Emerson** 1844–1910
- **Mary Emerson** 1846–1924
- **Edward Emerson Jr.** 1849–1925
- **Isabella "Bella" Emerson** 1851–1941
- **Robert Emerson** 1853–1933
- **Thomas A Emerson** 1855–1915
- **Samuel N Emerson** 1858–1950
- **Sarah "Sadie" Emerson** 1861–1949
- **Henry "Harry" Wilson Emerson** 1864–1934

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1880 United States Federal Census

1900 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011

17 Jan 1910 • Mansfield, Freeborn, Minnesota
burial: Mansfield Township Cemetery

Relationship between Isabella Mosgrove & ***Figure of Eight***

Isabella Mosgrove (1817 - 1910)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Isabella Mosgrove
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Isabella Mosgrove

Anne Mosgrove (1812-1896) m. Robert Emerson (1807-1882)

Older sister, Anne, the only sibling surviving to adulthood, married Isabella's husband, Edward's, older brother, Robert Emerson. The custom in those days, if a family had no male heir, was for the *youngest* daughter to bring her husband into the family home, where they would provide ongoing care to the aging parents, and would ultimately inherit. So, Anne, the *elder* daughter, and her husband, Robert, had to find their own accommodation. They chose a farm a few miles west of Tempo in Townland Ratoran, where other Emerson relatives already resided. The Mosgroves were Presbyterian, so both couples would have married in that church (again, according to custom: marriage in the bride's church, with subsequent adherence to the groom's church). As the Emersons were Church of Ireland (also known as Church of England, Anglican, or Episcopalian), most of the birth records (as well as marriage and death records, for those who stayed in Ireland) of the Ratoran Emerson's 10 children are to be found in the Tempo Church of Ireland records. Six of these offspring would emigrate to Australia, two to New York (see the story of Edward Emerson's parental family for more detail).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (4 Mar 2015; rev. 16 Nov 2015)]

Narrative: *"Be Fruitful and Multiply"*

In Ireland, the Mosgrove Family was Scottish Presbyterian and we were proud of it. I was born in a house built by my great-grandfather, who was descended from a soldier in the Scottish Presbyterian Army sent to Ulster a hundred years before to fight the rebellious Catholic native Irish Celts, then stayed on as a farmer. I was the youngest daughter in a family with no surviving sons, so, as was the custom of those days, I stayed on to look after my parents, bringing my husband into the household. My father had been a farmer on a 10-acre leasehold. We had a small store to supply the neighbourhood. My Edward was an Emerson whose family had been in Fermanagh from "*time out of mind*" as the saying goes. We expanded the farm in one way or another in our turn, including taking over Uncle Johnston Mosgrove's 10 acres next door, so we ended up farming 33 acres in Edenagilhorn Townland.

We have 13 children, all born, as were my sister Anne and I, in the master bedroom at the top of the kitchen stairs, right above the parlor. And every one of them has lived to grow up. We all did quite well for ourselves in that place. But when our eldest four headed off by ones and twos to 'Americee', as we

called it, I knew it was just a matter of time before the bug caught us all. In the end, Edward was the last holdout. After my mother Anne died two years before, with two 'of age' daughters agitating to follow their intendeds across the big pond, and seven more young ones coming along after them with few prospects in 'Old Blighty', Edward, reluctantly I think, *"lifted the lid"*, so the remaining children could escape, and away we did come.

Edward's brother William and his wife Mary, lived in the Emerson home place just over the Many Burns River bridge. Having already the post office, they were quite happy to take on our little store. Edward did quite well selling the lease rights and anything else that was ours to sell. We brought my old father with us. He lived but a little while longer before we laid him to rest in a Minnesota grave.

Well, today, we buried my man, my Edward. I called him by his full name, when I called him by anything. He like to call me "Izzy", but never when anyone else could hear. We just had our 50th wedding anniversary two years ago, and we made a very nice picture, too, I'll tell you. At the ceremony, one of our neighbours offered up what he said was an old Swedish toast. We all held up our tea cups, and he said, in his not-so-good English "*may yous live a tausant years*!" Well, Edward didn't make it that far, but he did get his *"three score and 10",* and a bit besides. As for the rest of us, well, we're still going strong, *"the good Lord willin' and the crick don't rise".*

Sitting here reflecting on our life together, I remember that one of the things Edward used to worry about, when making up his mind to come to Minnesota, was the weather. "*I suspect James tells us only about the good stuff*," he would say. "*Sure there is good land that is practically free, and the big woods are full of every kind of food, some of which we have never heard of, but what about the Winters*?" Well, wouldn't you know! We had only been here about five minutes, it seems like now looking back almost 20 years, when we had the biggest blizzard that anybody had ever seen. It took the boys all one day to get to the cattle. They even had to cut a hole through the barn roof! If such a thing had happened before we came, and we had known about it, I think we'd still be in Ireland. All Edward said of the experience was, "*Didn't I tell you*?"

All our children have lived, every one, to this very day, and they are my reward and now my consolation — them and their children, 42 grandchildren so far, if we don't count the three that Fred McGee brought to our Sarah from his first marriage!

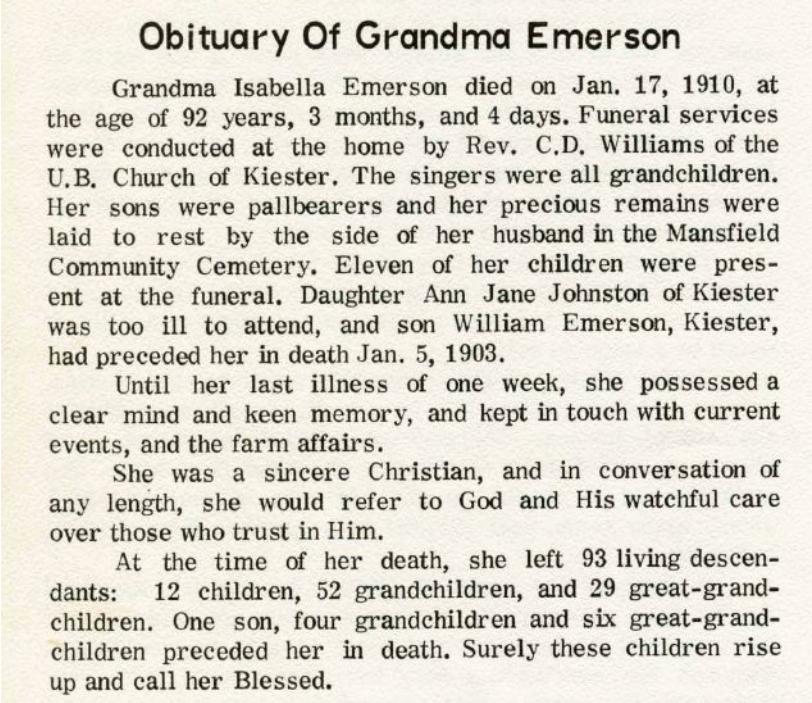
Our Anne Jane's little Dede, at just two months old the youngest of them all, is here with me today, sleeping on the floor on her "*bwankie*" with the cat in a spot of sunshine by the kitchen table as I write. The folks will have to get back to their chores soon. Their farm is just three miles to the west of us, but they'll be wanting just a little more time to catch up on the visiting when we're all here in the same place at the same time for the funeral.

I hope that I will be able to keep up with the names of the great-grandchildren when they start to come. That's the least that an old grandmother can do. Only James and Maggie's three oldest girls are of age for that yet, but the time will come. When the good Lord told us to *"be fruitful and multiply",* some of us have taken his word quite to heart!

Isabella Mosgrove Emerson, 18 May 1888, Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 2 Mar 2013; rev. 16 Nov 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Obituary



Obituary Of Grandma Emerson

Grandma Isabella Emerson died on Jan. 17, 1910, at the age of 92 years, 3 months, and 4 days. Funeral services were conducted at the home by Rev. C.D. Williams of the U.B. Church of Kiester. The singers were all grandchildren. Her sons were pallbearers and her precious remains were laid to rest by the side of her husband in the Mansfield Community Cemetery. Eleven of her children were present at the funeral. Daughter Ann Jane Johnston of Kiester was too ill to attend, and son William Emerson, Kiester, had preceded her in death Jan. 5, 1903.

Until her last illness of one week, she possessed a clear mind and keen memory, and kept in touch with current events, and the farm affairs.

She was a sincere Christian, and in conversation of any length, she would refer to God and His watchful care over those who trust in Him.

At the time of her death, she left 93 living descendants: 12 children, 52 grandchildren, and 29 great-grandchildren. One son, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren preceded her in death. Surely these children rise up and call her Blessed.

[Credit: Johnston, R. Edna "Dede", 1968. *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, p. 58]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 3 Mar 2015

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Isabella Mosgrove (1817-1910)

Figure of Eight great aunt, R. Edna “Dede” Johnston’s work, *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)* includes a brief outline of the ancestors of our 2nd great-grandmother, Isabella Mosgrove (1817-1910), as follows:

> *“Three Mosgrove brothers came from Scotland in the army. One, a Major, stayed in the army. Surgeon Mosgrove settled in Fintona, County Fermanagh. He was the first surgeon in that area to do major operations. Farmer Mosgrove was Isabella’s ancestor. After her marriage to Edward Emerson they lived in the Mosgrove’s ancestral home where three generations of Mosgroves had been born. The Mosgroves were Scotch Presbyterians.”* [p. 6]

This bit of family lore is not much to go on, but it is a start. In the Summer of 1642, the Scottish Parliament sent some 10,000 soldiers to quell a rebellion of the largely Catholic Irish population in the Ulster Plantation. This Scottish Presbyterian army fought against the rebels until 1650. If three Presbyterian brothers came from Scotland to Ireland in the army, it is safe to assume that this was the period of their arrival.

Unlike Johnstons or Emersons, there are relatively few Mosgroves in Fermanagh, so any found are more likely to have been close relatives. The following references help assemble possible origins and relationships:

A death record in Tempo Church of Ireland shows a Johnston Mosgrove (1779-1861), as well as a corresponding record for a Jane Mosgrove (-1868), who could have been his wife. They had a Brooke

Estate Lease in 1818:

> **D998/26/367:** 27 July 1818 Lease from Henry Brooke, Colebrooke, Co. Fermanagh, to Johnston Mosgrove, Edenagilhorn, Co. Fermanagh, of 10a. 3r. 20p. of Edenagilhorn, Co. Fermanagh, for the lives of Johnston Mosgrove and John Mosgrove: (1) Reserves right to make a road; (2) Rent £13 1s. 0d.; (3) Thirteen days work of man and horse and thirteen hens or fifteen pence in lieu of each days work and sixpence in lieu of each hen; and, (4) Corn, etc, to be ground at mill of Henry Brooke, payment for not doing so £5. (Copy of D/998**/26/311)**

Speculation: The John named in the lease could be Johnston Mosgrove's father or son; if the latter, he could possibly be the same John Mosgrove (see below) who emigrated to Canada at about time that Edward & Isabella Mosgrove Emerson were having their middle children (1848).

The Tithe Applotment Book shows a John (father, son, or Johnston himself?) on 10 acres in Edenagilhorn Townland in 1834, adjacent to the 10-acre holding of our James Chittoch & Anne Rutledge Mosgrove. By the time of Griffith's Valuation in 1859, Johnston Mosgrove, now an old man of 80, is renting a smaller, four-acre plot from Edward & Isabella Mosgrove Emerson.

Speculation: That Johnston Mosgrove was a brother of our 3rd great grandfather, James Chittoch Mosgrove (1789-1868). While the Mosgroves were Presbyterian, Johnston Mosgrove apparently converted, probably to his wife's church, as their birth, marriage and death (BMD) records show up in Church of Ireland at Tempo.

There is a death record at Lisnaskea (the registration district that encompasses the Parishes of Aghavea and Aghalurcher) for a Susan Mosgrove (1792-1874). A Sarah Mosgrove from nearby Tempo sailed to Quebec on J J Cooke Line's 'Envoy' in 1853. There is a record of a Richard Nevin (1778-1862) marrying an Isabella Mosgrove (born 1780/90's, Edenagilhorn Townland), daughter of a Robert Mosgrove, at Colebrook Church of Ireland, Aghalurcher Parish on 10 Feb 1807.

Speculation: That, based on age and geographic proximity, these folks — Susan, Sarah, and Isabella Mosgrove — could have been sisters or cousins to Johnston Mosgrove and our 2nd great-grandfather, James Mosgrove.

Our 2nd great-grandfather Edward Emerson's nephew, John (son of Edward's brother, William Jr.), married in Ireland an Ellen Mosgrove (1822-). Edward and Isabella's own son Samuel Emerson married in Minnesota an Ida Sarah Mosgrove (1869-1940), born in Ontario of Irish parents — John Mosgrove (1814-1898) & Mary Ann Armstrong (1829-1887).

Speculation: That these folks — John and Ellen Mosgrove, being of an appropriate age and clearly acquainted with our people — could have been children of Johnston Mosgrove, thus making them 1st cousins to our 2nd great-grandmother, Isabella Mosgrove.

As well as these named Mosgroves, there were in the 19th century a number of Mosgroves near Enniskillen, 15 miles away from the Edinagilhorn Mosgroves. Indeed, there are a few Mosgroves in the home area still at this date, some of whom might be helpful in facilitating further genealogical research.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 Feb 2013; rev. 16 Nov 2015)]

Mosgrove Surname

'Mosgrove' (a variant of 'Musgrove', often used interchangeably), is an uncommon surname. It is, reportedly, a *location* name of Anglo-Saxon origin, derived from the pre-7th Century Old English/Old Norse root *mus/musi*, 'mouse', *graf*, 'grove', thus "grove frequented by mice". A number of English place names contain *mus-* as a first element: Musbury (Lancashire), "mouse-burrow", and Muscoates (Yorkshire), "mouse-infested huts". Early appearances of the surname in British records include Musegrave, (1228, Northumberland), Mussegrave (1277, London); Musgraue (1362, Yorkshire).[1]

In more recent times, the name (other variants include Musgrave, Masgrove) is most common in Northumberland, a county in the extreme northeast of England — on the Scottish border.

Family lore reports that the ancestors of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Isabella Mosgrove,

"*came from Scotland in the army*". From 1642-1650, a *"Presbyterian army"* of some 10,000 soldiers, was use by the British Crown to quell a rebellion of the largely Catholic Irish population in the Ulster Plantation. Many of these soldiers stayed on, in what is today (since 1921) known as 'Northern Ireland'. Our people resided for several generations in Townland Edenagilhorn, County Fermanagh, before emigration in the late 19th Century to Canada and America.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Nov 2015; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

References:

i. https://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Musgrove

Emerson/Mosgrove Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Edward Emerson & Isabella Mosgrove

Children of James Emerson & Margaret Hazle

Isabella "Belle" Margaret Emerson (1865-1962)
Mary "Minnie" Ida Emerson (1866-1950)
Mathilda "Tillie" L Emerson (1868-1973)
Irene Jane "Jessie" Emerson (1870-1974)
Clara Elizabeth "Elsie" Emerson (1872-1926)
Robert Waldo Emerson (1874-1894)
Rosa Jeanette Emerson (1876-1949)
Walter James Emerson (1878-1963)
James Henry Emerson (1880-1880)
Maude Leone Emerson (1882-1968)

Children of John Emerson & Clara Linehan

Isabella "Belle" C Emerson (1870-1965)
John E Emerson (1871-1967)
Clara Mayme "Mae" Emerson (1873-1933)
William H Emerson (1874-1884)
James "Jim" Alexander Emerson (1876-1968)
Samuel J Emerson (1879-1920)
Robert Garfield Emerson (1880-1947)
Clarence Mosgrove "Moss" Emerson (1883-1944)
Harry Melville Emerson (1888-1968)
Fred L Emerson (1893-1912)

Children of William Emerson & Mary Harvey

Isabella "Belle" M Emerson (1871-1959)
John Alexander Emerson (1873-1951)
Edward Harvey Emerson (1876-1959)
Joseph Howard Emerson (1877-1964)
Samuel Ralph Emerson (1879-1962)
Elizabeth "Lyda" Maude Emerson (1881-1940)
Sarah "Sadie" Rebecca Emerson (1886-1972)
Wilson William Emerson (1888-1966)

Children of Anne Jane Emerson & James Johnston

Mary Rebecca "Rae" Johnston (1873-1960)
Elizabeth Jane "Eliza" Johnston (1875-1930)
Anna Bella "Annabel" Johnston (1876-1962)
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878-1939)
John Emerson Johnston (1880-1916)
Clara Margaret "Marge" Johnston (1882-1976)

James Mosgrove Johnston (1884-1917)
(Sarah) Emily Johnston (1887-1939)
(Rachel) Edna "Dede" Johnston (1888-1986)

Children of Mary Emerson & Samuel Beatty

Edward Washington Beatty (1877-1948)
Mary Jeanette Beatty (1879-1939)
Samuel E Beatty (1880-1954)
Isabella Margaret "Daisy" Beatty (1885-1966)

Children of Edward Emerson & Isabella Wilson

Flossa M Emerson (1882-1944)
Franklin M Emerson (1882-1956)

Children of Isabella Emerson & James Newell

Helen Arabella Newell (1897-1972)

Children of Robert Emerson & Mary Wilson

Lynn Arthur Emerson (1890-1985)
(William) Leslie Emerson (1892-1977)
Edward Monroe Emerson (1893-1962)

Children of Thomas Emerson & Mary Blackmun

Queen Victoria Emerson (1892-1982)
Thomas Wesley Emerson (1893-1895)
Henry "Harry" L Emerson (1896-1976)
Ralph Blackmun Emerson (1903-1967)

Children of Samuel Emerson & Ida Sarah Mosgrove

John Mosgrove Emerson (1900-1984)
Margaret M Emerson (1907-2004)

Children of Sadie Emerson & Frederick McKee

Grayce Emerson McKee (1896-1987)

See also, Children of Frederick McKee from previous marriage:

Samuel Alexander McKee (1876-1894)
Frederick W McKee (1878-1902)
Lillian Eleanor McKee (1881-1940)

Children of Harry Emerson & Katherine Bunworth

Madge K Emerson (1896-1944)
(Alice) Adelaide Emerson (1909-1983)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Emerson/Mosgrove Family Home, County Fermanagh, as it would have been circa 1870



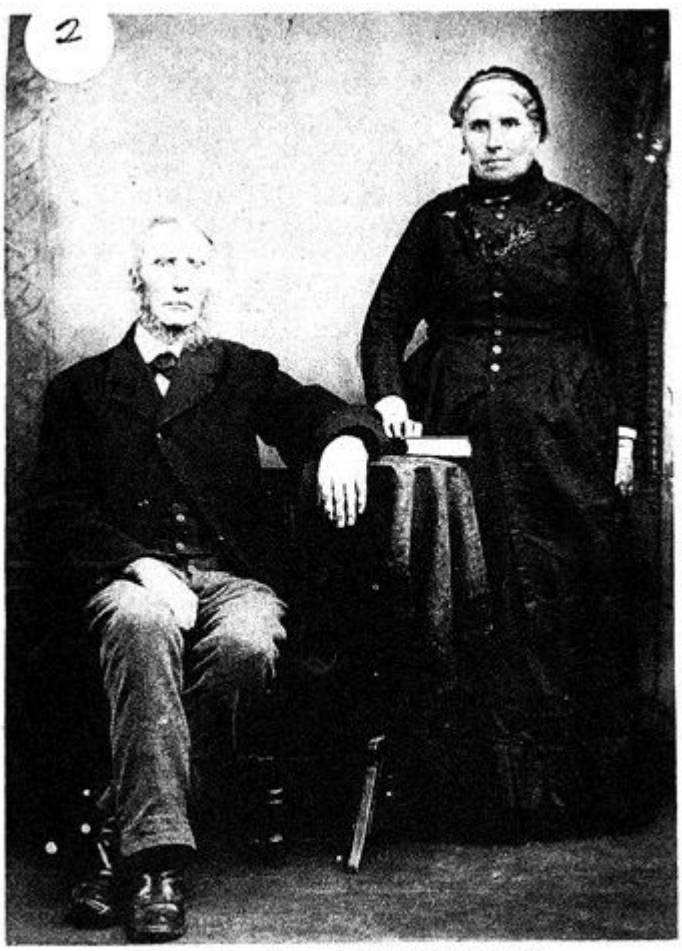
Tattykeeran Church, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh



Emerson Family attended this Church of Ireland about 2 miles away. Today, it is a private home.
[Photo credit: ***Ryon C Johnston***, Oct 2010]

ancestry horttech1 originally shared this on 25 Feb 2013

Golden Wedding Event, 1 January 1886, Freeborn County, Minnesota



1886 – Grandpa and Grandma Emerson

[Credit: Johnston, R. Edna "Dede", 1968. *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, p. 10]

Emerson BMD Records at Tempo Church of Ireland, Aghavea Parish, Fermanagh

Birth, Marriage, Death records for probable descendants of 3rd Great Grandfather William Emerson Sr. & Mary Wilson, as reviewed onsite by ***Ryon C Johnston***, Oct 2012 . . .

Descendants of William Emerson Sr.
Birth **1773** in Creagh, Fermanagh, Ireland
Death **14 Feb 1871** in Fermanagh, Ulster, Ireland

Townland Creagh
Creagh parents: William (d. 4 Jan 1874) – probable record for William Jr. – brother of 2nd GG Edward (1809-1888), but townland not designated
Children of probable son William III & * Jane Millikan:
1. Mary (b. 6 Dec 1843, Wm. & Jane)
2. James, 14 Tate's of Aghavea (15 Jun 1845 - 29 Mar 1865)
3. Sam. Millikan, 14 Tate's of Aghavea (b. 3 Dec 1858, Wm. & Jane)

Edenagilhorn
Edenagilhorn parents: 2nd GG Edward (1809-1888) & Isabella Mosgrove (1817-1910)
Children (3 of 13):
1. John (b. 4 Oct 1840) – probable, but townland not designated on record

2. William (b. 20 Nov 1842)
3. Anne Jane (b. 10 Nov 1844)

Enniskillen
Jas. (d. 27 Jun 1879) – probable brother of 2nd GG Edward (1809-1888)

Ratoran
Ratoran parents: Robert – brother of 2nd GG Edward (1809-1888) & Anne Mosgrove
Anne Mosgrove (1812-9 Nov 1896)
Robert (1807-16 Feb 1882)
Probable children:

1. Mary Anne (b. 1837)
2. Jane (b. ca 1838) – no record
3. William (b. 11 Dec 1838)
4. James (b. 17 Apr 1840-13 Nov 1879)
5. Margaret (b. 15 Dec 1844)
6. Eliza (b. 14 Oct 1849)
7. Edward Robert (b. 6 Mar 1853)
8. Robert Wilson (b. ca 1853) – no record
9. Thomas (b. 14 Nov 1854)

Ratoran parents: Thomas – brother of 2nd GG Edward (1809-1888) & *Margaret Alexander
Margaret (d. 13 Feb 1906)
Thomas (1822 – 1906) – no record
Probable children:

1. Noble (b. ca 1840) – no record
2. Mary Jane (b. 29 May 1849)
3. Wm. (b. 16 Mar 1851)
4. Mathilda Jane (b. 1 Apr 1855)
5. Bella Margaret (b. 20 Aug 1864)

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 23 Feb 2013

Mansfield Township Cemetery Burial Record

Transcription done by Diane Oldfather in 2002

[http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mnfariba/cemeteries/mansfieldtwnshpcem.txt]

This cemetery is also commonly known as Schneider Cemetery, as the land
was bought from Frank Schneider in the 1850's. It is in section 16 of Mansfield Township.

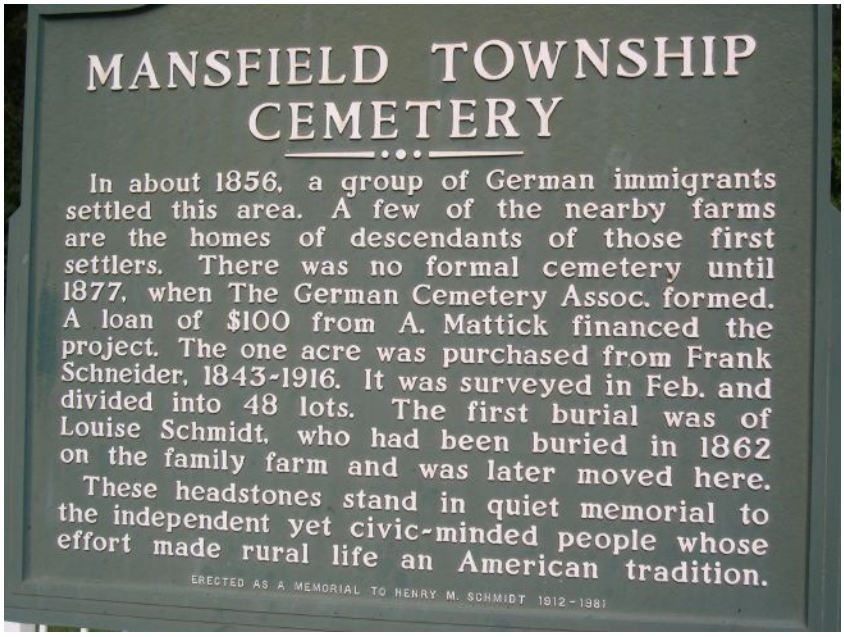
EMERSON
Joseph A d 9/25/1881 (1 yr, 2 mo, 27 day)
John H 1840-1932
Clara L 1849-1896
William H 1874-1884
Fred L 1893-1912
Samuel J 1879-1920
Samuel N 1858-1950
Ida M (Musgrove) 1869-1940
Ralph B 5/23/1903-4/26/1967
Mary A 1/20/1888-2/15/1939
Thomas A 2/15/1855-1/9/1915
Thomas Wesley 1893-1895
Edward d 5/18/1888 (78 yr, 10 mo, 3 day)

Isabella d 1/17/1910 (92 yr, 3 mo, 4 day)
Girl d 10/20/1910 (child of Sam-Ida)
W. 1880-1885
John M 8/29/1900-11/14/1984
Ruth (Gavle) 10/15/1901-7/14/1987 parents of: Betty, John, Norman, Robert, Ruth (last 2 buried with Sirr)

MCKEE
Sarah (Emerson) 1861-1949
Frederick W 3/20/78-3/5/1902
Samuel 3/19/76-11/9/1894
Margaret 1/12/49-1/19/1889 (wife of Fred)
Mother d 5/20/1886 (71 yr)
Frederick 1846-1934
Isabella 9/16/84-7/4/1885
Alec 1877-1894

MOSGROVE
James C d 5/20/1872 (82 yr) (Grandmother Emerson's father)

ancestry **Nick Cimino** originally shared this on 24 May 2009



[Photo credit: ***Ryon C Johnston***, Aug 2013]

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 3/8

Larkin/Emery Family

Elam Loring Larkin
\+ Lucy Robinson
Sophronia Emery
\+ * Henry Soper

Larkin/Emery Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Elam L Larkin (1790-1866) and Sophronia Emery (1811-1865), both born in Vermont, subsequently lived on the other side of Lake Champlain in the Adirondacks in New York's Clinton County. Each was initially married to others.

During Elam's first marriage, his parents, (Nehemiah) Loring Larkin (1755-1845) and Christiana Cutler (1766-1845), our 3rd great grandparents, lived out their lives in Elam's home, or, more likely, Elam's family shared the Larkin parental home. Father Loring was a veteran of the Revolutionary War, along with several of his brothers; he and five of his sons, including Elam, were veterans of the War of 1812. Loring Larkin's family apparently shared the 300-acre land-base on the MilitaryTurnpike Road at Beekmantown, originally purchased by back in 1804. At a time when individual farms were often just a few acres, here was land enough for all — Elam, his siblings and their families.

Elam Larkin's first wife, Lucy Robinson (1790-1845) bore him two children. By the time of his re-marriage about 1846, the children, Martha and Lorenzo, were themselves of full age, married and living with their young families on adjacent farms.

Daughter Martha (born 1817), married Reuben "Bood" Morgan, and they lived on an adjacent farm. After Martha's death, "Bood" married her cousin, Jane Larkin, daughter of Elam's brother Ira. After Jane died in a house fire in 1855, the Morgans moved out of the area.

Son Lorenzo (born 1821), also farmed next door through the various changes of fortune of the clan. He served two years in the Civil War, as did several of his Larkin cousins: Uncle John's Elam; Uncle Loyal's George; Uncle Hiram's Alkanah, James, and Albert; and Uncle Alonzo's Luther.

It is noteworthy that Elam's parents, and his first wife, and their daughter all died the same year! Soon after the 1845 death of his first wife, Lucy, Elam married widowed Sophronia Emery, whose husband had also died that year. Sophronia brought her two pre-teen children, Heman and Mary Soper, into the marriage to Elam Larkin. These Soper step-children would have been important mentor figures to the two Larkin/Emery children who followed — Jacob "Jay", born 1847, and our great-grandfather, Lucius "Luce", born in 1850. Like Elam's Lorenzo, Sophronia's Heman would also later farm nearby, and would also serve in the Civil War. An interesting footnote, that corroborates the interconnectedness within the blended family, is that Erastus Reynolds, the brother of Heman Soper's wife, Emily, would eventually become a near-neighbour to "Jay" and "Luce" Larkin after their relocation to Freeborn County, Minnesota.

It is noteworthy that there were other Soper/Larkin and Morgan/Larkin marriages within the extended family. What with many nearby direct descendants, in-laws, and allied families, the daily lives of our 2nd great-grandparents would have been very much immersed in the 'bosom of family', an extensive clan of New England *blue bloods* — old stock, socially-prominent families. The Emery ascendancy, for example, includes several families who *"came over on the Mayflower"* — a claim that many Americans would be glad to make.

Many Larkin remains, and those of their wives and descendants, now lie buried in the private Larkin Family Graveyard on the original property.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (21 Mar 2015; rev. 11 Jan 2018)

ancestry



Elam Loring Larkin

BIRTH 25 DEC 1790 • Brandon, Rutland, Vermont
DEATH 1 AUG 1866 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
25 Dec 1790 • Brandon, Rutland, Vermont

Age 23 — **Military**
1813-1814 • Plattsburg, Clinton, New York
ref: Memorial Stone inscription "(Col. Thom.) Miller's Regt 1813 to/ Sept 11, 1814/Battle of Plattsburg"; also, from Larkin Military Record story: "Elam Larkin served as drummer in Captain John Baker's company of the 36th regiment"

Age 26 — **Marriage**
abt 1816 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
Lucy Robinson (1789–1845)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1820 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
w. spouse and two children, one of each gender (10)

Age 40 — **Residence**
1830 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York, USA

Age 50 — **Residence**
1840 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
w. spouse and three children: unidentified male 10-14 (1), son 15-19 (1), daughter 15-19 (1); also two elderly: one male (70-90), one female (86-89) - NB: these will be Elam's parents, genders mislabelled

Age 50 — **Deaths of Siblings**
1840-1865
preceded in death by at least six siblings: John, Ira, Hiram, Mary, Alonzo, Martha

Age 54 — **Death of Wife Lucy Robinson**
14 Feb 1845 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 54 — **Death of Mother Christiana**
14 Apr 1845 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
in Elam's home

Age 54 — **Death of Father Nehemiah**
24 Oct 1845 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
in Elam's home

Age 56 — **Marriage**
abt 1846
she brings two children by previous marriage: Heman (b. 1833) and Mary (b. 1835) Soper
Sophronia Emery (1811–1865)

Age 59 — **Residence**
28 Nov 1850 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
Wife Sophronia, Son Jacob (3); also two 'labourers': Heman & Mary Soper (these are actually Sophronia's children by previous marriage); Son-in-law Reuben "Bood" Morgan's farm is on one side, Son Lorenzo Larkin's on the other

Age 70 — **Residence**
1860 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
w. Wife Sophronia; Mary J Soper (24) still present; also Jacob (13) & Lucius (11); Lorenzo's Family is next door

Age 74 — **Death of Wife Saphronia**
23 Apr 1865 • Beekmantown,Clinton, New York

Family

Parents

(Nehemiah) Loring Larkin 1755–1845

Christiana Cutler 1766–1845

Spouse & Children

Lucy Robinson 1789–1845

- **Martha Larkin** 1817–1845
- **Lorenzo Dow Larkin** 1821–1900

Spouse & Children

Sophronia Emery 1811–1865

- **Jacob "Jay" H Larkin** 1847–1897
- **Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin** 1850–1930

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1820 United States Federal Census

1830 United States Federal Census

1840 United States Federal Census

1850 United States Federal Census

1860 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

New York Census, 1790-1890

New York, War of 1812 Payroll Abstracts for New York State Militia, 1812-1815

New York, War of 1812 Payroll Abstracts for New York State Militia, 1812-1815

New York, Wills and Probate Records, 1659-1999

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880

U.S. Census Non-Population Schedules, New York, 1850-1880

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

U.S., War of 1812 Service Records, 1812-1815

Web: New York, Find A Grave Index, 1660-2012

Age 75 — **Death**
1 Aug 1866 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
see original gravestone in Larkin Cemetery; bronze marker reads: "In Honor of Service / in the War of 1812 / N.S. / U.S.D. / 1812 / Elam Larkin"; burial in Larkin Family Cemetery, with parents and wives (see photos)

Probate
26 Oct 1866 • Clinton, New York
Son Lorenzo Dow named as executor

Relationship between Elam Loring Larkin & ***Figure of Eight***

Elam Loring Larkin (1790 - 1866)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
son of Elam Loring Larkin
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Elam Loring Larkin

Betsey Larkin (1784-)

Very little is known for certain about eldest sibling, Betsey.

John Larkin (1786-1865) m. Sarah Wood (1789-1865)

Older brother, John, was an officer in the War of 1812. He and Sarah would have five children, one of whom also bore the name Elam L Larkin (1826-). This Elam would marry a Martha Norton. John and Sarah's farm was contiguous with those of Elam, Hiram, Ira, and also with their father's. Elam's son, our great grandfather Luce Larkin, would live with this family for a time.

Ira Larkin (1787-1840) m. Jane Ostrander (1791-1878)

Ira would also be in the War of 1812, serving as a drum major over his two younger brothers Hiram and Elam. Ira and Jane's farm family neighbouring Elam's included three children. Their daughter, Jane Jennette, would marry Bood Morgan after the death of her first cousin, Elam's daughter, Martha. Ira struggled later in his life having left his wife and children. He worked for three separate families near Sterling, Cayuga, New York, and eventually died 5 June 1863 at the "Cayuga County Farm" (the Poor House) and is buried in an unmarked grave there.

Hiram Larkin (1794-1858) m. Marion "Mary" Marshall (1801-1865)

Hiram and Mary married in 1820, would bear nine children. They, too, farmed next-door to Elam. They named one of their sons Nehemiah after his grandfather. Son Albert would serve in a brass band in the Civil War, while in the same war Son James rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel. Daughter Electa relocated to Wisconsin near extended family. Son Alkanah's wife, Elizabeth, had twins amongst their tribe of nine; he, too, was in the Civil War and was disabled, an invalid after 1880.

Heman Larkin (1796-)

Little is known of Brother Heman.

(Laura) Mary Larkin (1798-1860) m. Asa James Hayes Jr. (1795-1867)

Sister Mary married into another well-established local English-origin family: the Hayes. Her marriage to As would produce 10 children, the eldest daughter being named Christiana after Mary's grandmother, and several children bearing the names of Larkin siblings: Hiram, Loyal, Loring, Harriet. While the parents would continue at Beekmantown, Loyal moved to Vermont, while Hiram removed to Whitewater, Wisconsin, later becoming a first lieutenant in the Civil War. Mary became estranged from her husband. Following a brief reunion, the 1860 Census shows her farming on her own, next-door to a Reynolds family (mother-in-law's maiden surname), while Asa and youngest son, Joel, are on a nearby farm. Joel would later relocate, first to Illinois, and then to Kansas, where he became prominent in local historic lore.

Loyal Larkin (1800-1875) m. Caroline E Phelps (1803-1871)

Loyal and Caroline married in Vermont in 1821. They, too, were farmers – the family trade. They would bear about a dozen children, two of whom died as infants. The first five children were born in Chazy, New York, before the relocation to Vermont. Two daughters, Charlotte and Cornelia, would marry Nash brothers, wagon makers. Son Christopher married a Canadian girl, possibly to the chagrin of the several War of 1812 veterans in the family. Two sons served in the Civil War. All the children, but Daughter Caroline, who died young in Indiana, would stay in Vermont. Son Charles would take over the farm, caring for his parents in their old age.

Alonzo Larkin (1802-1860) m. Margaret (Larkin) (1807-)

Youngest brother, Alonzo, and wife, Margaret, would raise eight children, relocating after the fifth one's birth to Whitewater, Walworth, Wisconsin, where other Larkin, and, later, Hayes, families also established. Sister (Laura) Mary's son Hiram Hayes would join them there. Son Luther lived separately from his wife; he farmed in Minnesota for a time, spending the last four years of his life in California in a hospital for disabled Civil War Veterans.

Harriet Larkin (1804-)

As we have only a birth record for youngest sibling, Harriet, it is probable that she did not survive to adulthood.

Narrative: *"It's Just a Matter of Time"*

They say that old soldiers never die, but I know that's not true. My old father (Nehemiah) Loring died at home in 1845. Actually, my family lived with him in what had long been *his* home. He was 90 years old. They say he looked like General Andrew Jackson himself. Certainly, he had the blue military jacket, complete with brass buttons, and the long white beard, and the cane. He lived in Vermont, had been a Revolutionary War soldier. After the war, he came out about as far west as you could go in those days, to New York State, eventually purchasing 300 acres on the Military Turnpike Road just north of Plattsburg, west of Beekmantown, named for one of the first settlers, in Clinton County, named after New York's first governor.

Eventually, several of my brothers and I ended up with parts of that land and more besides, all farming here side-by-side. We took our turns being soldiers, too. While our father, and a bunch of his siblings and in-laws with him, were in the big war, we were in the little one — the War of 1812. We got a late start in that one, as we were a little young. Except for John, the eldest, who became an officer — a lieutenant, in fact, Hiram and Ira and I were pretty much relegated to the drum corps. There was lots of action

around here, as the war was centered between Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence River, but luckily we all survived that.

Ira was the first of us to pass on. His daughter, my niece, Jane Jennette, married another old soldier's son, Reuben Morgan, after his wife, my own daughter, Martha, died. It's kind of a complicated story. What a life that man they call "Bood" has had — one tragedy after another! He's on his third wife, Louisa, now, and living somewhere up North Country.

And Brother Hiram's gone, too. One of his boys is named after our father, and three of his sons have carried on the tradition as soldiers in the Civil War, making now three generations in a row to go to war: young Albert in the brass band; James a lieutenant colonel; their brother, Alkanah, has been seriously injured. I like to say that we're a family of soldier-farmers. It's the story of our people in a way—an honorable tradition. Several of the presidents we've had here in the States have followed just that pattern.

My sister, Mary, has also died, God rest her soul — over in Wisconsin, where they had taken up farming in a new area. She married into another old English-origin family of soldiers — the Hayes'. I don't know who was the strongest-willed of that pair. She got her way, first, by naming most of their children after her brothers and sisters, and, in the end, by leaving Asa to run a farm of her own. I guess she followed after her mother-in-law, Mary, who had done pretty much the same thing to Asa Sr. many years before. What a bunch *they* were!

Our youngest brother, Alonzo, joined them in Wisconsin. He, too, has died — five years ago, the same year as Laura. They leave quite an established colony now of Larkins and Hayes, transplanted New York families, there to show for it.

I suppose that Sophronia will've told you about our marriage, and my children, and her children, and our children and the various grandchildren. That's where her interest will be, mostly, which is the way of things. She probably also told you about my bad year, 1845, when I was 54 years old — I lost my parents, that's normal; but, also, my wife, Lucy, and our daughter, Martha. Luckily, Sophie was there to step in, despite also having had her own partner. At the time, our marriage was kind of a utilitarian thing — simply put, we needed each other. She's a much younger woman; as it has turned out, she's been the light of my life — for herself, and for the two sons she has given me!

There is a cemetery on our land. We just call it "The Larkin Graveyard". As is the way of these things, the number of graves is growing. My Lucy's there, of course, and my parents, and Sophie and I will end up there ourselves one day, I hope not too soon! But, I see a time when the Larkins and the Emerys and our lot won't be New York families anymore. Our offspring will have relocated themselves *"lock, stock and barrel"* to the West. *"Go West, young man!",* they say. I'd be going myself if I were, say, about 25 years younger. It's all just a matter of time . . .

Elam Loring Larkin*,** September 1864, Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York [as imagined by 2nd Great Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston, 3 Apr 2013; rev. 26 Nov 2015]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Larkin Military Service

"John Larkin received the rank of Lieutenant with the 36th regiment of the New York Militia on March 2nd 1814. His commission was signed by Governor of New York, Daniel D. Tompkins, on March 8th 1814. Hiram Larkin served as drummer in that same regiment. Ira Larkin served as Drum Major with the 36th regiment. Elam Larkin served as drummer in Captain John Baker's company of the 36th regiment. John, Ira, Elam and Hiram were all sons of Loring Larkin, a soldier of the Revolution."

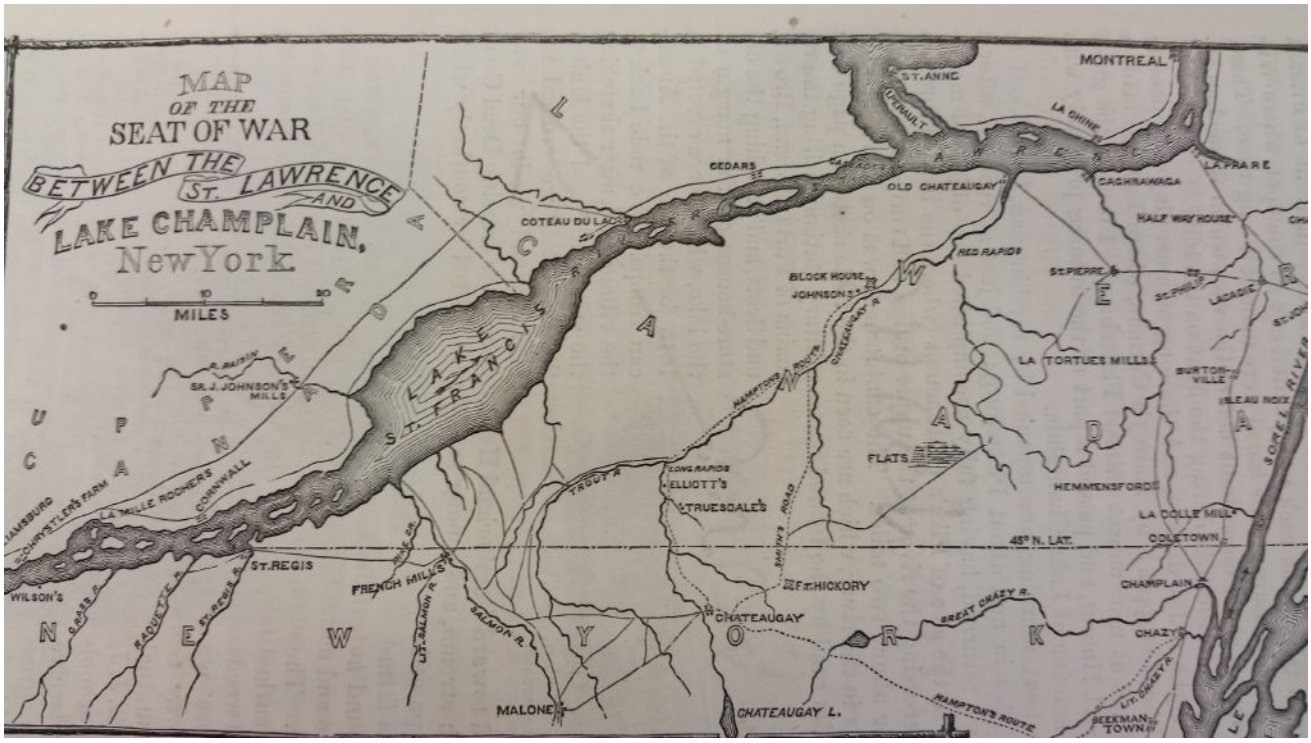
ancestry **portergolds** originally shared this on 21 Sep 2007

Death of (Nehemiah) Loring Larkin

"At the home of his son, Elam, the old Revolutionary soldier, Loren Nehemiah Larkin, at the age of ninety, was "gathered to his fathers". He had served with Capt. Ebenezer Allen, had marched to Skeensboro, sailed to Ti, and retreated with the army to Mt. Independence, later returning to Manchester, Vt., his home during the Revolution. In 1777, he joined Col. Herrick's regiment of Rangers and did guard and scout duty at Pawlet, Castleton, and Pittsford. He served other enlistments and responded to several alarms, after the war settling at Salisbury, Addison County. In 1804, he bought 300 acres of land on the Military Turnpike in Beekmantown (near present Methodist Church) and there built the homestead, still standing, though unoccupied. He is said to have resembled Andrew Jackson in appearance, usually wearing a blue coat with brass buttons and having long, white hair. His remains and those of this wife lie side-by-side in the private cemetery south of the old home. A double marker slab marks both graves and, on his, a marker placed by Saranac Chapter, D. A. R."

ancestry **Lee_Tryon** originally shared this on 22 Nov 2010

Map of the Seat of War, 1812



[Image Credit: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/18/Chateaugay.jpg]

Note Beekmantown on the lower right, on the western shore of Lake Champlain; the more major center of Plattsburgh, seat of Clinton County, New York, is off the map to the south. *"With its significant location on a major water thoroughfare and close to the Canada–U.S. border, Plattsburgh has been the site of a number of historic events including the Revolutionary War's Battle of Valcour Island and the War of 1812's Battle of Plattsburgh; the city has a War of 1812 museum."*

Relevant Correspondence

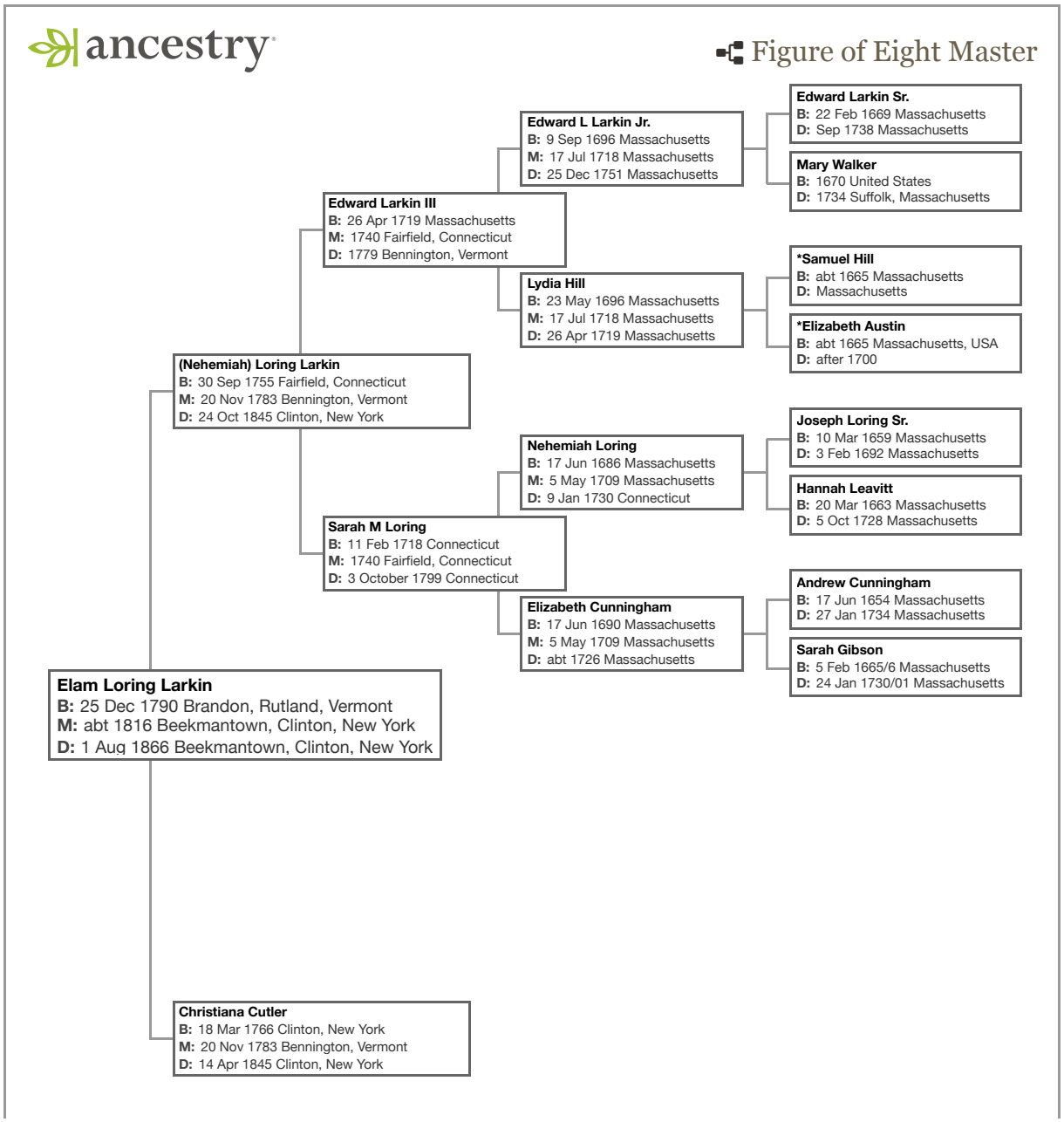
"I have been researching my wife's ancestry in hopes of connecting her to the DAR [Daughters of the Republic] organization. We have found much info re: the Larkins of Rutland, Vt. & Clinton Co. NY. More than happy to share with you as requested. This past October my brother from Fargo, ND and I visited the gravesite of your GG Grandfather Elam and his wife Sophronia buried in a shelter belt alongside a corn field just north of Plattsburg. It is on the southern side of his farm at the time. He shares a headstone with his father, mother and his wife. (Pictures at FindaGrave.com) I will piece together more of his lineage

and message you on our connection findings. My wife's GGG Grandfather Ira Larkin had served with Elam in the War of 1812 (along with two other brothers). Ira was a 'Drum Major' — Elam a 'Musician'. Ira struggled later in his life having left his wife and children, worked for three separate families near Sterling, Cayuga Co, NY and eventually died June 5, 1863 at the 'Cayuga County Farm' (the Poor House) and is buried in an unmarked grave there. We visited that area also. Side note: we were 'asked' to leave the Larkin (Elam etc.) Family gravesite by the owner of the corn field — thought we were trespassing?"

ancestry message from **JCPamElliott1320** on 12 Jan 2016

Earlier Ancestry

Origin Pyramid of Elam Loring Larkin



The Larkins of New England

The paternal forbears of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Elam Loring Larkin (1790-1866), are well documented. Church records of the births, marriages and deaths (BMD) of Europeans early-arriving to New England tend to be relatively available. As well, there have been some important early genealogies and histories, some of which are listed in the Additional Resources section of the Appendix. Unfortunately, the ancestry of his mother, Christiana Cutler (1766-1845), despite much speculation by some researchers, remains undocumented at this writing.

As Elam's Origin Pyramid reveals, his paternal progenitors of four generations were all born in Massachusetts Colony in the mid-part of the 17th century — his 2nd great-grandparents, our 6th great-grandparents (of which we have 512). In some cases, earlier ancestry is known. Though this writer fails to be much inspired by knowledge largely limited to BMD dates, a summary of the known forebears is provided 'for the record' . . .

Edward Larkin (1669-1738)

Edward's earliest possible/probable (denoted by *) predecessors were his great-grandparents (our 9th) great-grandparents all English-born. Interestingly, Edward's father, John Larkin (1640-1678), our 7th great-grandfather, married his maternal 1st cousin, so it unfolded that his mother and his wife were both named Joanna Hale, which was also his grandmother's married name. Other allied surnames include: Cutter, Leatherhead.

Joseph Loring (1659-1692)

Joseph's was the earliest Loring birth in America. His father, John Loring, was born in Devon, England, in 1630 and migrated to Plymouth, Massachusetts, where he died in 1714, having had two wives and about 15 children. Joseph's earliest known ancestors were his maternal 2nd (our 10th) great-grandparents. Allied surnames include: Newton, Sampson, Baker, Lane, Farnsworth.

Hannah Leavitt (1663-1726)

Joseph Loring's wife, Hannah was the earliest Leavitt born in America. Her father, Deacon John Leavitt, our 7th great-grandfather, was born in Yorkshire, England in 1608, died in Massachusetts in 1691. Hannah's earliest known ancestors were her paternal 2nd (our 10th) great-grandparents, whose birth and death dates correspond to those of universally-known literary genius, William Shakespeare (1564-1616). Allied surnames include: Gilman, Linkley, Clark, Rotherford, Hawes, Hobson, Rysse.

Sarah Gibson (1665-1730)

Sarah's known paternal forebears were from Scotland. It was her father, William Gibson (1634-1703), who made the shift to the English colonies in America in 1657, marrying a locally-born girl. Sarah's maternal 2nd (our 10th) great-grandfather was Henry Thomas Squire (1563-1649), who with his wife, Charlotte Mackrell (1565-1660), from Somerset, England, might be dubbed 'Sire of Presidents' (see story following). Indications of Sarah's genetic tracings extend the farthest back in time of any of the Larkins of New England. Her speculated earliest progenitors were her 5th (our 13th) French Capet/DeBrabant great-grandparents, 15 generations removed from ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons. Other allied surnames include: Purchase, Ewing, Broderstaines, Skarlett, Sale.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Mar 2015; rev. 27 Jan 2018)]

Sire of Presidents

Figure of Eight 10th great-grandfather, Henry Thomas Squire (1563-1649) might be dubbed 'Sire of Presidents', as he, with his wife, Charlotte Mackrell (1565-1660), of Somerset, England, was the direct ancestor of four American presidents, as follows . . .

Line from Henry Squire (c1563-b1649) father of Edith Rosamund Squire (1587-1672) to Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams. Daughter Edith Rosamund Squire (1587-1672) married Henry Adams (1583-1646), also of Somerset, England. They are credited with being the direct progenitors two US Presidents: their 2nd great-grandson, **John Adams (1735-1826), 2nd President of the United States**, m.

Abigail Smith, First Lady; and his son, **John Quincy Adams (1767-1848), 6th President of the United States**, m. Louisa Johnson, First Lady.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 20 Jan 2018

Line fromHenry Squire*(c1563-b1649) father of Ann Squire (1591-1662) to President Millard Fillmore
Ann Squire, m. Aquila Purchase; and had:
Abigail Purchase, m.Sampson Shore; and had:
Jonathan Shore, m. Priscilla Hathorn; and had:
Phoebe Shore, m. Nehemiah Millard; and had
Robert Millard, m. Hannah Eddy; and had:
Abiathar Millard, m. Tabitha Hopkins; and had:
Phoebe Millard, m. Nathanial Fillmore, Jr.; and had:
Millard Fillmore (1800-1874), 13th President of the United States
m1. Abigail Powers, First Lady; m2. Mrs. Caroline (Carmichael) McIntosh

Line fromHenry Squire*(c1563-b1649) father of Margaret Squire(1596-1675) to President William Howard Taft
Margaret Squire, mJohn Shepard; and had:
Hannah Shepard, m. Thomas Holbrook; and had:
John Holbrook, m. Silence Wood; and had:
John Holbrook, Jr, m. Ruth Hill; and had:
Silence Holbrook, m. Samuel Goodale; and had:
Sarah Goodale. m/ Asa Waters; and had:
Asa Waters, Jr., m. Susan Trask Holman; and had:
Susan Holmam Waters, m. Samuel Davenport Torrey; and had:
Louisa Maria Torrey, m. Alphonso Taft; and had:
William Howard Taft (1859-1930), 27th President of the United States
m. Helen Herron, First Lady

References:
Henry Adams of Somersetshire, England and Braintree, Mass., compiled by J. Gardner Bartlett for Edward Dean Adams, privately printed, New York, 1927.
Dorset Pilgrims, by Frank Thistlethwaite, pub. by Heart of the Lakes, Interlaken NY, 1993.

ancestry **Adambobdian1** originally shared this on 20 Aug 2015

Larkin Surname

'Larkin' is both an English and an Irish surname. The English version (as with another of ***Figure of Eight*** family surnames — Lowry) is a *patronymic* surname variant of 'Lawrence', or 'Laurence', which derives from the Latin *laurentius,* one who is from *Laurentum, "The City of Laurels",* in ancient Rome. Laurels were the symbol of victory, such a 'rah word' probably helping account for the popularity of the name and the number of variants and diminutives it generated. To the diminutive or 'pet' personal form of Lawrence: Lar/Lars/Larry has been added the Germanic suffix *-kin*, meaning a close relative or, perhaps, son — thus 'Larkin'.

The Irish version is an anglicization of an Irish surname originating from a Gaelic royal family, eventually of Galway: *O'Lorcáin*, the prefix *O*' meaning "male descendant of", with the stem *Lorcan*, originally a personal name, Lorc, 'fierce' or 'cruel'.

Larkins from the Irish source were known to emigrate to England, particularly Kent. (Interestingly, the Larkins in several other countries — Germany, France, Poland — are thought to be transplanted Irish *émigrés* known as the *"Wild Geese",* Irish battalions widely used as mercenary soldiers.)

The Irish emigrants to the United States were drawn overwhelmingly from dispossessed Catholic tenant farmers, whereas Larkins of Protestant persuasion, which includes our family, were believed to have come from the English origins. These may, of course, have originally been from the Irish line, converted during a period of anti-Catholic sentiment in England.

The earliest-known ***Figure of Eight*** Larkin progenitor was Edward Larkin, born 1603 in England, died - 1652 in Massachusetts Bay Colony.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 Jan 2014; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

References:

i. William Harrison Larkin. Chronicle of the Larkin Family, Westerlie, RI. Larkin Family Assoc., LaPorte, IN, 1908
ii. http://www.larkinclan.eu/families.htm
iii. http://www.houseofnames.com/larkin-family-crest
iv. http://www.caitlinbinning.com/larkinname.htm
v. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Larkin_(surname)
vi. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laurentum
vii. http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=larkin
viii. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Larkin#ixzz2rXICsm2b

ancestry



Lucy Robinson

BIRTH 11 DEC 1789 • Bennington, Bennington, Vermont
DEATH 14 FEB 1845 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
wife of 2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
11 Dec 1789 • Bennington, Bennington, Vermont

Birth *(Alternate)*
8 Dec 1789 • Reading, Windsor, Vermont
alternate record for child of James and Judith Robinson

Age 27 — **Marriage**
abt 1816 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
Elam Loring Larkin (1790–1866)

Age 55 — **Death**
14 Feb 1845 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
burial: Larkin Family graveyard, Beekmantown

Family

Parents

*** Samuel Robinson** 1738–1813
*** Esther Safford** 1750–1843

Spouse & Children

Elam Loring Larkin 1790–1866
Martha Larkin 1817–1845
Lorenzo Dow Larkin 1821–1900

Sources

Ancestry Sources

American Genealogical-Biographical Index (AGBI)
Ancestry Family Trees
North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000
U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current
Vermont, Vital Records, 1720-1908
Vermont, Vital Records, 1720-1908
Web: New York, Find A Grave Index, 1660-2012

ancestry



Sophronia Emery

BIRTH 1811 • Swanton, Franklin, Vermont
DEATH 23 APR 1865 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
1811 • Swanton, Franklin, Vermont

Age 21 — **Marriage**
abt 1832 • Clinton County, New York
*** Henry Soper** (1812–1845)

Age 26 — **Death of Mother Polly**
14 May 1837 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Age 35 — **Marriage**
abt 1846
she brings two children by previous marriage: Heman (b. 1833) and Mary (b. 1835) Soper
Elam Loring Larkin (1790–1866)

Age 39 — **Residence**
28 Nov 1850 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
with Husband Elam, Son Jacob (3) and her two Soper children: Herman (17) & Mary J (14)

Age 49 — **Residence**
29 Aug 1860 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
now two Larkin children (11, 13); Mary Soper still present

Age 49 — **Death of Father Russell**
1860 • Chateaugay, Franklin, New York

Age 54 — **Death**
23 Apr 1865 • Beekmantown, Clinton, New York
burial in Larkin Graveyard, Beekmantown

Family

Parents

Russell Emery 1790–1860

Polly Emery 1796–1837

Spouse & Children

*** Henry Soper** 1812–1845

Heman H Soper 1833–

Mary J Soper 1835–

Spouse & Children

Elam Loring Larkin 1790–1866

Jacob "Jay" H Larkin 1847–1897

Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin 1850–1930

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1850 United States Federal Census

1860 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Web: New York, Find A Grave Index, 1660-2012

Relationship between Sophronia Emery & ***Figure of Eight***

Sophronia Emery (1811 - 1865)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
son of Sophronia Emery
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Sophronia Emery

Almira Emery (1809-1882) m. Marcus Lafayette Bidgood (1806-1877)

Almira, the eldest sibling, married a New York farmer. At the time of the 1840 US Census, they had four

children, three of them under five, as well as a centenarian grandparent in the household. They raised eight children, seven sons and a daughter — all farmers themselves. Two of the sons and Son-in-law Joel Cudworth saw Civil War duty. Eldest son Remington would relocate to Iowa in mid-life, dying in Minnesota. Three sons would shift to neighbouring Vermont, where their parents had been born, and where there were, no doubt, still relatives. Daughter Pauline moved with her family to Wisconsin, where her husband Joel became a realtor. Almira would spend five years of widowhood in New York with Son Harrison and his Canadian wife, Georgiana.

Daniel Emery (1813-1880) m. Hannah Leahy (1806-1880)

Younger brother, Daniel, married an immigrant Irish Catholic girl, and converted to her faith. Living Chateauguay, Franklin County, New York, they raised three sons, all farmers like their father. At one point, two of them, Joshua and Washington, were next-door neighbours. Like his father, Son Henry married an Irish Catholic girl; and as had his cousin, Harrison Bidgood, he married a Canadian. By 1880, aging Daniel and Hannah combined households with Washington, adding in widowed Henry with his two children.

Enoch Emery (1815-1888) m. Alzina Varno Canfield (1822-1894)

The youngest sibling was named after Mother's grandfather. Enoch and Alzina were larger-than-life figures. They raised seven children on a farm at nearby Schuyler Falls, New York, the youngest of them being yet another Enoch. While their offspring would all stay nearby throughout their lives, sadly Enoch would see four of them, and Alzina five, die as young adults. The military would play an important part in the life of this family. Sons Almon and James served in the Civil War, the latter in the Navy. Son Russell, with the Infantry in Nebraska after the Civil War, was killed and scalped by Indians while repairing a telegraph line.

Narrative: *"To Go and Live Amongst the Bears and the Indians?"*

At the time that I was born, it was the custom to name children after the Greeks or the Romans. I got stuck with Sophronia, a name that was common enough in our parts, but that I have never much liked. Elam calls me 'Sophie', which I can live with. Come to think of it, we do that yet — after all, we named our youngest 'Lucius'. Emery is a very old family name in New England, I think we were amongst the first Europeans in America. According to our family stories, some of our people came here on The Mayflower, Pilgrim refugees from England via Holland. My parents were first cousins with the same last name, so there are lots of Emerys around. Eventually, my branch of the family moved on to New York, although there's still a lot of movement back and forth to Vermont, and even to Canada (two of my nephews have married Canadian girls). When my brother, Daniel, married an Irish Catholic girl, it was quite a shock to the family, who had previously had very little new blood to challenge our two centuries of white Anglo-Saxon Protestant heritage in America.

The Larkins share our history — long-time New Englanders, and farmers by trade. Well, farmers and soldiers; but maybe Elam will tell you about that. Several of his siblings are farming right in our neighborhood. He is my second husband. I brought two children with me into this marriage, and Elam already had his two with his first wife, Lucy, whom I knew as a neighbour.

The year 1845 was a bad one for Elam. His wife Lucy died in late Winter, his mother in the Spring, his father and eldest daughter, Martha Morgan, that Fall — all in the same year! I lost my first husband as well, so it was just natural that we would get together. His children were grown up already, but I am 20 years younger than his nibs, so we have gone on to have two children of our own.

The older children have stayed pretty much around here — in fact, they couldn't get any closer! Lorenzo Larkin and his second wife, Julia, are next-door on one side of us. Martha's husband, Bood Morgan, with his second wife, Elam's niece Jennette, and their brood, have the farm on the other side. I have been privileged to have a hand in raising Elam's grandchildren, as well as getting to know my own blood-grandchildren — Heman's and Emily's two little ones. The nice thing about grandchildren is I get to enjoy them, while somebody else has to do most of the work.

As was saying, we are farming families and always have been; although, like everything else these days,

that seems to be changing. Some of the younger folks are getting into medicine and things like that. Our eldest grandson, Lorenzo's Aaron, is already training to be a doctor. It's a bit early to tell for sure, but our youngest, Luce, seems less interested in the land and the cattle, and might likely model after is cousins.

It's all the rage these days to look to the West. Apparently, thanks to the Homestead Act, there's good land practically free for the asking. With the railroad going further west all the time, it's getting easier to get there from here. A bunch of the Larkin tribe are already settled-in over in Wisconsin, and our Jay has been telling us stories about the new state of Minnesota. I think he will continue the farming tradition all right, just probably not in New York. Personally, I have a hard time understanding why, after our folks have spent over 200 years getting first New England, and then New York, 'civilized', anyone would want to go out there and live amongst the bears and the Indians!

Sophronia Emery Larkin, September 1864, Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 3 Apr 2013; rev. 26 Jan 2018]

Earlier Ancestry

The Emerys of New England

As is the case with her husband, Elam Larkin, the forbears of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Sophronia Emery (1811-1865), are well documented. This has been facilitated by their early arrival in North America, at a time when there were relatively few Europeans on the continent, and when church records dutifully retained the important records of birth, marriage and death.

As Sophronia's Emery grandparents, Richardson Emery and Enoch Emery, were brothers, her parents were 1st cousins, so share that heritage. On both parents' paternal (Emery) side, Sophronia's known 4th (our 8th) great-grandparents were all born in England, died in what is today Massachusetts.

Her Father Richard's maternal (Swan) ancestry displays somewhat more recent arrival in the New World, Sophronia's 2nd great-grandparents on that side being born in Ireland and Scotland, then emigrating to Massachusetts in about 1750.

Her Mother Polly's maternal (Tyrell) ancestry was also English, also emigrating to Massachusetts, typically a generation earlier than the Emery Clan. Sophronia's grandmother Rachel Tyrell's maternal lineage (Gurney, Perkins) gets particularly interesting, as it taps into the special case of passengers on the Mayflower.[1]

Mary Perkin's grandmother, Sophronia Emery's 4th (our 8th) great-grandmother, Remember Allerton (1614-1655), along with her parents, Isaac Allerton (1586-1659), and his 1st wife, Mary Norris (1590-1621), and his 2nd wife, Fear Brewster (1607-1634), all arrived on the Mayflower.

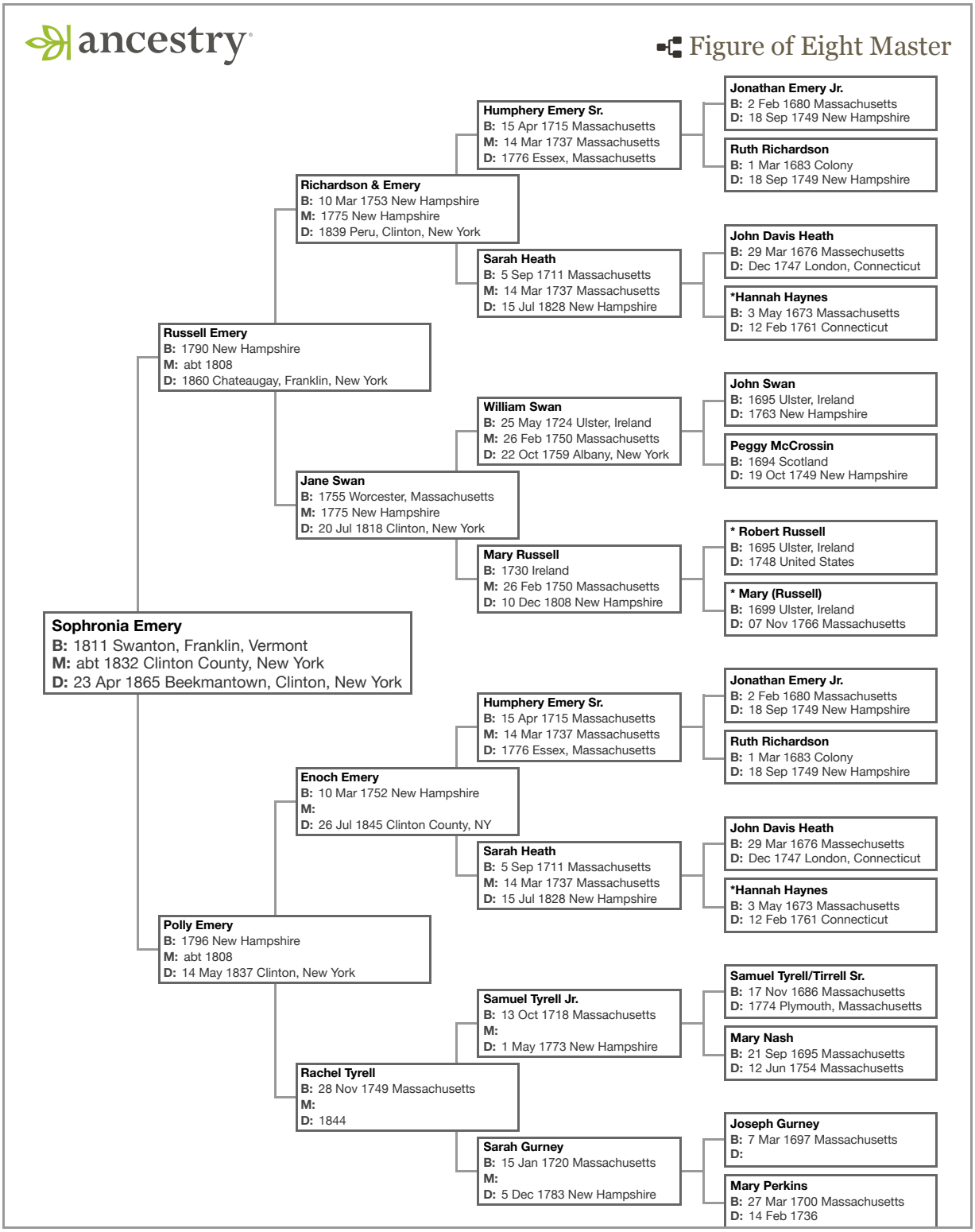
The forebears of Remember's husband, Moses Maverick (1611-1685), are purportedly traceable back an additional 15 generations, to her 19th (our 23th!) great-grandfather, a Norman knight named Sir Hugh de Vivonne (1195-1249). The following (edited) story is associated with his ancestry.com profile:

> *"Sir Hugh de Vivonne, Seigneur de Vivonne (a commune in the Vienne Department in the Poitou-Charentes region of western France), Sheriff in Somerset & Dorset (counties in the southwest of England), Seneschal (Steward) of Gascony (an historic province east and south of Bordeaux); died circa 16 October 1249; married before 6 July 1219 to Mabel Malet, daughter of William Malet, Magna Carta Baron, Sheriff of Somerset & Dorset; two sons (William & Hugh) and two daughters (Helawise & Sibyl)."* [***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Mar 2015; rev. 29 Jan 2018)]

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[1] The story of the Mayflower, which landed in 1620 at the Plymouth Colony, now Massachusetts, marks an event which has especially captured the American imagination, evolving into one of the young country's most favourite legends. Of the Mayflower's 102 passengers, 37 were members of a separatist congregation seeking to create a foundation of Christianity according to their own ideology. Of English origin, they had previously established a community in Leiden, Holland, before relocating to the New World, eventually becoming known as 'Pilgrims'. Their genealogical origins, as well as the lineage of their descendants, are especially well documented.

Origin Pyramid of Sophronia Emery



Emery Surname

The ‘Emery’ surname (a variant of ‘Emerson’) is evolved from a *characteristic* personal name of Germanic origin — Emar/Emaurri/Emmes composed of the elements *amal*, ‘bravery’ or ‘vigour’, (alternately, Haimericus, with the root *haim*, ‘home’) and *ric/rik*, ’rule’ or ‘power’ — the latter combination apparently birthing the names Amerigo, America. There are many variants in several languages: Norse, Heimir; French, Emme/Emmo/Emminga/Emmins; Danish, Emme; Swedish, Hemmet/Hemming; Dutch, Emous.

The name was reportedly introduced into England by the Norman French, first appearing as a surname in records in the early 14th Century as Aimeric, Hemeri, and Emrys. Early Amerys/Emerys were found throughout England, especially in Durham in the northeast.

The earliest known Emery in ***Figure of Eight*** heritage, the paternal forebears of our 2nd great-grandmother, Sophronia Emery (1811-1865), is * Thomas Emery (born 1525 in Essex, died 1610 in Bedfordshire, England). The first Emery of our line to arrive in New England (1635) was John Emery III (1598-1683), one of our 8th great-grandfathers.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (27 Nov 2015; rev. 29 Jan 2018)]

References:

i. Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894.
ii. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emerson_(surname)
iii. http://www.ancestry.ca/name-origin?surname=emerson
iv. http://www.selectsurname.com/emerson.html
v. https://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Emerson

ancestry



* Henry Soper

BIRTH ABT 1812 • New York, United States
DEATH ABT 1845 • New York
husband of 2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
abt 1812 • New York, United States
(see military record)

Age 20 — **Marriage**
abt 1832 • Clinton County, New York
Sophronia Emery (1811–1865)

Age 21 — **Military**
8 Oct 1833 • Peru, Clinton, New York
Register of Enlistments in the U.S. Army

Age 33 — **Death**
abt 1845 • New York
presumed by wife's remarriage

Family

Parents

*** Joseph Soper** 1780–

*** Judith Swett** 1782–1863

Spouse & Children

Sophronia Emery 1811–1865

Heman H Soper 1833–

Mary J Soper 1835–

Sources

Ancestry Sources

Ancestry Family Trees

U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914

Larkin/Emery Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Elam Larkin & 1st wife, Lucy Robinson

Children of Martha Larkin & Bood Morgan

Mary Morgan (1836-1837)
Mary Morgan (1838-)
Elam L Morgan (1839-1864)
Electa Lucy Morgan (1842-)
Lorenzo L Morgan (1844-1845)

Children of Lorenzo & Agnes Mason

Aaron Mason Larkin (1842-1913)
Ann Elizabeth Larkin (1843-)
Martha Calista Larkin (1844-1930)
Ira Larkin (1846-)

Grandchildren of Sophronia Emery & 1st husband, *Henry Soper

*Children of Heman Soper & Emily *Reynolds*

Franklin Soper (1856-)
Herbert Soper (1857-)

Grandchildren of Elam Larkin & Sophronia Emery

Adopted Child of Uncle Jacob Larkin & Martha DeLong

Wallace Levi Jones-Larkin (1873-1954)

Children of Luce Larkin & Ellen Ransom

Edith Anna Larkin (1880-1959)
Maude Larkin (1882-1965)
Jay Augustus Larkin (1884-1958)
Fern Augusta Larkin (1887-1974)
Ellen “Nellie” W Larkin (1888-1979)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

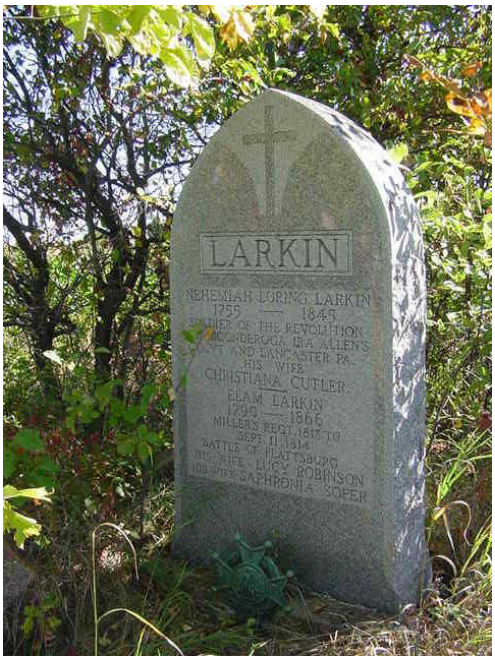
Larkin Graveyard, Beekmantown, Clinton, New York

Along an old boundary stone wall between what were the old Meader-Larkin Farms. Surrounded by farmland today, and overgrown. Not visible from roadway. Photo taken in 2011.



ancestry **myfamilygarden** originally shared this on 18 Apr 2014

Larkin Memorial Stone,10 Sep 2006, Larkin Family Graveyard, Beekmantown, NY



Inscription reads:

LARKIN
NEHEMIAH LORING LARKIN
1755 —1845
SOLDIER OF THE REVOLUTION
AT TICONDEROGA IRA ALLEN'S
REGT. AND LANCASTER, PA.
HIS WIFE
CHRISTIANA CUTLER

———

ELAM LARKIN
1799 —1866
MILLER'S REGT .1813 TO
SEPT 11, 1814
BATTLE OF PLATTSBURG
HIS WIFE — LUCY ROBINSON
HIS WIFE — SAPHRONIA SOPER

ancestry **4star1** originally shared this on 06 Oct 2008

Notes on New England

Geography and Settlement History



Location within the United States

***"New England** is a region of the Northeastern United States consisting of the six states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. New England is bordered by New York to the west, Long Island Sound to the south, the Atlantic Ocean and the Canadian province of New Brunswick to the east, and the Canadian province of Quebec to the north.*

In one of the earliest English settlements in North America, Pilgrims from England first settled in New England in 1620, to form Plymouth Colony. Ten years later, the Puritans settled north of Plymouth Colony in Boston, thus forming Massachusetts Bay Colony. Over the next 126 years, New England fought in four French and Indian Wars, until the British and their Iroquois Confederacy allies defeated the French and their Algonquin allies in North America.

In the late 18th century, the New England Colonies initiated the resistance to the British Parliament's efforts to impose new taxes without the consent of the colonists. The Boston Tea Party was a protest to which Great Britain responded with a series of punitive laws stripping Massachusetts of self-government, which were termed the "Intolerable Acts" by the colonists. The confrontation led to open warfare in 1775, the expulsion of the British authorities from New England in spring 1776, and the Declaration of Independence in July 1776.

Some of the first movements of American literature, philosophy, and education originated in New England. The region played a prominent role in the movement to abolish slavery, and was the first region of the United States transformed by the Industrial Revolution."

[from Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia]

English settlements in what is now continental United States were enabled when King James II authorized the establishment of two private land-development companies in 1606: The Virginia Company of London; and the Virginia Company of Plymouth. Settlement of the first started with Jamestown, Virginia Colony, in 1607.

Settlement of the second, encompassing roughly the area between Chesapeake Bay and New France (Quebec and Nova Scotia), commenced on 8 December 1620 when a group of 'Puritans', seeking a place for religious freedom and social reform, de-boarded the *Mayflower* at Plymouth Harbour, founding Plymouth Colony. These folks, later to be dubbed 'Pilgrims', had been in exile at Leiden, Holland, for their attempts to excise themselves from the sanctioned Church of England. Ten years later, a larger group of Puritans, differing from the Pilgrims in their desire to reform the C of E from within, received a Royal Charter to settle further north in what became Boston, Massachusetts Bay Colony. A boundary, demarked between these two colonies in 1639, would be dissolved in 1691, when they united into the Province of Massachusetts Bay.

Dissenters (Baptists, Quakers, Jews, and others), unhappy and/or unwelcome amongst the Puritan sects of Massachusetts, would establish or join new settlements 'outside the pale', later forming the

colonies of Rhode Island and Connecticut (1636). The unsettled surrounding areas Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, would be overseen by Massachusetts. The latter of these would not become a separate state until 1820.

New Amsterdam (New York) and New Jersey would, for a time, be incorporated into the "Dominion of New England", established 1686 by the Crown, dismembered after 1689, when the Puritans deposed the Monarchy in the "Glorious Revolution" in England, and the corresponding "Boston Revolt" in the American Colonies. Thereafter, each of the evolving 13 Colonies would be assigned governors, largely oppressive and unwelcome. Accumulating grievances amongst the rapidly growing population, many American-born, led to eventual 'War of Revolution' (1776-1783), centered out of Boston, bringing an end to British rule.

Many 'Loyalists', unwelcome after the successful revolution, moved to territory still held by the British, contributing much to the developing nation of Canada to the north. The boundaries of the two nations were then drawn somewhat differently than they are today. Loyalties and territories were to be tested again in the War of 1812.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (23 Mar 2018)]

Population and Demographics

"The [New England] regional economy grew rapidly in the 17th century, thanks to heavy immigration, high birth rates, low death rates, and an abundance of inexpensive farmland.[1] The population grew from 3,000 in 1630 to 14,000 in 1640, 33,000 in 1660, 68,000 in 1680, and 91,000 in 1700. Between 1630 and 1643, about 20,000 Puritans arrived, settling mostly near Boston; after 1643, fewer than 50 immigrants arrived per year. The average size of a family 1660-1700 was 7.1 children; the birth rate was 49 babies per year per thousand people, and the death rate was about 22 deaths per year per thousand people. About 27 percent of the population was composed of men between 16 and 60 years old.[2] "

1. Daniel Scott Smith, "The Demographic History of Colonial New England," *Journal of Economic History,* 32 (March 1972), 165-183
2. Terry L. Anderson and Robert Paul Thomas, "White Population, Labor Force and Extensive Growth of the New England Economy in the Seventeenth Century," *Journal of Economic History,* Vol. 33, No. 3 (Sept 1973), pp. 634-667 "

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_New_England#cite_note-14]

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 4/8

Ransom/Hall Family

Zerah Augustus Ransom

Elvira Louvena Hall

Ransom/Hall Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Zerah Augusta Ransom (1834-1915) and Elvira Louvena Hall (1834-1925), were both born in Clinton County in the northeast of New York, descendants of 'blue blood' New Englanders, old stock English arriving in the earliest decades of the American colonial experience. They married in October 1857. Theirs was a 'cross x marriage', as Zerah's twin sister, Zadah, was already married to Elvira's brother, Julius. These two couples would always be close, as siblings, as neighbours, and as work colleagues, sharing many life experiences.

In the early days of their marriage, Zerah and Elvira lived with his parents on a farm in Chazy Township. Soon, however, a number of the folks were leaving these parts — marginal farming country in the Adirondack Mountains of northeastern New York. The promise of land for the asking in the new state of Minnesota instilled the 'Western Fever' in many. Several Hall and Ransom in-laws were amongst those who caught it: Daniel and Albert Hall and their young families, as well as Julius and Zadah. The Civil War was underway and two of Zerah's brothers were involved, one of them already buried at Chazy. Most of the others, as farmers, would have been exempt from the draft. Plans were made to travel as a group, and excitement was building, until Elvira fell down the cellar stairs the evening before departure. So Elvira's eldest brother, Daniel, and his wife, Sarah, went on alone, procuring upon arrival in Minnesota, adjacent farms in Manchester Township, Freeborn County.

Our great-grandmother, Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin (1858-1948), at the time of writing her memoirs, *The Story of My Life* in 1943, still remembered well the details of the 1865 trip, when she was eight years old, traveling by covered wagon, boat and rail to their new life on the Minnesota prairies.

Zerah eked out a living, utilizing a combination of his skills as a farmer, a carpenter, and a teacher. In 1887/88, he would leave Elvira and the three younger children on the farm for a year, accompanied by the eldest child, Ellen, where he worked as Farm Superintendent for the Dakota Indian Agency at Fort Bechtold, Dakota Territories.

In between and around his other endeavors, Zerah pursued his life-long interest in the Christian church. Firm in his beliefs, he proved to be ever flexible in his denominational involvement. Although he had been raised a Presbyterian, Zerah, with brothers-in-law, Julius and Albert Hall, and two other colleagues, organized a short-lived congregation of Free Baptists at Alden. After the family (*families*, actually, as Julius and Zadah were again closely involved), caught the 'Dakota Fever' and made another westward shift in 1882, Zerah joined the Congregational Church in Redfield, Dakota Territory. In the 1885 US Census, he was identified as a *colporteur* (preacher/missionary). The 1889 City Directory of Sioux Falls listed him as the minister of the Free Baptist Church.

Needless to say, spiritual quests do not tend to pay the bills, so Elvira had to carry some weight there. In 1885 at Redfield, she was running a boarding house for eight persons. The 'staff' apparently included orphaned niece, Bernice Hall, as well as Zerah's Montreal nephew, Leslie Brissett.

While attending Son Harvey's wedding in Indiana in 1892, Zerah was exposed to the spiritual leadership of C. T. Russell, whose followers would come to be known as Jehovah's Witnesses. Zerah devoted the rest of his life to that movement, pursuing his vocation as itinerate preacher and tract-distributer in several states. Kinsman Rev. Wyllys Cadwell Ransom, in his genealogical work, *The Historical Outline of the Ransom Family in America* [Volume 2, p. 218], would say of Zerah: *"He is an evangelist of note, and a speaker of much force and ability, and while conscientiously attached to the great principles of morality and religion from the standpoint of his own convictions, he is liberal in his consideration of the views of others, according to them the same broad privilege in their conclusions that he claims for himself."*

By 1900, with all Zerah's, and all but two of Elvira's, siblings in the ground, and the aging couple experiencing health issues of their own, they would try out a then much-touted cure at Eureka Springs, Arkansas, before settling into co-residence with their offspring. Their golden wedding anniversary at Daughter Ellen Larkin's home back in Alden would double as a family reunion.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 Mar 2015; rev. 30 Jan 2018)

ancestry



Zerah Augustus Ransom

BIRTH 3 JUL 1834 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
DEATH 18 APR 1915 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
3 Jul 1834 • Chazy, Clinton, New York

Age 6 — **Residence**
1840 • Clinton, New York, United States

Age 16 — **Residence**
1850 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
with parents, twin sister Zadah (16), Bro Albert (12); also Sis Lucy (29) & husband Henry Brissett & family

Age 23 — **Marriage**
10 Oct 1857 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
Elvira Louvena Hall (1834–1925)

Age 26 — **Residence**
1860 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
farmer, with Wife Elvira and Baby Ellen in his parent's home

Age 27 — **Homestead Claim Entry**
20 May 1862 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
ref: US General Land Office Record; registered by Brother-in-Law Daniel Hall while Zerah and family still in New York

Age 31 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
1865 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
family, catches the 'Western Fever', travels by wagon, boat & rail, along with families of Brother-in-Laws Julius & Albert Hall, to settle on land procured previous season by Daniel Hall

Age 32 — **Organizes Congregation**
abt 1866 • Alden Village, Freeborn, Minnesota
with Brother-in-Laws Julius & Albert Hall, as well as William Humes, S. E. Smith, organizes a new congregation - the Free Hill Baptist church at Alden, which "struggled out a few year's existence"

Age 35 — **Death of Father Guy**
23 Apr 1870 • Chazy, Clinton, New York

Age 36 — **Residence**
12 Jul 1870 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
carpenter; Sister Zadah Hall & several other Halls nearby with families

Age 38 — **Land Purchase**
1 Aug 1872 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
Title obtained for 120 acres of homesteaded land: SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 29 & NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of S32 T103N R22W of 5th Prime Meridian (see US General Land Office document)

Age 40 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
with spouse & four children (8-17); nearby are Albert & Susan Hall, also with four children (5-21)

Family

Parents

Guy Ransom 1797–1870

Eliza Ann Thomas 1801–1879

Spouse & Children

Elvira Louvena Hall 1834–1925

- **Ellen Augusta Ransom** 1858–1948
- **(James) Harvey Ransom Dr.** 1861–1940
- **Albert Walworth Ransom** 1864–1939
- **Frank Leslie Ransom** 1865–1947

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1840 United States Federal Census**
- **1850 United States Federal Census**
- **1860 United States Federal Census**
- **1870 United States Federal Census**
- **1880 United States Federal Census**
- **1910 United States Federal Census**
- **Ancestry Family Trees**
- **Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000**
- **South Dakota, Territorial Census, 1885**
- **U.S. City Directories (Beta)**
- **U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989**
- **U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011**

Age 42 — **Occupation**
Apr 1877-Apr 1888 • Fort Berthold, Dakota Territory
one year appointment as Farm Superintendent for the Indian Agency; Daughter Ellen accompanies him, works as clerk

Age 45 — **Death of Mother Eliza**
07 Dec 1879 • Montreal, Quebec
at the home of her daughter Lucy

Age 46 — **Residence**
1880 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
with spouse & three sons (14-18); also 'adopted' niece Bernice Hall (10)

Age 48 — **Relocation to South Dakota**
1882 • Redfield, Spink, Dakota Territory
joins, belatedly, the "Dakota Boom", moves family to 'tree claim'; persuades Luce & Daughter Ellen to relocate to their Minnesota farm; Zerah's Nephew Leslie Brissett comes from Montreal, stays with them many years

Age 50 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1885 • Redfield, Spink, Dakota Territory
colporteur; with spouse & two sons Albert (21), Frank (19), farmer; Elvira listed as 'land lady' with two staff & eight boarders; also wife's niece Bernice J (?) Hall (15), listed as 'worker' in SD Census

Age 55 — **Residence**
1889 • Sioux Falls, South Dakota
U.S. City Directories; Minister of Free Baptist Church

Age 58 — **Attends Wedding, Finds New Faith**
13 Jul 1892 • Marion, Indiana
attends Son Harvey's wedding, is exposed to writings, teachings of C T Russell (see story), finds new Faith

Age 58 — **Vocation**
1892-1899
as follower of C. T. Russell (see story), he pursues his 'trade' as itinerate preacher and tract distributer to Sioux City, Lake Geneva, Chicago, Indianapolis before returning to Minnesota and settling in with Daughter Ellen Larkin's family

Age 65 — **Death of Brother Miles**
28 Oct 1899 • Vermont
death of Brother Miles, whose passing marks loss of all five siblings

Age 66 — **Residence**
abt 1900 • Eureka Springs, Carroll, Arkansas
to take the touted health cure there

Age 73 — **Golden Wedding Anniversary**
10 Oct 1907 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
at the home of Daughter Ellen & Luce Larkin; the celebration doubled as a family reunion

Age 76 — **Residence**
1910 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
at time of US Census, couple is with Daughter Ellen Larkin household

Age 80 — **Death**
18 Apr 1915 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
"The services were at our own home and a dear family ... came up from Indianapolis to conduct . . . "[Ellen Ransom Larkin, The Story of My Life, 1943]; interment at Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota

Relationship between Zerah Ransom & ***Figure of Eight***

Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834 - 1915)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Zerah Augustus Ransom
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Zerah Augustus Ransom

Lucy Marian Ransom (1821-1880) m. Henry Brissett (1817-1865)

Sister Lucy married a Canadian 'hatter'. After living for a while next door to her parents, they settled at Longueuil, Québec, in the Montréal area. Their son, Ransom, affectionately called "Ranny", spent some of his short life back with the grandparents in Chazy, where he was laid to rest at the age of 14. His gravestone includes little sister, Eliza, who only lived five months. Of Lucy's two surviving offspring, Son Leslie would spend some years with Uncle Zerah and family in the Dakota Territories. Widowed Mother Eliza finished out her days at widowed daughter Lucy's boarding house in Montréal, an interesting home which includes Son Milton's family.

(James) Harvey Ransom (1823-1891) m. Louisa Leggett (1845-)

Brother Harvey became a successful businessman in New York City, marrying, late in life, a Quaker girl. Soon after the wedding, and long before she died, US City Directories listed him for several years as a 'border' in Saratoga Springs, where he eventually died suddenly. His gravesite is back in Chazy at Riverside Cemetery. Louisa, childless, would reportedly live out her life in New York City.

Miles E Beach Ransom (1824-1899) m. Jane "Jennie" Hyde Reynolds (1829-1911)

Miles married a Vermont girl, a daughter of Father Guy's old neighbour at Grand Isle. A farmer at the time of the Civil War, Miles enlisted in August 1862 at Champlain as a private in the 118th New York Regiment. He was wounded in the head at Drewry's Bluff, 16 May 1864. He survived, afterwards ranking as a Sergeant. After the war, he returned to farming in Vermont. He and Jane would have no children of their own, but they did foster-parent Nephew Horace W Reynolds.

Zadah Augusta Ransom (1834-1874) m. Julius Franklin Hall (1822-1903)

Twin sister Zadah cross x marries the brother of Zerah's wife Elvira. These two couples would always be neighbours, friends and co-adventurers, moving together to Minnesota and then Dakota Territories. They farmed together, taught each other's children, and co-founded churches. Zadah and Julius had four children, three of whom survived to adulthood. Zadah died young of a fever and was buried in Albert Lea, as was their last-born child.

Albert Walworth Ransom (1837-1862)

Youngest brother, Albert, enlisted for Civil War duty as a 1st Sergeant with Company D, 34th Infantry Regiment, New York, re-enlisted on 15 Jun 1861. He was promoted to full 1st Lieutenant on 11 Nov 1862, died a month later from wounds received while building a bridge during the 1st Battle of Fredericksburgh near Falmouth, Virginia. His burial was back home at Chazy, Clinton, New York. Zerah's daughter, Ellen, our great-grandmother, would remember in her memoirs his body laid out in his

parents' home. Brother Albert would be memorialized through the naming of Zerah and Elvira's son, "Bert".

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (20 Jan 2015; rev. 30 Jan 2018)]

Narrative: *"Confessions of a Truth-Seeker"*

I've always been a 'seeker'. Interesting how when that is in one's blood then it takes precedence over other aspects of 'real life'. Even, or perhaps especially, when it comes to 'making a living'. It strikes me that when I say *"in my blood"*, that I am speaking a fundamental truth — that it is *"in my genes".* I come from a long line of people with strongly held religious convictions. Perhaps I should say spiritual, rather than religious, convictions, as my forefather's, insofar as I know of them, were not particularly wedded to specific denominations. Albeit, in a Christian country, any truth-seeking does tend to be limited to the Christian faith.

My ancestry, if family lore is to be treated as 'gospel', goes back as far in this country as there have been white-skinned Europeans dwelling here. All of my people were originally from England, and they brought with them a diversity of beliefs. Not surprisingly in colonial land, many (most?), were dissenters of one kind or another, then came seeking religious freedom. While there certainly were some conventional Church of England (Episcopalian or Anglican) folks my forebears, there were also reformers: separatist Puritans and non-separatist Puritans; as well as Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and especially Quakers — all of whom were persecuted in the form of fines and legal suits, not to mention whippings and hangings at the hands of the Puritans. As I was saying, strongly-held beliefs — we'll try to leave "opinionated" and "bigoted" and "blindsided" out of the discussion.

My own involvement in the organized church has been pretty much oriented to the conservative end. The Ransoms had been Presbyterian, but as a youth I had problems with the concept of 'free election', and in my late teens I was baptized (along with my twin sister, Zadah) to become Methodist Episcopalian.

In my late twenties, my spiritual growth led me to again change allegiances. Pretty much the moment we got moved to the prairies of southern Minnesota from the forests of northeastern New York, my brother-in-law's and I with a couple of friends organized free Hill Baptist Church in Austin.

In my late forties, after we relocated out to the Dakota Territory, I got involved with the local church at Redfield, which happened to be Congregationalist. Amongst other things, I liked the fact that they were creedless. And besides, they were the only church in town, at least that would in any way match my beliefs.

In my late fifties, while attending Son Harvey's wedding in Indiana, I heard C.T. Russell speak, and my seeking was over. For 28 years, I have travelled from city to city, all over the Midwest, distributing books and pamphlets for the Jehovah's Witnesses, as his followers have come to be called. And preaching, too, whenever the opportunity has presented itself.

As I say, spiritual pursuits have always been paramount in my life. Of course, they don't necessarily pay the bills. My poor, long-suffering wife has had to bear the brunt of that reality. Not that I haven't worked hard. I have always tried to do what I could to *"bring home the bacon".* I have been a carpenter (a bit), and a farmer (not a good one), and a teacher (mostly), but, especially once I found the True Faith, my instinct has been to fall back on the *"behold the lilies of the field"* teaching of our Lord and Saviour, and, indeed, with a lot of help from Elvira, our children, a niece or nephew or two, all the rest has been provided unto us. In any event, it seems that now my working days are over.

My failing health has brought Elvira and I here for a long longed-for retreat from all that, as we take the famous health cure here in Arkansas — a long way from where we started out our married life together back in good old Chazy, New York.

Zerah Augustus Ransom, July 1900, Eureka Springs, Carrol County, Arkansas [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston,*** 7 Jan 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Evangelist of Note

"He is an evangelist of note, and a speaker of much force and ability, and while conscientiously attached to the great principles of morality and religion from the standpoint of his own convictions, he is liberal in his consideration of the views of others, according to them the same broad privilege in their conclusions that he claims for himself." [Source: The Historical Outline of the Ransom Family in America, Volume 2, by Wyllys Cadwell Ransom. p. 218]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 07 May 2013

All in the Family

This is a story of double x cousins who marry sisters, whose mother and her brother had cross x married siblings; then one of the cousins re-marries to that brother's granddaughter. The chief protagonist is the younger brother of our paternal great-grandmother, Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin: (James) Harvey Ransom (1861-1940). He and Stanley Augustus Hall (1855-1932) were double 1st cousins, their parents being twins cross x married to siblings. Harvey Ransom married Rose J Harris (1863-1922), while Stanley Hall married her sister, Jessie Emma Harris (1857-1928). Rose and Jessie were daughters of Eleanor Jane Elsey (1831-1924) and James S Harris Jr. (1823-1879). Meanwhile, Eleanor's brother, Isaac W Elsey (1827-1888), has cross x married James's sister, Jane Amanda Harris (1828-1901). When protagonist, Harvey Ransom, marries for the second time, he chooses Isaac and Jane's granddaughter, Grace A Burnett (1892-1985), daughter of Harvey's 1st wife Rose Harris's double 1st cousin, Isabella Elsey (1861-1931), Rose's mother's niece. Got it? This was a very friendly family indeed . . .

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (6 Sep 2014)]

Colporteur & Pilgrim Service

Reverend Ransom, laterally for many years in the "colporteur & pilgrim service" (a preacher/missionary), was born in Clinton County, New York, married on 10 October 1859 at Chazy to **Elvira Louvena Hall**(19 February 1834 – 01 February 1925); came to Alden, MN in 1865. Zerah, raised a Presbyterian, was later baptized in the Champlain River into the Methodist Evangelical church. In Minnesota, with Brother-in-Laws Julius and Albert Hall, as well as Wm. Humes and S.B. Smith, he organized a Free Hill Baptist congregation at Alden that "*struggled out a few years existence"*. In Redfield, SD, he joined the Congregational Church. For a time in the late 1890s, he served as a Free Baptist minister at Sioux Falls. Still later he become a follower of C. T. Russell *, the founder of the Watchtower Society of Jehovah's Witnesses, devoting the rest of his life to that movement. Jehovah 's Witnesses who were active in the full-time ministry were called '*colporteurs*' until 1931; today, they might be termed 'pioneers'.

> * Charles Taze Russell (February 16, 1852 – October 31, 1916)
> *"Pastor Russell was an American, prominent early 20th century Christian restorationist minister from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and founder of what is now known as the Bible Student Movement, from which Jehovah's Witnesses and numerous independent Bible Student groups emerged after his death."*
> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Taze_Russell]
>
> ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 07 May 2013

Zerah Ransom Obituary

VOL. 27, NO. 12 ALDEN, FREEBORN COUNTY

The Alden Advance Thursday, April 29, 1915 - page 1

ZERAH A. RANSOM

Died Here At the Home Of His Daughter, Mrs. L. C. Larkin, At the Age Of 80 Years. 9 Months and 15 Days.

Zerah A. Ransom, son of Guy and Eliza Thomas Ransom was born in Chazy, Clinton Co., N. Y. July 3 1834.

His death occured at Alden, April 18, 1915, at the ripe age of 80 years, 9 months and 15 days being the last in a family of 6 children and the first in his own immediate family of children and grandchildren numbering thirty-one, to be called.

His education was acquired at the district schools and Champlaine Accademy. He was a carpentor by trade and that together with farming and school teaching was his business for the most part until his failing health made hard labor impossible. He was reared in a christian home and in the faith of the Presbyterian church. In early youth he was a close and critical Bible student and soon found that he could not accept that faith, especially election which he could not reconcile with the scripture 'God is Love' and finding the M. E. church more in accord with what he believed to be God's word he united with that church at nineteen years of age, but noting also that the scriptures taught immersion he and his twin sister, Mrs. J. F. Hall, were immersed in the Champlaine River in the dead of winter and worked and worshiped with that denomination until after coming to Freeborn county, Minn., in 1865, he with his brother-in-law, J. F. and A. G. Hall, Wm. Humes and S B. Smith organized a Free Hill Baptist church. After a few struggling years this church passed away and later Dr. R. B. Abbott volunteered his services twice a month and so church and Sunday school services were nearly always kept at the Buckeye school house now his home and he gave most of his time and substance to supplement the masterly and instructive sermons of Dr. Abbott whom he esteemed very highly.

When in 1882 he, together with his family and J. F. Hall and family moved to Redfield, S. D., he at once affiliated himself with the new Congregational church there being organized as he was told that denominative was creedless which just suited his ideas of what "The church of the living God" should be, but he soon found that this too had a verbal creed tho perhaps not a written one.

About this time he attended the marriage of his son J. H. Ransom in Indiana and made his home at Indianapolis for some time soliciting for books, Standard Dictionary and The Ridpaths History where through the Providences of God he came in contact with studies in the Scriptures called The Divine Plan of the Ages by C. T. Russell, which he read and re-read and read again and at once accepted it being finally satisfied that he had found God's true plan of Salvation for the human family and through all the after years of trial he has never once wavered in his belief. The prayer that Jesus taught his disciples "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done as it is done (by the angels) in heaven" The Kingdom that is to bless all the families of the earth in God's due time, was always uppermost in his mind, and was for what he wished and always uppermost in his mind, and was for what he wished and what he prayed, and for twenty-two years his one supreme purpose has been to preach the Gospel (Glad Tidings) of that Kingdom and if at times he has been over zealous, his mistake has always been of the head, not of the heart and because he felt that he had been greatly blessed in the knowledge and he wished the blessing to extend to all the world. We are all human. We all make grievous misatkes. "There is none perfect no not one." But our loving and just God judgeth the heart and the intentions and we can rest it all with them who doeth all things well.

Mr. Ransom was married to Elvira L. Hall. Oct. 10th, 1857, and this union was blessed by three sons, Janus, Harvey, Albert, Walworth, Frank and Leslie and one daughter, Ellen Augusta, now Mrs. L. C. Larkin all of whom are living, together with seven grand children and ten great grand children.

The services were held from his home conducted by Mr. C. A. Owen of Indianapolis, Ind., at 1:00 p. m , April 20th, 1915, from the text "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord from henceforth."

Those present from away were Dr. J. H. Ransom, La Fayette, Ind., A. W. and F. L. Ransom of Mitchell, S. Dak. Mrs. J. J. Catlin and Mrs. W. L, Johnston, Buffalo, and Mesdames Mattie Larkin, Mary Hurd and Maggie Bolsford, and Maggie Wilson Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Nelson, Albert Lea; and Mrs. Milla Hanson Wells.

Earlier Ancestry

The Ransoms of New England

Many of the earlier ancestors of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834-1915), have been well documented from prior to the time of their arrival in the New World, largely through a work by Wyllys Cadwell Ransom: *Historical Outline of the Ransom Family of America*, Volume 2, 1903.

Zerah's 4*th* (our 8*th*) great-grandfather, Robert Ransom (1637-1697), thought to be the forebear of all the New England Ransoms, arrived in Massachusetts from Ipswich, Suffolk, in 1654, at the time when the Puritan dictator Oliver Cromwell was in power in England. He married a local girl, Hannah/Susanna in 1660, and they proceeded to have seven known-surviving children. Their grandson, Robert Ransom (1687-1777), married Alice Newton (1686-1779) in Connecticut (descendant of Richard Smith — see story following). Their grandson, Calvin Ransom (1758-1810), married in Massachusetts to Ruby Wells (1763-1783), the granddaughter of Alice's sister Mary Newton (1699-1754). Alice and Mary Newton were lineally descended from one Richard Smith (1589-1667), the first White settler West of Massachusetts Bay, in what is today Rhode Island, through his daughter Joan. These 2nd cousins, Calvin Ransom and Ruby Wells, became Zerah's grandparents.

Without apparent exception, Zerah's paternal progenitors, the Ransoms, the Newtons, the Wells, the Smths, and their allied families, shared English origins, not surprisingly in an English colony — this was, after all, *New England*. The earliest known amongst these progenitors was a Newton Ransom, born in Cheshire in 1490. His grandson, * Abel Newton, emigrated to the New World before 1640. While primarily farmers, there would be amongst the large clan of descendants a number of military officers — initially, of course, *English* military officers.

Newton Ransom, Sr. (1722-1796), Zerah's great-grandfather, and his wife Sarah Jones (1720-1804), our 5th great grandparents, bore 14 children, 12 of them sons. Newton, and nine of their youth, including our 3rd great-grandfather, Calvin, all went to battle (for the rebellious side) in the American Revolution! There is no record of any fatalities amongst the family, though one of them was a prisoner-of-war for a time.

Calvin Ransom was born a twin, a trait that would show up again in his grandchildren, Zerah and sister Zadah. While his twin brother, Luther, would become a medical doctor, Calvin stayed with farming. There was a cross x marriage in this family, as their brother Elisha Ransom (1753-1833) married the sister, Irena Wells (1756-1833), of Calvin's wife Ruby.

It was a son of Calvin and Ruby, Guy Ransom (1797-1870), with his wife Eliza Ann Thomas (1801-1879), the parents of Zerah and Zadah, who made the move, after the Revolutionary War, to what was then the western frontier of the new United States, crossing Lake Champlain into New York's Clinton County, named after that State's first governor.[1] Our 3rd great-grandfather, Guy Ransom, died (of parsnip poisoning!) on his golden wedding anniversary, after which his wife Eliza relocated to Montreal, Upper Canada (later, Quebec), to live with their eldest child, Lucy Brissett, wife of a *Quebecois* hat maker.

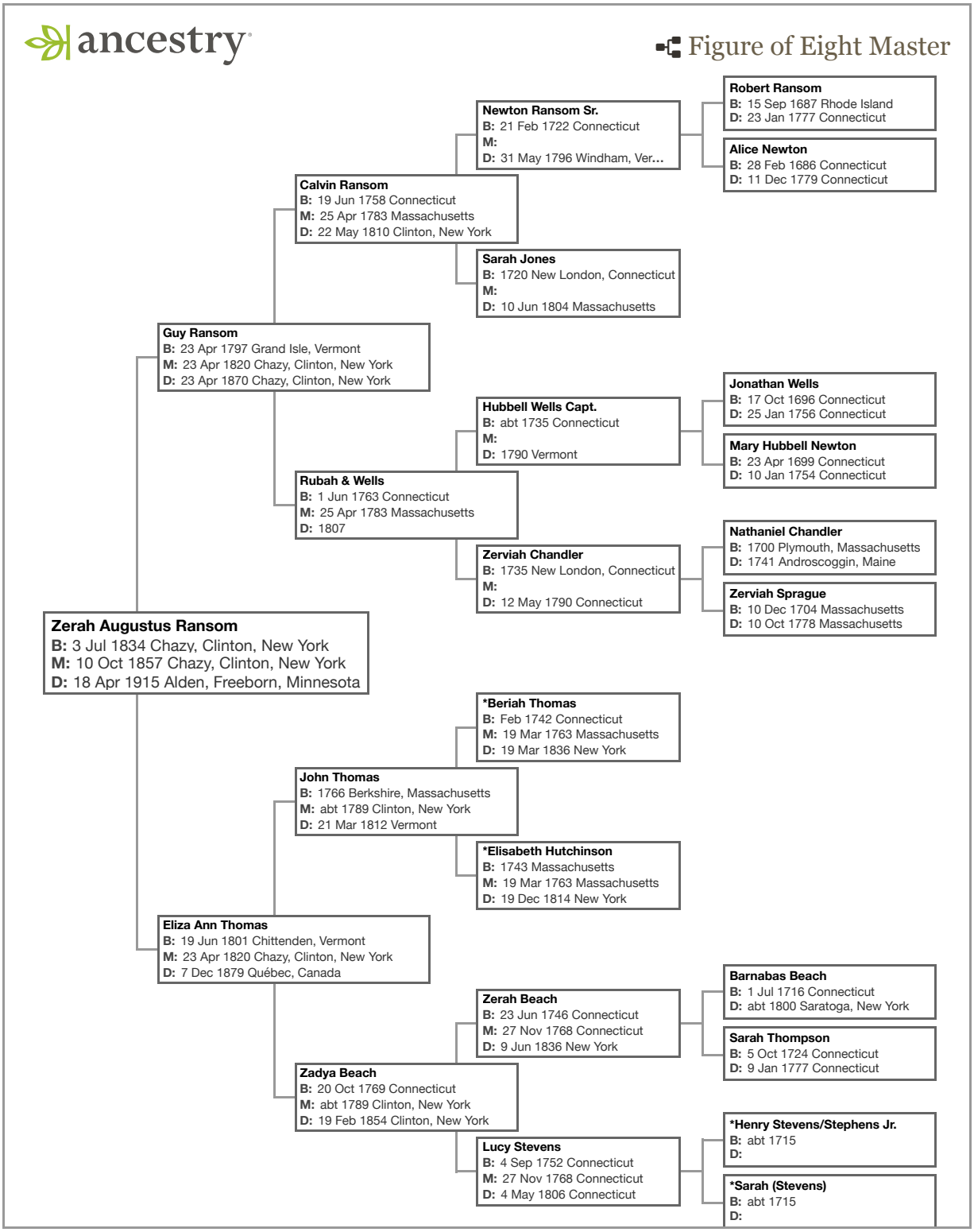
Eliza Ann Thomas, apparently a twin, was, like her husband, Guy Ransom, born in Vermont to good, old-stock New Englanders. Her mother, Zada/Zadya Beach (1769-1854), and her grandfather, Zerah Beach (1746-1836), as well as contributing to Eliza's (and our) gene pool, would become namesakes for Eliza's twin children, Zerah and Zadah. The progenitors of Eliza Thomas maternal grandmother, Sarah Thompson (1724-1777), are known as far back as * John Ellis and * Ann Benjamin, Sarah's 3rd (our 10th) great-grandparents, born at the end of the 16th century in England, dying (in his case) in the New England colonies during the 17th century.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Mar 2015; rev. 5 Feb 2018)]

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[1] In 1777, New York elects Brigadier General **George Clinton** as the first governor of the independent state of New York. Clinton would go on to become New York's longest-serving governor, as well as the longest-serving governor in the United States, holding the post until 1795, and again from 1801 to 1804. [history.com]

Origin Pyramid of Zerah Augusta Ransom



Richard Smith (1595-1666), *"Patriarch of Narragansett"*

Narragansett, Early History

When Roger Williams fled from the Massachusetts Bay Colony in l636 to found a settlement he named Providence in a region that became Rhode Island, he was befriended there by the dominant Narragansett Native American tribe and their great sachem Canonicus. As the most powerful tribe in the area, the proud Narragansetts were highly respected by Roger Williams and the English settlers who followed him.

However, the mutual deference of the Native Americans and the settlers soon dissipated as covetous speculators eyed the vast, valuable tribal lands. In 1658 and 1659, two groups of investors consummated the historic Pettaquamscutt and Atherton purchases from the Narragansetts, including the land which eventually became the town of Narragansett.

The Town of Narragansett, of course, is the namesake of the tribe. At the beginning of the English colonization, the town site was merely part of a much larger territory called "Narragansett Country." Most likely, the town simply adopted the name to distinguish itself from surrounding areas and villages, which had earlier selected appellations recalling their English heritage. (The Native American word "Narragansett" translates roughly into English as "people of the small point".)

Following the mid-Seventeenth Century Pettaquamscutt and Atherton purchases, the bountiful Narragansett acreage – consisting mostly of three peninsulas called "Boston Neck" (north of Narrow River), "Little Neck" (now the Pier Village area), and "Point Judith Neck" (the south end of town) – served largely for grazing, farming, and fishing purposes. [http://www.narragansettri.gov/368/Early-History]

Richard Smith (1595-1666)

One of Roger William's followers, referred to above, was Richard Smith, ***Figure of Eight*** 9th great-grandfather, born in Thornbury, Gloucestershire, England in 1595. He is believed to have arrived in Plymouth Colony about 1636 with his wife, Johan (Joan) Barton, and there first four children. Much of what is known about these ancestors has been compiled by a distant cousin, Phillips S Hall, in a studious booklet written in August 1971: *My Kinsman, Richard Smith, of the Narragansett Country*.

In the area known as New England, the 1630s were turbulent times. English Puritans, under persecution in England by the official church and the Crown, were arriving in significant numbers establishing several colonies at Plymouth, Salem, Boston.

Our kinsman, established himself sometime between 1632 and 1637 at Taunton, Plymouth Colony, from which base he is known to have been a merchant-trader, using a two-masted sloop, The Primrose, plying his trade as far south as the Dutch Colony at New Amsterdam (later New York).

As had many others, Richard, expecting *"decency and order"* in the government of Plymouth Colony, soon found himself philosophically at odds with the Puritan theocracy that governed these new colonies. A number of liberal-leaning leaders, typically ministers, favoured ideas that fostered what has come to be called 'democracy': belief in free discussion in determining political policy; government by majority rule and due process of law; as well as a sense of duty to mould common life *"in accordance with God's will",* not those of the church. These dissidents were neither comfortable nor welcome amongst the Puritans leadership, who were actively persecuting Anglicans, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Quakers and Baptists, and others who upheld *"dangerous doctrines".* The Reverends Wheelwright, Doughty, Blackstone, Williams, Cotton, Hooker, Anne Hutchinson, would lead their followers to establish new townsites in neighbouring lands. Amongst these 'refugees' was our Richard Smith, who is credited as having built the first 'White' house, Cocumscussoc, in Narragansett Country, about the same time as Williams at Providence, Cottington at Nieuwport (Newport), all now in Rhode Island.

Richard negotiated as an individual with the Narrgansett chiefs to occupy a portion of their land, otherwise unclaimed and unoccupied by Eurpoeans. Upon that parcel across the Narragensett Bay, at the mouth of a small stream, Cocumscussoc ('marked rock' or 'stony brook'), he built first a trading post, then a house, later replaced. At the time of his death in 1666, there were seven buildings on the site. His 'castle'

survives to this day as a tourist attraction. The Smith holdings at Cocumscussoc, near present day Wickford, Rhode Island, after many years of business deals and political finagling and wars amounting to over 1000 acres, eventually passed out of Family hands in 1812.

Richard Smith (1595-1666), *"of good yeoman stock",* to describe his family's English heritage, was connected with many of the key players of the day in colonial America: Native Americans, tradesmen, the governors of several colonies, the important liberal religious leaders of the day. His house was a haven for friends, travelers, dissidents, even regicides — *"a scrupulous man of standing and wealth"* — a "*patriarch of Narragansett".* [***Ryon C Johnston*** (6 Jan 2018)]

Cawcawmqussick and Nahigonsick Countrey

"Cocumscussoc. Its meaning and its spelling vary, it is tricky to pronounce and impossible to recall, but it designated an area that was destined to become one of the most significant spots in the history of Rhode Island.

The word is Narragansett, the language and name of the preeminent Native American tribe of early 17th-century New England. Scattered in villages on the west side of the bay bearing their name, they were hunters, fishermen, and great farmers.

Roger Williams came to Cocumscussoc around 1637. He learned the Narragansett customs and language and established a trading post on land bought from his friend Canonicus, great sachem of the tribe. This transaction affirmed his belief in fair compensation for Native American land. Williams' other liberal ideas of religious tolerance and separation of church and state were to be key contributions to American political thought.

Also around 1637, Richard Smith, an original settler of Taunton in Plymouth Colony, established a trading post at Cocumscussoc and, according to Williams, 'Put up...the first English house...in Nahigonsik Countrey.' It is thought to have been a grand house that was, possibly, fortified: thus the name Smith's Castle.

Richard Smith purchased Williams' trading post in 1651. Smith continued to increase his holdings, and Cocumscussoc soon became a center of social, political, and religious activities. Smith died in 1666 leaving Cocumscussoc to his son, Richard Smith, Jr.

In 1675, King Philip, sachem of the Wampanoags, led a coalition of Native Americans in a bloody conflict with the colonists over control of land. The Narragansetts, whose winter home was in the Great Swamp only 12 miles from Cocumscussoc, had pledged neutrality. Suspecting that the Narragansetts were harboring Wampanoag warriors, 1,000 colonial troops from Massachusetts Bay, Connecticut, and Plymouth colonies massed at the Castle and attacked the Great Swamp village in December 1675. Both sides suffered great losses. Forty colonial soldiers were interred in a mass grave near the Castle. In retaliation for the attack, the Castle was burned in 1676.



By 1678, Smith, Jr. had built a new home with front rooms flanking a large stone fireplace, a kitchen lean-to at the back, and a massive two-story, gabled porch on the front."

[http://www.smithscastle.org/planning-a-visit-1/]

Relationship between Richard Smith & ***Figure of Eight***

Richard Smith (1595 - 1666)
our 9th great-grandfather
V
Johan/Joan Smith (1623 - 1664)
daughter of Richard Smith
V
James Newton Capt. (1654 - 1739)
son of Johan/Joan Smith
V
Alice Newton (1686 - 1779)
daughter of James Newton Capt.
V
Newton Ransom Sr. (1722 - 1796)
son of Alice Newton
V
Calvin Ransom (1758 - 1810)
son of Newton Ransom Sr.
V
Guy Ransom (1797 - 1870)
son of Calvin Ransom
V
Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834 - 1915)
son of Guy Ransom
V
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Zerah Augustus Ransom
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

COCUMSCUSSOC
by Thomas Hardy [2]

The house was of no marked antiquity,
yet of a well-advanced age
older than a stale novelty, but no
canonized antique; faded, not hoary;
looking at you from the still distinct
middle-distance of the early
Georgian time.

It was a house in whose reverberations
queer old personal tales were
yet audible if properly listened for,
and not, as with those of the castle
and cloister, silent beyond the
possibility of echo.

[2] Thomas Hardy (1840-1928) was an English novelist and poet. A Victorian realist in the tradition of George Eliot, he was influenced both in his novels and in his poetry by Romanticism, especially William Wordsworth. [Wikipedia]

Ransom Surname

'Ransom' is an Anglo-French surname stemming from early 11th Century. There are several possible origins for the name, deriving from one of the following:

- the noun 'ransom': Middle English *ransoun* < Old French *rançon* < Late Latin *redēmptiōn,* 'redemption';
- an Old English *geographic* name after *ranim,* 'riverbank';
- a French *geographic* name Rangon; or,
- a Germanic *patronym*, stemming from *rand,* 'rim' (as of a shield), also *randal,* 'wolf' — thus Ranulf/Randolf; with subsequent surname variants, Rand/Rande/Randolph/Randal/Randall/Randel; by extension, 'son of' becomes: Ranson/Ransom/Randson/Randesson, and so on.

Whatever the source, the 'Ransom' surname first appeared in England, particularly in Sussex and East Anglia, soon after the time of the Norman Conquest, probably as a result of soldiers receiving land grants.

The forebears of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Zerah A Ransom (1834-1915), the Ransoms of New England, are thought to be descended from a Robert Ransom (1637-1697), who arrived in Massachusetts from Ipswich, Suffolk, England in 1654, at the time when the Puritan dictator, Oliver Cromwell, was in power in England.[3]

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (2 Dec 2015; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

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[3] *"Oliver Cromwell (25 April 1599–3 September 1658) was an English military and political leader. He served as Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland from 1653 until his death, acting simultaneously as head of state and head of government of the new republic."* [From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia]

ancestry



Elvira Louvena Hall

BIRTH 19 FEB 1834 • Mooers, Clinton, New York
DEATH 1 FEB 1925 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
19 Feb 1834 • Mooers, Clinton, New York

Age 9 — **Death of Mother Dolly**
12 Jan 1844 • Mooers, Clinton, New York

Age 13 — **Aunt Olive Assists**
1847-1850 • Mooers, Clinton, New York
"guesstimated" period of residence by Aunt Olive (Hall), the widow of Father's brother, Benedict, who had passed away in 1847; Dau. Elle's memoir mislabels this relationship as a "two to three year marriage"

Age 16 — **Residence**
18 Oct 1850 • Mooers, Clinton, New York
with carpenter Bro Albert (26) & Susan (20); also: Julius (28), Alvin (19); nearby is farmer Bro Daniel (32) w. Sarah (32) & 3 children; next door is Father's household, including his handicapped Dau Lucy (24) and his deceased brother's wife, Olive (Hall)

Age 19 — **Father Re-marries**
16 Nov 1853 • Randolph, Orange, Vermont
Father Benjamin re-marries to (Mrs.) Polly Osgood George; Daughter Ellen will later report in her memoirs that Polly "raised the family", though this seems unlikely as they were already 'of age'

Age 23 — **Marriage**
10 Oct 1857 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834–1915)

Age 26 — **Residence**
19 Jun 1860 • Chazy, Clinton, New York
with husband, his parents, and Baby Ellen (incorrectly identified as her cousin Helen Brissett in US Census)

Age 30 — **Departure Delayed**
1864 • Mooers, Clinton, New York
serious fall on eve of planned departure delays family migration west

Age 31 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
1865 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
family travels by covered wagon, boat and rail, along with families of Brothers Julius & Albert Hall, to settle on land procured previous season by Brother Daniel Hall

Age 34 — **Death of Father Benjamin**
3 Sep 1868 • Mooers, Clinton, New York

Age 36 — **Residence**
12 Jul 1870 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
four children (4-11); only the youngest, Frank, shown as Minnesota-born; nearby are Bro Daniel & Nephew Edmund Hall families; also Julius and Zadah Hall Family

Family

Parents

Benjamin Franklin Hall 1791–1868

Dorothy "Dolly" Currier 1790–1844

Spouse & Children

Zerah Augustus Ransom 1834–1915

- **Ellen Augusta Ransom** 1858–1948
- **(James) Harvey Ransom Dr.** 1861–1940
- **Albert Walworth Ransom** 1864–1939
- **Frank Leslie Ransom** 1865–1947

Sources

Ancestry Sources

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1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

1880 United States Federal Census

1910 United States Federal Census

1920 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

South Dakota Territorial Census, 1885

U.S. City Directories (Beta)

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012

Age 41 — **Residence**
1875 • Freeborn, Minnesota
with spouse and four children (8-17); nearby are Bro Albert & Susan Hall with four children (5-21)

Age 42 — **Death of Brother Alvin**
27 Mar 1876 • Moores, Clinton, New York
brother's death, and that of his 2nd wife three months later, leaves orphaned family in care of Granny Polly; Daughter Bernice, will come into Zerah and Elvira's home as 'adopted daughter' after grandmother's death in 1880

Age 43 — **Husband's Absence**
Apr 1877 • Manchester Township, Freeborn, Minnesota
husband begins one year appointment as Farm Superintendent for the Indian Agency at Fort Berthold, Dakota Territory; Daughter Ellen accompanies him, works as clerk

Age 46 — **Death of Stepmother Polly**
31 Jul 1880 • Randolph, Orange, Vermont

Age 46 — **Residence**
1880 • Manchester, Freeborn, Minnesota
with spouse & three sons (14-18); also orphaned niece Bernice Hall (10)

Age 48 — **Relocation to South Dakota**
1882 • Redfield, Spink, Dakota Territory
husband and Bro Julius catch "Dakota Fever"; family move to 'tree claim', persuade Daughter Ellen and Luce to relocate to their Minnesota farm; Zerah's nephew, Leslie Brissett, comes from Montreal, stays with them for many years

Age 51 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1885 • Redfield, Spink, Dakota Territory
with spouse and two sons, Albert (21), Frank (19), farmer; Elvira listed as 'landlady', with two servants & eight boarders; 'worker' is niece Bernice Hall (15)

Age 56 — **Husband's Occupation**
1890-1899
Zerah is follower of C. T. Russell, pursuing his 'trade' as itinerate preacher and tract distributer to Sioux City, Lake Geneva, Chicago, Indianapolis before returning to Minnesota and settling in with Daughter Ellen Larkin's family

Age 73 — **Golden Anniversary**
10 Oct 1907 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
at the home of Daughter Ellen & Luce Larkin; the event doubles as a family reunion

Age 76 — **Residence**
1910 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
with Daughter Ellen Larkin Family

Age 81 — **Death of Husband Zerah**
18 Apr 1915 • Alden, Freeborn, Minnesota
funeral service at Daughter Ellen's home

Age 81 — **Residence**
1915 • Mitchell, Davison, South Dakota
U.S. City Directories; widowed; resides with Son Albert & Florence; nearby are Son Frank & Ida, who work in Educational School Supply Company with Albert

Age 86 — **Residence**
1920 • Mitchell Ward 3, Davison, South Dakota
widowed; in home of Son Frank L (54) & his wife Ida P (52)

Age 90 — **Death**
1 Feb 1925 • Buffalo, Wright, Minnesota
dies in Daughter Ellen Larkin's home; interment is at Alden

Relationship between Elvira Louvena Hall & ***Figure of Eight***

Elvira Louvena Hall (1834 - 1925)
2nd great-grandmother
V
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Elvira Louvena Hall
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Siblings of Elvira Louvena Hall

Daniel Currier Hall (1819-1881) m. Sarah Ann Watts (1819-1901)

Eldest brother Daniel, probably named after an uncle who had died in the same year, also inherited Mother's birth name. He farmed and started his family in Mooers, Clinton County, New York, near Father Benjamin, Brother Albert and Brother-in-Law Zerah Ransom. When the family caught the 'Western Fever', Daniel provided the vanguard in about 1864, traveling by wagon, boat and rail, to procure land for his family, for brothers, Julius and Albert, as well as Sister Elvira and her husband in Manchester Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota. When the aging couple eventually retire to Albert Lea, the middle one of their three children, Son John, would take over the farm, later forming a brief partnership with his cousin, Ellen Ransom, and her husband, Luce Larkin, great-grandparents to the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

Edmund J Hall (1829-1835)

Second sibling, Edmund, also named after an uncle, died tragically, the victim in his youth of an unfortunate accident in which he was buried while building a sand cave. He would be memorialized by becoming, in turn, namesake for Nephew Edmund Wolcott Hall, Daniel's eldest son.

Julius Franklin Hall (1822-1903) m. Zadah Augusta Ransom (1834-1874); m. Geraldine G Johnson (1845-1898)

Brother Julius married Zadah Ransom, twin to Elvira's husband Zerah, and the two families would remain in close relationship throughout their lives. Once relocated to Minnesota, Julius and Brother Albert, along with Brother-in-Law Zerah, and others, organized a new congregation in nearby Alden, the Free Hill Baptist church, which struggled out a few years existence. Upon his wife's early death, Julius married his children's school teacher. In addition to his three surviving children, the family incorporated orphaned nephew, Fremont Hall. In the early 1880s, both twin's families caught the "Dakota Fever" and relocated to Spinks, where they would live out their lives.

Albert Goodrich Hall (1824-1914) m. Susan A Goodsell (1831-1901)

Albert and his wife Susan were part of the family group that relocated to Minnesota. After an initial stint farming in Manchester Township, they would relocate to Alden Village where he became a dry-goods merchant. At various times their household included, as well as one or two live-in female Danish clerks,

Susan's niece, Harriet Goodsell, an old aunt, Amelia Sweet, whose name shows up on the family tombstone. Of this couple's five children, Son Munroe would die tragically of typhoid just six months after his wedding, an emotional blow that would be sadly remembered when our great-grandmother, Ellen, wrote her memoirs. Son Benjamin would take over the store, marrying an Emerson, this couple thereby becoming co-relatives of our paternal grandparents, William Lowry and Maude Larkin Johnston.

Alvin Orr Hall (1831-1876) m. Amelia "Mellie" O'Brien (1836-1870); m. Sarah Elliott (1853-1876)

Alvin was the only sibling to stay behind on the New York farm when his older siblings moved to Minnesota. He married a local Catholic girl of Southern Irish descent. After the deaths in 1868 of Father Benjamin and Sister Lucy, widowed Step-mother Polly stops with Alvin's family. The young family of five was further disrupted by the loss of twin child, Benjamin, and Mother Amelia in 1870. Alvin re-married to a neighbour girl, Sarah, with whom he had two more children, who would also die in infancy. The residual family moved to Minnesota in about 1975, built a big stone house on the windy hill first occupied by Sister Elvira's family a decade earlier. Both Alvin and Sarah soon die there. Son Fremont is taken in by his uncle, Julius Hall, and Daughter Edith by Aunt Anna O'Brien, a teacher in Indiana. The youngest, surviving twin, Bernice, becomes part of the Ransom/Hall household as 'adopted daughter', an important part of the experience of that family. Daughter Lilian eventually marries Oscar Stone; their children, Susie and Paul, would become Alden school classmates and lifelong friends of their cousin, Maude Larkin, paternal grandmother to the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

Lucy Hall (1827-1868)

Sister Lucy appears in the 1850 Census at Mooers, Clinton County, New York, with Father and Stepmother Polly, as well as in the 1860 Census, by which time Alvin Hall and his wife Amelia appear to have 'taken over the reins' of the home farm. She is labelled as *"idiot".*

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Feb 2015; rev. 12 Feb 2018)]

Narrative: *"All Together as a Family"*

Our father, Benjamin Franklin Hall, was named — legitimately, as we are descended from his sister — after the famous one, Dr. Benjamin Franklin, one of our country's 'founding fathers'. The Hall family goes pretty much right back as far as there have been white-skinned Europeans in America — well, in New England at least. I am the youngest of seven children, all boys, save poor Sister Lucy, who has never been 'right in the head', so to speak. Our mother died before my 10th birthday, so my five brothers became my protectors, and have always been the most important people in my life. Well, next to my husband, Zerah, and our children, but that came later.

I like to call my husband *"Zee",* or sometimes when I'm upset with him, "*Zero"* (although *that* never directly to his face, of course). When we first got married, we lived with his parents for a time. The Ransoms were farmers and neighbors at Chazy in Upstate New York. Our first child, Daughter Ellen, was born at her grandparents' house. When Ellen was five or six years old — by that time she had two younger brothers — we had uprooted and moved on to greener pastures.

In those days, there was good land available for the asking in the new state of Minnesota. My husband and several of my brothers, being young and ambitious, caught "Western Fever". The truth be known, I caught it too, but having a reputation as the most-commonsensical of the bunch, I tried not to let it show. It will have become obvious, however, when, in my excitement on the evening before our intended departure, I took a tumble down the cellar stairs. It might have been funny, but it wasn't fun — I really was quite seriously injured! So, all our plans had to be changed last minute. The decision was taken to send my brother, Daniel, and his family on ahead, mainly to get our names on the list for claiming a homestead. The rest of us followed a year later, making the journey by train and boat and horse-and-wagon. Land sakes, I don't even like to think about it! By the time we got here, little Ellen was brown as a Dago, and barefoot to boot!

Only the youngest of my brothers, Alvin, stayed behind to take over the family farm and the care of our parents and our sister. It was sad to lose him last year. Being nearest to me in age, he was my childhood playmate, and the dearest of my dear siblings. His Amelia's death after her twins were born, and now his death, followed within three months by that of his 2nd wife, Sarah, still at such a young age, has left the children twice-orphaned, with only Granny Polly to look after them. They had planned to move here to Manchester, had a big house built in town, but it wasn't in the Lord's plan. We're trying to find a way to bring Niece Bernie, the youngest girl, out here to live with us. The poor child lost her twin brother and her mother in the first nine months of her life, then, at age six, her father and her stepmother. Dear old Polly, widowed herself, is now in her eighties and really is not able to be a surrogate mother anymore.

By now, we've been a dozen years here on this windy hill on the Minnesota prairies. Our claim turned out to be more of a woodlot than a farm. It was lucky for us all that Zee brought his carpentry skills, and that he has also proven to be adept at teaching and preaching. As for the preaching, he got involved with a couple of my brothers and some other men, almost upon our arrival, in starting the Free Baptist Church in nearby Alden. And as for the teaching, we have our own school just up the road, next door to Brother Julius's farm. One of the neighbors insisted on calling our school *"Buckeye",* for some blame reason — I guess he's from Ohio.

Our Ellen has been following his footsteps, teaching there, and a couple of other places, since she was 15. I flatter myself that she takes after her mother — smart, capable, determined, and good-looking to boot (ha!). Young Larkin, another neighbor, just up the road, has taken a fancy to her, but he has had to wait first for her to grow up. And, now, he must wait for her to return from her adventure amongst the Indians.

Zerah has just begun a one-year appointment as Farm Superintendent for the Indian Agency at Fort Berthold, in Dakota Territory, and he insisted on taking Ellen with him. She will work as a clerk in the tribal office. It was organized by our former minister, Reverend Smith, who has gone out there with them. I am not a bit happy with the whole affair! The only good thing is that it will bring in some cash which has been in short supply around here since our arrival. I am afraid that Zee is inmidst a midlife spiritual crisis. I expect he'll prove himself to be more of a missionary than a farmer in his present venture. Much as I respect my dear husband, his long-standing interest in anything-and-everything to do with religion hasn't made him the world's best breadwinner.

I am worriting myself sick about them, and shall very much miss them while they are gone. It's a good thing that they've got each other —that'll help keep their spirits on an even keel, not to mention remind them whence they came, and that thence they are expected to safely return. Meantime, I am blessed to have four of my brothers with their families right here nearby. This house that Zerah built is a good one, and I expect my growing boys will keep us well supplied with firewood and help Ma with the chores. Lord willing, we shall get along just fine until we are all together as a family again.

Elvira Louvena Hall Ransom, April 1877, Manchester Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 17 Feb 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Elvira Louvena Hall Ransom Obituary

[The funeral service, as described in an unknown newspaper, was conducted by a minister from the Jehovah's Witnesses denomination . . .]

MRS. ELVIRA L RANSOM, died at the home of her daughter at Buffalo, Minnesota, on Sunday, February 1st, 1925. Many of the friends throughout the United States will remember her as the wife of Brother Z. A. Ransom, who for many years was in the colporteur and pilgrim services, and who passed beyond the veil on April 18, 1915. Had she survived 18 days longer, she would have attained the remarkable age of 91 years — 21 years more than her appointed. Who shall say that in this instance Jehovah has not fulfilled his promise of a long life to those who honor him! Their married life began in October 1887 [s/b 1857] and continued in loving harmony for 55 years. Four children were born to them, all living at the present time. The funeral services were conducted by Brother F.H. Johnson, of Minneapolis, who gave a pleasing and

typical truth sermon on the glorious good tidings for the church and for the world as revealed in the Bible. Internment [sic] was held in the cemetery at Alden, Minnesota, beside the remains of her husband.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 03 Dec 2015

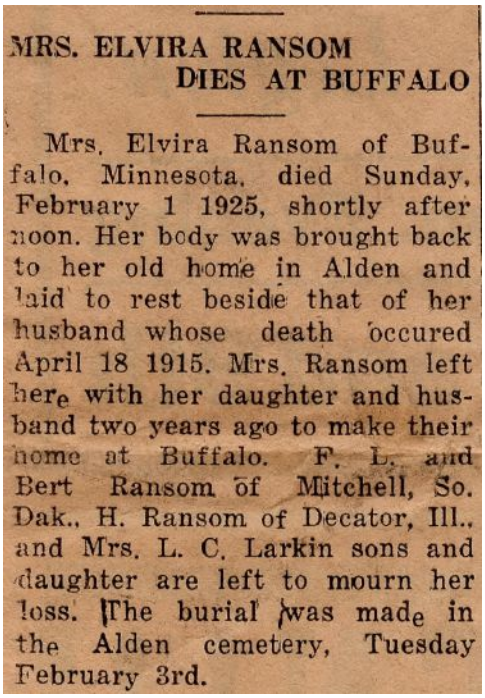
Obituary in the Buffalo Journal, 5 February 1925

MRS. Z. A. RANSOM DIES AT THE AGE OF 91 YEARS

In the death of Mrs. Z. A. Ransom, Buffalo lost one of her oldest residents, who passed away on Sunday at the age of 91 years, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Larkin. The remains were taken to Alden, Minnesota, her former home, for interment. Mrs. Larkin [sic] is survived by four children, eight grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 25 Apr 2015

Elvira Ransom Obituary



MRS. ELVIRA RANSOM
DIES AT BUFFALO

Mrs. Elvira Ransom of Buffalo, Minnesota, died Sunday, February 1 1925, shortly after noon. Her body was brought back to her old home in Alden and laid to rest beside that of her husband whose death occured April 18 1915. Mrs. Ransom left here with her daughter and husband two years ago to make their home at Buffalo. F. L. and Bert Ransom of Mitchell, So. Dak., H. Ransom of Decator, Ill., and Mrs. L. C. Larkin sons and daughter are left to mourn her loss. The burial was made in the Alden cemetery, Tuesday February 3rd.

Obituary published on page 1 of the Alden Advance, 5 February 1925.

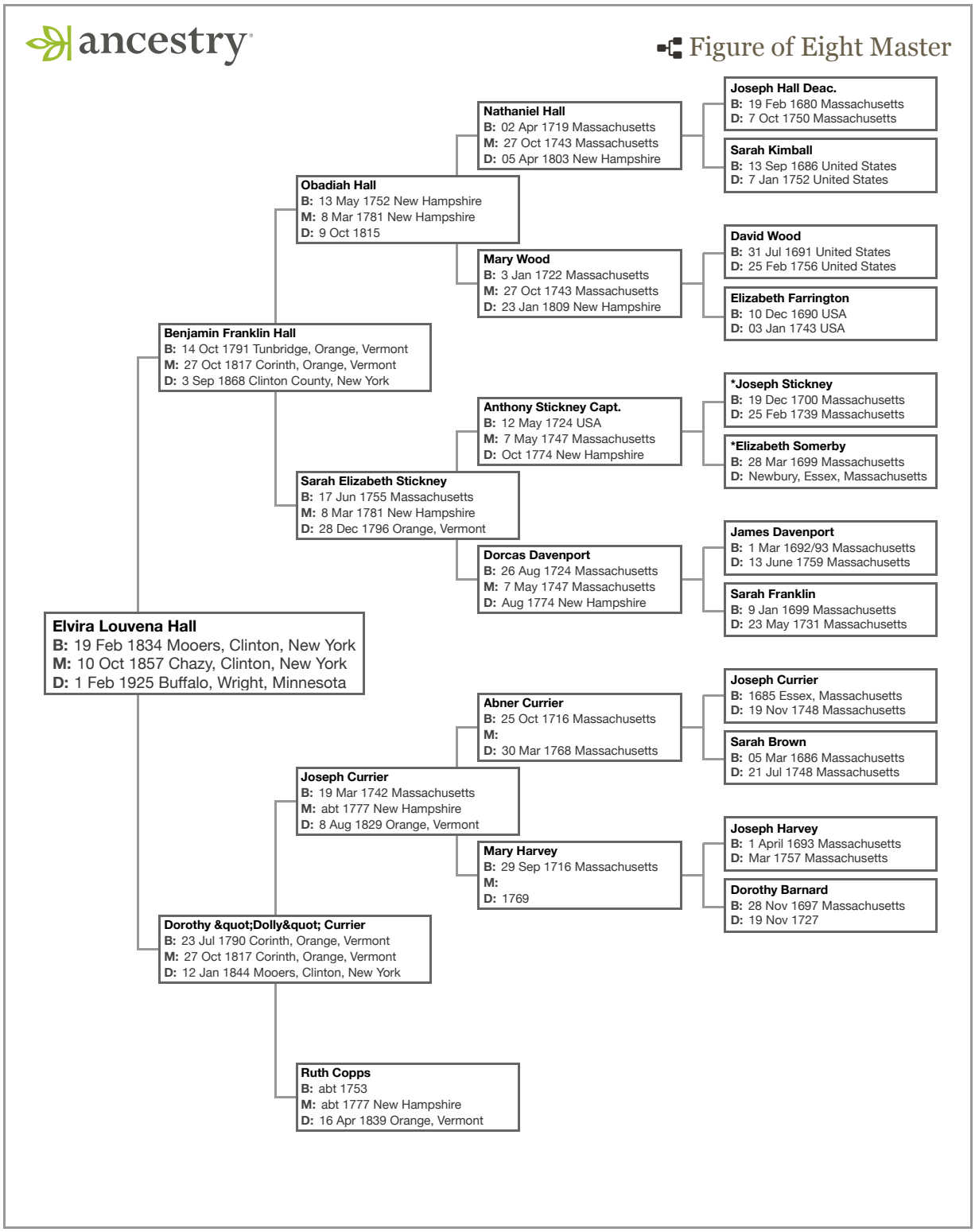
ancestry **ECharlesAsh** originally shared this on 13 Jan 2014

Earlier Ancestry

The Halls of New England

The known ancestors of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Elvira Louvena Hall (1834-1925), matching the pattern of her husband's family-of-origin, were, without exception, English via New England. The earliest known lineage is that of her mother, Dorothy "Dolly" Currier (1790-1844), tracing, first, back to her great-grandfather, Joseph Currier (1685-1748), and then, through his mother, Mary Osgood (1649-1705), to Mary's great-grandfather, Christopher Osgood Sr. (1543-1573), and his wife, Jane Kenston (1543-1662), both of whom lived out their lives in Hampshire, England. These folks were Elvira Hall's 6th (our 10th) great-grandparents. The first of their descendants to venture across the ocean was their grandson, William Osgood (1609-1700), with his wife, Elizabeth Clear (1612-1670), who removed to Massachusetts prior to the 1649 birth of their daughter, Mary. (continued on page 22)

Origin Pyramid of Elvira Louvena Hall Ransom



(continued from page 20)

A better-known group of Elvira's progenitors is pointed to in the naming of her father, *Benjamin Franklin* Hall (1791-1868). While it was common early in the American experience to name one's children after famous people, our great-grandmother, Ellen Ransom Larkin (1858-1948), in her memoirs*: The Story of My Life, 1943,* passed on family lore suggesting that in her grandfather Hall's case, the name reflected actual heritage. The extensive research of others does, indeed, appear to verify this claim.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), scientist, inventor, essayist, diplomat, and a 'Founding Father' of the United States of America, needs no introduction to those born and schooled in America. His sister, Sarah, was Elvira Hall Ransom's 2nd (our 6th) great-grandmother, their father Josiah Franklin (1657-1745), her 3rd (our 7th) great-grandfather. Josiah was born in Ecton, Northamptonshire, England, emigrated to Boston, Suffolk, Massachusetts. According to the *Papers of Benjamin Franklin, Volume I, pp. xlix-xlv, Yale University Press, 1959* (posted on his ancestry.com profile), Josiah had seven children by his first wife, Anne Child, 10 by his second wife, Abigail "Abiah" Folger (1667-1752), of whom our Sarah was the fifth-born, our 'Great Uncle Ben', the eighth-born child. Abiah's great-grandparents, John Gibbs (1565-1608) and Alice Elmy (1574-1606), lived out their lives in Norfolk, England, matching, as had her 6th (our 10th) great-grandparents, the earliest known generations of Elvira Louvena Hall Ransom's mother, Dolly.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (25 Mar 2015; rev. 12 Feb 2018)]

Josiah Franklin

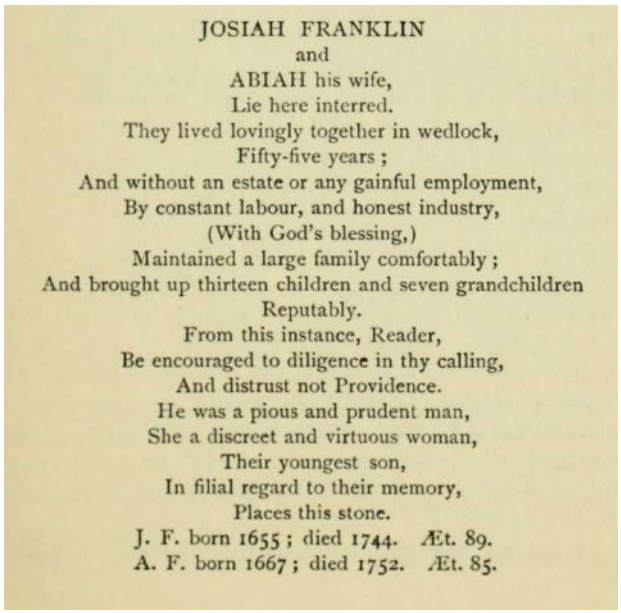
Born December 23, 1655 – Ecton, Northamptonshire, England
Died January 16, 1745 (aged 89) — Boston, Province of Massachusetts Bay.
Resting place Granary Burying Ground on Tremont Street
Residence Boston, MA
Nationality English
Citizenship English
Occupation Tallow chandler and soap boiler
Known for Father of Benjamin Franklin
Spouse(s) Anne Child (1659-1689); Abiah Folger (1667-1752)
Children

> *Elizabeth Franklin Douse, Samuel Franklin, Hannah Franklin Cole, Josiah Franklin Jr., Anne Franklin Harris, Joseph Franklin I, Joseph Franklin II, John Franklin, Peter Franklin, Mary Franklin Holmes, James Franklin,* ***Sarah Franklin Davenport****, Ebenezer Franklin, Thomas Franklin,* ***Benjamin Franklin,*** *Lydia Franklin Scott, Jane Franklin Mecom*

Parent(s) Thomas Franklin & Jane White Franklin
[Source: Wikepedia]

Inscription on Tombstone: Josiah Franklin and Abiah Lee Folger Franklin, Benjamin Franklin's Parents. Written by Benjamin Franklin.

ancestry **Crystal Jarrett Inman** originally shared this on 18 Oct 2016



JOSIAH FRANKLIN
and
ABIAH his wife,
Lie here interred.
They lived lovingly together in wedlock,
Fifty-five years;
And without an estate or any gainful employment,
By constant labour, and honest industry,
(With God's blessing,)
Maintained a large family comfortably;
And brought up thirteen children and seven grandchildren
Reputably.
From this instance, Reader,
Be encouraged to diligence in thy calling,
And distrust not Providence.
He was a pious and prudent man,
She a discreet and virtuous woman,
Their youngest son,
In filial regard to their memory,
Places this stone.
J. F. born 1655; died 1744. Æt. 89.
A. F. born 1667; died 1752. Æt. 85.

ancestry **jjhyder** originally shared this on 08 Mar 2017

Relationship between Benjamin Franklin & ***Figure of Eight***

Josiah Franklin (1657 - 1745)
our 7th great-grandfather
V
Sarah Franklin (1699 - 1731)
daughter of Josiah Franklin; sister to ***Benjamin Franklin (1706 - 1790)***
V
Dorcas Davenport (1724 - 1774)
daughter of Sarah Franklin
V
Sarah Elizabeth Stickney (1755 - 1796)
daughter of Dorcas Davenport
V
Benjamin Franklin Hall (1791 - 1868)
son of Sarah Elizabeth Stickney
V
Elvira Louvena Hall (1834 - 1925)
daughter of Benjamin Franklin Hall
V
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Elvira Louvena Hall
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

ancestry

Finding Polly

In her memoir, *The Story of My Life, 1943*, Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin refers to a Polly *Ordway*, as the 3rd wife of her grandfather Benjamin Franklin Hall (1791-1868), claiming that *"it was she who really*

brought up and cared for the family of five sons … and one daughter", the youngest Elvira Louvena (1834-1925), being Ellen's mother, our 2nd great-grandmother. Finding Polly has proven to be a challenge.

State of Vermont Vital Records through 1870, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts (as presented on Ancestry.com; *Vermont, Vital Records, 1720-1908* [database on-line]; Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013), shows a Benjamin F Hall marrying a Mrs. Polly George on 16 November 1853.

There was, indeed, a Polly Ordway married to an unknown George, as well as a Polly Osgood married to a Samuel George, living in the region at the appropriate time. While both are plausible candidates, the match to Polly Osgood, suggested by another researcher (***Figure of Eight*** 4th cousin, (Elliot) Charles Ash, Jr. — see Appendix C) is very convincing. The firmest evidence for this match is her death record from the above source, followed by a recent entry: # 24975 (p.482) in *North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016. This record shows Polly in the context of her family of origin, as well as referencing her two marriages.

The same researcher points out that the name Ordway is a probably confusion, stemming from the marriage of B F Hall's Sister Betsey (Ellen Larkin's great aunt) to Isaac Ordway. Said researcher also points out that Ellen Larkin's allusion to a 2nd marriage for B F Hall *"of two or three years' duration"* more likely refers to a helpful intervention upon the 1st wife, Dolly's death, by widowed aunt Olive, relict of his brother Benedict.

An interesting footnote is that there is considerable likelihood of Polly Osgood George Hall (1793-1880) being related to B F Franklin's 1st wife, Dolly Courier, through Dolly's 2nd great-grandmother, Mary Osgood (1649-1705) of Essex, Massachusetts.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (2 Oct 2014; rev. 18 Feb 2018)]

Hall Surname

The 'Hall' surname, generally considered to be Anglo-Scottish, has several possible origins, having derived from:

- an *occupational* name for a person who was employed as a servant or chamberlain in a manor house: pre-7th Century Old English *heall*; Old German and later Anglo-Saxon *halla/halle*; Old Norse-Viking *holl* — 'hall' (spacious house);
- a *geographic* name for someone who lived in or near such a place;
- a *descriptive* name, Old Norse-Viking *hallr*; Danish, Dutch, Swedish *hall*; Flemish *hal* — 'flint' or 'boulder';
- a *characteristic* name, Old Norse-Viking *hale*; Anglo Saxon *haele,* 'hero';
- a *patronym* evolved from the Norman French surname 'de Aule/de Aula'.

From whichever source, Hall is reportedly the 22nd most common surname in England today, where it was first recorded in 1090 in Lincolnshire.

Most Halls in America are of English origins, with documented arrivals from the 1630s. The first ***Figure of Eight*** Hall progenitor known to be born in America was our 6th great-grandfather, Joseph Hall (1680-1750), born in Massachusetts Bay Colony. His parents are believed to have come from Warwickshire, England.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (3 Dec 2015; rev. 23 Dec 2015)]

References:

i. Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894
ii. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/hall
iii. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hall_(surname)
iv. http://selectsurnamelist.com/hall.html

v. http://genealogy.about.com/od/surname_meaning/p/hall.htm

Ransom/Hall Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Zerah Ransom & Elvira Hall

Children of Ellen Ransom & Luce Larkin

Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin (1880-1959)
Maude Larkin (1882-1965)
Jay Augustus Larkin (1884-1958)
Fern Augusta Larkin (1887-1974)
Ellen "Nellie" Larkin (1888-1979)

Children of Albert Ransom & Florence Carroll

Carroll Louvena Ransom (1908-)
Alice Elvira Ransom (1911-)
(James) Harvey Ransom (1916-2002)

Adopted Child of Frank Ransom & Ida Putney

Dillis Leslie (Ransom) (1900-1966)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Land Purchase



Zerah A Ransom in the U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907

Name:	Zerah A Ransom
Issue Date:	1 Aug 1872
Acres:	120
Meridian:	5th PM
State:	Minnesota
County:	Freeborn
Township:	103-N
Range:	22-W
Section:	32
Accession Number:	MN2450__.499
Metes and Bounds:	No
Land Office:	Jackson
Canceled:	No
US Reservations:	No
Mineral Reservations:	No
Authority:	May 20, 1862: Homestead EntryOriginal (12 Stat. 392)
Document Number:	1999

Source Information

Ancestry.com. *U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2008.

Original data: United States. Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records. *Automated Records Project; Federal Land Patents, State Volumes*. *http://www.glorecords.blm.gov/.* Springfield, Virginia: Bureau of Land Management, Eastern States, 2007.

Description

This database contains land patents from 1796-1907 for 13 U.S. states. Information recorded in land patents includes: name of patentee, issue date, state of patent, acres of land, legal land description, authority under which the land was acquired, and other details relating to the land given. Learn more...

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Ransom/Hall Son (James) Harvey Ransom — Professor, Author



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Leo T. Johnson
Instructor in Physical Education and Athletic Coach
A.B., Millikin
Sigma Alpha Epsilon

R. Wayne Gill
Instructor in Physical Education and Assistant Coach
A.B., Bethany
Beta Theta Pi

FACULTY

Yearbook Date	**1937**
School	**James Millikin University**
School Location	**Decatur, Illinois, USA**
Yearbook Title	**Millidek**

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 5/8

Poston/Cartwright Family

Jeremiah Poston

Mary Cartwright

Poston/Cartwright Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Jeremiah Poston (1819-1876) and Mary Cartwright (1832-1886), met when she was just a girl of 10 near Quincy, Illinois. Jeremiah, then a young man of 20, had set out to seek his fortune on a fine Virginia horse, a coming-of-age gift from his father. He first visited his father, Richard, in Ohio, and then went on to visit the home of former Virginia neighbour, John Cartwright, Mary's father. She would remember that first meeting all her life. She was still a girl when he came back to marry her six years later. She would save a piece of the fine broadcloth fabric from his wedding suit, to enable 'bragging rights' with her children, years later when the family were cash-poor pioneers.

In 1855, they moved with their first three babes to take up a homestead amongst the Indians, one of the first non-native families in Chisago County, Minnesota Territory. That move was made along with a handful of his brothers and sisters and their families, as well as Mary's little brother, Francis, who would become the first white person to be married at the village of Forest Lake. Jeremiah and Mary had built a fine two-story log house on the North Shore of Forest Lake itself, their property actually extending into Washington County. There they raised 11 children on their 160-acre homestead, one of the first three farms in the area.

While Jeremiah had had the privilege of a private tutor while growing up on the family's tobacco plantation in Virginia, Mary's early years in Ohio and Illinois had prepared her for a more practical approach to their children's education. Using an elementary speller and the few books available, she started a 'blab school', for three months of each year providing basics to the children of the pioneer community, many of whom were her own children, her nieces and nephews.

The Sioux and the Chippewa who lived in the area were uneasy neighbours. Son Silas, our great-grandfather, would later share his memory that *"roving bands of aborigines were to be seen daily"*. Mary reportedly kept a bell near at hand to ring lustily whenever the Indians unexpectedly appeared near her.

Jeremiah's background and personality saw him in good stead in the growing community. Daughter Belle would remember that when the itinerant preacher failed to show up on a Sunday morning, their father often filled in at their church: *"I recall once when he was called on to preach unexpectedly. He arose and talked extemporaneously two hours on a chapter in the Book of Esther."*

The family lived out their lives in that log cabin on Forest Lake, excepting several years in the early 1870s when Jerimiah's failing health prompted them experiment with another lifestyle in Kasota, LeSueur County. While there, Half-brother Silas Poston lived nearby. Oldest child, Ashford, married there. For a time, Brother Francis Cartwright joined the family *enroute* his adventures to-and-from Kansas. Third child, our grandfather, Silas Marion Poston, then 20, would many years later reminisce about their entire first crop there being destroyed by grasshoppers.

Upon the family's return to Forest Lake in 1876, the Kasota farming experiment having proven to be unfruitful, Jeremiah died of stomach cancer. Mary carried on with a house full of children — the youngest, Irene, was still a pre-teen at the time of Mary's own death a decade later at age 54. The bones of both parents lie buried in Cedar Hill, *"God's Acre",* the old cemetery on the North Shore Road about two miles out from Forest Lake Village, on land that they had donated many years earlier.

Of this large family, only Ashford and his offspring remained in the immediate area. Ashford's daughter, Florence, would become an amateur genealogist and historian, writing between January and February 1946 a series of articles under the title of "Early Pioneer History of Forest Lake". In it she describes *"These early folk who for some unknown reason chose this thickly wooded, sandy, Indian-infested corner of the globe as home…these hearty, tough, often rough warriors of life who chose to live in log cabins in the woods…far away from the protection of law and government…it is they who make up Forest Lake's original Role of Honor."*

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 Mar 2015; rev. 20 Feb 2018)

ancestry



Jeremiah Poston

BIRTH 11 FEB 1819 • Hanging Rock, Hampshire, Virginia
DEATH 2 DEC 1876 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
11 Feb 1819 • Hanging Rock, Hampshire, Virginia

Age 1 — **Education**
1820-1830 • Hanging Rock, Hampshire, Virginia
Daughter Belle recalls: “Father never went to public school, but had a tutor. He was a very well educated man. He often filled in at church when the preacher didn’t arrive.” [ref: Forest Lake Times, 15 Sep 1949]

Age 12 — **Father Richard's Remarriage**
abt 1831 • Romney, Hampshire, Virginia
Father marries Mary Cool (Kuhl) the daughter of his former landlord

Age 12 — **Death of Mother Elizabeth**
1831 • Hanging Rock, Hampshire, Virginia
falls from horse

Age 20 — **Father's 2nd Remarriage**
6 Aug 1839 • Athens, Athens, Ohio
to Malinda Brammel Murphy, who brings child, Jeremiah Murphy

Age 24 — **Adventures West**
abt 1843 • Athens County, Ohio
Grandfather reportedly "gave each of his sons on becoming of age a good horse and $500"; he travels to visit his father in Ohio, on to Illinois, where he meets the girl who will become his wife. [ref: Forest Lake Times, 15 Sep 1949]

Age 30 — **Marriage**
19 Apr 1849 • Quincy, Adams, Illinois
Mary Cartwright is 1st cousin to Lucinda A Castle, who is daughter of Mother Thankful's sister, Abigail Whitney, and wife of Jeremiah's brother, Richard J Poston

Mary Cartwright (1832–1886)

Age 31 — **Residence**
17 Sep 1850 • Gilmer, Adams, Illinois
agricultural survey; 90 acres, $1000 income; Brother-in-Law Wm. Cartwright is next door

Age 36 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
1855 • Township 33, Chisago, Minnesota Territory
ref: Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, 1902

Age 38 — **Residence**
21 Sep 1857 • Township 33, Chisago, Minnesota
farmer; four children (1- 8); Brother-in-Law Francis M Cartwright (21) in residence; Half-Sisters Rhoda Peoples and Eliza Stipes nearby

Age 41 — **Residence**
06 Jul 1860 • Wyoming Township, Chisago, Minnesota
farmer; wife and four children; NB: Township 33, Chisago County would come to be known as Wyoming Township

Age 44 — **Death of Father Richard**
19 Dec 1863 • Canaan, Athens, Ohio

Family

Parents

Richard Poston Rev. 1790–1863

Elizabeth Thompson 1794–1831

Spouse & Children

Mary Cartwright 1832–1886

- **Ashford Dow Poston** 1850–1893
- **Lucinda Catherine Poston** 1851–
- **Silas Marion Poston** 1854–1938
- **Melinda "Linda" Belle Poston** 1856–1948
- **(Jeremiah) Golden Poston** 1860–1922
- **Richard Henry Poston** 1862–1922
- **John Roland Poston** 1864–1936
- **(Frances) Mary Poston** 1865–1932
- **William Grant Poston** 1868–
- **Elsie Poston** 1869–1875
- **Imogene "Emma" Comfort Poston** 1871–
- **Irene Poston** 1874–1888

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- **1860 United States Federal Census**
- **1860 United States Federal Census**
- **1870 United States Federal Census**
- **Ancestry Family Trees**
- **Family Data Collection - Individual Records**
- **Illinois Marriages to 1850**
- **Illinois Marriages, 1790-1860**
- **Illinois, Marriage Index, 1860-1920**
- **Minnesota County History Name Index**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905**
- **Selected U.S. Federal Census Non-Population Schedules, 1850-1880**
- **U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860-1918**
- **Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012**

Age 46 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
with spouse and eight children (1-16); also Brother-in-Law Francis Cartwright; nearby are future in-laws/extended families: McCurdys, Fullertons, Quists; next door is Sister Eliza B Stipes Family

Age 51 — **Residence**
1870 • Marine, Washington, Minnesota
note Daughter Elsie (1) is not found in other records; Sister Rebecca Simmons Family nearby; NB: the known parental Poston property was partly in Wyoming Township, Chisago County, extending into Forest Lake Township, Washington County

Age 56 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Kasota, Le Sueur, Minnesota
Silas (20) eldest of 9 children at home; NB: E.A. Leaf in The People of Chisago County says family farmed here from 1872-1876

Age 57 — **Death**
2 Dec 1876 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
of stomach cancer; burial: Cedar Hill Cemetery, Chisago County; (NB: 1888 Plat Map still shows J. Poston land long after Jeremiah's death)

Relationship between Jeremiah Poston & ***Figure of Eight***

Jeremiah Poston (1819 - 1876)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
son of Jeremiah Poston
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Siblings of Jeremiah Poston

Full-siblings — Children of Richard Poston & Elizabeth Thompson

Ashford Poston (1814-1893) m. Margaret Parkinson (1817-1844); m. Margaret Catherine Butt (1839)

Older brother, Ashford, married the first Margaret in 1840 and had two children. With the second Margaret, whom he married 1857, he had four children. He spent his life in Ohio where he was a trader, a coal dealer and a general merchant.

Rebecca Poston (1820-1891) m. George Simmons (1805-1880)

Younger sister Rebecca became the second wife of George Simmons in Ohio in 1842. They proceeded to have nine children of their own, their daughter, Rebecca Ann, being the first white child born in Forest Lake, Minnesota. One of the group of seven siblings who came West together, Rebecca would be lifelong neighbour to Jeremiah. While Husband George was a farmer, businessmen and town supervisor, Rebecca, educated in Boston under an uncle's *aegis*, served the community as midwife and nurse.

Richard J Poston (1825-1888) m. Lucinda A Castle (1832-1912)

Like his namesake father, Brother Richard became a minister. He married Lucinda in 1850 in Ohio.

Lucinda was a cousin of Jeremiah's wife, Mary. As did several siblings, they migrated west, settling in Pierce County, Wisconsin, just across the St. Croix River from most of the clan. They would have eight children.

Elizabeth Poston (1828-1900) m. Thomas Henry Buck (1824-1877)

Youngest full-sibling, Elizabeth, married New York-born farmer, Thomas Buck, in 1846 in Ohio. They, too, relocated, first to Minnesota, where they shared a home for a while with Half-sibling Silas in the White Bear Lake area, close to the rest of the Poston group, before permanently settling in Pierce County, Wisconsin near the Buck in-laws. They would have seven children.

Half-siblings — Children of Richard Poston & 2nd wife, Mary "Polly" Cool

Eliza P Poston (1831-1884) m. Branson Stipe (1818-1936)

Half-sister Eliza married, in the same year as her sister Elizabeth, Virginia-born farmer Branson Stipes. They started their family in Ohio and then moved on to Minnesota Territory, first in Chisago County and later in Chippewa County. By 1880, they had relocated to do teamster work in Minneapolis, where they lived with their 12 surviving children and son-in-law Messer and a grandbaby. Their daughter, Hattie, would live out her life in Buffalo, Minnesota, as Mrs. Charles Rassat, unknown to fellow residents, the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

Rhoda Poston (1832-1900) m. Reese P Peoples (1821-1905)

Rhoda also married in Ohio, where her first two children were born, before moving with the family to Minnesota Territory. Reese would serve two years as an artillery battery soldier in the Civil War. It seems he was quite versatile, having variously been a farmer, a master blacksmith, a millwright. Into his 80s and widowed, he still listed himself as a labourer. They would have seven children. Throughout their lives at least one of the children would be continuously in residence. Eldest son, Walter, was the town marshal for Forest Lake. Another son, John, would enlist in the US Army at the time of the Spanish American War.

Silas Poston (1832-1895) m. Samantha Haskin (1841-1909)

Rhoda's twin brother, Silas, also married in Ohio, where they lost their first child before moving West with the family group. Silas, namesake of Brother Jeremiah's son, was a farmer in Ramsey, Kasota, and Washington Counties in Minnesota before settling in Pierce County, Wisconsin, near other family members. He and Samantha would have eight children altogether.

Eliphalet L Poston (1837-1905) m. Mary Ann Stafford (1839-1889); m. Orvilla Dilinda Lorance (1864-1937)

Step-brother Eliphalet was the youngest of Father Richard's second family, born in Ohio. Within two years of his birth, his mother had died and his father had remarried. Still a teenager when seven of his eight older siblings relocated, he did not come West with the family group. He would enlist in the Civil War with an Ohio infantry unit as a quartermaster. Injured, he was declared to be an invalid in 1871, and there would be a widow's pension claim after his death. He was a minister who married twice, moved often, living in Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas. There were six surviving children.

Step-sibling — Previous Child of Mary "Polly" Cool

Harbert (Poston) (1824-1844)

Harbert was possibly an illegitimate child of Mary. His first name was that of both her father and her brother. He would have been about six years old at the time of her marriage to Richard Poston — a near age-mate of Step-brother Richard J Poston. Harbert died at 20 and is buried in the family plot at Canaan, Ohio.

Half-siblings — Children of Richard Poston & 3rd wife, Malinda Brammel

Harriet Poston (1839-1841)

First child of Father Richard by his third wife, was born Ohio, died in infancy.

Mary Elizabeth Poston (1841-1915) m. * Lindsey (Poston); m. * Hezekiah Richey (1829-1905)

Step-Sister Mary apparently had two marriages, neither confirmed. If the 1866 Indiana marriage between Hezekiah Ritchey and Mary E Lindsey is a valid record, it would confirm a farming family living in Iowa. The 1900 U.S. Census shows her living with Daughter Mary Roche's family, reporting 40 years of marriage with four children, three surviving. Daughter Louella married a medical doctor.

Margaret L Poston (1842-1911) m. Isaac M Shrader (1829-1912)

Margaret also married a farmer, a very mobile and apparently well-to-do one, as they farmed in Ohio, Missouri and Idaho, raising five children in the process, and usually having a servant. Mother Malinda would live with them briefly after Father Richard died, as would a grandson by youngest daughter, Rosa Glidewell.

Elias "Eli" B Poston (1845-1921) m. Sarah L Jenkins (1845-)

The youngest member of this large, complex, blended family, Elias was wounded in the Civil War, married and commenced family life on his in-laws' farm in Indiana. After Sarah's mother died, widowed Father Samuel joined the family in Iowa. From about 1890, they would relocate again, to Kansas, where Elias became a prison guard until his retirement. They raised three daughters.

Step-sibling — Previous Child of Malinda Brammel

Jeremiah J Murphy (1838-1909) m. Olive E Mansfield (1839-1922)

Malinda had been previously married. Her son, Jeremiah, was about six when she brought him into the subsequent marriage. Interestingly, it was he who would take over the family farm in Ohio when his step-father, Richard Poston, retired. Later, widowed Mother Malinda accompanied Jeremiah when he relocated his two-child family to Rome, Ohio, where he became a miller.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (20 Jan 2015; rev. 20 Feb 2018)]

Narrative: *"Winter Will Be Here Soon Enough!"*

My name is Jeremiah, but I have been called Jerry or James most of my life — 36 years so far. Five of my siblings and half-siblings and I have just arrived with our families in the Minnesota Territories, a long way from where we were born in Virginia. A long way by horse, at least, and what other way is there to reach this place?

Our grandfather, Elias, was kind of a big-shot back there — farmer; land surveyor; colonel in the militia, holding down the 'home front' during the Revolutionary War. Our father, Richard, himself one of 13 children, married three times, had children by each wife — 13 surviving altogether, if you don't count Mary Cool's and Melinda Brammel's sons, who came into the family by marriage. The first two families were both in Virginia where most of us were born. I was the second in the first family. Mother Elizabeth Thompson, had five of us before she died at age 37 from complications of childbirth — so many, too many, women die that way!

Father has always been a farmer. As I understand it, he and Mother lived at first on land in Frederick County, Virginia, that they rented from a man named Cool, probably an anglicized version of the German name Kuhl. Later, they bought a farm of their own near Hanging Rock, in Hampshire County, from Father's oldest brother, Samuel. This was the home that I knew. It was part of one of Great-Grandfather William Poston's original tobacco plantations — he had two!

After Mother Elizabeth died, our father married the daughter of their first landlord, Mary "Polly" Cool. Within a couple of years, they sold what property they had between them, Mary having meantime inherited a share in her father's land, and they relocated to Ohio. We five siblings, children of the first family, were left behind, supervised by our old black 'mammy'. It was a good life. We were well-tutored, and got to ride after the hounds on Grandfather's estate. Father had no more than gotten settled in Ohio when Mary, too, died, leaving her first son, Harbert, and her four children by our father. Little Eli was just two years old. Father wasted no time in finding an Ohio girl to take over the household.

My siblings and I eventually caught up to Father and his growing tribe in Canaan (The Promised Land), Ohio. My Sisters Rebecca and Elizabeth married there. Father had provided for each us boys, as we came of age, a good horse, $500, and his well wishes. When the time came for some of us younger folks to *"head west, young man"*, his four youngest children, by Step-mother Malinda Brammel, were still at home, *"under mother's skirts"*, so to speak. Malinda, too, had been married before, and so her son, Jeremiah Murphy, had become yet another addition to the family, bringing the total to 15 children, if I've gotten the count right. As far as I know, Father was never in the military, but he inherited something of the military manner. I guess it was part of the role of being an itinerate Methodist minister. To be honest, we weren't all that sorry to leave home. While Brother Ashford stayed on, Brother Richard and I headed on to Illinois, where I re-met my Mary (her family had been our neighbours back in Virginia), and Richard met and married her cousin Lucinda Castle. *"The rest"*, as they say, *"is history".*

We have just completed the long trek from Canaan, Athens County, Ohio: my full-sisters, Rebecca Simmons and Elizabeth Buck, and their families; and our half-siblings, twins, Rhoda Peoples and Silas Poston with his wife Samantha; Eliza Stipes and their families; along with the three children of Mary and me — 19 in all, some of them born along the way. My Mary's little brother, Francis, came along, too, so with horses and wagons and babies and gear, we made quite a train. Of course, intent on continuing farm life once we arrived, we had to bring all our furniture and tools and chickens, and even a cow or two. But now we're here, and here to stay in this brand-new land that's not even a state — yet! I think we've got neighbours from every country in Europe and every state in America. Even, as close as we are to the city of St. Paul, we don't have to look very hard to find the Indian hunting parties that still figure this is their land. Most of it still needs to be cleared, although the big logging barons have been busy, and Stillwater, on the St. Croix River just east of us, is quite a booming place.

So far as we know, we're the first Postons to arrive in the Minnesota Territories. Folks here say our township will likely get named *"Wyoming",* but that isn't yet official. Elizabeth and Thomas Buck and their two boys, along with Silas and Samantha and their little Eva, have moved a bit further on, sharing a house in neighbouring Ramsey County. The rest of us live pretty much *"cheek by jowl"* right here. We have let the folks back home know that we've safely arrived — assuming our letter gets through — and I expect it won't be long before various uncles and cousins will be looking to join us. That'll be a good thing, too! There are a lot of trees to be cut down and cut up.

Why did we do it, leaving our coddled life in Virginia, with several moves 'til reaching real wilderness? Well, ask me that in about 40 years. Right now, those of us who have made it here have got to get on with building houses. Winter will be here soon enough!

Jeremiah Poston, July 1855, Township 33, Chisago County, Minnesota Territory [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston*****,** Jun 2013; rev. 15 Dec 2015]

Earlier Ancestry

The Postons of Maryland and Virginia

The Poston story in the United States begins with John Stone Poston (1685-1744), ***Figure of Eight*** 6th great-grandfather, who is said to be the first of that branch of the family in America (see story following). He emigrated as a young man of 17 from England, reportedly arriving on 26 April 1703. Family lore has it that he was of 'yeoman stock' (beyond a common labourer, but not quite a gentleman). He lived initially on the eastern shore of the lower Potomac River in St. Mary's County in Maryland, a few miles from Trinity Episcopalian Church to which he was adherent.

John Poston married an Irish-born woman named Susanna Holmes. By 1727-1729, they had saved enough money to 'secure patent' on two tobacco producing plantations — *"Poverty"* (247 acres) and *"Goodwill"* (50 acres), a few miles from Trinity Church, in what is now Charles County, Maryland. At the time of drafting his will in 1739, John named as executors his wife, Susanna, and the fourth of their ten children, William John Poston (1721-1777), our 5th great-grandfather. (It may be, in light of this unusual circumstance, that the three older sons and business partners were of a previous marriage.)

William Poston inherited Goodwill Plantation after his mother's death. He married Priscilla Noe, illegitimate daughter of another plantation owner. Her twin sister, Rachel, would always be part of the

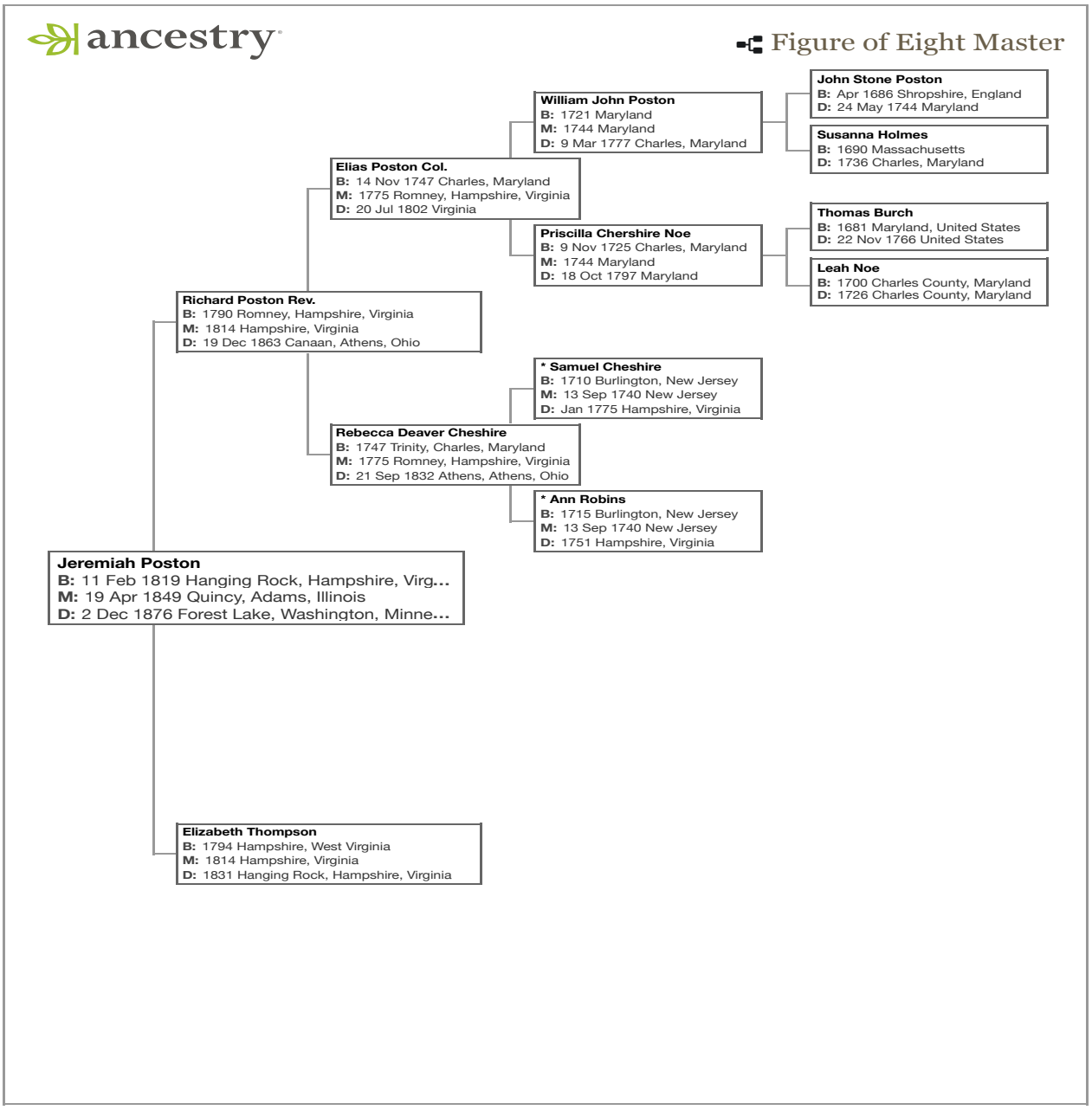
family. William and four of his sons were soldiers in the American Revolution. William, along with one of his brothers, died before the end of that war. William was a vestryman in Trinity Church and a trustee of Charlotte Hall school, in the chapel of which both he and his wife are buried. (William and Priscilla's daughter, Catherine, was married to the originator of the school, Rev. Hatch Dent.) After William's death, Priscilla secured patent on an adjoining farm, called *"William Enlarged",* bringing Goodwill Plantation to over 300 acres. William and Priscilla had eight children surviving to adulthood, born at the Goodwill Plantation, of whom the second, Elias Poston (1747-1802), would become our 4th great-grandfather.

Elias Poston married Rebecca Cheshire in 1777. He had distinguished himself in the American Revolution, rising to the rank of colonel. After the war, the couple relocated to Romney, Hampshire County, Virginia, where he would become known as *"Elias of Romney".* They purchased the 200-acre Ashbrook Plantation on the North River. By the time of the U.S. Census of 1782, they would have three children and own three slaves. In 1787, they added another 200 acres, the Edwards Plantation on Great Cacapon, continuing the Poston Family tradition as successful plantation owners. Elias was active in civic affairs, receiving Hampshire County appointments as an officer in the militia, also as a land surveyor and a census enumerator. In 1788, he relinquished his previous roles as *"a lieutenant of the county"* to accept appointment as sheriff. He would also serve in the State legislature. Hampshire County would eventually become part of West Virginia, following the Wheeling Conventions of 1861, at the time of separation as a 'free state' from confederate Virginia during the Civil War. While two siblings of Elias, Richard and William, apparently remained in the South, where they persisted as slave-holding plantation owners, Colonel Elias's own family dispersed northward and westward, after his 1802 death and long before the Civil War (1861-1865). Eldest child, Samuel, named (as was the custom) after Rebecca's father, would relocate to Ohio sometime before his 1823 death there. Samuel's mother and five of his siblings would all follow him to Ohio, while other family members made their way to Indiana and Iowa. Of the 13 children of Elias and Rebecca, only one, second son, William, named (as was the custom) after Elias's father, would die in Virginia. Richard Poston (1790-1863), the 10th child of the Poston/Cheshire Family, would become our 3rd great-grandfather.

Richard Poston was a farmer and an itinerate Methodist minister. He relocated to Ohio with his 2nd wife in about 1835. He, too, would father 13 children, in his case, with three wives, the second and third each bringing an additional child into the blended family, totaling 15. Jeremiah Poston (1819-1876), our 2nd great-grandfather and the subject of this profile, was Richard's second son by first wife, Elizabeth Thompson (1794-1831).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Dec 2015; rev. 21 Feb 2018)]

Jeremiah Poston Origin Pyramid



John Poston — Immigrant to Charles & St. Mary Counties of Maryland

Speculation regarding the events affecting John Stone Poston's life in the Maryland Colony from his arrival in 1703 until his death in 1744 . . .

"Many very capable researchers over the past 50+ years have written family histories regarding descendants of John POSTON, who arrived in Maryland Colony in 1703. Many were write before there were so many records to document certain events. Family stories and hearsay were generally the main sources of information.

Records prove that John POSTON was an indentured servant for 5 years to a M' BROWN, when he landed in the Maryland Colony in 1703. Who was this person? I surmise that he was the Captain of the

ship where John was a passenger. Probably John sold himself to the Captain to pay for his passage to the Colonies. There is a record that a Captain BROWN landed his ship in the same Maryland harbor the following year.

There are no public records to be found regarding John POSTON for the next 17 years. What was he doing during that period of time? I surmise that he may have been serving as a midshipman aboard Master BROWN's ship, possibly for the full 5 years or more. I do not know if Master BROWN owned land in Maryland, as well. If so, then John possibly worked on a plantation in the Maryland area, to earn money to buy his own land. He married about 1710 to a Susannah, maiden name unknown. Known only as Susannah through John's will. They had produced at least 3 sons by 1720.

The source of this information is gathered from John's will written 12 Dec 1739 in Charles County, Maryland, probate filed 20 May 1744. In 1720, with the aid of Edward DAVIS, John purchased a plantation of 120 acres called "Poverty". Poverty was split into three 82 1/3 acres and bequeathed to these three adult sons, John, Thomas and Francis in John's will, indicating that each already had a home and was working the land, and they were to receive nothing else. Edward DAVIS also purchased a 100 acre adjoining plantation, "Goodwill". Edward DAVIS split this in half and sold to John POSTON 50 acres of "Goodwill", for a small sum. This became the plantation home for John, his wife, Susannah and his other children: William, Edward, Mary, Susanna, Rebecca, Charity and Jeremiah.

From his will, we learn that Edward is not yet 18 years old. William and his wife, Susannah, were named executors of his will, so William was at least 21 years old, in 1739. So apparently, there were 6 children below the age of maturity. William b. abt 1718, Edward b. abt 1722, Mary b. abt 1725, Susanna b. abt 1727, Rebecca b. abt 1730, Charity b. abt 1733 and Jeremiah b. abt 1737. Susannah died before the probate of the will was complete, because she could not appear in court on 20 May 1744. On 12 Jun 1744 William surviving Executor appeared with inventory of John POSTON's estate that was also signed by his brother, Francis, and his brother, Thomas, made his mark. Where was the oldest brother, John?

Another question arises for me. Who was Edward DAVIS? Why was he being so generous to John POSTON in aiding him to purchase 2 plantations, with approximately 170 acres to grow good tobacco, which was the form of economic exchange at that period of time? Now that, through a secondary source, we have established Francis POSTON, wheelwright, as father of John POSTON, the 1703 immigrant from England, we now learn that Joseph DAVIS was a brother-in-law named in Francis POSTON's will written in Shrewsbury, ENGLAND. I am again surmising that Edward DAVIS of Charles County, Maryland Colony was a relative to John POSTON, possibly Uncle. He was then an Uncle of John's. It would appear to me that this very generous man was helping his nephew get established in Maryland Colony. He had probably encouraged John POSTON to leave England, for what should be a better life.

There is a lot of supposing to fill in the blanks. It makes for a good story, with a lot of documentation to make it true." [Katherine (POSTON) MOCK]

ancestry **KMOCK73** originally shared this on 01 Dec 2014

Poston Surname

The surname 'Poston' is an English *toponymic* (residential, locational, place) surname. Reported in both Herefordshire and *Salop* (an old name, and the occasional abbreviated name, for Shropshire), the place name may, in turn, have derived from an Old English personal name *possa* + *þorn,* 'thorn tree'. Alternatively, the word may have been introduced into the English language after the Norman Conquest of 1066, from an Old French word *posterle, posterne*, originally describing a rear entrance, but in later times taken to mean the small gate at the side of a *portcullis* which admitted one person at a time, probably a feature of the fortresses that the Normans built to keep their unruly acquisition under control. Thus, it describes a dweller by a postern gate, or by an important or unusual landmark. It is also a *metonymic* (occupational) surname: the keeper of the gate.

Early UK records of the name mention Geoffrey Postan (London,1273), and Hugh Poste (County

Yorkshire in the same year); Edward Posten was recorded in Yorkshire in the year 1300, and William Poste of Yorkshire, was listed in the Yorkshire Poll Tax of 1379.

Early, documented ***Figure of Eight*** Poston progenitors are of English origin. The first to be born in the United States was our 5th great-grandfather, William John Poston, born 1721 at Goodwill Plantation, Trinity Parish, Charles County, Maryland. The highest incidence of early Poston records, by the time of the 1840 U.S. Census, was in Virginia (whence our ancestors hale), Ohio (to where some ancestors moved) and South Carolina.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (15 Feb 2014; rev. 15 Dec 2015)]

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i. Henry Barber, M.D. British Family Names: Lists of Scandinavian, Frisian, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman Names. Elliot Stock, London, 1894
ii. http://www.4crests.com/poston-coat-of-arms.html
iii. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Poston#ixzz2t9cizf4F
iv. http://www.ancestry.com

ancestry



Mary F Cartwright

BIRTH 31 JUL 1832 • Meigs County, Ohio
DEATH 13 DEC 1886 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
31 Jul 1832 • Meigs County, Ohio

Age 4 — **Relocation to Illinois**
abt 1836 • Adams County, Illinois
Sis Lucy b. Jan 1835 in Ohio; Bro Francis b. 1837 in Illinois

Age 16 — **Marriage**
19 Apr 1849 • Quincy, Adams, Illinois
Mary Cartwright is 1st cousin to Lucinda A Castle, who is daughter of Mother Thankful's sister, Abigail Whitney, and wife of Jeremiah's brother, Richard J Poston

Jeremiah Poston (1819–1876)

Age 18 — **Residence**
17 Sep 1850 • Gilmer, Adams, Illinois
ref: agricultural survey; 90 acres, $1000 income; Brother Wm. Cartwright is next door; Father John not listed

Age 18 — **Death of Father John**
1850 • Gilmer Twp., Adams County, Illinois

Age 19 — **Mother's Remarriage**
16 Mar 1852 • Gilmer Twp., Adams County, Illinois
the groom, John Golden Sr. (1797-1875), becomes namesake for Mary's son, Jeremiah Golden Poston

Age 23 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
abt 1855 • Wyoming Township, Chisago, Minnesota
first three children born Illinois; settle on 160 acres extending South to the North Shore of Forest Lake in Washington County

Age 25 — **Residence**
21 Sep 1857 • Township 33, Chisago, Minnesota
husband has built two story log cabin; four children (1-8); Brother Francis M (21) in residence

Age 28 — **Residence**
1860 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
four children (5-11)

Age 29 — **Civic**
1861 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
starts a "Blab School" in her log home on the North Shore of the lake; ref: A History of Washington County: Gateway to Minnesota History. Robert Goodman. Wash. Co. Hist. Soc., Stillwater (p. 235)

Age 32 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
eight children; Brother Francis Cartwright in residence

Age 38 — **Residence**
1870 • Marine, Washington, Minnesota
note Daughter Elsie (1 year) is not found in other records; Poston farm lies mostly in Wyoming Township, Chisago County, but as the dwelling is on the N side of Forest Lake, they get enumerated in Washington County in US Census

Age 42 — **Residence**

Family

Parents

John M Cartwright 1806–1850

Thankful Whitney 1809–1894

Spouse & Children

Jeremiah Poston 1819–1876

- **Ashford Dow Poston** 1850–1893
- **Lucinda Catherine Poston** 1851–
- **Silas Marion Poston** 1854–1938
- **Melinda "Linda" Belle Poston** 1856–1948
- **(Jeremiah) Golden Poston** 1860–1922
- **Richard Henry Poston** 1862–1922
- **John Roland Poston** 1864–1936
- **(Frances) Mary Poston** 1865–1932
- **William Grant Poston** 1868–
- **Elsie Poston** 1869–1875
- **Imogene "Emma" Comfort Poston** 1871–
- **Irene Poston** 1874–1888

Sources

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- **1880 United States Federal Census**
- **1880 United States Federal Census**
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- **Illinois, County Marriages, 1800-1940**
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- **U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900**
- **U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current**
- **U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860-1918**
- **Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012**

1 May 1875 • Kasota, Le Sueur, Minnesota
eldest son, Ashford, marries here; Silas (20) oldest of nine children at home; [ref: Rev. Edward D. Neill. History of Washington County. North Star, Minneapolis, 1881, says "removed here in 1871 for four years"]

Age 44 — **Death of Jeremiah Poston**
2 Dec 1876 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota

Age 48 — **Residence**
1880 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota, United States
widowed; Silas (25, widower) is back home; also five younger children and a maid

Age 52 — **Residence**
1 May 1885 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
five children from Irene (11) to Golden (26) still at home

Age 54 — **Death**
13 Dec 1886 • Forest Lake, Washington, Minnesota
burial: Cedar Hill Cemetery, Chisago, Minnesota

Relationship between Mary Cartwright & ***Figure of Eight***

Mary F Cartwright (1832 - 1886)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
son of Mary F Cartwright
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Siblings of Mary Cartwright

Children of John Cartwright & Thankful Whitney

William Andrew Cartwright (1827-1880) m. Mary Ann Russell (1835-)

Older brother William started farming with their widowed mother in Illinois. His marriage to Mary was shortened by her early death, possibly in childbirth.

Lucy Cartwright (1835-1911) m. John D Linthicum (1831-1865); m. Hugh A Campbell (1831-1910)

Younger sister Lucy, born in Ohio, would live out her life in Illinois. She lost her first husband, a farmer, from Civil War injuries. Her second husband, Hugh, was a civil engineer of Scottish descent. Upon their marriage, they formed a blended family with at least three of his children and her own Ida, who would always live with them. She and Hugh grew old together in an 'old folks home'.

Francis M Cartwright (1837-) m. Mary E Long (1846-)

Little brother Francis was the first sibling to be born in Illinois. He would be the only one of Mary's family to travel west with the Poston Family group. He lived with Mary and Jeremiah until enlistment in the Civil War, immediately after which he married, their 1865 wedding reportedly being the first performed in Forest Lake Village. They continued farming in Minnesota, where their two children were born, before eventually retiring in Missouri. For about a decade in the middle, they lived in Kansas where Francis was a janitor.

Emeline Cartwright (1840-1884) m. John Horton Owens (1836-1910)

Emeline stayed in Illinois, where she married a New York-born blacksmith. They had eight children. After her early death at age 44, John remarried, and his second wife, Missouri, helped to raise the youngest children, along with her own by a previous marriage.

Elsie Ann Cartwright (1842-1923) m. William McClelland (1842-1872); m. (William) Nelson Carey (1833-1908)

The circumstances of Elsie's first marriage in Illinois are unclear. William McClelland may have died or he may have remarried. In any event, Elsie, still without issue, was living with Francis' family in Forest Lake, Minnesota at the time of the 1870 U.S. Census, working as an 'apartment housekeeper'. Her 2nd marriage was in Kasota, Le Sueur County, at the time that the Poston/Cartwright Clan were in residence, and there the first two of four Carey children were born. Nelson would bring two children into this marriage. His work as a well-digger would lead to Northfield, and later St. Paul, Minnesota.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (23 Nov 2015; rev. 21 Feb 2018)]

Narrative: *"*A Good Life*"*

"You should write your story", my husband said to me one day when we had just arrived in Minnesota territory. He was excited and had been writing a little narrative about his own life. *"Maybe, one day when I have time,"* I replied. Well, that was in 1855, and it is now 1885, and I guess I have time. It's been almost 10 years since Jeremiah left me. He died too young! I'm still in Forest Lake, and I'm still running a household at the age of 52, with six children still at home, if you can believe! I guess that's what happens when you have a dozen of them and you spoil them.

I've seen his little story of, course. It's interesting that, for a man, his wife and children are an adjunct to a full life, wherein his parents and siblings, not to mention himself(!), play the central roles. Well, I can tell you, after marrying young and having 11 surviving children, and a few that didn't, what the center of *my* life has been.

We started our family in the six years we lived in Illinois where I had been raised. We had our first child, Ashford, there, born when I was only 16, and two more there after that. It happened with us, as it usually does with women, that when we made the move to Minnesota, I left my parental family, whereas James brought his with him. Well, a bunch of them anyway. It's true that my little brother, Francis, also came with us to Minnesota, but he didn't stay with us long. First, he was off to that blame war, and then he was married and on his own, and then he moved to Kansas, and Missouri soon after. So, for most of my life, the Postons have been my family — those that came with us, and, especially, the ones we raised ourselves.

Jeremiah was right, our township did get named 'Wyoming'. Of course, in those days we couldn't have known that there would eventually be a state named that, as we of European stock peopled this land from one ocean to the other. Other than a brief stint in Kasota, Le Sueur County, we have lived out our lives right here. While we have never actually moved, political boundaries and jurisdictions keep changing, so every time the census man has come to call we have had a different 'official' address. It hasn't help that particular confusion that the 160 acres we homesteaded actually bridges two counties. Most of our land is in Wyoming Township, Chisago County, but the wonderful log home that Jeremiah built us, and where we still live, on the north shore of Forest Lake, is, actually, in Washington County. I'm referring to Jeremiah, my husband, of course (I sometimes call him 'James'). Jeremiah, our son, (we call him 'Golden', named after Mother Thankful's 2nd husband), is still here with his family, running the farm. At this point, my five youngest are also still at home with me.

Poor Silas, our third-born, married a local-born Wyoming girl when she was only 16, same as I was when I started having babies. After Emma died of typhoid while still a teenager, Silas was so devastated that his hair all turned white. He came back home briefly after her passing, until marrying a St. Paul-born Irish girl, Rachel, whose parents farm in this area.

Our Malinda Belle married Rachel's brother, John McCurdy, so we are well-tied to that family. At the moment, both young families are close by with two or three children each, and Rachel's expecting

another at any moment.

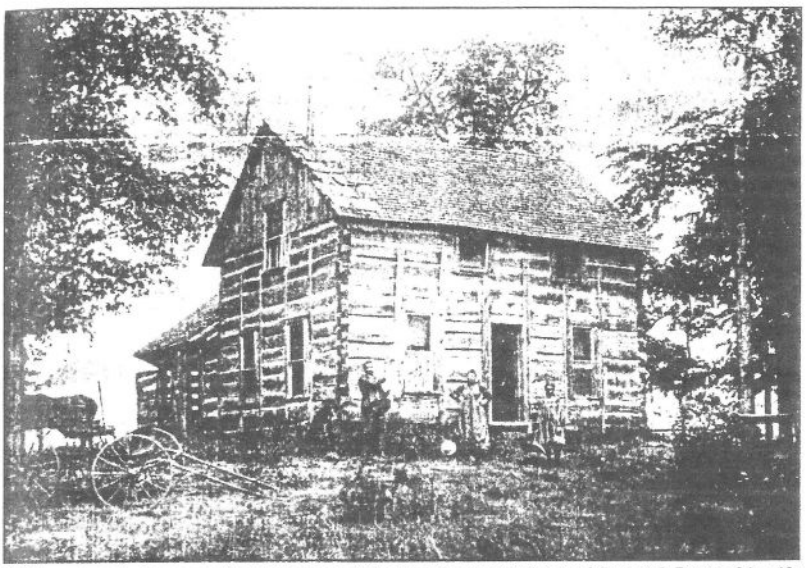
Our Richard, named after his Poston grandfather, married a French-Canadian girl, Lucy Rioux. They are also at Forest Lake with little Uri. Son Ashford and family are close by, too, as is dear sister-in-law, Rebecca, with some of her Simmons clan. She caught most of my babies, and is midwife and nurse to pretty well everyone for miles around. She was the nurse, and I was the teacher.

I've got a dozen grandchildren so far, and too many grand-nieces and grand-nephews to keep track of. So, you see my life has been centered around my husband, my husband's family, our children and theirs — the role of wife and mother and grandmother. Maybe, the day will come when society will be different for us women, but, for me, I have no complaints. I have had a good life, and still do!

Mary Cartwright Poston, August 1885, Forest Lake, Washington County, Minnesota [as imagined by 2*nd* Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, June 2013; rev. 17 Feb 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Reflections of Forest Lake, Elsie Vogel, Reflections 1893-1993



This two-story log house on the north shore of Forest Lake was the home of Jeremiah Poston, his wife and their eleven children. A portion of the original floor has been preserved by Lee Perrault, present owner of a home built on the log house site.

"Blab School"

In 1861, Mary Poston made an important contribution to the education of the children of the few settlers; she started a *"blab school."* Using an elementary speller and the few books available, she taught the children by having them repeat out loud the spelling words and reading stories to them. While the children were learning, she continued caring for her house, cooking, and baking. The school term ran three months.

The Poston's two-story log cabin was located on the north shore of Forest Lake. Lee Perrault, present owner of the Poston property, appreciates the history of the homestead. He has retained a portion of the original floor in his home.

Earlier Ancestry

The Cartwrights of Virginia, Ohio, and Illinois

The origins of the father of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Mary F Cartwright (1832-1886), are not, as yet, verified. We do know that a John M Cartwright, was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, sometime between 1796 and 1810, with 1806 being the generally accepted date. It is reported that upon the death of a William Cartwright (1792-1825) in Orange Township, Meigs County, Ohio in 1825, "*John M. posted bond and was also awarded one of the larger gifts from William's estate*".

This William Cartwright, also of Loudoun, Virginia, married Mary "Polly" Hoyt (1787-1871) on 5 Mar 1811 in Athens County, Ohio. This couple is named by some researchers as John's parents, but they would have been very young to bear John (not to mention being unmarried) in 1806. It is more likely that William and John were brothers. William and Mary did have four well-documented children between 1813 and 1817 — all born in Athens and Meigs, adjacent counties in Ohio.

There is a plausible link between William and a Caleb Cartwright, who reportedly sold William half of his land in about 1813. Caleb was born in England in 1738, married a Mary Pettit in New Jersey in 1770, where they had a son, Joel, in 1782. While Joel Cartwright was born in Warren County, New Jersey, he married in Mason County, Virginia, in 1810, suggesting that the parental family might have been there at the time of the known Virginia births of William and John Cartwright in 1792 and 1806, respectively.

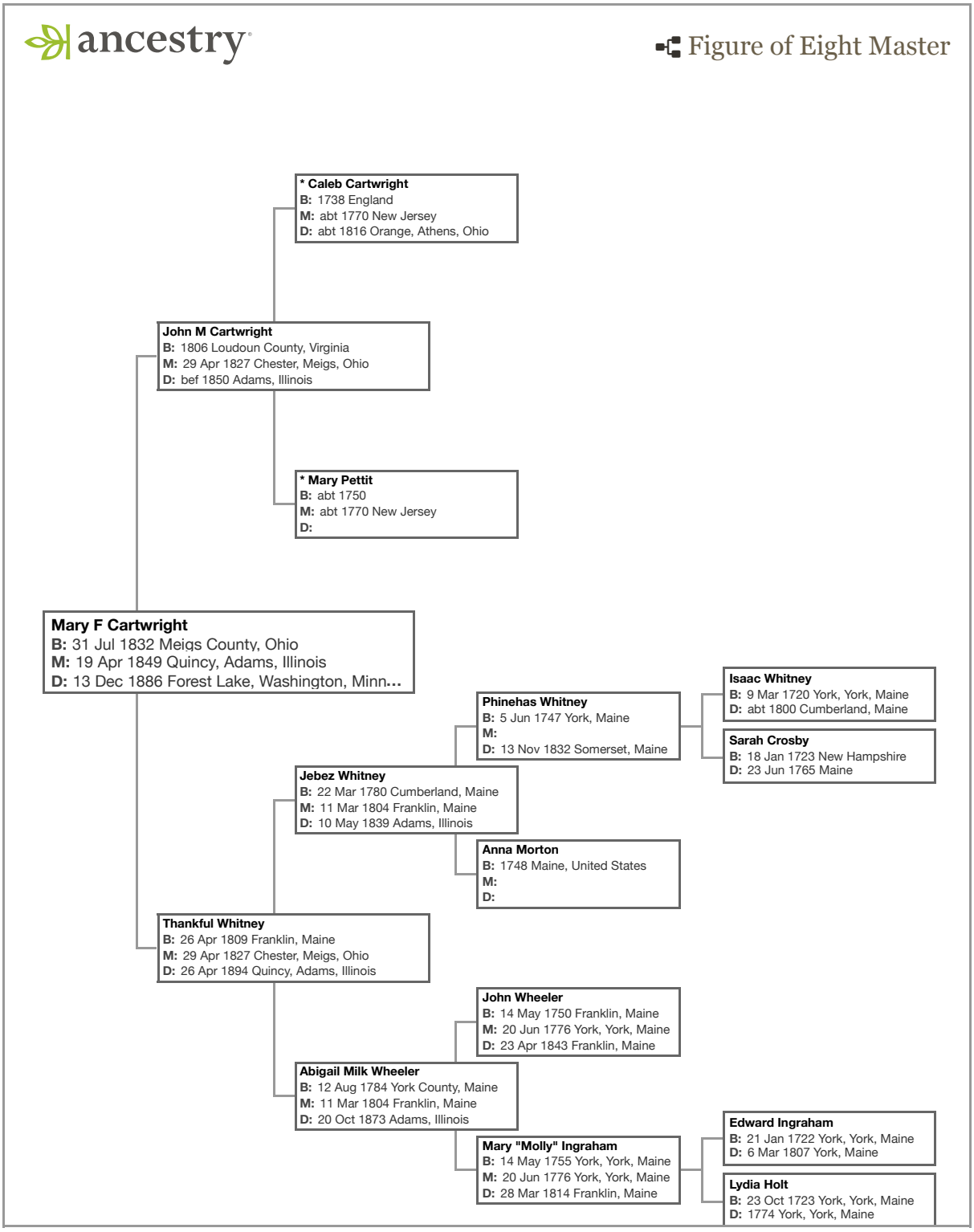
Speculation: that * Caleb Cartwright (1738-1816) and * Mary Pettit (1750-) are parents to Joel, William and John Cartwright, thus ***Figure of Eight*** 4th great-grandparents.

In April 1827, John Cartwright married a New England-born Quaker, Thankful Whitney (1809-1894). They proceeded to bear six children between 1827 and 1842, the three eldest, which includes our great-grandmother Mary F (Frances?), being born in Meigs County, Ohio. About 1836, the family relocated to Adams County, Illinois, where Mary's three younger siblings were born. John apparently died there sometime before September 1850, as he was not with the family at the time of the enumeration of the U.S. Census on the 16th of that month.

The Cartwrights and the Postons had evidently been acquainted when both families lived in Virginia, as Jeremiah Poston sought out the Cartwright Family in Ohio when he made is first horseback foray to the West, at a time when his future wife, Mary, was still just a little girl. He sought her out again years later in 1849, in Adams County, Illinois, where they would marry and settle for several years. Jeremiah and Mary's three eldest children were born there, before the family's relocation to Minnesota. Mary's two youngest siblings, Francis M Cartwright (1837-1920), and Elsie Ann (1842-1923), would long be part of the Minnesota-life of the Poston/Cartwright Family.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (23 Dec 2015; rev. 21 Feb 2018)]

Mary Cartwright Poston Origin Pyramid



The Whitneys of Herfordshire, Massachusetts, and Maine

Mary Cartwright Poston's mother, Thankful Whitney (1809-1894), ***Figure of Eight*** 3rd great-grandmother, came from a long and distinguished line of Whitneys, well-documented back to the time of William the Conqueror, the Norman Knight whose decisive victory at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, ushered in an era of French rule in England.

Whitney

THE surname Whitney was originally a place name. The parish from which the family takes its name is located in County Hereford, England, upon the extreme Western border, adjoining Wales, and is traversed by the lovely Wye River. The name of the place doubtless comes from the appearance of the river, meaning in Saxon, white water, from *hwit*, white, and *ey*, water. The English ancestry of John Whitney, the immigrant, who settled at Watertown, Massachusetts, has been established by Henry Melville and presented in an exquisitely printed and illustrated volume. Very few American families have their English genealogy in such well authenticated and satisfactory form. An abstract of the English ancestry is given below:

(I) TURSTIN, "the Fleming," otherwise known as Turstin de Wigmore, probably also as Turstin, son of Rolf, and Turstin "the White," was a follower of William the Conqueror. He is mentioned in the Domesday Book as an extensive landholder in Herefordshire and the Marches of Wales. He married Agnes, daughter of Alured de Merleberge, a Norman baron of Ewias Castle, in the Marches of Wales.

(II) EUSTACE, son of Turstin, was a benefactor of the monastery of St. Peter in Gloucester. He or one of his immediate descendants took the surname De Whitney from Whitney of the Wye, in the Marches of Wales, where his principal castle was located. The estate comprised over two thousand acres, and remained in the family until 1893, when it was sold, there being no member of the family to hold it. The castle has entirely disappeared, but it is believed to be in ruins under the Wye, which has in the course of years changed its path. The castle was probably built on an artificial mound, surrounded by a moat fed by the river, which gradually undermined the castle, which was at last disintegrated.

(III) SIR ROBERT DE WHITNEY, a direct descendant of Eustace, was living in 1242, and was mentioned in the "Testa de Nevill." Three or four intervening generations cannot be stated with certainty.

(IV) SIR EUSTACE DE WHITNEY, son of Sir Robert, gave deed to the monastery of St. Peter in 1280, referring to and confirming the deed of his ancestors above mentioned. He was Lord of Pencombe, Little Cowarn, and Whitney in 1281; was granted free warren by Edward I in 1284; summoned to wars beyond the seas in 1297; tenant of part of the manor of Huntington in 1299; in Scotch War in 1301. He was possibly grandson instead of son of Sir Robert.

1

[1] Whitney, Wyne and Allied Families: genealogical and biographical. The American Genealogical Society. New York, 1928 (copyright 1997-2018: Ancestry.com)

As noted in the Whitney story, our forebear, Turstin, son of Rolf, with his marriage to Agnes de Merleberge, the daughter of a Norman baron, would mark our ancestry back about 28 generations! Their descendant, Sir Eustace de Whitney, Lord of Pencombe, Little Cowarn and Whitney, being the first continuously-documented Whitney, would be our 20th great-grandfather.

The story thereafter continues to be an intriguing one, positively littered with land barons, lords, parliamentarians, sheriffs, treaty negotiators, knights and knight marshals, soldiers, king attendants. The wives of these men were variously ladies, heiresses, queen governesses, queen confidants, and included two direct descendants of King William himself: Sybil Baskerville (1522-), our 12th great-grandmother; and Constance Touchett (1443-1467), our 15th great-grandmother.

The first of our branch of the lineage to emigrate to America, John Whitney, ***Figure of Eight*** 9th great-grandfather, was born 1583, St. Margarets, Westminster, London, England and died, 1 June 1673, Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts. He apprenticed as a merchant tailor, married in England, brought his wife, Eleanor, and five sons aboard the *"Elizabeth and Ann"* in April 1635, settling on 16 acres in Watertown, Massachusetts. He was admitted as a freeman in 1636, was appointed constable (1641), selectman (1638-1655), town clerk (1655).

Relationship between John Whitney & ***Figure of Eight***

John Whitney (1583 - 1673)
9th great-grandfather
V
Benjamin Whitney (1643 - 1723)
son of John Whitney
V
Nathaniel Whitney (1680 - 1768)
son of Benjamin Whitney
V
Isaac Whitney (1720 - 1800)
son of Nathaniel Whitney
V
Phinehas Whitney (1747 - 1832)
son of Isaac Whitney
V
Jebez Whitney (1780 - 1839)
son of Phinehas Whitney
V
Thankful Whitney (1809 - 1894)
daughter of Jebez Whitney
V
Mary F Cartwright (1832 - 1886)
daughter of Thankful Whitney
V
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
son of Mary F Cartwright
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

"Among those of the family who have attained distinction in this country are: William Dwight Whitney (1827-1894)*, an eminent philologist, who became professor of Sanskrit at Yale; and Josiah Dwight Whitney* (1819-1896), *a geologist of the first rank who became head of the State Geological Survey of California."*[2]

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Feb 2018)]

Cartwright Surname

The 'Cartwright' surname *might* have originated as a *locational* name from Cauterets, Normandy, akin to Cateray (found in Roll of Battle Abbey, Hastings, England), and De Ceterith (a tenant-in-chief in The Doomsday Book) — both sources dating from the Norman Conquest, 1066.

It is, however, more generally accepted that Cartwright is an *occupational* name for *"a maker of carts".* The name derives from the Middle English (1200-1500), a transposed form of the Old English (pre 7th Century) *craet*, or an adaptation of the Old Norse form *kartr, 'cart',* paired with the Old English *wyrhta, wryhta, '*craftsman, wright' — a derivative of *wyrcan,* 'to work, to make'. The surname in this form is attested from the late 13th century. Variants from this root include: le Cartwereste (1275, Worcestershire); Cartwrytte (1290, Cheshire); le Cartewryght (circa 1300, Yorkshire).

As an English vocabulary word, 'cartwright' reportedly does not occur before the 15th Century. The surname, in the current spelling, has been found in England since the late 16th Century, today most frequently in Yorkshire and the Midlands. A John Cartwright was an early settler in Virginia (1623, James City). The earliest documented ***Figure of Eight*** Cartwright progenitor, our 3rd great-grandfather, John M Cartwright, of apparent English ancestry, was born in Virginia in about 1806.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (22 Dec 2015)]

References:

i. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Cartwright#ixzz3v4WrHMwt
ii. http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=cartwright
iii. https://www.houseofnames.com/cartwright-family-crest
iv. http://archive.org/stream/cu31924029805771/cu31924029805771_djvu.txt

Poston/Cartwright Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Jeremiah Poston & Mary Cartwright

Children of Ashford Poston & Effie May Davis

Maude Annette Poston (1878-1922)

Children of Lucinda Poston & John Koller

Mary Koller (1869-)
Julia Koller (1872-)
George Koller (1875-)

Children of Son-in-Law John Koller & 2nd wife, Pauline Long

Archie Eugene Koller (1882-1966)
Mabel H Koller (1885-1962)

Child of Silas Poston & Emma Fullerton

*Baby Boy Poston (1874-)

Children of Silas Poston & Rachel McCurdy

[2] *ibid.*

Frank Ernest Poston (1881-1959)
Bertha Mae Poston (1883-1952)
Sidona Poston (1885-1968)
George Silas Poston (1887-1918)
Claude Roland Poston (1890-1990)
Martha “Mattie” I Poston (1894-1976)
Richard Golden Poston (1896-1991)
Mary Elizabeth Poston (1900-1965)

Children of Malinda Belle “Linda” Poston & John McCurdy

Mathilda “Mattie” P McCurdy (1881-1942)
Myrtle Belle McCurdy (1882-1967)
Jesse Claude McCurdy (1884-1888)
Norma Hazel Rene McCurdy (1891-1959)

Step-children of Golden Poston & Mary Jaax (Abel)

Jenny Abel (1879-)
(Mary) “Mae” M Abel (1884-1947)

Children of Golden Poston & Mary Jaax

Florence Gertrude Poston (1898-1946)
John Matthew Poston (1899-1949)

Children of Richard Poston & Lucy Rioux

Uriah “Uri” L Poston (1885-1965)
Iva Irene D Poston (1887-1975)
John Earl Poston (1888-1915)
Herbert Lesley Poston (1893-1980)
Howard Joseph Poston (1899-1980)

Children of John Poston & Gertrude Jaax

Ethel Madeline Poston (1890-1961)

Children of Mary Poston & John Wiltse

Blanche Wiltse (1887-)
Guy Elmer Wiltse (1889-)
Ralph A Wiltse (1892-)
John Stanley Wiltse (1894-)

Children of Emma Poston & Curtis Lindley

Adele F Lindley (1909-)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

God's Acre

In a talk given to the Washington County Historical Society on 17 January 1946, shortly before her death, one-time Forest Lake resident, Florence Poston Hansen, described the old Forest Lake Cemetery, now the Cedar Hill Cemetery, in nearby Wyoming Township, Chisago, Minnesota, where many of her relatives, and, eventually, she herself, lie buried:

“The land for the cemetery was given some time after 1856, for on 29 April 1856, when Buchanan was president, Jeremiah Poston was given a quitclaim deed from one Thomas Connolly, acting for President Buchanan as land agent at Stillwater. For the sum of $200 he became owner of a quarter-section of land in Chisago County, Territory of Minnesota. From these acres, one acre was set aside as a burial plot. It is the seven original families…Shiels, Stipes, Simmons, Veiths, Postons, Peoples and Marshes…whose

bones lie in this old neglected, almost forgotten cemetery, whose names are listed on the quaint, queer old white markers…who make up Forest Lake's original roll of honor…gathered together in a certain acre…often known by the ancient Saxon phrase 'God's Acre'."

[Florence Poston (1898-1946) was a granddaughter of area pioneers, Jeremiah Poston (1819-1876) and Mary Cartwright (1832-1886), through their son, Jeremiah Golden Poston (1860-1922). Her talk, *"relating the beginnings of Forest Lake and sidelights on men and events in the pioneer days"*, was transcribed by Mrs. A. R. Lake for publication in serial form in the Forest Lake Times during January and February 1946. Excerpts were reproduced for the Diamond Jubilee Edition on 15 September 1949.]

[submitted by ***Ryon C Johnston*** (9 Nov 2014; rev. 27 Mar 2015)]

Jeremiah & Mary Poston History

POSTON, JEREMIAH/MARY

Jeremiah was one of the first three settlers on the old Territorial Road which came through the southern end of Wyoming Township around Lake Comfort. His wife Mary, whom he married 19 Apr. 1849, was born in Ohio in 1833.

When she was a child the family moved to Adams, County, Illinois. Six years after their marriage they moved to southern Wyoming Township, then to another farm near Forest Lake. They moved to LeSeuer, MN, in 1872 for four years. Jeremiah died 2 Dec. 1872..

They had 11 children. They were Ashford C., Lucinda/Lurinda, Silas M., Bell, J. Golden, Richard H. John R., Mary T. F., William G., Emma C. and Irene.

Ashford was born in 1850, died in 1893, age 43. Lucinda married John G. Koller, by R. M. Fullerton. The Poston family is listed as family 38 of Wyoming Township in the 1865 census. At the time of the census eight children were listed along with a soldier, Francis Courtwright, who was still in the service in the Civil War as of 1 June 1865. I don't know what his connection was with the Poston family. There are no Postons listed in the 1875 census, and Ashford is he only Poston listed in county cemeteries.

The following information is from Daniel Olson of Madison, WI: "I am fairly certain that Branson Stipe's wife was Eliza P. Poston. Her father was Richard Poston fom Hampshire, County, VA (1790-1863). Her grandfather was Col. Elias Poston from Charles County , MD (1747-1802). Jeremiah would be her half brother.

"Another half brother of Eliza's, Richard, also came and settled in the same area (Pierce County, WI). The only information I have on Branson's relocation from Chisago County is a homestead grant issued to him on March 3, 1880 at the VBenson land office for 80 acres identified as the W ½ SW T117N R38W, Section 28

Elias Poston, Eliza's grandfather, was a veteran of the Civil War born 14 Nov 1847 in Trinity Parish, Charles, MD, and died 20 Sep 1802 in Hampshire, VA. He was the son of William Poston, 1721-1777, and Priscilla Noe , who died in 1797.

Elias married Rebecca Deaver Cheshire, the daughter of Samuel Cheshire and Ann Robbins. Rebecca was born in 1749 and died in 1832 in Ohio.

William Poston, father of Elias , was the son of John Poston and Susanna Holmes. John was from Shrewsbury, England, emigrated to the U.S. and died in Maryland. He was born in 1685 and his wife Susanna in 1694. They were married in 1712.

[Genealogical data reported in The People of Chisago County (19th Century): Book 5 (P-R), p. 90. Compiled by Earl W. Leaf]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 21 Feb 2018

Vogel, Elsie. Reflections of Forest Lake

Early Settlers

Many of Forest Lake's first settlers left a comfortable life in the Eastern and Southern United States. Some, too, escaped intolerable conditions in foreign countries.

Some of the settlers were well-educated, especially in English. There also were some who spoke only in their native language, predominantly Swedish, French, or German. The pioneers displayed courage and fortitude as they faced unknown dangers in a wilderness. They coped with a difficult way of life, including learning to live with the native American Indians.

They traveled on overland routes, by wagons, ox carts, stagecoaches, and steamship up the Mississippi River. Later, they came by train. Our first settlers brought along their customs, talents, religion, music, and recipes, as well as their sense of adventure, determination, and a spirit of fun.

Recorded history tells us that Louis Shiels, a German immigrant, was the area's first settler family in 1855. Wilson was the second settler, followed by the Rice family (the first names are unknown). Mr. and Mrs. George Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Poston, and the Vieth family, each settled here during 1856. Their descendants are now third-, fourth-, and fifth-generation residents living here today. Some of these families have left recorded histories for us to enjoy.

George Simmons and Rebecca Poston Simmons

George Simmons and Rebecca Poston were married in 1842 in Ohio and eventually moved West, settling in Forest Lake. George, described as a white-haired gentleman, liked debating and quizzing teachers. The family learned to live with their Indian neighbors by sharing and exchanging food.

Rebecca, or Aunt Becky as she was called, was educated in Boston when she was a young girl. She learned midwifery and nursing. Her education became very useful in the wilderness as she learned to gather her own medicinal herbs. Time after time she took her lantern and trudged through the woods to aid the sick or dying.

George and Rebecca were the parents of Rebecca Ann, the first white child born in Forest Lake. They also had nine sons. The Simmons' name remains prominent, as their descendants have not forgotten their heritage.



Jeremiah Poston



Mary Cartwright Poston

Jeremiah Poston - Mary Cartwright Poston

Jeremiah Poston, brother of Aunt Becky Simmons, was born in Hanging Rock, West Virginia, into a wealthy family. Instead of attending the public school, he was taught by a tutor. In 1856, Jeremiah Poston and his wife, Mary Cartwright Poston, settled in Forest Lake on a 160-acre homestead with their first two babies. Their homestead was one of the first two or three farms in the community.

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 6/8

McCurdy/Riddle Family

Archibald McCurdy

Elizabeth Riddle

McCurdy/Riddle Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Archibald McCurdy (1834-1886) and Elizabeth Riddle (1835-1877), are both reported as being Scots-Irish and Gaelic-speaking. They met and married in Philadelphia, where Elizabeth and her widowed mother had been boarding since Elizabeth's girlhood. Mother Rachael, would make the move west with the young family.

Archibald and Elizabeth's first child, John, was born in Philadelphia in 1854. Their second child, Matthew, was born in Minnesota Territory in 1857. Resident in St. Paul, Archibald was initially a cigar maker, later reporting himself to the federal census-takers (1860) as a 'day-labourer'. In 1861, they purchased 80 acres of land in Linwood Township, Anoka County — commuting-distance north of the 'Twin Cities' of Minneapolis and St. Paul. By that time, they had three children, and would proceed to have four more at their new venue.

Nearby, at the new location, was a John McCurdy with his wife Jane and son John. The common history and close interactions with this family strongly suggest kinship — John Sr. and our Archibald may well have been brothers.

Their chosen location was not good farming country. After Elizabeth's death in 1877, and until his own death in 1886 of 'Bright's Disease', a hereditary kidney disorder that today would be called nephritis, Archibald would supplement his livelihood as a carpenter. Eldest daughter, Rachel, our 2nd great-grandmother, just 19 years old when her mother died, would continue to reside at home well beyond her 1880 marriage, helping care for her two youngest brothers, who were still teenagers when Father died.

The children of family all remained close by, mostly farming, as long as their parents lived, although several of them did also worked in the Twin Cities, sometimes cohabiting with siblings, sometimes commuting. John and Rachel would cross x marry Poston siblings.

Once her younger brothers were quite grown-up, Rachel and Husband Silas purchased land further west, sequentially in Wilkin, Clay, Red Lake and Pennington Counties, and continued farming. Rachel's brother, Archibald Jr., would follow the Poston family west, and was for a time a policemen at their then-nearest centre, Breckenridge, Minnesota.

Eldest son, John, who with his wife, Melinda Poston, had had his own farm in Linwood Township, would turn to a career in interior decorating work in Minneapolis, and later Washington, for a time interrupted by a stint as a real estate agent.

Brother Matthew, also a farmer initially, would uproot and relocate to Washington State, where he became first a manufacturer of cedar shakes, and later a commercial fisherman. One of the younger brothers, Daniel, followed the trades and the moves of his older brothers, ultimately emigrating to Saskatchewan, Canada, in 1920 as a 'land seeker'.

Three of the family's children produced issue, and there would eventually be 18 grandchildren, none of whom would have met their grandmother, Elizabeth. At the time of Archibald's death there were nine grandchildren.

Interestingly, Archibald's estate was not probated until 1907, when the Anoka County Probate Court confirmed that an "Arthur" McCurdy, who died intestate in 1886, was in fact our Archibald McCurdy, and that, at long last, a matter of determining the 'descent' of the land that the family had owned could be resolved.

This is part of our story . . .

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (9 Jan 2016; rev. 26 Feb 2018)]

ancestry



Archibald McCurdy

BIRTH 1834 • Ireland
DEATH 25 JUN 1886 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
1834 • Ireland

Age 13 — **Arrival**
1847 • St John, New Brunswick, Canada
possible record: aboard J J Cooke's 'Charles Napier' from Derry; record shows from Ballycastle; other McCurdys on same ship, from Ballycastle and nearby Rathlin Island, both in County Antrim

Age 19 — **Marriage**
abt 1853 • Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1st child is born in Philadelphia, February 1854
Elizabeth Riddle (1835–1877)

Age 21 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
abt 1855 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
based on children's birth records

Age 23 — **Residence**
21 Sep 1857 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
cigar maker; with Elizabeth & two children: John, born Pennsylvania, 1854 and Matthew born Minnesota, 1857

Age 26 — **Residence**
26 Jun 1860 • Ward 4, St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
day labourer; new baby daughter Rachel and Elizabeth's Mother Rachael (50)

Age 27 — **Land Purchase**
9 Jan 1861 • Linwood Township, Anoka, Minnesota
80 acres in E1/2 of SE1/4 of S26 T34 R22, as clarified in probate records, suggesting that all subsequent addresses are political boundary changes, and do not reflect relocations

Age 29 — **Residence**
1 Jul 1863 • Bethel, Minnesota, United States
possible record of Civil War Draft registration

Age 31 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
on land purchase 9 Jan 1861; add Martha J, born 1863; next door is Bro (?) John, with Wife Jane and Son John S McCurdy

Age 36 — **Residence**
2 Aug 1870 • Bethel, Anoka, Minnesota
farmer; add Archie, born 1868, and Daniel, born 1869; Agricultural Survey says 15/160 acres "improved"

Age 41 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
add Joseph, born 1873; nearby are Nephew (?) John Steel McCurdy's future in-laws, the Broadbents

Age 43 — **Death of Wife Elizabeth**
3 Feb 1877 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota

Age 46 — **Residence**
8 Jun 1880 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
widowed carpenter; still at home: Rachel (19), Daniel (10), Joseph (7); Daughter Mattie (17) is a maid and student in town; married Sons John & Matthew both farm nearby (possibly on parent's land)

Age 51 — **Residence**

Family

Parents

*** Daniel McCurdy** 1790–
***Rachel (McCurdy)** 1795–

Spouse & Children

Elizabeth Riddle 1835–1877

- **John Dow McCurdy** 1854–1928
- **Matthew McCurdy** 1857–1933
- **Rachel McCurdy** 1860–1947
- **Martha "Mattie" Jane McCurdy** 1862–1895
- **Archibald "Archie" McCurdy Jr.** 1865–1925
- **Daniel McCurdy** 1868–1935
- **Joseph McCurdy** 1873–1918

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1860 United States Federal Census
1870 United States Federal Census
1870 United States Federal Census
1880 United States Federal Census
Ancestry Family Trees
Irish Passenger Lists, 1847-1871
Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
Minnesota, Wills and Probate Records, 1801-1999
U.S., Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865

1 May 1885 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
with three youngest sons (12-18) still at home

Age 52 — **Death**
25 Jun 1886 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
of Bright's disease

Probate
5 Mar 1907 • Anoka, Anoka, Minnesota
Anoka County Probate Court confirms that an "Arthur" McCurdy, who died intestate in the 1886, was in fact Archibald McCurdy, and thus a matter of determining descent of land that he had owned could at last be resolved

Relationship between Archibald McCurdy & ***Figure of Eight***

Archibald McCurdy (1834 - 1886)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
Rachel McCurdy (1860 - 1947)
daughter of Archibald "Arthur" McCurdy
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Rachel McCurdy
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Narrative: *"I Told Them I Was a Carpenter"*

There never really was any choice about going West. We were amongst many to leave Ireland in those days. *"The land of un-opportunity"*, I called it. But Philadelphia was no place to stay either. It was hard to find work, for one thing. There were more immigrants than residents by 1850, and the City could only use so many street cops. Even in the *"City of Brotherly Love"*, there were NO DOGS NOR IRISH signs posted everywhere in those days. I did what I could, of course. I had kin there, Cousin John and Ann Jane and their deaf-mute son Simon. With their help, I picked up a trade. Like most of us Irish escaping the Great Potato Famine, I had been a farmer's son at home and I knew how to work, but my goal was to get to Minnesota on a farm of my own.

I was lucky to find Elizabeth. Of course, I inherited her widowed mother too, but that was a small price to pay. We saved our money and rode the Baltimore & Ohio as far as Toledo. That was the end of the line in those days. There was a muster point there for continuing West by covered wagon. I got us a spot on one. Mother and daughter and Son John in the wagon, with me walking beside mostly — sometimes driving the team when the 'governor' needed a break. The pace of 15 miles or so a day made quite a change from the steam train, but we were nicely settled in St. Paul before Baby Matthew came along.

We made it in time for the first census in the Minnesota Territories. They were getting ready to make a brand-new state in those days. I told the census taker I was a cigar maker, which I was that year, having learned how to do that work in Philadelphia, but, truth be known, I turned my hand to pretty much anything that came along.

It took us almost 10 years, but we made it to a farm, joining Brother John and Jane and their little boy, whom lived nearby Wyoming Township in Chisago County. While we were there, trying to get a start on a new life, cutting trees mostly, we met the Postons, from Virginia. They'd been Americans from the start, I guess — a tough bunch, and a bit self-important, but for whatever reasons we hit it off. Neighbours needing neighbours, I guess. Our John has married Melinda Poston. It looks like not just the one, but two, of our children will be marrying into that family.

Our little place is not much of a farm, really. What isn't hill or swamp is lake, and what soil there is, is sand. The area was all pine forest before the logging crews took the good trees. We cleared enough brush to pasture some cows, and, one way or another, we get by. Our place is now in Anoka County, but only because the boundary has changed along the way. Between the post office and the census takers, sometimes I don't know where to tell people we live. Sometimes it's Wyoming, then Bethel, and now it's Linwood.

Elizabeth died in February three years ago, way too young! She'd had a bad spell, and we'd had a bad Winter, and, well, she just didn't see it through. We put up a stone for her at the cemetery. A shady, peaceful place it is with lots of trees. I remember the Green family that started that gravesite on their farm when their daughter died. About the time that we moved here that place was called Holden Cemetery, after one of the local big shots. Now, everybody knows it just as 'Linwood'.

Thank goodness, our girls were able to help out after their mother died. Rachel is still at home, although she's 19 already. She has caught young Silas Poston's eye, so I guess it will soon just be the three young'uns and me left here on the home place. I've given up farming now — I just haven't had the heart for it since my Elizabeth died. John and Matthew have kind of taken over things with their new brides. When the census man came again the other day, I told him I was a carpenter.

Our Mattie is still in school and working as a live-in maid in Anoka with the Cutter family. Oscar Cutter is into life insurance, and his brother, Casmer, sells dry goods. They're good people, I'm thinkin'. Came all the way from Maine. It's quite a little town they've got going there now — I expect it'll be a real city one day.

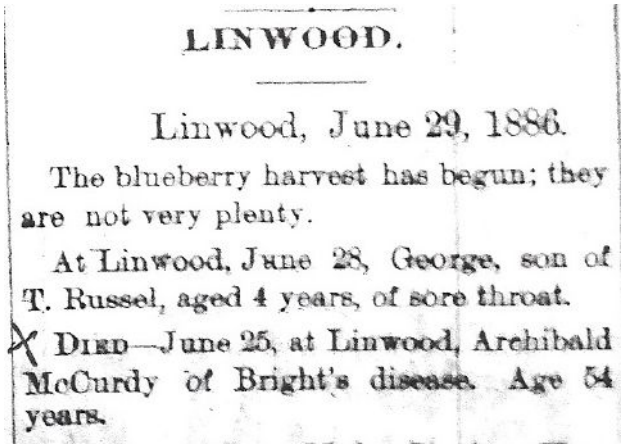
Archibald McCurdy, June 1880, Linwood Township, Anoka County, Minnesota [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, Feb 2013; 27 Feb 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Death Announcement

25 Jun 1886, Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota

Death announcement in Anoka County Union, 26 Jul 1886, (NB: Bright's Disease is an historical classification of hereditary kidney diseases that would be described in modern medicine as *acute* or *chronic nephritis*):



LINWOOD.

Linwood, June 29, 1886.

The blueberry harvest has begun; they are not very plenty.

At Linwood, June 28, George, son of T. Russel, aged 4 years, of sore throat.

DIED—June 25, at Linwood, Archibald McCurdy of Bright's disease. Age 54 years.

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 8 Jun 2014

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Archibald McCurdy

While we cannot confirm the family-of-origin of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Archibald McCurdy (1834-1886), we can speculate. Clues are offered by his daughter, Rachel, who repeatedly reported in census enumerations that her parents were *Gaelic*-speaking, and from Northern Ireland.

There were many Irish emigrants to eastern US and Canada at the time, some of whom moved on to the Midwest. It is reasonable, based primarily on geographic proximity, common heritage and history, to speculate on two close relatives, possibly brothers and their wives — Irish immigrants in Philadelphia in the mid-19th century who later relocated, becoming near-neighbours in Minnesota.

Speculated siblings of Archibald McCurdy:

*** John McCurdy (1824-1893) m. * Jane Lindsay (1827-1889)**

Speculated Brother John and his wife were living in Philadelphia in 1860, where their son John Steel was baptized in the Catholic faith. His eventual death announcement reported 1849 immigration from Ireland, and relocation to Minnesota in 1861.[1] John's parents are reported as Daniel and Rachel McCurdy.[2]

John and Jane farmed in Lent Township, Chisago County, as did Son John's Broadbent in-laws. Their farms were a 'stone's throw' from Archibald and Elizabeth's in neighbouring Linwood Township, Anoka County. (Interestingly, the 1865 Minnesota Census enumerated these families within Wyoming Township, Chisago County, reflecting changing political boundaries.) Later, John became a businessman and money-lender. He owned, in the town of Stacy, a commercial building which would long be known as the McCurdy Building. His death was by 'foul play' — a blow to the head. His funeral attendance was reported as one of the largest ever known in the district.

In the 1895 US Census, two of Archibald's sons, Daniel and Joe, were living with John Jr. and his wife, Mary Broadbent, as 'farm labourers', giving credence to the speculation of close kinship. John would become the postmaster at Lent.

*** James McCurdy (1831-) m. * Susan Jane Kennedy (1835-)**

Another speculated sibling is James, born in Ireland, married in Ireland (possibly County Antrim). At the time of registering for the Civil War draft, he was farming next door to (Brother?) Archibald. At the time of the 1865 Minnesota Census, he and Susan would have a female child, and be sharing a farmhouse at Monticello, Wright County, with the family of Barton Keene (possible in-laws?).

The naming of prospective parents is based on the Chisago County history work reported above for * John McCurdy.

Speculated parents of Archibald McCurdy: *** Daniel McCurdy (1790-) & * Rachel (McCurdy) (1795-)**

During the period between our Archibald's 1834 birth, and his 1855 move to Minnesota, he apparently met Elizabeth Riddle in Philadelphia. They married there in about 1853, and had their first child there in 1854. There was an Elizabeth Riddle attending church classes in the Old St George Methodist Episcopal Church, accepted into membership in 1842. Several Riddles, and many McCurdys, were part of that congregation at that time although not any of their known or speculated family members are listed, nor is Elizabeth and Archie's marriage.

There were also Carrs in that congregation, although none whose names correlate with the Carr family with whom Elizabeth and her mother boarded prior to Elizabeth's wedding.

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[1] Death announcement in North Branch review, 7 Jul 1893; as recorded in *From Prairie Chickens and Potatoes … to Houses: North Branch Regional History, Vol. II.* Max Malmquist, 2007, p. 189.

[2] Leaf, Earl W. 2010. *The People of Chisago County, (19th Century) Book Four.* Chisago County Historical Society, p. 42.

There were also a number of unknown McCurdys in the 'Twin Cities', and in Duluth, Minnesota, during the relevant period, mostly employed with the railroads.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (4 Jan 2016; rev 28 Feb 2018)]

The Scots-Irish Family of McCurdy

"The McKirdys were the principal possessors of the island of Bute at a very early period; they belonged to the tribes who possessed the western islands of Scotland, long under the Crown of Sweden. Subsequently James IV, King of Scotland in 1489, leased the Crown property in Bute, which in 1503 was embodied in one general charter of the 30th Parliament, land assigned to the MacKuredys, Makarartys, McVarathy, Stewarts, etc, the greater portion being assigned to the MacKuredys.

At the time of the Scottish restoration when persecutions, hardships and cruelties prevailed against the Presbyterians, the MacKirdys, who were of this faith and branch would likely have become extinct had not Pethrick and his four brothers fled from Scotland. In the spring of 1666 came the severest visitation of cruelties yet known and the Presbyterians arose in arms.

In the middle of November, 1666, occurred the rising; but all was against them, they were undisciplined, their horses were not trained, the royal army was powerful and soon scattered the rising forces; some was killed, many of the prisoners were executed and those of note who escaped were forfeited in life and fortune in absence.

In the latter part of November, 1666, the five MacKirdy brothers, Pethrick, David, William, John and Daniel escaped in an open boat and through a blinding snow storm sailed across the turbulent sea and after a dangerous voyage they sought shelter from the storm on one of the rocky islets near the north coast of Ireland, sailing on the third day to the mainland, they landed near the Giant's Causeway. After they located in Ireland they changed the spelling of their names to McCurdy. Pethrick located on a farm near Ballintoy in 'The Cairne'; Daniel settled at Ahoghill; David went to Ringsend, County Derry; John went to Derry but later went to America and William died unmarried. David's issue were girls; … all the McCurdys yet located trace their descent from Pethrick, John and Daniel." [3]

The three brothers who sired sons, bore lots of them, so there are a lot of McCurdy's in Ireland today, and a lot more who emigrated to Canada and America and other places — Australia and South Africa. John emigrated early, before the American Revolution. Of Daniel's legacy we have as yet little record. The reference cited here deals primarily with the lineage of Pethrick (Patrick), born ca 1648, who married Margaret Steward, thought to be descended from King Robert II of Scotland by his mistress Moire Leitch.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (2 Jan 2016)]

McCurdy Surname

'McCurdy' may be an anglicized form of Scottish *Gaelic Mac Mhuircheartaigh*, a *patronymic* from *Muircheartach*, a personal name composed of the elements *muir* 'sea' + *ceartach* 'ruler', hence: 'skilled seaman', sometimes: 'navigator'. Note that, the prefix *Mac*, meaning 'son of' in *Gaelic*, is variously rendered as *Mc* or *M'*.

Alternately, the name may have originated in about 1210, when the Scottish Isle of Butte in the Firth of Clyde, about twelve miles long and an average five miles in breadth, was inherited by Ruari ('Roderick'), a descendant of Norwegian kings, who had usurped the land from the native *Albanishe* tribes in 808. Ruari's descendants were called Macruari, subsequently Makurerdy, and were the majority on Butte in 1489, when James IV, King of Scotland, obtained the land and leased it back to its earlier occupants. Still

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3 Source: S-1880570486 Repository: #R-2145765600 Ancestry.com Publication: Online publication — Provo, UT: The Generations Network, Inc., 2005. Original data — McCurdy, Elmer D. E., ca 1915. *Historical geneology [sic] of the McCurdy family: a concise history of the McCurdys dating from 1489, including a history of their ancestry to Gilcrist Makurerdy, a Scottish Chief, and to Robert II, King of Scotland*; transcribed by: Patricia McCurdy Townsend 1994, Lubec, Maine.

later, Makurerdy became McKirdy. The names of McCurdy, McCurdey, McCurdie, McCready, McCurry, McQuady and other similar names are generally believed to have descended from the McKirdy stock. This is the apparent source of our line of McCurdys, who fled to Ireland during the 1666 Presbyterian Rebellion (see *The Scots-Irish Family of McCurdy* story).

While some of the McCurdys came to America as early as the 17th century, known *Gaelic*-speaking antecedent, ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Archibald McCurdy, emigrated from Northern Ireland, possibly via New Brunswick, Canada, in 1847, at the height (or depth!) of the Irish Potato Famine. He married an Irish-born woman, Elizabeth Riddle, in Philadelphia, and their first child was born there in 1854.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (11 March 2014; rev. 4 Jan 2016)]

References:

i. http://www.ancestry.ca/name-origin?surname=mccurdy
ii. http://www.orgsites.com/al/mccurdytree/index.html
iii. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/McCurdy
iv. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Mccurdy#ixzz2vJbFPJQY

ancestry



Elizabeth Riddle

BIRTH ABT 1835 • Ulster, Ireland
DEATH 3 FEB 1877 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
abt 1835 • Ulster, Ireland

Age 7 — **Residence**
18 Dec 1842 • Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
pos. rec.: accepted as member to Old St George Methodist Episcopal Church by Rev. J B Hagany ; also "Fanny"; Louisa, Caroline in church school in later years; see Moses and Martha, 1831 — pos. family connections?

Age 15 — **Death of Father**
bef 1850
Mother Rachael is single parent in 1850 US Census

Age 15 — **Residence**
22 Aug 1850 • Southwark Ward 1, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
with Mother Rachael (40) and the family of Malcolm W Carr; born Ireland

Age 18 — **Marriage**
abt 1853 • Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
1st child is born in Philadelphia, February 1854
Archibald McCurdy (1834–1886)

Age 22 — **Residence**
21 Sep 1857 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
Archibald is 'cigar maker'; with two children (1/12 & 2), the eldest born Pennsylvania

Age 25 — **Residence**
26 Jun 1860 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
with 'day labourer' spouse & three children (1/12-5); also Mother Rachael (50)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Wyoming, Chisago, Minnesota
with spouse & four children; nearby are future in-laws: Poston, Quist; next door to Archibald's brother (?) *John & Jane McCurdy and their son John Steel McCurdy

Age 35 — **Residence**
2 Aug 1870 • Bethel, Anoka, Minnesota
husband is a farmer near this little town of 45 homes; they have six children (1-15)

Age 40 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
theirs is one of 30 families; farming; now seven children (3-20)

Age 42 — **Death**
3 Feb 1877 • Linwood, Anoka, Minnesota
burial at Linwood Township Cemetery

Family

Parents

***(Charles) James Riddle** 1807–1850

Rachael (Riddle) 1810–1879

Spouse & Children

Archibald McCurdy 1834–1886

- **John Dow McCurdy** 1854–1928
- **Matthew McCurdy** 1857–1933
- **Rachel McCurdy** 1860–1947
- **Martha "Mattie" Jane McCurdy** 1862–1895
- **Archibald "Archie" McCurdy Jr.** 1865–1925
- **Daniel McCurdy** 1868–1935
- **Joseph McCurdy** 1873–1918

Sources

Ancestry Sources

1850 United States Federal Census

1860 United States Federal Census

1870 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905

Pennsylvania, Church and Town Records, 1708-1985

Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011

Relationship between Elizabeth Riddle & ***Figure of Eight***

Elizabeth Riddle (1835 - 1877)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
Rachel McCurdy (1860 - 1947)
daughter of Elizabeth Riddle
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Rachel McCurdy
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Narrative: *"The Blessed Gaelic"*

Ma and I are doing alright in Philadelphia, considering. I don't have any brothers and sisters, since Da died so soon after I was born. But there are babies here at the Carr's, where we're staying, so I guess I'll learn pretty much what I need to know about raising children. The Carrs are Da's kin, and we came together on the ship. Cousin Malcolm and his son Kennedy are both tailors. Kennedy and Elizabeth have two little ones. Elizabeth is four and Thomas is only one. They were both born since we got here.

There's another family of Carrs next door. I think they are also distant relatives. Mr. Charles is a lamp maker. He and Jane and their five kids and her sister Ella Day, who lives with them, were all born right here in Pennsylvania, so they're able to help us with our English.

I didn't know my Da. I think he came from England, but my ma, Rachael, is Irish, and so I am, too. She didn't remarry. I'm not sure why. She always told me that she wasn't good-looking enough, but, secretly, I think she just wasn't very interested. And then, too, one has to have been asked. I have been asked. (I think McCurdy is in some way related to the Carrs, as well, but I'm not sure. Anyway, that's how we met. At least, they're both good Irish names.) Lucky me! But, of course, we are not old enough yet. I'm only 15, and, besides, what's the hurry? He's only a year older than me and we don't have any money, except for what little Ma's got tucked away from selling up back home. I think that she thinks nobody knows about that, but I know where she keeps it.

Ma really only speaks 'the blessed Gaelic'. She says that she needs me to explain to her what people are saying, although sometimes I think she understands more than she lets on. I really don't do much better myself, but I'm learning fast.

I've already told Archie that if-and-when we marry, my mother is coming with me. She's pretty much all the family I've got in the world, and, if children come, I will want their Gran close by. Besides, with her asthma problem, I worry about her. So, I'm just not going anywhere without her.

All Archie can talk about is going West to get land, as he wants to do. I'm glad, even though it's pretty scary! From the stories I hear, it's mostly an endless forest full of Indians and wild animals. And, I don't know anything about farming. But I do know that I don't like life in the city. Not this city, not any city! So he's already saving his money, and I'll find work, too, and, in a few years, after we're married, we'll have enough set by to ride the train to a new life.

Elizabeth Riddle, 1850, Philadelphia, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 4 Mar 2014; rev. 5 Jan 2016]

Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Elizabeth Riddle

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Elizabeth Riddle (1835-1877), was listed in the 1850 U.S. Census at age 14 (born in Ireland ca 1836), along with a Rachael Riddle, age 40 (born in Ireland ca 1810), living in the household of a tailor, Malcolm W, and Elizabeth Carr, both Irish-born, both age 51. This family lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where Elizabeth would later marry Irish-born Archibald McCurdy, and bear their first child, John (b.1854).

At the time of the 1860 U.S. Census, Mother Rachael was living with Archibald and Elizabeth McCurdy in St Paul, Minnesota, where her daughter's growing family had relocated. Finding Rachael's origins (and, thereby, those of Elizabeth) is problematic. For starters, we do not know Rachael's maiden name. What records we do have for her, and her descendants, indicate that she was Gaelic-speaking and Irish-born (ditto her daughter). Attempts to locate her before the 1850 presence in Philadelphia, or after her 1860 presence in St Paul, have proven to be very challenging, although there is a probable death record for 75 year-old Rachel Riddle, dated 19 Aug 1879 in St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota.

A good candidate for her husband (birth c1810; marriage in Ireland c1834; death in Pennsylvania before 1850) has been identified: Charles James B(R)iddle, baptized 17th of September 1809 at St Nicholas Church, in Deptford, Kent, England. Interestingly, the keeper of this record scripted his capital R's and B's identically, a problem that has exacerbated this search — Riddle and Biddle are two distinctly different names!

An important clue to a connection between the above 'Charles' and our 3rd great-grandmother, Rachael, is revealed at his baptism, as follows. On the same day that Charles James B(R)iddle is presented for baptism by his parents, Thomas and Sarah, a William and Sarah Carr also presenting their son, Thomas, born 9 April 1807. It may not be coincidence that widowed Rachael with her teenage daughter, at the time we first find them in Philadelphia, are living with an Irish-born Carr family.

Speculation: That said * **Thomas B(R)iddell**, a 'waterman' at Hugh's Fields, and his wife Sarah are siblings/in-laws to William Carr, shipwright at Stowage, and his wife Sarah, and that their sons are cousins.

While the baptismal record does not indicate nationality, it was common at that time for much of the manual labour in England in trades like shipbuilding to be supplied by itinerate Irish tradesmen. A person who matches this lead arrived in New York harbour on 13 Aug 1827 as a laborer from Ireland aboard the Schooner 'Franklin'. The passenger list, if it could be found, might reveal whether his wife and child were with him. In 1833, a *Declaration of Intent to Naturalize* for a James Riddle of *"Great Britain and Ireland"* was presented to the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia. In the 1830 U.S. Census, there were several Charles and James Riddles in Philadelphia; unfortunately, early census records provide names for only male heads-of-household.

Speculation: That * **(Charles) James Riddle**, born early in the first decade of the 19th century of Irish labourers in England, subsequently returned to Ireland where he married and started a family; then in the late 1820's he emigrated to Philadelphia, where, upon his death sometime before 1850, his widow, Rachael, and his daughter, Elizabeth, found sanctuary with his extended family members Malcolm W and Elizabeth Carr.

There was an Elizabeth Riddle attending church classes in the Old St George Methodist Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, accepting into membership in 1842. Several Riddles (as well as many McCurdys), were part of that congregation at that time although not any named Archibald McCurdy, or other known or speculated family members are listed, nor is Elizabeth's marriage. There were also Carrs in that congregation, although none whose names correlate with the Carr family with whom Elizabeth and her mother had boarded prior to Elizabeth's wedding.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (3 Mar 2014; rev. 28 Feb 2018)]

Riddle Surname

The ‘Riddle’ surname has three distinct possible origins, each with its own history and derivation; the evolution of names from separate sources is sometimes termed *polygenetic*.

Firstly, Riddle may be a *locational* name from Old English (pre-7th Century) *ryge*, ‘rye’, plus *dael (*cognate with the Old Scandinavian *dal(r))*, ‘valley’; thus, ‘Rugdal' in Scandinavia; ‘Rydal/Ryedel’, Westmorland, and ‘Ryedale', Yorkshire, in England; ‘Riddell’, Roxburghshire, and ‘Ryedale', Kirkcudbrightshire, in Scotland — all meaning *“the valley of the river Rye”*. The variants Riddell/Riddle, may reflect the pronunciation by the Scots.

An alternate name source, of an *occupational* nature, is from the noun ‘riddle’ — origin from Late Old English *hriddel*, from the Germanic, from an Indo-European root shared by Latin *cribrum,* 'sieve', *cernere,* 'separate', and by Greek *krinein,* ‘decide’: a large coarse sieve, especially one used for separating ashes from cinders or sand from gravel. A riddle was also used as an instrument by which rye and other grains were winnowed and cleansed.

The third possibility is that Riddle is a *characteristic* name, deriving from the Old French personal byname (sobriquet or nickname) ‘Ridel’, of Gothic origin: ‘Rudelli’, literally meaning ‘small hill’, and used in a transferred sense to describe a rotund or stockily-built man.

The name is thought to have been first used as a surname in c1030 in Aquitaine (France) as a baronial name. It reached England after the Norman Conquest (1066), and was reported in Scotland from c1090. A Stephen Riddel was Lord Chancellor in Ireland in 1186. The migration of the original Norman family throughout the world has created over 60 different ways the name has been spelled.

Riddle in the ***Figure of Eight*** family tree was the surname of the husband of our 3rd great-grandmother, Rachael (Riddle) (1810-1879). Both of these folks were Gaelic-speaking and are thought to have migrated from Ulster, the northern province of Ireland, to Philadelphia after the 1835 birth of their daughter, Elizabeth.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (7 Jan 2016)]

References:

i. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Riddle#ixzz3wVIb2Qkn
ii. https://www.houseofnames.com/riddle-family-crest
iii. http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/english/riddle
iv. http://www.ancestry.ca/name-origin?surname=riddle
v. http://jimsgenealogy.net/riddle/riddle.html

McCurdy/Riddle Family Grandchildren

Children of John McCurdy & Belle Poston

Mathilda “Mattie” McCurdy (1881-1942)
Myrtle Belle McCurdy (1882-1967)
Jesse Claude McCurdy (1884-1888)
Norma Hazel Rene McCurdy (1889-1959)

Children of Matthew McCurdy & Louisa Ramph

Elisabeth “Lizzie” McCurdy (1880-1966)
Eva McCurdy (1882-1965)
(Clinton) Edwin McCurdy (1884-1947)
Mable Maud McCurdy (1889-1930)
Cora Willeta McCurdy (1895-1967)
Harry McCurdy (1899-1917)

Children of Rachel McCurdy & Silas Poston

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881-1959)
Bertha Mae Poston (1883-1952)
Sidona Poston (1885-1968)
George Silas Poston (1887-1918)
Claude Roland Poston (1890-1990)
Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston (1894-1976)
Richard Golden Poston (1896-1991)
Mary Elizabeth Poston (1900-1965)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Daniel McCurdy Disambiguation

Figure of Eight 2nd great uncle, Daniel McCurdy (1868-) was the son of Archibald McCurdy (1834-1886) & Elizabeth Riddle (1835-1877). Daniel was a frequently-used forename amongst the Scots-Irish McCurdys. Throughout the period 1882-1946 there were Daniel McCurdys resident in Minnesota, in Minneapolis, St. Paul and Duluth, as reported in US City Directories and Minnesota City Directories. These appear to be different people . . .

St Paul

A Daniel McCurdy lives on Cayuga (1886-1889); he is a laborer with St Paul, Mpls & Manitoba Railway Shops (Dan Jr. lives at the rear); in 1890-91 they are on Acker and the railway is now called the Great Northern (Dan Jr. is now appr. at the Railway); in 1896, they are on Lightner Pl., where household includes James (also with GN Shops), Martha & Rachel; in 1898, Dan & Dan, Jr. are back on Acker, where the household includes an Ethel; from 1901-06 the address is Lyton Pl., and now includes Ethyl R, Mattie and Katie, as well as Dan, Jr., who is identified as a machinist. It would seem that Dan, Jr. transfers with his employer to Minneapolis (see below), where he marries first Annie, and then Mildred (see Mpls. records *) — NB: Cayuga, Lyton, Lightner, Acker are all in the same neighborhood, near the rail yards, and Pennsylvania Avenue, where the former Great Northern Station now incorporates the Mn. Transport museum.

Minneapolis

In 1882 there are two Daniel McCurdys: one on Harmon Place, and one of McCurdy & Wagner's North Star Rubber Stamp Works:

- In 1883-84 there is a Daniel on 1st Ave S, a clerk; in 1887 Daniel is boarding at Clark Hse., is a travel agent for NS Boot & Shoe Co.; in 1895 there is a Daniel on 2nd Ave S, a travel agent.
- In 1895-99 there is a Daniel with a John D on Pierce — painters and paper hangers; in one year there is a Myrtle, student, at the same address; in 1920 a painter Daniel is on Jackson — **NB: these ones are *ours*: sons of Archibald McCurdy & Elizabeth Riddle.**

* By 1909, a Daniel J, machinist, shows up in Mpls. on E 31st — this is likely Daniel, Jr. transferred from St Paul (see below); he is on E 33rd (1915-19) and on 21st Av S (1920-29) at which time he is employed by St Paul & Pacific Railway Shops; (NB: a Brother? James & a Florence have the same employer — see Duluth records); in (1930-1941) Daniel J is at the same address with Annie E; by (1944-49) he is with Mildred J on 41st Ave S.

Duluth

In 1896, a Daniel is in Duluth as a brakeman with the Duluth, Mesabi & Northern Railway, while a James A and a Florence M (presumably the same person who will share an employer with Father? Daniel in St. Paul and Brother? Daniel, Jr. in Minneapolis in the 1920s); James is a conductor with the Railway; he and Florence share a house on London Rd. w. Alex (McCurdy Bros), Belle, Jessie E, and Wm. J.; a Joseph, also a conductor, lives at the Hotel Mesabi.

Canada

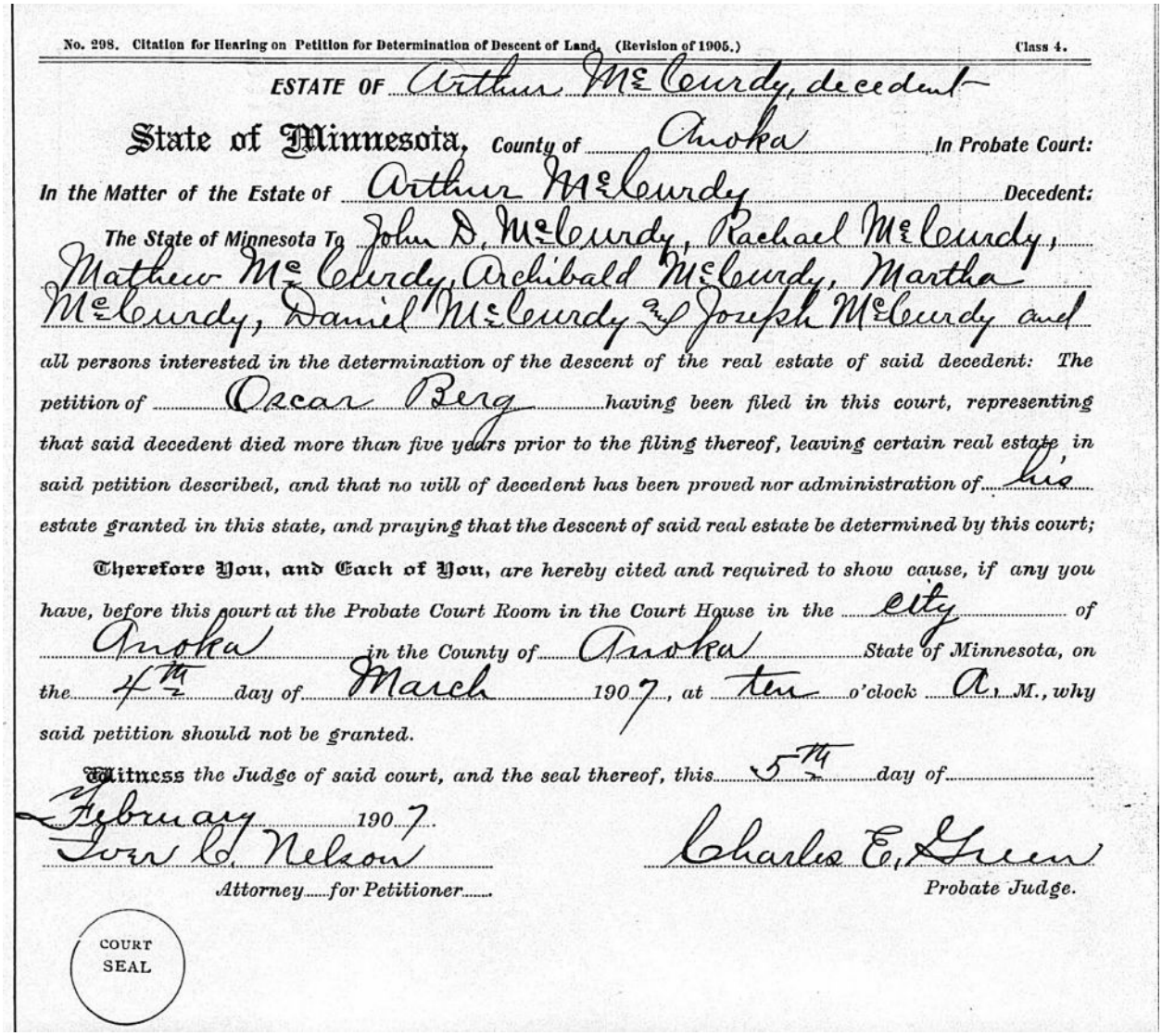
There is a record of a Daniel McCurdy entering Canada at Fort Francis on 20 February 1920, on NP Rail

enroute from St. Paul to Winnipeg; listed as single, born Linwood, Minnesota; Methodist; residence at the time is 2532 Jackson St., Minneapolis. **This is a good match for our Daniel McCurdy**.

He self-identifies as a farmer, and a land-seeker, destined for Hughton, Saskatchewan (about 45 miles SW of Saskatoon, near Outlook). A possible record of this Daniel is revealed on the Canada Voter List, when a Mrs. Dan shows up as a widow in Mortlach, SK from 1935-45, along with a son(?) Dan L. Mortlach is about 2.5 hours by car south and west of Houghton, Saskatchewan.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (4 Mar 2014; rev. 28 Feb 2018)]

Archibald/Arthur McCurdy Probate Re: 1878 Land Transfer



No. 298. Citation for Hearing on Petition for Determination of Descent of Land. (Revision of 1905.) Class 4.

ESTATE OF Arthur McCurdy, decedent

State of Minnesota, County of Anoka In Probate Court:

In the Matter of the Estate of Arthur McCurdy Decedent:

The State of Minnesota To John D. McCurdy, Rachael McCurdy, Mathew McCurdy, Archibald McCurdy, Martha McCurdy, Daniel McCurdy 2nd Joseph McCurdy and all persons interested in the determination of the descent of the real estate of said decedent: The petition of Oscar Berg having been filed in this court, representing that said decedent died more than five years prior to the filing thereof, leaving certain real estate in said petition described, and that no will of decedent has been proved nor administration of his estate granted in this state, and praying that the descent of said real estate be determined by this court;

Therefore You, and Each of You, are hereby cited and required to show cause, if any you have, before this court at the Probate Court Room in the Court House in the city of Anoka in the County of Anoka State of Minnesota, on the 4th day of March 1907, at ten o'clock A. M., why said petition should not be granted.

Witness the Judge of said court, and the seal thereof, this 5th day of February 1907.

Tom L. Nelson
Attorney for Petitioner

Charles E. Green
Probate Judge.

COURT SEAL

STATE OF MINNESOTA: PROBATE COURT
:
COUNTY OF ANOKA : In the matter of the application to determine descent.

In the matter of the estate of:
:
Arthur McCurdy, Deceased :

The above entitled matter came on for hearing in the regular order before the Honorable C.E.Green on the 4th.day of March,A.D.I907 at IO o'clock A.M. of said day,upon the petition of Oscar Berg of the City of Minneapolis,County of Hennepin and State of Minnesota,Iver C.Nelson appearing for the petitioner and there being no appearance in opposition to said petition.

Now after hharing the evidence adduced and the court being fully advised in the premises,it finds the following

FACTS

That Arthur McCurdy who stands of record as having made original entry on January 9th.I86I for the East Half(E½) of Southeast Quarter(SE¼) of Section twenty six(26)Township thirty four(34) Range twenty two(22) in said county of Anoka,is the same person as Archibald McCurdy who made and executed a warranty deed to the same land on the I7th.day of August,I878 to one Thomas Bower,said warranty deed being of record in Book P of Deeds page 2I8 in the office of the register of deeds within and for said County of Anoka.

That Mathew McCurdy and Louise,his wife,and Martha Gallagher,nee Martha McCurdy,and Patrick B.Gallagher,her husband,who executed a quit claim deed January 28th.I892 ,filed April I5th:I892 in Book 8 of Deeds Page 608 of the hereinbefore described lands and Hoseph McCurdy,Daniel McCurdy and Archibald McCurdy and Lydia,his wife,who executed quit clain deed dated February 20th. I892,filed April I5th.I892 in Book 8 of Deeds page 6I0 of the lands hereinbefore described and John D.McCurdy and Melinda B.,his wife, who executed quit claim deed,dated February 28th.I892 and filed April I5th.I892 in Book 8 of Deeds page 6II,all of said quit claim deeds being of record in the office of the Register of Deeds within and for the said County of Anoka and said parties so giving quit claim deeds as heirs of Arthur McCurdy, together with Rachel McCurdy, are the heirs and only heirs of Arthur McCurdy and Archibald McCurdy.

That Arthur McCurdy whose true name is Archibald McCurdy died intestate

in the said County of Anoka, State of Minnesota on the __day of___ __,I886 and that it is more than five years since the daath of said deceased.

WHEREUPON the court finds the following

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

That the North thirty five(35)acres of the East Half($E\frac{1}{2}$) of the South-east Quarter($SE\frac{1}{4}$) of Section twenty six(26)Township thirty four(34) Range twenty two(22) being a part of the land hereinbefore described passed in fee by the deed made.executed and delivered by Archibald McCurdy to Thomas Bower on August,A.D.I878 and filed October 24th.I878 in the office of the Register of Deeds within and for the said County of Anoka in Book P of Deeds page 2I8.

That Arthur McCurdy and Archibald McCurdy are one and the same person and that whatever lands remained in the said Arthur McCurdy at the time of his decease,descended to his heirs,Mathew McCurdy,Martha McCurdy,Joseph McCurdy,Daniel McCurdy,Archibald McCurdy and John D.McCurdy.

Dated this 4th.day of March,A.D.I907

Charles E. Green

Judge of Probate,within and for said County of Anoka,Minnesota.

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 7/8

Palmer/Cornell Family

Henry Palmer

Patience Cornell

+ Mary Ann Kimble

Palmer/Cornell Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Henry Palmer, Jr. (1792-1867), and Patience Cornell (1796-1850), were married in New York in about 1815 — he at 23, she at 19. Their six children, three boys and three girls, were all born in New York. This farm family lived in Columbia, Schuyler and Chautauqua Counties in New York.

Family lore has them, with three of the children, progressing on to central Ohio, where they settled in Morrow County. Both Patience, and Son-in-Law Thomas Hosmer, who farmed nearby, died there about 1850. Shortly thereafter, the residual family members continued their journey west, by covered wagon, to Wyalusing in Grant County, Wisconsin.

Henry re-married there, becoming the third husband of Mary Ann Kimble. She brought her two youngest children, John and Nancy (Emily) McIntosh, into the marriage. At the time of the 1860 US Census, these offspring were teenagers. At that time, Henry's youngest son, our great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer, was still living at home at the age of 26 identified as a teacher.

Henry's second-youngest son, Horatio, also a farmer, joined the parental family in Wisconsin, lived next door with his wife, Lydia Ellis, and their three children. In 1863, soon after Lydia died, Horatio re-married, this time to his step-sister, (Nancy) Emily McIntosh, Mary's youngest child. The grandparents will have had a challenge to help Emily run a farm and raise four children after Horatio's Civil War death. Her brother, John L McIntosh, also entered that war, and was killed in the same month as Horatio — September 1864. Emily would remarry and produce several Stewart children.

Daughter Elizabeth Hosmer Palmer was neighbour to the parents at each location. She harboured single sister, Lillis, for a time, and also the children of Brother Horatio after his death, as well as those of Brother William after the death of his first wife, Julia.

Son Philip Cornell Palmer, and his wife, Angeline Brodt (Braudt, in the original German), had preceded the rest of the family to Wisconsin by several years, in the company of several members of her extended family. Like Sister Elizabeth and Brother Horatio, Philip and Angelina farmed nearby, where the community of Brodtville still exists.

While the Palmer name was common in New York, it was noticeably less so in Wisconsin. Thus, it is reasonable to surmise that Lawrence Palmer (b.1796 in NY) and living nearby in 1870 with the Orr family, might have been Henry's brother. Evidence of this possible connection is that Horatio's youngest child, Lydia Sylvia Palmer, married into the Orr family. At the time of the 1880 US Census, widowed Mary Ann Kimble Beeman McIntosh Palmer was living with Granddaughter Lydia and Benjamin Mark Orr.

Another Palmer, Henry W. (b.1820), who lived nearby with his family in Wyalusing, Grant County, Wisconsin, was of an age with the known children of Henry and Patience, and may have been Henry's nephew. Our Henry's great-granddaughter, Alma Hosmer, married Henry W's youngest son, Eugene Palmer, in Buchanan County, Iowa, on 21 Aug 1901. Interestingly, Irvin Bullock Palmer, Eugene's older step-brother, would show up as a special guest at the Brownsdale, Morrow County, Minnesota, wedding of one of our Henry's granddaughters, Fanny Palmer, on 8 August 1906. These facts would seem to corroborate kinship — "*It's all in the family*", as the saying goes.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (5 Jan 2014; rev. 30 Jan 2016)

ancestry

Henry Palmer Jr.

BIRTH 8 FEB 1792 • Columbia County, New York
DEATH 20 APR 1867 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
8 Feb 1792 • Columbia County, New York

Age 18 — **Residence**
1810 • Chatham, Columbia, New York
this household (probably Henry Sr.) has 10 people: two parents (26-45), and four male children: two (10), one (10-15), one (16-25) and four females, same ages; other Palmers nearby

Age 23 — **Marriage**
abt 1815 • Chatham, Columbia, New York
date surmised, as 1st child born here
Patience Cornell
(1796–1850)

Age 28 — **Residence**
1820 • Chatham, Columbia, New York
this census shows Henry Jr. (26-44), wife (16-25) and one child of each gender (<10); Henry Sr., and numerous other Palmers, nearby

Age 40 — **Relocation to Schuyler County**
bef 1833 • Hector, Schuyler, New York
youngest son, William, reported born here (ref: William's obituary)

Age 48 — **Relocation to Chautauqua County**
abt 1840 • Sherman, Chautauqua, New York
Daughter Elizabeth, Sons Phillip and Horatio married here in 1840, 1841 & 1842, respectively (*Henry W - son or nephew? also married here in 1842)

Age 55 — **Westward Ho!**
1847
speculated wagon-train move west with family and the Brodt (Braudt) in-laws of eldest son, Phillip; Henry & family tarry in Ohio

Age 58 — **Residence**
19 Aug 1850 • Chester Township, Morrow, Ohio
Patience and Henry, with children, Lillis and William Harrison; Daughter Elizabeth Hosmer nearby with family

Age 58 — **Death of Wife Patience**
abt 1850 • Chester Township, Morrow, Ohio

Family

Parents

***Henry Palmer Sr.**
1765–1847

***Elizabeth Wilbur**
1767–1802

Spouse & Children

Patience Cornell
1796–1850

- **Phillip Cornell Palmer**
  1816–1887
- **Lydia Palmer**
  1818–
- ***Henry W Palmer**
  1820–
- **Elizabeth Palmer**
  1821–1887
- **Lillis G Palmer**
  1823–1876
- **Horatio R Palmer**
  1826–1864
- **William Harrison Palmer**
  1833–1925

Spouse

Mary Ann Kimble
1812–1886

Sources

Ancestry Sources


1810 United States Federal Census


1820 United States Federal Census


1850 United States Federal Census


1860 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees


U.S. General Land Office Records, 1796-1907

Wisconsin Census, 1820-90

Wisconsin Marriages, pre-1907

Age 59 — **Relocation to Wisconsin**
abt 1851 • Grant County, Wisconsin

Age 60 — **Land Purchase**
1 Sep 1852 • Wyalusing Township, Grant, Wisconsin
land purchase Cert. #14103 SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of S25 T6N R6W, 40 acres; NB: in 1868, this acreage shows on Plat Map just as 'Palmer', has no buildings - H. Palmer has yardsite on Son P. C. Palmer's land 1/2 mile S in Section 36

Age 62 — **Marriage**
12 Sep 1854 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
possible record; her 3rd marriage, she brings two Wisconsin-born McIntosh children into the household

Age 63 — **Residence**
1855 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin, USA
Wisc State Census, no details

Age 68 — **Residence**
Jun 1860 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
Son Wm. Harrison (27) is in residence, as well as Mary's two youngest: John (16) and Nancy (14); nearby: Son Horatio Family; Son Phillip Family; and Daus. Lillis and Eliz.; other NY-born Palmers also nearby: Henry W (40), Irvin (15), Alvin (19)

Age 75 — **Death**
20 Apr 1867 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin

Relationship between Henry Palmer & ***Figure of Eight***

Henry Palmer Jr. (1792 - 1867)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
William Harrison Palmer (1833 - 1925)
son of Henry Palmer Jr.
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of William Harrison Palmer
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Speculated Siblings of Henry Palmer, Jr.

The US decade census prior to 1850 named only male head-of-households. Henry Palmer, Sr. in the 1810 US Census at Chatham, Columbia County, New York, had four male and four female children in residence, 10 to 25 years of age. In 1820, with three sons married, there were still 10 children listed at home, possibly including some grandchildren. The following, based largely on the research of others, suggests possible/probable (indicated by *) children of this blended family, speculated siblings of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather. See 'The Palmers of New England' under Earlier Ancestry section . . .

Speculated Full-siblings, Children of Henry Palmer, Sr. & * Elizabeth Wilbur

*** Abraham Palmer (1788-1866) m. * Prudence Gillett ( )**

Speculated brother, Abraham, farmed in Chatham, Columbia County, New York with his wife, Prudence. They had five children. They eventually shared their home with daughter-in-law Sarah and her five children.

*** Wilber Palmer (1791-) m. * Chloe Smith (1835-)**

Another speculated sibling is Wilber/Wilbur, who also farmed, first in Chatham, Columbia County, later in Sherman, Chautauqua County, New York. He and Chloe had five children. After Chloe's death, Wilber would live with Son John's family. Son Henry W would be near neighbour to our Henry in Patch Grove, Grant County, Wisconsin by 1850.

*** Chauncey Palmer (1799-1888) m. * Louisa Pratt (1804-1882)**

Chauncey farmed at Canaan (1830-1840), Veteran (1850), and Catlin (from 1860), all in Columbia County, New York. His will gifts nine acres of land to Son Sidney A, references Robert, witnessed by Ida Palmer. At time of delayed probate, the executor was Ida Sterling Palmer; all designees are grandchildren.

*** Elizabeth Palmer (1797-) m. * Jacob Cady**

Speculated sister, Elizabeth, is designated sibling in Eleazer R Palmer's 1852 will probate; resident in Cortlandville, Cortland County, New York.

Speculated Half-siblings, Children of Henry Palmer, Sr. & * Sarah Knapper/Knapin

*** Weighty Palmer (1803-bef 1852)**

Weighty is not mentioned in Eleazer's 1851 will, but is speculated by other researchers to be of this family, was resident in 1860 at Durham, Greene County, New York, in 1860.

*** Lovisa/Lovina (1806-1897) m. David Smith ( )**

Speculated sister, Lovisa, farmed with her husband in Chatham, Columbia County, New York. They had eight children; daughter Emma/Emmer being an apparent recipient of childless uncle Eleazer's will.

*** Eleazer R Palmer (1811-1852) m. * Sarah Ann Penett ( )**

Speculated brother, Eleazer, farmer, lived and died in Conquest, Cayuga County, New York. His will dated 3 September 1851; specifies widow, Sarah Ann Penett (?); niece, Martha Jane Palmer; niece, Emma Jane Smith; and nine siblings: Lovisa Smith, Louisa Palmer, Luther R, Amos, Abraham, Wilbur, Chauncey, Henry, Elizabeth Cady.

***Amos Palmer (1815-1888) m. Lois B Husted (1813-1885)**

Speculated brother, Amos, farmed in East Chatham, Columbia County, New York, with his wife Lois. They had three children. Only Elizabeth (b. 1846) lived to adulthood; at the time of the 1875 NY Census, her husband, Oscar Ames, was living with her parents. Their farm was next door to Abraham and Prudence, and near to Sister Lovisa Smith's Family.

*** Louisa Palmer (1817-aft 1865)**

Speculated sister, Louisa, is designated as sibling, still single, in Eleazer R Palmer's 1852 will probate; resident in Chatham. She appears to have been living with Brother-in-law Wm. Pratt, between 1850 and 1865. At times teen-aged nieces, Mary Jane Palmer and Julia Smith, are present.

*** Luther R Palmer (1819-1883) m. Helen Perkins (1820-1861); m. Amelia E McCartney (1817-1902)**

Speculated brother, Luther, was married first in Cayuga County, New York, where his first two children were born. He and Helen had two more in Kansas Territory where they were amongst the early pioneers of St Mary's Mission in a Pottawatomi Indian reserved. His career there included farming and general merchandizing. He was appointed postmaster, would campaign for entry of Kansas into the Union as a free state. He served as a physician in the Civil War; later as State legislator, and agent in Washington in support of the Pottawatomis, of which tribe his 2nd wife and her daughter were registered members.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (15 Mar 2018)]

Narrative: "Next It's My Turn"

I was born in 1792, or so they tell me — I was too young to remember! I don't know much about my background, except that there were a lot of Palmers in New York, and it seems like a good many of them were named Henry at about the time that I was born. I'm a farmer, and we're not expected to pay too much attention to history and those kinds of things. I *do* know farming. Been doing it all my life, and I guess I'll keep right on doing what I know best as long as the good Lord gives me strength to do so.

I married one of those New England religious women back in New York. Born in Massachusetts, Patience by name, and she was, too — patient with the six kids she bore me, and patient with me, when I packed us all up and headed west in a covered wagon. We stopped for a while in Ohio — hunting lands for the Shawnee people, before us white folks came along. We stopped because she wasn't well. And we stopped where we did because that was the only way to get West from New York, the Great Lakes being in the way, as they are. Patience died there, in Morrow County — a beautiful spot.

I found another wife, pretty much right away as soon as we got to Wisconsin. A man's gotta have a wife, especially for farming, and with my three youngest still at home. Mary is quite a gal, born in Pennsylvania, married twice before me. She tried to divorce her first husband for being rough on her, though he died before she got the chance. Her second husband died on her too, 'bout the same time as my Patience. Mary brought her two youngest with when she married me.

Now there's a story to tell! We hadn't been at Wyalusing long — about five years I guess, when Lydia, my son Horatio's wife, up-and-died, leaving three little kids at home (they lived on a farm next door to us). By then Mary's little Nancy McIntosh had grown up enough to be marrying age. No sooner had Horatio and Nancy gotten married than he was called up to the Civil War, and he didn't make it back. Nor did John, Nancy's brother!

You never know what life is going to turn up next. Next it's my turn to go, I guess — I am not young anymore! Pretty spot we picked here where the Mississippi River and the Wisconsin River come together. Rough for farming, though, until the timber was cleared off the land. I don't regret the decision to come here. It seemed like the West was where the opportunities were, and, anyway, there's been no going back.

Our youngest, William, is living close by with Julia and their two boys. We named him after William Harrison, the Indian fighter, who helped open up the West (they called New York and Ohio 'The West' in those days). That William Harrison went on to become President, in about 1840, I guess it was. Our Henry has been a teacher for a while now. A good one, too, I hear tell — a teacher, and a preacher, too, during his Civil War years.

Our eldest, Phillip, middle-named Cornell after his mother's family, lives just beside me with his family, and quite a tribe of his in-laws, the Brodts, are right close by. In fact, they call this area Brodtville after that bunch. They got here first, while the rest of us tarried in Ohio.

Daughter Elizabeth, known here as 'The Widow Hosmer', is right next door to us on the other side, farming with her son, William. Her sister, Lillis, the only one of our tribe who stayed single, lives in with them. They seem to get on well as a family. Henry W, with his second family, is also just down the road.

My Mary is enough younger than me that she should be around a while yet to keep track of the grandchildren, hers and mine. As for me, well, I picked a good place to live, or to die.

Henry Palmer, Summer 1865, Wyalusing Township, Grant County, Wisconsin [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston*****,** 24 Mar 2012; rev. 4 Feb 2016]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Death Announcement

DEATHS

In Wyalusing, April 26, 1867, Henry Palmer, in the 76th year of his age. [Grant County Herald, Lancaster, Wisconsin, May 7, 1867 Issue]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 16 Apr 2014

Earlier Ancestry

The Palmers of New England and New York

We can confirm little about the origins of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Henry Palmer, Jr. (1792-1867), except that he was born in New York, that his wife, Patience Cornell (1796-1850), was born in Massachusetts, and that their children were born in Chatham, Columbia County, New York, starting in 1816.

1810 US Census at Chatham, Columbia, New York shows the following for a Henry Palmer:

This household has 10 people: two parents (26-45); four male children: two (0-10), one (10-15), one (16-25) and four female children in same age ranges.

Speculation: That this is Henry, Sr., and that one of the children is our Henry (1792-1867), who would have been 18 at the time — the eldest son.

1820 US Census at Chatham shows the following for Henry Palmer (Sr.?):

In this census, the family has grown to 12 people: parents are now over 45; five male children: three (0-10), one (10-15), one (16-25); five female children: one (0-10), one (10-15), one (16-25), two (26-44).

Speculation: That this family is the family-of-origin of our Henry, who now lives nearby as Henry, Jr.

1820 US Census at Chatham shows the following for Henry Palmer, Jr:

This household has four people: male parent (26-44), female parent (16-25) and one child of each sex under 10.

Speculation: This is a perfect match for our Henry Palmer, Jr. and Patience Cornell (married at Chatham — their two eldest children, Phillip & Lydia, born there).

Possible Family/Extended Family:

- there is an extensive clan of Palmers in Chatham, Columbia County, New York, in the first half of the 19th Century; note that prior to 1850, US decade census data reveal the names of heads-of-households only, with a break-down of residents by gender and age
- extrapolation of the US Census information of 1810 & 1820, suggest that our Henry, Jr. is an elder son of as many as 11 children of Henry, Sr. (ca1770-ca1840) — with five brothers and five sisters (see details above)
- in 1810, nearby is Stephen Palmer (over 45), with two young adults (16-25) — an age-match with Henry, Sr.; next door to him is John Palmer (16-25); nearby, in adjacent households, are William (over 45), Jeremiah (16-25) and David (over 45); also, Lotus (26-44)
- in 1820, of the many nearby Palmers, three — William, David, Enoch — are age-mates to Henry Sr. (possible siblings), while Jeremiah, Heber, David, Abraham, Ahira and Wilber are of an age with Henry, Jr. (NB: Henry, Sr. still has 10 children at home, so that may include in-laws, grandchildren, servants.)
- in 1830, most of the previously enumerated Palmers are represented, adding Elias (30-40), Ezra (60-70)

- in 1840, Abram, Jeremiah, Heber, Ahira are still present, adding Ruth and Judith (50-59), Philip A? (40-59) & Zachariah? (70-79) — much confusion noted amongst Palmer, Palman, Pulman, Pulmer, Pulver
- our Henry Palmer, Jr. (1792-1867) and his offspring are known to have moved on to Hector Township, Schuyler County, by 1833 (birth of youngest son), and thence to Sherman Township, Chautauqua County, by early 1840s (marriages of three children and births of several grandchildren there)
- some Palmer family/extended family seem to have relocated with Henry — Wilber (1796-) and Henry W (1820-) are still resident in Sherman Township in 1850; the latter moved soon thereafter on to Grant County, Wisconsin, about the same time as our Henry, Jr.'s family

[*Ryon C Johnston* (1 Jan 2014; rev. 1 Feb 2016)]

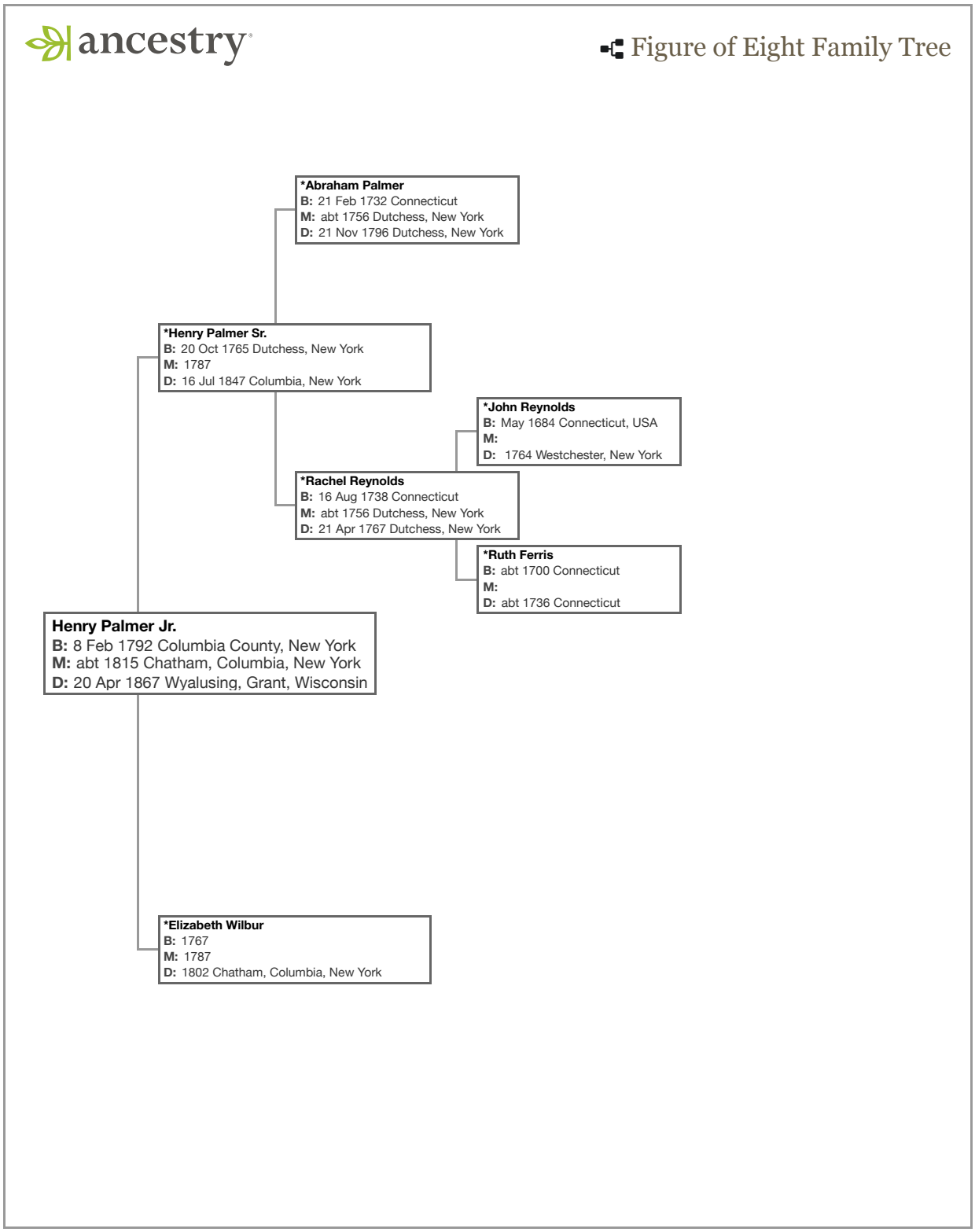
The Palmers of New England and New York — Update

Beyond my empirical (fact-based) investigative work and resultant speculation, reported above, there is much that can be gleaned from the contributions of other genealogy researchers, whose collective work can open promising avenues for pushing back the knowledge of our possible/probable ancestry. Often, on-site research, church records, grave data, family bibles, found photographs, family lore, history books, newspaper accounts, not in official records, or not yet available in on-line databases, can prove invaluable.

In the case of the Palmers, various *"crowd-sourced"* records provide convincing 'evidence' for the earlier ancestry of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Henry Palmer, Jr. (1792-1867). It seems that 11 of the children of Henry, Sr. by his two wives are known. His presumed parents * Abraham Palmer and * Rachel Reynolds, were apparently born in Fairfield County, Connecticut, migrating to neighbouring Duchess County, New York, where their nine children were born. Between their children and Henry, Sr.'s own known children, many of the names on the Columbia County, New York, census records (reported above) can be accounted.

[*Ryon C Johnston* (16 Mar 2018)]

Speculated Origin Pyramid for Henry Palmer



Palmer Surname

Palmer is mainly an English surname, although there are Swedish and German origins, as well as adaptations by Celtic and Jewish peoples. It appeared in England after the Norman Conquest of 1066. The derivation is from Middle English, from pre-10th century Old French *palmer, paumer* (from *palme, paume* from Latin *palma*: 'palm tree'; plus *-ifer* as in 'bearer' or *-erius* as in 'descendant of'), after assumed or actual pilgrimages or crusades to the Holy Land. Such pilgrims generally brought back a palm branch as proof that they had actually made the journey. In common usage, it came to mean 'missionary'.

In its various spellings, this was one of the earliest of all surnames, and one of the commonest. One source suggests that there would eventually be some 500,000 North American immigrants with the name. Today, it is purportedly the 57th most common surname in the UK, and the 158th in the USA.

Known early Palmers arriving in northeastern USA include: William at Plymouth in 1621 on the *"Fortune"*; Francis at Plymouth in 1623 on the *"Anne and the Little James"*; Elizabeth in 1706 at Philadelphia; Jacob in 1738 at Pennsylvania.

Speculated ***Figure of Eight*** 4th great-grandfather, * Abraham Palmer, was born in Connecticut in 1732.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Jan 2014; rev. 1 Feb 2016)]

References:

i. http://genealogy.about.com/od/surname_meaning/p/palmer.htm
ii. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Palmer#ixzz2rNeN8Att
iii. http://www.ancestry.ca/name-origin?surname=palmer
iv. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Palmer_(surname)

ancestry



Patience Cornell

BIRTH 14 FEB 1796 • Taunton, Bristol, Massachusetts
DEATH AUG 1850 • Chester Township, Morrow, Ohio
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
14 Feb 1796 • Taunton, Bristol, Massachusetts
ref: 1911 History of Mower County Minnesota

Age 4 — **Residence**
1800 • Westport, Bristol, Massachusetts
parents (26-44); 2 male children (10); 1 female child (10)

Age 14 — **Residence**
1810 • Chatham, Columbia, New York
male parent (45); female parent (26-44); 1 male child (10-15); 2 male children (16-25); 1 female child (10); 1 female child (10-15)

Age 19 — **Marriage**
abt 1815 • Chatham, Columbia, New York
date surmised, as 1st child born here

Henry Palmer Jr.
(1792–1867)

Age 23 — **Death of Mother Lydia**
bef 1820 • Chatham, Columbia, New York

Age 36 — **Relocation to Schuyler County**
bef 1833 • Hector, Schuyler, New York
youngest son, William, born here (ref: William's obituary)

Age 44 — **Relocation to Chautauqua County**
abt 1840 • Sherman, Chautauqua, New York
Daughter Elizabeth, Sons Phillip and Horatio married here in 1840, 1841 & 1842, respectively (*Henry W - son or nephew? also married here in 1842)

Age 51 — **Westward Ho!**
1847
speculated wagon-train move west with family and the Brodt (Braudt) in-laws of eldest son, Phillip

Age 54 — **Residence**
13 Aug 1850 • Chester Township, Morrow, Ohio
with Henry, Daughter Lillis (23), Son Wm. (17); next door is Daughter Eliz. Hosmer Family; NB: there is obviously a discrepancy between this US Census record and the death date posted on Find A Grave

Family

Parents

***Phillip Cornell**
1764–1840

***Lydia Devol**
1768–1820

Spouse & Children

Henry Palmer Jr.
1792–1867

- **Phillip Cornell Palmer**
  1816–1887
- **Lydia Palmer**
  1818–
- **Elizabeth Palmer**
  1821–1887
- **Lillis G Palmer**
  1823–1876
- **Horatio R Palmer**
  1826–1864
- **William Harrison Palmer**
  1833–1925

Sources

Ancestry Sources


1800 United States Federal Census


1810 United States Federal Census


1850 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Age 54 — **Death**
Aug 1850 • Chester Township, Morrow, Ohio
Find a Grave shows death as 22 Jul 1850; burial:
Salem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery; Fredericktown,
Knox County, Ohio; NB: this cemetery
is about 8 miles from farm location

Relationship between Patience Cornell & ***Figure of Eight***

Patience Cornell (1796 - 1850)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
William Harrison Palmer (1833 - 1925)
son of Patience Cornell
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of William Harrison Palmer
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Narrative: *"Westward Ho the Wagons!"*

As Henry says about his family, there were a lot of Cornell's in Massachusetts, and most of them were named either Philip or Patience. We dutifully named our first-born Philip, but I declined to continue my family practice of naming children after the virtues. Mother wouldn't have liked it, but she wasn't here when my lot were born.

Henry calls me 'patient Patience'. I don't correct him, I know better than that, but, if the truth be told, forbearance would be a more accurate description. Oh, I love Henry, but I miss the bosom of my family. He's always been more of the 'rugged individualist' type. It comes from growing up on the frontier, and from farming, I guess. We raised our family here in New York, shifting from Columbia County, where we met and married, to Schuyler County, where our youngest was born, to Chautauqua County, where several of the children married and have started families of their own. So far, we have half-a-dozen grandchildren and counting. This area used to be called the 'Northwest', if you can believe, when Henry first brought me here.

Henry is a farmer, quite a change for me from the village life that I was raised with. I miss that, but now I wouldn't give up my chickens and Sally, my brown cow. Henry, ever restless, the *"bear eager to look over the next mountain"*, is loading the wagon. Most things have been disposed of, well — abandoned to the children, to be more exact. Horatio and Lydia plan to follow us, as well, but she's expecting again, and they are hoping that this time they will succeed. Poor kids! Phillip and Angelina will come with us, now that little Mary Jane is old enough to travel. Elizabeth and Thomas will also come along. Lillis, already an 'old maid', as they say, and with no prospects in the waiting, will, of course, come with us. And our little boy, William, of course.

I guess I should say our little *man*, but he *is* my baby and he is just 14. I doubt that he'll become a farmer like his father and his brothers, and almost certainly not a soldier like his namesake, William Harrison, who became President, although, of course, we couldn't have known at the time that that would transpire. How ironic that I, coming out of a background of non-violence, would've consented to name our youngest after a famous (or *notorious*, depending on your perspective) Indian fighter. But Henry is Henry, and I have long since learned that it doesn't pay to fight any battle I can't win.

That's a lesson I haven't forgotten. So tomorrow we're off again on another grand adventure — "Westward ho the wagons!" Wisconsin seems like a long ways away. I don't feel very well within myself,

and I don't feel very good about this latest scheme, but I have a reputation for patience to uphold, and it will be what it will be. May God see us through it . . .

Patience Cornell, March 1848, Sherman, Chautauqua County, New York [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 11 Feb 2014; rev. 3 Feb 2016]

Earlier Ancestry

The Cornells of New England and New York

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Patience Cornell (1792-1850), is believed to have been born in Massachusetts. She married a Henry Palmer from New York. When their first child was born in 1816 in Chatham, Columbia, New York, they named him Phillip Cornell Palmer. Her second child was named Lydia. After the custom of the day, it is reasonable to assume that the children's names reflect their grandparent's names. A * *Phillip* Cornell, was born 1 Oct 1764 in Massachusetts, and married at Westport, Bristol, Massachusetts, on the 26 Feb 1789, a * *Lydia* Devol, born 23 Jun 1768. In addition to this convincing coincidence, our ancestor, Patience, would name a later child Lillis, matching the name of * Phillip Cornell's mother, * *Lillis* Seabury (1734-), while her own name matches that of * Phillip's sister, * *Patience* Cornell (1761-1815).

1800 US Census at Westport, Bristol, Massachusetts shows the following for Phillip Cornell:

This household has five people: two parents (26-45); two male children (0-10) and one female child in the same age range.

Speculation: That these are Patience Cornell's parents; if so, then we would expect to find them subsequently relocating to New York, where she would marry and where her children would be born.

1810 US Census at Chatham, Columbia, New York shows the following for Phillip Cornell:

In this census, the family has grown to seven people: male parent is now over 45, with female parent (26-44); three male children: one (10-15), two (16-25) and two female children: one (0-10), one (10-15); nearby is the family of Henry Palmer.

Speculation: That this family is our Patience's family of origin, that she is the eldest daughter, and that it is she who will marry into the Palmer family.

1820 US Census at Chatham shows the following for Henry Palmer, Jr:

This household has four people: male parent (26-44), female parent (16-25) and one child of each sex under 10.

Speculation: This is a perfect match for Henry Palmer and Patience Cornell (married at Chatham and their two eldest children, Philip and Lydia, were born here).

Possible Family/Extended Family:

- extrapolation of the 1800 & 1810 census information would suggest that Patience has two older brothers (one of these could be Thomas Tripp Cornell, born 1789, who bears his maternal grandmother's nee surname), one younger brother and a younger sister
- in 1820, US Census at Chatham, Philip Cornell's household shows one male (16-26) and one female (16-26), no wife; there are also four other Cornell households: Wilbur (16-26); Abraham (26-45); Oliver (26-45); Nancy (26-45), the latter with three children, no husband
- in 1830, Phillip Cornell resides with a same-age female (60-70) and another (30-40), which would correspond to Patience's younger sister; see also: Rebecca Cornell (60-70), alone, next door to Alvin (30-40); nearby is Abraham (40-50); and, elsewhere, Wilbur (30-40), each of the men with families
- in 1840, Phillip Cornell still resides with same-age female, no children; elsewhere in town are Abram, Oliver, Joseph, William (Wilbur?) all (40-50), with families, and same-age Hannah (Nancy?), the latter with three children, no husband

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (1 Jan 2014; rev. 1 Feb 2016)]

The Cornells of New England and New York — Update

Beyond my fact-based investigative work and resultant speculation, reported above, there is much that can be gleaned from the contributions of other genealogy researchers, whose collective work can open promising avenues for pushing back the knowledge of our possible/probable ancestry. Often, on-site research, church records, grave data, family bibles, found photographs, family lore, history books, newspaper accounts, not in official records, or not yet available in on-line databases, can prove invaluable.

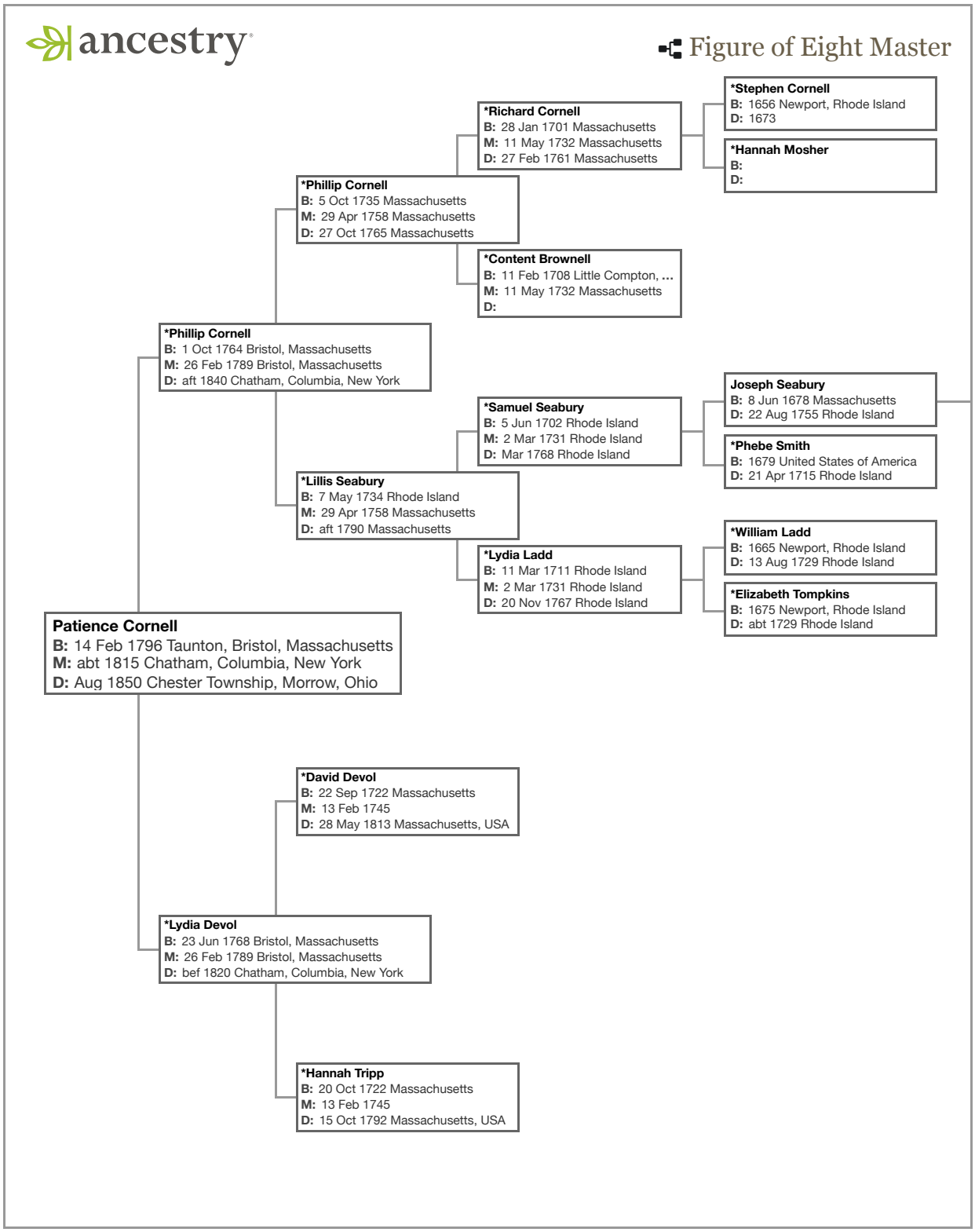
In the case of the Cornells, various *"crowd-sourced"* records reported on Ancestry Member Trees, Netherlands GenealogieOnline Trees, Millennium Files, provide convincing 'evidence' for the earlier ancestry of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Patience Cornell (1792-1850) — see projected origin pyramid following. *If* we have made the correct connection with * Phillip Cornell (1764-1840) as her father, *then* earlier ancestry would include, through her 2nd great-grandfather, * Joseph Seabury (1678-1755), via his grandmother, our 8th great-grandmother, * Elizabeth Alden (1623-1717), who is thought to be the first surviving white child born in New England — yet another Mayflower descendant in ***Figure of Eight*** ancestry (see also The Emerys of New England, under Larkin/Emery Family). [1]

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (19 Mar 2018)]

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[1] Ref: Susan E. Roser. Mayflower Births & Deaths, Vol. 1. Genealogical Publ. Co., Inc., 1992. Baltimore [https://www.ancestry.com/interactive/3718/mayflowerbdi-001511.9/20244?backurl=https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/33378005/person/110197512421/facts/citation/520436512216/edit/record#?imageId=mayflowerbdi-001489.ii]

Speculated Origin Pyramid for Patience Cornell



Aboard the Mayflower

The story of the Mayflower, which landed in 1620 at the Plymouth Colony, now Massachusetts, marks an event which has especially captured the American imagination, evolving into one of the young country's most favourite legends. Of the Mayflower's 102 passengers, 37 were members of a separatist, Puritan congregation seeking to create a foundation of Christianity according to their own ideology. Of English origin, they had previously established a community in Leiden, Holland, before relocating to New England, eventually becoming known as 'Pilgrims'. Their genealogical origins, as well as the lineage of their descendants, are especially well documented.

Figure of Eight ancestry is believed to have included the following persons aboard the Mayflower . . .

- Alden/Mullins — (See ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd Great-Grandparents Palmer/Cornell Family)
    - William Mullins (1568-1621)
    - William's wife, Alice Atwood (1574-1621), and their four children
      (one child was born and died aboard ship; both parents died first year)

    - John Alden (1598-1687)
    - William & Alice's daughter, John's eventual wife, Priscilla Mullins (1602-1688)
      (their daughter, Elizabeth would become the 1st surviving white child born in New England)

- Allerton/Norris/Brewster — (See ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd Great-Grandparents Larkin/Emery Family)
    - Isaac Allerton (1586-1695)
    - Isaac's wife, Mary Norris (1590-1621), and their seven children
    - Isaac & Mary's daughter, Remember Allerton (1614-1655)
    - Isaac's second wife, Fear Brewster (1607-1634)

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (23 Mar 2018)]

Mayflower Death Toll

"During the first winter in the New World, the Mayflower colonists suffered greatly from diseases like scurvy, lack of shelter, and general conditions onboard ship. Forty-five of the 102 emigrants died the first winter and were buried on Cole's Hill. Additional deaths during the first year meant that only 53 people were alive in November 1621 to celebrate the First Thanksgiving. Of the 18 adult women, 13 died the first winter, while another died in May. Only four adult women were left alive for the Thanksgiving. No women died aboard the ship, though a newborn baby and three men, including the captain, did."

ancestry **lieerimd** originally shared this on 25 Nov 2012

Story: *"Speak for Yourself, John Alden"*

"John Alden, a passenger on the "Mayflower" in 1620, had not been associated at Leiden (Holland) with the pilgrims. He was hired at Southhampton as a cooper (barrel maker), with the right of staying on this side or returning. One of seven well persons caring for others the first Winter, he was the seventh signer of the "Mayflower Compact", and the last survivor of the signers.

John was a man of great importance in Plymouth and later Duxbury, where he died. He was a member of Myles Standish's Militia Company at Duxbury. He was chosen an assistant to Governor Winslow (of the Colony) in 1633, and served in that office for 42 years. He was a representative for Duxbury in 1641, and was a deputy to the General Court in 1641, 1642, 1644 and 1649. He was a member of the Council of War in 1646, et sequentia. His house, built in 1653, is still standing and is preserved and owned by the Alden Kindred of America.

Sent by Miles Standish to ask Priscilla Mullins to marry him, she responded, "Speak for yourself, John Alden." He did, and they were married three years after landing at Plymouth Rock. He and Priscilla had 13 children..."

[Credit: http://www.brpedersen.com/genealogy/showmedia.php?mediaID=861]

Note: The first of John and Priscilla (Mullins) Alden's children was speculated ***Figure of Eight*** 8th great-grandmother, * Elizabeth Alden, ostensibly the first white child born in New England (see 'The Cornells of New England — Update' story, this Section, page 14).

[edited by ***Ryon C Johnston*** (22 Mar 2018)]

Cornell Surname

The name Cornell, with its many variants, has several possible origins. The most common has Roman origins from *cornelius* 'horn', following through in the German and Swedish *kornel,* probably as a name for a soldier. It is possible, though, that the 'modern' surname owes more to French influence during the medieval period: *corneille*, a word of the same origin that came to mean 'crow', and hence the name may have been a nickname for a talkative person. The name of this source was introduced into England after the Norman Invasion of 1066, and apparently also spread across the whole of Northern Europe as far as Russia.

In UK, where the Celtic people were predominantly inclined to adopt *"local"* (geographical) surnames, after where the person was born, lived, had land, a Cornell may simply be one who lived in Cornwall.

Other suggested derivations include Cornhill, a place name in Northumberland; also a medieval grain exchange in London, (from Old English *corn, cron, cran*: 'crane' or *corn*: 'grain'; plus *-halh*: 'nook, recess' or *-hyll*: 'hill').

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Patience Cornell Palmer, is believed to have come from British Quaker stock during the earliest days of the American colonies from Massachusetts via Rhode Island to New York.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Jan 2014; rev. 1 Feb 2016)]

References:

i. http://www.houseofnames.com/cornell-family-crest
ii. http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=cornell
iii. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Cornell#ixzz2rQWY5KJh
iv. http://genealogy.familyeducation.com/surname-origin/cornell

ancestry



Mary Ann Kimble

BIRTH 1812 • Wayne County, Pennsylvania
DEATH 02 MAR 1886 • Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
wife of 2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
1812 • Wayne County, Pennsylvania

Age 18 — **Marriage**
1830 • Wayne, Pennsylvania
Jamon (James) Beeman
(1807–1841)

Age 29 — **Marriage**
6 Mar 1841 • Whiteside County, Pennsylvania
groom is a miner of Scottish descent
Alexander McIntosh
(1796–1855)

Age 29 — **Death of Husband Jamon Beeman**
1841 • Whiteside County, Pennsylvania

Age 29 — **Divorce Filed**
1841 • Whiteside County, Pennsylvania
see Wayward Jamon story
Jamon (James) Beeman
(1807–1841)

Age 30 — **Residence**
1842 • Western Division, Grant, Wisconsin
after their father's death and mother's remarriage, Dau. Sarah Beeman apparently stayed behind with Auntie Antha, but Rufus and Jason may have come with to work with step-father's mining efforts

Age 38 — **Residence**
1850 • District 24, Grant, Wisconsin
with Alex and two Wisconsin-born children

Age 42 — **Marriage**
12 Sep 1854 • Milwaukee, Wisconsin
possible record; her 3rd marriage, she brings two Wisconsin-born McIntosh children into the household
Henry Palmer Jr.
(1792–1867)

Family

Parents

James Chambless Kimble
1780–1867

Elisabeth Hafley
1781–1864

Spouse & Children

Jamon (James) Beeman
1807–1841



Rufus Horatio Beeman
1832–1924

Jason William Beeman
1833–1887



Sarah Elizabeth "Elvira" Beeman
1834–1917

Spouse & Children

Alexander McIntosh
1796–1855

John L McIntosh
1844–1864

(Nancy) Emily McIntosh
1846–

Spouse

Henry Palmer Jr.
1792–1867

Sources

Ancestry Sources



1850 United States Federal Census



1850 United States Federal Census



1860 United States Federal Census



1870 United States Federal Census



1870 United States Federal Census



1880 United States Federal Census

Ancestry Family Trees

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates Index, 1803-1915

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Death Certificates Index, 1803-1915

Wisconsin Census, 1820-90

Age 42 — **Death of Husband Alex McIntosh**
abt 1854 • Grant, Wisconsin

Age 48 — **Residence**
1860 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
two youngest children in residence: John (16) & Nancy (14) McIntosh; also Stepson Wm. H. Palmer (26); Stepson Phillip Palmer Family nearby

Age 51 — **Marriage of Daughter Nancy**
05 Apr 1863 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
marriage of Daughter Nancy McIntosh to Stepson Horatio Palmer

Age 52 — **Death of Son John McIntosh**
Sep 1864 • Illinois
Civil War Casualty

Age 53 — **Marriage of Daughter Nancy Emily to Nathan Stewart**
21 Sep 1865 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin

Age 55 — **Death of Husband Henry Palmer**
20 Apr 1867 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin

Age 58 — **Residence**
1870 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin, United States
w. Emily's dau. Lydia Sylvia (6); next door to Dau. Emily & her two Stewart children (1-4)

Age 68 — **Residence**
1880 • Wyalusing, Grant, Wisconsin
living in the home of Benjamin & Lydia Orr as 'Grandmother'; Lydia is the daughter of Horatio Palmer and (Nancy) Emily McIntosh

Age 74 — **Death**
02 Mar 1886 • Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
possibly at divorced Gdau. Lydia's home; burial 04 Mar at Mt Moriah Cemetery

Palmer/Cornell Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Henry Palmer & Patience Cornell

Children of Phillip Palmer & Angeline Brodt

Joseph Henry Palmer (1844-1934)
Mary Jane Palmer (1847-1906)
Emmet Jacob Palmer (1858-1896)
Joachim Palmer (1859-1870)
Frances “Fanny” E Palmer (1864-1958)

Child of Elizabeth Palmer & Thomas Hosmer

William Henry Hosmer (1841-1926)

Children of Horatio Palmer & Lydia Ellis

Almarion S Palmer (1842-1881)
Emeline "Emma" B Palmer (1854-1936)
Alfred J Palmer (1859-1863)

Child of Horatio Palmer & Emily McIntosh

Lydia Sylvia Palmer (1864-1912)

Children of William Palmer & Julia Manchester

Clarissa P Palmer (1862-1946)
Clarence Albert Palmer (1865-1959)
Julian Manchester Palmer (1869-1940)

Children of William Palmer & Lettie Requa

Frances "Fanny" Palmer (1876-1932)
Arthur R Palmer (1880-1973)
Dora E Palmer (1883-1957)
Edith Belle Palmer (1887-1976)

Grandchildren of Henry's 2nd wife, Mary Ann Kimble Beeman McIntosh

Child of John McIntosh & Teressa Parker

Clarence S McIntosh (1862-1870)

Children of Emily McIntosh & Nathan Stewart

Olive Ann Stewart (1865-1905)
Charles Stewart (1869-)
Mary "Minnie" Stewart (1872-1896)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Westward Ho! — Notes to Palmer/Cornell Travel West

I spent a fair bit of time examining the Brodt Family of Grant County, Wisconsin, — the original German Braudt, was gradually modified to Brodt, with many variations along the way, usually, I think as a result census-taker's error: Brandt, Bratt, Board, Bradt, Brad. The immediate Brodt (Braudt) neighbours in 1850 Wisconsin were almost certainly immediate or extended family of Angelina's: Henry, Joachim, and David. This is validated by Phillip Palmer and Angelina Brodt naming one of their children 'Joachim' (b. 1859, WI), and by the evidence of a shared household with Brother Joachim Brodt and his wife Angelina at the time of the 1870 US Census.

My primary reason for 'chasing' the Brodt family group is to shed light on the movements of Henry Palmer (1792-1867) and Patience Cornell (1796-1850) — Phillip's parents. The Palmers and the Braudts may well have known each other as neighbours and friends in Sherman Township, Chautauqua County, New York, since before Philip and Angelina's marriage in 1841. Three of the known Palmer children — Elizabeth, Phillip, and Horatio — married and started their families there in 1840, 1841, and 1842, respectively. On the extreme western edge of New York, that will have been the jumping-off point for the trek further westward.

Consistent with ***Figure of Eight*** family lore, the Brodt and Palmer families, will likely have started west 'in caravan'. The land they had to traverse was still 'Indian Country' in late 1840's, heavily forested, and replete with wild animals. Travel was by covered wagon — six months plus to make the New York to Wisconsin journey! The tradition of traveling in groups with a circle of wagons, and a posted guard overnight would have applied. They may well have all started the journey together, probably in the Spring of 1848 (Phillip and Angelina Palmer's 2nd child, Mary, born NY, Aug 1847 — 3rd child, Emmett, born WI, 1858; Joachim and Angelina Brodt's 1st child, David, born NY, 1846 — 2nd child, Charles, born WI, 1853).

I speculate that Patience took ill along the way, forcing some tough decisions, probably resulting in a split of the group, with the Brodt (Braudt) group moving on to stake the land claims in Wisconsin, while the balance of the Palmer group tarried in Morrow County, Ohio, until Patience was able to travel again (or not!). At the time of the1850 US Census, Henry and Patience were in Chester Township, Morrow County, with Daughter Lillis and Son William. Daughter Elizabeth was on the neighbouring farm with Husband Thomas Hosmer and their child, William H (born NY, 1841). Patience apparently died there 22 Jul 1850; with burial at Salem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery; Fredericktown, Knox County, Ohio, about eight miles from the farm.

Presumably, the surviving Palmer tribe finished the trip together after Mother's death in 1850. Henry purchased land in Wisconsin in 1852, and appeared on the 1855 Wisconsin State Census (index only). There he re-married, to Mary Ann Kimble Beeman McIntosh. A marriage record in Milwaukee in 1854 may well be theirs. Horatio Palmer, who had been delayed in New York (2nd child, Betsy, born NY 1854), arrived in Wisconsin by the time of the birth of third child, Alfred,1859. The same timing applies to Henry W Palmer, nephew(?) of Henry and Patience Palmer. Elizabeth (Hosmer), whose husband, Thomas had also died in Ohio, showed up in Wisconsin by 1860, as did siblings, Lillis and William H Palmer. By the time of the 1860 census, they had all rendezvoused, living in the community (now named 'Brodtville') of the earlier arrivals, Phillip and Angelina Palmer and the Brodt in-laws, in Wyalusing Township, Grant County, Wisconsin.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (rev. 1 Jan 2014; rev. 20 Mar 2018)]

Henry Palmer Disambiguation

As described elsewhere (see 'The Palmers of New England'), there were a lot of Palmers around Chatham, Columbia County, New York in the early 1800s. Many of them were apparently related. Amongst the large families, a relatively small set of names were much reused. At some point, as was common in those days, a number of Palmer families headed west. One unnamed Mr. Palmer was the second settler in Section 22 of Fennimore Township, Grant County, Wisconsin Territory in 1837.[2] Apparently, he didn't stay long, but was conceivably a scout, forerunner of family members to follow.

In the late 1840s and early 1850s, several Palmers of similar history arrived in Grant County Wisconsin: Alfred, Samuel, and two Henry's. While chosen physical proximity and the coincidence of histories hint at family ties, we have as yet no evidence to confirm that surmise — except, in the case of the two Henrys.

One of these, ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, Henry Palmer Jr. (born 1792), arrived in Wyalusing Township soon after his wife Patience's 1850 death in Ohio. Henry was accompanied by widowed daughter, Elizabeth, whose husband, Thomas Hosmer, had also died in Ohio, spinster daughter Lillis, and youngest child William Harrison, a teacher — our great-grandfather. By 1852, Henry had made a purchase of 40 acres of land near that of eldest son, Phillip, who had married and started his family in New York before preceding father and siblings to Wisconsin.

In 1854, our Henry consummated a late-life second marriage to Mary Ann Kimble Beeman McIntosh, who would bring two Wisconsin-born teenage children into the marriage. Henry's son, Horatio, would appear on the scene somewhat later, having apparently tarried in New York to start his family. After his wife Lydia's early death, Horatio married new stepsister Emily McIntosh. Soon after, both he and Stepbrother John McIntosh are killed while fighting in the same cavalry unit in the Civil War. Henry himself dies in 1867 at 76 years of age.

The other Henry (born 1820), luckily differentiated by the middle initial 'W', is younger — an age-match to our Henry's children, thus a possible nephew. As had the senior Henry's family before him, Henry W springboards west from Chautauqua County, New York. Henry W named one of his three sons Horatio. Soon after their arrival in Patch Grove, the next township to Wyalusing, Wife Lydia dies (1854). Henry W marries into the Brodt family, as had cousin(?) Phillip Palmer. The eldest daughter of the second family is

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[2] Reference: Memorable Happenings in the Grant County Herald (1870-1879); Volume II, 27 July 1876, Page 3, Column 3

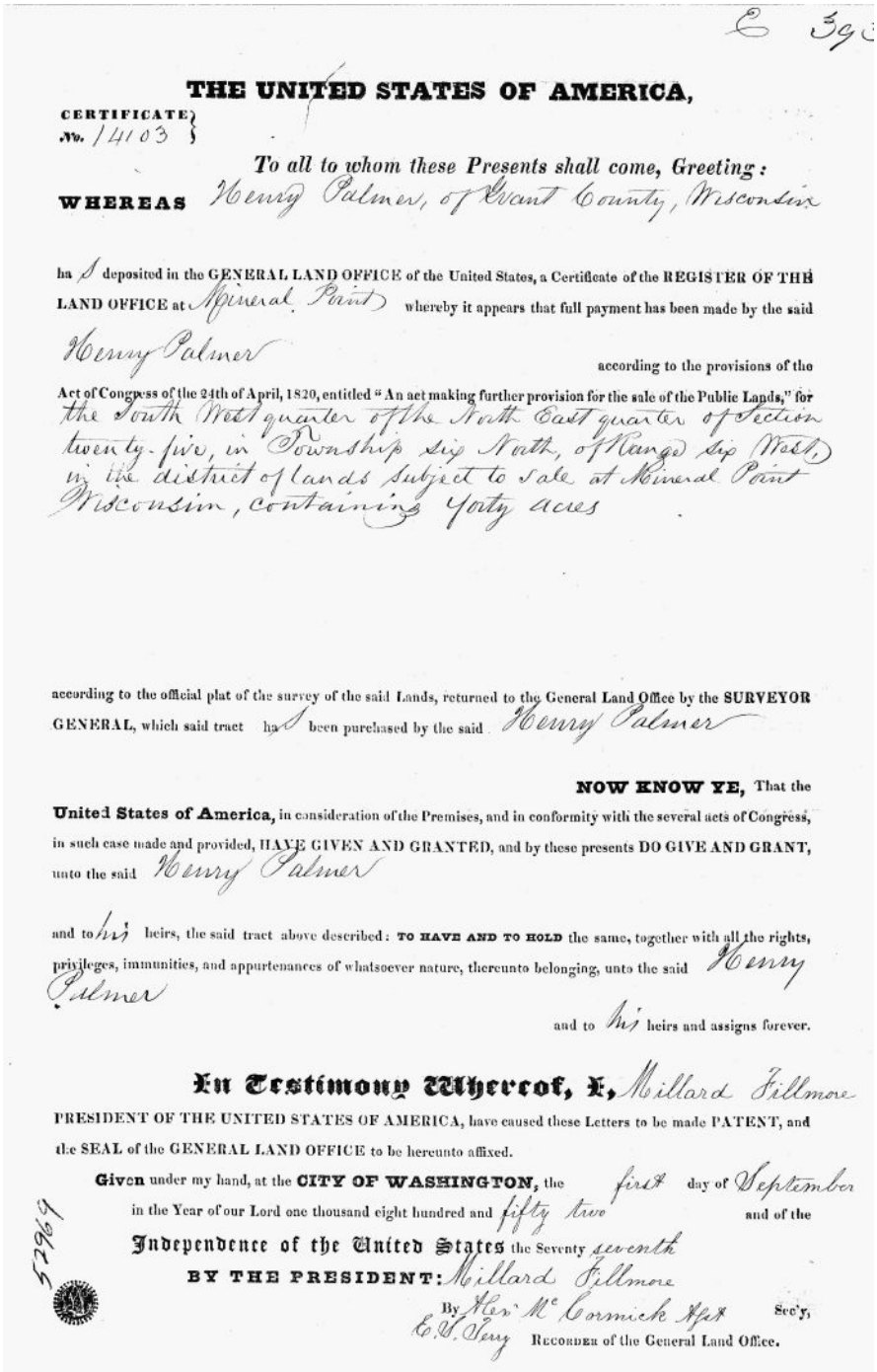
named Elizabeth. Her younger brother, Eugene, eventually marries Elma Hosmer, granddaughter to Father Henry W's cousin(?), Elizabeth Palmer.

Perhaps the 'clincher' in linking the families of these two Henry Palmers is that Irvin Palmer, middle son of the first family of Henry W, showed up in 1906 as a 'special guest' at the wedding of (his uncle?) William Harrison Palmer's daughter, Frances "Fanny" Palmer Wood, in Brownsdale, Mower County, Minnesota.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (21 May 2014; rev. 20 Mar 2018)]

U.S. General Land Office Records (1796-1907) for Henry Palmer

U.S. General Land Office Records (1796-1907) for Henry Palmer



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CERTIFICATE No. 14103

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting:

WHEREAS Henry Palmer, of Grant County, Wisconsin

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the REGISTER OF THE LAND OFFICE at Mineral Point whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Henry Palmer according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the South West quarter of the North East quarter of Section twenty-five, in Township six North, of Range six West, in the district of lands subject to sale at Mineral Point Wisconsin, containing forty acres

according to the official plat of the survey of the said Lands, returned to the General Land Office by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, which said tract has been purchased by the said Henry Palmer

NOW KNOW YE, That the United States of America, in consideration of the Premises, and in conformity with the several acts of Congress, in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said Henry Palmer

and to his heirs, the said tract above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature, thereunto belonging, unto the said Henry Palmer and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In Testimony Whereof, I, Millard Fillmore PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made PATENT, and the SEAL of the GENERAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

Given under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the first day of September in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty two and of the Independence of the United States the Seventy seventh

BY THE PRESIDENT: Millard Fillmore

By Hen. McCormick Asst Sec'y.

E. B. Jerry Recorder of the General Land Office.

52969

Date: 01 Sep 1852

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 30 Dec 2013

Figure of Eight

4th Generation Progenitors — 2nd Great-Grandparents 8/8

Requa/Andres Family

Alexander "Alex" Requa

Lucinda Belle Andres

\+ Susan Almildra Miser

Requa/Andres Family Preview

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandfather, Alexander "Alex" Requa, Sr. (1831-1925), with several older siblings stayed behind in New York when their parents relocated to Wisconsin in about 1846. Alex's father, James Requa, Jr., and his step-mother, Letitia Ruton, will have headed up a wagon train which included Brother Isaac and his wife and daughter, as well as Sister Rachel Sebring's family of six children. Brother Henry, a Methodist minister, with his wife and two children, would also have been in the caravan, as were the three youngest Requa siblings. These can all be found in the 1850 US Census at Columbus Township, Columbia County, Wisconsin. But, logical as it would have been, there is at that point no mention of Alexander. He would have been in his mid-teens when the migration of his parental family took place. He may have had a job, or a sweetheart, and have chosen to stay behind in the household of one of the many Requa relatives.

By late 1852, a marriage certificate for Alex and his New York-born bride, Lucinda Belle Andrews (1834-1893), appears in Columbus County, Wisconsin. Their first child, Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda, is purported to have been born there Wisconsin in 1853. Alex's obituary reports a return to New York for a couple of years, where Lucinda's parental family may still have resided. The young couple do not appear in the 21 September 1857 Minnesota Territory Census, though by then the residual Requa parental family, along with Sister Rachel's Sebring tribe, had made that further move. Their second child, Dora, was born there, at Fountain, Fillmore County, on the 2nd of October.

Starting in 1860, the trail is more easily followed via official records, with Alexander as a farmer with a growing family in a growing community. Their next door neighbours are the Lesters, who would become in-laws when John Lester marries Alex's little sister, Mary Jane Requa.

It was at Fountain that the rest of Alex and Lucy's dozen children were born. It was there that aging father, James Requa, and youngest siblings, Mary and Samuel shared their household. And it was there that their eldest daughter, ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandmother, Lettie, would marry her school principal and take on the parenting of his four motherless children.

By 1880, Alexander and Lucinda had relocated to a farm in adjacent Mower County. Obviously respected by his neighbours, Alex was elected as County Treasurer for three consecutive terms, precipitating a move into the County Seat at Austin. When Lucinda died there in 1893, Alexander moved on, commencing a new life in a new place — Neosho, Newton County, in southwestern Missouri. There he operated a seed store, eventually marrying Susan Miser, a widow with two young children. Despite the distance and the times, he continued to play a role in the lives of his family. Brother Benjamin would join him in Missouri, re-marry to a local girl who bore two children there. Daughter Mary staged her second wedding at Neosho.

An interesting part of the family story, and one that illustrates the importance of extended family in our lives, is the fact that several of Alexander and Lucinda's children, as well as the children of various of their siblings, would, after migrating West, regroup and live and work together in various combinations in various places. The sons of Brother Henry Requa, after their father's Civil War death, established themselves in Seattle, Washington, where he became a jeweler and watchmaker. Nearby was Henry Jr.'s brother, Mark, a construction worker. Youngest brother, Samuel, also settled in Seattle as a bridge-building engineer. Samuel's sons, Frank and Howard, made their lives there, while their brother, Walter, became president of Coast Grocery Company at nearby near-by Everett. Their cousin, Edith Frances Requa, Missouri-born daughter of their uncle, Benjamin, joined the business as a bookkeeper. Meanwhile, Alexander and Lucinda's Son James and his family would also establish in the grocery business in Everett, Washington, with the firm Wildes, Metzger and Requa. Daughter Dora Folsom also moved to the West with her family, first to Everett, and then on to California, to join her sisters, Mary (widowed again) and Laura (single), and their sister-in-law, Rose — widow of youngest sibling, Alexander, who had been killed in a mining accident in Arizona.

This is part of our story . . . ***Ryon C Johnston*** (8 Feb 2014; rev. 10 Apr 2018)

ancestry



Alexander "Alex" Requa

BIRTH 7 OCT 1831 • Tarrytown, Westchester, New York
DEATH 17 APR 1925 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
7 Oct 1831 • Tarrytown, Westchester, New York
10th child of 12 in father's first family

Age 9 — **Death of Mother Mary**
1840 • New York
Alex is present at her death bed, remembers her singing

Age 11 — **Father James Remarries Letitia Ruton**
1842 • New York
Letitia is younger sister of James' 1st wife Mary Ruton

Age 14 — **Relocation of Parental Family**
abt 1845 • Columbus Township, Columbia, Wisconsin
Sibs Isaac, Henry, Rachel & their families; also Step-sis Mary Jane, with her mother Letitia, along with Father James; all presumed to be traveling 'in caravan' [timing based on birth dates of three Wisc-born grandchildren 1846, 1847]

Age 19 — **Travel Abroad**
abt 1850 • South America
obituary says that he spends year in South America during the 50s (as missionary?)

Age 21 — **Marriage**
25 Dec 1852 • Columbus, Columbia, Wisconsin
The Requa Family reference says Lucinda is "of New York"; Alex's obituary gives marriage location; 1st child born here Oct 1853; NB: marriage record has bride's surname as 'Andrews' [Entry 235; Vol 1; p. 254]

Lucinda Belle Andrews/Andrus
(1834–1893)

Age 23 — **Return to New York**
1854-1856 • New York, New York, New York
1st child alternately reported as born here

Family

Parents

James Requa Jr.
1790–1870

Mary "Polly" Ruton
1792–1840

Spouse & Children

Lucinda Belle Andrews/Andrus
1834–1893

- **Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa**
  1853–1900
- **Doresta "Dora" A Requa**
  1857–1942
- **Lizzie Requa**
  1859–1859
- **Fannie Requa**
  1860–1860
- **Eliza B Requa**
  1861–1934
- **Benjamin F Requa**
  1863–1865
- **James H Requa**
  1866–1924
- **Rachel Almeda Requa**
  1868–1932
- **Mary Jane Requa**
  1871–1941
- **Laura Addy Requa**
  1873–1937
- **Alexander Requa Jr.**
  1876–1912

Spouse

Susan Amildra Miser
1855–1938

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1860 United States Federal Census
- 1870 United States Federal Census
- 1880 United States Federal Census
- 1900 United States Federal Census
- 1910 United States Federal Census
- 1920 United States Federal Census
- Ancestry Family Trees
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Missouri Marriage Records, 1805-2002
- Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1800-2012
- Web: Missouri, Death Certificates, 1910-1962

Age 25 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
abt 1856 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
not in 1857 MN Census, but 2nd child born here, 2 Oct 1857; Alex is grain buyer, farmer

Age 26 — **Death of Stepmother Letitia**
1857 • Chatfield, Fillmore, Minnesota
namesake of Alex's eldest child dies (after the 3 Oct 1857 Minnesota Territory Census)

Age 28 — **Deaths of Children**
1859-1865 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
infants: Lizzie, 1859; Fanny, 1860; Benjamin F, 1865 - only the latter's gravesite is known (Gale Cemetery in Section 25 of Fountain Township - abandoned sometime before WPA inventory in 1930s)

Age 29 — **Residence**
1860 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
farmer in Township 103/Range 11, PO Preston; with Lucinda and two children (5-7); next door is future brother-in-law, John W. Lester (17), in his parent's household

Age 33 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
farmer, with Lucinda and four surviving children down to Benjamin; also present are widowed father, James, and James' two youngest children

Age 38 — **Residence**
26 Jul 1870 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
farmer in Carimona District; w. spouse and five children (1-17); also Father James (84) and Half-brother Samuel (21), teacher

Age 39 — **Death of Father James**
25 Oct 1870 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
in Alexander & Lucinda's home in Carimona District

Age 43 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota
with Lucinda and six children; Fountain Town Clerk; family appears to live in town; (NB: 1878 Plat Map shows N 1/2 of SW S10 T103 R11W extending SW of Fountain town in name of L. Regua)

Age 45 — **Relocation to Grand Meadow**
abt 1876 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
birth of youngest child, Alex Jr., here on 26 Jun 1876

Age 48 — **Residence**
7 May 1880 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
grain buyer and farmer of 160 acres; lives in the village, with Lucinda and children; Dora (20) is now school teacher; six others (3-18)

Age 49 — **Civic**
1880-1890 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota
one of the founders of the Grand Meadow Methodist Church; charter member of the Masonic Lodge; member of the Eastern Star Lodge

Age 56 — **Elected**
1887-1893 • Austin, Mower, Minnesota
three-term County Treasurer; obituary says he lived in town

Age 61 — **Death of Wife Lucinda**
19 May 1893 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota

Age 62 — **Commences New Life**
aft 1893 • Arkansas
relocation to Arkansas for one year, possibly preceded by Brother Benjamin, whose son, Glode, was born there (1895)

Age 63 — **Marriage**
28 Aug 1895 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri

Susan Amildra Miser
(1855–1938)

Age 68 — **Death of Daughter Letitia**
Jun 1900 • Brownsdale, Mower, Minnesota

Age 69 — **Residence**
1900 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
grocery store operator, later grain and feed merchant; with 2nd wife Susan and her two Perkins children (23, 25)

Age 79 — **Residence**
1910 • Neosho Ward 3, Newton, Missouri
US Census reports "own income"; just Alex and Susan, no children in residence

Age 80 — **Death of Son Alex Jr.**
26 Jul 1912 • Wasatch, Utah
mining accident

Age 89 — **Residence**
1920 • Neosho Ward 3, Newton, Missouri
just Alex and Susan

Age 92 — **Death of Son James**
24 Jul 1924 • Everett, Snohomish, Washington

Age 93 — **Death**
17 Apr 1925 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
of chronic interstitial nephritis; joint funeral service 18 Apr with Son-in-Law William Palmer;

gravestone and marker at Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, Mower, Minnesota; obituary says he is survived by five daughters, 20 grand- and 21 great-grandchildren

Relationship between Alexander Requa & ***Figure of Eight***

Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831 - 1925)
our 2nd great-grandfather
V
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853 - 1900)
daughter of Alexander "Alex" Requa
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Siblings of Alexander Requa

Full-siblings, Children of Father James & Mother Mary Ruton

Amy Requa (1812-1863) m. Samuel Johnson (1809-)

Eldest sibling, Sister Amy, married in about 1829, apparently stayed in New York, possibly Brooklyn. The Requa home place was within 30 miles of present New York City, and several of the family gravitated into the City. She and Samuel reportedly had eight children. One son, Samuel M, named after the father, was resident on Wall Street in 1898.

Isaac Requa (1814-1891) m. Elizabeth Whitehead (-); m. Elizabeth Kirkley (1823-1890)

Brother Isaac was married in Brooklyn, then moved to Wisconsin, presumably with the parental family. Their 2nd daughter Adrianna was born there in 1847. He was a clothing merchant. His later life was back in Brooklyn, New York where Elizabeth died. He remarried and had another child with English-born 2nd wife. There, Isaac was a clothing manufacturer.

William Requa (1816-)

This brother died young.

Abram Requa (1818-1893) m. Elizabeth Phebe Lyon (1820-1991)

Abram also remained in New York, was a teacher at Irving Institute, Tarrytown, where he married the principal's sister. Subsequently, he worked in Baltimore as the editor of the "Clipper". He was known to have interactions with President Lincoln, reportedly declined an offer of the Consulship at Honolulu. After the Civil War, he returned to Brooklyn and became the financial agent for the Five-Point Methodist Mission for 21 years. He and Elizabeth had five children, two of whom are buried with the parents, along with many other Requa relatives, at the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

(William) Henry Requa (1820-1855) m. Caroline Wilson Johnson (1823-1899)

Henry was a Methodist minister. All but the first two of their nine children were born in Wisconsin, suggesting that they moved west with his parental family. Three of their sons would die young. Henry was killed in Arkansas, while serving as a chaplain in the Civil War, after which the three surviving sons migrated to the Pacific Northwest. The 1915 Seattle City directory shows Son Henry J (Ida M), watchmaker; and Son Mark M (Myrtle E) — Mark & Waureth A operate Requa & Son, building

contractors. Meanwhile, the two surviving sisters aided-and-abetted each other in Minnesota and Missouri. Widowed Caroline re-married, to Clement Engle, a widower farmer at Lanesboro, Minnesota.

Rachel Requa (1822-1897) m. James E Sebring (1822-1894)

Sister Rachel married in New York, the last three of their nine children were born in Wisconsin after the family migration. They had shifted to Minnesota by the time of 1857 Territorial Census; James was a merchant at Chatfield. They would have a 10th child there. Son Alfred E became a Civil War casualty. They were re-settled in Washington, D.C., as early as 1864, where Son David became a government auditor. Rachel died back in New York in the home of Daughter Nettie.

Elizabeth Requa (1824-1897) m. Jeremiah van Riper (1823-1895)

Sister Elizabeth married a carpenter of Dutch descent, stayed in New York, raised three children.

Emeline Requa (1826-)

This sister died young.

James Augustus Requa (1827-1868) m. Celia Parker (1824-)

James apparently stayed in New York. He and Celia had as many as five children, but only Arthur survived to adulthood. James was a banker in New York City, but by 1860 had become an iron dealer in Chautauqua County, New York. He was apparently also a grape producer at Brockton, where he died very young at 41. His widow and surviving son would relocate to California.

John J Requa (1834-)

This brother died young.

Benjamin F Requa (1837-1906) m. Susan L Hillock (1839-1878); m. Emma L Prickett (1867-1917)

Youngest full-sibling, Benjamin, came West with the family group. He would engage in the Civil War on the Union side for three years. First wife, Susan, died childless in Iowa, after which Ben moved to Colorado where he became a merchant. From 1883, he received a pension as an invalid veteran. He would follow Bro Alex to Missouri, where he married a much younger woman, Emma, with whom he sired two children. After his death the family relocated to Everett, Washington, joining cousins in business.

Half-siblings, Children of Father James & Letitia Ruton

Mary Jane Requa (1843-1874) m. John W Lester (1844-)

Half-sister Mary Jane moved West with the family group while still a child. In due course, she married Brother Alexander's next door neighbour in 1865. History has it that she had five children before dying young at 31. Widowed farmer, husband John, and surviving child, Anna, just seven at the time of Mother's death, move on to Kansas.

Samuel J Requa (1848-1918) m. Celia Bridget Enright (1855-1920)

Youngest half-sibling, Samuel, was born in Wisconsin soon after the family group moved west. He would always be part of Alexander's life, sometimes as a resident in the same household, until moving to Washington around 1900, where he became a civil engineer, building bridges for the Great Northern Railroad. The 1915 Seattle City Directory shows him and Celia living with Son Frank, a teamster; nearby is Son Howard B (Clara), a janitor. At about the same time, Son Walter J (Minnie B) was president of Coast Grocery in nearby Everett, with Cousin Edith F (Benjamin's daughter) as bookkeeper in the business. Son Harry, an employee there, became a WWI casualty in Belgium.

Narrative: *"A New Life, in a New Place"*

What a life I've had! I remember most of it, as well as something of the family lore about the people and events that preceded me. I know of the Huguenot exile from France, the deaths on the boat. I know of the early days of the Requa family in the New World, in their new life, at New Rochelle, New York, where for two generations French was spoken. I know of Captain Glode, a Revolutionary War soldier, who, with

eleven other Requas, four of whom were commissioned officers, is memorialized on a monument at Philipse Manor, now Philipsburg, at Tarrytown, New York. I know something of the Hudson River drowning death of my grandfather, James Requa, along with his brother and their slave boy, and of the posthumous birth of his son, my father, James, Jr.

I remember well my mother's death when I was only nine, remember her singing on her deathbed her favorite hymn. We lived in New York City in those days, one of the world's great cities, built in part on West Farm, Westchester, which Requa family members had occupied in the early years. For 30 years, my father was a riverboat captain on the very river that had claimed his father's life. Often in my dreams I feel the gentle rocking of that boat, and awaken with some residue of the excitement that I had felt as a boy mooring up to docks that had been built by Requa hands.

When my father, with my stepmother (who was also my Aunt Letitia), made the move with several of my older siblings to the 'Wild West', I had my own reasons to stay behind. Officially, I was inmidst getting an education, but I had other dreams and schemes, as well. I had read Washington Irving's *"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"*, set, in part, in the very cemetery where the bones of many Requa ancestors lie. While I didn't tell my parents at the time, I had met my 'Katrina van Tassel', and, even at the ripe old age of 14, perceived that the right thing to do was to stay close by and wait for her. With a baker's dozen of siblings and countless other relatives about I was not wanting for parenting while I was about my growing up. Lucinda and I followed the others in due course, got married in Columbus, Wisconsin, where our first child was born. Restless in those days, we returned to New York City for couple of years, where I managed to get what higher education I have had.

By the time we returned to the West, my parents, the younger children and stepchildren, along with my sister Rachel and her tribe, had relocated to Minnesota Territory. We obtained land there — homesteading was the thing to do in those days — though I never really did take to farming. Our folks in New York, those who weren't judges and doctors and ministers and legislators and the like, where tradesmen and merchants. Buying and selling, 'trading', is in my blood, so, despite nominally being a farmer, I have mostly made my living in the trades, although, truth be known, the siren call of civic life has provided much distraction from something as mundane as a workaday life — *"rather Methodism, than mercantilism",* I am wont to say.

As my distant uncle, Rev. Amos Requa stated in his compiled family history just before the turn-of-the-century *"…the Requas...had the qualities that commanded confidence and success…were enterprising, public-spirited citizens."* My public service life commenced after my father died, and we made the move from Fountain, Fillmore County, to Grand Meadow in neighbouring Morrow County. There, despite having a bigger-and-better farm (which we put in Lucinda's name), I chose to become the Town Clerk. I also helped found a Methodist Church there, and became a member of two service lodges. Before long, I was elected as the County Treasurer, thus precipitating a move of convenience into Austin, the Morrow County Seat; I was eventually entrusted to serve three terms.

Having spent a year as a missionary in South America as a young man, when my Lucinda died, and with me just turned 60, and our children being mostly grown and out in the world on their own, I again felt compelled to embark on new adventures. After a year in Arkansas, I followed my brother, Benjamin, to Missouri, and now here I am at Neosho, operating a grocery store. I have, through the church where I am quite involved, met a fine widow-woman with three children. I am not sure who asked whom, but we apparently both said 'yes', as we are set to be married next month. It seems that I have, indeed, started a new life in a new place.

Alexander Requa, July 1895, Neosho, Newton County, Missouri [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston,*** 11 Apr 2018]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Alexander Requa Bio

Austin Register Special Edition, 1890

ALEXANDER REQUA.

Mr. Requa, the present Treasurer of Mower county, was born in Poughkeepsie, Duchess county, N. Y., in October, 1831. When he was three years of age his parents removed to New York city. At the age of fifteen in Requa came west into the then territory of Wisconsin, where he married and took up a claim. In 1856, after a two years' visit in the east, he came into the territory of Minnesota and settled on a farm near the present village of Fountain. In addition to farming he engaged for a time in wheat buying at Fountain. Since 1877 he has lived in Mower county. He owns a 160-acre farm near Grand Meadow; while carrying this on he engaged in wheat buying at Grand Meadow. Mr. Requa's long business career has been one of strict honesty and unimpeached integrity. Though engaged in a business which often involved accounts reaching into the thousands of dollars, no suspicion has ever rested on any of his transactions. In 1886 some leading men arrived at the conclusion that the east side of the county should be given a representative in the list of county officers. In looking about for a suitable man upon whom to bestow the honor, who would be most acceptable to the eastern half of the county, they decided on Alex. Requa, of Grand Meadow, as the most suitable. He was accordingly nominated for County Treasurer, and the election gave him the office by a majority of nearly 400 votes. The eminent manner in which Mr. Requa discharged the duties of the Treasurer's office is evidenced by the fact that in 1888 he was re-elected by a majority of over 3,000, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of the county.

Death Certificate



MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

Do not use this space.
12463

1. PLACE OF DEATH
County Newton — Registration District No. 609 — File No.
Township — Primary Registration District No. 4363 — Registered No.
City Neosho (N.) St. Ward)

2. FULL NAME Alexander Requa
(a) Residence. No. St., Ward.
(Usual place of abode) (If nonresident give city or town and State)
Length of residence in city or town where death occurred yrs. mos. ds. How long in U.S., if of foreign birth? yrs. mos. ds.

N. B.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important.

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

3. SEX: Male | 4. COLOR OR RACE: White | 5. SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED OR DIVORCED (write the word): Married

5A. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED
HUSBAND OF (or) WIFE OF Susan Requa

6. DATE OF BIRTH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR) Oct 7 1831

7. AGE — YEARS: 93 | MONTHS: 6 | DAYS: 10 | If LESS than 1 day, ... hrs. or ..... min.

8. OCCUPATION OF DECEASED
(a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work: Retired
(b) General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which employed (or employer)
(c) Name of employer

9. BIRTHPLACE (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY) New York

PARENTS
10. NAME OF FATHER James Requa
11. BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY) New York
12. MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER Dont Know
13. BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (CITY OR TOWN) (STATE OR COUNTRY) New York

14. INFORMANT Mrs. T. Requa
(Address) Neosho Mo

15. FILED 5/8 19 25 C. E. Manuel REGISTRAR

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

16. DATE OF DEATH (MONTH, DAY AND YEAR) April 17 1925

17. I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from Jan 1 19 20 to April 17 19 25
that I last saw ... alive on April 16 05 19 24 and that
death occurred, on the date stated above, at ... m.
THE CAUSE OF DEATH* WAS AS FOLLOWS:
Pulmonis Tuberculosis
Emphysema 1859
(duration) 10 yrs. mos. ds.
CONTRIBUTORY (SECONDARY) Natural Causes of Old Age
(duration) ... yrs. ... mos. ... ds.

18. WHERE WAS DISEASE CONTRACTED
IF NOT AT PLACE OF DEATH?
DID AN OPERATION PRECEDE DEATH? Date of
WAS THERE AN AUTOPSY?
WHAT TEST CONFIRMED DIAGNOSIS?
(Signed) E. M. Rosbery, M. D
4-17 1925 (Address) Neosho Mo

*State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES, state (1) MEANS AND NATURE OF INJURY, and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, or HOMICIDAL. (See reverse side for additional space.)

19. PLACE OF ~~BURIAL, CREMATION~~, OR REMOVAL: Austin, Minnesota — DATE OF BURIAL: 4-18 1925
20. UNDERTAKER: Bingham's — ADDRESS: Neosho

ancestry

Joint Funeral Services

REQUA, ALEX

DEATH

LAST WEEK IN NEOSHO, MO.

Joint funeral services for Alex Requa, former county commissioner and William H. Palmer were held at Oakwood yesterday. They were also father-in-law and son-in-law respectively. Mr. Palmer was the father of Julian Palmer, Blue Earth editor. Mr. Requa died in Neosho, MO last week. He was born in New York, 7 Oct. 1831 and came to Fountain Minn. in 1856 where was a grain buyer. In 1877 he moved to Grand Meadow. In 1893 after the death of Mrs. Requa he moved to Arkansas but later moved to Neosho, Mo. He was later married and was in the

MOWER COUNTY NEWS

23 APRIL 1925

FRONT PAGE, COL. 4

Mower County Historical Society
Austin Minnesota 55912

grain and feed business until his age forced him to retire. He is survived by his wife and 5 daughters: Mrs. Dora Falcone, Mrs. Rachel Rose, Miss Laura Requa, Mrs. Mary Briggs, Mrs. Eliza Bussel.

Grand Meadow Record
April 23, 1925
~~pg~~ page 1
col. 1

see vertical file

Obituary

NEWSPAPER Grand Meadow Record

DATE April 23, 1925

ALEX REQUA DIES AT AGE OF NINETY THREE YEARS

Death Comes Suddenly at Neosho, Mo., to Former Resdent of Grand Meadow

Mrs. H. B. Bussell received the sad word last Saturday that her aged father, Alex Requa, had passed away on Friday at his home in Neosho, Missouri, the message stating that the body would be sent at once to Austin for burial. Just a day or two previous Mrs. Bussell had received a letter written by Mr. Requa that stated he was enjoying the best of health, and evidently death came to him suddenly. Mr. Requa was a most remarkable man and had passed his ninety-third birthday some months ago. He visited here about seven years ago and at that time the editor of this newspaper had the pleasure of meeting him and visiting with him. We remember him as a patriach of unusual vigor for his advanced age, a Godly man who desired to spend his declining years in spreading the gospel of brotherly love and optimism to his fellow beings. He possessed a brilliant mind and devoted much of his time to the spreading of Christian doctrine both from the pulpit and through the press.

The body arrived in Austin early that afternoon simple but beautiful funeral services were held in the chapel of the Austin cemetery. Rev. L. D. Williams of the Grand Meadow M. E. church officiated at the service, which was attended by relatives and a few intimate local friends. Interment was made in the Austin cemetery. The following sketch of the eventful life of Mr. Requa was read at the service:

Alex Requa was born in Buffalo, New York, Oct. 7, 1831. He acquired an excellent education in the public schools of his native state. Dec. 26, 1852 he married Lucinda Andress at Columbus, Wis., and moved to New York City. Mr. Requa and his family came to Minnesota in 1856 first living at Fountain where he was a grain buyer and in 1877 moved to Grand Meadow and continued the same occupation. In 1886, Mr. Requa was elected county Treasurer and moved to Austin. He served three terms in this office. After the death of his wife, on May 19, 1893 he moved to Arkansas where he resided one year and then settled in Neosho, Missouri. Here he married Mrs. Susan Perkins. He conducted a grocery and later a grain and feed store until obliged to retire from active business because of his age, Mr. Requa always enjoyed good health in spite of his advanced years until his sudden death April 16, 1925. He was 93 years and 6 months of age.

He had a family of eleven children, three of whom died in infancy, of his remaining children, Mrs. Letetia Palmer of Brownsdale, Alex Regua, Jr., of Touapah, Arizona and James Requa of Evert, Washington have preceeded him to the better land. He leaves to mourn his departure a wife and five daughters: Mrs. Dora Folsom, of California, Mrs. Rachel Reese and Miss Laura Requa, of Vancouver, Washington, Mrs. Mary Briggs, of Everert, Washington and Mrs. Eliza Bussell of Grand Meadow, Minnesota twenty grand children and twenty-one great grand children.

Mr. Requa ancestry in America dates back to the coming of the French Huguenots in 1732. Many of his ancestors faught in the Revolutionary War. At Tarrytown, New York there has been erected a monument to the Requa in that town—there being thirteen from this town who fought for their country's freedom.

Mr. Requa was an active christian and always took a prominent part in church and S. S. work. He was one of the founders of the Methodist church at Grand Meadow, Minn., and until a short time before his death he taught a bible class at Neosho, Missouri. He frequently spoke from the pulpits of various churches. He was a gifted writer, serious and humorous and wrote many articles for publication in religious and secular papers. Mr. Regua was a charter member of the Grand Meadow Masonic lodge and was also a member of the Eastern Star.

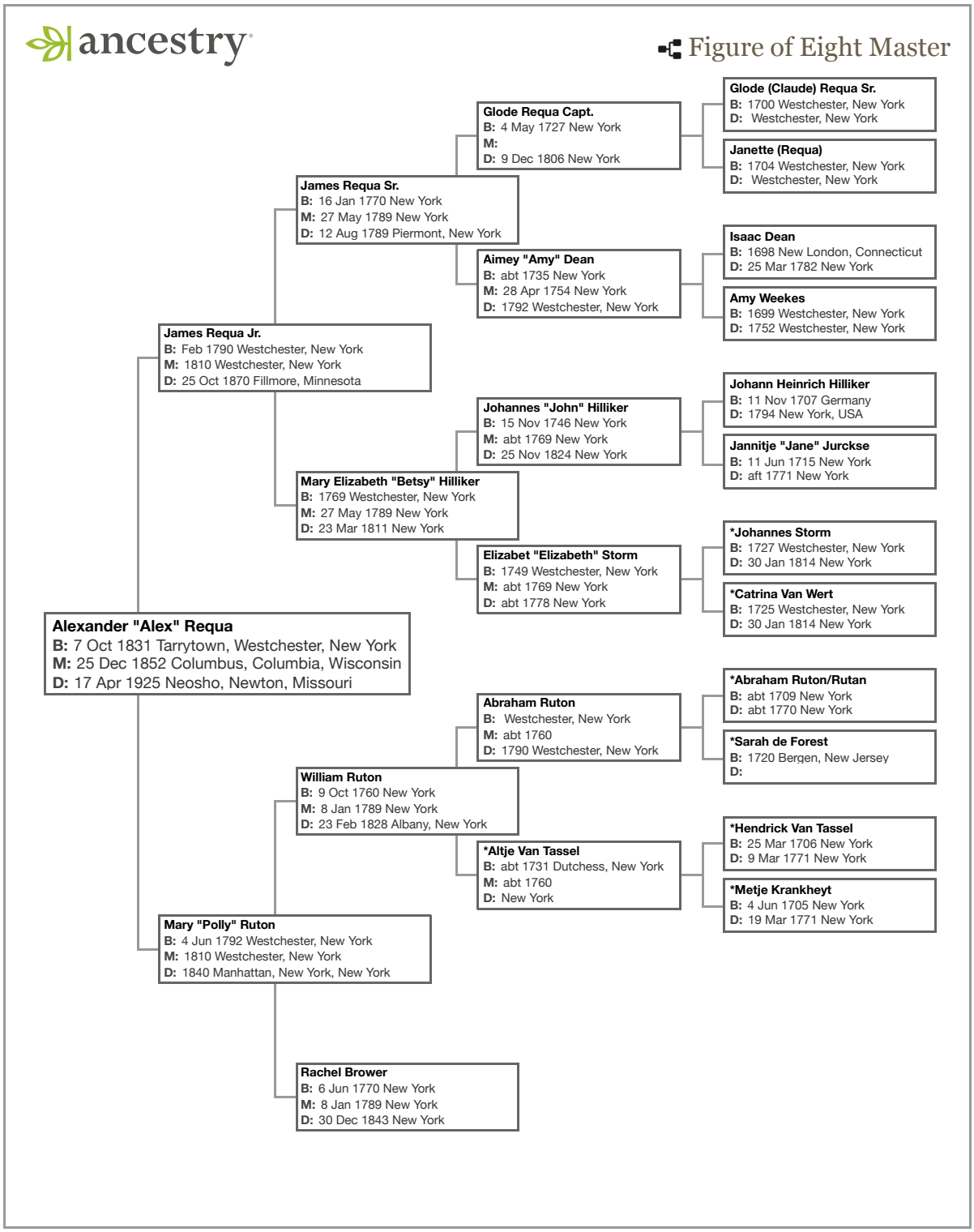
During his long life he had visited many parts of our country and in the 50s spent an eventful and interesting year in South America.

Mr. Requa was a man every way worthy of highest esteem. He was a good citizen. His fidelity, his honesty of purpose, his prompt and intelligent discharge of his many duties thro life were directed by a sincere desire to promote individual and public good.

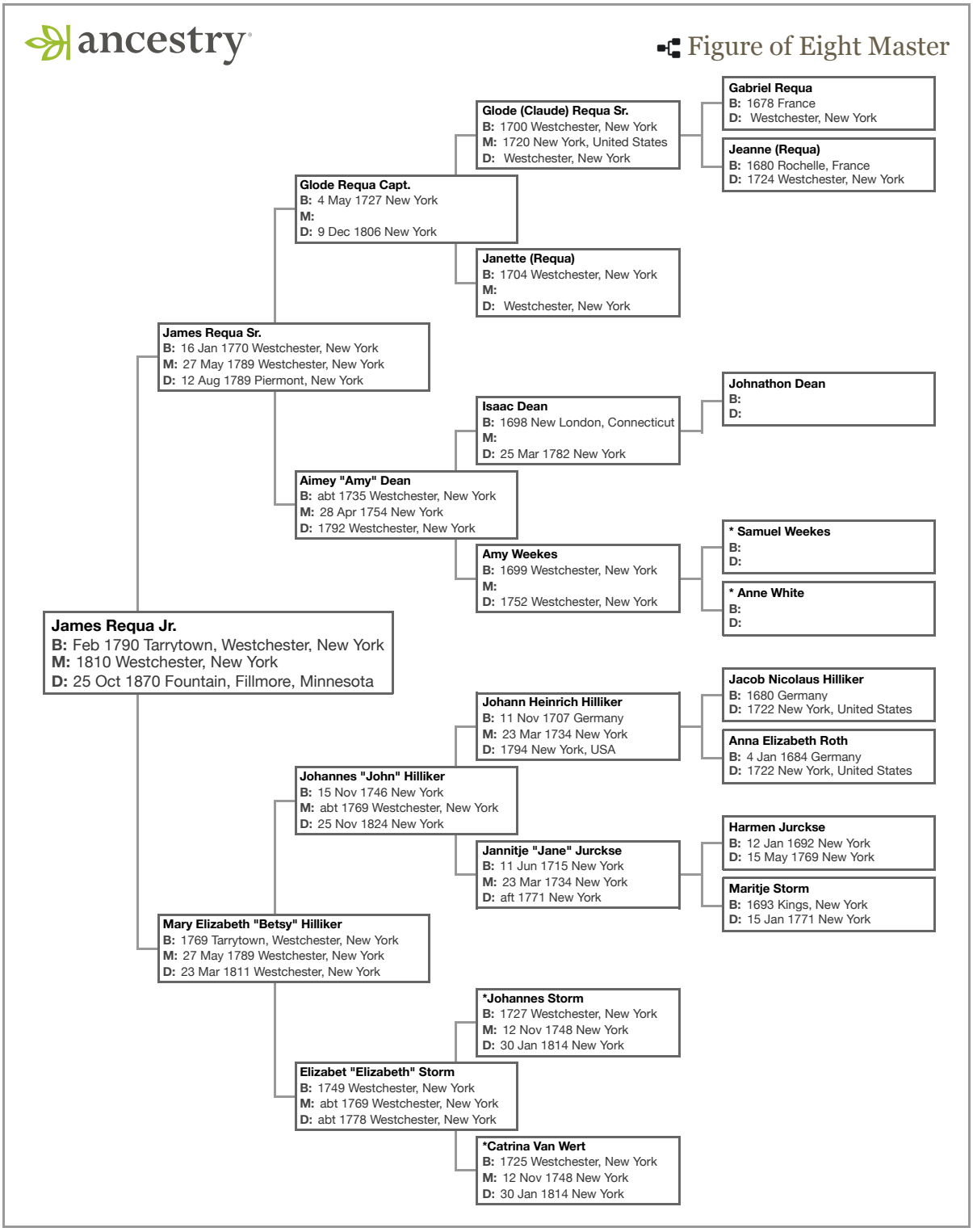
Mower Co. Hist. Soc
Austin, MN 55912

Earlier Ancestry

Origin Pyramid of Alexander Requa



Origin Pyramid of James Requa, Jr.



Huguenot Refugees

"The European settlement [of New Rochelle, New York], was started by refugee Huguenots (French Protestants) in 1688, who were fleeing religious persecution in France after the revocation by the king of the Edict of Nantes. Many of the settlers were artisans and craftsmen from the city of La Rochelle, France, thus influencing the choice of the name of 'New Rochelle'.

Some 33 families established the community of la Nouvelle-Rochelle in 1688. A monument containing the names of these settlers stands in Hudson Park, the original landing point of the Huguenots. Thirty-one years earlier, the Siwanoy Indians, a band of Algonquian-speaking Lenape (also known as the Delaware by English colonists) sold their land to Thomas Pell. In 1689 Pell officially deeded 6,100 acres (25 km2) for the establishment of a Huguenot community. Jacob Leisler is an important figure in the early histories of both New Rochelle and the nation. He arrived in America as a mercenary in the British army and later became one of the most prominent merchants in New York. He was subsequently appointed acting-governor of the province, and it was during this time that he acted on behalf of the Huguenots.

Of all the Huguenot settlements in America founded with the intention of being distinctly French colonies, New Rochelle most clearly conformed to the plans of its founders. The colony continued to attract French refugees until as late as 1760. The choice of name for the city reflected the importance of the city of La Rochelle and of the new settlement in Huguenot history and distinctly French character of the community. French was spoken, and it was common practice for people in neighboring areas to send their children to New Rochelle to learn the language."

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Rochelle,_New_York]

The Requas of Tremblade, France and Tarrytown, New York [1]

Immigration

"The English Patent Rolls, Westminister, mention the naturalization of Claude and John Equerie or Esquier, March 8, 1682. [ref: Protestant Exiles from France in the Reign of Louis XIV. Agnew, London, 3d edit., Vol II., p. 47].

The Records of the French Church, New York, notice the decease of Jean (John) Equier, mariner, native of Tremblade, France, who died in the harbor, on a ship from London, December 23, 1689. [ref: Collections of the Huguenot Society of America. Vol. I., p. 8].

Family tradition as related by Abraham Requa, 1759-1843, and recorded by his grandson, Charles M. Requa, 1823-1865, says: Two brothers named Requa from Rochelle, France, came to America about 1690; one with a family, the other a bachelor. They were Huguenots driven out by Romish persecution. Just before reaching New York the husband and wife died, leaving an only son, Gabriel, about twelve years old. In the same ship came also a girl named Jeanne, of about the same age, a French refugee, whom Gabriel afterward married. They lived at New Rochelle, N.Y., and left an only son Glode. On arriving in New York, the bachelor brother left Gabriel and Jeanne, intending to go South prospecting, but was never heard from. He had with him a large sum of money belonging to the family.

This fact, together with the record of the French Church, may explain his sudden disappearance. The French Records, just referred to, say 'John Equier died in the harbor, shackled and bound.' Why shackled and bound? Was he entrapped, bound and murdered on the same ship which had brought them from England? It may be so. Truth is often stranger than fiction.

This tradition agrees with the English Patent Rolls of 1682, and with the French Records of December, 1689. Thus making Claude Equerie, who died at sea, the father of Gabriel; and making John Equier, who died in the harbor, the lost brother.

This view is further sustained by the fact that the names Glode, John and Gabriel, were perpetuated in the different branches of the family; Glode being another spelling of the French Claude." [Part I, pp. ix, x]

Philipse Manor (Now Phillipsburg Manor, Sleepy Hollow, New York)

"The story of the Requa Family as related to Philipse Manor during the Revolutionary struggle, and subsequent to that period, is one of not a little interest. Although the migration of the Requas here was

confined to a single family of that name, and that at a period not earlier at least than 1730, and after the settlement here under Frederick Philipse had existed for 50 years, from 1775 to 1784, they seem to have been a regnant family, furnishing their full quota of commissioned officers, and of rank and file in support of the patriot cause. Altogether, twelve of that name on this Manor, all that were of sufficient age to bear arms, were soldiers of the revolution; four of whom were commissioned officers. But the Requas were not only stalwart patriots; they had the qualities that commanded confidence and success. They built docks, engaged in river trade and were enterprising, public-spirited citizens. It is indeed inspiring to look at such a record, and it may well be cause for congratulation to all who bear that honored name, or are connected collaterally there with." [Part II; p. 1 — crediting M. D. Raymond of the Tarrytown Argus, Tarrytown, N.Y., 1894]

Glode (Claude) Requa, Sr.

"That the father of the first Glode was Gabriel seems substantiated by the fact that the name was perpetuated in the different branches of the family.

Glode, Sr., it is said, was very Frenchy in his talk, and hard to understand on account of his foreign speech. For two generations the Huguenots of New Rochelle used the French language. That he occupied the farm which afterwards descended to his eldest son, Glode, Jr., is unquestioned; and that was the early home of the family on this Manor. When Glode Requa, Sr., came to this Manor does not clearly appear, but probably soon after 1730. The marriage record of his children Jannitie, James, John and Daniel, in the old Dutch Church, the birthplaces of all of them is given as Phillipsburgh.

No reference is made to the wife of Glode, Sr., nor to the date of death of either of them, their place of burial being unmarked.

The religious trend of the family should be noted. The faith of the fathers, which drove them from their native land, was the inheritance of their children and children's children. Early associating themselves with the various Christian churches, the record of their unselfish lives and happy deaths is written on their tombstones, and rehearsed in family story." [Part II; p. 5]

Glode Requa, Jr. Branch

"*Glode, Jr., or Capt. Glode Requa, as he came to be during the Revolution, was a well-defined figure upon our local horizon; a distinct personality, the date of whose birth and death, and place of residence, and burial, distinctly appear. He was born May 4, 1727, and died December 9, 1806. Buried in the old Dutch church-yard. He married Amy Dean, daughter of Thomas Dean, and sister of Sergt. John Dean of the Revolution. He was a member of the Committee of Public Safety in 1776, and was early appointed to the command of a Company of Militia on this Manor. Of the services so performed by him, frequent mention is made in the applications for pension, of those who served under him.*

He was for one year prisoner in the old Sugar House Prison, New York. He took title from the Commissioners of Forfeiture, to the valuable farm of 296 acres, which she had previously occupied, and also to four lots of one acre each, in the present village of Tarrytown, and at his death left a valuable estate. Glode Requa, Jr., and his wife, Amy Dean, had six sons and three daughters." [Part II; pp. 6, 7]

The Drowning of James and Glode Requa

"James, son of Capt. Glode, married Elizabeth Heleker, and was drowned with his youngest brother, in the Hudson River. The drowning of James and Glode, sons of Capt. Glode Requa, was a tragedy, the memory of which has been perpetuated in the family. It occurred while crossing the Hudson, either to or from Piermont. One account says by the upsetting of the boat in a severe storm; another story is that they were struck by lightning, probably on the River opposite at the old homestead. An old double tombstone, now fast crumbling to decay, perpetuates the fact of the death of James and Glode Requa, both on 12 August, 1789, the age of the former being given as 19 years, six months, and 27 days, and of the latter, 14 years, one month, and 22 days, but the cause of their death does not there appear. It seemed at first, when the family tree showed that the above James request had descendants, that there must be a mistake somewhere; but an examination of the records of the old Dutch Church showed James Requa, married to Betsy Heleker, as the tree indicated, on the 28th of June, prior to the 12th of August on which he was drowned. He was then in his 20th year, and early marriages were common at that period. And then, more than six months after his death, a son, James, was born to him, who has many

descendants.

James Requa, son of James who was drowned, married first, Mary Ruton, and afterward, her sister, Letitia. For 30 years he was engaged in the river trade as captain of a market sloop. His first wife, Mary, died in New York, and was buried in a vault beneath the Bedford Street M. E. Church, of which she was a worthy member. Her son, Alexander, writes: "I well remember hearing my dear mother say in her last moments: 'Jesus can make a dying bed/Feel soft as downy pillows are!'" She was unable to repeat the remaining lines.

James Requa and his second wife, Letitia, moved to Chatfield, Minnesota, where he died at the home of his son, Alexander. By his first wife he had 12 children, by his second wife, two children. His grandchildren were 70 in number." [Part II; pp. 16, 17]

[[1] Reference: unedited excerpts from *The Family of Requa, 1678-1898.* Rev. Amos C. Requa, Peekskill, NY, 1898. NB: This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online: http://books.google.com/]

Requa Multi-Generational Interconnections — Ruton

Figure of Eight 3rd great-grandfather, James Requa Jr. (1790-1870) married, sequentially, two Ruton sisters, Mary (1792-1840), our 2nd great-grandmother, and Letitia (1803-1857). Their brother, Dr. John Jackson Ruton (1801-1832) married James Requa, Jr.'s 2nd cousin, Elizabeth "Eliza" Ann Requa (1804-1861). James and Elizabeth shared a great-grandfather (our 6th great-grandfather), Glode (Claude) Requa, Sr. (1700-).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (20 Apr 2018)]

Requa Multi-generational Interconnections — Jurckse (Yerks)

Two Jurkse (Yerks) sisters from New Amsterdam (later New York) in the early part of the 18th century, would intermarry with the progenitors of ***Figure of Eight*** maternal grandmother, Edith Belle Palmer Poston, whose mother was a Requa . . .

Marietje/Mary Jurkse (1729–1769)
our 7th great-aunt; daughter of Harmen Jurckse (1692–1769)
our 7th great-grandfather
married:
Thomas Dean (1722–1810)
our 6th great-uncle; son of Isaac Dean (1698–1784)
our 6th great-grandfather
whose daughter:
Aimey/Amy Dean (1735–1792)
our 5th great-grandmother (sister of Thomas Dean)
married:
Capt. Glode Requa (1727–1806)
our 5th great-grandfather

Jannitje/Jane Jurckse (1715–aft 1771)
our 6th great-grandmother (Mary's sister)
whose granddaughter:
Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Hilliker (1769–1811)
our 4th great-grandmother
married:
James Requa Sr. (1770–1789)
our 4th great-grandfather (son of Capt. Glode Requa)

As an interesting footnote . . .

Johannes/John Hilliker (1746–1824)
our 5th great-grandfather (father of Betsy Hilliker; son of Jane Jurckse)

married (as his 2nd wife):
Eva Jurckse (1760–1829)
his 1st cousin; niece of Mary and Jane Jurckse; daughter of their brother William

Got that?

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 Jul 2017)]

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow is a short story of speculative fiction by American author Washington Irving, contained in his collection of 34 essays and short stories entitled The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent...first published in 1820. The story is set in 1790 in the countryside around the Dutch settlement of Tarry Town (historical Tarrytown, New York), in a secluded glen called Sleepy Hollow...renowned for its ghosts and the haunting atmosphere that pervades the imaginations of its inhabitants and visitors.

The 'Legend' relates the tale of Ichabod Crane, a lean, lanky and extremely superstitious schoolmaster from Connecticut, who competes with Abraham "Brom Bones" Van Brunt, the town rowdy, for the hand of 18-year-old Katrina Van Tassel, the daughter and sole child of a wealthy farmer."

[Credit: Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia]

Much of the historic story of the Requas, and their extended family, in America has centered around Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York, and many of their remains rest in the Old Dutch Cemetery at Sleepy Hollow.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Apr 2018)]



Photo Credit: Heatherdawn on Find A Grave

Phillipsburg Manor, Sleepy Hollow, Tarrytown, Westchester County, New York



Philipsburg Manor was a thriving farming, milling, and trading center owned by the Philipses, a family of Anglo-Dutch merchants, from 1693 until 1779. They rented land to tenant farmers of diverse European backgrounds and relied on a community of 23 enslaved Africans to operate the complex. From about 1730, Phillipsburg several generations of Requas and their allied families were associated with the Manor. A revolutionary War monument there honours 12 Requa veterans, four of them officers.

[Reference and photo credit: Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia]

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 April 2018)]

New Netherlands Colony

For more than a century following the 'discovery' of the so called New World by Columbus, acting on behalf of the Spanish, various Europeans periodically explored and mapped in the Americas. The Spanish, most active further south and on the west coast, were the first to establish a continuously-occupied settlement in North America at San Augustin (Florida), in 1566. The French followed with settlements in Port Royal (Nova Scotia) and Quebec in 1605, 1608 respectively. The British founded Jamestown (Virginia) in 1607, Cuper's Cove (Newfoundland) in 1610, and Plymouth (Massachusetts) in 1620, and Boston in 1630.

In May 1624, Holland, with an eye to the beaver-felt hat trade, commenced the private commercial venture of New Netherlands, which stretched from the 38th parallel to the 45th parallel, encompassing parts of the present states of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Settlement was encouraged, as occupancy strengthened sovereignty claims. While the area was soon to be surrendered to British domination (from 1664), who renamed its capital, New Amsterdam, to New York City. The Dutch residents, tending to be liberal-leaning free thinkers known for their industriousness and their frugality, persisted and thrived, making a considerable contribution to the ultimate success of European habitation of the new lands.

Many ***Figure of Eight*** ancestors were of original Dutch stock, allied through the maternal grandparents of our 2nd great-grandfather, Alexander "Alex" Requa — William Ruton (1760-1828) and Mary Brower (1770-1843); note Brouwer, Van Tassel, Ackerman, Van Blerkim, Storm, Van Wicklen, Krankheyt, Jurckse, Hilliker.

The Requas and their extended families are thought to have relocated from New Rochelle to the Phillipsburgh Manor estate (Tarrytown) in about 1730. Both towns are within New York's Westchester County and are about 12 miles apart. Other connections included Paramus (Hackensack), New Jersey, about 15 miles ('as the crow flies') from Tarrytown and legendary Sleepy Hollow, though separated by the

Hudson River. All these communities are well within the original Dutch Colony of New Netherlands, about 17-25 miles from Manhattan (New Amsterdam), and share much cultural (and genetic) heritage.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (30 Apr 2018)]

Crossing the Hudson

"Fog, tide, ice, and human error — before the American Revolution those who ventured to cross the vast Hudson Valley waterway did so on ferryboats powered by humans, animals, and even fierce winds. Before that war, not a single Hudson River bridge or tunnel had been built. It wasn't until Americans looked to the land in the fight for independence that the importance of crossing the river efficiently became a subject of serious interest, especially militarily. Later, the needs of a new transportation system became critical — when steam railroads first rolled along there was no practical way to get them across the water without bridges."

[Wolf, Donald. Crossing the Hudson. Rutgers Univ. Press, 2010 as reviewed on: https://books.google.ca/books/about/Crossing_the_Hudson.html?id=pkUjghJ_Z6sC]

Requa Surname

The name Requa exists in France, showing up in French writings and in land ownership records. Perhaps originally, it was Equier, Equerie, Esquier, l'Escuyer, Lescuye or Requier, probably all variants of l'Escuier, which translates simply as 'Squire' in English.

Another meaning of the surname 'Requa' is from a variant of the Old Germanic personal name of Ricward, composed of the elements *ric* 'power(ful)' plus -*ward* 'guardian'.

Not a common name, there are apparently only about 400 persons named Requa in the US at this time, most of whom would seem to have come from a common source — a single New York immigrant, Gabriel Requa (1678-), who arrived in 1689. His father was ***Figure of Eight*** 8th great-grandfather, Claude Esquier (1657-1690), who is believed to have died at sea *enroute* New York.

There is a town of Requa in Jackson County, Wisconsin, SSE of Eau Claire, not far from where some of our branch of Requas relocated in the 1840s.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (5 Feb 2014; rev. 11 Feb 2016)]

References:

i. Dictionary of American Family Names, Oxford University Press, Mar 2003
ii. Requa, Amos C, compiler. The Family Requa (1678-1898). Peekskill, NY, 1898
iii. http://family-names.findthedata.org/l/50149/Requa
iv. http://lastnames.myheritage.com/last-name/Requa

ancestry



Lucinda Belle Andres

BIRTH 11 SEP 1834 • Oneida, New York
DEATH 19 MAY 1893 • Austin, Mower, Minnesota
2nd great-grandmother

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
11 Sep 1834 • Oneida, New York
of New York born parents; Daughter Rachel's wedding record states mother's surname as Andrus; Son James H's death certificate reports mother's surname as Andres

Age 15 — **1850 Census**
13 Jul 1850 • Kirkland, Oneida, New York
pos. rec.: census shows widowed mother Betsy Andrus (45), with several grown children: Delia (25); Wm. (20) blacksmith; Russell (16) labourer – in household of Dau. Mary Ann Lynch Family; other boarders present; Lucinda not listed

Age 16 — **Residence**
10 Oct 1850 • Yates, Orleans, New York
alternate possible record; with parents, Lotis (56) and Abigail (56) and sisters Phebe (15), Mary (12)

Age 18 — **Marriage**
25 Dec 1852 • Columbus, Columbia, Wisconsin
The Requa Family reference says Lucinda is "of New York"; Alex's obituary gives marriage location; 1st child born here Oct 1853; NB: marriage record has bride's surname as 'Andrews' [Entry 235; Vol 1; p. 254]

Alexander "Alex" Requa
(1831–1925)

Age 20 — **Return to New York**
1854-1856 • New York, New York, New York
1st child, Letitia, alternately reported as born here

Age 22 — **Relocation to Minnesota**
abt 1856 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota
2nd child born here October 1857

Age 25 — **Death of Daughter Lizzie**
1859 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Family

Parents

***Levon Andrews/Andrus**
1800–1850

***Betsy Almeda**
1805–1870

Spouse & Children

Alexander "Alex" Requa
1831–1925

- **Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa**
  1853–1900
- **Doresta "Dora" A Requa**
  1857–1942
- **Lizzie Requa**
  1859–1859
- **Fannie Requa**
  1860–1860
- **Eliza B Requa**
  1861–1934
- **Benjamin F Requa**
  1863–1865
- **James H Requa**
  1866–1924
- **Rachel Almeda Requa**
  1868–1932
- **Mary Jane Requa**
  1871–1941
- **Laura Addy Requa**
  1873–1937
- **Alexander Requa Jr.**
  1876–1912

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1860 United States Federal Census
- 1870 United States Federal Census
- 1880 United States Federal Census
- Ancestry Family Trees
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Minnesota Territorial and State Censuses, 1849-1905
- Minnesota, Births and Christenings Index, 1840-1980
- U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current
- Washington, Marriage Records, 1865-2004
- Washington, Select Death Certificates, 1907-1960
- Web: Minnesota, Find A Grave Index, 1849-2011
- Wisconsin Marriages, pre-1907

Age 25 — **Death of Daughter Lizzie**
1859 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Age 25 — **Residence**
23 Jun 1860 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Preston P.O.; farmer husband and two surviving children: Lettie (7) & Dora (3)

Age 26 — **Death of Daughter Fannie**
1860 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Age 30 — **Residence**
1 Jun 1865 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Minnesota Census; with farmer husband and four surviving children down to Benjamin; also present are Father-in-law James and his two youngest children: Samuel, Mary

Age 31 — **Death of Son Benjamin**
1865 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

Age 36 — **Residence**
1870 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

with spouse and five children (1-17); also Requa in-laws: James (84) and Samuel (21), a teacher

Age 38 — **Marriage of Eldest Child**
18 Mar 1873 • Fountain, Fillmore, Minnesota

Lettie marries widowed teacher with three children

Age 40 — **Residence**
1 May 1875 • Fountain Township, Fillmore, Minnesota

with farmer husband Alex and six children (1-17); also a boarder (?), Jas. Logle, b. 1848, NY

Age 43 — **Relocation to Mower County**
1877 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota

as reported in her obituary

Age 46 — **Residence**
1880 • Grand Meadow, Mower, Minnesota

with Alex and children: Dora (20) is now school teacher; six others (3-18)

Age 52 — **Move to Town**
1886 • Austin, Mower, Minnesota

after Alex's election as a county officer, the family moves into Austin

Age 58 — **Death**
19 May 1893 • Austin, Mower, Minnesota

her obit (and, later, also husband's) report maiden name as Andress; died at home of apparent stroke on 2 April (Easter Sunday); eight surviving children all adults (19-40); Methodist funeral; gravestone at Oakwood Cemetery, Austin

Relationship between Lucinda Belle Andres & ***Figure of Eight***

Lucinda Belle Andres (1834 - 1893)
our 2nd great-grandmother
V
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853 - 1900)
daughter of Lucinda Belle Andres
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight
children of Helen Frances Poston

ancestry

Narrative: *"Any More New Babies Had Better Be Grandchildren!"*

I met Alexander Requa in Wisconsin, and we married there at Christmas time in 1852. That was some Christmas present! He was 21 and I was 18. He came from a very illustrious family of soldiers and politicians and judges and the like, and I, well, we were farmers. Alex was very well educated back in New York, and had traveled to South America as a missionary before we met.

After I bore our first child, Leticia Lucinda, in Wisconsin in 1853, we headed back to New York where we lived amongst various extended family for a while. By the time we did return to the West, it was to Fillmore County, Minnesota, in October 1857, where our second child, Dora, was born. Along with several of Alex's family, we have made our home here, first at Fountain, on the edge of the village, and, more recently, at Grand Meadow, in adjacent Mower County, where we live right in the town. We have had nine more children, but, as is often God's will in these matters, they didn't all live. Life is short and death is certain! Yet, be that as it may, I still miss those babies like I would miss one of my limbs if God saw fit to take that from me. For a while during those early years, life looked pretty bleak. Here were we, struggling to make a home on the Prairies. And here was I, not yet 30, and to lose three of the first five children born in our new home — well, even Alex, who is a very religious man, found his faith shaken!

Our Letitia, named after the step-mother who helped raise Alex and his siblings, is away in Iowa with her own ready-made family. I worry about her raising another woman's children, though Palmer, 20 years her senior, is a gentle and considerate man. They have given us our first grandchild, little Fanny, in January. Now that Summer is here and school-break is on, Principal William will get his August holidays, so we are expecting them any day for a visit. You can imagine just how much I am looking forward to that! I have been a bit preoccupied here lately as my own Baby Alex is just a month old today, five months younger than his nephew. Hmmm! I certainly hope that he is the last for me — any more new babies had better be grandchildren, I declare!

Our Doresta, we call her 'Dora', our first Minnesota –born baby, is still at home. She is already a teacher, and has a job lined up for this Fall, as well. Of course, it is a big help to have her here with our tribe of little ones, especially now that I have the baby. Until such time as she marries, it's a good arrangement for all of us.

Alex, as well as his farming, is a grain buyer. He has the able assistance of young Jim Logle, a shirt-tail relative from New York, who lives here in town with us. Alex's youngest half-sibling, Samuel, with Celia and their little guy, are also farming nearby, and Sam helps out at seed-time and harvest when he can. She's expecting again *"for Christmas",* she says. Back in the days when Sam, his sister Mary and Father James all lived with us, and our Lettie was still at home, there was plenty of help to go 'round.

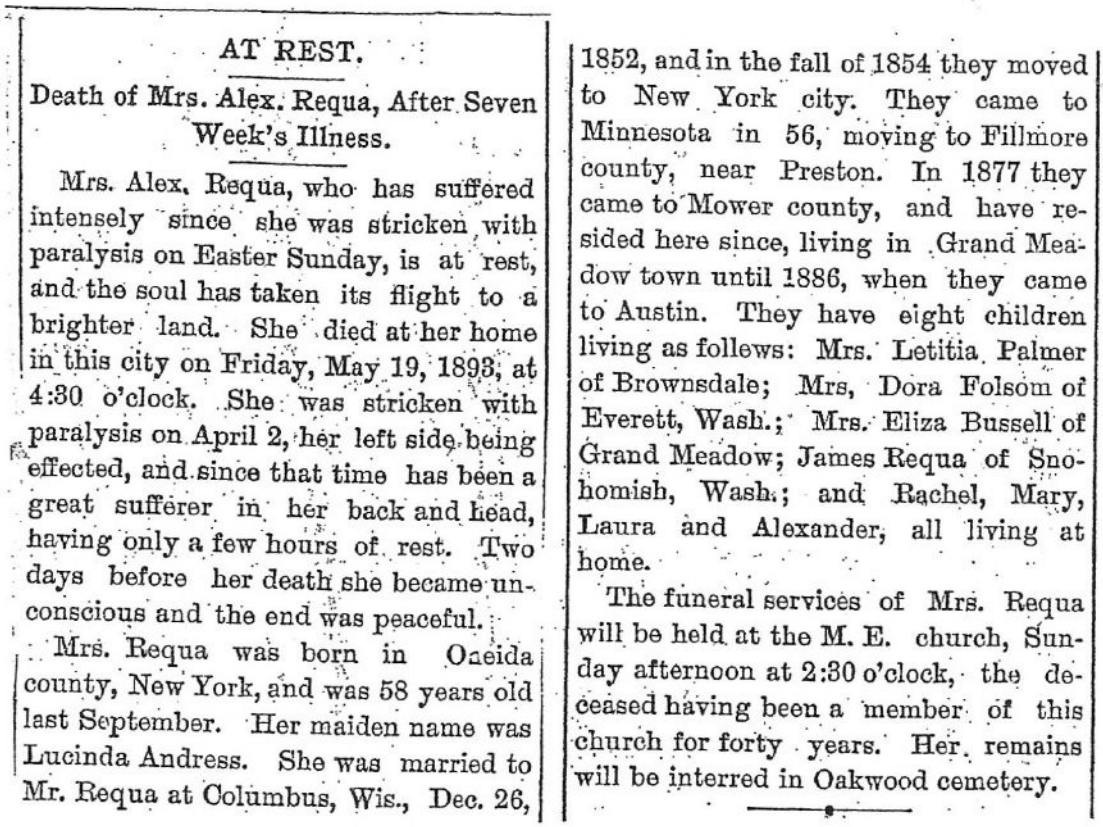
But that was then, and this is now. Sister Mary is gone now, leaving Lester with her two little ones. And Alex's old father, James, an only child, has passed on these six years (God rest his soul!). Having

outlived two wives, and made it to eighty, I think he was ready to go. Alex and his seven surviving siblings are now the 'next generation'.

Lucinda Belle Andres Requa, 26 July 1876, Grand Meadow, Mower County, Minnesota [as imagined by 2nd Great-Grandson ***Ryon C Johnston***, 13 Feb 2016]

Gallery: Personal Records of Note

Death Announcments, Obituaries



AT REST.

Death of Mrs. Alex. Requa, After Seven Week's Illness.

Mrs. Alex. Requa, who has suffered intensely since she was stricken with paralysis on Easter Sunday, is at rest, and the soul has taken its flight to a brighter land. She died at her home in this city on Friday, May 19, 1893, at 4:30 o'clock. She was stricken with paralysis on April 2, her left side being effected, and since that time has been a great sufferer in her back and head, having only a few hours of rest. Two days before her death she became unconscious and the end was peaceful.

Mrs. Requa was born in Oneida county, New York, and was 58 years old last September. Her maiden name was Lucinda Andress. She was married to Mr. Requa at Columbus, Wis., Dec. 26, 1852, and in the fall of 1854 they moved to New York city. They came to Minnesota in 56, moving to Fillmore county, near Preston. In 1877 they came to Mower county, and have resided here since, living in Grand Meadow town until 1886, when they came to Austin. They have eight children living as follews: Mrs. Letitia Palmer of Brownsdale; Mrs, Dora Folsom of Everett, Wash.; Mrs. Eliza Bussell of Grand Meadow; James Requa of Snohomish, Wash.; and Rachel, Mary, Laura and Alexander, all living at home.

The funeral services of Mrs. Requa will be held at the M. E. church, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, the deceased having been a member of this church for forty years. Her remains will be interred in Oakwood cemetery.

[Source: Austin Daily Herald, 20 May 1893]

REQUA, MRS. LUCINDA. Austin

DEATH: WIFE of ALEX REQUA.
died of paralysis, 58 yrs - Born Oneida
Co. NEW YORK. Maiden name was LUCINDA
ANDRESS. Married 25 Dec. 1854 to Alex
REQUA. Funeral at Methodist Church - 3 children
survive - Good write up -
THE TRANSCRIPT. weekly
24 MAY 1893
p. 3 - Col. 5

Mower Co. Hist. Soc.
Austin, MN

REQUA ALEX MRS

DEATH - 19 MAY 1893
Mrs Requa died at her home in Austin, Fri 19 May. She was stricken by paralysis Apr. 2. Born in Oneida N.Y and was 58 years. Maiden name Lucinda Andress, married Mr. Requa 26 Dec 1852 in Columbus Wis.

AUSTIN DEMOCRAT WEEKLY
25 MAY 1893
P. 1 col 4
film
AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY.

She died at her home in this city on Friday, May 19, 1893, at 4:30 o'clock. She was stricken with paralysis on April 2, her left side being effected, and since that time has been a great sufferer in her back and head, having only a few hours of rest. Two days before her death she became unconscious and the end was peaceful.

Source scrapbook 45.000.056-3
Boxdo page 336

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Earlier Ancestry

Finding Family of Lucinda Belle Andres

Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Lucinda Belle Andres (1834-1893), is said to have been born in Oneida County, New York. When she married Alexander Requa (1831-1925), also from New York, on 25 December 1852, the marriage certificate (see this Section, page 32) identified her as 'Andrews', giving parents' names as Levon(?), deceased, and Betsy. However, Lucinda's and Alex's obituaries both read 'Andress', and other records 'Andres'. The couple may have met in either New York before family migrations, or in Wisconsin. Their marriage in Wisconsin would suggest that the Andrews (Andrus/Andress/Andres) parental family would have been there at that time. Confirming Lucinda's family-of-origin has proven to be quite a challenge; the following entries provide possible clues.

1850 US Census at Yates, Orleans, New York, shows the following for Lotis (56) and Abigail (53) Andrews:

This farming couple has grown three daughters: Lucinda (17); Pheba (15); Mary (12). Orlean County is west of Oneida County on the same latitude. Other researchers identify Lotis as 'Zelotes', showing the family on two previous decade censuses at Canandaigua, Ontario, New York, indicating as many as five other children. While there is a Lucinda of the right age in this family, the parents' names and locations don't match known facts.

1850 US Census at Kirkland, Oneida, New York, shows a widowed Betsy Andrews (45):

The head-of-household in this family is Son-in-Law Israel Lynch; Betsy is with her four children: Delia (25), William (20), blacksmith; Russell (16), labourer; as well as Mary Ann Andrews Lynch (23). There is no mention of Lucinda. The threads of this family's members trace subsequently to Kansas Territory, then to Colorado. While there is, as yet, no confirmation that this is Lucinda's family-of-origin, the parametres of time and place are a good match.

Speculation: While there is much scope here for further research, I accept, at this point, * Levon Andrews (abt1800-bef1850), and * Betsy (Andrews)(abt1805-aft1870) to be our Lucinda's parents; I further speculate Betsy's maiden name to be 'Almeda', based on the use of this name as a middle name for at least one of Lucinda's and Alexander's children, as well as a grandchild. **NB: the * indicates a 'calculated relationship', or 'possible/probable relative'.**

Possible Family/Extended Family:

In addition to the candidates listed above, the 1855 US Census enumerates several 'Andrews' heads-of-household — Ole, James, Lyman, Richard, who lived in the two Wisconsin counties nearest to Columbus.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (15 Feb 2016; rev. 11 Mar 2016)]

Andres Surname

The surname 'Andrews' is derived from the Greek *Ανδρέας,* '*Andreas',* itself from *aner/andros*, 'man' (as opposed to 'woman'), thus meaning 'manly' and, by inference, 'strong', 'courageous', 'warrior-like'. In the Christian Bible, the Greek is translated as 'Andrew'. Quite probably, the adoption of biblical-origin names by returning crusaders contributed to the name's popularity. Andrew, the first of Christ's apostles, became the 'patron saint' of both Scotland and Russia. Originally a *personal* name, it became a common surname once such evolved in the 13th century. As a surname, variants of Andrew(s) are found in most European countries: Andre, Andrea, Andree, Andrey, Andriss, Andri and Anders.

In the Andre form, particularly if the final letter is accented, may be French, introduced by some of the thousands of French Huguenots, who fled to England in the mid to late 17th Century to escape religious persecution on the Continent, especially after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes by King Louis XI in 1685. The same form, without the accent, especially in 20th Century immigration, is apparently more likely to be German.

The name also arrived in the British Isles from Scandinavian origin, appearing in the 9th Century in the

northern tip of Scotland in a Norse/Viking controlled area, Caithness, where *Clan Siol Andrea*, 'the race of Andrew', became prominent, often in association with Clan Ross. From there it spread south in the British Isles and, subsequently, to the New World.

The surname stated in the obituaries of both ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandmother, Lucinda Belle (1834-1893), of New York origin, and her husband, Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831-1925), is 'Andress'. Yet, interestingly, when they married on 26 Dec 1852 at Columbus, Columbia County, Wisconsin, the record reported her as 'Lucinda Andrews', while various other records use Andrus, Andres.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (10 Feb 2014; rev. 15 Feb 2016)]

References:

i. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/andre#ixzz2sxMR26Mr
ii. http://www.ancestry.com/name-origin?surname=andres
iii. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andrew
iv. http://www.houseofnames.com/andres-family-crest
v. http://www.surnamedb.com/Surname/Andress#ixzz40HSzmnUP

ancestry



Susan Amildra Miser

BIRTH 12 FEB 1855 • Arkansas City, Arkansas, Arkansas
DEATH 4 APR 1938 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
wife of 2nd great-grandfather

Facts

Age 0 — **Birth**
12 Feb 1855 • Arkansas City, Arkansas, Arkansas

Age 5 — **Residence**
1860 • Sugar Creek, Benton, Arkansas

Age 6 — **Death of Father George**
25 Dec 1861 • Pea Ridge, Benton, Arkansas

Age 15 — **Residence**
1870 • Sugar Creek, Benton, Arkansas
w. widowed Mother Jane and several sibs

Age 17 — **Marriage**
26 Sep 1872 • Pea Ridge, Benton, Arkansas
John A Perkins
(1842–1880)

Age 25 — **Death of John A Perkins**
11 May 1880

Age 25 — **Residence**
21 Jun 1880 • Precinct 1, Delta, Texas
widowed; sister-in-law, w. three children in Geo. Perkin's Family; also present is his Mother Elizabeth Winton Perkins (69)

Age 40 — **Marriage**
28 Aug 1895 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
Alexander "Alex" Requa
(1831–1925)

Age 45 — **Residence**
1900 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
w. Alex and two youngest children (23, 24)

Age 55 — **Residence**
1910 • Neosho Ward 3, Newton, Missouri
Alex and Susan living alone

Age 65 — **Residence**
1920 • Neosho Ward 3, Newton, Missouri
Alex is 89

Age 70 — **Death of Alexander Requa**
1925 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri

Family

Parents

George Washington Miser (Meiser)
1807–1861

Jane E Potter
1819–1907

Spouse & Children

John A Perkins
1842–1880

- **Albert Winton Perkins**
  1873–1938
- **Arthur Lee Perkins**
  1875–1941
- **Mary Virginia Perkins**
  1877–1960

Spouse

Alexander "Alex" Requa
1831–1925

Sources

Ancestry Sources

- 1860 United States Federal Census
- 1870 United States Federal Census
- 1880 United States Federal Census
- 1900 United States Federal Census
- 1900 United States Federal Census
- 1910 United States Federal Census
- 1920 United States Federal Census
- Ancestry Family Trees
- Arkansas Marriages, 1851-1900
- Arkansas, County Marriages Index, 1837-1957
- Missouri Marriage Records, 1805-2002
- Missouri Marriage Records, 1805-2002
- U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1700s-Current

Age 83 — **Death**
4 Apr 1938 • Neosho, Newton, Missouri
ref: Find A Grave says "Daughter of John [s/b George] Miser and Jane E. (Potter) Miser, both of Georgia. Wife of Alexander Requa. She fell near railway tracks, broke hip and likely died of shock. (Obit in Neosho Daily News)"


Web: McDonald County, Missouri, Obituary Index, 1899-2008


Web: Missouri, Find A Grave Index, 1812-2012

Requa/Andres Family Grandchildren

Grandchildren of Alexander Requa & Lucinda Andres

Stepchildren of Lettie Requa – Children of William Palmer & 1st wife, Julia Manchester

Clarissa P Palmer (1862-1940)
Clarence Albert Palmer (1865-1959)
Julian Manchester Palmer (1869-1940)

Children of Lettie Requa & William Palmer

Fannie Palmer (1876-1940)
Arthur R Palmer (1880-1973)
Dora E Palmer (1883-1957)
Edith Belle Palmer (1887-1976)

Children of Dora Requa & Adelbert Folsom

Lloyd Truman Folsom (1884-1967)
Alice L Folsom (1894-)

Children of Eliza Requa & Harry Bussell

Blanche E Bussell (1885-)
Minar Lewis Bussell (1887-1967)
Emeline “Emily” Almeda Bussell (1891-1944)

Children of James Requa & Lottie Hutchins

Dorothy M Requa (1897-)
James Harold Requa (1899-1975)
Ronald Alexander Requa (1902-1984)
Lucinda Luana F Requa (1904-)
Charlotte H Requa (1914-)

Children of Rachel Requa & Edward Reese

Mary Margaret Reese (1909-1992)

Children of Mary Requa & Frank Miller

Frank Miller (1895-)

Children of Mary Requa & William Briggs

Rachel “Rae” Almeda Briggs (1900-1966)

Children of Alexander Requa & Rose Nielsen

Alexander Requa (1908-1976)
Marion Requa (1910-)
Charley Requa (1912-1991)

Grandchildren of Alexander’s 2nd wife, Susan Almildra Miser Perkins

Children of Albert Perkins & Isabel Wilson

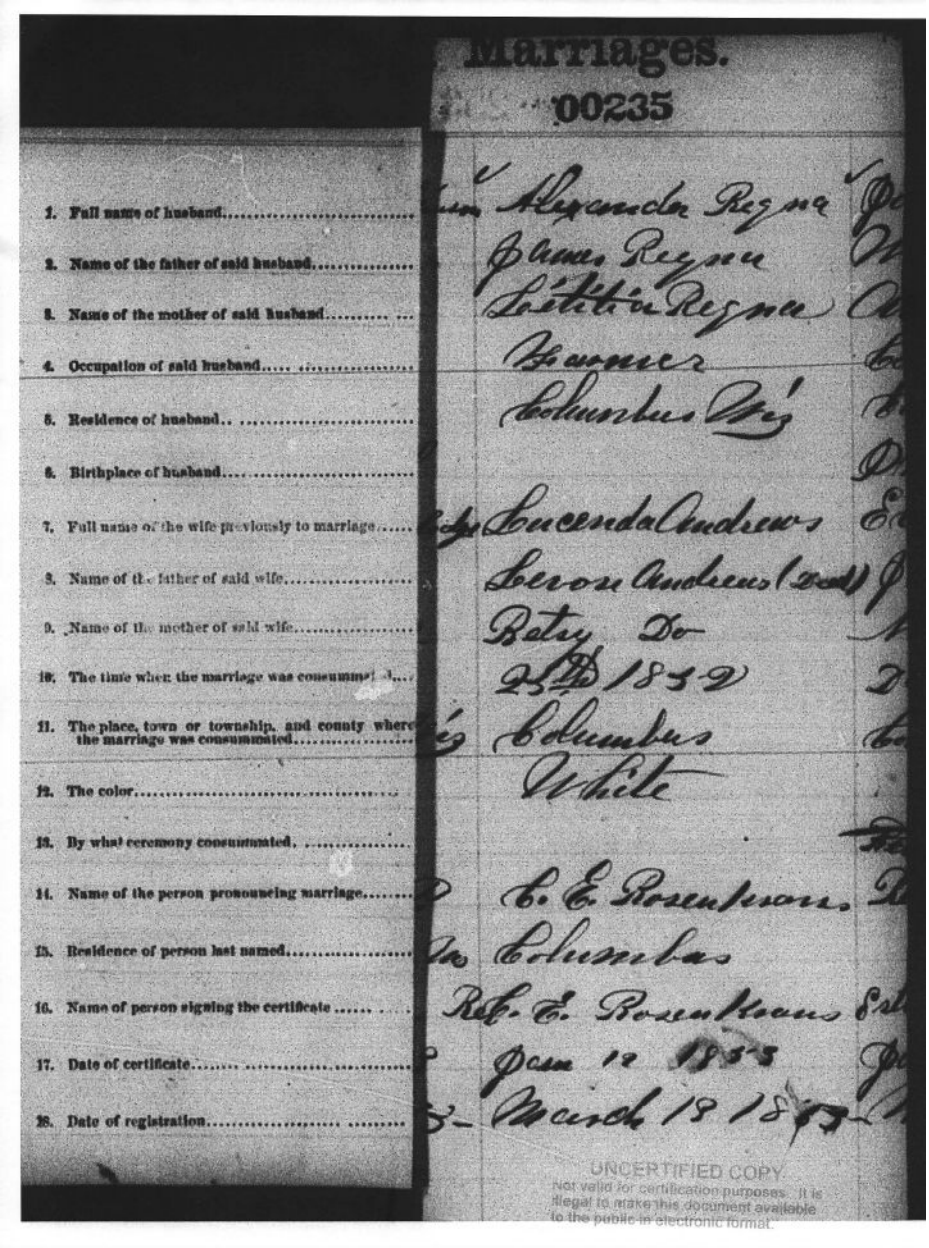
Arthur Wilson Perkins (1901-)

Children of Mary Perkins & William LaNear

Almildra E LaNear (1907-1978)
David A LaNear (1908-1994)
John LaNear (1914-1984)

Family Stories, Photographs, Miscellaneous Addenda

Requa/Andres Marriage Certificate



Marriages.

00235

1. Full name of husband	Alexander Requa
2. Name of the father of said husband	James Requa
3. Name of the mother of said husband	Lobelia Requa
4. Occupation of said husband	Farmer
5. Residence of husband	Columbus Wis
6. Birthplace of husband	
7. Full name of the wife previously to marriage	Lucenda Andrews
8. Name of the father of said wife	Leroy Andrews (Dead)
9. Name of the mother of said wife	Betsy Do
10. The time when the marriage was consummated	25 D 1852
11. The place, town or township, and county where the marriage was consummated	Columbus
12. The color	White
13. By what ceremony consummated	
14. Name of the person pronouncing marriage	C. E. Rosenkrans
15. Residence of person last named	Columbus
16. Name of person signing the certificate	Rev. E. Rosenkrans
17. Date of certificate	Jan 12 1853
18. Date of registration	March 18 1853

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Not valid for certification purposes. It is illegal to make this document available to the public in electronic format.

Where's the Mailbox?

It is interesting to note that, as shown by census records, the residents of Fountain Township 103, Range 11, Fillmore County, Minnesota, might have a postal address of Farmer's Grove, Chatfield, Preston, Carimona, or Fillmore, depending on the decade!

ancestry horttech1 originally shared this on 15 Mar 2014

1865 Demographics — Where Are the Men?

The demographics of Fountain Township, Fillmore County in the 1865 Minnesota Census are very interesting: the 120 resident families have 333 males, 803 females! The imbalance is addressed in a small way by the record of 24 soldiers, but what of the rest? The soldiers reported might be only a small percentage of those claimed by Civil War!

ancestry horttech1 originally shared this on 15 Mar 2014

Morrow County Officers, 1891



Mower County Officials, Austin, Minnesota in 1891 — Image of America: Mower County, Minnesota, Mower County Historical Society, ISBN: 9780738519920, Arcadia Publishing, 7 Aug 2002, p. 11. [photo courtesy Morrow Co. Hist. Soc., used with permission] — Alex Requa (seated on left) was three-term elected Treasurer from 1887-1893.

ancestry horttech1 originally shared this on 18 Apr 2014

Requa Sisters, *sans* Letitia



Surviving Requa sisters, offspring of Alexander and Lucinda, at the time of Eliza's West Coast visit, California, April 1930 — speculated identity (L to R): Rachel, Mary, Eliza, Laura, Dora.

[photo courtesy: Shirley Bussell Deyoung, Austin, Mower County, Minnesota]

ancestry **horttech1** originally shared this on 18 Apr 2014

Figure of Eight

Appendices

A. Site Visit Reports
B. 3rd-Party Research Reports
C. Distant Cousin Corroborators

Figure of Eight

Appendix A

Site Visit Reports (sequenced by country, state, chronology)

County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, Oct 2010 & Oct 2012 iii
Delaware County, Iowa, Apr 2013 xi
Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, Apr 2014 xvi
Grant County, Wisconsin, May 2014 xviii
Freeborn County, Minnesota, Aug 2013 xxi
Mower County, Minnesota, Apr 2014 xxvii
Pennington/Red Lake Counties, Minnesota, Apr 2014 xxx
Wright County, Minnesota, May 2014 xxxi
Chisago/Washington/Anoka Counties, Minnesota, May 2014 xxxvi
Fillmore County, Minnesota, May 2014 xli
Clay/Wilkin Counties, Minnesota, May 2014 xliii
Pennington/Red Lake Counties, Minnesota, Jul 2015 xlvi

Map of Ireland Counties (historic provinces shown)



Site Visit 1 to Fermanagh County, Ireland, September 2010

A Tale of Two Families

On 25 September 2010, during a site visit to County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, we (re)connect with distant family members sharing a common progenitor — 3rd cousins once removed — a farming family from forbears' original neighbourhood, the Grahams of Killycloughy. Hospitality and good vibes — and good food! — abound. Proffered photo albums present images of people long familiar to me, including Brother David, who is well remembered from a previous visit 42 years ago. For us, as well as the inherent merit of family connection, the visit represents a privileged access to the lives of local people, something to be treasured wherever one travels.

Many years and several generations after their 1870 separation by emigration, ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-

grandfather, Edward Emerson, and his wife, Isabella Mosgrove, who came to America with all their children, and Edward's brother, Robert, and Isabella's sister, Anne, who stayed in Ireland, their descendants have retained an ongoing connection. When Edward and Isabella's American-born granddaughters — our paternal great aunt, R. Edna "Dede" Johnston, and her 1st cousin, Helen Newell Peabody, worked together on *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968),* they corresponded with Joan Graham in Ireland, Robert and Anne's great-granddaughter. Joan's research and letter-writing made pivotal contributions to the book, and she has been the ongoing contact between the families.

Emerson is apparently an old name of Norman-French origin. Emersons were said to be amongst the earliest of Scots and English settlers as part of a scheme to 'pacify' Ulster, the six northern counties inclined to revolt against English occupation. One Thomas Emerson of Durham, England, was granted the Emerson coat of arms in 1576. He was purportedly a direct antecedent of one William Emerson (V), who married one Mary Wilson in County Fermanagh, Ireland and bore seven children, including Robert (3rd child), and Edward (4th child) — two brothers who married two sisters.

Figure of Eight Minnesota Johnstons

Johnston great-great-grandfather, Edward Emerson (IV), married Isabella Mosgrove and bore 13 children, including Great-grandmother Anne Jane (5th child). Ann Jane Emerson (III) married James Lowry Johnston, an Irish neighbour transplanted to USA. They had nine children including fourth child, Grandfather William Lowry Johnston (II), who married Maude Larkin, a Minnesota neighbour, and they had four children, starting with our father, Daryl Russell Johnston (I), who married Helen Frances Poston and issued eight children, four boys and four girls between 1933 and 1947 — the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.

Grahams of Killycloughy

Graham great-grandfather, Robert Emerson (IV), married Anne Mosgrove (Isabella's sister) and they had 10 children, most of whom emigrated to the New World. Their 9th child, Grandfather Thomas Mosgrove (III), stayed in County Fermanagh, married one Ellen Little, and they bore four children. Their 3rd child, Eleanor "Ellie" (II), married John Robert Graham and issued seven children (I) between 1933 and 1946 — the Grahams of Killycloughy.

<u>The Generations</u>

It is interesting to note that these two families, descended from common ancestors, though exact compatriots in age, are a full generation apart in relationship, as follows:

V common ancestors — William Emerson (Mary Wilson)

IV 3rd child, Robert (Anne Mosgrove) siblings 4th child, Edward (Isabella Mosgrove)

III 9th child, Thomas Mosgrove (Ellen Little) 1st cousins 5th child, Ann Jane (James Lowry Johnston)

II 3rd child, Eleanor "Ellie" (John Robert Graham) 2nd cousins 4th child, William Lowry (Maude Larkin)

I Grahams of Killycloughy 3rd cousins 1st child, Daryl Russell (Helen Frances Poston)

Graham Offspring 4th cousins ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons

Thrilled and privileged as I felt to connect with such gracious cousins here, we have found ourselves to be somewhat disappointed to meet only Anglo-Scots Irish. Today, we were pleased to meet some Celtic Irish: the Foy family (alternately Fey or Fay, anglicized versions of O'Fiaich, 'of the Raven'). It seems that these folks, or least their father Frank, now deceased, and his wife, Eileen, a dear old soul of 84, who entertained us for a very nice tea in the parlor, purchased the Mosgrove/Emerson home back in 1946 from his brother-in-law, Pat McCaffrey, whose father, Bernard, had quite possibly purchased it from our 2nd great-grandfather, Edward Emerson, upon the family's departure for America in 1870.



Contrary to our great aunt Dede's 1968 comments, as recorded in *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968),* the house has apparently never been empty, let alone derelict. Of the four Foy

sons: Francis, Martin, John and Jim, at least one of them was born in that middle upstairs bedroom where our great-grandmother, Ann Jane, and her 12 brothers and sisters came into the world. The Foys were quite interested to see the earlier pictures and hear the stories that we had to tell. Johnny recognized the iron gate from the 1956 photograph, showed me its current incarnation at the entrance to the meadow where once stood the one-room schoolhouse that our forebears attended. The house has been rebuilt as a single story with the original, two-foot thick stone walls intact.





Just a half-mile north, the little stone bridge across the Many Burns River still serves its function well.



Proceeding east on the now-widened and paved road leads past the well-maintained Creagh House, believed to be the ancestral Emerson home. A bit further on is Creagh Cross (junction), where a William Emerson, son of Edward's Brother William, donated land in 1877 for the construction of a quaint little Methodist Church.



The Tattykeeran Church of Ireland that the Johnston and Emerson families attended, is still there, a mile across the fields south and east. It is now decommissioned as a church to live on as an integral part of an architect-designed country home (photo left). There's still a Lady Brooke in occasional attendance at Colebrooke (a.k.a., Aghalurcher) Church of Ireland (photo right), some three miles further on.



Besides our Graham cousins, there are still Emersons about, direct descendants of our own forebears. Other family names — Beatty, Wilson, Rutledge, Bamford, Johnston, show up regularly — in daily life, as well as in the graveyards. The Mosgrove name has been more rare, although we did take tea earlier this week at Corick House, a fine country hotel near Clougher, past Five-Mile-Town, County Tyrone, on the road to Belfast, with the daughter, Avril, of absent owner, Jean Beacom, whose maiden name was Mosgrove, and whom, our cousin, Victor Graham, our tour-guide that day, claims as a relative.

The value of this 'homecoming' for me lies in two areas:

- in the excuse it provided for cross-cultural experience — *"… by the courtesy of a man I met that morning, and who, in the warm-hearted Irish fashion, was my friend by the afternoon …"* [Lynn Doyle. The Spirit of Ireland. Batsford, London,1935]; and
- in the impetus it offered to renew, and, in a way, to *relive* something of the family story.

My experience of the latter seems comparable to the example of an actor 'living' his character. Getting into the part, I have thought of little else this week — even in my dreams! Last night, I was a traveler here during *"the difficulties"* of the first decade of the twentieth century, leading up to the 'partitioning' of Ireland and the creation of the Irish Free State. In this dream, a lone 'republican' soldier, coming upon us, takes

little interest, except in sharing a communal meal that we are cooking on a makeshift barbecue beside the road.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (25 Sep 2010; rev. 7 Mar 2016)]

Site Visit 2 to Fermanagh County, Ireland, October 2012

Irish Roots, October 2012

This Fall, I return for three weeks, on my lonesome, to the ground of my forefathers (well, some of them — while most of my progenitors are English, with a few French mixed in, my spirit resonates most comfortably with the Scots-Irish heritage). The motivation is perhaps more because it's a good idea, than for any specific reason. I want: to soak up, in the solitude of my own space, the ambience of the place; to meander the trails and get to know the communes, the parishes, the districts (Creag, Aghavea, Tattykern, Aghalurcher, Ratoran, Perryrusk); to search out family names in the cemeteries (Johnston, Emerson, Robinson, Mosgrove, Banford, Beattie, Carrothers, Rutledge, Lowry/Lowery); to discover buildings formerly occupied by 'my people'; to meet and re-meet distant cognates, and hear their stories (maybe even finding someone who knows *their* genealogy!); to read the local newspaper's, pamphlets and posters and historic plaques; to have a coffee or a beer in each of the surrounding, familiar-sounding towns (Tempo, Maguire's Bridge, Clones, Five Mile Town, Lisnaskea, Enniskillen); to discover accessible caches of historic genealogical records; to read an Irish book or two. It is my hope that the place and the people may again provide the welcome that so graced our previous visit two years ago.

Three Weeks in October: notes on an Irish pilgrimage . . .

I make my second trip to Fermanagh, homeland of several of our progenitors, four of our thirty-two 2nd great-grandparents: Emerson, Mosgrove, Johnston, Lowry. It is there, during an extended holiday two years earlier that I had commenced research family-of-origin, which has since become a passion.

Searching genealogical data is, without doubt, most convenient on the internet, from anywhere in the world, with the advantage of a 'front row seat' — like watching a sports match on live television. But with the privileged opportunity of in-person, on-the-ground research, one can shadow the landscape of the lives of ancestors, connect with their spirits, chase their ghosts. There are people here who bear still their names; in some cases, the very homesteads are still in the family. This is the earth they walked, the air they breathed. My trip is a pilgrimage.

I search out 16 cemeteries to look for relevant (and legible) gravestones. I interview 15 people, mostly community elders, usually in the context of their families, who offer relevant knowledge. I scour nearly 200 years of records in the Tempo Church of Ireland to find birth, marriage, death (BMD) information, and scan those that might relate to 'our people'. The Enniskillen Public Library provides Ordnance Survey Maps for the appropriate time, and while there, I peruse several references that help garner an historical perspective. A local interest group stages an evening talk by a genealogical researcher, and I connect with another, whose comments I had found helpful on an Irish-based blog. In my little rented Nissan Micra, I clock over 500 kilometres traversing the myriad of byways within about a five-mile radius of the townlands where our people lived. Back in Dublin, *enroute* home, I even get an afternoon in the National Archives.

Am I any wiser? Perhaps not. Am I more fulfilled? Definitely. Have I learned a lot? Unquestionably. Was it time well spent? You don't need to ask!

Niece Kristy, Brother David's daughter, asked me lately, whether I would be tour guide when she and her cousins come to explore. That mightn't be 'my thing', but I will share my learnings to facilitate theirs. I am in the process of putting together a dossier of research guidelines, photos, notes, contacts, stories. It should give a head start to anyone who would like to continue the groundwork, or would just like to go on a pilgrimage of their own. And, of course, the facts, and my speculations, will find their way into ***Figure of Eight: a family genealog spanning four generations.***

Notes made after Sammy Carrothers interview, 23 October 2012 . . .

The first two Carrothers families came with many Johnston's (along with Armstrong's, Graham's, and many other Fermanagh families) from Dumfries, Scotland *en masse* as part of the first Ulster Plantation about 1613, a combination of forcibly displaced border reivers, and non-inheriting younger sons. The first Carrothers (Carruthers) was Christopher, 4th son of the 4th Laird of Dormont. Samuel's particular line settled first around Bracky, Brookeborough, later relocated. The deed to Farnaght (Sammy's farm at Lisbellaw) dates, atypically, from early 1700's — one of the first in Fermanagh. They didn't all stay; there were 17 documented emigrants between 1820 and 1847. A 'Letters Home' booklet from Nathaniel Carrothers (1796-1881) and Joseph Carrothers (1793-1870) to their brother, William (1798-1883), 2nd great-grandfather of Sammy at Farnaght. Interestingly, Williams's wife, Sarah "Sally" Ann (b. 1821), was a Johnston. I have absorbed this little book of letters and shall now leave it behind in Millwood Cottage to accompany the volume of *"Irish Emigrants Letters from Canada"* that lives here. (One wonders how it came to be in this place?) What a bunch the Carrothers are!

Samuel believes that the parents, John and Dorcas, of our kin, Christopher W. Carrothers, distant relatives of Sam's own line, were initially from Townland Tattymachall.

About Lowry's, Sammy believes that the local Lowry's were likely 'seeded' (his word) out of Pomeroy, Tyrone, where the landed Gentry were Lowry's related to the Lowry-Corry's of Castle Coole, Enniskillen. There is apparently a statue with a plaque at Pomeroy.

The Presbyterian Lowry's at Shanco and Tattymacall Townlands, County Fermanagh, are definitely related, he says, with the original place being at Shanco. The Irish census of 1901/1911 shows them as born Tyrone. The Shanco family departed for New Zealand about 1872. Those at Tattymacall have dwindled, but may still exist there (see Lowry gravestones at Lisbellaw Presbyterian Church).

Sammy points out that a single female arriving at Colebrooke House for employment *might* have come from Catholic stock, and might have traveled considerable distance (there was a train between Enniskillen and Belfast). He also points out that the Aghalurcher Church vestry records escaped the 1921 fire in Dublin because they were so extensive that they had not yet all been copied as per the then-new legal requirements.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (1 Nov 2012)]

Notes on Finding Fermanagh Roots

Before 1921, there was only one Ireland, so the records, such as exist, are at the National Archives, in Dublin. Unfortunately, the Brits inadvertently pulped census records of 1861-1891 during a WWII paper shortage (someone thought there was a back-up copy; note that some census abstracts only still exist, eg. 1841/51, as these were used to establish 1908 pension eligibility), and then 1821-1851 were destroyed in a fire during the 1922 War of Independence. Some scattered records apparently still exist (including Aghalurcher Parish 1821!). The 1901 and 1911 census records were digitalized by Canada as a joint project. First post-partition census was 1926. While the Republic is to release theirs to the public soon, the UK has no immediate intention of doing so for Ulster, possibly not until forced by the 100-year freedom of information process.

State registration of births and death records started in 1864; church records may be as early as 1800, but with gaps; marriages from 1845 (Protestant)/1864 (RC). Since partition in 1922, records for are held by GRONI/GROI (General Records Office); and by PRONI (Public Records Office Northern Ireland).

In Ireland, public records are by:

- Townland, Town/City (62,000 overall, 2300 in Fermanagh)
- DED (District Electoral Division, also termed: Poor Union or Registration District)
- Parish (Civil, Church of Ireland, Catholic are *not* synonymous)
- Barony (this is a reference to the Ulster Plantation; seven in Fermanagh)
- Griffith's Valuation of Tenements of 1848-1864 records heads of household, landlords for all Ireland, by parish and townland; Fermanagh was done in 1859. Note that the Land Purchase Act of 1909 commenced a process of converting leaseholds to private land. After 1864, land ownership is tracked by PRONI.

- Other records (see national archives NAI, national library NLI):
- Tithe records from 1823
- Fermanagh Herald from 1903; Fermanagh Times 1848-1930
- Old Age Pension from 1908

Websites:

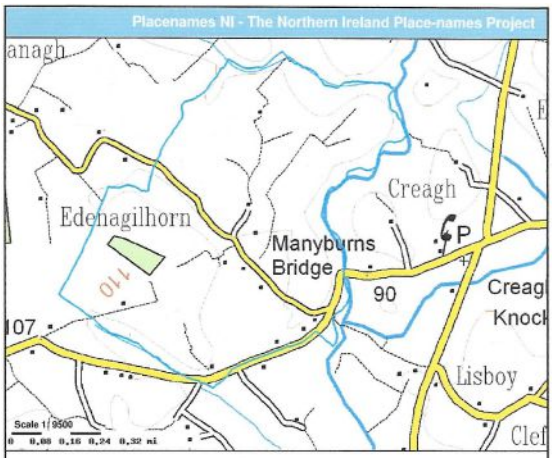
- Fermanagh-gold (collection of databases)
- Askaboutireland.ie (Griffith's valuation)
- Clougherdiocese.ie
- anglican.org
- historyfromheadstones.com (cemetery locations)
- kiwicelts.com Irish administrative maps
- irishtimes.com/ancestor/surname
- Thereformation.info/plantnire1610.htm
- borderreivers.co.uk
- proni.gov.uk
- Groireland.ie (certificates)
- http://www.irishmethodist.org/about/genealogy.php

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (12 Oct 2012)]

References:

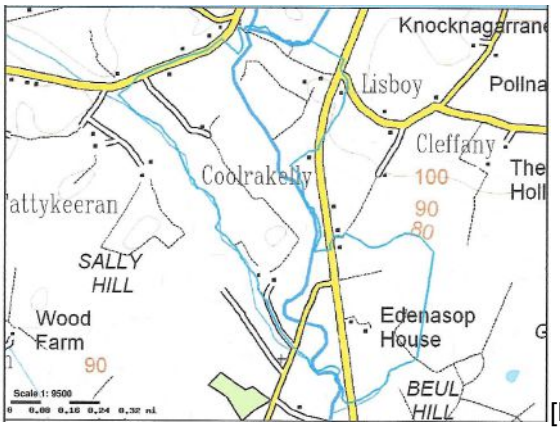
1. Return of Owners of Land...in Ireland. Genealogical Publishing Co., 1871

Townland Map for Emerson/Mosgrove (Edenagilhorn, Creagh)



[http://www.placenamesni.org/map.php]

Townland Map for Johnston/Lowry (Coolrakelly, Lisboy)



[http://www.placenamesni.org/map.php]

Irish Contacts, October 2012

Joan Graham Booth (Arnold)
(028)8556-7318
Ballygawley, Tyrone

Victor Graham (Joy)
(028)6638-7423

Robert Emerson "Bertie" Graham (Martha Eliz. "Betty")
(028)6638-7629
16 Cloghcor Rd.
Lisbellaw, Fermanagh BT94 5BD

Sam Carrothers (Iris)
Farnaght, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh BT74 4NN

Winston Beacom (Phyllis Dane)
(028)6638-5015
33 Rabbitburrow Rd.
Drumroo, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh BT94 5PD

Sammy Jennings
Creagh House
(028)8954-1725
rvpsamuel@yahoo.com
70 Creagh Rd.
Creagh, Tempo, Fermanagh BT94 3FZ

Stanley Wilson (Hazel Parkinson)
(028)8954-1778 (Paul -1806)
pwilson613@btinternet.com
76 Ashbrooke Rd.
Coolrakelly, Tempo, Fermanagh BT94 3ED

Victor Prentice (Audrey)
67 Ashbrooke Rd.
Lisboy, Fermanagh BT94 3EE

Sammy Dunn (Madeline)
The Lady Nelson Pub, Main St.
Tempo, Fermanagh

William Rutledge (Joan Wilson)
Treasurer, Tempo C of I
Main St., Tempo, Fermanagh

Patrick Jones
[patrickjones01@yahoo.co.uk]
Coach Inn Pub, Main St.
Maguiresbridge, Fermanagh

Alan Brooke,
Viscount Brookeborough
(028)8953-1402
Colebrooke Park
Brookeborough, Fermanagh BT94 4DW

Willie Henry (Pearle Luce)
(028)6638-7559
Millwood, Lisbellaw, Fermanagh BT94 5HQ

Thomas Fee
#35 Creagh Rd.
Tattykeeran, Tempo, Fermanagh

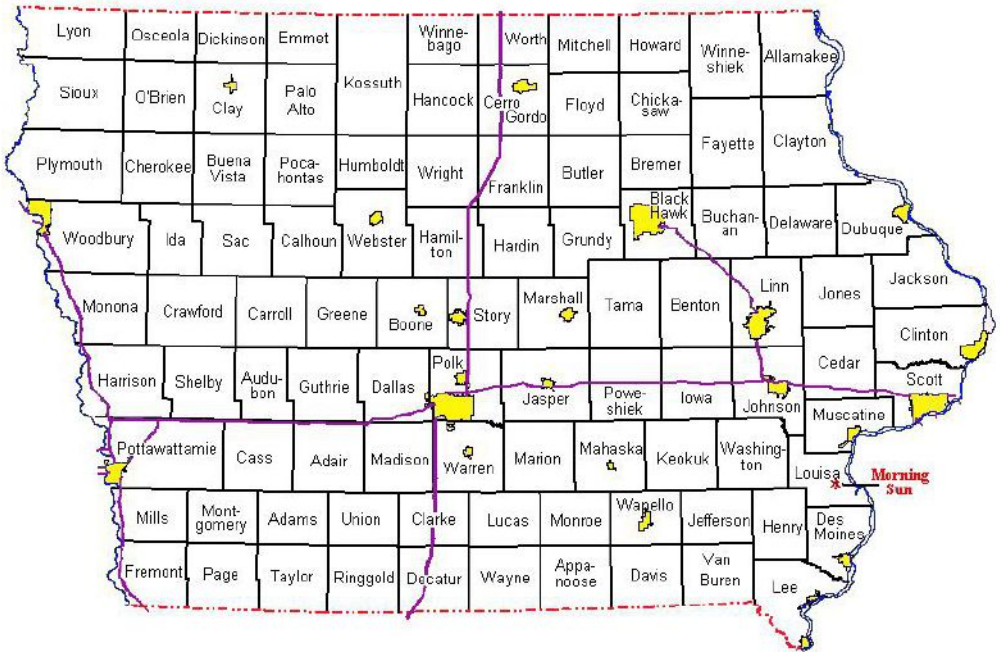
Robert Granleese
cel (078)37204431
(028)6638-7099
Cornafanogue P.O.
Falls, Fermanagh BT94 4QE

Elwyn Soutter
Belfast, Antrim

Map of USA (current)

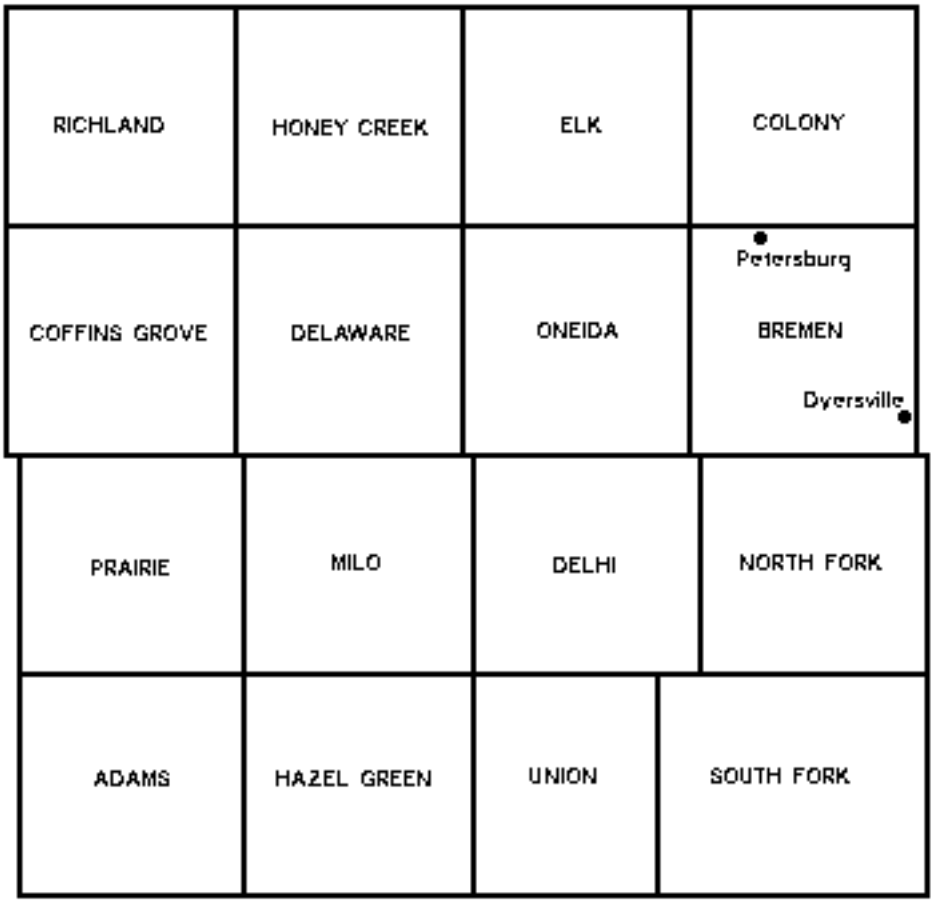


Map of Iowa Counties



Site Visit to Delaware County, Iowa, 15 & 16 April 2013

Township Map of Delaware County



[Credit: http://www.emslanders.com/DelawareCoIA.htm]

Northbound, *enroute* our annual Spring return trek from Mexico to Canada, we contact the Manchester Public Library, home to the Delaware County Genealogical Society, pleading our interest in helpful supports. Estella Michels and Joyce Rohde, meet us on cue, and stay by our elbows through the day. We are in pursuit of historic information about the Silver Creek area, Delaware County, as well as obituaries and other information on Johnston progenitors, their in-laws and allied families: West, Carruthers, Robinson, Swindell. The reference system proves to be very well organized, and we are pleased to discover clipping files for each family, lists of burials in local cemeteries, plat maps.

We find reference not only to our own second great-grandfather, James Johnston (1797-1885), his daughter, Anna Johnston Carruthers and her siblings, but to numerous other Johnstons as well. While most are, as yet, of no known relationship, family lore suggests that James had *"other brothers who also came to Iowa"*[1]. In what was then Dubuque County, Iowa Territory, there are records of a Thomas, a John S, and a Hugh Johnston who might qualify as 'family'.

A * Robert Johnston, local hotel operator, is a possible son or nephew of our 2nd great-grandfather (see story: Section VI – Family 1/8 — page 18). I subsequently correspond with a California genealogist, whose husband is a descendent of this Robert (see Susan (Swindell), 'wife of 3rd cousin 1x removed' in

[1] R Edna "Dede" Johnston. *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*.

Appendix C).

One of the most intriguing finds is a copy of an email enquiry from a woman in Pennsylvania, seeking more details about a family legend regarding the arsenic poisoning (possibly intentional!), of our 2nd great-aunt, Susan Johnston Moore West, and her brother William (see story: Section VI – Family 1/8 — page 23). Using the information in that missive, I am subsequently able to locate and correspond with Carol Elizabeth Egeness Arndt (1948-), who proves to be our '2nd cousin 1x removed', a descendent of Susan West's daughter, Elizabeth.

To the south of the town of Manchester several miles, we successfully locate, not only the Silver Creek church and cemetery (the final resting place of many of our folks), but also a bare, windy hill in Section 32 of Prairie Township believed to be the site of 'The Wigwam', the Carruthers/Johnston farmstead (see story: Section VI – Family 1/8 — page 24).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (18 May 2018)]

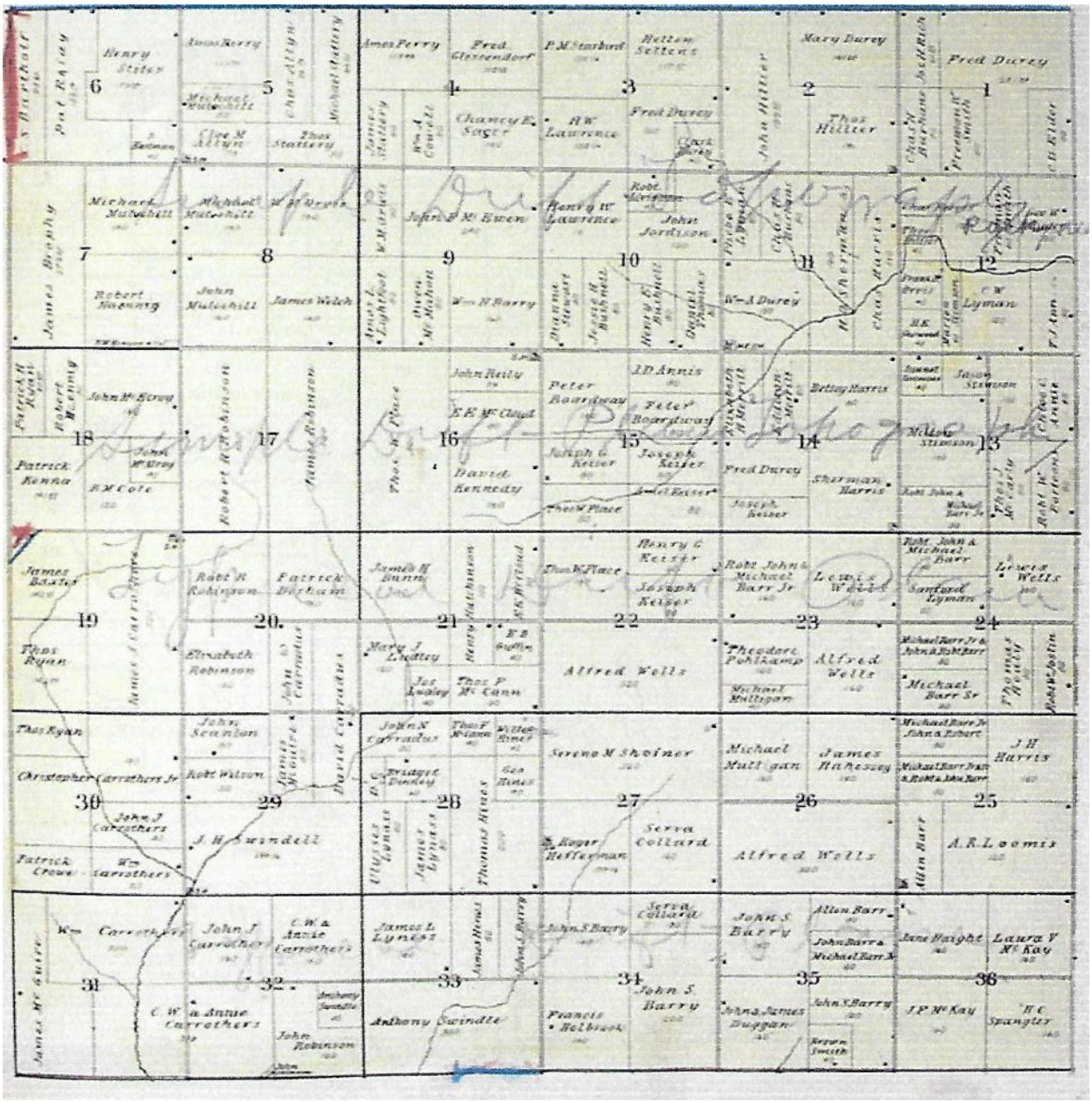


Silver Creek United Methodist Church



Johnston & Carrothers cemetery plots

Plat Map of Prairie Township 88 N, Range 6 W



C. W. & Annie Carrothers farmstead (The Wigwam) was in SW ¼ of Section 32; ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, resided there with his daughter's family in his later years. Note, the many Carrothers, Robinson (Chris Carrothers's mother was a Robinson), and Swindell/Swindle neighbours, who were likely all inter-related.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (10 July 2018)]

Plat Map of Adams Township 87 N, Range 6 W

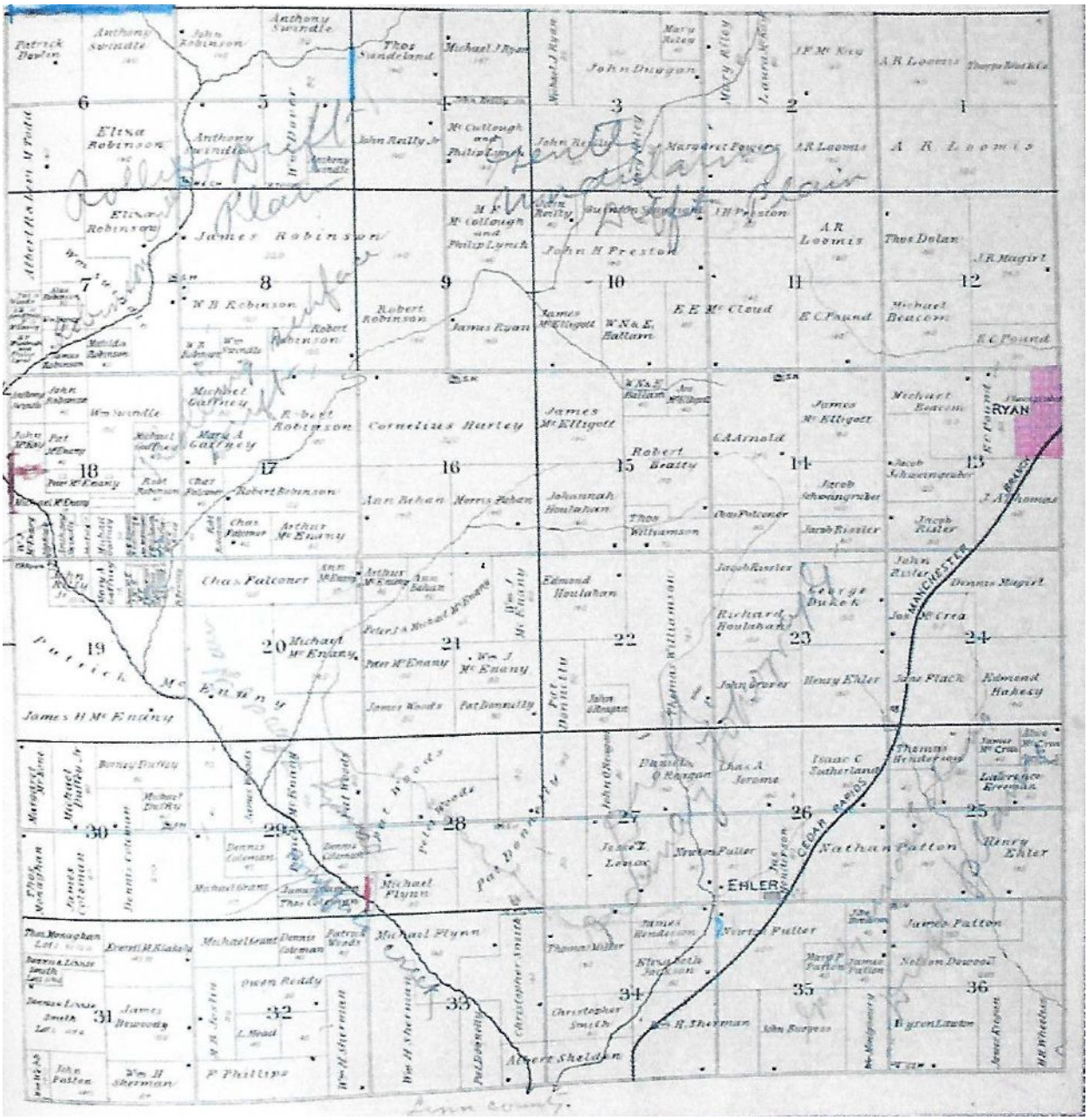
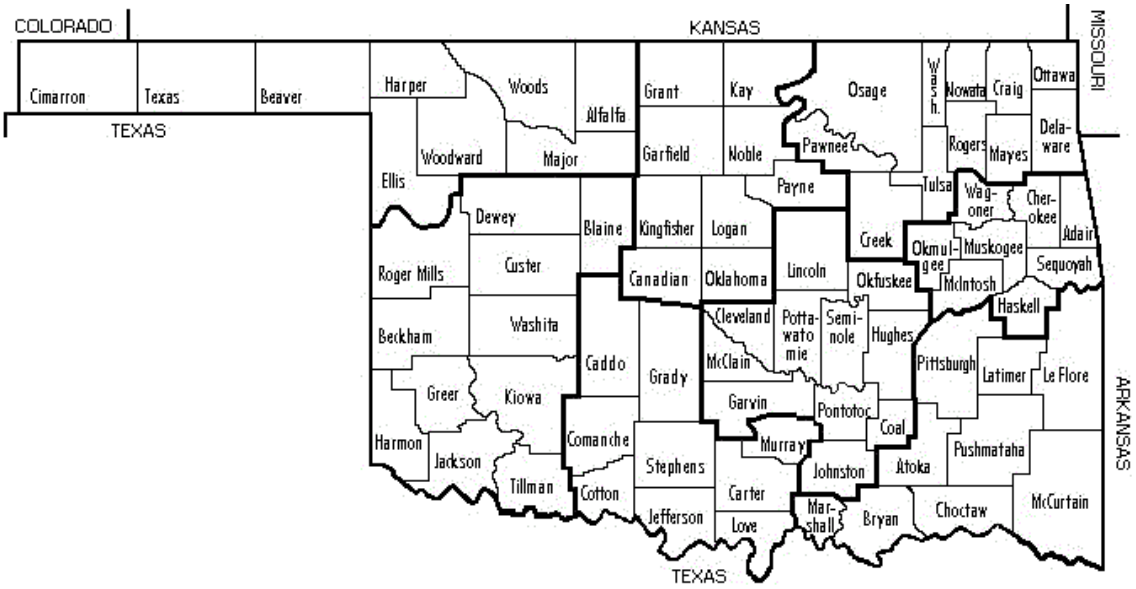


Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston, resided with family members in Adams Township in 1870, address specified only as 'Barryville Post Office', NW of Ryan (possibly in Prairie Township — see John Barry farms in Sections 34, 35). Note many Robinsons and Swindell/Swindles in Sections 5-8, 17, 18. Also of interest is Beacom in Sections 12,13; this Irish family name is believed to be connected with James Johnstons Lowry in-laws (see Section VI – Family 1/8 — page xiv).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (10 July 2018)]

Map of Oklahoma Counties



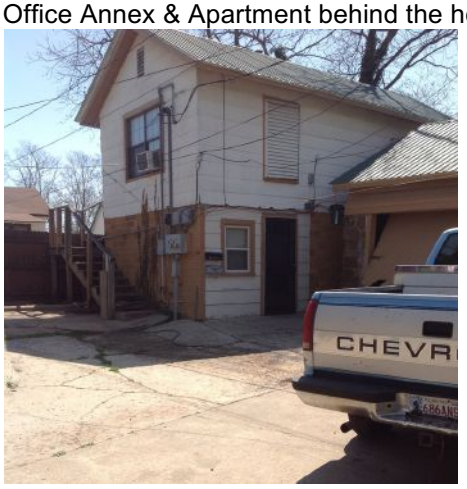
Site Visit to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County, 5 April 2014

Enroute home from a Mexico overwintering, we pause in Oklahoma City, to seek out the residence and the graveyard for ***Figure of Eight*** grandfather, Frank Poston, and his wife 2nd wife, Laura "Flora" Arnebeck Poston. We have some success, with the added bonus of locating the apartment where our parents lived with baby Hope, when Daryl worked for a season with his father-in-law.

Poston Home at 3308 14th NW



Office Annex & Apartment behind the house





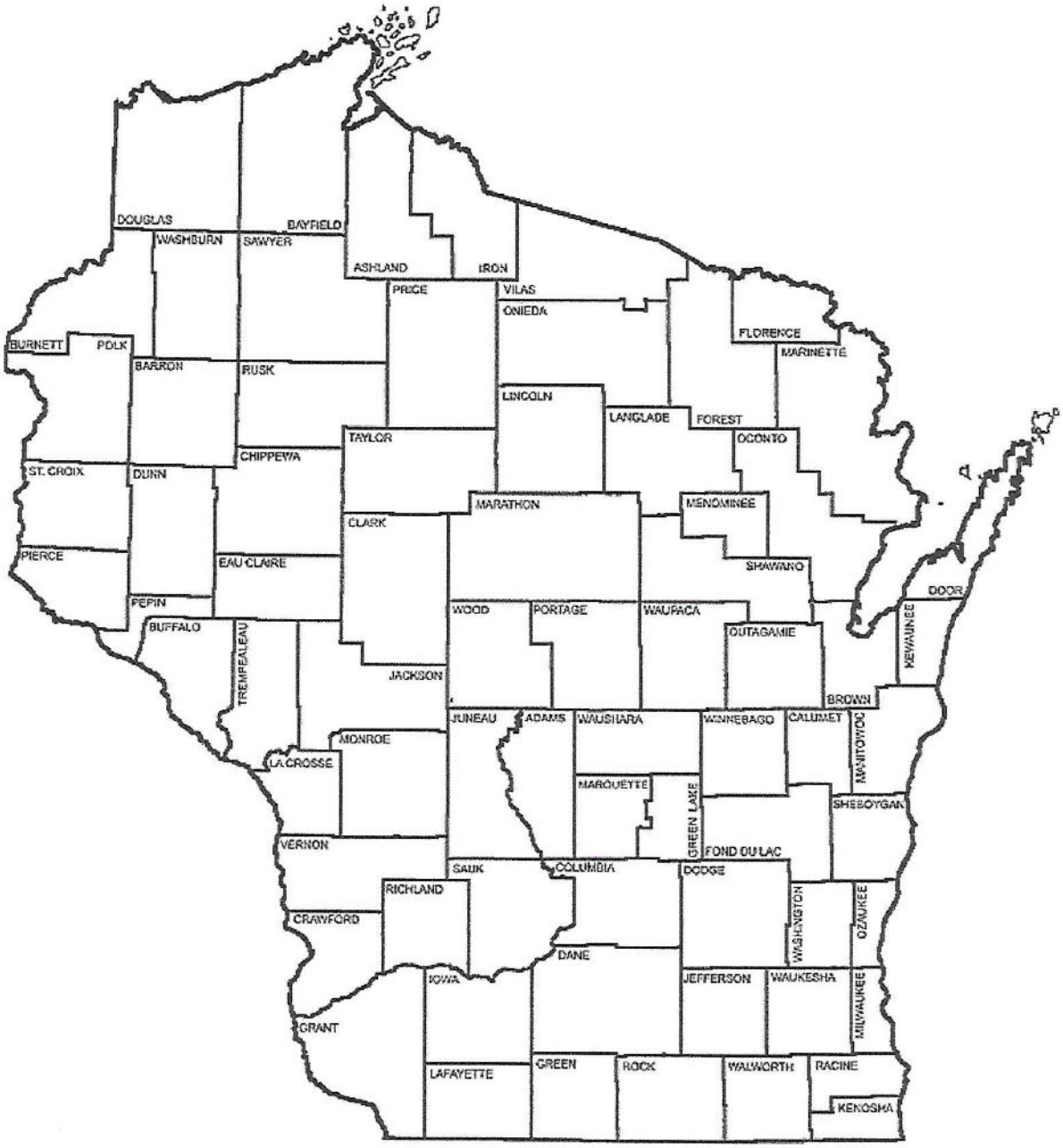
Daughter Helen & Daryl Johnston's apartment at the rear of 2101 NW 21st Street (photo left), 1936.

Grandparents' gravestones at Memorial Park Cemetery (photos below)



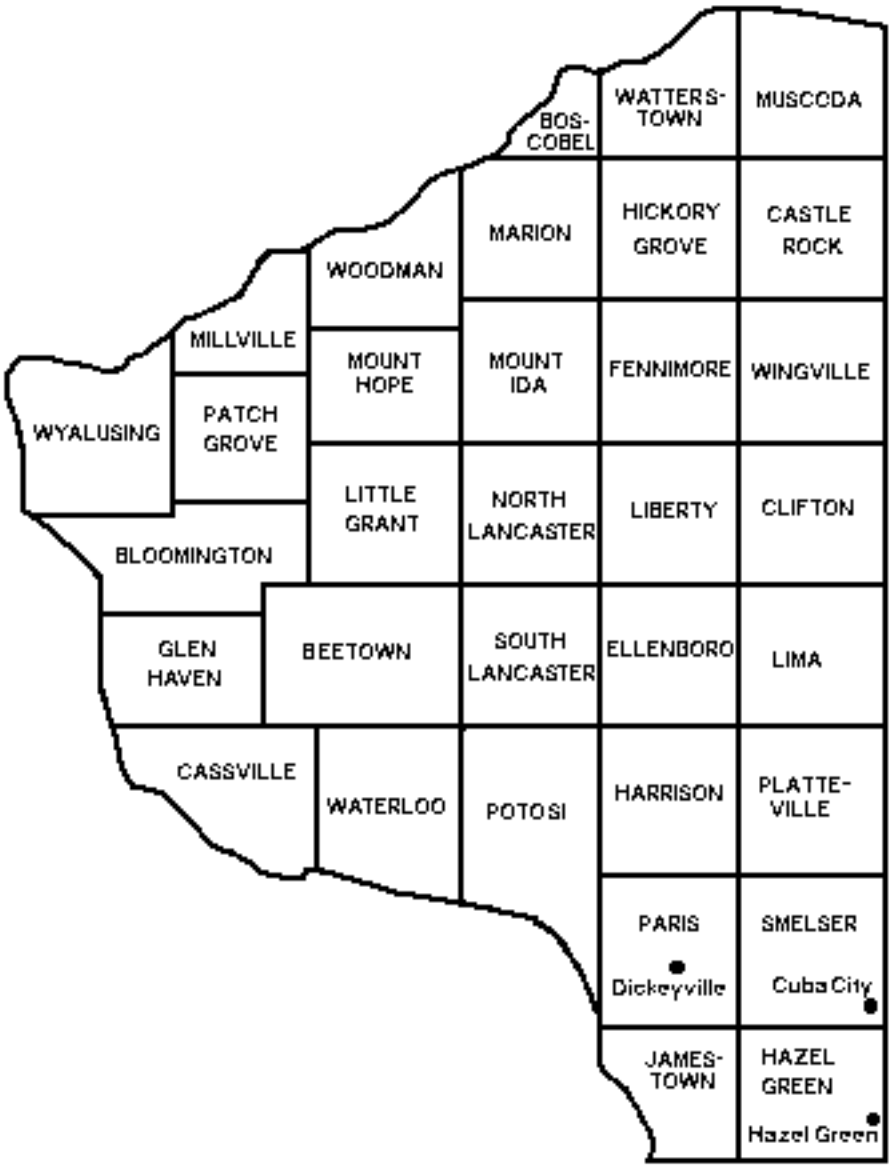


Map of Wisconsin Counties



Site Visit to Grant County, Wisconsin, 8 May 2014

Township Map of Grant County,1878



[Credit: http://www.emslanders.com/GrantCoWI.htm]

After a delightful drive down the east side of the Mississippi River on Wisconsin 35, entering Grant County at Bridgeport where the road crosses the Wisconsin River. The whole of Grant County is bordered on its west side by the Mississippi River, and Wyalusing Township is its westernmost extension, the northwestern portion of it being a large state park. The area is astonishingly beautiful, in a pastoral way, being part of the 'Driftless Region' (non-glaciated), that extends northwest across the Mississippi into Minnesota as well.

The interesting history of Grant County includes the usual battles with the original native inhabitants, as well as War of 1812 battle sites (One wonders why here?). The area is rich in minerals, especially lead, which was exploited with the help of imported Cornish miners experienced with the process; their houses,

made of stone after what they knew at home, are part of the local legacy.

I bunk down for a couple of nights in Lancaster, the County Seat. Encouraged by the Grant County Genealogical Society's excellent online indices, I locate the 'SW Wisconsin Room' at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville, where Archives Assistant, Patricia Ballweg, gives me almost exclusive attention for her entire workday. We accumulate nearly 100 pages of maps; birth, marriage, and death (BMD) records; relevant parts of history books; and, perhaps, most importantly — 27 newspaper articles which include many treasures. Some key questions get answered, making the resource-investment well worth the trouble: what were the circumstances of Great-grandfather William Harrison Palmer's first wife, Julia Manchester's death?; and who looked after their baby boy, our great-uncle, Julian?



While in Platteville, I manage a short visit with Helen Jentz, long-time cemetery record keeper for the Grant County Genealogical Society, and from there go searching for headstones. The final 'resting place' of a number of Palmers, as well as Brodts and other allied families (Gulley, Iorns, Patterson), are to be found in the Brodtville Cemetery — the church is still extant; there had also been a school in the day (photo).

The community of Brodtville (sometimes Bradtville), is named after the Brodts (transliterated from the German *Braudt*) being the in-laws of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-uncle, Phillip Palmer. Phillip and Angelina were amongst the earliest settlers of the region and lived out their entire lives here, as did a number of their children. Through conjoint research, and a subsequent face-to-face meeting, I have become acquainted with one of their descendants through Son Emmet: Karen Palmer Wiest of Belton, Texas — '3rd cousin 1x removed' to the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons.



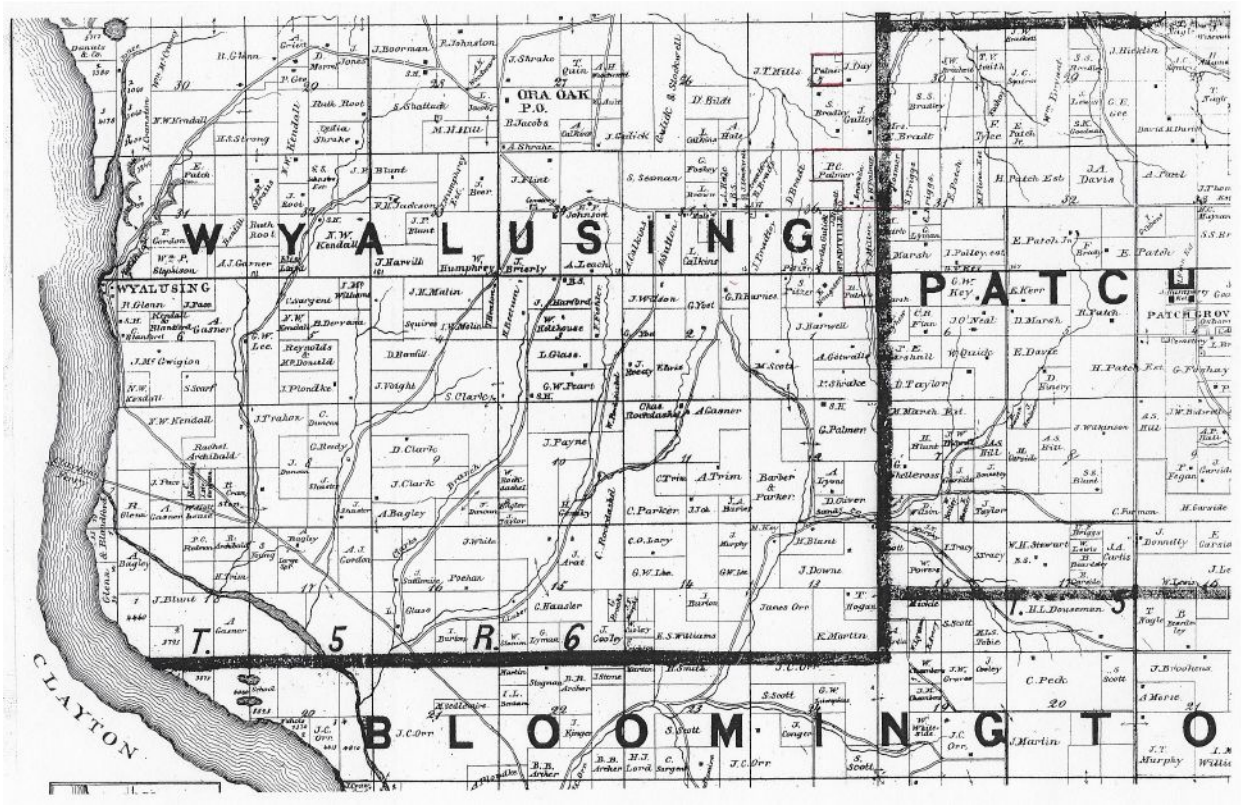
I am able, with the help of plat maps from 1868, 1877 and 1895, to find and to photograph residual farmsteads for our 2nd great-grandfather, Henry Palmer, Jr. (1792-1867), and his son, Phillip, in the northwest ¼ of Section 36, Wyalusing Township, as well as that of daughter/sister, Elizabeth Hosmer, in Section 31, in immediately adjacent Patch Grove. Henry's farmland, 40 acres purchased in 1852, was one mile northwest of his dwelling on Son Phillip's land. Remnant original buildings appear on these yard sites today (photo).

Son Horatio also owned land nearby, apparently one mile south in S1/T5N/R6W. After his Civil War death, his remarried daughter Lydia lived on yet another site on Phillip's land.

It is interesting to note that there were other New York born Palmers in the area, in fact, even in the neighbourhood. At least two of them: Henry W and Samuel, are age mates of our 2nd great-grandfather Henry Palmer. It is quite probable that they are extended family. This surmise is corroborated in that Irvin, the son of Henry W, showed up many years later as a 'special guest' at the Mower County, Minnesota, wedding of the daughter, Fanny, of our great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer. Further research on these families might validate my hypotheses regarding these interrelationships (see story 'Henry Palmer Disambiguation' in Section VI, p. 23).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (15 May 2014; rev. 16 May 2018)]

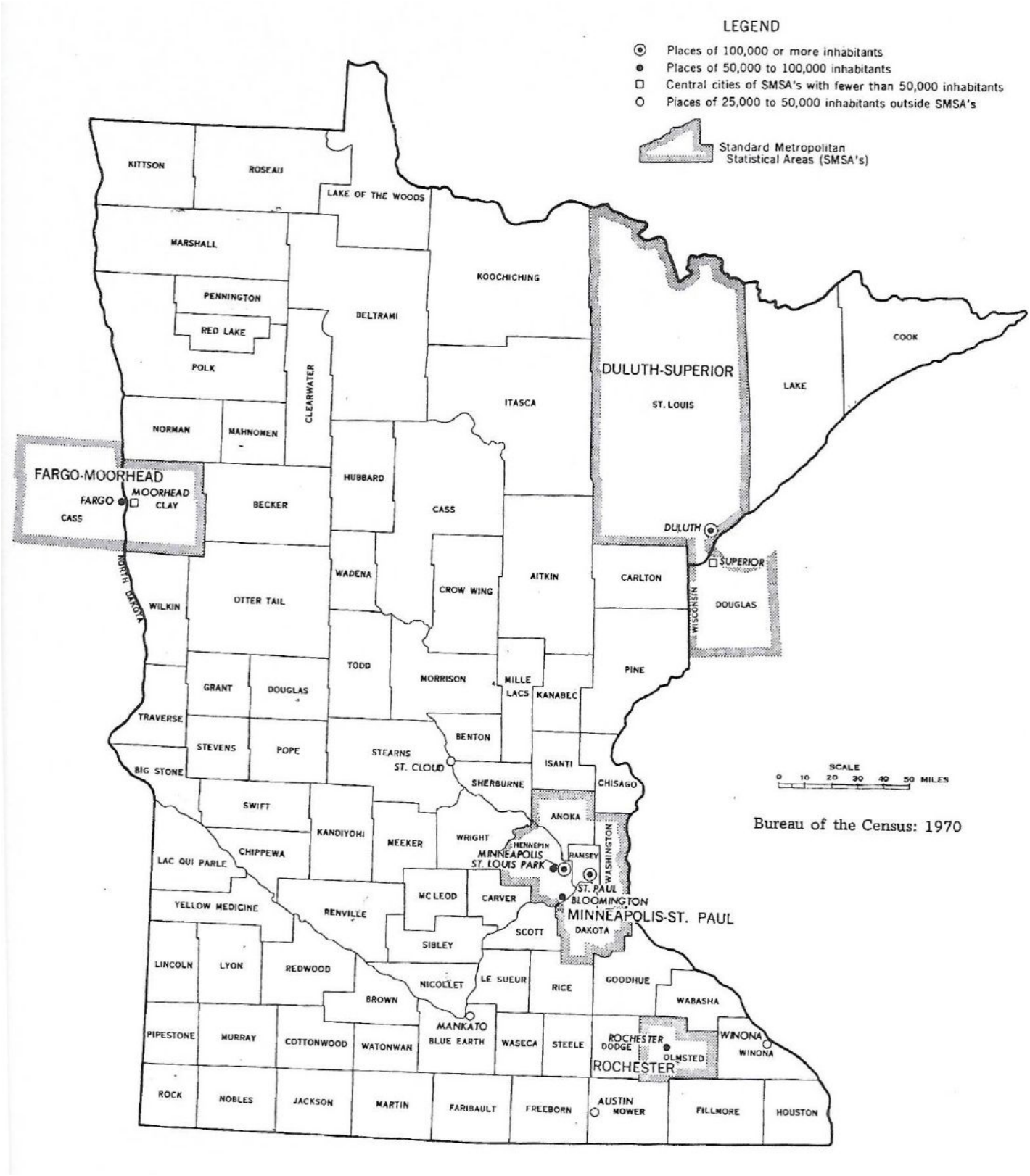
Plat Map of Wyalusing Township 5 N, Range 6 W (with parts of two neighbouring townships: Patch Grove, Bloomington), 1868



See Henry Palmer's land in Section 25, Wyalusing, with building site in Section 36, adjacent to Son Phillip's. Immediately across the road to the east in Section 31, Patch Grove, is Daughter Elizabeth (Hosmer); and, a ½ mile south in Section 1, Wyalusing, is H. Palmer (Son Horatio). The Brodtville/Bradtville Post Office is next door to Phillip and Angelina (Brodt), and the Brodtville Hall, School, Church and Cemetery can be seen in Section 35 to the west.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 July 2018)]

Map of Minnesota Counties



Site Visit to Freeborn/Faribault Counties, Minnesota, August 2013

Township Map of Freeborn County



[Credit: https://www.dot.state.mn.us/maps/gdma/data/mapfinder/countyHTMLs/freeborn.html]

In August 2013, we make our annual Summer trek to "*MyMinnesota*". This time, we include a visit with 1st cousin, Jowan Fischer Hogstad, at Mapleton, near Mankato, Blue Earth County, going on to spend two nights at the Czech Inn in Hayward, near Albert Lea, Freeborn County. The purpose of our trip is the newly-found hobby of 'ghost-chasing', previously practiced in Fermanagh County in Northern Ireland (2010, 2012), and in Delaware County in Eastern Iowa (2013).

Most of a day in the Freeborn County Genealogical Society library proves to be very rewarding, especially as regards archived newspapers in which we found several obituaries and detailed wedding descriptions and other interesting bits: *"You can make your hens pay if you feed 'Lee's Egg Maker' for sale by J M Emerson." "Mr. and Mrs. L Johnston of Mansfield are the proud parents of a 10½# son born Sunday morning." "A big line of school supplies always on hand at G M Emerson." "W L Johnston sold a horse to Tom Roberts of Kiester recently for $130." "W L Johnston delivered hogs to Ruggles and Teefel at Kiester Friday and Saturday." "Miss Lizzie Johnston, who was the guest of her brother Lowry's family in Mansfield last week, returned to her home in Kiester Monday."* You get the idea . . .

Using plat maps from 1878, 1896, 1901, 1906, comparing them to a recent version, and practicing rural navigation techniques well-honed recently during breeding bird atlassing work back home in Manitoba, we manage to locate several original family farmsteads.

In most cases, there are still groves of trees where our people lived: Larkin, Hall, Ransom in Manchester Township to the northeast of Alden; Johnston, Emerson, West, Beatty, McKee in Mansfield Township to the south of Alden. In Alden Town, the site of the United Brethren Church, which our families attended, is completely razed, though the building may live on elsewhere in some other guise.



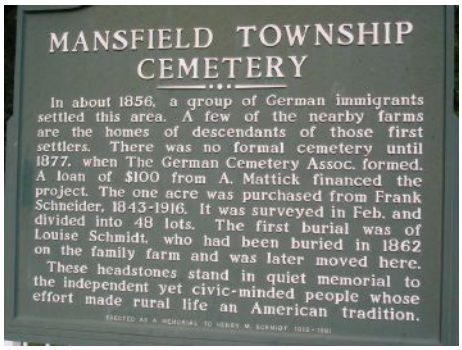
On the Johnston farm site, we meet Eileen, now 82, who married in 1949 into the Davidson Family, there since the early '30s. She believes none of the present buildings are original, but I photograph the present yard, where, rumour has it, the original Johnston farmhouse stood, reportedly with entrances, on at least two of its three stories, from the wooded glacial ridge behind.



An old schoolhouse, moved onto the property, might have been the original 'Johnston School', where Gra'ma Maude Larkin first taught, boarded with the newly-bereaved Johnston's, became *as* one of the family, and eventually *was* family.

On the 1870 Emerson homestead, three miles to the east, Sandra Kilen (unrelated) greeted us warmly enough. She has lived there since 1998, when she bought the property from direct-descendent, Robert Emerson. While the original house had burned to the ground in 1897, the house standing there today is believed to be its replacement.





Gravestones in the nearby cemetery (see plaque), originally called 'Schneider Cemetery', bear the names of many of our people, as is also the case at the Alden Community Cemetery.

For some reason, still unknown to us, ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandfather, James Lowry Johnston, and, subsequently, his wife Anne Jane Emerson, as well as several of their children, were buried not here, but rather at Fairview Cemetery, Kiester, in Faribault County, to the west.

Local history books, while proving to be somewhat less fruitful, do reference several matching surnames, any family relationships yet to be confirmed:

- John Johnston lived in Faribault County in 1896, Dunbar Township;
- Francis Hall, was the first Mayor of Albert Lea;
- R M Palmer, a 28-year-old male visiting from Wisconsin, died of a gunshot accident at Graceland;
- Ransom Brothers, owned a warehouse in Albert Lea, and paid a large amount of tax in 1881, indicating profitability;
- C R Ransom, was elected moderator and treasurer of the new First Universalist Society in 1877.

Interestingly, names of possible relevance to ***Figure of Eight*** 1st cousin, Gerald Aldrich, also show up in the community: Helmer, Aldrich, Robertson.

While in the library, we meet a volunteer worker named Arlis Rebelein, who was in the Alden Graduating Class of 1949, and helped put together the Blackhawk Centennial Cook Book that had such a role in the lives of the young ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons, in that it was 'cook's bible' for Grandmother Maude, who raised us. She and all her siblings, as well as many relatives, are listed in the alumni directory at the back of the book.

The librarian takes quite an interest in Great-grandmother Ellen Ransom Larkin's memoir: *The Story of My Life (1943),* as well as Great-aunt Rachel Edna "Dede" Johnston's book: *The Emerson Family Tree (1870-1968)*, so we are inspired to donate file copies.

With one of 'Ike's Highways', Interstate 90, now intersecting the region (though not apparently *dissecting* it), and the skyline featuring a parade of picturesque Alliant Electric wind turbines, a 'pioneer district' it is no longer. 'Our people' may well all have moved on, but for a time this was 'their place', and they made their mark upon it, and through them, *it* has placed its mark upon us.

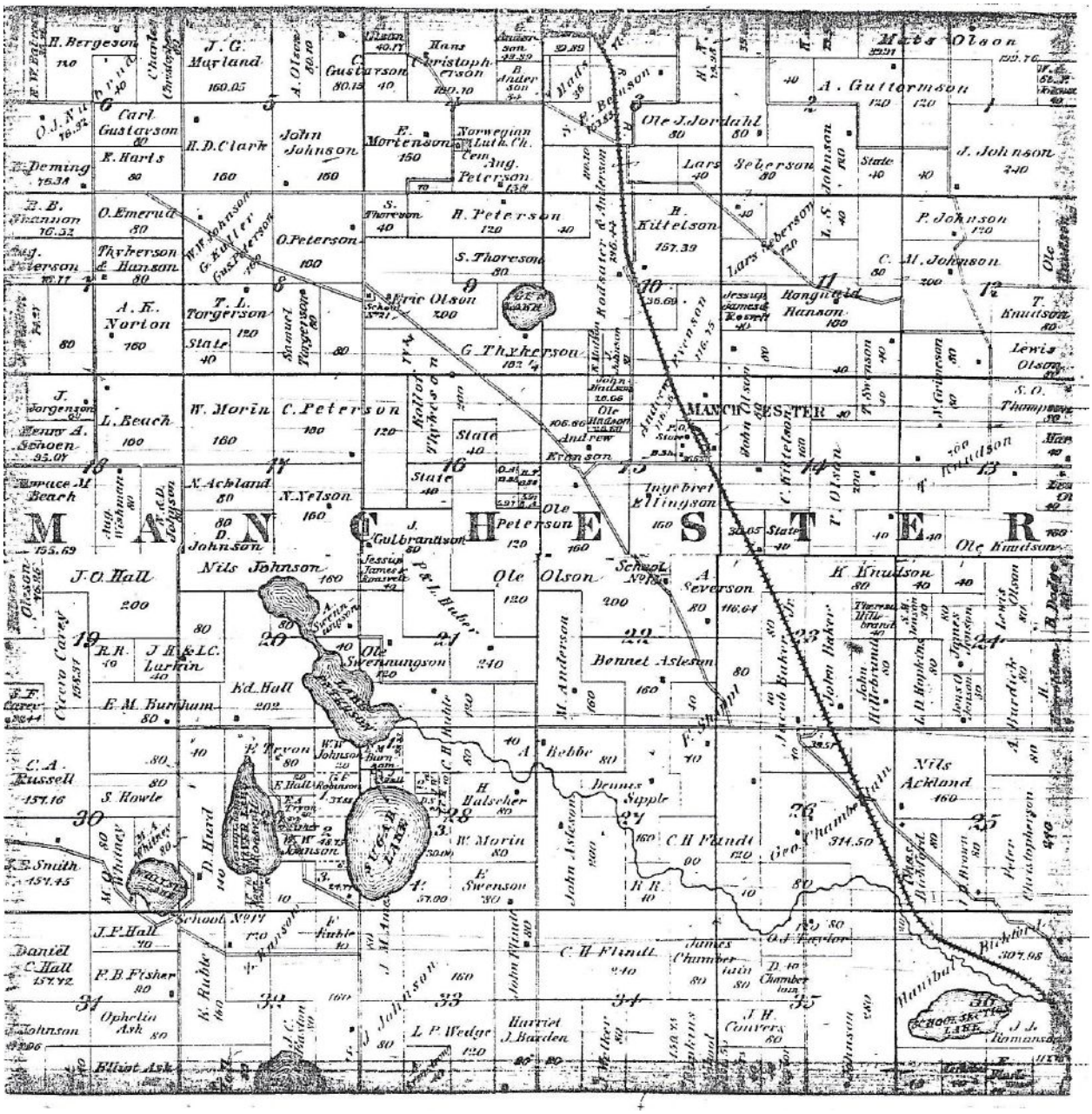
A good day all around . . .

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (29 Aug 2013, rev. 15 May 2018)]

References:

1. Roger D. Lonning, compiler, 1980. History of Freeborn County Minnesota (1911). Freeborn County Historical Society, Albert Lea, Minnesota
2. Franklyn Curtis-Wedge. History of Freeborn County, 1911
3. History of Freeborn County, 1882. Minnesota Historical Company
4. Freeborn County Heritage, Historical Society. Taylor Publishing, 1988
5. Faribault County (1855-1976). Faribault County Bicentennial Commission, 1977.

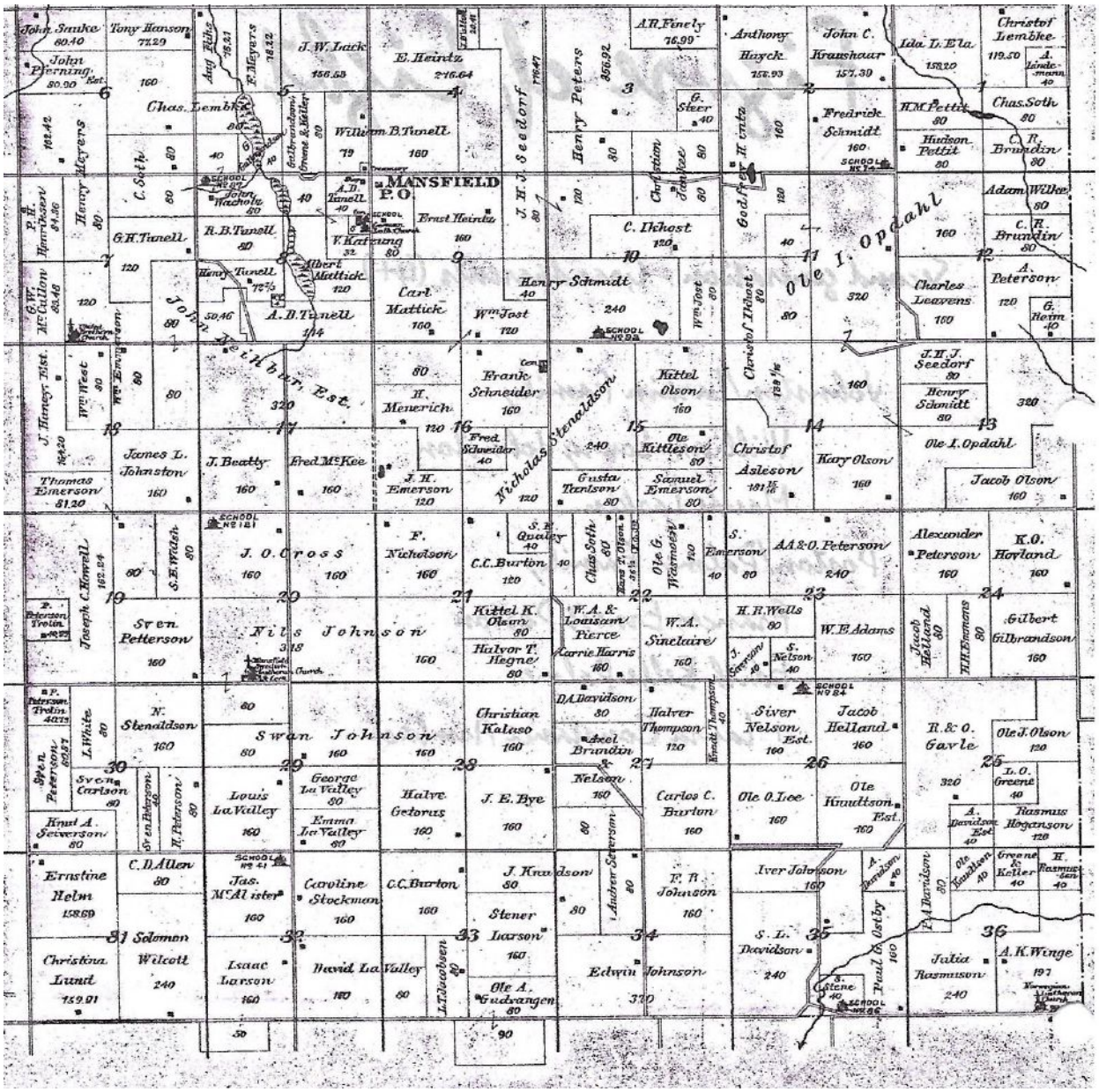
Plat Map of Manchester Township 103 N, Range 21 W, 1878



See the Larkin Brothers' property in Sections 19 & 20; ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandparents in Section 30, marked Z. Ransom; the several Halls in Sections 19, 20, 30, 31 are Elvira Louvena Hall Ransom's siblings. The School No. 14 was the Buckhorn School where Great-grandmother Ellen Augusta Ransom Larkin's generation went to school, and where several generations of our people taught.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 July 2018)]

Plat Map of Mansfield Township, 101 N Range 21 W, ca 1900


MANSFIELD P.O.
Ole I. Opdahl
Nicholas Stenoldson
Swan Johnson
Nils Johnson
Solomon Wilcott
Edwin Johnson
Christina Lund
Ole A. Gudrangen
Jatia Rasmuson
A.K. Winge
Jacob Olson
Gilbert Gilbrandson
Alexander Peterson
K.O. Hovland
Ole J. Olson
Rasmus Hoganson
Jacob Helland
Siver Nelson Est.
Ole O. Loe
Ole Knudtson Est.
Carlos C. Burton
Halvor Thompson
Christian Kaleso
Halvor T. Hegne
Kittel K. Olsen
Frank Schneider
Carl Mattick
Henry Schmidt
Kittel Olson
Ole Kittleson
Samuel Emerson
Christof Asleson
Kary Olson
Ole I. Opdahl
Charles Leavens
A. Peterson
Adam Wilke
C.R. Brundin
Hudson Pettit
Fredrick Schmidt
John C. Kramshaur
Anthony Hayck
A.R. Finely
Henry Peters
J.H.J. Seedorf
Godfrey Hinta
Christof Lembke
Ida L. Ela
Chas. Soth
H.M. Pettit
Albert Mattick
A.B. Tunell
William B. Tunell
E. Heintz
J.W. Lack
Tony Hanson
John Sauke
John Pierning
Chas. Lembke
C. Soth
G.H. Tunell
R.B. Tunell
Henry Tunell
V. Kiefening
Ernst Heintz
C. Dehost
Henry Meyers
Wm. West
Wm. Emerson
James L. Johnston
J. Beatty
Fred McKee
Thomas Emerson
J. Haney Est.
J.H. Emerson
F. Nicholson
C.C. Burton
J.O. Cross
S.E. Welch
Joseph C. Howell
Sven Petterson
Knut A. Seiverson
Sven Carlson
L. White
N. Stenoldson
Louis La Valley
George La Valley
Emma La Valley
Halve Getorus
J.E. Bye
Erastine Helm
C.D. Allen
Jas. McAlister
Caroline Stockman
C.C. Burton
J. Knudson
Stener Larson
Isaac Larson
David La Valley
Ole A. Gudrangen
F.R. Johnson
Andrew Severson
Nelson
Iver Johnson
S.L. Davidson
Paul R. Ostby
Ole Landsen
Greene & Keller
R. & O. Gavle
L.O. Greene
A. Davidson Est.
H. Rasmussen
Ole Thompson
D.A. Davidson
Axel Brandin
W.A. Sinclaire
W.A. & Louisam Pierce
Carrie Harris
Ole G. Warmoth
Chas Soth
H.R. Wells
W.E. Adams
S. Nelson
AA & O. Peterson
S. Emerson
H.H. Emmons
Jacob Helland
J.H.J. Seedorf
Henry Schmidt
Ole I. Opdahl
Jacob Olson
Gusta Tenlson
Christof Hhost
Wm. Jost
Henry Schmidt
Ole Kittleson
Christian Olson
Chas Soth
Ole G. Warmoth
S. Emerson
AA & O. Peterson
Alexander Peterson
K.O. Hovland
Gilbert Gilbrandson
Rasmus Hoganson
Ole J. Olson
R. & O. Gavle
L.O. Greene
A. Davidson Est.
Ole Knudtson Est.
Ole O. Loe
Siver Nelson Est.
Jacob Helland
Carlos C. Burton
Halvor Thompson
Axel Brandin
D.A. David

Site Visit to Mower County, Minnesota, 8 April 2014

Township Map of Mower County



[credit: https://www.dot.state.mn.us/maps/gdma/data/mapfinder/countyHTMLs/mower.html]

Family Requa/Andres . . .

At the Mower County Historical Society in Austin, with much welcome support from the staff, we obtain:

- photos from Images of America, Mower County Minnesota, including County Officials in 1891 and the Bussell Hotel, Grand Meadow, built 1925;
- review of F. Curtiss-Wedge, 1911, ed. The History of Mower County Minnesota. Cooper, Chicago, including reference to Alex Requa role as county official (1887-1893);
- perusal of family files with copies of obituaries (Alex Requa and Lucinda Andres); birth, marriage, death records for several of their children (Alex, Dora, Mary, Eliza — the latter with her husband, Harry Bussell and Daughter Emily); various newspaper clippings.



We locate the gravesites of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandparents, Alexander Requa (1831-1925), and his wife Lucinda Andres (1835-1893) at the Oakwood Cemetery, Austin, and photograph the headstones.



It is interesting to note that there are two other Requa groups buried at Oakwood Cemetery — relationships to our people, if any, yet undetermined. Local print records indicate that one of the families is of Norwegian origin.

We locate the Grand Meadow town lot where our Requa Family lived (1876-1887) — Proprietor's Division, Sec 28, Lot 5, SE corner 2nd off Pearl Street — a fine new house is under construction there today.

We meet, by telephone, a co-descendant of the family, herself a retired long-time curator of the Morrow County Historical Society records, our 2nd cousin 1x removed, Shirley Bussell DeYoung, who subsequently shares photos, taken about 1930, of the five then-surviving sisters of our great-grandmother, Letitia Lucinda Requa (1853-1900).

New learnings include:

- clarified birth places, marriage, land claim in Wisconsin;
- travel in South America;
- details of business, public service;
- preacher/religious writer;
- joint funeral service with son-in-law, William Harrison Palmer.

Notes for further Requa/Andres research:

- to clarify which of the Mower County officials is the image Alexander Requa;
- to find Lucinda's photo;
- to find parentage of Lucinda Andres, probably from among those who show up in Wisconsin at the time of their marriage.

Family Palmer/Requa . . .

The sextant's records show that ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandparents, William Harrison Palmer (1844-1925) and his 2nd wife, Letitia Lucinda Requa (1853-1900), are buried in the Requa Plot at Oakwood Cemetery, but without headstones.

At the Mower County Historical Society in Austin, we obtain:

- photos from *"Images of America, Mower County Minnesota",* including Brownsdale village scenes, the schoolhouse built new in 1897, Daughter Edith Belle with classmates;
- review of F. Curtiss-Wedge, 1911, ed. The History of Mower County Minnesota. Cooper, Chicago, including bio of William Palmer, bio of Brother-in-Law Thomas D Iorns, list of Brownsdale postmasters, reference to Lettie's earlier millinery in Grand Meadow; erusal of family files with copies of William's obituary; various newspaper clippings, including write-up on Daughter Fanny's marriage, joint father-in-law/son-in-law funeral.

We explore Brownsdale Village. The post office seems to be new, as is the school, now a junior school. Current photos are taken of the old Brownsdale Schoolhouse, which ***Figure of Eight*** maternal grandmother, Edith Belle Palmer Poston, attended, built about 1898; today, it is a derelict four-plex apartment block.

New learnings include:

- Palmer parentage details, birth details;
- record of family movement to West;
- William a soldier/chaplain;
- Daughter Fanny's marriage and family career details;
- Lettie in millinery business;
- presence of nearby speculated Palmer relatives.

Notes for further Palmer/Requa research:

- parentage and demise of Julia C Manchester;
- missing family photos;
- missing Lettie's obituary;
- possible headstones;
- who had Baby Julian when 1st wife Julia Manchester died, and what were the circumstances?

Family Palmer/Cornell . . .

Future investigative research on the following possible relatives might further elucidate the families-of-origin of ***Figure of Eight*** 2nd great-grandparents, Henry Palmer and Patience Cornell:

- When William Harrison Palmer was teaching school at St. Charles, Winona, Minnesota, there was an Elias Palmer resident there — Elias was the name of one of the same-age Palmer group back at Chatham, New York (see story 'Finding Family of Henry Palmer' in Section VI, pp. 7-10).
- When Wm. H Palmer & Letitia Requa Palmer resided at Grand Meadow, MN (1885 Census), they had a female boarder named F Glenn, b. WI 1848 — there were Glenn neighbours at Wyalusing, WI when the Palmers lived there (NB: a matching Fanny was part of the Robert and Mary Glenn household where 1st wife Julia was 'domestic' before marriage!)
- Near Grand Meadow at LeRoy, where Wm. was for a time school principal, there were several family groups of Palmers, most relevant being: Charles S, b. LeRoy, MN 10 Oct 1868, son of Cady Palmer & Sarah Cromwell (Cornell?), of Chatham, NY, w. brother Judson Palmer were amongst the earliest residents; also, a George W & his wife Mary.
- An Irvin Palmer of WI was a special guest at the 1906 marriage of Wm. & Lettie's eldest daughter Frances at Brownsdale, Mower, MN. While we do not find him amongst our known relatives, there was at Wyalusing (1860 Census) a farmer, Henry W Palmer, b. NY 1815, with a resident farm laborer Irvine, b. NY 1845; nearby is Alvin, b. NY 1841.
- Next door to Henry W Palmer and Irvin at Wyalusing (1870 Census) are Eliz. Palmer (8) and Eugene Palmer (2) in the home of widowed farmer, Elizabeth Brodt (44), and her Brodt children.
- An Elizabeth (Palmer) Chapman, b. NY, moved to WI 1855 and then to Mower Co. MN with her son Lorenzo S, b. Green Lake, WI 28 May 1862 (another local family, who would become in-laws to Lettie Requa Palmer's sister, Eliza Requa Bussell, were related to Chapmans).
- A J B Palmer present in 1895 Census at Wyalusing, is not yet identified.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (28 Apr 2014; rev. 16 May 2018)]

Site Visit 1 to Pennington/Red Lake Counties, 30 April 2014

In April 2014, I undertake a ten-day genealogical research mission to 'My Minnesota', extending as far as extreme southwestern Wisconsin. As I head south from Winnipeg on my preferred route, Canada/US 59, I make my first stop at Thief River Falls. My long-anticipated enquiry into the town of our mother's birth seems at first to be foiled, as the Pennington County Historical Society apparently only operates seasonally, and I do not get a sense of helpfulness from several board members whom I manage to locate via telephone. However, parking on historic Labree Avenue N, at the north end of which our great-grandparents Silas Poston and Rachel McCurdy once lived with their tribe of strapping young men and women, I easily find the offices of the Thief River Falls Times, where a helpful receptionist directs me to their archives in the city library, and, also, to a handy funeral home, where an equally helpful receptionist provides me with cemetery information.

The old library, now an historic building, would have been there at the time of our great-grandparents, but now houses other things. At the new library, which has a genealogical reading room, the very helpful librarian starched out numerous newspaper articles including obituaries for both Great-grandpa Silas and Great-grandma Rachel; two articles about the World War I death of their son George; and a death announcement for their grandson, ***Figure of Eight*** mother Helen's eldest brother, Robert Poston, in Florida which, importantly, clarifies circumstances, causes, dates.



The 1916 Lincoln School Yearbook, in the alumni section, refers to Martha ("Mattie") Poston teaching at Kratka. The 1918 yearbook has a picture of youngest child Mary E in her graduating year (photo).

Discovering on the wall of the unlocked cemetery workshop a plot map, I locate (and photograph) without much difficulty the headstones of our great-grandparents at the extreme east end of East Greenwood Cemetery in block 3, lot 92, gravesites 6, 7.

With an eye to 'sussing out' the geography of our people's lives, I am interested to learn a bit about the City: that it was founded very late for this part of the country (1890s); that the native component of the citizenry played a significant part in the cultural milieu; that power generation from the river provided an important function to the area; that the first locally owned auto appeared on Thief River streets in 1908; that Bridgeman's Ice Cream originated here in 1933.

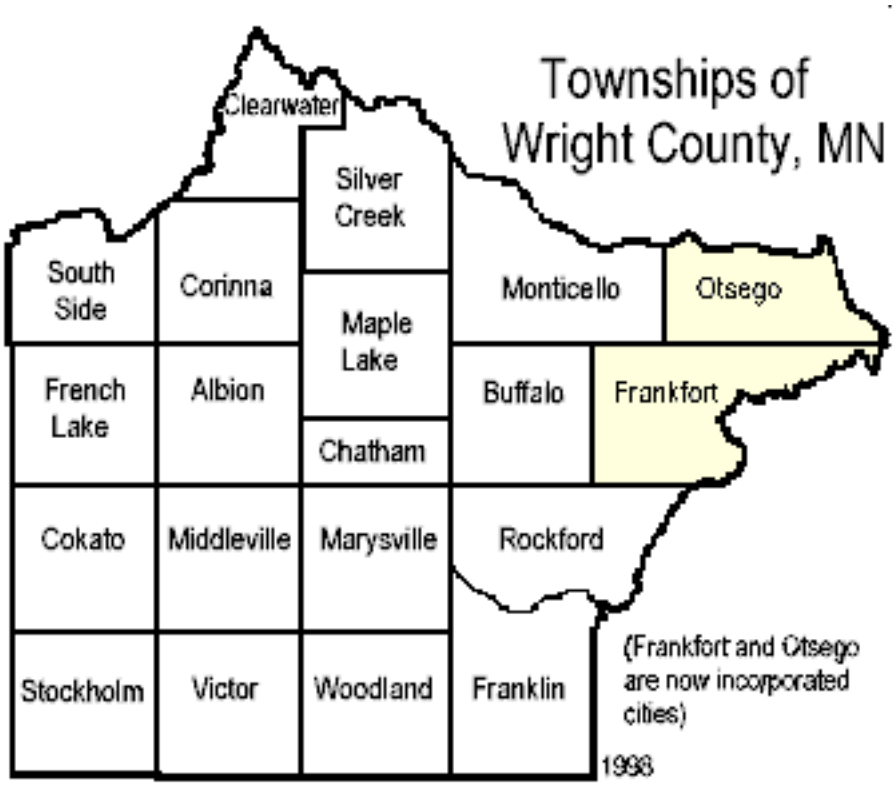
One story I would like to know more about is the McCurdy Ice Company, operated by some combination of Poston father and sons. On one occasion, our grandfather Frank shows up in the City Directory as the company manager, his brother George as an employee, boarding at the same address. Why the McCurdy name? Was it honouring their mother's maiden name, or reflecting the involvement of an as yet unknown male relative?

It is interesting to note that our target family purchased Chippewa lands in North Township, Red Lake County, listed as such in the 1905 Minnesota Census, but by the time of the 1910 U.S. Census, as North Township, Pennington County, suggesting a boundary change. In any event, North Township apparently begins several miles north of the City of Thief River Falls where they apparently actually lived for over 30 years. Finding the location of their farm there, and the nature of it, or any other details of their final life setting, will have to await future research (which apparently must be staged between Memorial Day and Labor Day).

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 May 2014)]

Site Visit to Wright County, Minnesota, 3 May 2014

Township Map of Wright County



[credit: http://wellssouth.com/?p=304]

Of course, I had felt that I knew Wright County very well, having been born and raised there. Nevertheless, finding myself with an un-booked Saturday, a time when most historical and genealogical societies are closed, I am delighted to spend some hours in the smart new Wright County Historical Society at Buffalo.

There, I review the marriage index for our people, although, oddly, do not find the record of my own marriage! The Wright County Death Index is interesting in that it reveals many Johnstons of whom I did not have an awareness, and who were not our relatives, including a Maude E Johnston (Maud Sutton, wife of Newton Ashley Johnston), who died one year before ***Figure of Eight*** grandmother, Maude Larkin! Our grandparents, William Lowry and Maude Larkin Johnston, and our parents, Daryl and Helen Poston Johnston, are, of course, listed, although in several instances with missing dates. I find my own first-born, "Baby Boy" Johnston, 5 June 1967, shown as 'stillborn', which is not true!

Johnstons in Wright County Death Index

Johnston	Addie	D*	004	03/31/1857	03/01/1939	1939	239-004 wf of "Archie" nee Drake
Johnston	Archie F.A.		004	04/15/1846	11/12/1927	1927	239-003 Aka Francis Archibald
Johnston	Baby Boy		048		06/05/1967	1967	stillborn
Johnston	Baby Girl		048		06/25/1928	1928	still born
Johnston	Birdie Abbott		018	03/31/1870	01/10/1956	1956	210-210 Birdie Abbott Johnston
Johnston	Claude		004	00/00/1908	09/25/1978	1978	625-001 PVT US Army WWII
Johnston	Daryl	R	048	11/26/1905	11/05/1982	1982	
Johnston	Delia Osite	O	017	00/00/1881	09/09/1950	1950	nee Berthiaume Bk 2 Page 8 age 69
Johnston	Edith	M	062	00/00/1908	00/00/1933	1933	
Johnston	Frank	*	017	08/04/1872	02/14/1965	1964	Bk2 Pg8 died Stearns Co
Johnston	Helen Poston		048	00/00/1914	00/00/1948	1948	
Johnston	J.H.		102	01/15/1808	05/16/1887	1887	
Johnston	John		005				lot 153
Johnston	Kathleen	M	062	00/00/1929	00/00/1933	1933	
Johnston	Lorenzo		102	06/03/1837	01/08/1907	1907	
Johnston	Mary		062		00/00/1929	1929	
Johnston	Maude	L	048	00/00/1882	03/18/1965	1965	
Johnston	Maude	E	026	01/28/1896	11/04/1964	1964	1-092-2 wf of Newton
Johnston	Newton Ashley		026	10/03/1894	12/30/1931	1931	1-092-1 husb of Maud nee Sutton
Johnston	Praxannah		102	03/18/1811	02/27/1888	1888	
Johnston	Ralph	C	017	00/00/1880	00/00/1965	1964	Bk 2 Pg 1 AKA R. C.
Johnston	Raymond Leroy	L	058	11/03/1924	01/24/1925	1925	
Johnston	Ruth		102	12/18/1836	03/26/1916	1916	
Johnston	Veri	F	017		10/26/1959	1959	B2 P1 Age 78 N.C.
Johnston	W. Lowry		048	00/00/1878	00/00/1939	1939	

Figure of Eight grandparents and their offspring are listed in the Wright County Atlas & Farm Directory both in 1915 at their Lake Charlotte Farm: Section 2 (80 acres) and Section 1 (5 acres) of Rockford Township 119 N/Range 25 W (two years in the County), and in 1931 at their Crawford Lake Farm: Section 20 (75 acres) of Rockford Township 119N/Range 25 W (18 years in the County) — see plat maps following.

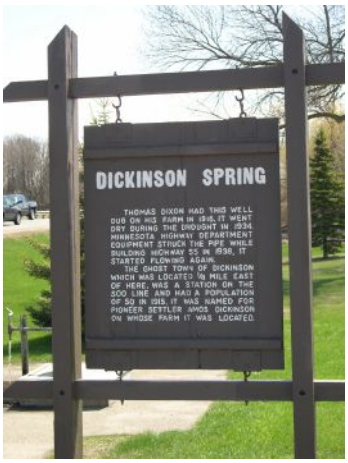


I manage to locate the second of their farms near Lake Charlotte, bordered at its south end by what is today the Rockford–Buffalo Road, CR34. In the much-upgraded original house, I meet Mary Ellen (Mrs. Gary) Gutknecht, and take photos for follow-up comparison with earlier images. Near neighbour is Ruth, daughter (or daughter-in-law?) of William Borscheid, who purchased the farm from our grandparents in about 1927. There was once both a school and a church immediately across the road from the farmstead (see 1915 plat map), and there are still some remnants of them in a copse there.

Some of the family names of the neighbours from the Lake Charlotte area are familiar to me through exposure during my childhood and youth, though I have no certain knowledge of ever having seen the place until I go scouting as part of this trip: Thompson, Hopkins, and, in particular, Lucas. Evidence that some of these relationships persisted in Mother Helen's time is that Clarence Lucas and Ansel Thompson are listed in her obituary as pallbearers. I speculate that it might have been to a visit with old neighbours that Grandfather Lowry was headed on the day he met his doom in a car train accident in 1939, although local lore refers to voting, meeting attendance, other.



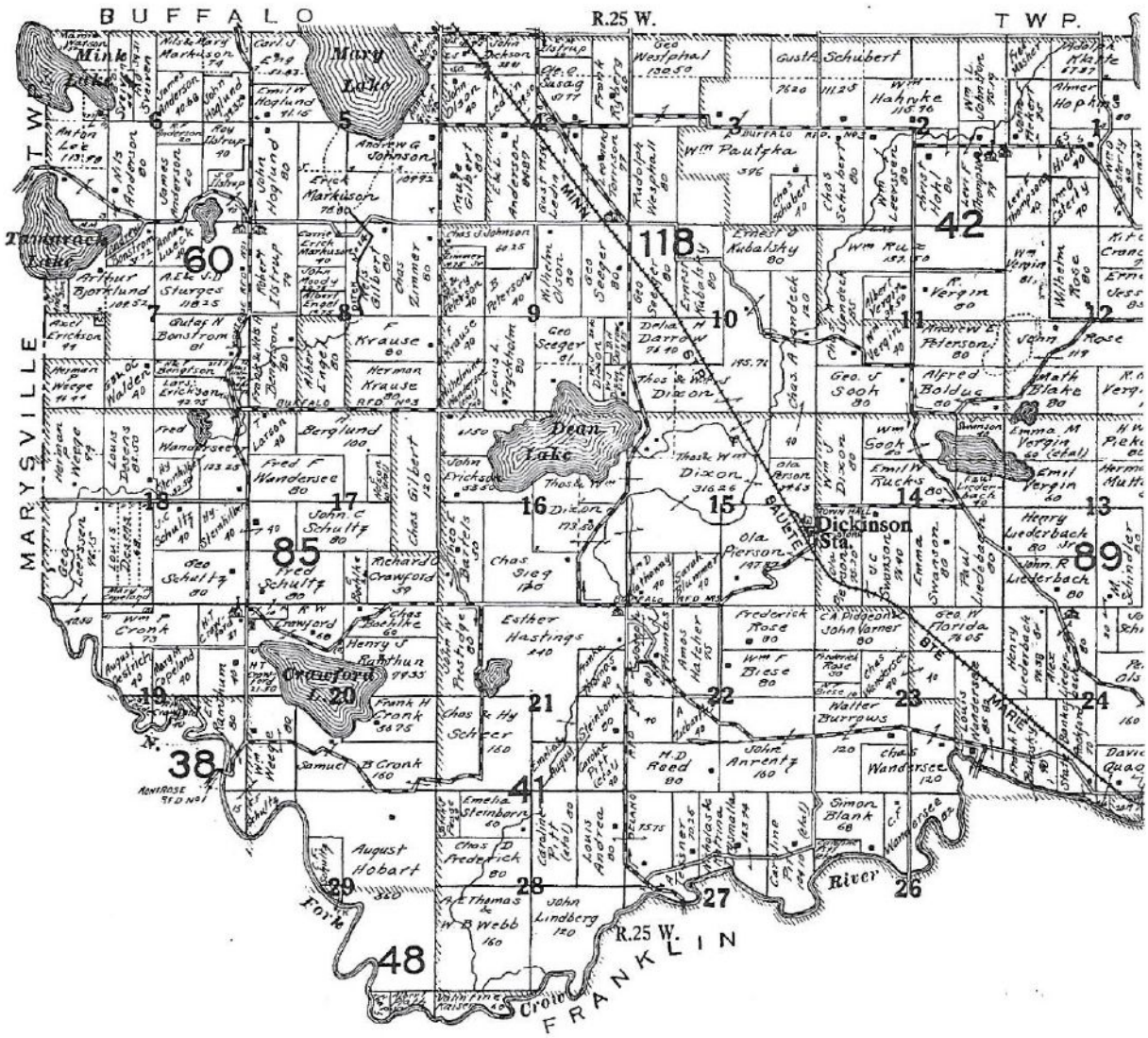
Speaking of grandfather's tragic death, I photograph a train on the Soo Line (a wholly-owned subsidiary of Canadian Pacific) at the spot — Dickinson Crossing along present-day Minnesota 55. There was a village there in earlier days, and the location of which is still marked by some commercial buildings along the north side of the highway, and, nearby to the west, Dickinson Spring with its story. Westbound from that crossing, on a road that once led directly past the farmyard at Crawford Lake, one arrives at the present site of the Rockford Township Hall.



And, speaking of obituaries, the archived microfiche images of the Wright County Free Press abound with obituaries and news articles about three generations of our people, from the death of Great-grandfather Lucius Larkin in 1930, to the death of Great Uncle Dr. John Catlin in 1966.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 May 2014; rev. 14 Jul 2018)]

Rockford Township 119 N, Range 25 W (1916)



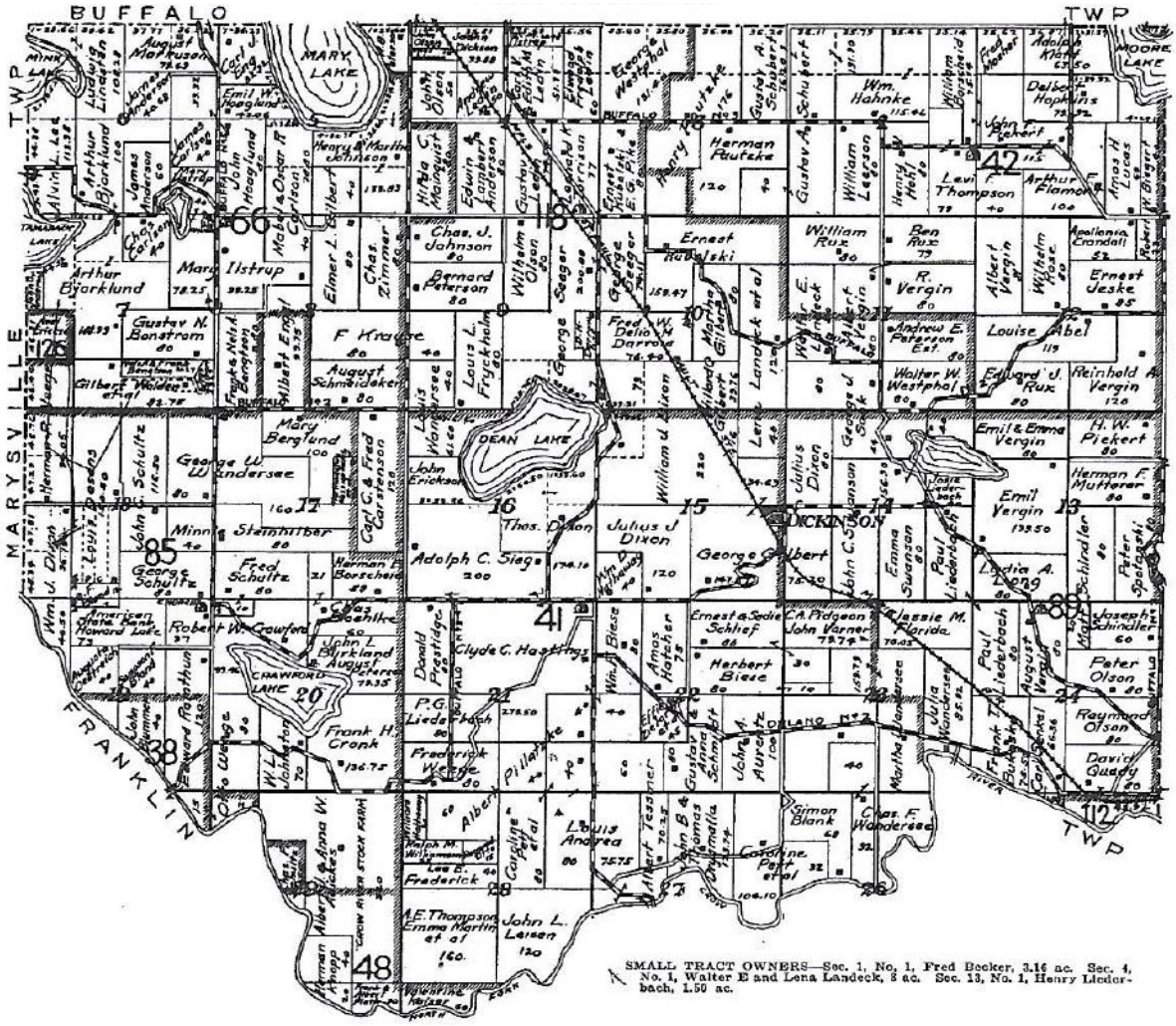
[Courtesy of: http://geo.lib.umn.edu/plat_books/stateofmn1916/counties/wright.htm]

The first Wright County farm of Johnston/Larkin Family was 80 acres in NE ¼ of Section 2, and 5-acre sliver of Section 1 (see plat); purchased about 1913; youngest child, Maurene, was born here; note church and school across road to the south — this property was sold to William Borscheid.

The Family later moved to the next section east, nearer to Lake Charlotte: W ½ of SE ¼ of Section 1 (except 20 acres) & SE ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 1 — shown on this plat as Wm. O. Esterly; commenced a 33-year mortgage from Federal Land Bank, St. Paul, on 2nd February 1922; the last semi-annual payment made January 1927.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 July 2018)]

Rockford Township 119 N, Ranges 24, 25 W (1931)



[Courtesy of: http://geo.lib.umn.edu/plat_books/stateofmn1931/counties/wright.htm]

The third Wright County farm of our grandparents was the E ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 20 at Crawford Lake — 80 acres (less 10 acres of lake). This is where the ***Figure of Eight*** Minnesota Johnstons were born and raised. The house in which we lived (see square on map) is believed to have been built about 1913 by carpenter/farmer, Jack Hayes, maternal grandfather to our brother-in-law, Durund LaVine, for then-owner Sam'l B. Cronk (see 1916 plat). It is quite likely that our paternal grandparents purchased the parcel directly from Samuel Cronk when they moved there in 1927.

Both of the preceding plat maps reveal an early property owner named Crawford — namesake of the Lake. Descendants of Cronk, Ramthun, Weege, and others, would be classmates of ours decades later, our one-room country school perhaps replacing the building noted as 'church' in the NE corner of Section 19. In our day, there was a German Lutheran church, attended by many of our neighbours, in the NW ¼ of Section 20, along our shoreline walk to school.

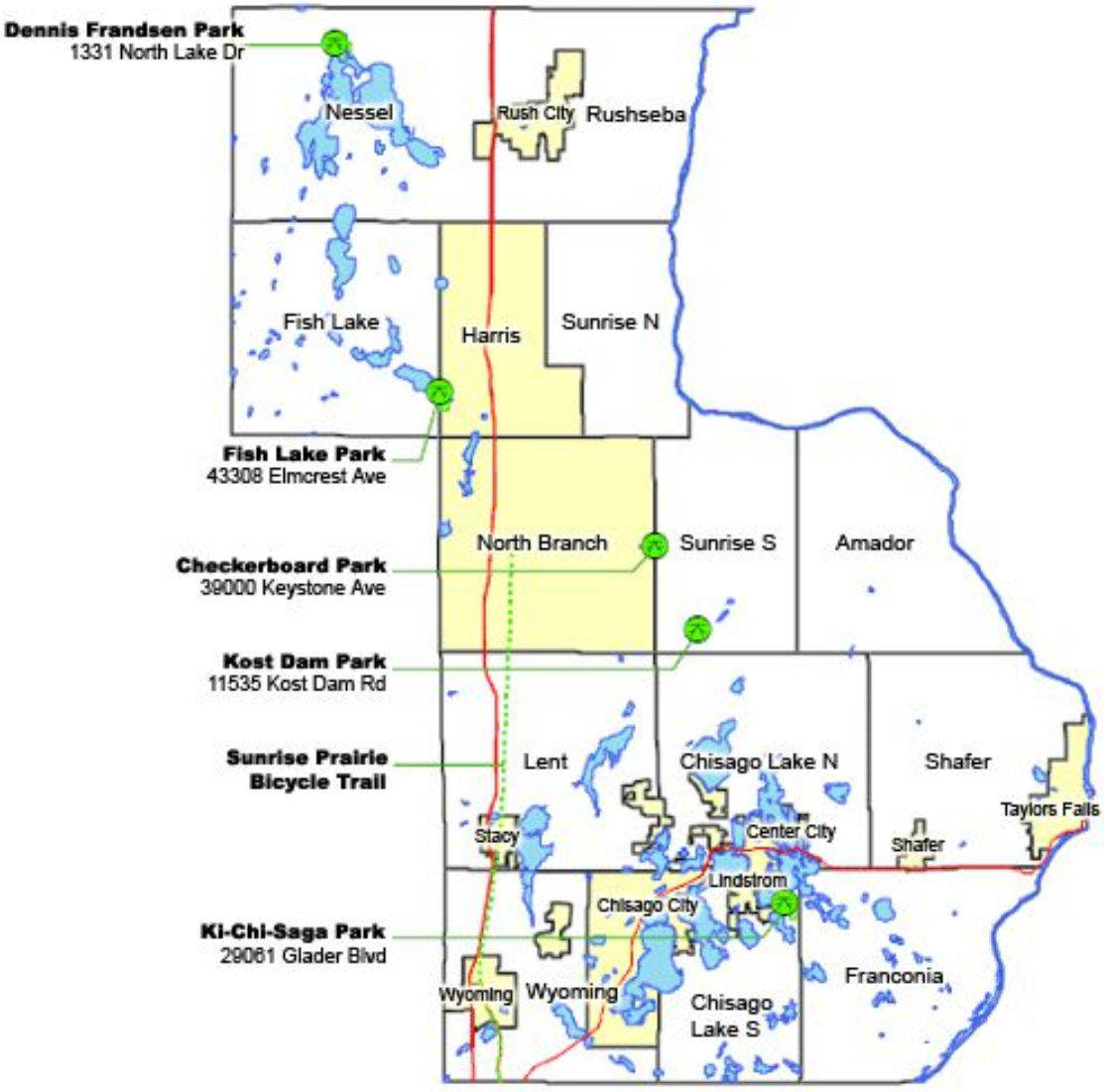
The road (replaced during my childhood) that meandered past our farmyard, continued east and north to another school shown in the NE ¼ of Section 21. This school would be later attended by Sister Hope's children, who were taught, in part, by our aunt, Majel Johnston Aldrich. It is now the site of the Rockford Township Hall.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 July 2018)]

Site Visits to Chisago/Washington/Anoka Counties, 2-6 May 2014

In pursuit of ***Figure of Eight*** Poston and McCurdy 2nd great-grandparents and their various in-laws and allied families, I conduct a site visit at the juxtaposition of three counties north of the Twin Cities in Minnesota. These families with a double intermarriage apparently lived, as I had hoped to corroborate, within about a 3.5-mile radius of each other, though because of the different jurisdictions, my research involves all three counties. Changing political boundaries and vagaries in jurisdictions meant that they sometimes showed up in the census in one county and sometimes in the other. In fact, until 1851 what are today Chisago, Pine and Washington Counties were all Washington County. Within counties, township boundaries were also known to change. By way of example, in 1870 the Postons were shown as resident in Marine Township, which for a time claimed jurisdiction of a swath across the top of Washington County. My understanding is that our target families never actually moved, though their official address kept changing.

Township Map of Chisago County



[Credit: http://www.co.chisago.mn.us/456/Parks]

Notes to Chisago County site visit, 2 May 2014 . . .

At Chisago County Historical Society in Lindstrom on a Friday, I am greeted by Bob Chudek, an experienced genealogist who has contributed much to the Find-a-Grave website. We identify in Wyoming Township the adjacent properties of Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Jeremiah and Mary Cartwright Poston, and Jeremiah's sister, Rebecca Poston Simmons, in Section SW34/Township 33/Range 21W, and, also, the Lent Township farmland and Stacy town properties of a John McCurdy, probable brother to our 2nd great-grandfather, Archibald McCurdy. We discover that the retired farmer, John, established a money-lending business in town, in a structure that would long be known locally as the McCurdy Building; the site is now a town park. John's farm has been replanted to the pine trees that made this sandy area attractive to the loggers who 'opened up' the territory. His place is on the Fawn Lake Road, a direct link to the McCurdy/Riddle Family place a couple miles west. The son of this John McCurdy and his wife Jane Lindsay married into the Broadbent Family. Sanford Broadbent, locally famous as a Civil War hero, would later purchase part of the Anoka County farm of our great-grand uncle, Archibald McCurdy, Jr., who had it from his brother, Matthew McCurdy.

References:

1. Earl W. Leaf. The People of Chicago County (19th Century) in four volumes
2. Max Malmquist, 2007. From Prairie Chickens and Potatoes…To Houses. North Branch Regional History. Connections Reflections and Heritage. Volume II
3. W. H. C. Folsom. Fifty Years in the Northwest. edited by S. E. Edwards [www.gutenberg.org]
4. Kenneth Banta (Chisholm County Historical Society member and long-time Chisholm County historian). Early Wyoming History.

A Brief History of Wyoming

"The 1837 treaty between the Dakota (Sioux) and Ojibwa (Chippewa) Indians opened the Wyoming area for [European] *settlement. Settlers did not begin to move into the area until 1855 when the Minnesota Territory, striving for statehood, made a minimum purchase of 80 acres available for $1.25 per acre. This offering of cheap land fueled the settlement of the Wyoming area.*

In March 1855, Frederic Tepel carefully chose a site which would become the heart of Wyoming. Several groups of settlers arrived around the same time; the most significant was a group of over 50 from Philadelphia, led by Dr. John W. comfort. Other names in that group were Ashton, Badger, Benton, Gatzow, Tombler, and Wright. Other early settlers names included Banta, Fullerton, Lendt, Poston, Sauer, and Stipe.

While the eastern portion of the county [Chisago] *was settled primarily by Scandinavian immigrants, this area was primarily German settlers. The name 'Wyoming' is Algonquin Indian and comes from the Wyoming Valley in Pennsylvania where a number of those early settlers started from.*

Transportation played an important role in Wyoming's history. The earliest access to the area was by an Indian trail, later broadened into what was known as the Territorial Road. St. Paul, a two-day trip by oxcart, was the nearest market for those early settlers. Later, by stagecoach, it became one day. Rail lines going North and later East created an important railroad hub. Highway 61 and eight intersected here later and created a steady flow of traffic."

[Credit: brochure produced for the Wyoming Historical Society entitled *"Historic Walking Tour of Wyoming, Minnesota"* researched and compiled by Neil Gatzow with assistance from Brandy Timmins.]

Notes to Washington County site visit, 4 May 2014 . . .

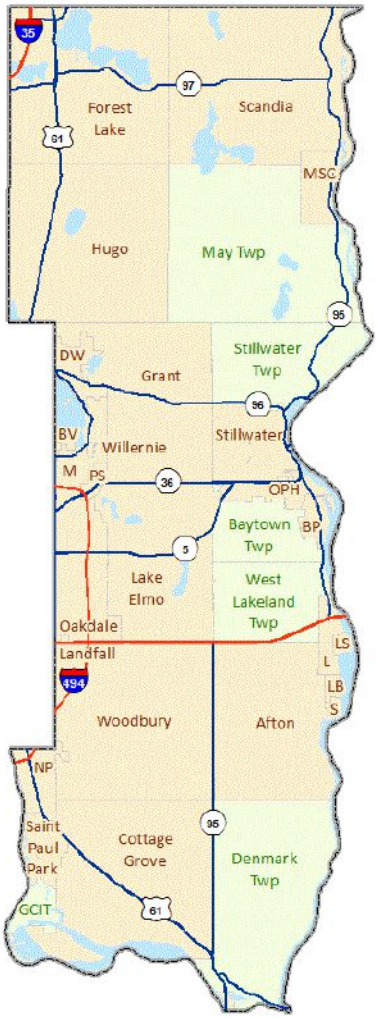
At Washington County Historical Society at Stillwater on Sunday afternoon, I am well received in the Carriage House Library by Executive Director, Brent Peterson. I am in pursuit of Jeremiah Poston and his wife, Mary Cartwright, and their various siblings, offspring, and in-laws, including McCurdys, Simmons, Stipes. Washington County was once much larger, until 1851 encompassing today's Chisago and Pine Counties. The County being dubbed the *"birthplace of Minnesota",* the library proffers a number of helpful history books, which prove to be fruitful, bearing much information on our target families, including pictures of our 2nd great-grandparents, Jeremiah and Mary, and of their log cabin! Available plat maps enable me to locate their homestead, adjacent to that of Jeremiah's sister, Rebecca Poston Simmons.

Their building sites were apparently at the south end of their properties in Forest Lake Township, Washington County, while their farm land extended north into Wyoming Township, Chisago County. Today, where their cabins stood there are upper-end cottage homes along Forest Lake's North Shore Drive. Their gravestones are easily found within hard-to-find Cedar Hill Cemetery, Wyoming Township.

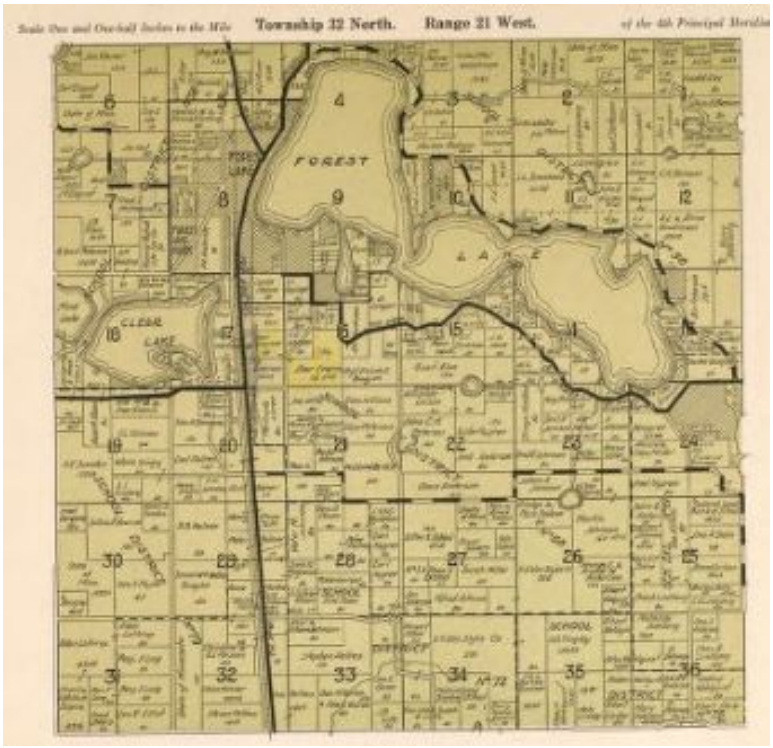
While the McCurdy's seem to have had little presence in either Washington or Chisago Counties, they were immediately proximate in what is today Anoka County.

https://www.dot.state.mn.us/maps/gdma/data/mapfinder/countyHTMLs/washington.html

Township Map of Washington County (Left)



Forest Lake Township Plat

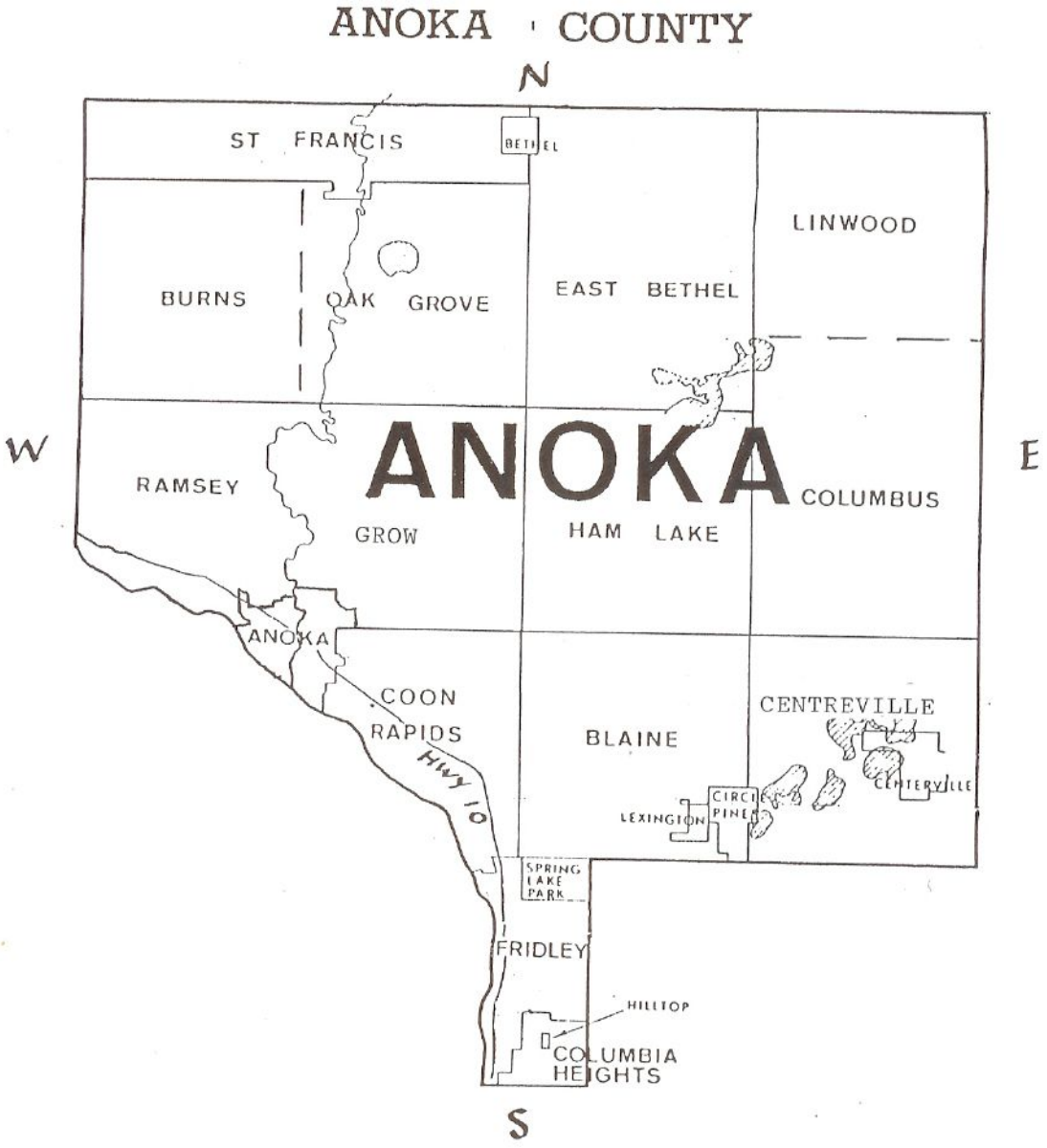


[Plat Map Credit: https://www.loc.gov/resource/]

References:

1. Elsie Vogel. Reflections of Forest Lake — in the volume entitled *"Reflections 1893-1993"*; edited by Jan Kolodjski and Bob Nordin
2. Rev. Edward D. Neill. Explorers and Pioneers of Minnesota; and J. Fletcher Williams. Outlines of the History of Minnesota — in volume entitled *"History of Washington County and the St. Croix Valley*". Northstar Publishing Co. Minneapolis, 1881
3. Willard E. Rosenfeld, General Editor and Maynard H Johnson, Associate Editor. Washington: A History of the Minnesota County. The Croixside Press, Stillwater, Minnesota
4. Robert Goodman. A History of Washington County: Gateway to Minnesota History. Washington County Historical Society, Stillwater, Minnesota

Township Map of Anoka County



[Credit: http://michael.mclaughlin.me/atckison-family/atckison-charles/]

Notes to Anoka County site visit, 6 May 2014 . . .

A small army of helpful volunteers await me on Tuesday at the Anoka County Historical Society, Anoka. Here my target family is that of 2nd great-grandparents, Archibald McCurdy and his wife Elizabeth Riddle, as well as their children and any extended family. In all, we photocopy over 30 documents of genealogical interest, including probate records for Archibald, aka "Arthur". Their 80-acre property, a small farm in Section 26, mostly marsh, near Fawn Lake in Linwood Township (34 N/Range 22 W), north and east of Anoka, has long since been subdivided into residential acreages. Their post office changed frequently, so they sometimes seemed to be from Bethel Township. Their farm lay immediately adjacent

to present Chisago County, and boundary changes may well account for at least one census showing them as resident there.

Son Matthew married locally, and lived on 160 acres nearby on Section 9, between Linwood Lake and Island Lake. Upon his relocation to Washington State after 1893, Matthew sold his farm land to Brother Archibald, Jr. Today, their land is partly a 'century farm', in the 4th generation of the Broadbent family raising beef while the balance is a county park.

Another child, John Dow McCurdy had land in Section 23 of Columbus Township immediately to the south, even closer to the Postons, who lived just over the county boundary about 2 miles to the east. John married a Poston, as did his sister — ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandmother, Rachel McCurdy Poston.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (14 May 2014)]

Plat Map of Linwood Township, 33-34 N, Range 22 W (1888)

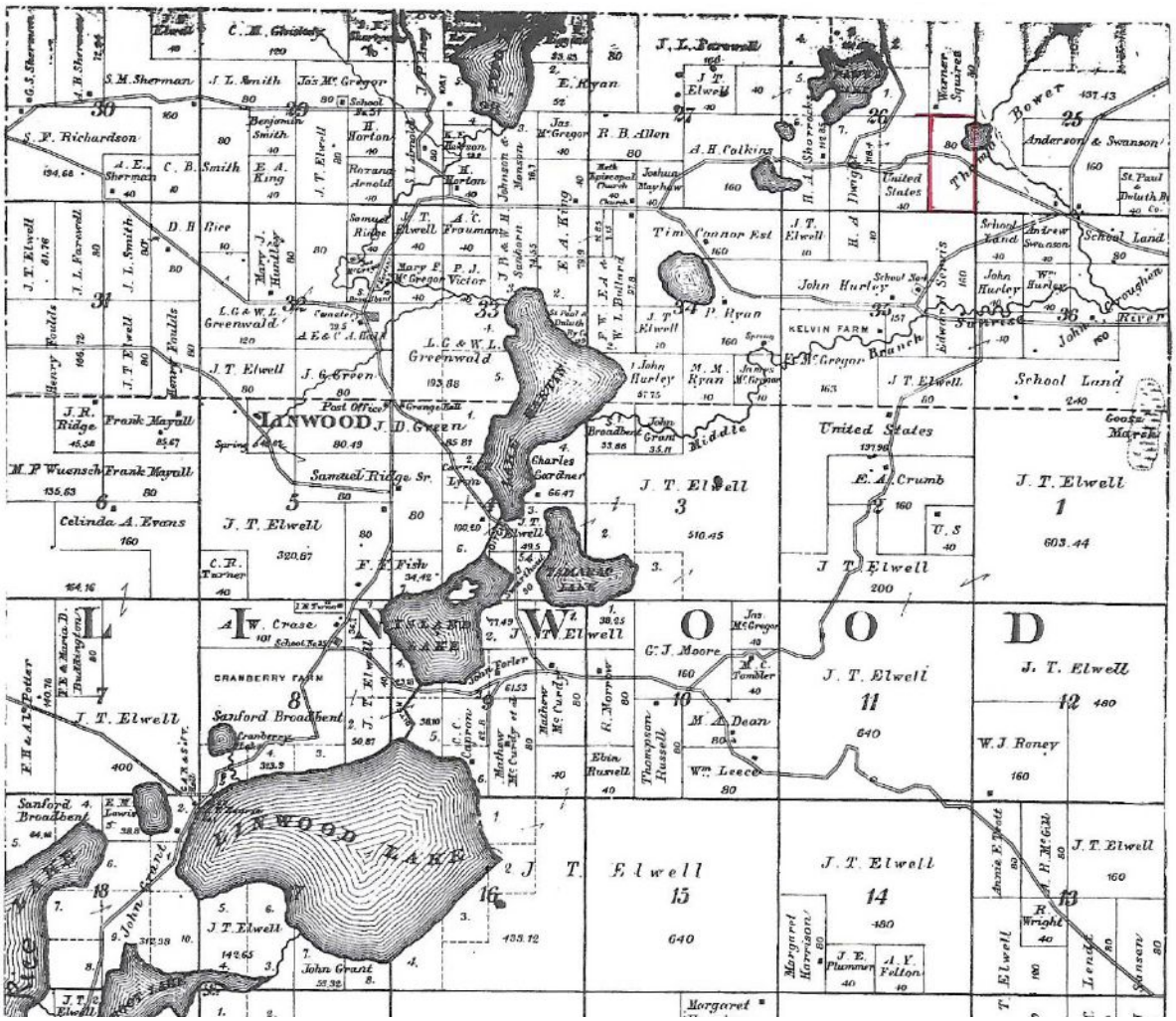
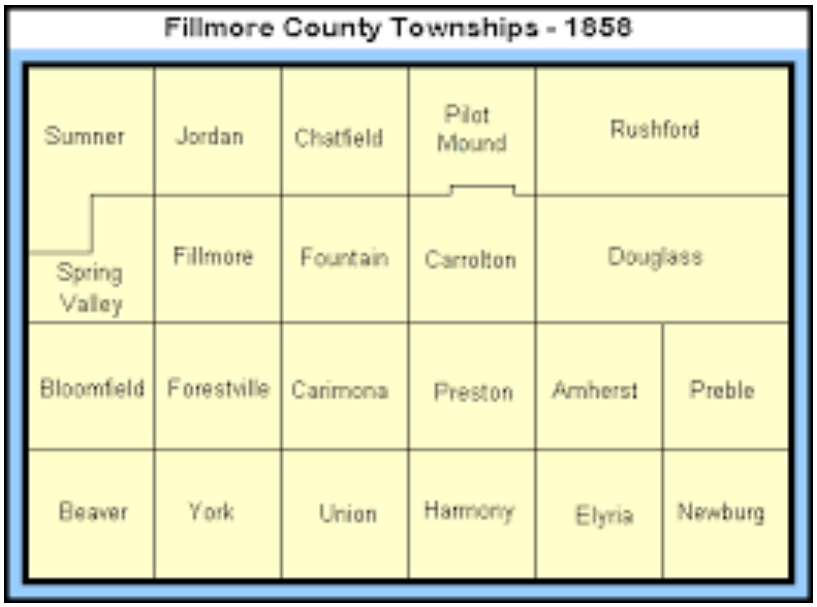


Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents McCurdy/Riddle place was at E ½ of SE ¼ of Section 26; see also, Son Matthew in Section 9; Sanford Broadbent (referenced above) in Section 8 was father-in-law of Grandfather Archibald's probable nephew, * John S. McCurdy. (See speculated Siblings, Section VI – Family 6/8 — page 5)

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 July 2018)]

Site Visit to Fillmore County, Minnesota, 9 May 2014

Township Map of Fillmore County



[Credit: http://theusgenweb.org/mn/fillmore/1858map.htm]

The Fillmore County History Center in Fountain (located, atypically, outside the county seat, which, in this case, is Preston, nine miles down the road) is the least user-friendly of any of my library research experiences: self-service only (!); no personal digital devices allowed (!); no, you may not use our computers (!); $0.50 to one dollar per page for photocopies (!); gravestone transcriptions and any pertinent gravestone images are copyrighted and may not be copied or posted online(!); lock up your daughters (joke!) — you get the idea. Nevertheless, they do have very good online indices for pre-locating references to target family members. And, as tends to happen with site visits, treasures are found, in this case, obituaries for both Letitia Requa Palmer, ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandmother, and Edith Mark Bartlett, the first wife of her stepson, our great-uncle, Julian Manchester Palmer.

Our great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer, married one of his pupils, Letitia Lucinda Requa, at Fountain in 1873, during the time when her father, Alexander, and mother, Lucinda Andrés, lived here. Alex's father, James, and stepmother, Letitia, (namesake to our great-grandmother) also lived in Fillmore County with their three youngest children, having relocated to Minnesota pre-statehood from Columbus County, Wisconsin. The old folks died here in 1857 and 1870 respectively. I have not managed to locate their gravesites.

The land in this area, south of Rochester, Minnesota, though rolling (being on the western edge of the *"Driftless Region"*) appears to be quite productive for agriculture — possibly not productive enough, however, to suit our 2nd great-grandparents, as they would relocate in 1875 or 1876 to Mower County.

Unfortunately, the earliest available plat maps are dated 1878, by which time our people had moved on. Despite that, I find a property on the edge of town identified as belonging to an L Regua (one of several common misspellings of the name Requa). This could well be the land to which our folks, relocated from their farm in the Carimona District, when Alexander accepted the position of Fountain Town Treasurer. By the date of this map, they had moved on to Grand Meadow, Mower County, and might have deeded the farm to their eldest daughter, Letitia.

It might be possible to find details of land transfers in the 'Grantor/Grantee' County Records at the courthouse in Preston — a subject for further research. Also, as I learned from FCHC Executive Director, Debra Richardson, the US Bureau of Land Management can supply details of original land transfers from state-to-private ownership. As ***Figure of Eight*** 3rd great-grandfather, James Requa, arrived as early as

1855, it might be possible to find his land parcel in Township 104, Range 11, in this manner.

It is interesting to note a number of BMD records and newspaper accounts for extended-family Requas and their in-laws: Berthe, Engle, McArthur, Lester, Therneau. There were also many Palmers, as yet of unknown relationship to us. I have speculated that our teacher/principal great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer, may have come to the area partly because he had relatives here already — that is the way of things. In particular, in the 1870 US Census for the Carimona District, there was a Martin Palmer (28), New York-born farmer, with his wife Caroline and several children; and, next door to him, a John Palmer (33), New York-born farmer, and his wife Caroline and several children — age mates and possible cousins of William.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (16 May 2014)]

Plat Map of Fountain Township, 103 N, Range 11 W (1878)

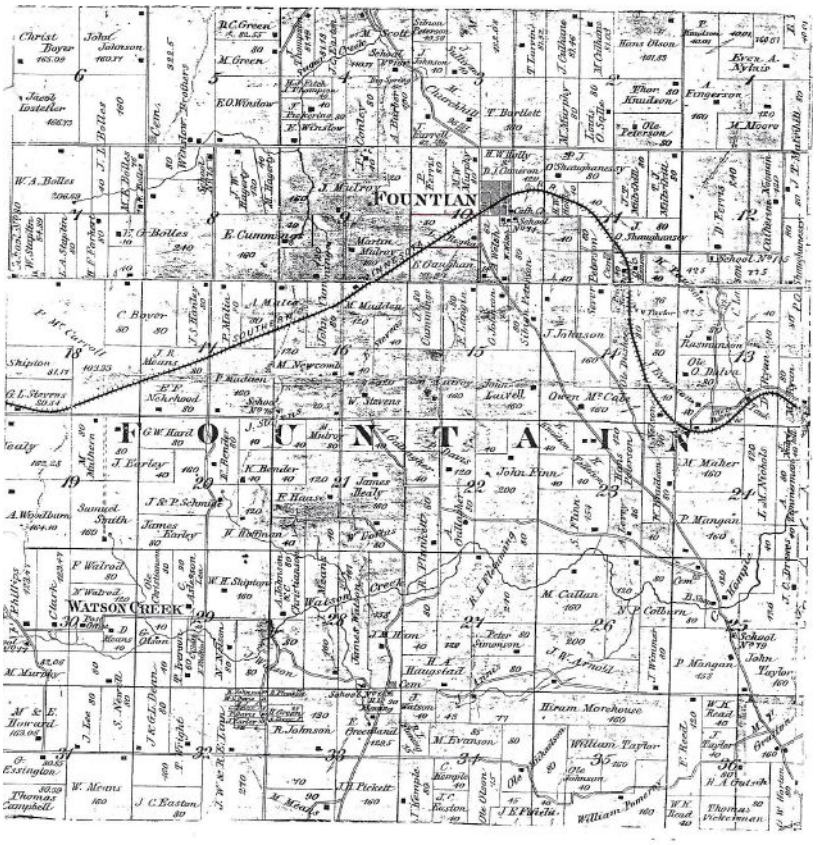
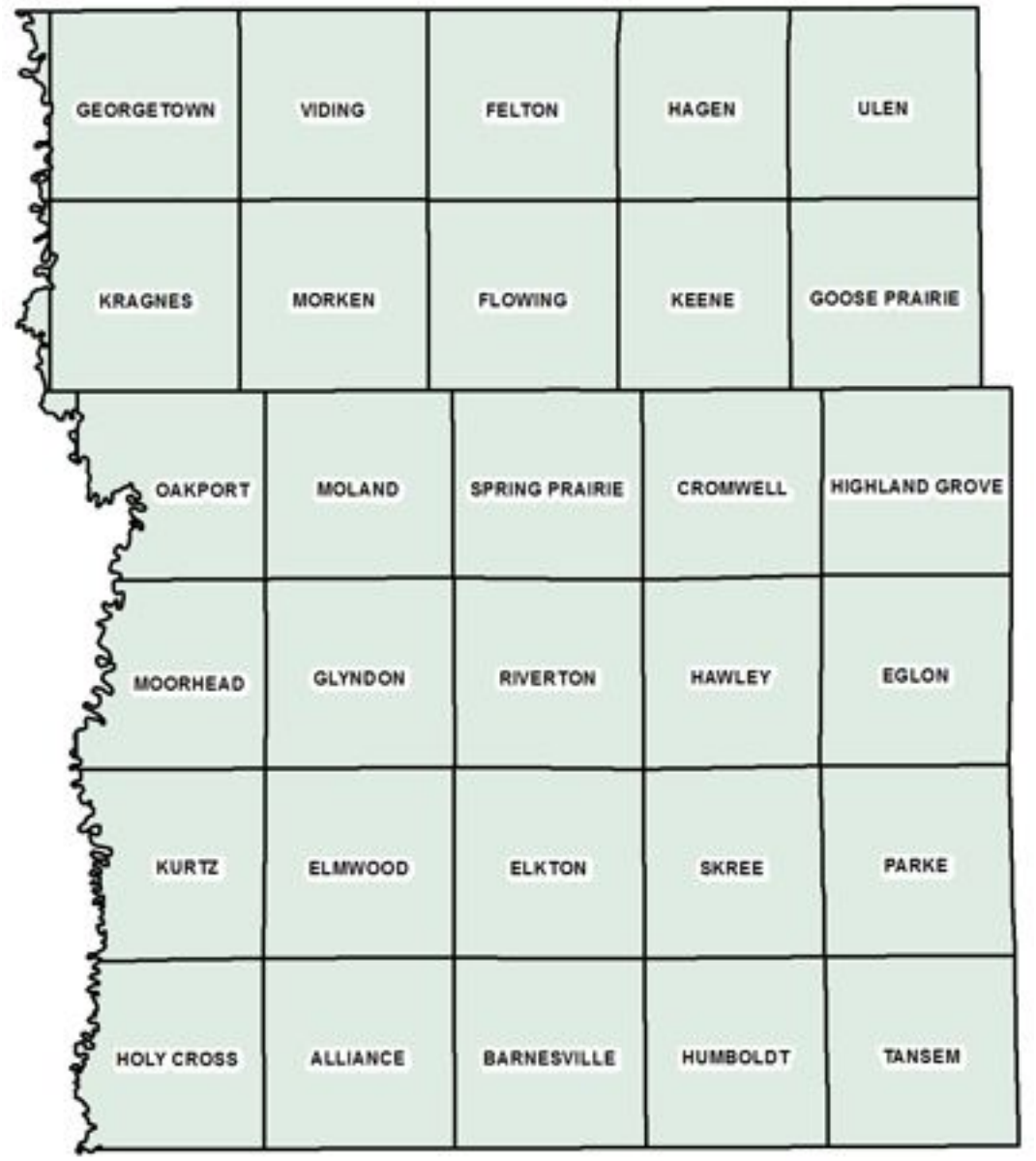


Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents Requa/Andrés lived for a time at Fountain, where Alex was the town treasurer. By the time of this map, they had moved on to Grand Meadow, but their parcel is still shown at N ½ of SW ¼ of Section 10, right on the edge of town.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 July 2018)]

Site Visit to Clay/Wilkin Counties, Minnesota,10 May 2014

Township Map of Clay County (current)



[https://claycountymn.gov/277/Townships]

I am *enroute* back home after a 10-day genealogy research road trip to nine counties in parts of Minnesota and Wisconsin. Arriving late in the day, and unexpected, I am unable to visit the historical/genealogical societies at either county seat, so my research is limited to getting a feeling for the town and, if possible, finding the farm sites. I take a few pictures of present-day Barnesville, Minnesota, and read the current issue of the Barnesville Record-Review whose byline says: *"Over 113 years old, but new every Monday"*.

As with many of the buildings in town, and the Great Northern Railroad, this newspaper will have been part of the daily life of ***Figure of Eight*** Poston/McCurdy great-grandparents and their children when they lived in this area at the end of the 19th and into the 20th centuries.





One of my photos is of the old city jail, now an historic building. This is obliquely relevant to us, as Great-uncle Archie McCurdy, Jr., raised by his eldest sister, our great-grandmother, Rachel McCurdy Poston, followed her family here, becoming for a time a policeman in town.

Their first farm in the area, dating from 1891 was apparently a couple of miles further south and east in adjacent Prairie View Township (136 N/Range 45 W), across the Wilkin County line. A drive through that area today reveals very similar geography, with perhaps more of the original farmsteads remaining.

The more recent of the two Poston/McCurdy farms in the area: 160 acres purchased in 1894 and occupied from 1898, is easy to find. I follow Main Street to its west end, whereupon the street diagonals to the southwest, becoming County Road 51 to Breckenridge. From the point where the road turns straight west, it is exactly one-and-a-half miles to the corner of their property on the south side of the road: the Northwest ¼ of Section 34, Barnesville Township (137 N/Range 46 W), Clay County. The neighbours are Flynn, Catlin, Coan, Reh, Burton (see plat map). Here, Great-grandpa Silas could brag of *"a house 16 x 24 feet with an addition 12 x 16 feet, and a barn 14 x 52 feet, with all the machinery the place requires for its successful operation … mostly engaged in grain farming, he contemplates working rapidly into stock."* [2]



Today, the land they occupied (see Plat) is free of anything, and everything, except Red River gumbo — it is just one big open field! The exception being that, in the extreme northeast corner of what was their property, there is a bit ditching and some accumulated stone piles — possibly stones that had been building foundations at that spot. Across the road to the north is a large marsh.

This area around Barnesville appears to be marginal fringe of the great Red River Valley agricultural belt. There are some boulders on the land and the heavy black clay is still quite wet in this season. The more progressive farms appear to be tile-drained into a kind of sump arrangement from which water is pumped into the road ditches. It was presumably a 'step up' for the family when they moved, soon after the turn-of-the-century, to better farming conditions north of Thief River Falls in Pennington County.

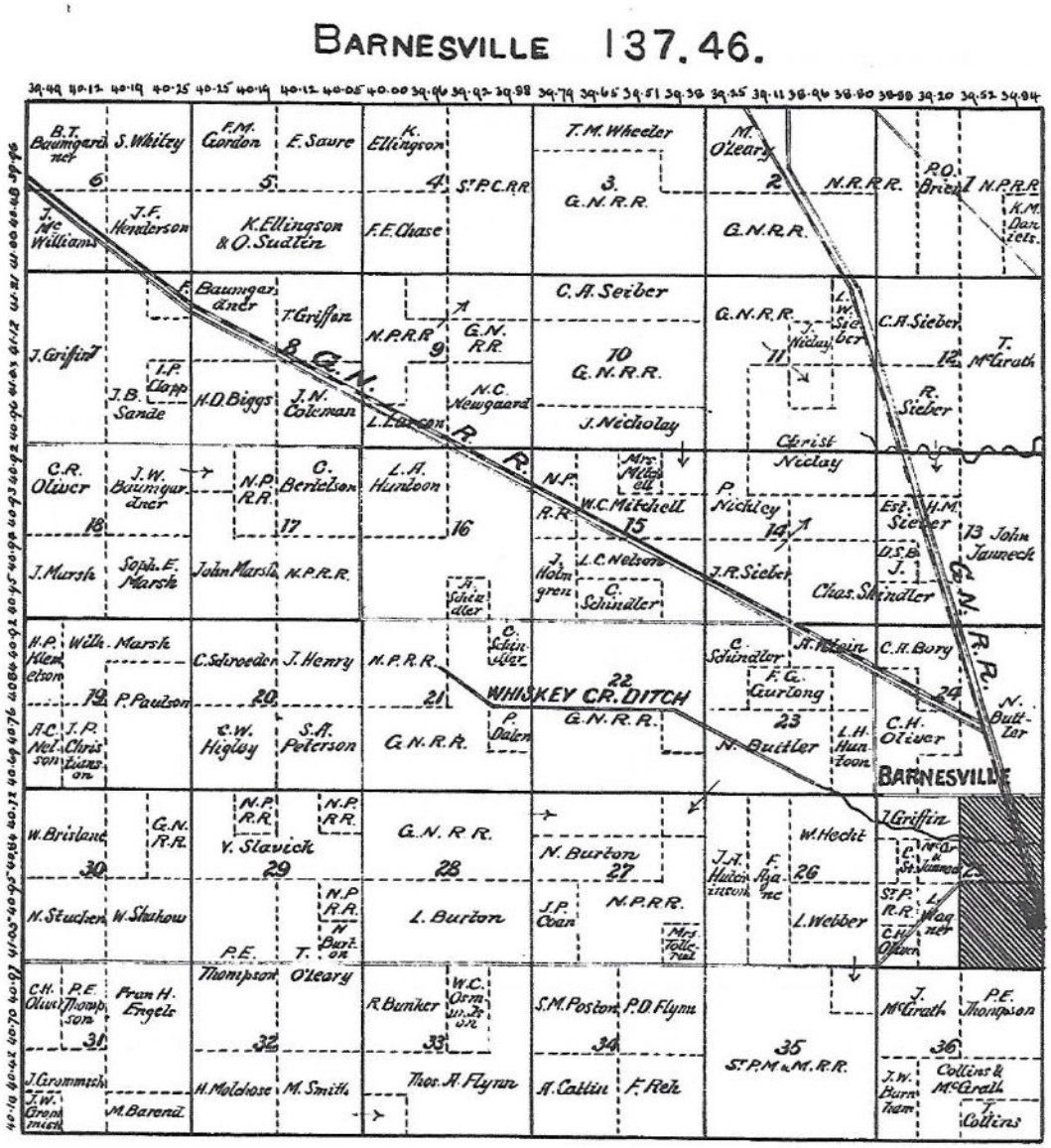
Further research at the historical societies of both counties might reveal timely plat maps, school yearbooks, and life events as recorded in the newspapers.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (13 May 2014)]

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[2] Source: Compendium of History & Biography of Northern Minnesota, published 1902 (as quoted in Find A Grave Memorial #43785691, 2009)

Plat Map of Barnsville Township, Clay County, Minnesota, ca 1900

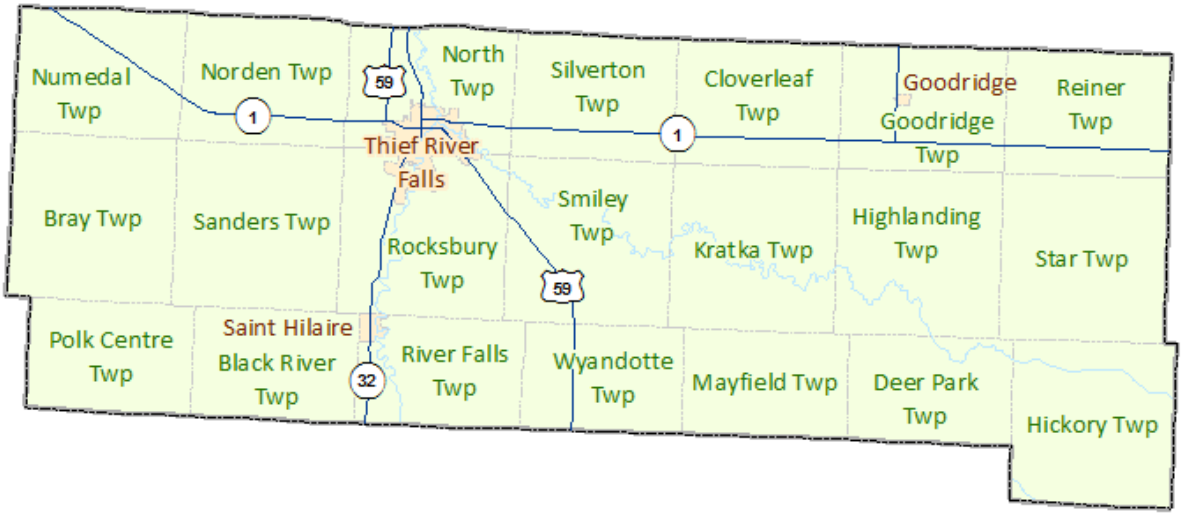


See S. M. Poston at NW ¼ of Section 34 for the second of two farms in the immediate area.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (26 July 2018)]

Site Visit 2 to Pennington County, Minnesota, 19 August 2015

Township Map of Pennington County (current)



[https://www.dot.state.mn.us/maps/gdma/data/mapfinder/countyHTMLs/pennington.html]

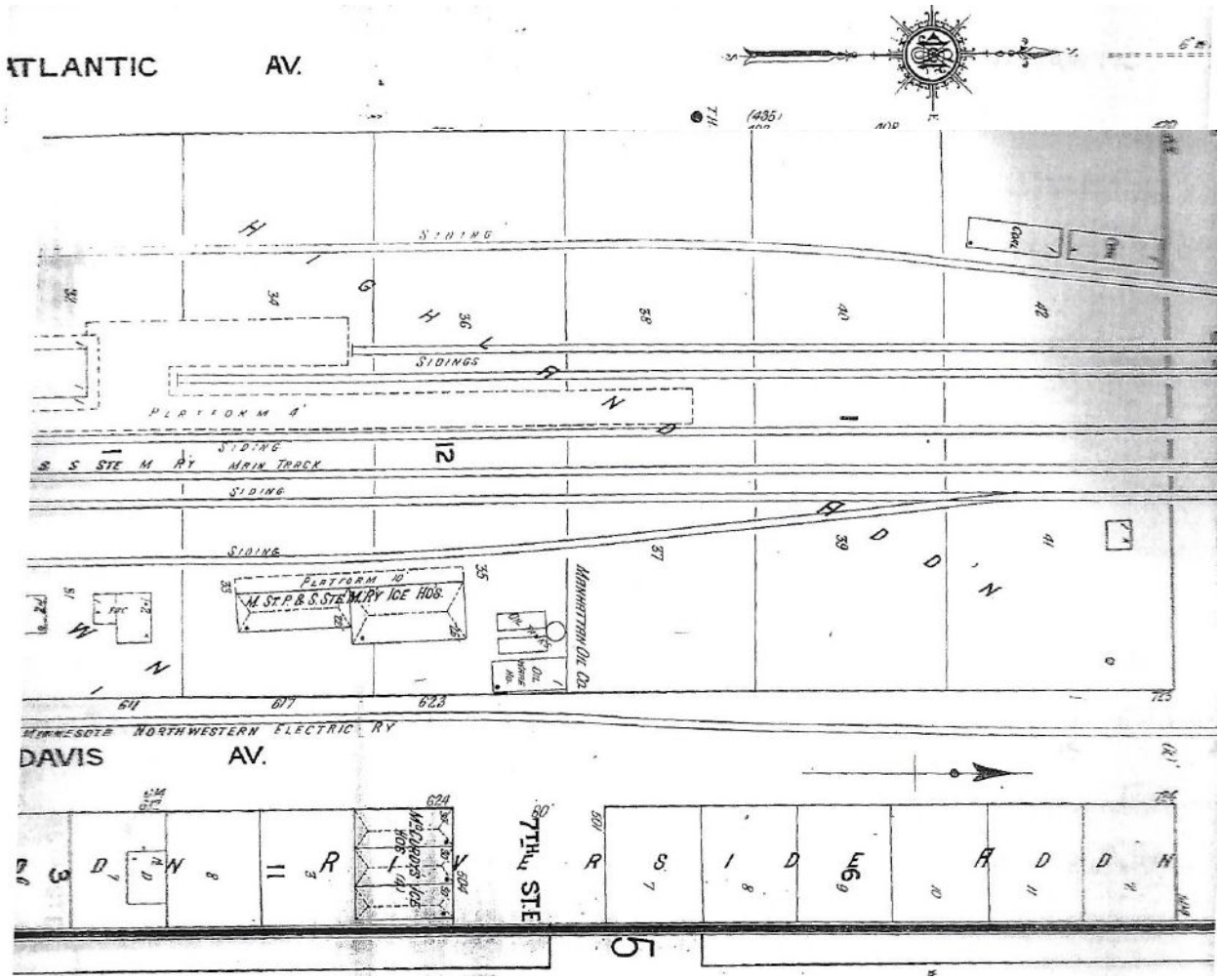
Sister Hope and I spend an afternoon at Thief River Falls (TRF), starting at the Pennington County Historical Society. Staff, Avis and Bill Kennel, provide some assistance in locating city directories, school yearbooks, plat maps in the small, minimally-organized research room in the main building at Pioneer Village on Oakland Park Road just off Highway 32 South. Our goal for this return visit to the town where our mother and her siblings were born, is to learn more about the McCurdy Ice Company and, if possible, to pinpoint the residence locations of two generations of our Poston ancestors.

McCurdy Ice Company . . .

The 1909-1910 TRF City Directory does not include a reference to McCurdy Ice Company, including under 'ice dealers' the 'Thief River Falls Ice Company' at 306 Red Lake Blvd, the only ice company listed.

In 1911-1912, the McCurdy Ice Company does appear on page 133, under 'ice dealers', with an office in the Park Hotel. An ad is reported as appearing on page 12, but that page does not exist in the reference copy.

City Map Detail, Thief River Falls, 1916



The 1916 TRF City Map, depicts the ice houses on Sheet 8 — McCurdy's Ice Houses, at 624 Davis Avenue, are drawn as three adjacent 30-foot-wide sheds running north/south at the SE corner of Davis Ave. and 7th St. E. In the personal listings, Frank Poston is posted as *"Manager of McCurdy Ice Company"* (p. 89). Note that the M. ST. P. & S. STE. M. R'Y (Railway) ice houses are also shown, between Atlantic Ave. and Davis Ave.

As no other McCurdy listings appear in the directories during these years, we can only assume that the naming of the business was in honour of Rachel McCurdy Poston's maiden name, and that none of her parental family members were involved.

By the time of the 1915-1916 City Directory, page 108, the company name is changed to 'Poston Brothers', with the office at 623 Dewey Avenue, which is also the residence for our grandparents, Frank and Edith (see below).

Two of our contact persons this day refer to an historic picture involving the McCurdy Ice Company, possibly to be found in the PCHS online archives.

Silas Marion & Rachel McCurdy Poston Family . . .

The 1910-1911 TRF City Directory lists the Family's residence as *"N end Labree Ave N, near city limits"*. Daughters Bertha, Mattie and Sidona (students), and Son Claude, are all living at home. Son George S is *"employee McCurdy Ice Company, boards F E Poston"*. Son Frank is "*resident E end of 8th Street, near*

river, with Edith B". (p. 89).



The 1915-1916 Directory, shows Silas as 'drayman', presumably hauling ice for the company, has George living back with parents. Mattie and Sidona are now teachers, still at home. Son Richard, student, has been added to the list. The parental family address is now shown as *"end of Main Avenue, near city limits"* (p.108). It is interesting to note that Labree and Main are just one block apart and their farm may well have spanned the space between. ***Figure of Eight*** grandparents, Frank and Edith Poston, reside at 623 Dewey (photo), being immediately across the alley to the east of the McCurdy Ice Company sheds.

Skipping to the 1923-1924 Directory, Daughter Mary is a *"nurse at Physicians Hospital, rooms 421 Labree Ave N"*. Sidona is a teacher at nearby Northrop School, and Silas and Rachel continue on the farm. (p. 93)

Silas and Rachel Poston, ***Figure of Eight*** great-grandparents, continue to appear in the Directory every year. The 1940/41 issue, now with just Mrs. Rachel Poston remaining of the family in Thief River, provides an additional clue as to the residence location in that she is the last listing on Main Avenue North, her nearest neighbour being posted as house #1109.

We learn that in 1904 there was a major auction in Thief River Falls of Chippewa Lands north and east of town. Our great-grandparents, living in Breckenridge at the time, traveled to Crookston a year after that to purchase 160 acres of Indian land from the federal government, presumably a residual parcel not conveyed at the earlier on-site auction. Their new farm was in North Township, first within Red Lake County, later designated as Pennington County, with the residence inside TRF city limits on Main Avenue North on a lot apparently extending east towards Labree, earlier named *La Bree*.

[***Ryon C Johnston*** (24 Aug 2015)]

Figure of Eight

Appendix B

3rd-Party Research Reports

Soutter: Northern Ireland, Nov 2012

Soutter: County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland, November 2012

Johnston/Lowry Family Research Report by Elwyn Soutter, MBE

Report dated 7th November 2012

1. You asked me to look for:
   i) James Johnston & Elizabeth Lowry's marriage, which probably took place between 1825 and 1835 (widest parameters).
   ii) baptisms of their children 1830 – 1844
   iii) Death/Burial of Elizabeth Johnston 1844 – 1875.

2. I found the marriage and some of the baptisms together with a couple of other events that may interest you.

3. You suggested that I look at Aghalurcher records on MIC1/227. That film turns out to be baptisms from 1867 to 1983 and marriages 1845 – 1856. Earlier records are on microfilm MIC583/3. That contains baptisms 1788 – 1841, marriages 1801 – 1841 and burials 1802 – 1841.

BAPTISMS

4. Sometimes with Irish baptismal records, the book will contain the date of birth as well as the baptismal date. In this case it only contains the baptism date. Followers of the Church of Ireland tended to wait till the child was a few months old before baptising (as opposed to the RC church where baptism usually follows within 24 to 48 hours of birth, lest the child end up in limbo). Occasionally with Church of Ireland and Presbyterian records you will see a whole batch of children being baptised at once eg aged 2, 3 & 4, all on the same day. In your case the family appeared to baptise as they went along and the baptisms are therefore probably within about 3 months of the birth, but obviously I cannot be certain.

5. I found the following baptisms:

i) Ann Johnston 19th May 1833, parents residence illegible (but not Tattyreagh, I think), father's occupation farmer
ii) Susan Johnston 14th Jun 1835, parents residence Tattyreagh[1] townland, father's occupation farmer
iii) Jane Johnston 10th Jan 1838, parents residence Tattyreagh, father's occupation farmer
iv) James Johnston 25th Sept 1840, parents residence Edenasop[2], father's occupation farmer

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[1] The 1821 census for part of Aghalurcher parish including Tattyreagh townland has survived. A copy is held in PRONI. It only details heads of families and numbers but you might want me to check it to see if any Johnston families were there then. (PRONI MIC/5A and MIC/15A).

[2] I happen to know from local knowledge that Edenasop House is the name of a farmhouse in Coolrakelly townland. (A relative of my wife's grew up in the next farmhouse to it). The family in Edenasop today are called Gould though they live in a modern replacement for the old farmhouse which is still standing but empty. I suspect that some other adjacent farms and houses also used the address Edenasop.

1

6. I have taken copies which I suggest I post to you. (The registers were in such poor condition you may find the photocopied versions easier to read than scanned copies. Also it will take quite a while to scan them all). In places, the register is completely illegible, especially for the years 1831 – 1833. So it's quite possible that William and Robert's baptisms – the two I have not been able to find - are also there, but are now illegible. (I did look at Aghavea's baptisms for that period too but there is a gap between 1828 and the 1850s so if they were baptised there, the records are lost.)

7. That the family were in Edenasop by 1840 obviously fits perfectly with your information that they lived in Coolrakelly. James Johnston is listed as being in plot 6 in Coolrakelly in Griffiths in 1859. I think that plot 6 is across the lane from Edenasop House (which I think is plot 5. Not certain though). Using the Griffiths revaluation records in PRONI[3], I checked to see when plot 6 changed hands. The records show that that James Johnston left in either 1874 or 1875 (it isn't clear which year because the clerks used the same coloured ink for both years. (Presumably that was when James left for Canada). The farm was then combined with William Bamford's farm on plot 7. In 1890 he found the means to buy both farms. In 1903 ownership of both transferred to Robert Abraham. In 1925 it transferred to William Crowe. Those records stop in 1930 so I cannot tell you from that source who owns the properties now, but that information may help you locate it, if you are in any doubt. I assume that the name Edenasop (as used in parish and statutory records) must include some properties nearby as well as to Edenasop House itself.

MARRIAGES

8. I looked for the marriage between James Johnston and Elizabeth Lowry in the period 1825 and 1835 in the Aghalurcher COI records and found it on 6th April 1828[4]. The record simply says the couple were "both of this parish" which, if not self evident, means that they both resided in Aghalurcher at that time. There are no parents nor witnesses names recorded, which was not unusual for that era. So beyond the date, you don't have a lot of extra information. The baptisms start in that parish in 1788 and so I could look for James' baptism but it is a common name. There was evidently more than one James Johnston in the parish and without some further clues, it would be difficulty to be sure I had the correct one, even if I did find a baptism around the right time.

9. You said that Susan Johnston married someone named Moore prior to her emigration in 1866. I can tell you that she married John Moore, and that the

[3] The primary valuation is the record that is on-line. After that the valuation clerks revisited each property every few years to record any changes, including changes of tenants and landlord. These changes were kept in notebooks which, for Northern Ireland, are deposited in PRONI. They are not on-line anywhere. Coolrakelly is in Cross electoral district. The relevant records are VAL/12/B/28/11. Copy of the Johnston property revaluation is attached.

[4] MIC583/3

marriage was registered in Lisnaskea in 1860[5]. I have a copy of that marriage certificate which gives her address as Edenasop. That shows that the Johnston family was still in Edenasop in 1860 (which is to be expected). John Moore's father was James Moore, a farmer in Coolbeg. Griffiths Valuation for 1862 shows him living on a small 8 acre farm on plot 1b, with some extra land on plot 2. There are no Moores in Coolbeg by the time of the 1901 census. James Moore does not appear to have left a will.

10. I mentioned that Aghalurcher records MIC1/227 contained marriages 1845 – 1857. I ran through them on the off chance I might spot something of interest. I came across a marriage on 24th March 1855 between a John Johnston and Rebecca Fallis. This John Johnston's father was James Johnston and lived in Edenasop. So, is it the same James Johnston? It seems quite possible. All we know about John Johnston was that he was "full age" ie 21 or over in 1855, so born before 1834. So he could be a member of your family (especially as the baptism records for 1831 – 1833 are illegible). His father's occupation is given as labourer, whereas your family's JJ was a farmer. That bothers me slightly. So I am not 100% certain he is part of your direct family. I'll send it on to you anyway, in case it fits with other information you get later.

11. You mentioned that your family may have attended Tattykeeran church. My local informant tells me that it was never licensed for weddings and so any member of that congregation who wished to marry usually used Aghalurcher church instead. That doesn't totally tie in with PRONI's records which do list some marriages at Tattykeeran but only for 5 years (1874 – 78) so it may be that it lost its license, or that it was only used temporarily for marriages (possibly whilst the main parish church was out of use for repairs). Tattykeeran's records are kept with Aghavea parish[6].

BURIAL & DEATH RECORDS

12. You enquired whether Irish statutory death records contain a married woman's previous name(s). Unfortunately not. (Some jurisdictions, eg Scotland, do record that information but unfortunately not Ireland). In addition they often don't contain middle names either. In any event it's not the custom in Britain or Ireland for a married woman to put her maiden name into her married name, as is the case in some countries. So after she married, Elizabeth Lowry would just have been Elizabeth Johnston (not Elizabeth Lowry Johnston) so the information you might encounter on official documentation about her won't contain that potential clue to her identity.

13. The burial records contain many Johnston entries. The only way we really have of being sure whether they might be your family is by townland. I have enclosed a sample page which contains two Johnston burials in 1832 to give you an idea. There are literally dozens, some of whom might be for your

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[5] For verification purposes the marriage is registered in Lisnaskea, Co Fermanagh 1860 Volume 7, page 175. Quote those details if you ever wish a duplicate certificate from GRO Roscommon.

[6] MIC583/8 & MIC1/229

family, if we were certain of where they lived prior to the 1830s. However the key one that we are looking for that for Elizabeth Johnston. I searched both Aghalurcher and Aghavea parish records for her. (Though the family may have attended Aghalurcher church, Coolrakelly is in Aghavea parish and so I recommended this to be on the safe side.) I did find an Elizabeth Johnston from the townland of Cran who was buried in Aghalurcher on 30th March 1858, aged 82. She's too old and the townland is wrong. I also found an Ellen Johnston of Edenasop, Aghavea, who was buried in Aghalurcher on 6th Aug 1861, aged 56. That fits quite well but you would expect it to be Elizabeth rather than Ellen. She would have been born c 1805, which is just right for a marriage in 1828. It's probably a close relative though.

14. I was able to check all Aghalurcher burials from 1844 to 1875 and did not see any other relevant Elizabeth Johnston entries. (There was a death of a 13 year old EJ in Augher in Feb 1862 but I excluded that).

15. As I mentioned in an e-mail, I can see one possible death in the stat registers for the period 1864 – 1875 for an Elizabeth Johnston whose death was registered in Lisnaskea during that period. This lady died in 1867 and her estimated year of birth was 1797. (A little early perhaps but ages were often just guesstimates on death certs.) I have sent for it, and it should follow ina copupel of weeks.

MISCELLANEOUS

16. In your summary on the Fermanagh Lowrys, you mentioned that the land that your family inhabited had been confiscated in earlier times and granted to English landlords. That is absolutely correct as far as it goes but it is worth adding that many of the new landlords were Scottish. The King at the time of the forfeitures was King James I who was himself Scottish and so when he decided to undertake the Irish Plantation in 1610 he was very keen to ensure the top echelon of landlords were people he knew and could trust, to avoid any rebellions or alliances with the Spanish or French[7]. Being a Scot he trusted his fellow Scots and so persuaded a lot of the big wealthy landowners there to take estates in Ireland too. In return for generous low rent leases, they undertook[8] to take an agreed number of their Scottish tenants with them to ensure the Plantation was a success (a previous attempt to create a plantation in Ireland in the 1500s in Munster had failed due to insufficient numbers). So that is why today you find Castle Balfour in Lisnaskea, a traditional Scottish baronial castle in the middle of Ireland. That was built by Sir Michael Balfour from Fife, Scotland who brought a lot of his Scots tenants with him. The

[7] A big fear was a French or Spanish invasion of England using Ireland as a springboard. The Spanish had attempted to invade just a few years previously in 1588 (cf the Spanish Armada) and so this threat was very real. The King was determined that they would not be able to get a sympathetic welcome in Ireland by subjugating it, by filling it up with people who he could rely on to be loyal to him.

[8] You will see them referred to in books about the Plantation as "undertakers" because they undertook to take tenants with them (and also to build fortified dwellings as places of refuge, and certain other civil buildings).

tenants were nearly all Presbyterian (as opposed Church of England/Ireland). Their descendants today are still Presbyterian in many cases. So where a family is Presbyterian that usually indicates that their ancestors came from Scotland. (There were some Catholic and Anglican faith settlers from Scotland too but they were very much in a minority. By far, the predominant religious denomination in Scotland was, and still is, Presbyterian).

17. So I would suggest that your Tattymacall Lowrys, if Presbyterian, are probably of Scottish origins (in the 1600s).

Elwyn Soutter MBE
Randalstown
Co Antrim
Northern Ireland

5

[Report solicited by ***Ryon C Johnston*** (Oct 2012)]

Figure of Eight

Appendix C

Distant 'Cousin' Corroborators of Figure of Eight Minnesota Johnstons (sequenced by descending degree of relationship)

1st Cousin 1x Removed:
Arvid E Mattson (1933-) iii

1st Cousin 1x Removed of Husband of 1st Cousin 2x Removed:
Al McConnell (abt 1950-) iv

2nd Cousins:
Susan Ann Bufkin (1946-) v
Kathleen Phyllis Wood (1948-) vi

Daughter of Husband of Great Aunt: (~= 2nd Cousin)
Julia Seeger (1952-) vii

Grand-nephew of Wife of Maternal Grandfather: (~= 2nd Cousin)
William "Bill" Clifford Arnebeck (1940-) viii

Step-daughter of Step-daughter of Great Aunt: (~= 2nd Cousin)
Lori Edholm (1950-) ix

2nd Cousins 1x Removed:
Shirley Ann Bussell (1936-) x
Kristin Elise Peterson (1972-) xi

Father-in-law of 2nd Cousin 1x Removed:
John R Walker (abt 1950-) xii

Step-daughter of 2nd Cousin 1x Removed:
Catherine "Cathy" Ann Barbano (1959-) xiii

Sister-in-law of Wife of 2nd Cousin 1x Removed:
Anita C Matthews (1938-) xiv

3rd Cousins:
John Albert Waight (1937-) xv
Bradley James Hepp (1947-) xvi

2nd Great-granddaughter of Sister of Husband of 2nd Great-aunt: (~= 3rd Cousin)
Karen Rae Evans (1949-) xvii

3rd Cousins 1x Removed:
The Grahams of Killycloughy (aft 1933-) xviii
(Clarence) Lloyd Castner (1935-) xix
Karen Sue Palmer (1947-) xx
Carol Elizabeth Egeness (1948-) xxi
Diana Lee Swan (1950-) xxii
Patricia "Pat" Smith (abt 1958-) xxiii

Wife of 3rd Cousin 1x Removed:
* Susan J (Swindell) (1952-) xxiv

3rd Cousin 2x Removed
Enver Shelly Marie Mullin (1967-) xxv

4th Cousin:
(Elliot) Charles Ash, Jr. (1954-) xxvi

4th Cousins 1x Removed:
* Lynn Freeman (1946-) xxvii
Carol E Hayes (1956-) xxviii

5th Cousins:
Janet Harpster (1952-) xix
* (Terry) Joe Cartwright (1953-) xxx

Arvid E Mattson
Birth 27 Mar 1933 • Oregon
1st Cousin 1x Removed

"When Arvid E Mattson was born on March 27, 1933, in Oregon, his father, Arvid, was 31 and his mother, Mary, was 33. He married his first wife, Patricia G McCamley, on August 20, 1955. On March 19, 1982, he married his second wife, Selene S Gallien, in Multnomah, Oregon. He had one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

Using the the US Phone and Address Directories as posted on ancestry.com, I was able to get Arvid on the telephone in Jan 2016 at his home in Beaverton, near Portland, Oregon. Arvid is a 1st cousin to Figure of Eight mother, Helen — the youngest son of the youngest sister, Mary, of Helen's father, our grandfather, Frank Poston. Though a generation removed, he shares the 1933 birth year with our sister, Hope. Like Hope, he has memories of visiting our elderly, widowed, great-grandmother, Rachel McCurdy Poston (1860-1947), on the farm at Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota, helping her to get out to see her chickens.

He also remembers a visit from his cousin, our maternal uncle, Reuben Poston, who stopped at the Mattson home in Oregon while on an Army furlough in about 1941. Reuben had caught a ride up to visit the new government-owned Timberline Lodge, and, finding the facility closed off-season, had to walk back down Mount Hood in the dark.

Arvid not being computer-literate, we agreed to sharing information via printed materials by mail.

Rcj. (12 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Arvid E Mattson & *Figure of Eight*

Arvid E Mattson (1933 -)
1st cousin 1x removed
^
Mary Elizabeth Poston (1900 - 1965)
mother of Arvid E Mattson
^
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
father of Mary Elizabeth Poston
v
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
v
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Al McConnell
Birth 1940 • Highland Park, Wayne, Michigan
1st Cousin 1x Removed of Husband of 1st Cousin 2x Removed

"When Al McConnell was born in 1940 in Highland Park, Michigan, his father, Miller, was 29 and his mother, Gertrue, was 17. He lived in White Haven, Pennsylvania, in 1997 and moved to Albrightsville, Pennsylvania, sometime between 1997 and 1998." ANCESTRY.COM

Al McConnell is a very experienced genealogy researcher with over 65,000 persons entered in his McConnell Family Tree on ancestry.com. I first encountered his work on the Mormon website and found it very helpful in sorting out the Poston/McCurdy Clan. He is related to us through the in-laws of the niece of Figure of Eight great-grandmother, Rachel McCurdy Poston (1860-1947). While the relationship is distinctly convoluted, I count him amongst our 'cousins'. Rcj. (11 Sep 2018)

Relationship between Al McConnell & *Figure of Eight*

Al McConnell (1940 -)
1st cousin 1x removed of husband of 1st cousin 2x removed
^
Miller Eugene McConnell (1911 - 2007)
father of Al McConnell
^
Maurice C W McConnell (1880 - 1962)
father of Miller Eugene McConnell
^
Thomas McConnell
father of Maurice C W McConnell
^
Rachel McConnell (1844 - 1928)
daughter of Thomas McConnell
^
George Andrus Marsh (1873 -)
son of Rachel McConnell
X
Elisabeth "Lizzie" McCurdy (1880 - 1966)
wife of George Andrus Marsh
^
Matthew McCurdy (1857 - 1933)
father of Elisabeth "Lizzie" McCurdy
^
Archibald McCurdy (1834 - 1886)
father of Matthew McCurdy
v
Rachel McCurdy (1860 - 1947)
daughter of Archibald McCurdy
v
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Rachel McCurdy
v
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Susan Ann Bufkin
Birth 17 Jul 1946 • St Paul, Ramsey, Minnesota
2nd Cousin

"When Susan Ann Bufkin was born on July 17, 1946, in St Paul, Minnesota, her father, Clyde, was 26 and her mother, Joyce, was 26. She moved 3 times during her lifetime. She lived in St Paul, Minnesota, in 1946 and moved to Wayzata, Minnesota, by 1987. She had two brothers."
ANCESTRY.COM

Susan's father was first cousin to Figure of Eight father, Daryl, and the granddaughter of our great-aunt, Marge Johnston Bufkin. Aunt Marge was sister-in-law and good friend to our grandmother, Maude, who 'mothered' us after our own mother's untimely death. Aunt Marge and Uncle Ed lived in St Paul for much of our childhood and youth, and they visited often our farm home near Buffalo, Wright County, Minnesota. On at least one of those Summer visits, possibly during a time when her mother was hospitalized, Susan was 'in tow'. I remember playing under the front porch with a little black-haired girl of about five.

When Sister Hope and I paid Cousin Susan a visit in Jun 2015 at her home in Wayzata, Susan, too, shared memories of such visits. She had many stories for us of her growing up years in St Paul, and of visits to the Bufkin grandparent's home, and that of the Keister great aunts, playing '500' with Aunt Dede (pronounced, she insisted, '*Deed*'). Susan is a retired school teacher, for most of her career commuting to work in Delano, where our sister, Darla, now resides in a nursing home. Susan was very helpful clarifying 'who's who' in various family photos, including her brothers, James and Mark, her 1st cousin, Michael, and their respective partners and children.

Rcj. (12 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Susan Ann Bufkin & *Figure of Eight*

Susan Ann Bufkin (1946 -)
2nd cousin
^
Clyde Everett Bufkin (1920 - 1979)
father of Susan Ann Bufkin
^
(Clara) Margaret "Marge" Johnston (1882 - 1976)
mother of Clyde Everett Bufkin
^
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
father of (Clara) Margaret "Marge" Johnston
v
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Kathleen Phyllis Wood Colvin Johnston
BIRTH 21 MAR 1948 • Los Angeles, California
2nd Cousin

"When Kathleen Phyllis Wood was born on March 21, 1948, her father, Morton, was 43, and her mother, Elaine, was 28. She married George M Colvin and they had one son together. She then married Timothy Herbert Johnston and they have two children together. She has two brothers and one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

I found Kathleen on ancestry.com through a family tree posted by a friend of hers who wrote *"She didn't know a lot about her history, mostly because of* [her grandfather, Figure of Eight great-uncle] *Jay* [Larkin] *and what happened after the luster wore off"*. Kathy and I then exchanged private emails, in which she answered questions about her father's five wives, and raised a number of questions of her own. At the time of our exchanges in April 2018, she lived in Boise, Idaho. She excused her lack of knowledge of the Larkin side of her heritage, "…*because we were focused on my Grandmother Phyllis and her Indian roots"*. Kathy expressed an interest in finding her 1st cousin Jay Donald Taylor.

Rcj. (12 Sep 2018)

Relationship between Kathleen Wood & *Figure of Eight*

Kathleen Phyllis Wood (1948 -)
2nd cousin
/\
Elaine Larkin (1919 - 2004)
mother of Kathleen Phyllis Wood
/\
Jay Augustus Larkin (1884 - 1958)
father of Elaine Larkin
/\
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
father of Jay Augustus Larkin
\/
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
\/
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Julia Seeger (Lewis, Catlin) Schmidt
Birth 1952 • Lamar, Barton, Missouri
Daughter of Husband of Great Aunt (~= 2nd Cousin)

"When Julia [Catlin (Lewis)] was born in 1952 in Lamar, Missouri, her [biological] father, John [Catlin], was 72 and her mother, Meryl [Seeger], was 39. She has one sister."
ANCESTRY.COM

I had become aware of the illegitimate children of Dr. John Catlin (1880-1966), husband of Figure of Eight great aunt, Edith "Ede" Larkin Catlin (1880-1959), while corroborating with Kristin Ann Petersen Lang and her brother John's father-in-law, Pete Buckley. I located Julia on the message board on *ancestry.com* after noticing her postings of photos of her biological father. Julia shared the complicated story of her parentage, verified recently by DNA paternity testing. She summarized her story as follows — *"I'm actually the younger of the two daughter's of Meryl and J.J. Catlin. Born in 1952. Mom, as you might know, worked for J.J. at his clinic/hospital above the Wagner drug store in downtown Buffalo. They must have had an affair while she worked there."*

Though I remember Great-uncle John as my early-childhood doctor, it was his son, Doctor Ted, who served that role right up until I got my pre-marriage medical review. As a younger member of my family-of-origin (born in 1944), I knew nothing of the 2nd family story until doing genealogy research in the last several years. Having come upon the story and inquiring of my older siblings (my eldest sister, Hope, born in 1933) and our Aldrich cousins, I discovered that it was a known thing for them. After our great aunt Ede's death, John married then-divorcee Meryl Seeger Lewis and helped parent the two daughters he had sired. I now have a standing invitation to visit youngest daughter, Julia, should I ever make it to Champaign, Illinois.

Rcj. (21 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Julia Seeger (Lewis, Catlin) & *Figure of Eight*

Julia Catlin (Lewis) (1952 -)
daughter of husband of great aunt
Λ
John Jefferson Catlin Dr. Lt. Col. (1880 - 1966)
father of Julia Seeger (Lewis, Catlin)
X
Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin (1880 - 1959)
wife of John Jefferson Catlin Dr. Lt. Col.
Λ
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
father of Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

William "Bill" Clifford Arnebeck
Birth 15 Oct 1940 • Silver Springs, Montgomery, Maryland
Grand-nephew of Wife of Maternal Grandfather (~= 2nd Cousins)

"When William 'Bill' Clifford Arnebeck was born on October 15, 1940, in Silver Spring, Montgomery County, Maryland, his father, Clifford, was 26 and his mother, Marie, was 28. He moved 4 times during his lifetime. He lived in Silver Spring, Maryland, in 1960 and moved to New Jersey, California and Ohio. He has two brothers." ANCESTRY.COM

My first contact with Bill was on the ancestry.com message board in Jan 2012, when I sought clarification regarding *"Flora Constance Armback"*, as she was listed in a Michigan marriage certificate I had found on the Mormon genealogy website. While he has not been forthcoming about is personal lineage, his terse feedback to my questions eventually helped to sort out the complex family background of the several families of Norwegian and Swedish immigrant Arnebecks at Hibbing, Minnesota, where Figure of Eight maternal grandfather, Frank Poston, had an extramarital affair with Flora. Subsequently, I have been able to learn something of Bill's apparent professional and financial successes, succeeding Father Clifford Arnebeck's role in the federal civil service, and also Mother Marie Fowler's songwriting, Brother Robert's historical writing, and Brother Clifford's legal and political career. Rcj. (28 Mar 2016)

Relationship between William "Bill" Clifford Arnebeck & *Figure of Eight*

William "Bill" Clifford Arnebeck (1940 -)

grand-nephew of wife of maternal grandfather

/\

Clifford O Arnebeck (1914 - 1990)

father of William "Bill" Clifford Arnebeck

/\

Hilma Otilda Karlsdotter (1887 - 1959)

mother of Clifford O Arnebeck

/\

Carl Bernhard Arnebeck (Hanson) (1872 - 1903)

father of Hilma Otilda Karlsdotter

\/

Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck (1898 - 1980)

daughter of Carl Bernhard Arnebeck (Hanson)

X

Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)

husband of Laura "Flora" Constance Arnebeck

\/

Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)

daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston

\/

Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**

children of Helen Frances Poston

Lori Edholm Adams
Birth 1950 • Buffalo, Erie, New York
Stepdaughter of Stepdaughter of Great-aunt (~= 2nd Cousin)

"When Lori Edholm was born in 1950 in Buffalo, New York, her father, Carlton, was 35, and her mother, Arlene, was 24. She lived in Clarence Center, New York, in 1998. She had one brother and one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

Lori contacted me in May 2017 regarding the Baltz family of Buffalo. She is a descendant of Arthur Baltz, who married 2nd, Figure of Eight great-aunt, Mattie Poston, Grandpa Frank's sister. We compared notes on her great-grandfather who might have been a somewhat shifty character. As a separated soap factory clerk, turned manager of a dance school, he was boarding in the same house as his future bride, Mattie Poston, a social worker.

Rej. (22 May 2017)

Relationship between Lori Edholm & *Figure of Eight*

Lori Edholm Adams (1950 -)
stepdaughter of stepdaughter of great-aunt
Λ
Carlton Edward Edholm (1915 - 1990)
father of Lori Edholm
X
Donna Florence Baltz (1913 - 1944)
wife of Carlton Edward Edholm
Λ
Arthur John Baltz (1889 - 1953)
father of Donna Florence Baltz
Λ
Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston (1894 - 1976)
wife of Arthur John Baltz
Λ
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
father of Martha "Mattie" Irene Poston
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Shirley Ann Bussell DeYoung
Birth 3 Feb 1936 • Mower, Minnesota
2nd Cousin 1x removed

"When Shirley Ann Bussell was born on February 3, 1936, in Mower County, Minnesota, her father, Minar, was 48 and her mother, Minna, was 37. She has one son and one daughter with Everett W DeYoung. She has three brothers and two sisters." ANCESTRY.COM

I have met Cousin Shirley only on the telephone. We were referred to her by the current director of the Mower County Historical Society during a site visit there in Apr 2014, and were introduced to her as the long-term, former director. Shirley was able to add a personal touch to some of our understanding of the lives and locations of our shared antecedent, Alexander "Alex" Requa. With her help, we located the Grand Meadow town lot where the house of Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandparents, Alex and Lucinda, once stood. She also directed us to the still-standing, though dilapidated, Bussell Hotel built by her grandfather, Harry Bussell. She helped identify which of the Mower County officials on an early photograph was Alexander Requa. She also mailed us photos of the five surviving Requa sisters taken after the death of their eldest sibling, our great-grandmother, Letitia Lucinda Requa Palmer.

It seems that Shirley's daughter, Debra DeYoung, a long-time teacher at Mayo High School in the Rochester, Minnesota, school system, may have taught mathematics the (grand)children of our brother, David.

Rcj. (5 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Shirley Ann Bussell & *Figure of Eight*

Shirley Ann Bussell (1936 -)
2nd cousin 1x removed
/\
Minar Lewis Bussell (1887 - 1967)
father of Shirley Ann Bussell
/\
Eliza B Requa (1861 - 1934)
mother of Minar Lewis Bussell
/\
Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831 - 1925)
father of Eliza B Requa
\/
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853 - 1900)
daughter of Alexander "Alex" Requa
\/
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
\/
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Kristin Elise Peterson Lang
Birth 23 Mar 1972 • Falls Church, Fairfax, Virginia
2nd Cousin 1x Removed

"When Kristin Elise Peterson was born on March 23, 1972, in Virginia Beach, Virginia, her father, John, was 43 and her mother, Elfriede, was 35. She has two sons with Robert Charles Lang, Jr., as well as two brothers and two step-siblings." ANCESTRY.COM

Kristin and I communicated by email a number of times between Nov 2014 and Mar 2016 on various aspects of the Catlin/Larkin Family. Finding herself in possession of a wealth of heritage photographs, she freely shared many. Even those that duplicated ones that I already had provided labelling that helped clear up some confusions. Interestingly, the father-in-law, Pete Buckley, of Kristin's brother, John Emerick Peterson, Jr., exchanged emails independently about the same time. Amongst us, we pinned down the family lore story about the affair of Kristin's and John's great-grandfather, Dr. J J Catlin (husband of Figure of Eight great aunt, Edith Larkin Catlin). That affair, commencing in Buffalo, Minnesota, produced two children long before his eventual 2nd marriage to their mother, Meryl Seeger. I have also been in communication with Julia Schmidt, one of those children, born 1952 in Missouri, who shared many details of her life, including a reference to DNA paternity confirmation.

Rej. (10 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Kristin Elise Peterson & *Figure of Eight*

Kristin Elise Peterson (1972 -)
2nd cousin 1x removed
^
Dr. John "Jack" Emerick Peterson (1928 - 2013)
father of Kristin Elise Peterson
^
Dorothy Ferne Catlin (1906 - 1995)
mother of Dr. John "Jack" Emerick Peterson
^
Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin (1880 - 1959)
mother of Dorothy Ferne Catlin
^
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
father of Edith "Ede" Anna Larkin
v
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

John R Walker
Birth abt 1950 • Scottish Borders
Father-in-law of 2nd Cousin 1x Removed

"When John R Walker was born in 1950 in Scotland, his father, Herbert, was 21 and his mother, Catherine, was 22. He has one son." ANCESTRY.COM

I messaged John on Ancestry upon discovering that he had been posting many pictures of the family of Clarence A Palmer, half-brother to maternal grandmother to Figure of Eight Minnesota Johnstons. He is a retired health worker in Scotland whose son married an American girl, descendant of Clarence. He, in turn, sought my assistance to locate the line-of-descent between our 2nd great grandmother and the Mayflower passengers.

Rej. (10 Sep 2018)

Relationship between John R Walker & *Figure of Eight*

John R Walker (1950 -)
father-in-law of 2nd cousin 1x removed
Λ
Richard Walker (1984 -)
son of John R Walker
X
Erin M Evans (1983 -)
wife of Richard Walker
Λ
(James) Robert Evans (1947 -)
father of Erin M Evans
Λ
Margaret Jeanette Palmer (1915 - 2009)
mother of (James) Robert Evans
Λ
Clarence Albert Palmer (1865 - 1959)
father of Margaret Jeanette Palmer
Λ
William Harrison Palmer (1833 - 1925)
father of Clarence Albert Palmer
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of William Harrison Palmer
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Catherine "Cathy" Ann Barbano
Birth 1959 • California
Step-daughter of 2nd Cousin 1x Removed

"When Cathy Barbano was born in 1959 in California, her father, Joseph, was 32 and her mother, Arlene, was 26. She has one brother. She lost her mother when she was only 9."
ANCESTRY.COM

Cathy contacted me on *ancestry.com* message board on behalf of her step-mother, Helen Emerson Smith Barbano (1926-), who is a grand-daughter of Figure of Eight great-grandmother Ann Emerson Johnston's brother, Robert. After their biological mother's death, Cathy and her brother were adopted into Father Joseph's 2nd marriage to our 'cousin', Helen. Cathy and Helen took a great interest in R. Edna "Dede" Johnston's work — The Emerson Family Tree 1870-1968, which I had sent to them digitally. She returned to me a prize heritage photo of Robert Emerson and his brother, Harry, our 2nd great uncles, standing in front of their Elmore, Minnesota, drugstore. Cathy has a graduate degree in education and lives in Orlando, Florida.

Whenever I am in contact with Emerson cousins, I tease them about organizing a reunion of all the Emerson descendants — the obituary of Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandmother, Isabella Mosgrove Emerson, says that she already had 12 children, 52 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren living at the time of her death in 1910! Rcj. (23 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Catherine "Cathy" Ann Barbano & *Figure of Eight*

Catherine "Cathy" Ann Barbano (1959 -)
stepdaughter of 2nd cousin 1x removed
Λ
Joseph Paul Barbano (1927 - 2014)
father of Catherine "Cathy" Ann Barbano
X
Helen Emerson (1926 -)
wife of Joseph Paul Barbano
Λ
Lynn Arthur Emerson (1890 - 1985)
father of Helen Emerson
Λ
Robert Emerson (1853 - 1933)
father of Lynn Arthur Emerson
Λ
Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
father of Robert Emerson
V
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Anita C Matthews Linhares Dansby Barfoot
Birth 11 Jul 1938 • Metcalfe County, Kentucky
Sister-in-Law of Wife of 2nd Cousin 1x removed

"When Anita C Matthews was born on July 11, 1938, in Metcalfe, Kentucky, her father, General, was 21, and her mother, Margaret, was 16. She was married three times and had three sons. She had one brother." ANCESTRY.COM

Anita is 'record keeper' for her nephew and niece by marriage. Her best friend married Richard "Dick" Orval Requa (1935-2011), the great-grandson of Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandfather, Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831-1925). It seems that when Dick Requa died, his first wife, Barbara Stephanie McClure (1937-), brought their two children into her 2nd marriage to Anita's brother, Grady Arlis Matthews (1940-1997), so Anita thereby inherited a step-nephew and a step-niece. While the Matthews originated from Kentucky, the Requas resided in California. Unfortunately, I did not meet Dick Requa, our 2nd cousin 1x removed, who died during my research period, nor have his children, our 3rd cousins, Kathryn "Katie" Susan Requa (1956-) and David Alexander Requa (1960-), yet responded to my invitation to get acquainted.

Rej. (29 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Anita C Matthews & *Figure of Eight*

Anita C Matthews (1938-)
sister-in-law of wife of 2nd cousin 1x removed
Λ
General Grady Matthews (1917 - 2005)
father of Anita C Matthews
Λ
Grady Arlis Matthews (1940 - 1997)
father of General Grady Matthews
X
Barbara Stephanie McClure (1937 -)
wife of Grady Arlis Matthews
X
Richard "Dick" Orval Requa (1935 - 2011)
husband of Barbara Stephanie McClure
Λ
Alexander Requa III (1908 - 1976)
father of Richard "Dick" Orval Requa
Λ
Alexander Requa Jr. (1876 - 1912)
father of Alexander Requa III
Λ
Alexander "Alex" Requa (1831 - 1925)
father of Alexander Requa Jr.
V
Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa (1853 - 1900)
daughter of Alexander "Alex" Requa
V
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of Letitia "Lettie" Lucinda Requa
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Francis Poston

John Albert Waight
Birth 4 Apr 1937 • Hennepin, Minnesota
3rd Cousin

"When John Albert Waight was born on April 4, 1937, in Hennepin, Minnesota, his father, Francis, was 31 and his mother, Charlotte, was 22. He married Sharon L Nelson and they had three children together. He then married Julie A Bacon on January 29, 1982, in Hennepin, Minnesota. He had two brothers and one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

I met John via a message on ancestry.com, in which he enquired about my relationship to his maternal great-grandfather, John Roland Poston, brother to Figure of Eight maternal great-grandfather, Silas Marion Poston.

Rcj. (11 Aug 2018)

Relationship between John Albert Waight & *Figure of Eight*

John Albert Waight (1937 -)
3rd cousin
Λ
Charlotte Muret Osterman (1914 - 1981)
mother of John Albert Waight
Λ
Ethel Madeline Poston (1890 - 1961)
mother of Charlotte Muret Osterman
Λ
John Roland Poston (1864 - 1936)
father of Ethel Madeline Poston
Λ
Jeremiah Poston (1819 - 1876)
father of John Roland Poston
V
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
son of Jeremiah Poston
V
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
V
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Bradley James Hepp
Birth 15 Feb 1947 • Hennepin, Minnesota
3rd Cousin

"When Bradley James Hepp was born on February 15, 1947, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, his father, Edward, was 29 and his mother, Mary, was 26. He married Sandra L Braman on March 29, 1969, in Hennepin County, Minnesota. He has one brother." ANCESTRY.COM

I found Brad, first via Figure of Eight Great-aunt Dede's book, The Emerson Family Tree 1870-1968, then through the on-line 'white pages' telephone directory. He was friendly and forthcoming, once I had sufficiently identified myself to his 'gate-keeper', wife Sandra. The reason for my enquiry was that a 1962 letter, written by an Emerson descendant, and provided by Irish connection, Joan Graham (see The Grahams of Killycloughy), referred to *"a five-generation Emerson Family Tree in the possession of my cousin, Grayce McKee"*. Brad Hepp remembers his grandmother, Grayce Emerson McKee (1896-1987), very well, and, yes, he did have her heritage materials upstairs in storage. Unfortunately, the promised family tree was not to be found amongst them. In parting, Cousin Bradley and I spoke of getting together to get better acquainted, and I, teasingly, enquired about an Emerson Family reunion, realizing as I did so what a monumental task that would be to undertake.

Rej. (12 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Bradley James Hepp & *Figure of Eight*

Bradley James Hepp (1947 -)
3rd cousin
/\
Mary Elaine Isackson (1921 - 2006)
mother of Bradley James Hepp
/\
Grayce Emerson McKee (1896 - 1987)
mother of Mary Elaine Isackson
/\
Sarah "Sadie" Emerson (1861 - 1949)
mother of Grayce Emerson McKee
/\
Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
father of Sarah "Sadie" Emerson
\/
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
\/
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
\/
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Karen Rae Evans Soliday
Birth 30 Nov 1949 • Poweshiek County, Iowa
2nd Great-granddaughter of Sister of Husband of 2nd Great-aunt (~= 3rd Cousin)

"When Karen Rae Evans was born on November 30, 1949, her father, Robert, was 20, and her mother, Glenna, was 18. She married Frank Eugene Soliday on October 7, 1972, in Iowa. They have two children, and live in Ankeny, Iowa, since 1989." ANCESTRY.COM

Karen sent an ancestry.com message board enquiry about appropriate disposition of a treasure trove of heritage photos and documents found in her ailing father's garage. Initially, I was able to connect her to a person with whom I had previously corresponded — Susan J Swindell of Delaware County, Iowa, with whom the Minnesota Johnstons share a tenuous link to a possible relative, * Robert Johnston. A subsequent careful perusal of Karen's ancestry.com posting revealed, to our mutual surprise, that we have a definite, if quite distant, relationship to each other. ~~Rcj~~ (24 Feb 2017)

Relationship between Karen Rae Evans & *Figure of Eight*

Karen Rae Evans (1949 -)
2nd great-granddaughter of sister of husband of 2nd great-aunt
Λ
Robert John Evans (1929 -)
father of Karen Rae Evans
Λ
Alice M Evans (1892 - 1977)
mother of Robert John Evans
Λ
Mary Ann Swindell (1861 - 1947)
mother of Alice M Evans
Λ
Isabelle Carrothers (1824 - 1902)
mother of Mary Ann Swindell
[]
Christopher "Christy" W Carrothers (1828 - 1891)
brother of Isabelle Carrothers
X
Anna Johnston (1833 - 19??)
wife of Christopher "Christy" W Carrothers
Λ
James Johnston (1797 - 1885)
father of Anna Johnston
V
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of James Johnston
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight ***Minnesota Johnstons***
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

The Grahams of Killycloughy:
Robert Emerson "Bertie" Graham (1933-) (with Daughter Valerie)
Derek Graham (1937-2012)
Victor Graham (1940-) (with Wife Joy, Sons Robert and Steven)
Joan Graham Booth (1946-)
3rd Cousins, 1x Removed

When the seven Graham siblings were born between 1933 and 1946, their father, John Robert, was between 34 and 46 years old, and their mother, Eleanor "Ellie" was between 31 and 44. The family lived at Killycloughy, County Fermanagh, in Northern Ireland. ANCESTRY.COM

When Figure of Eight great aunt, R. Edna "Dede" Johnston, wrote *The Emerson Family Tree 1870-1968*, a key family contact in Ireland was her 2nd cousin 1x removed, Joan Graham. Our brother, David, followed up on that connection in 1968, visiting with Joan and her siblings at Killycloughy, their parental farm home in County Fermanagh. This connection was renewed when my wife, Hazel, and I visited some of the surviving clan members at Killycloughy in Sep 2010. The several family members listed here gathered to receive us — food and tales flourished. David was well and fondly remembered from his visit 42 years before, documented by photos depicting the occasion. We were further entertained several times during our stay, including a day trip by car around the area. We were escorted to the Emerson/Mosgrove farm site in Townland Edenagilhorn; to the Ratoran district, whence the Graham branch of the family stemmed; to the towns of Tempo, Brookeborough, Five Mile Town, McGuiresbridge, Lisbellaw; to a number of area churches and cemeteries; and even to tea in neighbouring County Tyrone at a hotel operated by a Mosgrove descendant. Something of our impressions of the whole experience was shared in *A Tale of Two Families,* which is presented in the County Fermanagh Site Visit Report in Appendix A. In Oct 2014, I returned alone for three weeks of intense on-site research, as well as renewal of the Graham Family connections. Rej. (5 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Killycloughy Grahams & *Figure of Eight*

Killycloughy Grahams
3rd cousins 1x removed
/\
Eleanor "Ellie" Emerson (1902 - 1963)
mother of Killycloughy Grahams
/\
Thomas Mosgrove Emerson (1854 - 1938)
father of Eleanor "Ellie" Emerson
/\
Robert Emerson (1807 - 1882)
father of Thomas Mosgrove Emerson
/\
William Emerson Sr. (1773 - 1871)
father of Robert Emerson
\/
Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
son of William Emerson Sr.
\/
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
\/
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
\/
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

(Clarence) Lloyd Castner
Birth 26 Sep 1935 • Auburn, Nemaha, Nebraska
3rd Cousin 1x Removed

"When (Clarence) Lloyd Castner was born on September 26, 1935, in Auburn, Nebraska, his father, Clarence, was 35 and his mother, Dorothy, was 31. He had one brother and two sisters. He has two sons and one daughter with (Emalie) Kay Whitney." ANCESTRY.COM

To Lloyd, I owe much detail about his branch of the Ransom/Hall family, including photos. Most of Lloyd's adult life was spent in civic employment as City Manager or Assistant thereto. After serving 30 years in four cites, he worked for 11 years at Nebraska Public Power District in Marketing, Community and Economic Development. A post-retirement job was with an Omaha engineering firm as Business Development Representative calling on public agencies for civil engineering work. He and Wife Kay drove many miles from their current home in Columbus to intercept us *enroute* a return trip from Mexico in Apr 2014. By arranging to meet us at Nebraska City, we were enabled to experience one of their favourite sites — the home of Arbor Day. And they bought us dinner! Lloyd's uncle, Phillips Hall, had left a legacy of genealogy research: *"The Family of Julius Fremont Hall. Zadah Ransom and her twin sister. Descendants of Richard Hall of Bedford Mass"* [sic], sparking Lloyd's own interest, and his subsequent retirement avocation.

It was Lloyd who provided the documentation linking Figure of Eight 3rd great-grandparent, Benjamin Franklin Hall (1791-1868) back to Sarah , a sister to the well-known American statesman, Benjamin Franklin.

Rej. (5 Mar 2016)

Relationship between (Clarence) Lloyd Castner & *Figure of Eight*

(Clarence) Lloyd Castner (1935 -)
3rd cousin 1x removed
Λ
Dorothy Zadah Hall (1903 - 1970)
mother of (Clarence) Lloyd Castner
Λ
Ransom Brissette Hall Rev. (1866 - 1916)
father of Dorothy Zadah Hall
Λ
Zadah Augusta Ransom (1834 - 1874)
mother of Ransom Brissette Hall Rev.
Λ
Guy Ransom (1797 - 1870)
father of Zadah Augusta Ransom
Λ
Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834 - 1915)
son of Guy Ransom
V
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Zerah Augustus Ransom
V
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
V
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Karen Sue Palmer Wiest
Birth 24 Jan 1947
3rd Cousin, 1x Removed

"When Karen Sue Palmer was born on January 24, 1947, her father, Harold, was 38 and her mother, Wilma, was 23. She has one daughter from one relationship. She then married Henry Lavon "Rusty" Wiest on January 23, 1981, in Bemidji, Minnesota. She had three brothers and three sisters." ANCESTRY.COM

Karen Wiest and I have corresponded since Feb 2012 through email. From her, I have learned much about the siblings and geographic locations of Figure of Eight great-grandfather, William Harrison Palmer (1833-1925). Hazel and I visited Karen at her home in Belton, Bell County, Texas, in Apr 2014. She had many heritage photos upon her piano and on the walls of her living room. We were welcomed as 'family' and enjoyed tea. In appearance and personality, we thought we could see a family resemblance to Sister Hope.

Rej. (4 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Karen Sue Palmer & *Figure of Eight*

Karen Sue Palmer (1947 -)
3rd cousin 1x removed
/\
Harold Clyde Palmer (1908 - 1981)
father of Karen Sue Palmer
/\
Clyde Otis Palmer (1881 - 1922)
father of Harold Clyde Palmer
/\
Emmet Jacob Palmer (1858 - 1896)
father of Clyde Otis Palmer
/\
Phillip Cornell Palmer (1816 - 1887)
father of Emmet Jacob Palmer
/\
Henry Palmer (1792 - 1867)
father of Phillip Cornell Palmer
\/
William Harrison Palmer (1833 - 1925)
son of Henry Palmer
\/
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of William Harrison Palmer
\/
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

Carol Elizabeth Egeness Arndt
Birth 15 Sep 1948 • Bricelyn, Faribault, Minnesota
3rd Cousin 1x Removed

"When Carol Elizabeth Egeness was born on September 15, 1948, in Bricelyn, Minnesota, her father, Lester, was 26 and her mother, Mavis, was 25. She married Jeffrey L Arndt on June 3, 1972. She had one brother." ANCESTRY.COM

When my wife, Hazel, and I were doing on-site genealogical research in the very well-organized archives of the Delaware County Historical Society, in Manchester, Delaware County, Iowa, in Apr 2014, we came across the 'Johnston' file, containing a stale-dated note from a woman in Pennsylvania inquiring about a poisoning story of a brother and a sister in 1870. Using 'PeopleFind', I was able to leave that person a voice message to which she, fortunately, responded. What followed was a very fruitful 'telephone relationship' with a direct descendant of the sister, Susan, of Figure of Eight great-grandfather, James Lowry Johnston. It seems that Carol's mother, Mavis Elizabeth Dahl, then in her 90s, remembers sleeping with her grandmother, Elizabeth "Eliza/Lizzie" Jane West (1869-1936), until that lady's death. Elizabeth West was a 1st cousin of our grandfather, (William) Lowry Johnston, and lived next door to his family farm home in Mansfield Township, Freeborn County, Minnesota.

Rej. (8 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Carol Elizabeth Egeness & *Figure of Eight*

Carol Elizabeth Egeness (1948 -)
3rd cousin 1x removed
∧
Mavis Elizabeth Dahl (1923 -)
mother of Carol Elizabeth Egeness
∧
(Susan) Pearl Armstrong (1895 - 1958)
mother of Mavis Elizabeth Dahl
∧
Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane West (1869 - 1936)
mother of (Susan) Pearl Armstrong
∧
Susan Johnston (1835 - 1870)
mother of Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane West
∧
James Johnston (1797 - 1885)
father of Susan Johnston
∨
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of James Johnston
∨
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
∨
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
∨
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Diana Lee Swan Giles
Birth 13 OCT 1950 • Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
3rd Cousin 1x Removed

"When Diana Lee Swan was born on October 13, 1950, in Los Angeles, California, her father, (Harold) Bruce, was 24 and her mother, Patricia, was 20. She married Stephen M Giles on June 10, 1972, in her hometown. She has two brothers and one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

Diana's father, (Harold) Bruce Swan Jr. (1926–2016), in Jul 2013, sent me a message on ancestry.com, requesting information about our common ancestor, Edward Emerson (1809-1888). It was Diana who subsequently responded on his behalf. We discussed the book of Figure of Eight great aunt, Dede Johnston, *The Emerson Family Tree 1870-1968*, correcting some errors and re-iterating the contribution that the work has made to our mutual understanding. At the time of our correspondence, Father Bruce was living with the Giles household at Le Habra, Orange County, California. He died in January 2016.

Rcj. (22 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Diana Lee Swan & *Figure of Eight*

Diana Lee Swan (1950 -)
3rd cousin 1x removed
^
(Harold) Bruce Swan Jr. (1926 - 2016)
father of Diana Lee Swan
^
Harold Bruce Swan (1896 - 1970)
father of (Harold) Bruce Swan Jr.
^
Irene Jane "Jessie" Emerson (1870 - 1974)
mother of Harold Bruce Swan
v
James Mosgrove Emerson (1836 - 1921)
father of Irene Jane "Jessie" Emerson
^
Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
father of James Mosgrove Emerson
v
Anne Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
v
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Anne Jane Emerson
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Patricia "Pat" Smith
Birth abt 1958 • Pittsburg, Allegheny, Pennsylvania
3rd Cousin 1x removed

"When Patricia "Pat" Smith was born about 1958, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, her father, Hiram, was 33 and her mother, Sarah, was 29. She had one sibling." ANCESTRY.COM

I first contacted Pat Smith on ancestry.com message board in Jan 2013 to inquire about her Johnston family-of-origin. It proved to be a good connection. She was able to supply me a photo of her ancestor, John Johnston, with his wife, Rebecca Fallis, as well as corroborate the Irish marriage record that I had previously located on a Fermanagh site visit (see Appendix A). John was the older brother of Figure of Eight great-grandfather, James Lowry Johnston. Pat's helpful feedback and photos, shared in a series of Jan 2016 emails, contributed much to our knowledge of her side of the family. By an interesting coincidence, we found that we had matching photos of a group of young people in formal dress — her copy had the studio's name and address, mine had handwritten labels of the subjects. The photo proved to have been taken in Manchester, Iowa, about 1885-1890, apparently at a Carrothers wedding, with Cousin Eliza Jane Johnston Smith of Philadelphia present.

Rej. (8 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Patricia "Pat" Smith & *Figure of Eight*

Patricia "Pat" Smith (1958 -)
3rd cousin 1x removed
^
Hiram Malcolm Smith (1925 - 1998)
father of Patricia "Pat" Smith
^
Howard Johnston Smith Sr. (1893 - 1970)
father of Hiram Malcolm Smith
^
Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane Johnston (1866 - 1948)
mother of Howard Johnston Smith Sr.
^
John Johnston (1830 - 1891)
father of Elizabeth "Eliza, Lizzie" Jane Johnston
^
James Johnston (1797 - 1885)
father of John Johnston
v
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of James Johnston
v
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Susan J (Swindell)
Birth 12 Apr 1952
Wife of 3rd Cousin 1x Removed

"Susan J (Swindell) was born on April 12, 1952. She lived in Fairfield, California, in 1965 and moved to Martinez, California, sometime between 1965 and 1993." ANCESTRY.COM

Genealogy researcher, Susan, is the wife of a descendant of possible Figure of Eight great uncle, * Robert Johnston (1835-1875). I located her email address via a Find A Grave entry on *ancestry.com*, and commenced a collaboration in Jan 2013, which has been intermittently on-going. From her, I learned of Robert's lawsuit against William West, naming also his father-in-law, our 2nd great-grandfather, James Johnston (1797-1885). It is also from her that I learned of the ship's passenger list documenting the 1866 arrival in Philadelphia of James Johnston with Daughter Susan, her son, James Lowry Moore, and her 2nd husband, William West. In turn, she has learned much from me about heretofore unknown siblings of Susan Johnston Moore West, including our great-grandfather, James Lowry Johnston. What neither of us has managed to confirm is whether * Robert Johnston is, in fact, also an immediate family member. Nor has there been any light shed upon the family lore of possible 'foul play' in the poisoning deaths of Susan and her brother, William Lowry Johnston, during May 1870 at rural Manchester, Delaware, Iowa.

Rcj. (12 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Susan J (Swindell) & Figure of Eight

Susan J (Swindell) (1952 -)
wife of 3rd cousin 1x removed
X
Charles William Swindell Jr. (1943 - 2018)
husband of Susan J (Swindell)
^
Charles William Swindell, Col. (1919 - 2012)
father of Charles William Swindell Jr.
^
Earle Johnston Swindell (1887 - 1969)
father of Charles William Swindell, Col.
^
Ida Johnston (1864 - 1937)
mother of Earle Johnston Swindell
^
* Robert Johnston (1835 - 1875)
father of Ida Johnston
^
James Johnston (1797 - 1885)
*father(?) of * Robert Johnston*
v
James Lowry Johnston (1844 - 1901)
son of James Johnston
v
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of James Lowry Johnston
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of (William) Lowry Johnston
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Enver Shelly Marie Mullin Gibson Kinsey
BIRTH 21 Sep 1967 • Denver, Denver, Colorado
3rd Cousin 2x Removed

"When Enver Shelly Marie Mullin was born on September 21, 1967, in Denver, Colorado, her father, Donald, was 28. She married Leslie E Gibson on October 27, 1990. She then married John Bruce Kinsey on October 21, 1994, in Douglas, Nevada. She moved 2 times during her lifetime. She lived in Texas in 1985 and moved to Hedgesville, West Virginia, by 2016."
ANCESTRY.COM

Enver, named after her birth city, found me online, and requested more information on our shared Palmer heritage, my Figure of Eight Family Tree being then still private. We corresponded for a bit in the Summer of 2016 before granting each other 'guest access' to our respective family trees. Enver lives in West Virginia, has two children. She shared that, like me, her father is an avid horticulturist.

Rcj. (12 Sep 2018)

Relationship between Enver Mullin & *Figure of Eight*

Enver Shelly Marie Mullin (1967 -)
3rd cousin 2x removed
^
Donald Richard Mullin (1938 -)
father of Enver Shelly Marie Mullin
^
Jeannie Maxine Murray (1916 - 2012)
mother of Donald Richard Mullin
^
Alta Leona "Naoma" Palmer (1888 - 1968)
mother of Jeannie Maxine Murray
^
Emmet Jacob Palmer (1858 - 1896)
father of Alta Leona "Naoma" Palmer
^
Phillip Cornell Palmer (1816 - 1887)
father of Emmet Jacob Palmer
^
Henry Palmer Jr. (1792 - 1867)
father of Phillip Cornell Palmer
v
William Harrison Palmer (1833 - 1925)
son of Henry Palmer Jr.
v
Edith Belle Palmer (1887 - 1976)
daughter of William Harrison Palmer
v
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Edith Belle Palmer
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

(Elliot) Charles Ash Jr.
Birth 11 Feb 1954 • Albert Lea, Freeborn, Minnesota
4th Cousin

"When Elliot Charles Ash was born on February 11, 1954, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, his father, Elliott, was 26 and his mother, Agnes, was 22. He married Barbara L Maslak about 1974. They have two children. He has one brother and one sister." ANCESTRY.COM

Charles is a State Department employee and has lived in the DC area for many years. He and I connected in Mar 2016 on ancestry.com and continue to correspond via personal email. Our discussion initially focussed on "Finding Polly Osgood George Hall", 2nd wife of our common 3rd great-grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Hall (1791-1868). Charles has contributed much of his research and much family lore, as well as many heritage photos.

Rcj. (12 Mar 2016)

Relationship between (Elliot) Charles Ash Jr. & *Figure of Eight*

(Elliot) Charles Ash Jr. (1954 -)
4th cousin
^
Elliott Charles Ash Sr. (1928 - 2014)
father of Elliot Charles Ash Jr.
^
Leslie Elliott Ash (1877 - 1956)
father of Elliott Charles Ash Sr.
^
Ophelia "Dolly" Hall (1846 - 1921)
mother of Leslie Elliott Ash
^
Daniel Currier Hall (1819 - 1888)
father of Ophelia "Dolly" Hall
^
Benjamin Franklin Hall (1791 - 1868)
father of Daniel Currier Hall
v
Elvira Louvena Hall (1834 - 1925)
daughter of Benjamin Franklin Hall
v
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Elvira Louvena Hall
v
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
v
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
v
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

*** Lynn Freeman Wheedon**
Birth 1946 • Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
4th Cousin 1x Removed

"When Lynne Freeman was born in 1946 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, her father, (Magnus), was 35, and her mother, Martha, was 34." ANCESTRY.COM

I discovered the connection with Lynn Wheedon of Deloraine, Manitoba, while visiting Figure of Eight Graham 'cousins' in Ireland, with whom her mother had corresponded as early as 1966. Once in touch with each other, we met in person in Winnipeg. Lynn's 3rd great-grandparents emigrated from Fermanagh County during the height of the Irish Potato Famine in 1847. While it has not been possible to confirm filial relationship, there is convincing circumstantial evidence that * John Emmet/Emit Emerson (1796-1891) may be the older brother of our 2nd great-grandfather, Edward Emerson (1809-1888). Great Aunt Dede Johnston in her work *Emerson Family Tree, 1870-1968* refers to this brother only as *"John - never married - to Canada"*. Lynn's known Emerson ancestors came to Quebec, then progressed to Ontario, New York, Minnesota, Manitoba. Rej. (11 Aug 2018)

Relationship between Lynn Freeman & *Figure of Eight*

*** Lynn Freeman (1946 -)**
4th cousin(?) once removed
^
* (Magnus) Elmer Freeman (1911 - 1992)
father of Lynn Freeman
^
* Mary Ethel "Mamie" Hanscom (Walbridge) (1889 - 1970)
mother of Elmer Freeman
^
* Rebecca Emerson (1866 - 1946)
mother of Mamie Hanscom
^
* Thomas Emerson (1827 - 1911)
father of Rebecca Emerson
^
* John Emmet Emerson (1796 - 1891)
father(?) of Thomas Emerson
^
William Emerson (1773 - 1871)
V
Edward Emerson (1809 - 1888)
son of William Emerson
V
Ann Jane Emerson (1844 - 1910)
daughter of Edward Emerson
V
(William) Lowry Johnston (1878 - 1939)
son of Ann Jane Emerson
V
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Lowry Johnston
V
Figure of Eight ***Minnesota Johnstons***
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Carol E Hayes • Lexington, Fayette, Kentucky
Birth 4 Feb 1956
4th Cousin 1x Removed

"Carol E Hayes was born on February 4, 1956, in Lexington, Kentucky, the child of Robert Deming and Nancy Ellen. She lives in Decatur, Georgia." ANCESTRY.COM

An enquiry on *ancestry.com* message center from a woman in Georgia provided a way to become quite helpful to a descendant of (Laura) Mary Larkin, sister of Figure of Eight 2nd great-grandfather, Elam Loring Larkin. Her branch of the Hayes family migrated from Clinton County, New York, to Wisconsin, then Kentucky before settling in Georgia. Carol shared an interesting reflection that she has accomplished more with her technology-based genealogical research in the five years since her father died, than had her father from 30 years of effort by car, doing *"a lot of old fashioned research, going to courthouses, buying books on county history, etc."*

Rej. (31 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Carol E Hayes & *Figure of Eight*

Carol E Hayes (1956 -)
4th cousin 1x removed
/\
Robert Deming Hayes Dr. (1925 - 2005)
father of Carol E Hayes
/\
Roy Bagley Hayes (1875 - 1937)
father of Robert Deming Hayes Dr.
/\
Deming "Dennis" Larkin Hayes (1853 - 1883)
father of Roy Bagley Hayes
/\
Hiram Nelson Hayes (1818 - 1899)
father of Deming "Dennis" Larkin Hayes
/\
(Laura) Mary Larkin (1798 - 1860)
mother of Hiram Nelson Hayes
/\
(Nehemiah) Loring Larkin (1755 - 1845)
father of (Laura) Mary Larkin
\/
Elam Loring Larkin (1790 - 1866)
son of (Nehemiah) Loring Larkin
\/
Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin (1850 - 1930)
son of Elam Loring Larkin
\/
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Lucius "Luce" Cutler Larkin
\/
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

Janet Harpster Swain
Birth 16 Apr 1952 • Wenatchee, Chelan, Washington
5th Cousin

"When Janet Harpster was born on April 16, 1952, in Wenatchee, Washington, her father, Harry, was 38 and her mother, Ruby, was 36. She had three brothers. She married Richard Swain on November 25, 1967, in Chelan, Washington" ANCESTRY.COM

Janet contacted me in Mar 2016 to inquire about her 4th great-grandfather, Calvin Ransom (1801-1841), brother to Figure of Eight 3rd great-grandfather, Guy Ransom (1797-1870). I was able to contribute a bit to her knowledge, as well as refer her to the published Ransom history.

Rej. (28 Mar 2016)

Relationship between Janet Harpster & *Figure of Eight*

Janet Harpster (1952 -)
5th cousin
/\
Ruby Jewell Jordan (1916 - 1989)
mother of Janet Harpster
/\
William H Jordan (1887 - 1957)
father of Ruby Jewell Jordan
/\
Calvin Peter Jordan (1856 - 1931)
father of William H Jordan
/\
Elizabeth "Elsie" Ann Ransom (1833 - 1880)
mother of Calvin Peter Jordan
/\
Calvin Ransom Jr. (1801 - 1841)
father of Elizabeth "Elsie" Ann Ransom
/\
Calvin Ransom (1758 - 1810)
father of Calvin Ransom
\/
Guy Ransom (1797 - 1870)
son of Calvin Ransom
\/
Zerah Augustus Ransom (1834 - 1915)
son of Guy Ransom
\/
Ellen Augusta Ransom (1858 - 1948)
daughter of Zerah Augustus Ransom
\/
Maude Larkin (1882 - 1965)
daughter of Ellen Augusta Ransom
\/
Daryl Russell Johnston (1905 - 1982)
son of Maude Larkin
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Daryl Russell Johnston

(Terry) Joe Cartwright
BIRTH 15 JUN 1953 • Indiana
5th cousin

"When (Terry) Joe Cartwright was born on June 15, 1953, in Indiana, his father, William, was 19 and his mother, Mary, was 18. He has one daughter with Linda Lorraine Birk. He lived in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1990." *ANCESTRY.COM*

Joe and I exchanged numerous emails on the subject of 'Chasing Caleb'. While I still use the * to indicated possible/probable relationships, we did firm up the likelihood that we have a 4th great-grandparent in common, ruling out in the process a slave-holding plantation-owner in North Carolina. Our ancestor Caleb Cartwright apparently married in New Jersey, where Joel was born, then relocated to Virginia where Figure of Eight 3rd great-grandfather, John M was born, then further migrated to Ohio.

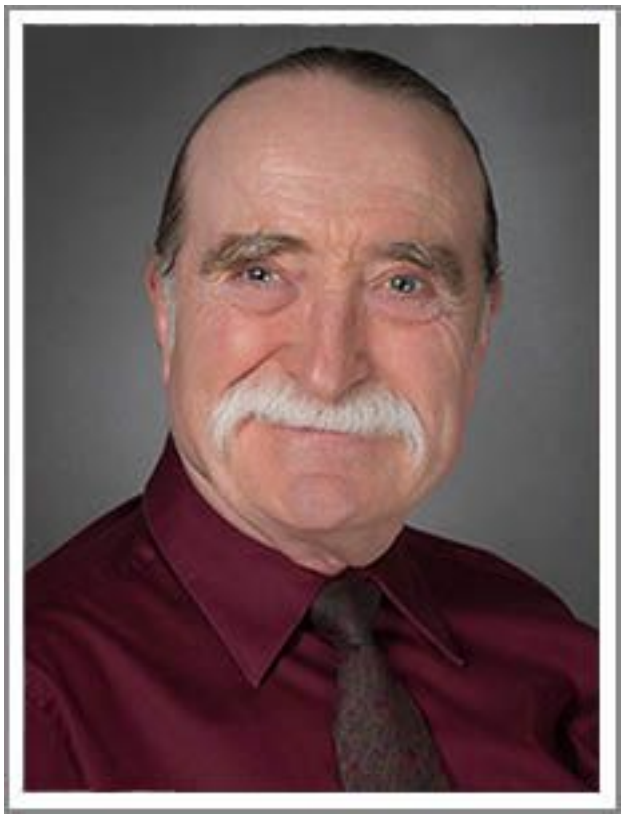
Roj. (25 Sep 2018)

Relationship between (Terry) Joe Cartwright & *Figure of Eight*

*** (Terry) Joe Cartwright (1953 -)**
5th cousin
/\
* William Henry Cartwright (1934 - 1995)
father of (Terry) Joe Cartwright
/\
* Harry Cornelius Cartwright (1892 - 1956)
father of William Henry Cartwright
/\
* Henry J Cartrite/Cartwright (1863 - 1961)
father of Harry Cornelius Cartwright
/\
* Jesse E Cartrite/Cartwright (1822 - 1896)
father of Henry J Cartrite/Cartwright
/\
* Joel Cart(w)right (1782 - 1857)
*father of *Jesse E Cartrite/Cartwright*
/\
*** Caleb C Cartwright (1738 - 1816)**
*father of *Joel Cartrite/Cartwright*
\/
John M Cartwright (1806 - 1850)
*son of * Caleb C Cartwright*
\/
Mary F Cartwright (1832 - 1886)
daughter of John M Cartwright
\/
Silas Marion Poston (1854 - 1938)
son of Mary F Cartwright
\/
Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston (1881 - 1959)
son of Silas Marion Poston
\/
Helen Frances Poston (1914 - 1948)
daughter of Francis "Frank" Ernest Poston
\/
Figure of Eight **Minnesota Johnstons**
children of Helen Frances Poston

About the author . . .

Ryon C. Johnston



Ryon Johnston is a retired horticulturist with a background that includes both commercial production and education.
His eclectic career extended to include building trades work, vocational training for the handicapped, and lay ministry in the church.
Continuing involvement with gardening, photography and bird watching reflects his concern for the natural environment.
Community interests focus on alternative economics, environmental theology, and public education and action to conserve the dwindling resources of our small planet.