

CLAUDIA MARSHALL from CYB

4/15/71

Forgive delay in answering your most welcome letter. We had been away over Easter, in northern Vermont snow, at the Trapp Family lodge -- the "Sound of Music" family. I found your letter here when we returned.

Lots in your letter that's helpful -- dates to enable me to add some facts to my record of the children of Keziah and Chatman Hawley -- information about exact date of marriage of Hannah and Lorenzo Dow Gilbert -- information (new to me) placing Rev John Wesley Starr in Licking County in 1833 (he was later in Allen Co, Ohio, at time when Jesse was there; and performed marriage of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Stephen Howell and Electa Belknap -- daughter of Orin Belknap and Nancy Starr -- there in 1838.) I'm passing this information along to Frances Milne of Pullman, Wash., who has more on Starrs than I've found elsewhere.

The copy of the letter from Orin H Belknap is helpful -- as it gives full list of children of his grandfather Orin who was son of the Orin who was son of Jonas Newton B. I'm in correspondence with one of his daughters, the Evelyn named in his letter -- and will send her a copy of that letter, for she is trying to help me on that branch of descendants of Jonas Newton B. Another descendant, now living in Spain, is also helping. Big problem, always, is to get more than just names.

Which reminds me of what I need most from you -- full information of children of Lorenzo Dow Gilbert and Hannah Belknap. To show what I hope you can supply, I enclose copy of my present notes on Hannah's brother Ransom -- still lacking some details, but good enough to illustrate my needs. Hope you can do it better, for Gilberts.

I think I have full data on Starrs in Benton County. So won't ask you to send me more.

Now that interesting clipping about Mrs Catherine Gilbert of Horse Valley -- reprinted from Chambersburg People's Register. I'm returning it, after making a copy for myself. I can't identify her, for I know little about Gilbert genealogy -- beyond the fact that there Gilberts at Haverhill and a whole slew of Gilberts in and around New Braintree and Brookfield Mass, where Reuben came from, to Ontario Co NY. But I'm tempted to make a few comments in hope they may help you.

I have to accept as fact what the clipping says about ~~that~~ her having lived all her life in the valley where she was born -- even though I know how newspapers erred on such ~~MAILED~~ details. So, where was Horse Valley? It was in an area where the solid woods had to be cleared -- just as in Ontario County and then in Licking County and Allen County in Ohio, but not west of Ohio. So this Catherine's husband was a Gilbert who did not move on from the place where she married him and where, as a girl, she had helped clear the land. And what strikes me most strongly as I read the clipping, is that what she says about her childhood is almost exactly what Aunt Kit wrote about the work she did ~~in~~ as a child in Ohio. So perhaps Catherine's husband was a Gilbert who stayed in Ohio -- which raises the question of how the clipping happened to be sent to Hannah.



I'll

~~XXX~~ indulge in two guesses. (1) That the clipping was sent to her because this Catherine Gilbert was someone whom she knew and/or was likely to ~~know~~ be interested in. (2) That the person ~~who~~ who sent it to her was probably the Mrs Cynthia Avery who supplied information to D B Waite for the Walbridge book about the history of Springwater.

This Cynthia Avery, as you know, was born Cynthia Garlinghouse, daughter of Gamaliel Garlinghouse and Jesse's sister Esther. She and Hannah would have known each other in Licking County before Hannah was married. And we know that there was correspondence between Cynthia and someone in Oregon, for Cynthia knew the date of Jesse's death. ~~THINK~~ The "someone" quite likely was Hannah -- for Cynthia had been Hannah's sister-in-law, as her first husband was Lorenzo's brother Franklin Gilbert, by whom she had three children. In 1875, after Franklin's death, she married Christopher Avery who was a widower. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

And there was still more relationship -- for Christopher Avery's daughter ~~XXXXXX~~ Harriet (by his first wife) had married Charles Belknap, son of Jesse's brother Elisha. . . . So, I think, there is plenty of reason to surmise that Hannah and Cynthia were correspondents and that Cynthia may have been the sender of that clipping, ~~XXXXXX~~ which was probably printed ~~XXXXXX~~ not long after 1900 -- and Cynthia lived ~~XXXXXX~~ till 1906.

All guesswork -- but fun. But why would Hannah be interested in that Catherine Gilbert? Most likely, I think, because of relationship to Catherine's husband. But this husband could not have been brother of Lorenzo, for Franklin married Cynthia and the other brother, Riley, moved on to Iowa (if Waite was right on this point). Who, then, could the husband have been?

Waite may have the clue to the answer. According to him, there were two Gilberts from Ontario County who went to Ohio and didn't go farther, and were of the right generation to be husband of Catherine. These two were Lorenzo's cousins Philander and Reuben -- sons of Reuben Jr (Phinehas's brother).

How about guessing that it was Philander, for whom Lorenzo and Hannah named their first child?

All guesswork -- maybe just moonshine. And resting in large part on Aunt Kit's vivid description of the sort of work she did when helping her father clear a farm in Ohio. . . But you asked?

Your records of Gilbert genealogy may well show that I'm wrong -- but it has been fun to guess. If I really needed to know -- and you didn't know who Philander or Reuben married, I'd search for them in the 1850 Census, Ohio, and see if either of them had a wife named Catherine.

And it's been good to hear from you again.



### THE WOMAN OF MOST LIVING DESCENDANTS.

Mrs. Catherine Gilbert, of Horse Valley, can boast of having the largest number of living descendants of any woman in the community. The total number is nearly 200, six of whom are her children, seventy-six grand-children and over a hundred great-grandchildren. Mrs. Gilbert is ninety years old, and enjoys good health. She was born in Horse Valley and lived her whole lifetime there, only being out of the valley a few times.

Mrs. Gilbert was married quite young, scarcely seventeen years old, and moved in a house in the upper end of Horse Valley, known since as the old Gilbert place, and belonging to a grandson of hers, where she raised all her children and lived sixty-five years in succession. Mrs. Gilbert has not been out of the valley at all for thirty-three years. She never saw a train or railroad, yet she is well contented, and would not live in any other place.

Mrs. Gilbert likes to talk about old times, and she makes a pleasant and interesting companion, as she can tell many little stories of the time when she was a girl. She says the girls nowadays don't know anything about work. When she was young girls worked out in the field with the men, and even made shingles, split rails, hewed logs and cut weeds. In all these Mrs. Gilbert participated and many other kinds, except mowing, which she could never learn. When asked about this summer's heat she said: "Perhaps I cannot stand as much heat as I used to, but I actually believe this summer to be the hottest in the last fifty years." Mrs. Gilbert uses no glasses, and she does considerable sewing, and requires no cane to support her when walking.—Chambersburg People's Register.

JS

Christmas 1970

Dear Carroll -

Thank you so very much for your recent addition to my Bulknap data. I do have some things to add - or at least suggest - but will wait til I have my files in order and am more sure of my facts. Right now I am in the throes of house-cleaning before the visit of that jolly old fellow. I always have a house - full at Christmas.

I feel I've let you down this past year but I have had problems & have not worked with genealogy. I am anxious to get at it again & hope 1971 will be a year of real research for me - Enjoy it so.

As the old song goes - "may your blessings be many and your troubles be few."

Sincerely  
Claudia

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where he settled in 1809, to the St. James farm. Phillips said 2 years and sold to William Jenkins. Jenkins was here 2 or 3 years and sold to Mrs Jackman, and he in 1835 sold to Mrs Gilbert. The children of Phillips were Miranda, Truman, Thomas A., Nancy, and Electra. Minerva lives in Mahaska county, Iowa, and the others are with their mother in Holt county, Nebraska. The children of Knowles were Bert, Reuben Jr.'s oldest daughter. The children of Clark, Ruth, Mercy, Seth, Daniel, Jared, Clark, Sybil, Lydia, Jonathan, Ruth, Mary, Polly, Willard and Roswell. Willard was born September 9, 1809, and was the first white child born in this hollow, and second in town. Willard is living in Palaska, Michigan. Seth Knowles built a house nearly on the site of the present house on the premises, lived there awhile and went to Ball Hill in Canadice. John Nixon built the present house and died there. Rev. A. B. Green, John Jennings and the late Rev. T. J. O. Woodin have been later owners. The account of the advent of Knowles into Middletown published in the last History of Livingston county, and credited to Rev. William Hunter, was copied almost "verbatim" from the Ontario county Times of April 5th, 1876, written by us, and supposed to be correct, but later investigations prove he was not the first settler in town. Simple justice to all parties requires this statement. The farm next in order in this immediate vicinity is the "Gilbert" farm. The Gilberts came from Brookfield, Massachusetts, where Reuben Sen. was born August 18th, 1756, in an early day to Bristol, Ontario county. In the spring of 1809 Reuben Gilbert Jr. came from Bristol with his brother-in-law David Badgero via Honeyoye to Livonia, and in canoes or Indian "dugouts" up the Hemlock Lake. They built a log house on the west side of the road nearly on the spot where Thomas Key-nolds now lives where Badgero lived until he could build another just across the line in the town of Pittstown now Canadice. In the fall of that year Gilbert returned to Bristol and brought his family to the house first erected. The next year his brother Rhinehas came and took the south half of the same lot, and built a log house nearly on the same ground where stands the house in which William Norton now resides. Arannah, another brother, came in 1817, and Jones a brother to Reuben Sen. and family in March 1818. Reuben Sen. in the fall of 1817 put up the frame of the old house now standing, and when he arrived the next spring, Rhinehas wishing to sell out, Reuben Sen. bought him out and moved there, and Reuben Jr. finished the house, the frame of which was already erected, and moved into that. Jones when he arrived erected another house on the west side of the road where the brook now runs, and lived there till October 1839, and then went to Ohio. David Phillips lived in that house afterwards. Phillips went to Livonia, to Ohio and to Iowa where

It has generally been accepted as a fact that the first settlement in the Town of Springwater was made in the valley where the principal village is now located, but Mr. D. B. Waite of Canadice who has, perhaps, taken more pains than any one in this town to get an accurate history of the early settlers, has furnished us with statistics that show that the first settlements were made in the extreme eastern part of the town. The history of this early settlement will be found in another part of this book under the heading of "Hunt's Hollow." The following in regard to the first settlers of the valley is also furnished by Mr. Waite:

The first settlers in this part of the town were in what was then called "Hemlock Valley." Seth Knowles came from Massachusetts in the spring of 1805, and took and lived on what is now called the "Gibbe" farm in the town of Pittstown, now Livonia. The year 1806 was one of extreme drouth in that town and the region north, but south around the lakes showers were of frequent occurrence, and after harvest, Seth Knowles, his son Jared and his brother-in-law, Peter Welch, with guns, axes and provisions followed the old Indian trail, over Ball Hill to the town of Middletown, now Springwater. Before they returned, they built the body of a log house on the farm owned by the Rev. T. J. O. Woodin at his decease, and on the last day of March, 1807, Seth Knowles and his family came up the Hemlock lake on the ice and took possession of the cabin mentioned. His house was situated on the west side of the present road near the watering trough on the east, and his garden was north of the house. He cleared some eight acres on the flat, back of his house, set out some elecampane, and traded his interest there in 1821, with David Jolatt for the farm on which the St. James Hotel now stands on the east side of Hemlock lake, where in after years he died. Jolatt lived on the place until he was undermined by David Phillips in 1826, when he moved to the Elisha Bailey farm and then to a house on the east side of the road on the present farm of S. W. Wharton, where his wife died soon after. His children were Montreville, Sally, Patty, Miner, Henrietta, who with their father went to Campbelltown, Steuben county. Jolatt came from Centerville, Allegany county.

FIRST SETTLERS OF SPRINGWATER VALLEY AND VICINITY.

CHAPTER IV.



he died in 1871. He was a soldier of 1812. Reuben Sen. lived with his son Araunah on the place he bought of Phinehas until his death July 20th, 1840. Araunah built the present house, and sold in 1855 to Dr. John B. Norton and went to Michigan where he now resides. Reuben Jr. lived on his place thirty-five years, sold out to H. S. Tyler and went to Ohio and to Iowa where he died. The children of Reuben Sen. were Polly, Sally, Betsey, Phinehas, Reuben, Abner W. and Araunah. Polly died on Ball Hill, Sally at Pataskala, Ohio, aged 95 years, Betsey at Rushville, Phinehas went to Kentucky as we have said, and after a residence there of fifteen years, went to Ohio and to Iowa where he died, and Abner died in Richmond. His widow is living in town. The children of Reuben Jr. were Charlotte, Lydia, Catharine, Philander, Lucinda, Olive, Ann, Reuben, Caroline and Sally. Catharine went to Ohio, and to Missouri, Philander, Olive, Lucinda, and Reuben went to Ohio, and Lucinda afterward went to Iowa. Ann's last husband was the late Thomas Truxton Dyer of this town. The children of Phinehas were Minerva, Lorenzo, Riley and Franklin. Minerva went to Ohio, Lorenzo to Oregon, Riley to Iowa, and Franklin died in Ohio. Araunah's children are Almira and Alonzo, both of whom are living in Michigan. Reuben Badgero was born across the line March 2nd, 1810, and Catharine Gilbert September 16 of the same year, making the first "little strangers" in that group of settlers.

Another house was built by Philander on the east side of the road south of the butternut tree. It was taken down and made the frame of the house on the farm of late Endress Tucker in Canadice. In 1811 John Alger, Phinehas and Reuben Gilbert erected the saw-mill there, each owning an equal part therein. It did a good business for a long term of years. John Alger was a settler in West Bloomfield in 1790, was a soldier of 1812 from that town, and so badly wounded that he was incapacitated for farm labor. He built a saw mill on the farm of Lorenzo Ingraham near the head of Canadice lake in the winter of 1809 and '10 and owing to a badly constructed floom, it failed to do good work. He sold the premises, reserved the mill irons &c. and removed them to the mill aforesaid. He sold his interests in the mill to Reuben Gilbert in 1814. He died in Bloomfield in 1819.

In 1828 the large, red shop was built, which after a number of years was taken down and removed to West Hill by Christopher Osgood, a distillery was erected by Ira Gilbert, a son of Jones, which ran five or six years, a cider mill put in an appearance, and Francis Badgero quarried stone and sawed them to any shape required, making in fact a very busy place. While Araunah owned the place he sold a piece of the land to his brother-in-law, the Rev. A. B. Green

who built the house Josiah Norton now lives in. Spaulding Shepard owned the place for a number of years, and sold to Daniel Norton, father to the present occupant. While Green lived here he carried on the business of turning and rake making in the gully on the farm. The Gilberts cleared many acres of pine timber, erected scores of buildings for the country roundabouts, and for quality of work, promptness and honesty in deal, they left a good name. Some of the best frames in these parts were put up long years ago by Araunah. From the records of Naples, we find that Reuben Gilbert was Inspector of schools in 1813, and pathmaster and fence viewer in 1815, and Phinehas was also Inspector of schools in 1814, and we also copy from the records of the said town that the first school district organized in the western part of the town was, "Fifth School District in Naples is to take in all the Hemlock settlement, so called. May 30th. 1813.



CLAUDIA

Feb 7 1971

I'm making good progress on descendants of Jesse & Jane.

But I need help on Gilberts. Can you, please?

You sent me copies of Belknap gravestones at Alpine. Helpful. Did you also copy Gilbert stones?

And Hawleys. I need help on them, too. Have finally located a great grandson of Keziah and Chatman -- in Idaho. But no response from him, yet.

So Hawley stones, too, if you have them. Please.



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CLAUDIA:

I think I told you that Dick Taylor generously sent me his fat files of data that he has not yet used in his charts of a family tree.

I find in them three pieces that I think I ought to pass on to you. So I enclose them.

(A) A sheet written by Clark, probably in 1962. Possibly contains information useful to you.

(B) An unsigned manuscript in two differing handwritings -- possibly yours and your sister's? Everything down to my red line on page 3 is full of errors -- but material after that line may contain specific dates of value to you. (Let me stress importance of full dates when obtainable -- day, month, year -- not just year alone.)

(C) Since you collect pictures, a copy of a couple of pages from some magazine -- date and name unknown to me.

These need not be returned to me. I made copies for my files, too.

Carroll  
3/18/68





AUG 25 1961

That I could find a recent 'snap'  
but have misplaced them.

This was taken on our vacation  
in 1961 at my cousin's in Idaho.  
This summer home is on Couer d'Alene Lake  
L to R

My husband	my cousin	me
Joe	Helen	Claudia
	Don	
	Tom	

My hair is white. I grayed at 16.



File  
↓

January 27, 1968

Dear Claudia:

Here's some correspondence that may be of interest to you. Perhaps you may have something about these cousins in Washington. ( Evelyn file )

Note last paragraph -- about "Isaac Newton." I'm still searching for him and Cynthia. So must mention a possibility in hope you know the answer.

A while ago I got from Yale library a copy of Aunt Kit's piece in Oregon Historical Review. To my disappointment, it proved to be based on letters she wrote about 1901 -- relying on a combination of her diary and her memory. I've seen, thus far, only excerpts from her diary. Do you know how I can get the whole diary?

In the published piece, there are some obvious errors -- such as date of arrival in Oregon of Jesse's brother Jonas. There is also one passage that is both interesting and puzzling.

Pages 271-272: "October the 5 18 48, today the way worn travelers arrived at the Belknap settlement; five families all connected with the family of Jesse Belknap . . . then there was the Newton family. Mrs. Newton and Mrs. Jesse Belknap were sisters."

I haven't noted any other reference to this "Newton family" in Aunt Kit's recollections, and it does not appear on the map (circa 1851) of the farms in that area. ~~XXXXXX~~ And I've not found any record of a Garlinghouse girl marrying a Newton, though there were scads of Newtons in Ontario County.

Do you know anything about this "Mrs Newton"?

Is it possible that she was <sup>Jonas N's</sup> ~~XXXXXX~~ daughter Cynthia, not Jane's sister but Jesse's sister? Jane's sister-in-law, not sister?

Do you know what became of this Newton family, which apparently did not remain in the Belknap neighborhood?

Rachel  
went to Mary's River



DEAR CLAUDIA:

Sunday 3/10/68

Today I'm going to try to answer the questions you asked on the sheet showing your own direct Belknap lineage. Most of them can be answered briefly. But one of them is going to let you in for an ungodly long effort to tell you what I know and don't know about Jesse's father — Jonas Newton Belknap. I'll ask, in advance, for your forgiveness of its wordiness.

I'm attaching your sheet, with red ink notations. (I've made a copy for my file, so that you can write me about any point that you have reason to question.) The paragraph designations below — A, B, C, etc. — are shown in red ink on your sheet. (Red check-marks on your sheet indicate that my records agree with yours. I'll be talking mainly about points of disagreement, and uncertainties.)

(A) It looks as if someone has misled you on dates Old Style and New Style. Up to 1752 the English calendar counted March 25 as the beginning of the new year. So dates from Jan 1 to March 24, before 1752, are shown both ways, as 1489/90 for the birth of Abraham. But dates from March 25 to Dec 31 are the same year in both Old Style and New Style. That's why I've crossed out the second year dates for Hannah Ayer. Death

(B) Birth date for Mary Dickinson is uncertain. I think 1703 the more likely year, and so did HWB in his later years. At present, I'm arguing with the Salt Lake people about this and other similar points. They place too much faith in the early "Vital Records" in Massachusetts — which were notoriously erratic up to ~~almost~~ 1750 and cannot be trusted except when confirmed by other evidence. Often they differ by a year from more reliable records, such as church registers. . . . ~~Birth~~ date of her husband Samuel is now known to have been before 6 Dec 1757. (HWB showed it as "about 1757" in his early correspondence; found out better, years later.) Exact date not known, yet.

(C) Name of church is "St. Mary the Great." I have a photo of it and a detailed description dated about 1870. As I've already told you, Bennet was churchwarden only one year. Local pronunciation of Sawbridgeworth in his time was sometimes "Sapsearth" and sometimes "Sabbisford!" Name of town was very ancient Old English out of Anglo Saxon, meaning "Sebrig's enclosure" at an early time when almost no English land was "enclosed" by hedge or fence. Variation "ford" came later, from the ford across the River Stort.

(D) Abraham and Mary had not lived in Sawbridgeworth since at least 1622 — long before coming to America. Their known residences in England were Netteswell (Netswell) and North Weald (Northweld; North Weald Basset) in Essex. They apparently signed up at Epping, with the Massachusetts Bay Company — as ~~emigrants~~ for America. (Banks' Topographical Dictionary, published in the 1930's — I forget exact date.) (HWB was responsible for saying again and again that they came from Sawbridgeworth and did not ~~learn~~ learn the truth till just before he died. Mary probably was never at Sawbridgeworth, as she was not a Sawbridgeworth girl. Where she was born or lived before marriage has not yet been discovered.)

~~(E)~~ (E) Ebenezer and Hannah had 12 children, ~~xx~~ as you say — but one daughter died at age 17. The other 11 were long-lived.

(F) Please give me the source of the middle name you show for Mary Gibbs. I have no record of it. . . . This Samuel did fight on Bunker Hill. I have his complete



military pay and enlistment record. He did not die on Bunker Hill as the old legend says -- nor the next day as HWB sometimes wrote. His death occurred late in 1775, some time in late October or November or December -- exact date not on record -- merely "reported deceased" after last dated entry in December, which may well have been made after his death as it was an authorization for issue of "bounty coat or equivalent" which could have been taken as authorization of a money payment to his heirs. More about him later, when I talk about his son Jonas Newton Belknap.

(X)

(G) You ask about "Esther Lincoln" or "Esthes Parker." Instead of merely answering that it was Esther Parker, I'm going to do much more. I'm going to try — for the first time, — to tell what I now believe I know of the full story of Jonas Newton Belknap — my great-great-grandfather. It's only lately that I've brought together enough real facts to put me in position to tell his story, without making some bad guesses as I've sometimes done in the past. As you and I seem to be the only persons who have made definite effort to learn about him, I think you'll not mind my being ~~XX~~ long-winded — for you, like me, are interested in our people, not merely genealogy.

First, I must clear the way by saying that HWB, to whom all Belknaps owe so much, made a sad mess of setting down a record of this Jonas. Eventually his file contained two conflicting cards for Jonas — and both of them were full of errors, even to confusing the military record of Jonas with that of a much earlier Belknap who fought in a different war. And from time to time, in order to get help from living Belknaps, HWB wrote letters offering information that was based on his early research and would be found erroneous in later years. So he muddled the stream — and I keep trying to clear it up.

In 1913, for instance, he wrote a letter to Clark containing at least six misstatements. One of them was this: "Jesse was the son of Jonas N. and a Lincoln." He might better have written that the wife of Jonas N. was "said to be a Lincoln," for he had no real evidence — nothing but something said by someone who merely repeated a bit of hearsay. By 1920 (when HWB wrote to my father) a Belknap relative-by-marriage in Connecticut had shown ~~there~~ the valid record of marriage to Esther Parker — but today, 55 years after HWB wrote that letter to Clark, that Lincoln ghost still keeps on haunting us. One thing I'm going to try to do is to offer a surmise about that ghost — but that will come late in the story.



who was

(H) I doubt that Jane's ~~xxx~~ father was Elijah Garlinghouse. Some pages and pages of copies of original records (sales of land, wills, gravestones, etc) sent to me by my greatest ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ helper, Gladys Gray, a member of the staff of a church in Canandaigua, N. Y., make it seem much more likely that ~~xxx~~ father was either Jane's James Garlinghouse, in Lucerne County, Pa. in 1790 (a year or so before Jane was born) or Benjamin Garlinghouse, born 1761, died 1850, age 89, whose wife was Marcia (last name unknown) died 18 Nov 1845, ~~xxxxxx~~ aged 77, hence born 1768. Please tell me the source of your entry of Elijah as her father. . . The Belknaps and the Garlinghouses were closely associated in the years from 1800 to 1820, in Ontario County, N. Y., near Canandaigua Lake. Two of Jesse's brothers also married Garlinghouse girls. His brother Jonas (son of Jonas Newton Belknap) married Mary Garlinghouse — who is said to have gone to Oregon with Jesse's family and to have died at Monroe, Oregon, in 1867. And Jesse's older brother Elijah married "Catherine" Garlinghouse according to HWB — but present-day descendants of this marriage call her "Christian" or "Christine." The three girls are believed to be sisters. HWB finally, after doubting that Elijah Garlinghouse was their father, came to believe that they were ~~xxx~~ probably daughters of James and Eleanor Garlinghouse. . . I think this parentage is ~~still~~ still open to study; so I'll welcome any aid you can give me. What's your source? . . . The Ontario County records make it certain that the Garlinghouses came from New Jersey (via N. E. Pennsylvania). You ask if they were "Dutch". I doubt it, for all the given names in this numerous family were English — mostly Biblical — with not one instance of a Dutch or German name — though I too was told, when a child, that they were of German or Dutch ancestry.

(I) You ask about last names of wives.... Abraham's wife, Mary, has been said by an extremely unreliable correspondent to have been "Mary Webster." This correspondent, Walter Kerr Belknap of Chester, Conn. is dead. His widow tells me that all his genealogical papers were sent to one of his cousins, whose name I have just learned. I'll write to that cousin in a day or so to see what I can learn about about the source from which he got "Webster", for he named no source when he supplied that name to Charlene Belknap Taylor and her husband Dick — who prepared that "family tree" chart. Of course he may have discovered something that no one else has ever been able to find, the record of Abraham's marriage — but I'd think that in this case he would certainly have been eager and prompt to publish his discovery in some historical or genealogical journal, and I've not found any record of such publication. Judging by the visible inaccuracy of what he wrote to the Taylors, I have little faith in what he wrote about Mary's name. But I'll hope to find ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ real evidence that he was right. . . Grace Adam, Bennet's wife. Our cousins in Utah may have discovered her parentage. I haven't had time, yet, to study what they have dug up. . . Sarah Jones (wife of our first Samuel) was daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Jones of Hingham, Mass., according to HWB and other records. I am not sure of the date of her birth, nor the place (and one wonders how Samuel at Salem met a girl from the distant (for those times) south shore of Massachusetts Bay). . . . Hannah Ayer (wife of Ebenezer) was daughter of Nathaniel Ayer and Tamesin Turloar (which may be a misspelt version of "Thurlow.") Place of her birth uncertain, as yet. Her sister Elizabeth married Ebenezer's brother Abraham. . . Mary Dickinson, wife of our 2nd Samuel, was daughter of James Dickinson and his wife Mary Wood, Rowley, Mass. Note spelling — Dickinson, not Dickenson. After marriage to Samuel, she and Samuel and her brother James Dickinson the 2nd and his wife moved to north central Connecticut where they had adjoining farms and big families. . . The name of Richard Beltoft's wife: I've already written to you that her name is not really known and that there is no proof that her first name was Elizabeth, though HWB said (in a letter to the editor of The Register) that "Mr. Bernau thought she was the Elizabeth who died in 1589." The editor did not agree and neither do I.

-4-5-

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When I began writing this letter, I planned to end with an effort to tell the full story of what I know (now) about my great-great-grandfather Jonas Newton Belknap -- for I have finally accumulated enough factual data to enable me to see that in everything that has been said or written about him by myself and other people there have been a lot of errors. I have often reproached HWB for his mistakes; but on the story of Jonas I've been just as guilty, and I want to remedy my past reliance on legend and gossip and hearsay. However, when I came to start writing the true factual story I found that it was demanding more time than I can spare at this moment. So it will have to be set aside for a while. I'll send it to you when I complete it.

Another thing I intend to write as soon as I can find time for it is the true story of Abraham -- why he was landless, though an eldest son who should have inherited land -- why he came to Massachusetts -- and so on. The bare facts are all on record, but their meaning has never been put down on paper. I need to tell that story to every living Belknap whom I can reach, for all of us need to know it.

Meanwhile, my thanks for all the help you are giving to me.

Carroll  
3/10/68



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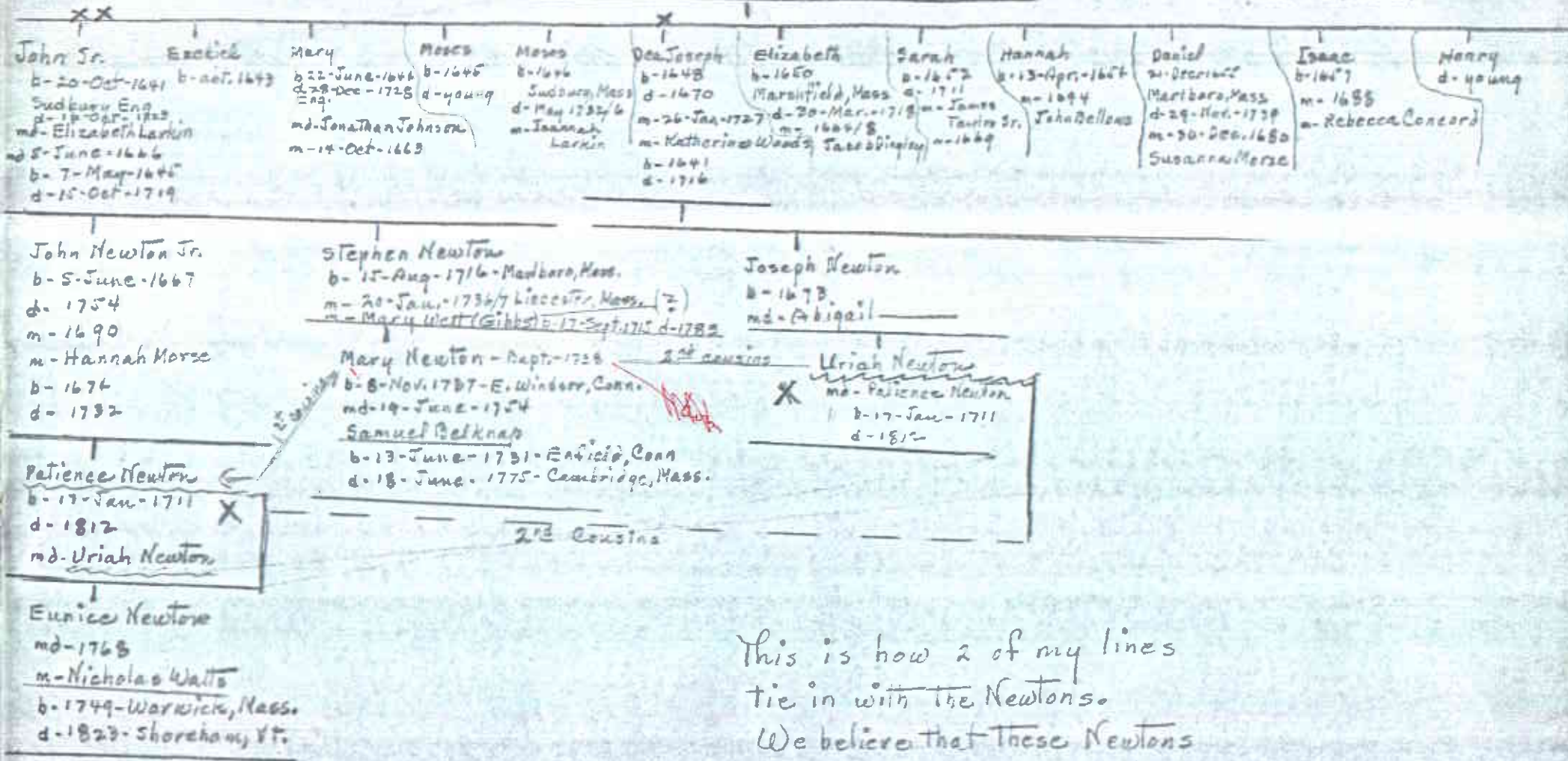


*Handwritten in red:*  
270  
1668

*Handwritten in blue:*  
Carroll Bellnap  
25 - Clark Road  
Riverside  
Conn.

06878

Richard Newton — Anna Locker (Loker) — dau of Elizabeth Brewer & Henry (Robert) Loker  
of England — md 1600.



This is how 2 of my lines tie in with the Newtons.  
We believe that these Newtons are all interrelated to Sir Isaac Newton. Do you have any proof?

You will note on my lineage Chart Watts was my paternal grandmother's name and the Belknaps were my paternal g-grandfather's people.

This information given me by Mrs. H. G. CALKINS  
Maple Ave.  
Rutland, Mass. 01543  
(New line from Moses Newton.)



Oct 22 1969

Dear Claudia

Here is the chapter about the Gilberts, from the Walbridge book. If you want more copies of it, I can run them off on my copying machine. .. I hope it will be helpful — though, alas, it lacks dates of birth, marriage, death.

I think that, at the risk of saying what you already may know, I ought to add a few explanatory notes.

(1) In the early 1800's, Ontario County was all of western New York. The area where our ancestors lived was what is now the present Ontario County and the eastern part of what is now Livingston County.

(2) When Mr Waite writes the word "now," he means some time about 1880 to 1885. As to his accuracy, the present Historian of Livingston County has a very favorable opinion. My own judgment is that this is the first local history of that area that seems to me to be free from obvious errors and careless hearsay. I've long distrusted all the others, which are much better known.

(3) Waite, taking his facts from contemporary records, faithfully followed the original spelling that he found. Hence, "Phinehas" — and perhaps "Jones" which may have been "Jonas" for all I know — in the handwriting of that time, I often find great difficulty in distinguishing an "a" from an "e."

(4) On page 10, you'll note the mentions of Kentucky and Ohio — suggesting that the Ontario County Bellnaps and some of the Ontario County Gilberts moved on together. Note especially the mention of Pataskala, Ohio, where Sally — daughter of Reuben Sr. — died at age 85. Jesse's brother Orin died in that town in 1873. In the 1830's, all of the then-living children of Jonas Newton Bellnap except Susannah were on record as being in that part of Ohio — Licking County.

\*\*\*\*\*

It was sweet of you to send me stamps. But please don't. If I let you do that, I'd lose something I cherish — my freedom to send you what I want to send, when I want to.

PS: About the middle of the first page of the chapter, I see something that may confuse you: "the town of Middletown, now Springwater." In an earlier memo I told you that Middletown was the original name of Naples. Both of these statements are correct. Middletown was an area including the areas that ~~XXXX~~ separated into the Town of Naples and the Town of Springwater in 1816. There were many name changes, such as Pittstown, Richmond, Honeoye — all meaning the same place, depending on what year is being discussed.

Please excuse pen - had very little ink. Oct. 17 - 1969

Dear Carroll -

I surely feel that I have slighted you but events here have been a bit hectic and I'm afraid my genealogy research has really suffered.

Thank you for continuing to send me your "finds". I am very grateful.

I'm most appreciative to receive what you have on the Gilberts. I have a knotty problem which your information may clear.

I'm enclosing some stamps to help compensate in a small way for the postage expended in my behalf.

<sup>2</sup>  
Dad is living with us now - has - since April. I wish his memory was more reliable. He remembers so many of his relations but can't seem to relate to them with any surety. He is well and in no great care for which I am very grateful.

Bless you Carroll! for your painstaking research and for sharing your discoveries with others.

Sincerely  
Claudia



My father  
Claude Dore  
Hilbert

age - 48

Great grandfather  
+  
grandmother  
Becknap

My Grandmother  
Lucia Dianka  
Watts

My G. Grandmother  
Hannah Becknap

Lived 90's

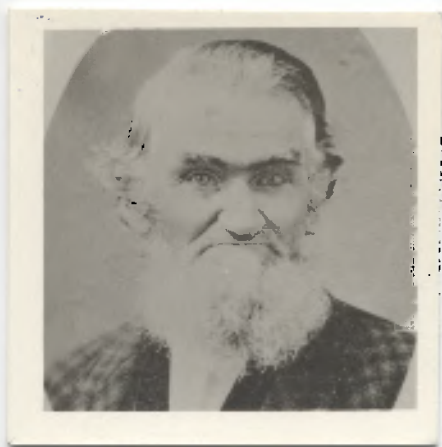
My Grandfather  
Jesse Becknap  
Hilbert

Lived 90's

G2 Grandmother  
Jane Threlinghouse

G2 Grandfather  
Jesse Becknap

My G. Grandfather  
Lorenzo Dore  
Hilbert





Mrs. J. A. Marshall  
220 N.W. 242nd Street  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123



*Pictures*

*Mr. Carroll Y. Belknap  
25 Club Road  
Riverside  
Conn.*

06878





~~7~~  
Candia

Feb. 14 - 1968  
220 - N. W. - 242nd  
Willabro, Ore.

Dear Candice -

I've just send you these valentines (?) today and hope that in some small way I may be of help to you.

I surely hope you have enough authentic information to write and publish a book. It should prove very interesting. If not too expensive I'd like a copy. This true - searching does run into money - yes?

I wish Bertha Gilbert Pittman had copied excerpts from Aunt Kit's Diary instead of telling it in her own words. I found a copy of the diary at  
X The Oregon Historical Society - "Oregon Historical Quarterly Vol. 38 - 1937 Pgs. 265 - 299!"

The information on Jonas Bulknap you referred to in your letter I got from the pension photostat I am enclosing. Please return this and all letters and typed material.

You may keep my hand-printed notes.

My father and mother remembered Hannah well. She stayed at our home when I was a baby. My father and grandfather (excuse) have told me so many interesting stories of the trek West. I'll relate a few — over

The Watts - Gilberts and Belknap all started out together on the same wagon train. The Watts left the group (with some of the others) at The Dalles and continued on to Walla Walla where Dr. Whitman was. G. G. F. Watts was a millwright and Dr. Whitman wanted him to stay and build a mill but G. G. W. Watts prevailed and they left for Oregon 10 days before the massacre.

The Gilberts & Belknap went the southern route to Nyodoc Point.

G. G. F. Gilbert ~~was~~ supposed to have had some especially fine and fast oxen. When a scout came to tell them that the Watts were coming over the Barlow Trail - G. G. F. Gilbert went to meet them & keep them down. It is said they complained of his speed. The oxen were supposed to have averaged 8 miles a day from Iowa to Oregon.

When? At Nyodoc Pt. the Indians attacked. One woman was shot but not killed. They killed all the oxen and it was then necessary to pull the wagons with milk-cows.

At Springfield the Indians ferried the wagons across in their canoes. One of the wagons went thru a canoe and made the



Indians very angry. G. G. F. Gilbert feared they'd have trouble so he gave them a wagon and its contents. (Some of the children had had measles and had been confined to this wagon.) The Indians got the measles and many died.

My father feels this was a dirty trick but perhaps if he had lived then and was as fearful, as they must have been, he'd have felt differently.

I have talked <sup>(by phone)</sup> and corresponded with Clark Bulknap but have never seen him. He and Dad are old friends however.

I think I've just package all this now and send it off. If there are more details I can give you - just ask.

Sincerely —  
 Claudia

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> '68

Dear Carroll, -

The name Aca Newton struck a chord - so I went thru all my Newton data and came up <sup>with</sup> a birthdate for an Aca Newton. But - if he was Tamar Vinton's husband (first) he would have been 41 years of age. The coincidence - however - of his sister Mary marrying Samuel Belknap surely looks as tho' they <sup>all</sup> may have been close neighbors, as you suggested.

Mrs. Calkins seldom puts in dates and she rambles so that it really takes time and concentration to rearrange and organize the material she sends. I don't know the lady's age but from her youthfulness and lack of coordination I would suspect that she is quite elderly.

I note that John Sr. (son of Richard) she says was born in Sudbury, Eng. and his brother Moses in Sudbury, Mass. — ? Here again is Isaac Newton but not much data. I'm sorry I have no more to offer at this time. If you think Mrs. Calkins could possibly give us any more data - I



will gladly write - somehow I rather doubt  
it. I wish she had given me the lady's  
name from whom she received her infor-  
mation but she just referred to her as  
"a lady". Her last sentence was "I have  
very little on the Johnsons and on Joseph  
Newton & Elizabeth & Sarah & Hannah &  
Danae Newton."

Look as this we might be in our new  
home next month - will let you know  
my new address soon as possible.

Thanks again for all your help and  
thank you for the introduction to Clinton  
Bulknap.

Best wishes always,

Claudia

Riverside, Conn.  
Feb. 22, 1968

Dear Claudia:

You're an angel.

Your valentines arrived yesterday and I'm inexpressibly grateful. They are chock full of helpful information -- verifications of doubtful points, corrections of errors in the records in my possession. And how good it is to have even a sample of brave Aunt Kit's diary. I've been wondering how to find it. With the reference you have given, I should be able to locate it in the Library of Congress or in the New York Public Library.

Today, unfortunately, I can't take the time to write to you fully; so forgive me for being brief. Just let me say that I can help you on some of the earlier people and on some of the questions you have asked; and I'll try to do so just as soon as I can. Your pencilled family tree showing your own direct Belknap lineage seems to be based on what I've often called "early Henry Wyckoff." That fine dear gentleman made a lot of mistakes in the first ten years or so of his work on Belknap genealogy -- and what you got from Maynard's record is based on things written by Henry Wyckoff/Belknap very early. Somewhere between 1914 and 1927 he rewrote every single page of his thousands of pages of genealogical notes, revising them in the light of corrections he had made in pencil. Then, till his death, he kept on making further corrections and adding undigested material that would require still more changes. So what I have in my hands is his "final" record, which often differs from what he wrote in the early years of this century.

At the moment, I'm being a bit cautious in using the final record that he left behind -- for it still contains visible errors that I must try to remedy. He knew this. That's why he abandoned his hope of publishing his material in book form.

I'll make copies of the material you want returned -- and will send your originals back to you.

And I'll write you more fully in a week <sup>or</sup> so.

Meanwhile I bless you.

Drumoff



Oct. 1, 1968

DEAR CLAUDIA:

Forgive delay. Peg and I have been away — among other things, attending the memorial service held for her mother — who was very widely known and much loved for what she did (after 70) in finding, buying and restoring the birthplace of Carl Sandburg, and then founding an association to preserve and maintain it.

This has given me a means of meeting your desire for photos. Being son-in-law of Adda George (Peg's mother), I was considered ~~EXCELLENT~~ worth photographing, ~~together~~ together with Peg and my children John and Anne. The youngest — Anne's daughter Gillian, 2 — was there also, but in bed at the time the pictures were taken.

Alas, the newspaper photo shows me as I am at 76. And, unhappily, Peg and Anne assure me it's a fine picture of me, though "horrible" of them. I reply that it's a fine picture of them, but highly unworthy of me.

So that you'll have a picture of young Gillian my granddaughter, I'm also enclosing a copy of a little folder that Peg sent to friends of her mother — Peg calls it "The Four Generations."

Then I'm going a step farther, in my belief that we ought to have pictures of people in their youth, not just in their old age.... So I've exhumed a photo of me at age 24. ~~NEVER~~ Now we change!

\*\*\*\*\*

Now for your letter of Sept. 18.

I got a reply from Mrs. Calkins. She had been in hospital. She gave me some information confirming and expanding some of my records — but nothing on the marriage of Cynthia (Jonas N.'s daughter) to Isaac Newton. So I wrote to her again, restating my questions with much fuller detail. That was a week or two ago. No additional reply yet.

It may be that the Asa Newton, brother of the Mary Newton who was mother of Jonas N, could have been the husband of Tamar Vinton. He's the only Asa Newton in my files. As he was ~~hl~~ ~~wn~~ the date of Tamar's marriage, I've assumed she was probably his second wife — a guess slightly supported by the fact that Tamar was then 23 — an old maid by the standards of that day. I've asked Mrs. Calkins about this. . . . And it is possible, as Clinton points out, that the Issac Newton who married Cynthia might have been son of Tamar and her first husband Asa Newton.

In your letter, you said you wished Mrs. Calkins had named the source of some of the information she gave to you.... In her letter to me, she named Mrs. Don Person (which might mean Pearson?) of St Petersburg, Florida, as source of information about marriage of Isaac Newton and Sarah Belknap and names and dates of their children (date of marriage 1716, she says; I've not checked it against my records). . . . Possibly you can find Mrs. Person (Pearson?) in St Pete phone book at the Portland Library. (Her spelling of names is wildly erratic.) or more  
Now Peg and I are getting ready for a month in Greece — mostly on Crete. Back by December 1. Hope to find a mass of stuff from you, ~~thmt~~ then.

*Carroll*



July 11 - 1968

Dear Carroll -

I am sincerely ashamed that I have not written before this. I am very grateful to you for all the information you have given me and this Fall when I can again concentrate on genealogy I will try and reciprocate.

We have been away a great deal this Spring and Summer - my husband sold his business but has stayed on to manage for the new owners - our new home is a - building - my father was hospitalized (heart) for 3 weeks recently and altogether I have been (and am) very rushed. So - please forgive me - yes?  
Each day - for months now -



I have promised myself to write you & here I am at long last.

I was very pleased with the picture of the Willamette Valley. I had never seen that particular view and I too love it.

Do you want your father's picture returned? Do you have one of yourself? I'd like to have one of you and your family. A "snap" perhaps? We have taken quite a few snaps this summer and if I find a good one of our family I'll send it.

Must run now - but wishes to you and yours.

Sincerely  
 (Claudia)

CLAUDIA:

It's good to hear from you again. Hope you've been having a pleasant Summer -- better than ours. I'll try to dig up a snapshot for you.

Wish you'd read the two memos I'm enclosing -- result of months of work with aid of Clinton Belknap, Lincoln, Neb., on Jonas Newton B and his children.

"A" -- memo to Jane Belknap Des Moines, concerning her effort to prove that her husband was descendant of Jonas Nis son Elisha.

"B" -- memo to Clinton Belknap (great grandson of Jesse's brother Elijah), about the problem of Esther's death date -- and "Fanny and Diantha."

I'll be grateful for any additions or corrections you can make.

Carroll  
July 26, 1968

*QyB*



CLAUDIA:

Speaking of "family resemblances" --

I wonder if you'll see what I thought of the moment I looked at the photo of Jesse -- a strong likeness to a picture of the only American Belknap famous enough to be in all encyclopedias: the Rev. Jeremy Belknap, DD. (D.D. because in a time when ministers were "raised up" from their congregations a pastor who was a Doctor of Divinity was a great rarity. Famous because he was not only a noted preacher but also a fine historian, whose books are good reading even today.)

Here's a bad copy of an old picture of that Jeremy. My copying machine doesn't do too well with half-tones. But place it beside the photo of Jesse and imagine Jeremy turned full-face like Jesse. And then think of the very distant blood relationship -- for Jeremy was descended from Joseph, not from Samuel.

Well, anyway, maybe you'll be amused by the Rev. Jeremy's record of his marriage and honeymoon -- from his diary:

1767. June 12th. Set out for Boston. Lodged North Hill.  
13th. Travelled to Ipswich. Met Governor Winthrop on the road. He entered Portsmouth this day.  
14th. Preached at Ipswich.  
15th. Reached Boston; evening, married.  
(My underline. CYB) 18th. Set out on our return, rode through the rain, and lodged at Hampton, Mr. Thayer's.  
19th. Got home to Dover in the evening safe and well.

Carroll  
4/1/68

Mrs. J. A. Marshall  
220 N W 242nd St.  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123

HOME ADDRESS  
25 Club Road  
Riverside, Conn. 06878  
Feb. 1, 1968

Dear Cousin:

So you are Claudia Marshall, are you? For two years I've been trying to find the Claudia who wrote a transcript of the military record of my great-great-grandfather, Jonas Newton Belknap. Tell me, was it a word-for-word transcript, or a condensation?

As for me, as Clark may have told you, I'm a grandson of Corrington, one of Jesse's sons.

Of course I'm delighted by your offer of aid -- especially names and dates of children and spouses. So let me begin by telling you what I'm now working with.

five

I'm working with ~~five~~ sets of records, covering thousands of names:

*Institutes*

(1) The thousands of pages of genealogy and family history assembled by Henry Wyckoff Belknap at Salem, Massachusetts, before his death in 1946. Essex ~~Library~~, which owns these papers, has placed them in my hands -- along with other thousands of pages of his correspondence. His record goes no farther than the 10th generation in America, and it contains errors that need correction. I hope to extend it to include the 13th generation, as far as I can.

(2) About 1000 pages of genealogy assembled by our Mormon cousins in Utah. Though they spell it Belnap, they are descended from a Jesse Belknap who was a first cousin of Jonas Newton Belknap. This record is fairly up to date, but also has errors.

(3) Several hundred pages of Belknap genealogy written by a son of a Michigan Belknap, in 1948. Useful, but not always in accord with known facts.

(4) Records put together by some cousins in Nevada -- many hundreds of names -- full of errors and sad omissions, which is what got me started trying to develop a more nearly correct record -- though perfection is impossible.

haphazard

(5) My own, ~~haphazard~~ and unorganized mass of family material collected over a period of many years -- the best of which came from Cumi's eldest daughter Elizabeth Jane.

Time out -- to ask a question for which I've never been able to get an answer: What's the story about the christening of Talitha Cumi? ("Maiden, arise." Mark 5:41)

I'm trying to correlate and combine all these records -- which of course do not always agree with each other.



So of course I'm eager to see the records you have developed. If you are willing to ship them to me, I'll have them copied and then returned to you as promptly as possible. I'm sure you must have a lot that I don't yet have.

Eventually, I hope to come out with a record full enough to warrant publication. Essex Institute (where Henry Wyckoff Belknap was Curator) has suggested that it may wish to publish the result of my work, as a memorial to him.

Now for some points in your letter:

- (1) Longevity. Indeed yes. The family of Ebenezer (son of our first Samuel) is said to have been the longest-lived American family on record.
- (2) Richard Belknap and Elizabeth. He was never known to have used the name of Belknap -- always Beltoft. The first of that family to insist that he was a Belknap was his younger son Josias, who drew up a will that forced his brother Bennet (father of our Abraham) to go into court and swear under oath that he was Benedict Belknappe. And there is no proof that the name of Richard's wife was Elizabeth, though Charles Bernau, who did the English research, said he thought so.

If you are interested in the Beltoft-Belknap story, you'll find it in three volumes of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, which can be found in the Portland library, I'm sure. Two articles by Henry Wyckoff Belknap: (A) 1911, pages 83-92 and 190-198; (B) 1931, pages 265-288, correcting errors in the 1911 article. And an article by G. Andrews Moriarty, 1950, pages 316-317, giving the correct names and dates of Abraham's children.

Forgive me  
if you know  
all this  
already.

Some day, when I have time, I'll write my interpretation of the reasons why an entire generation suddenly and dramatically changed their name from Beltoft to Belknap, in 1630. Then I'll submit my draft for evaluation by some competent professionals. Me, I'm just an eager-beaver amateur.

Meanwhile, many people have been misled by what Henry Wyckoff Belknap published in 1911. It's essential to read what he published in 1931.

- (3) Garlinghouse lineage. Months ago, I wrote to the church in Canandaigua New York for information about the marriage of Jesse and Jane. I hit the jackpot. Ever since then, a fine woman has periodically been sending me information she finds, about Jonas Newton Belknap and his family when they lived in that area in 1810 and 1815 -- along with Parkers who came there with Jonas after he married Esther Parker in Massachusetts -- and the many Garlinghouses who got there about the same time, from New Jersey by way of northeastern Pennsylvania. Scads of Garlinghouses, some of whom moved on with Jonas and Jesse to Kentucky and then to Ohio. But exact lineage is not yet certain. I'm not even sure that the three Garlinghouse girls whom Jesse and his brothers married were sisters -- though it seems likely. There's an area in that part of upper New York which is still called "The Garlinghouse Area."

That reminds me: I have found what I believe to be the full and accurate list of the children of Jonas Newton Belknap -- but alas without dates of birth.



Of course I'll be delighted to help you in every way I can. Tell me what you need -- or, better still, let me see what you have, so that I can see exactly what more you can use.

I've been happily successful, thus far, in getting hold of known collections of Belknap genealogy and history -- and everytime I hear of another one I am shameless in begging for it.

I'm enclosing something that may interest you -- a copy of a letter from the editor of Debrett's Peerage, in reply to an inquiry about the John and Joan Belknap through whom the present Queen is linked to Shakespeare -- even though there is no known connection between the American ~~and~~ Belknaps and that Belknap family, which I've been studying ever since, years ago, I read the long inscription on the tomb of one of Anne Belknap's fine sons, in Canterbury Cathedral. (Our Mormon cousins are still working at the task of finding that connection. I'm trying to help them by suggesting where it might be found -- if it exists.)

I owe my thanks to Clark for prompting you to write to me. I've also heard from his brother Maynard and from Arta Bayley. I hope and pray that still more of my cousins in the Northwest will write to me. Mrs. Bayley, by the way, plans to come see us when she visits her son on Long Island in May. My wife and I look forward to meeting her.

Most cordially,

Carroll York Belknap:



4/1/68 About 1/2 hr

CLAUDIA:

You have been promoted. You're no longer a mere angel. You now rank as a saint. I'm so deeply grateful for all those photos... For years, I've been telling my own family that it was not merely a Belknap family that trekked from Iowa to Oregon -- but, rather, a tribe. And Jesse's photo is certainly that of a great tribal patriarch. Now I can prove what I've said about him.

I'm enclosing a copy of an obituary notice of Jesse -- from a Seattle newspaper, it is said -- copied from a clipping found in the effects of Franklin Belknap of Chicago Lawn, Illinois, by Commander Charles Belknap, U. S. N. Possibly you may not have seen it. Anyway, can you identify the "P. M. Starr" who wrote it?

I'm also enclosing what I think is the most beautiful picture I've ever seen of the Willamette Valley. It was published on the cover of the recent annual report of American Can Co. and I got more copies to use in showing my children and grandchildren the dream that took Jesse from New York to Kentucky to Ohio to Iowa to Oregon -- for, according to information in the body of that annual report, the scene shown in the picture is just 4 miles from where Belknap Settlement was founded by Jesse's tribe. That's why I found it rather precious.

As to the photo of your grandfather, Jesse Belknap Gilbert, I assure you that it's no such thing. It's a photo of E. Clinton Belknap of Lincoln, Nebraska -- a descendant of Jesse's brother Elijah. It is also a photo of Christopher Irving Belknap, who now lives in Southern California -- so distantly related to us, because he belongs to the Joseph side of the family. . . I hope you don't get bored with endless tales of family resemblances. I tell them by the hour -- and wonder "Why do they occur?"

I also am enclosing a couple of pages copied or summarized from Aunt Kit's diary -- by a professional genealogist whose work I deeply distrust. I dug them out in searching for information for a descendant of another brother of Jesse's -- Jonas, who married Mary Garlinghouse -- in an effort to correct misinformation supplied to HWB long ago by Clark or by Franklin Belknap. . . And I have a question I hope you can answer. Can you identify the young "Mary Belknap" mentioned by Aunt Kit? I can't. This girl is also mentioned in the summary you sent me, which I returned to you -- ~~see~~ under "Nov. 1849" in list of members of the first church.

Incidentally, if you have any information about descendants of Jonas B and Mary Garlinghouse ~~UNEXE~~ I'll be grateful. I have the names of their children and spouses -- little more. Aunt Kit said they settled at Belknap Springs in 1853.

I have postponed completing my sketch of the life of Jonas Newton Belknap because I suddenly began getting a lot of new data on him, from descendants of his son Elijah. Some of this new data may be questionable. I must verify it before using it. But there is one point that may interest you. Jonas ~~NEWTON BELKNAP~~ Newton Belknap's daughter Cynthia is said to have married an Isaac Newton -- and an Isaac Newton, presumably same man, became ~~ADMINISTRATOR~~ of the estate left by Jonas Newton B. Any link to the Newtons who went on to Oregon and were with Jesse and Jane? In Kentucky.

administrator

In an earlier memo I said that I didn't think Samuel, father of Jonas Newton B., died the day after Bunker Hill. New information makes me suspend judgment on my interpretation of Samuel's military record. Forget what I said.

I've just done something I meant to do much sooner. In your letter of March 6, you asked how far I wished you to go, on Jesse's descendants. I meant to reply, but forgot.... I need, of course, everything right down to the present moment on direct descent through males — that is, people named Belknap. On the marriages of daughters, all I can use is name of spouse, date of marriage, and names and birthdates of children plus names of spouses of children. I have to restrict myself this way in order to avoid too much bulk to be published. In this respect, I must stick to the pattern set by HNB.

I'm interested in what you say about your other genealogical research. Maybe I can help you. I'm a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, with the privilege of borrowing books from its great library of genealogies, etc. In Boston, soon, I'll get a catalog of such books and send it to you, so that you can tell me what you'd like me to look at for you — or send to you if you wish — for the loan from the library is for a whole month.

Haven't had time, yet, to go read the whole of Aunt Kit's diary — but I must.

Carrell  
4/1/68



Richard Belknap — md — Elizabeth  
d - 1599 England d - 1589 England

St Mary the Great

Benedict (Bennet) Belknap (Beltoft) — md — Grace Adam — { Benedict was Warden of Great St. Mary's Church in Sawbridge worth, England

Abraham Belknap — md — Mary  
b - 1589 Eng. d - Sept. 1643

Samuel Belknap — md — Sarah Jones  
b - 1627/8 - Eng. — b - Hingham, Mass.  
d - 18 Apr. - 1689 - Haverhill, Mass.

Abraham & Mary came from  
Sawbridge, Co. Hertzs, Eng.  
In 1635 had several children  
Sarah's parents = Robert Jones  
& Elizabeth

Ebenezer Belknap — md — Hannah Ayer  
b - Dec. 1667 - Salem, Mass. — b - 19 Dec. - 1672/3  
d - Nov. 1762 - Haverhill, Mass. — d - Nov. - 1779/80

Hannah was 106 yrs. 11 mos. at death.  
They had 12 children all lived to  
be nearly (or over) 100 yrs.  
Hannah's parents = Nathaniel Ayer  
& Tamsin Turloe

Samuel Belknap — md — Mary Dickenson  
b - Haverhill, Mass. — b - 29 Nov. - 1704 - Rowley, Mass.  
d - Abt. - 1757

Mary's father = James Dickenson  
This Samuel of Massfield,  
Enfield & Windsor, Conn.

Samuel Belknap — md — Mary Newton  
b - 13 June - 1731 - Enfield, Conn. — b - 8 Nov. - 1737 - E. Windsor, Conn.  
d - 18 June - 1775 - Cambridge, Mass.

Mary's parents = Stephen Newton  
& Mary Wofford  
This Samuel was supposed to have  
fallen at Boulevar Hill. No record

Jonas Newton Belknap — md — Esther Parker (Lincoln ?)  
b - 1758/60 - Windsor, Conn. — d - 1817/8

According to Henry Belknap of  
Salem, Mass., Jonas and Esther  
Lincoln were parents of Jesse  
& Orrin. I had Esther Parker.

Jesse Belknap — (1812) — Jane Garlinghouse  
b - 26 Jan. - 1792 - Cherry Valley, N.Y. — b - 1792 - Penn.  
d - 19 Nov. - 1881 - Monroe, Oreg. — d - 10 Dec. - 1876

Jane's parents = Elijah Garlinghouse  
& Eleanor Hunt  
Clyde Starr says Jane was Dutch

Hannah Belknap — (3 Jan. 1833) — Lorenzo Dow Gilbert  
b - 21 Dec. - 1814 - Ontario Co., N.Y. — b - 1 July - 1812 - Ontario Co., N.Y.  
d - 10 May - 1911 - Cowles City, Wash. — d - 24 Mar. - 1882 - Lane Co., Oreg.

Lorenzo's parents = Phineas Side  
& Elizabeth  
Crossed plain in 1847 with  
Belknaps & Watts.

Jesse Belknap Gilbert — (26 Feb. 1875) — Irena Diantha Watts  
b - 1 May - 1852 - Lane Co., Oreg. — b - 29 June - 1851 - Lane Co., Oreg.  
d - 21 Nov. - 1948 - Walla Walla, Wash. — d - 3 May - 1916 - Spokane, Wash.

Irena's parents = Russell  
Underwood Watts  
& Diantha Holmes

Claude Dow Gilbert — (1 Mar. 1906) — Pearl Myrtle Jones  
b - 8 Jan. - 1880 - Peoria, Ore. — b - 23 Sept. - 1885 - Sibley, Iowa  
d - 7 May - 1965 - Portland, Oreg.

Pearl's parents = Richard  
Jones & Henrietta Shipley  
from Virginia, Tenn.  
These records hard to get.

Claudia Irena Gilbert — md — Joseph Alva Marshall

Sorry this is in pencil but  
when I make a mistake I can erase,  
and I'm too lazy to copy more.

(This is my direct lineage.)

X Did you discover Richard's wife's last name?  
X Or Abraham's? Did you trace ADAM - JONES -  
X AYER - DICKENSON etc.?  
I can trace the GILBERT line to 1565  
the WATTS to 1700



Dear Claudia:

I have made copies of the material you wished me to return and am mailing it to you. What makes my present work possible is that I have an electrostatic copying machine in my study.

I made 2 copies of Lovina's family tree, so that I can ~~XXXXXX~~ scribble questions and annotations on one of them, for you to consider. Will send it along later.

Things I must try to do for you, as soon as I can:

(1) Complete the English end of your lineage, by adding two earlier generations.

changes

(2) Make, I think, some minor ~~changes~~ in the notes at the right on your lineage chart -- for you to consider.

(3) Tell you what I know about Jonas -- his marriage to Esther Parker at Belchertown -- the subsequent close relationship between his family and the families of her two brothers -- the full list of his children -- my guess as to the identity of his wife Fanny in Kentucky in 1820 -- the probable correct year of his birth -- and so on.

What Jonas said about his military record in 1818 and 1820 was reasonably accurate -- better in 1820 than in 1818. (I have a long and detailed transcript of his army service record.) The copy from the National Archives has been helpful on several points, especially on date of birth, for he lied and said he was 22 years old when he reenlisted after his father's death -- being only 16 when he and Samuel fought at Bunker Hill. Other later Belknaps have done this same thing when enlisting. So military records can't always be trusted on age.

Again, my thanks for this priceless aid.

Riverside  
Sunday  
2/25/68



March 28 - 1968  
220 - Y. W. - 242nd  
Hillsboro, Ore.

Dear Carroll,

Now who's the angel? Thank you so much for all the data you have sent. I haven't checked all the notes against mine as yet but surely will.

Dad & I were especially pleased with the excerpt from the book - Bishop Simpson's Chapel. We have both seen it. It is still well preserved.

I wouldn't want to say for sure but I think the hand-printed notes may have been made by Eloise Gilbert <sup>BEACH</sup> Beach - now deceased. I really got started on the Belknap thru her, but at that time I wasn't as smart (?) as I now am and didn't ask her source of information nor was I as particular re: dates.

✓ My father says he especially liked Maynard Belknap of the Webster Belknap family.

I've heard my grandfather tell of a time he was traveling on a train & the conductor that he had already collected his fare in another coach. They went to this other car together and found Franklin Belknap who resembled granddaddy enough to be his twin.



My friend brought me the prints last nite so I will enclose them. You may keep them if you wish. I dearly love getting pictures of our ancestors - it seems to bring them and history so much nearer. I've just pictured everyone I've ever heard of for pictures.

Please excuse my scratching. I'm very hurried this morning and am having some distractions too. Just don't want to wait any longer to acknowledge all the data you have sent.

✓ Clyde ~~Lee~~ Starr - Junction City, Oreg. was the one who told me of Elijah and Eleanor Harding house. I am writing him today also, to discover if he has dates and for the source of his data.

✓ Recently I sent for a book on the Gilbert family - all beautifully bound - cost \$2.00 only to discover that our branch of the family had been omitted 4 generations back. I was very disappointed but did get a lot of data I did not have.



My mother's people are from Virginia and No. Carolina and I'm having a very difficult time getting information - tho' my 4. Grandfather served as a representative in Tenn. ~~for~~ just prior to the civil war.

I'm also trying to trace my husband's ancestry and that too has been difficult. So - with my family - church - League of Women Voters - Lady Esher - Alpha Xi Delta and genealogy, I do manage to keep busy and out of mischief. Right now we are spending each week-end clearing the brush and trees on our acreage so we can build by June. (my muscles ache)

Again - many thanks for your contributions to my family tree and I'll send you any data I receive from Clyde Starr. He's a grand person but bothered terribly with arthritis and it sometimes takes awhile to hear from him.

Best wishes to you & yours  
Claudia

CLAUDIA:

Attached are last two pages of pedigree for Fern Martin, Perris, California -- descendant of Jesse's twin sister, Susannah -- finally traced after years of effort.

Of possible interest to you, as I seem to recall Chatfields at or near Monroe around 1850 -- and there is evidence that Susannah and her husband David Chatfield may have been with Jesse in Ohio.

The list of the children of Jonas Newton Belknap will show what I now think I know about their marriages.

I have lots of material about Elijah's descendants.

Have found a descendant of Jonas Newton B's son Jonas, who married Mary Carlinghouse -- and shall write to her for full information.

No information, yet, on Cynthia's record -- and only a small bit of debatable data on the daughter Esther.

Carroll  
3/22/68





CLAUDIA:

A Belknap in California has sent me some very helpful information that came from:

Mrs. G. M. Belknap  
Route 1, Box 157  
Jefferson, OREGON 97352

Would this be the wife (Violet Finley) of Gilbert Minor Belknap, grandson of Ransen Amos and cousin of Clark? (Third page of Lovina's sheets)

"An elderly woman in poor health; and her husband has been quite ill — in and out of the hospital."

Carroll  
3/29/68

I'm going to write to her, asking for a bit of further information that maybe she can supply.

CLAUDIA:

As your one-page condensation of part of the pension papers of Jonas Newton Belknap has been widely circulated (often with alterations that would make you shudder), you'll be interested in a note received from Clinton Belknap, a descendant of Jesse's brother Elijah, who knows of my continuing effort to identify the person named as wife of Jonas in his application dated 11 December 1820.

Clinton points out that the name shown is written "Tanney" -- not "Fanney" -- and that the "T" is identical with other capital T's in that document.

From this plain fact, he goes on to surmise that the "nn" is an error made by the clerk who wrote the original application from dictation by Jonas -- and that the clerk mistook the sound of ~~the~~ "n" for the sound of "n" -- and that the name spoken by Jonas was "Tamy" or "Tanny" -- which, if so, would tend to support the contention by one genealogist that the Kentucky wife of Jonas was the Tamar Vinton who married Asa Newton in Massachusetts in 1789 and whose second husband is named as a Jonas Belknap (not further identified) in the published genealogy of the Vinton family.

I'll be grateful for your comments -- and for those of Clark, to whom I'm sending a copy of this note.

Do you know of any hint of a mention of Tamar (Vinton) Newton in any records that you have seen?

8/26/68

P.S. -- I'm trying to trace Tamar Vinton by contacting present-day Newtons who are now working on Newton genealogy beyond the old published book. I've located one, but haven't too much hope of her cooperation. As a Newton descendant, do you know anyone to whom I should write?



Sept. 2 - '68

Dear Carrall -

Just returned from vacation  
and found your note re. Newtons awaiting.  
The correspondent from whom I received the  
most data was - Mrs. H. G. Calkins  
Maple Ave.

Rutland, Vt. 05402  
Her data (hand written poorly) was a bit difficult  
to decipher but she did seem to have more than  
anyone else I contacted.

I have just finished looking over the photostat  
of Jonas' pension papers and am inclined to  
believe as you do that the name begins with  
a T not an F as I thought previously but also -  
please look closely - doesn't the name end  
with an R? So it would seem now to be  
TANNER. I have gone over this very carefully  
and I feel sure this is correct and so <sup>it</sup> could  
very easily have been misunderstood from  
TAMAR. (Note the final R in daughter and  
other on the same page.)

Won't write more at this time but will  
try and be of some help in the near future.

Best regards to you and yours —

Claudia

Surely hope our detective work proves correct.

Do you have any other name for Jonas' father except Samuel? Just found an old paper written by my grandfather in which he mentions Jonas age 18 serving at Battle of Bunker Hill with father Elisha — ? who was killed there. Does this make sense?



Richard Belknap — md — Elizabeth —  
d - 1599 England d - 1589 England

Benedict (Bennet) Belknap (Beltoft) — md — Grace Adam — { Benedict was Warden of Great St. Mary's Church in Sawbridgeworth, England

Abraham Belknap — md — Mary —  
b - 1589 Eng. d - Sept. 1643

Samuel Belknap — md — Sarah Jones —  
b - 1627/8 - Eng. — b - Hingham, Mass.  
d - 18 Apr. - 1689 - Haverhill, Mass.

{ Abraham & Mary came from Sawbridgeworth, Co. Herts, Eng. in 1625 had several children  
{ Sarah's parents = Robert Jones & Elizabeth

Ebenezer Belknap — md — Hannah Ayer —  
b - Dec. 1667 - Salem, Mass. — b - 19 Dec. - 1672/3  
d - Nov. 1762 - Haverhill, Mass. — d - Nov. - 1779/80

{ Hannah was 106 yrs. 11 mos. at death. They had 12 children all lived to be nearly (or over) 100 yrs.  
Hannah's parents = Nathaniel Ayer & Tamsin Turleau

Samuel Belknap — md — Mary Dickenson —  
b - Haverhill, Mass. — b - 29 Nov. - 1704 - Rowley, Mass.  
d - Abt. - 1757

{ Mary's father = James Dickenson This Samuel of Massfield, Enfield & Windsor, Conn.

Samuel Belknap — md — Mary Newton —  
b - 13 June - 1731 - Enfield, Conn. — b - 8 Nov. - 1737 - E. Windsor, Conn.  
d - 18 June - 1775 - Cambridge, Mass.

{ Mary's parents = Stephen Newton & Mary Wetmore (Gibbs)  
This Samuel was supposed to have fallen at Buller's Hill. No record.

Jonas Newton Belknap — md — Esther Parker (Lincoln ?) —  
b - 1758/60 - Windsor, Conn. — d - 1817/8

{ According to Henry Belknap of Salem, Mass., Jonas and Esther Lincoln were parents of Jesse & Orrin. I had Esther Parker. (?)

Jesse Belknap — (1812) — md — Jane Garlinghouse —  
b - 26 Jan. - 1792 - Cherry Valley, N.Y. — b - 1792 - Penn.  
d - 19 Nov. - 1881 - Monroe, Oreg. — d - 10 Dec. 1876

{ Jane's parents = Elijah Garlinghouse & Eleanor Hunt  
Clyde Starr says Jane was Dutch.

Hannah Belknap — (3 Jan. - 1853) — md — Lorenzo Dow Gilbert —  
b - 21 Dec. - 1814 - Ontario Co., N.Y. — b - 1 July - 1812 - Ontario Co., N.Y.  
d - 10 May - 1911 - Cowden City, Wash. — d - 24 Mar. - 1882 - Lane Co., Oreg.

{ Lorenzo's parents = Phineas Gilbert & Elizabeth  
Crossed plains in 1847 with Belknaps & Watts.

Jesse Belknap Gilbert — (26 Feb. - 1870) — md — Irena Diantha Watts —  
b - 1 May - 1852 - Lane Co., Oreg. — b - 29 June - 1851 - Lane Co., Oreg.  
d - 21 Nov. - 1948 - Walla Walla, Wash. — d - 8 May - 1916 - Spokane, Wash.

{ Irena's parents = Russell Underwood Watts & Diantha Halmes

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