

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 12

Winter 2000

T.R.A.I.L. Project

Alex reports on his on-site research

Search of P.R.O.N.I. records of the Abercorn Papers, and associated travels.
by Alex. Latta, (Br. #16)

I arrived Manchester October 6th and proceeded to the home of Marie & Peter Scaife, in W. Yorkshire. Having secured a car, I left on Saturday, the 9th, took the ferry to Belfast. Being a weekend, I continued on to Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone, where I took a B & B.

On Sunday, I went to see Joe Murray near Dunnamanagh, who had given me important infor-

mation on the "Dead Lines" of Br. #12. I needed the information on the back of the card that said which cemetery the burial took place in. The original card was not in his possession, so he gave me the name and address of the person who held it. John Riddles, (Br. #12), lived just down the road, so I gave the in-

formation to him to search out.

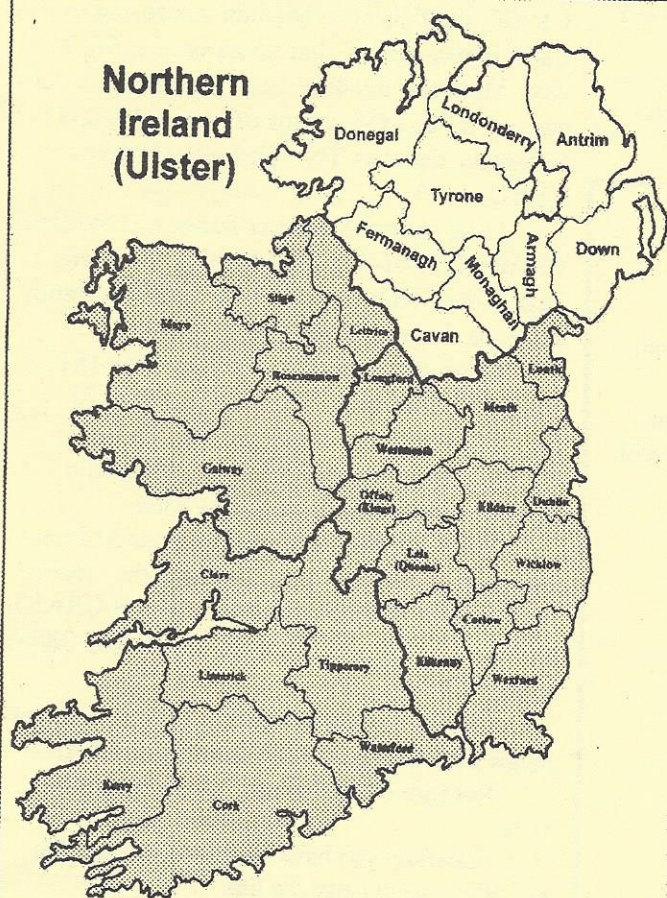
in the past. I saw no running water or electricity, in his one and only room. He was very glad to see me again, and confided that this was his 80th birthday. I then proceeded to Houston's Public house, who had provided me with the map showing Laatta's Tongue. We had a nice visit over a glass of Irish whisky. I asked them if Joe Murray ever stopped in for a drink, and they said he did a couple of times a week, so I gave them £5 to buy him a drink or two for his birthday.

On Monday I visited Ian Latta, of Castlethird, near St. Johnstown, Donegal. We drove around the area to various locations to take pictures for several people that had asked, and for personal records. They are mostly landscapes of Bready, Castlethird, Cross and quarries.

Saturday evening last, I was asked by Colin Fletcher, of the B & B if I would like to go to church the next morning, and he would introduce me to Miss Hamilton, 84, the last of her line of the Earl of Abercorn's family. I did not bring suitable clothes for such an occasion so I declined. He then offered to try to arrange a short visit at her home for the next day. She

(Continued on page 5)

Northern Ireland (Ulster)



formation to him to search out.

Mr. Murray lived in a very old structure that was likely an old implement shed or storage area

Inside This Issue

The Ulster Plantation	Page 6
Doc Huer checks in	Page 12
Newsletter retrospective	Page 4
Research queries	Page 8
Grand Prize Drawing	Page 13

Editorial**Another milestone**

This issue marks four years in the life of *The Latta Genealogy Newsletter*. A lot of water has run over the darn in that short span.

Since our publication began in 1996 we've established a presence on the Worldwide Web, discovered two new branches and a passel of "notes," introduced a RootsWeb mail list and an array of GenConnect message boards for the use of Latta researchers, and launched an ambitious research project aimed at finding Latta roots in Northern Ireland.

In this issue, Alex Latta reports on his trip to the Auld Sod and Virginia Latta Curulla provides a historical context for the T.R.A.I.L. (Taskforce for Researching the Ancestry of Irish Lattas) project in *The Ulster Plantation*.

Once again we can crow about the fact that our newsletter subsists wholly on voluntary contributions from its readers; no one has ever received a renewal notice.

Being a trivial purist, your editor reminds everyone that the new century and millennium actually begin on January 1, 2001. *

From the mail bag

I was looking up my local library hours on the internet and ran across this-

"In 1913, Rebecca S. LATTY, widow of Alexander Sankey LATTY, donated four lots on S. Main Street (Paulding Co. OH) and an extended piece of land that stretched to the center of Flat Rock Creek, including the section called the 'Old Tail Race'"

In that same year Andrew Carnegie gave \$40,000 for a library to be built. This family is probably where the Latty, Ohio came from.

I wonder where they fit in?

Krismarie Fetter, Branch #1

Antwerp, OH, Geep70@bright.net

The link that I am trying to make is the parents of Matilda CRAIG who m. Moses LATTA (Branch 31) 25 Sept 1827 in Maury Co TN. Moses's brother John m. Louisa CRAIG (half sister to Matilda, according to Latta family history, but no parental info). I have Matilda's age listed as 44 in the 1850 census and 52 in 1860 census of Maury Co and her birthplace listed as TN. This would make her birth ca 1807.

I had assumed that her father was William CRAIG 210201-32110 as he is on the same page #38 of 1820 census as the LATTA family although this means nothing in itself.

I also show the following from the 1812 Maury Co Tax List. These are the sons of David Craig from Orange Co NC: David CRAIG 485a; John CRAIG 665a; Johnson CRAIG 500a; William CRAIG 530a.

These are the son and grandsons of James who died in Blount Co in 1802 and they moved here in 1805: James CRAIG Sr; James CRAIG Jr; David H CRAIG; William W CRAIG 380a; John P CRAIG.

I am not so sure but believe him to be son of James from Orange Co NC: Alexander CRAIG.

Not sure about this one: William CRAIG 213a.

Hopefully you have some information that will allow me to make the link.

John Moore, POB 13429, Trapper Creek AK 99683. johnm@alaskan.com

ed note: found John & Louisa CRAIG in GenServ, submitted by dhester@ibm.net *

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

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Dedicated to research among the fifty-one branches of the Latta family in America, and of our family's origins in the Old World.

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Please send your family group sheets, pedigree charts, photos, documents and/or gedcom files to:

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We're on the World Wide Web! Visit our web site at
<http://www.latta.org>

Who is this S. P. Latta?

Mr. S. P. LATTA m. a Miss REED, daughter of Samuel and Mary REED. What are their full given names? The REEDs were of PA, possibly Mercer Co. Nothing more is known of this couple. The information I have comes from Mary's obituary:

Mrs. Mary REED died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. S. DENNISTON, west of Severy, Wednesday morning at the advanced age of 92 years. Mrs. REED leaves two sons, S. E. REED living west of Severy, and Will REED of Washington, and four daughters, Mrs. Wm. DUNHAM, of Frazier, CA, Mrs. S. P. LATTA of Bingor, OK, Mrs. J. DENNISTON of Piedmont and Mrs. S. DENNISTON, west of Severy. Funeral services were held at the home this morning and the remains were interred in Twin Groves cemetery, Severy, Dec. 6, 1906.

Mrs. S. DENNISTON we know is Susannah REED who m. Andrew DENNISTON. Mrs. "J" DENNISTON

(another error in the obit) we know is Amanda REED who m. Andrew's brother Thomas Green DENNISTON (our line). S. E. REED is said to be Samuel.

The genealogy, should anyone be interested, such as we have it, is at:
<http://worldconnect.genealogy.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?db=molly>

—Cornelia Warner, 800 Lees Ave,
Long Beach CA 90815-5010

'J'ever wonder...?

If a book about failures doesn't sell, is it a success?

Do cemetery workers prefer the graveyard shift?

If nothing ever sticks to Teflon, how do they make Teflon stick to the pan?

How is it possible to have a civil war?

Should vegetarians eat animal crackers?

Grandview Cemetery, Grandview, IA

During July this year my husband and I walked the Grandview Cemetery and recorded every tombstone which had the name Latta. Some were the wives of Latta's but here they are. I'm sure I am related to them all and hope someone will tell me they are, too.

I hope these help someone.

—Bonnie Peifer, Yuma, AZ, obpeifer@juno.com

Mary E. 1847-1918	Marcellus R. 3-1-1871 20 yrs 5 mo 23 ds	Mattie E. Born in Indiana 9-1-1846 4-21-1880 33 yrs 7 mos 20 ds also wife of J.B.	1905-1979 children: Glen, Jr; Phyllis, Harry, Kenneth
Edward T. 1841-1916	Martha I. 3-27-1852 24 yrs 7 mos 6 days	Guy R. 4-8-1890 11-21-1908	Frank R. 1-14-1871 5-12-1911 & wife Nellie G. 2-26-1876 7-2-1932
Mamie M. 1898-1904	Flora A. 5-28-1837 5 months 3 days	Nelle E. wife of F.J. Hoffman 8-20-1861 8-20-1950	Edith M. 1-20-1901 1-23-1921
Theodotha, wife 1870-1946 of Samuel J. D. 1869-1948	Martha A. 10-23-1827 3-29-1876 48 yrs 5 mos 6 days wife of J.B.	Glen Sr. WW I vet. 1894-1959 & wife Lois	Glen V. Jr. 1925-1998 & wife Jacqueline M.
Chester, son of W.G. & Ida B. 2 months 19 days			
Elmer F. MD 10-19-1852 1-29-1894			

From the archives of The Latta Family Newsletter

Latta Family Newsletter

Page 27

The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him, about the close of the last century,—it is believed, by the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Latta laboured on in the ministry, until very near the close of life. In December, a month before his decease, he attended a meeting of his Presbytery at New London, twenty miles from home. The circumstances of his death, as related by one of his daughters to my mother-in-law, were as follows:—Siding to church one Sabbath with his daughter Mary, he was thrown from the carriage, and falling on his head, he was somewhat stunned. He observed to her,—"I've been killed; but do not tell your mother." He proceeded to church, preached with some difficulty, and returned home. He soon after fell into a sleep, comatose state, until the daughter, the next day, alarmed, related to her mother what had happened. Help was immediately called in, but in vain. He continued a few days, almost insensible, and then died. Thus no opportunity was afforded to his family and friends to enjoy the advantages of his conversation in his last moments. He died on the 29th of January, 1801, near the close of his sixty-ninth year.

"His personal appearance," says Mr. Scott, "was not great,—slightly stooping, he appeared rather below the medium height,—very spare of flesh, he always looked older than his years. There was in him a blending of cheerfulness and gravity rarely met with." An old lady, describing him as she had seen him alight from his horse, with his venerable countenance, and his long white hair hanging over his shoulders, said he seemed to her like the very impersonation of an old Apostle. Some aged people in my own congregation of New London, to which, when vacant, he, for many years, was accustomed, in company with Dr. Read of Wilmington, to administer the Communion, have spoken to me of the grave dignity of his appearance, and of his great serenity in the spirit. The writer of this Memoir says, though of a very delicate constitution, by a remarkable temperance and care, he attained to more than the ordinary age of man."

Dr. Latta was greatly blessed in his family. About the year 1765, he was married at Deep Run to Miss Mary McCalle of the congregation,—an aunt of the present Rev. William Latta McCalle of Philadelphia. She was a woman, eminent for her piety and amiability, and was truly a helpmeet for the man of God to whom she was united. She continued to reside on the family farm at Chestnut Level until her death, which occurred February 22, 1810, in the sixty-sixth year of her age.

They were the parents of ten children, of whom eight survived. Of those, four were sons, who all entered the ministry.

His eldest son, Francis Allison, was ordained on the 23d of November, 1796; he was first settled at Wilmington, De. then at Lancaster, Pa., and afterwards at Chestnut Level,—his father's former charge. During a large part of his ministry, he also employed himself as a teacher, and in the later part of his life, in that way alone. In this department, he was justly distinguished, and indeed there were few, in any in his day, who excelled him as a classical scholar. He was never married. He died April 21, 1834, in his sixty-seventh year, having served in the ministry nearly as long as his father.

His second son, William, was graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1794; was settled as a pastor over the United Congregations of Great Valley and Charlestown, in Chester County, Pa., and continued to have the charge of those Churches until his death, which occurred on the 19th of February, 1847, being then nearly eighty years of age, and

Latta Family Newsletter

Page 29

sincere and faithful friend. A fund of good sense and a natural cheerfulness which he possessed, rendered him both a profitable and agreeable companion. His conversation was instructive and entertaining. It was indeed almost impossible to be long in his company without being both pleased and improved. Both old and young were fond of his society. When saying a visit to any of his people, it was pleasing to see the youth gather around him to enjoy his conversation. Through his deportment he always inspired a reverence for his character, yet he was easy of access, and never failed to attract the attention, and add to the entertainment, of those with whom he conversed. Mr. Scott's testimony to this point is of the same character.

"As a Christian and minister," the memoir testifies, "he was exemplary to a remarkable degree. He was an ornament to religion, and his uniform deportment was it to all who knew him. When cheerful, there was nothing of levity about him; when grave, there was no austerity. His conduct was always manly and dignified, and calculated to inspire both reverence and love. The Scriptures were the rule of his life, and the glory of God the end for which he lived. He was conscientious in the discharge of every duty. And with such dignity did he support the sacred office which he bore, that there was seldom even an instance of any person conducting himself profanely or rudely in his presence. The sight of him made folly blush, and vice cover its head." To this Mr. Scott adds, that "he was a man fully furnished, both by nature and education, for a Gospel minister of the first order; a most ardent lover of the Lord Jesus, and faithful in his service to the last."

"As a preacher," too, we learn from the memoir, "he was highly eminent. He naturally possessed a strong and penetrating mind, and this was well furnished by reading and study. His style of writing was accurate, nervous, and often elegant. Though it was evident he sought not after refinement in his composition, yet the ornaments and graces of diction seemed an unconscious gravity. His countenance and manner bespoke him to be the man of God. His manner was plain and unaffected, but interesting and impressive. The vein of good sense which ran through all his preaching, and evidently flowed from a heart which deeply felt all that he said, powerfully arrested the attention of his hearers. He was faithful to declare the whole counsel of God. While he comforted and encouraged true Christians, he held up to sinners a glass in which they might see themselves; but, in addressing them, he always spoke as with the compassion of a father. The doctrines of Grace were the burden of his preaching. On them he delighted to dwell, and his manner of handling them was peculiarly interesting. His whole life and conversation showed how near he lived to his Master, how supremely he was devoted to his work, and how much he was concerned for the salvation of souls. He himself lived, and endeavored to teach others to live, for eternity. Though on earth, his conversation was in Heaven. Few men indeed have discovered more indifference for amassing the wealth of the world, or more diligence in laying up treasures for another. Being set as a watchman on the walls of Zion, he devoted himself assiduously to his trust. He was willing to spend, and was spent, in his Master's service. He was instant in season and out of season. For upwards of forty years he labored faithfully in the vineyard of the Lord."

I close this long letter, but for so eminent and worthy a man, comparatively brief sketch of his life, labours, and character, with a copy of his epitaph, written by the Rev. William Arthur of Falmouth.

Page 28

Latta Family Newsletter

in about the fiftieth year of his pastorate. He was also a fine scholar, was skilful in the use of his pen, and was occasionally occupied in teaching. He married Miss Mary Loyd of the Great Valley, who died about the same time with himself. By her he had four children,—one of whom is now the pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Waynesburg, in Chester County. The General Assembly, in 1847, paid a tribute to his memory, by speaking of him as "one of the venerable fathers of the Presbyterian Church." He was created a Doctor of Divinity by the Lafayette College, a few years before his death.

The third son of Dr. Latta was John Ewing. He received ordination on the 13th of August, 1809, and was the pastor, during the whole of his ministerial life, or over twenty-four years, of the united Churches of Newcastle and Christians, in the State of Delaware. For a number of years, he had charge of an Academy at Newcastle, and several distinguished men were educated by him. An obituary, written by Dr. Gilbert, then a pastor at Wilmington, De., speaks of him as "intelligent, exemplary, and conscientious; attentive to the afflicted and the anxious, a man of enlarged views and liberal feelings, and a faithful, clear and instructive expounder of the word of God." He served the General Assembly, for several years, as their Permanent Clerk, and was honoured with other important offices in the Church. He was married to Catharine Van Voorhis of Philadelphia, and left behind him two sons and five daughters, who all, with their mother, still survive. He died on the 26th day of September, 1834, in his fifty-second year.

The youngest son of Dr. Latta, bearing his own name, James, was settled, at the time of his ordination, April 3, 1811, over the Congregation of Upper Octopus, in Chester County, Pa., where he continues to this day. He is now the oldest member of the Newcastle Presbytery. His congregation is large and flourishing, and has enjoyed several precious revivals of religion. He has had six children, of whom two sons and two daughters are now living. Any further notice, in this case, would be unseemly, as he of whom I write still lives.

The names of Dr. Latta's daughters were Mary, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Sarah. The first three were married, and have all been removed by death within the last twelve years. They were intelligent, valuable women, sincerely attached to the Presbyterian Church, of which they were pious and useful members. The youngest, Sarah, is now living, and is the wife of Rev. Thomas Love, of Delaware State.

For a sketch of the character of Dr. Latta, in his different relations, I depend mainly upon the "Memoir" supposed to have been written by Dr. Martin, already referred to, and the reminiscences of Mr. Scott, the venerable elder of Chestnut Level, whose name I have before mentioned.

"As a Teacher," says the Memoir, "Dr. Latta was remarkably well qualified. Without severity, he had the faculty of governing well. He possessed the happy talent of making his pupils both fear and love him. They witnessed his fidelity, they saw his concern for their interests, and they revered him as a father. As a scholar, too, he had few equals: his erudition was general and profound. Such were his known abilities, and such his reputation as an instructor, that when any of his pupils were sent to the University over which the late Dr. Ewing presided, who has been so deservedly famed as a scholar, they were always received without examination. It was sufficient to know they had received their education with Dr. Latta."

"As a man," the writer of the Memoir observes, "Dr. Latta was truly amiable. 'An Israelite indeed' he was, 'in whom there was no guile.' Possessing a very affectionate heart, he was a steady.

Page 30

Latta Family Newsletter

"In memory of THE REV. DR. JAMES LATTA

Who died 29th January, 1801, in the 60th year of his age. By his death, society has lost an invaluable member; Religion one of its brightest ornaments, and most amiable examples. His genius was masterly, and his literature extensive. As a classical scholar, he was excelled by few. His judgment was strong and penetrating; His taste correct, his style nervous and elegant. In the pulpit he was a model. In the judicatures of the Church, distinguished by his accuracy and precision. After a life devoted to his Master's service, He rested from his labours, lamented most by those who knew his worth. Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

With respect and affection,
Your brother in Jesus,
ROBERT P. DU ROIS.

JOHN WILLIAM LATTA

John William Latta was born 12 Sept. 1850 in Orange County, N.C., the son of Samuel Tate and Fannie Allison (Woods) Latta (see p. 16). In 1917-1919 he served as a Corporal in Battery C, One-hundred Thirtieth Field Artillery. He was the owner-manager of the Mobane Wholesale Grocery Company in Mobane, N.C. He served on the Mobane Board of Commissioners 1947-1961, and Mayor, Town of Mobane, 1951-1953. He died 17 Dec. 1972, in Mobane, N.C.

On 10 August 1927 he was married to:
Anna Rachel Ham, who was born 25 Feb. 1900 in Pikeville, N.C. She is the daughter of the late William Erasmus and Annie Franklin (Overman) Ham.

Their children:

Lt. Col. Patricia Anne Latta, USA Ret. Born 13 Aug. 1931 in Mobane, N.C. She received her B.A. degree in Biology from Woman's College, Greensboro, N.C. in 1954, and M.Ed. in Rehabilitation Counseling in 1966 from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C.
John William Latta, Jr., born 21 May 1933 (see p. 3).

(The above family is that of the parents of the Editor and Publisher of Latta Family Newsletter and is based on his personal knowledge.)

CORRECTION!

The date of birth for (6) John William Latta was erroneously reported on page 17 as 23 Jul 1882. This date should read 23 Jul 1872. M

The census records on pages 31-34 were abstracted by Danny R. and Corrie McD. Latta.

The articles on this page are reprinted exactly as they appeared in The Latta Family Newsletter.

Our thanks to Danny R. Latta and the late John W. Latta, Jr.

Alex reports from Northern Ireland

(Continued from page 1)

declined, as she was tired of people quizzing her about the Hamiltons. I was disappointed but understood. I told Colin that that was not my intention in wanting to meet her, but was rather to just know the person, and to tell her what the Hamiltons had done for all the branches of Irish Lattas around the world.

On Tuesday, the 12th, I drove to Lisburn, near Belfast, and secured a B & B, which was very handy to PRONI offices. Mrs. Evans apologized that she would have to leave me alone for the evening, as she had to play bowls with her church league. I asked, if she had no one else to go with, that I would not mind going along to watch and pass the evening. She said that was a great idea, and along I went. When we got there, they were a person short, so I played bowls for the first time, and enjoyed the evening thoroughly. While on a coffee break, a lady member approached me, and asked if it was Edmonton that I was from, as she had a cousin there, and wondered if it was possible that I knew him. His name was Cecil Blackburn, and I said that, yes, I knew him, and would pass on news of her.

This same evening, I contacted Joan Petticrew, to assist me with the project. We met the next morning at PRONI, and I outlined what I wanted to do. It took a while convincing her that I did not want a genealogy search, but rather, that of land holders associated with the Abercorn estates. She finally started bringing me pertinent documents. After two and a half hours, I terminated her services, as she was doing personal work, while charging me for her services. I continued for the rest of the day poring over several documents, but could find no reference to Lattas, except for two members of the Muster Rolls of 1631. These I will list separately. It seemed that I was barking up the wrong tree, as it became apparent that the early possessors of these farms paid rent to the Estates. A better approach might be to trace the land titles. In 1794, there were no Lattas listed as tenants on the Abercorn estates. In 1663 and 1665, there were several Lattas paying hearth tax in this area. Did they own the land at this time? My family is said to have owned the land at Bready prior to 1860. This would indicate that they must have bought the land prior to 1794.

Somewhat disappointed, I returned to the B & B at Sion Mills. To my surprise, Colin Fletcher said that shortly after I had left on Tuesday, Miss Hamilton phoned and apologized for not seeing me, and said that she would be glad to. Colin then made arrangements for me to see her the next day, promptly at 2 P.M., for a short visit. Miss Hamilton recognized herself as being of high station, and Colin was worried that I behaved appropriately. I took Miss Hamilton a calendar of the Alberta Rockies. She paged through each month, looking at the snow and rock, often shivering, saying

that the snow and ice made her cold, but she loved the pictures. Our conversation was quite casual, and she often poked me in the ribs with her elbow, much to Colin's surprise. He was quite embarrassed when I told him later, that he had left his hat on during the visit. My picture was taken with Miss Hamilton, and she gave me a picture of her home on the Hamilton estate, where she had lived her entire life.

That same day I had gone to Londonderry to see if I could dig up anything else. I went to Templemore Cathedral, and was permitted to read some of their records. I was after a particular book, but it was the last one, and not for sale. The information that I took from it I will list separately. Obviously, some IGI records were obtained here. On the way to 'Derry, I stopped at Sandy Foster's farm to say hello. I met him three years ago while looking for Samuel Latta's farm. We had a very pleasant half-hour visit, even though he was in bed with a sore back. After returning from 'Derry, I went back to John Riddles's farm, as there was a picture of an old corn (wheat) crusher in his shed that had an inscription on it, which noted the birth of John Latta, son of William. When I drove into John's yard, he was just walking toward the shed, so I went with him and took my picture, and noted the date. This is temporarily misplaced, but I will record it when I find it. While I was in Belfast, John had gone to Jacky Lindsay's at Rousky, and borrowed the Dead Lines that he had, which he duplicated in 'Derry that day. He was about to mail them to me when I returned, and he was happy to give me the copies. I will enclose copies with this letter. There is still a big gap in this line, and I hope some day it will be resolved, for those in Br. #12.

On Oct. 16th, I drove to our farm at Kilgibbon, Co. Wexford, but stopped for a quick coffee at my cousin Margaret's farm in Co. Meath. While at Kilgibbon, Connie Latta was cleaning out some cupboards, when she came across a book entitled, "Universal Instructor." There was no publishing date, but inscribed on the fly leaf was "Robert H. Latta, from his loving mother, 1888." I gratefully accepted the book, and have it in Edmonton.

Friday, Oct. 22, I phoned Jean (Latta) Tuck, sister of Ian Latta, of Castlethird, with the hope of meeting her, as I had known the rest of the family for many years. She kindly invited me to stay for a couple of days, and see the famous city of Blackpool and its huge entertainment centre. I enjoyed those two days very much, and am grateful to Jean and Geoff, and their daughter Leanne, who gave up her room for me.

I then returned to Marie and Peter's home at Riddlesden, and got rid of my car, which was trouble free, and a delight to drive, although the short wheelbase was hard to get used to. It seemed more like a Jackrabbit for a while, but very easy to park. I think my Canadian flag sticker

(Continued on page 7)

The Ulster Plantation

by Virginia Latta Curulla
Branch 22

Some of our Latta ancestors probably came to Northern Ireland from Scotland at the time of the Ulster Plantation, around 1609-1610. The Ulster "plantation" was a strategy adopted by King James I as a way of keeping "order" in Ulster, which meant disenfranchising the native Irish and preventing them from successfully rebelling against English rule.

James intended also to establish the Protestant religion in Ireland, bringing "civilization" to the "barbarian" and "Popish" Irish, who were considered "intruders" by the English government. Although the English government considered the Ulster lands "vacant," some Irish natives still were inhabitants. Feelings on both sides did not suggest an auspicious beginning. An Irish poet's view is expressed in Maxwell as follows:

*In their place (i.e. of the native warriors) we
have a conceited and impure swarm:
of foreigners' blood—of an excommunicated
rabble—Saxons are there and Scotsmen.
This the land of noble Niall's posterity (i.e. Ulster)
they portion out among themselves...*

A boorish congregation is in the House of Saints ...

Prominent English and Scots could apply to be "undertakers"—that is, to assist in implementing King James's settlement plan. However, James personally "requested" a number of nobles and knights to play a role in the plantation. Undertakers needed ample funds to invest in the lands they were given by the English government.

In order to erect the buildings and fortification required by the English government, the undertakers needed the support of undertenants or settlers, which included the "Gentry," usually not the highest of that class; "Merchants" to carry on needed business enterprises; "Artisans," those who erected buildings, engaged in fishing, and other necessary crafts, such as tanning; and "Tillers of soil," who would grow the crops to support the settlements. Tradesmen and artisans of all sorts were in great demand, and could earn far more income in Ulster than if they remained in their native land.

The Presbyterian Scots settlers also had religious incentives to leave their native soil, because of their strong opposition to Anglican

forms of worship that King James introduced into the north. For example, he tried to impose kneeling for communion, a practice that was vehemently opposed by our Presbyterian ancestors.

The undertakers included several prominent members of the Stewart and Cunningham families. These individuals were granted land in Portlough, county Donegal, and nearby districts, areas where Latta ancestors can be found living during the early 1600's.

Another prominent Scots undertaker was James Hamilton, the Earl of Abercorn. He had served King James as a "gentleman of the bed-chamber." The Earl received land in the precincts of Mountjoy and Strabane, in County Tyrone, across the River Foyle from the Cunningham and Stewart lands. After the death of the first Earl of Abercorn in 1618, his heirs purchased adjacent land in County Donegal, where many of our Latta ancestors had settled.

Latta families in Scotland appear to have been concentrated in the locality of Ayrshire, on or near the lands of the Earl of Abercorn. Stewarts and Cunninghams had lands nearby.

Early records in Northern Ireland suggest that settlers who had lived near each other in Scotland were found as neighbors in Ulster. Latta families and their neighbors probably were recruited and settled in Northern Ireland at the time that the Stewarts, Cunninghams, the Hamiltons, and their relatives were appointed undertakers, about 1611. However, tenants didn't necessarily stay with the undertaker who brought them over. Some records suggest that if their original undertaker didn't treat them well, they could and did move to another settlement.

Boats frequently carried goods and people between the ports of western Scotland and Northern Ireland. Because of this, fugitives and criminals seeking to evade justice for crimes, particularly from the borders of England and Scotland, frequently found sanctuary in Northern Ireland. We trust that our Latta ancestors were not of this group! Stories about the Latta's owning ships, mills, or quarries suggests that they could have been among the small merchant or artisan classes, or, perhaps, tillers of the soil.

The immigrants from Scotland were situated between the English and the main body of the Irish. These Scots were considered a first line of

(Continued on page 7)

*Stories about
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ries suggests
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or artisan
classes*

The Ulster Plantation

(Continued from page 6)

defense if the Irish should try to forcibly eject the English from the lands that formerly had belonged to the Irish.

The 1631 muster roll that Alex Latta recently found at the Public Records Office in Northern Ireland shows that the Scots were expected to have arms and use them to protect their undertakers' interests. This muster roll for "Donnagall," Barony of Raphoe, lists both men and arms, and includes James Latte, Sword and Halbert; Hugh Lokehart (Latta connection), Sword only; and John Latay, sword only.

These Latta ancestors appear to have settled in the north Barony of Raphoe, at that time called "The Laggan". This land was described as being the most productive and desirable portion of the ancient territory of Tyrconnell.

Our Ireland Research Project will be "in full gear" soon. Together, we have amassed a considerable database about our Latta ancestors in Ulster. Using the funds that have been donated primarily by members of the mail-list, we will soon hire a researcher to discover more about our Latta ancestors in Ulster.

Research results might help to connect Latta's in Northern Ireland with those in North America, Australia, and other parts of the world. Estate papers, including those from the Hamilton family, could be a primary focus. One Latta reference has already been found in the Abercorn papers.

Reviewing estate papers will be a time-consuming process. You can still contribute to our research fund. Additional donations in any amount will help buy more time and discover more about our Latta ancestors in Northern Ireland. *

References:

Dwyer, Philip, A.M. (Ed). (1893). *The Siege of Londonderry, in 1689, as Set Forth in the Literary Remains of Colonel the Rev. George Walker, D.D.* London: Elliot Stock, 62, Paternoster Row, E.C.

Foster, R.F. (1988). *Modern Ireland 1600-1972*. London: The Penguin Press.

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Alex reports from Northern Ireland

(Continued from page 5)

might have saved me some parking tickets, as well.

On the 27th of October, I returned home, well, but somewhat exhausted. Thursday morning, I checked my E-mail, and there was a note from Colin, saying that Miss Hamilton had phoned, and asked if I had developed the pictures yet. He thinks she like me. I will soon send her the picture, and a nice note of thanks. She is a very diminutive person, but spry for 84 years.

This ends, with a degree of disappointment, but one can see that I had a very busy and enjoyable time. I cannot feel justified in presenting a bill for this research, as it accomplished little for those participating, and perhaps we can come up with another tack, that would be more productive.

Alex Latta (Br. #16)

E-mail: > allatta@gambit.ab.ca *

Register of Derry Cathedral

Parish of Templemore

1642 to 1703

Agnes Lawtta married James McCregh (In IGI).

Elizabeth, wife of Wm. Lawtta, buried 16th June, 1663.

Margaret, Daughter of Patrick Lockhart Bap. Apr. 6, 1662. John Lawtta, Margaret Lawtta and Margaret Lockart, Godfather and Godmothers.

John Lattey, buried 7 Dec. 1694.

Margaret Lawtta, gossip. (Page #155, Par. #3)

Valuation of Tenements, Parish of Donaghedy,

1857- 1862

Occupiers

Immediate Lessors

Wm. Lata

James Ogilby

Wm. Lata

James Greer

See copies of "Dead Lines", in possession of Joe Murray, 49 Brookroad, Aughtermoy, Donamana, Tyrone. Jacky Lindsay, Rousky, Donamana, Co. Tyrone.

At PRONI

Muster Rolls, 1631. Donnagall, Barony of Raphoe.

James Latte,

Sword and Halbert

Hugh Lokehart,

Sword only.

John Latay,

Sword only.

John Torranc,

No Arms. (For humour only)

Queries

Send your queries to the editor, Paul H. Calhoun, 736 Grant St, Port Clinton OH 43452-2149 (paul@latta.org)

LATTA Branch 13	Looking for information on Branch 13 especially dealing with the children of Archibald LATTA 1818-1900 m Elizabeth Jane WILSON 1825-1870 and his sons children Thomas Sellar LATTA 1858-1946 m Mary Sides 1868- 1907. I am willing to share all that I have, which includes pictures of Archibald and Thomas on their farm in Barrie Island on Manitoulan —Gary Pokoradi, 11 Glenayr Street, Hamilton ON L9C 7C1, Canada
LATTO RIEKIE	Looking for information on William LATTO Born Abt 1829 in St Monance, Fife, Scotland. Married 7 November 1862 in St Monance, Fife, Scotland Spouse Janet RIEKIE. Children: Jane Duncan LATTO Born 18 Dec 1863 in St Monance; Henrietta Dowie LATTO born 10 March 1866 in St Monance; William LATTO born 24 March 1868 in St Monance; Margaret LATTO born 31 July 1871 in St Monance; Wilhemina LATTO born 3 Dec 1874 in St Monance; Janet LATTO Born Abt 1877 in St Monance; Robert Reekie LATTO Born Abt 1881 in St Monance. —Glenys Prins, 162 Carter Road, Munruben, Qld 4125, Australia. hgprins@eisa.net.au
DeLATO	No Branches are known. The former name was DeLATO....this is all I know. —Courtney Latta, 3849 Klahanie Dr SE #4104, Issaquah WA 98029 a-courtli@microsoft.com
EARLEY LATTA	James Latta EARLEY was born to my ggg gf 1845 in Dysartsville, McDowell, NC. LATTA is not a name that is in the EARLEY line and it sounds like a mother's maiden name but I have been unable to find its source. Do any of the readers have some EARLEYS for relatives? I really need your help!!! —Lois V. Earley, 126 Trail Rider Way, Georgetown TX 78628 clancy4u@thegateway.net
BOXELL LATTA Branch 48	Branch 48: Seeking source of birth information that Barton Allen LATTA was born 13 Mar 1812 in Rich Hill Twp, Muskingum County, OH. Knowing this birth date justification will help me to prove that my gg-gf, William BOXELL, was living in Muskingum Co at that time since he was the one that 'found' and raised Barton LATTA, according to the lore. —Robert A. Boxell, 645 Saint Dunstan Way, Winter Park FL 32792-4860 Rboxell@aol.com
LATTA	I am looking for John James LATTA born Feb 2, 1823 in Jackson or York County SC. He married Mary RHODES. Children: James John b June 24, 1844; Jutta born 1858; and Sophrina born 1868. John James LATTA served in the Confederate Army - Co G of the 10th AL. There is a Confederate marker on his grave in Cornith Community, TX. I cannot find his parents. I believe him to be connected to John LATTA born 1717 in Donegal, Ireland of branch 9. Help!; —Linda Latta Carr, 229 Yacht Club Dr, Ft. Walton Beach Fl 32548 bcarr@prodigy.net
ASHER BEHEE LATTA	James David LATTA (dod circa 1978, Austin, TX) had a daughter, Emma Josephine LATTA married 1946 to Leon Henderson BEHEE. Emma died in 1950 or 1949 in Austin TX (suffocated of an asthma attack) leaving behind two children: David Leon BEHEE (DOB: 5/5/47) and Donna BEHEE (DOB ?/49). David BEHEE married Linda Darlene ASHER in 1969 had four daughters: Margret Cristina (7/1/70), Emily Paulyn (5/14/72), BreAn Elysse (2/15/77), Kamryn Michelle (7/6/79) all children are residing in Midland, TX with the exception of Emily (Ahuvah) BEHEE who is currently residing in San Antonio, TX. Behee/Asher divorced in 1987. David BEHEE is married to Carolyn Sue and now resides in Artesia, NM. Would like to know where LATTA is found the earliest from European descent... It's a bit difficult to decipher... —Ahuvah Behee, ALBehee@aol.com
ENNIS LATTY MILLER OWENS ROUTH LATTA	A distant cousin has a picture of a girl about 2 yrs. old, on the back it says "Merry LATTY, to grandma and pa". This is probably connected to these families: Jacob ROUTH, or his third wife Ellen Mary Ann OWENS MILLER ENNIS ROUTH. It is a very old photo, I have no idea of the year. They lived in MO, TN, and AR. Would appreciate any info. —Glenice A. Routh, P.O.Box 749, Pima AZ 85543 skippie@zekes.com
LATTA	Born 27 Sept 68 Sydney, Australia, looking for distance relatives. —Alan Stanley Latta, 5 Jensen St, Bundaberg QLD 4670 Australia al30@ozemail.com.au

HOWARD IRWIN LATTIE	Looking for the wife of Jeffery/Jeffrey/Jeffry LATTIE, father of my mother-in-law's grandpa. My wife's great grandpa was supposedly born in Caddo Gap, Montgomery, AR or may have been in TX in 1881 and he died in 1962 and was buried in Coleman Cemetery, Coleman, Johnson Co OK. His name was Allen Luther LATTIE. He married Daisy Mae IRWIN and she died in 1915 after giving birth to my wife's grandma, Bonnie Mae LATTIE HOWARD. Allen had one brother John LATTIE who is buried somewhere in OK also. I would like to know Jeff's parents and siblings if he had any. —Royce Lee Pate, 316 Spring Valley Rd, New Hope AR 71959 rl pate@alltel.net
DYER LATTA Branch 7	Lucy LATTA, b. 9/13/1882, d. 9/13/1882. Lucy was the daughter of Thomas LATTA, (b. 2/23/1851 - d. 3/28/1885) and Judith A. DYER. Smith Mills, KY. Would like to find cause of death and place of burial of Lucy and Thomas. —Judith Brumm, 405 Birchwood Dr, Garland TX 75043 brumm2@home.com
ELLIOTT LATTA	Seeking ancestors, or information about Mary "Polly" LATTA, born 27 December 1796, who married John ELLIOTT. I believe Polly's family (like her husband's) was from Chester County, SC, but am not certain--they could also be from KY or AL. Polly died in Fair Haven, Preble County, OH on 7 June 1837. I am descended from her daughter, Esther Jane ELLIOTT, who was born 6 October 1848 in Fair Haven. —Valerie Kauffman, 18520 SW Edgewood Ct, Lake Oswego OR 97035 dvkau@att.net
CHAMBERS GARDNER LATTA Branch 3 SCOTT	John LATTA, Branch 3, No. 160. In the 1850 census for Unity Township, Westmoreland County, PA, John and his wife Elizabeth list two children living with them: Elizabeth CHAMBERS, age 17, and Sarah SCOTT, age 8. Seeking identity of Sarah SCOTT as I have a missing ancestor by that name who was 8 in 1850. I realize that Scott may have been the child's middle name and she could be the natural daughter of John and Elizabeth. I ran across John LATTA while researching a neighbor, Abraham GARDNER, (my ancestor), whose son William eventually married a Sarah SCOTT. Also, would anyone know why this Abraham GARDNER named one of his sons Latta GARDNER? I don't know of a connection between the two families. —Kathy Borne, 4050 W. 215th St, Fairview Park OH 44126 Kathyborne@aol.com
LATTA Branch 27	Is there any information on Junia, the daughter of Howard Linton LATTA? Howard L. LATTA was/is my grandfather. We are offspring of a second marriage, children of his golden years. Junia would be a half-sister to my father Arther Linton LATTA. Any information would be appreciated. —R.L.Latta, 11246 Studebaker, Warren MI 48089 any2idea@aol.com
GORE LATTA	I am looking for my dad's 2nd and 3rd wives (they were sisters). Maiden name believed to be Lynnell LATTA and Roberta Jo LATTA. They both lived in the Los Angeles area. Both were married to Bernard GORE Jr. —Brian Gore, 55 Park Timbers Dr, Sharpsburg GA 30277 bgore@mindspring.co
LEACH	My greatfather was named John LEACH. I don't believe he is the same one as your family tree but know next to nothing about him and may be related some way. My great grandfather was from MO also. Would be thankful for any information you could give. —Roger Newman, 2207 McCausland Ave., St. Louis MO 63143 Newman624@aol.com
LATTA	I'm a lost LATTA, brand new and would like to get connected. My father's name was Marion Kenneth LATTA, possibly born in Altoona, PA. I was born in Marion OH on 25 May 1948. —Daniel David Latta, St.Rt.51 Box 129-A, Kearneysville WV 25430 r-heinz@intrepid.net
LATTA	I am looking for relatives in Marion OH. I would also appreciate it if you could send me a copy of my family tree. Thanks. —Demetrius Michael Latta, St.Rt. 51, Bx 129-A, Kearneysville WV 25430 lynyrd76@hotmail.com
LATTA NICHOLS	Seeking information on Horace William NICHOLS who married Clara or Clarabelle LATTA, or Horace William NICHOLS III who married my grandmother. H.W. Nichols III was an atty. in Chicago b. 13 Nov 1869, d. Greenfield, MA, 1918. —Peggy Haskell Moss, 332 Shoshone SW, Grandville MI 49418 pmosped@aol.com

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue

2-4-6-8 Who do we appreciate? You, of course!!

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(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

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Financial report

from 1 September through 31 December 1999

PREVIOUS BALANCE	\$473.49
Receipts	
Subscription contributions	\$840.00
Reprints	10.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$850.00
Expenditures	
Exchange Fees	\$ 10.25
Postage	314.00
Printing	361.00
Supplies	119.84
Web Services	79.80
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$884.89
BALANCE ON HAND	\$458.60
<i>Estimated cost to print and mail issue 12: \$690.00</i>	

TRAIL Project

Beginning Balance	0.00
Contributions	685.00
Expenditures	
Alex Latta research	44.00
Sherry Irvine research	42.00
Balance on hand	599.00

TRAIL contributions welcome

The TRAIL (Taskforce for Researching the Ancestry of Irish Lattas) project is still accepting contributions.

Sherry Irvine, professional researcher, is putting together a research plan for us, which will utilize volunteer researchers using resources at their disposal. Later in the year, Sherry will travel to Northern Ireland and undertake on-site research, building on what has been assembled beforehand.

If you would like to be part of the research itself, please contact Virginia Curulla (vcurulla@aa.net).

If you can make a financial contribution, that would be most welcome. Make your check or money order payable to **The Latta Genealogy Newsletter** and mail it to Virginia Curulla, 9050 Meridian Pl No, Seattle WA 98103-4153. *

Where in the world?



Latta Grove United Methodist Church, Latta Grove, Huntingdon Co, PA. Contributed by Sue Latta Cox (Br. 17)

The Search for the Earliest Latta Family in America

(Continued from page 12)

cis, William, John and James were all ministers of the Presbyterian church."

The article continues with biography of James Latta's sons.

The other source of information on early Latta families is the famous and familiar *The Latta Collection*, by Robert H. Latta, 13 volumes in the Rare Book Room of the Library of Congress, Washington, DC. Volume One states that the son of James M. Latta was William Latta, who died in 1808.

After putting all the information together, my conclusion is that many of the Latta family left northern Ireland by ship circa 1740, sailed in Chesapeake Bay, shipwrecked in Maryland, and then scattered across the colonies wherever opportunity took them. This could mean that many branches of the Latta family could be traced back to this one ship, but that is too complex for me to unravel. I encourage my fellow Latta researchers to dig even more into the records of the past, and fill in the many missing details.

Your friend, Doc Huer@aol.com *

The Search for the Earliest Latta Family in America

by Ken Mueller

Since I have started genealogical research on the Latta family, I have tried to trace as much information as I can, and piece together an understanding of what happened years ago when the first Lattas came to America. Here are some of the documents that I have used in that process.

First I will quote from *The Boston Transcript* of January 15, 1934:

(7729.) 1. LATTA. James Latta came to America in 1738, with his brothers. They were shipwrecked near Elkton, Md., and all family records lost. He was married twice — first to —, by whom he had at least four children. Their names were supposed to be Robert, William, Samuel and John, but this is not certain. It is said that one of them settled in Ohio, one in North Carolina, and one in Westmoreland County, Pa. His second wife was Mary Alison, sister of Rev. Francis Alison, a noted divine and pastor at New London, Pa. James settled near Elkton, Md., about 1740, and died there. He had one son by his second wife, Rev. James Latta, who married Mary McCalla. Many of their descendants were noted Presbyterian ministers in Pennsylvania. I would like the maiden name of the first wife of James, the names of his parents, the names of his brothers and sisters, and whom they married, and the names of their descendants.

2. LATTA. James M. Latta was an Irish nobleman. He had a number of children. One was William, who eloped with Katherine or Jane Taylor and came to America in 1740. His will was probated in Bullskin Township, Fayette County, PA, April 21, 1808. I have a history of all of William's children except James and William. What was the middle name of James M. Latta; was it Melyne? What became of James and William, the sons of William and Katherine Taylor Latta? If married, the maiden names of their wives and the names of their descendants would be appreciated.

3. LATTA. PEACOCK. John Latta lived in Baltimore, Md., and went to Rochester, N. Y., in 1797. Married Mahala —, by whom he had five sons. One was John Peacock Latta, who was born in Rochester, N. Y., in 1807, and died at Allegan, MI, Nov. 20, 1890. He married Delia Ann Gaylord. John and Mahala Latta were born in Pennsylvania. Wanted, the maiden name of Mahala — Latta, the names of the other four sons, and if they married, the maiden names of their wives, and the names of their descendants. Was John Peacock Latta named Peacock from the maiden name of his mother? It is said that John's father was named Samuel. I would like to have the correct name of his father, and the maiden name of his mother. John Peacock Latta had a son

named Hector Hitchcock Latta, who married Mary McCormic, of Saginaw, MI. I would like to know the names of their descendants. R.H.L.D. [end of article]

Another important source that I have used in my search for early Lattas is the book *Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania Genealogical and Personal Memoirs*. The editor is John W. Jordan, and it was published in 1978 by Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore. I quote from volume III, page 1203:

"Rev. James Latta, D. D., great-grandfather of Jane Sutton (Latta) Pinkerton, was born in the North of Ireland in 1732, and came to America with his parents, James and Mary (Alison) Latta, who settled near Elkton, Cecil county, Maryland, about 1740. Dr. Latta entered the College of Philadelphia, now the University of Pennsylvania, in 1754, and graduated in the class of 1757, having for classmates Jacob Duche', the distinguished divine, pastor of Christ Church, first chaplain of Continental Congress, etc., Francis Hopkinson, Benjamin West, the artist, and others who achieved high eminence. James Latta was a tutor at the College of Philadelphia from 1756 to 1759, and during that period studied theology under Dr. Francis Allison, and in 1758 was licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. In 1759 he was ordained and appointed to minister to the scattered and destitute settlement in Virginia and the Carolinas. In 1761 he became pastor of Deep Run Presbyterian Church, in the Scotch-Irish district of Upper Bucks county, where he remained until 1770, when he resigned to take charge of the church at Pleasant Level, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, which charge he retained until his death, January 29, 1801. Soon after locating at Pleasant Level, he established a school which was acquiring considerable celebrity as an educational institution when its progress was arrested by the Revolutionary War. With the beginning of the struggle for national independence, Dr. Latta became one of the most ardent of patriots, urgently encouraging the cause in and out of the pulpit, and himself entering military service, first as a private, and later as a chaplain of Colonel Thomas Cooch's battalion of Lancaster county militia, in 1776. He was the author of a book of "Psalmody" and various other published writings. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1799, from the University of Pennsylvania. He married in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, February 26, 1765, Mary, daughter of Captain William McCalla, of Plumstead, Bucks County, and reared a family of eight children. His four sons, Fran-

(Continued on page 11)

What? You were expecting maybe a Grand Prize Drawing? Ha!