

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 13

Summer 2000

Branch 8

T. L. Latta plays role in motion picture invention

Eadweard James Muybridge (1830-1904) pioneered motion photography decades before the Lumière brothers filmed their first movies in France. Muybridge may also have personally inspired Thomas Edison to begin his experiments in motion photography

In 1872, Leland Stanford, former Governor of California, engaged Eadweard Muybridge to photograph galloping horses to prove that at one point during the horse's gait that all four feet were off the ground. Stanford served as Muybridge's benefactor through 1879 while he continued to study large-scale investigations of animal movement.

In 1884 William Pepper of the University of Pennsylvania invited Muybridge to continue his experiments in Philadelphia. Muybridge photographed animals from the Zoological Garden, models from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and athletes and faculty from the University of Pennsylvania. A total of 781 plates were created for his *Animal Locomotion* publication.

Marta Braun, professor at the School of Image Arts, Ryerson Polytechnic University in Toronto, contacted *The Latta Genealogy Newsletter* recently. She is part of a group of researchers preparing an exhibit at the National Museum of American History in Washington. As part of their work they have identified the models that Muybridge used in his studies. One of these was Thomas Love Latta, who was a student at the University of Pennsylvania at the time.

Latta was a baseball player at Penn, and Muybridge made a number of images of him. Thomas Love Latta was born 24 Sep 1865

in Parkesburg, Chester Co, PA, a great-grandson of Rev. James Latta, DD, who was a member of Penn's first graduating class in

1757. Following his own graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, Thomas married Florence Hood. They had four children, Thomas Love, who died in childhood, Elizabeth Hood, Margaret Coryell, and Thomas Hood.

Margaret Coryell Latta married a man named Rees, and they had a daughter, Florence, born 30 Oct 1917. Thomas Hood Latta adopted a son, Thomas Rufus Latta, born ca 1922.

Professor Braun would like to contact living descendants of

Thomas Love Latta in the hope that he may have made personal accounts of his work with Eadweard Muybridge.

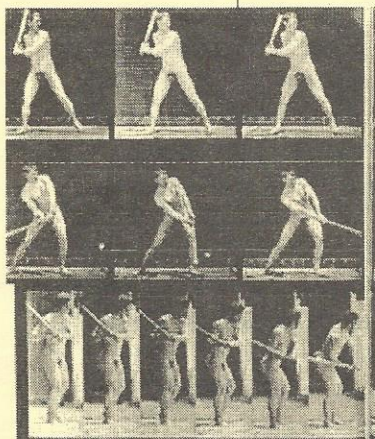
Muybridge experimented further, and in time invented the zoopraxiscope, an instrument which in turn paved the way for cine photography. This invention was greeted with enormous enthusiasm.

In 1900 Muybridge returned to his birth-

(Continued on page 12)



Eadweard Muybridge (1830-1904), "father of the motion picture"



Thomas Love Latta models for Muybridge's *Animal Locomotion*.

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Editorial**Changes galore**

As many of you know, the number of Latta researchers and the quantity of data they provide has grown astronomically in the past few years, and this, while wonderful in itself, has placed a strain on the system we have used for gathering, verifying and disseminating information about Latta families.

We are going to de-centralize the collection of data by appointing "Branch Captains," whose responsibility it will be to receive additions and updates to known data *for their particular branch*, verify the data according to some rather flexible guidelines, and then forward periodic updates of their branch for posting on the web site.

A "Branch Captain" will generally be responsible for a single branch, although in the case of smaller branches, a single captain could have two, three or even four branches within his/her bailiwick. The largest branches may eventually feel the need for co-Captains.

There will also be a "No Branch Captain," responsible for dealing similarly with

information that does not yet connect to a known branch.

Several Branch Captains have been appointed as follows:

Branch 1 - Ken Mueller (Doc Huer),
branch1@latta.org

Branch 4 - Tracy Zenz, branch4@latta.org

Branch 13 - Gary Pokoradi, branch13@latta.org

Branch 15 - Cindy Stiene, branch15@latta.org

Branch 16 - Alex Latta, Edmonton, Alberta,
branch16@latta.org

Branch 17 - Sue Lattea Cox, branch17@latta.org

Branch 22 - Virginia Curulla, branch22@latta.org

Branch 27/47 - Ellen Taylor, branch27@latta.org

Branch 45 - Beryl Redfield, branch45@latta.org

Branch 51 - Ken Erdle, branch51@latta.org

The qualifications for appointment as a Branch Captain are: (1) e-mail and Internet access; (2) familiarity with GedCom; (3) knowledge of ftp and file compression is a real plus, but not a requirement; (4) knowing which end is up.

If you would like to apply for branch captaincy, please email your editor (paul@latta.org). In the event of multiple volunteers for the same branch, we will probably resort to seniority or casting lots or the number of letters in your last name or something.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

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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Publisher, founder and family genealogist:

George P. Latta
PO Box 160247

Boiling Springs SC 29312-0010
e-mail: george@latta.org

Send your subscription contributions, address changes, newsletter articles, queries, comments, etc. to the editor:

Paul H. Calhoun
736 Grant Street
Port Clinton OH 43452-2149
e-mail: paul@latta.org

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<http://www.latta.org>

Slovak connection in search of a branch

In Issue 8 Anna Latta Owens (alo17@juno.com) wrote about her Latta family origins in present-day Slovakia. Since then, Colleen Latta of Warren OH (gclatta@aol.com) has connected her husband's family to the Slovak Lattas.

Colleen has received much family information from her husband's cousin, John Latta Jr., and is hard at work compiling.

Since there appear to be a substantial number of Slovakian Lattas, we feel it is time to create an official branch for them.

Under our new guidelines, however, we need a captain for the Slovak branch. See the previous article for duties and qualifications.

If there is someone who can step forward to serve as captain, this part of the Latta family could become the next branch.

From the mail bag

Central European Lattas

Why does nobody talk about Lattas from France, Italy, the Czech or Slovak republic? As far as I know 1400 the Lattas came from France (Anjou) over Italy (with the Drugetti) to eastern Europe! One was also the physician of a pope!

Joachim Latta

Lattas en Provence

Bill Latta sent information from his visit to the Provence region of France and discovery of the former Roman settlement of Villa Lata.

Here's the story as told by William Bryant Logan, writing in *The New York Times*:

I stumbled into St.-Maximin-la-Ste.-Baume on my return from a day trip to the Cistercian abbey of Le Thoronet. All I wanted was lunch and a glance at what tradition claims is the skull of Mary Magdalene.

There was a fountain in the center [of the town].

The crossroads fountain was a true roland, that symbolic town center representing the Tree of Life, that stood at the heart of every pagan and, later, Christian settlements of Europe.

The town was once a Roman settlement, Villa Lata, not far from the great Aurelian Way, the main provincial highway to the west. Only in the high Middle Ages, however, did the town acquire the name and fame that made it an important pilgrimage center. In 1279 Charles of Anjou [brother of St. Louis] discovered a crypt that he said contained the relics of St. Maximin, legendary first bishop of Aix and, more thrilling, of Mary Magdalene.

As legend has it, the Magdalene, along with the disciple Maximin, Mary of Clopas, Mary Salome and several others appeared on the coast of Provence around A.D. 47, having been set adrift in a rudderless boat by the Jews of Palestine. Coming ashore, they evangelized all of Provence. The Magdalene in particular, after miraculously securing a child for the previously barren queen of Marseilles, retired to a mountain near Villa Lata, which is today called La Sainte Baume (The Holy Cave) for the grotto where she is said to have passed her last 30 years. In her cave she ate no food, but was fed each day by angels who lifted her to where she could hear the music of the heavenly choirs.

At last she came down to St. Maximin's oratory near the old Roman town, where he saw her "supported two or three cubits off the ground by angels," and there, having received the last rites, she died. The basilica that Charles built to fortify this legend and contain the relics he'd discovered still presides over the town named for both saints: St. Maximin, for Mary's confessor, and La Sainte Baume, for the Magdalene's cave.

Article on Latta, SC

Glenna Kinard writes of an article appearing on page 28 of the January/February issue of Pee Dee Magazine titled "Latta Latta Latta."

It gives a short history of the SC town and info on some current projects.

Pee Dee Magazine
311 Main St
Box 2006
Conway SC 29529
1-800-400-1173 or 1-843-248-6087

Frank Latta: Cmdr USS Lagarto

Ray Latta, Branch 13, wrote to LATTA-L:

Recently, my brother Whitney had the opportunity to tour Hawaii while there on business. At the USS Bowfin museum/memorial they have placquards listing all of the US submarines that were lost during WWII. He noticed one in particular, the USS Lagarto. It was skippered by one Cmdr. Frank Latta and was sunk in May 1945. From the summary, it appears he was a well-respected sub commander. I was wondering if anyone knows what branch this hero belongs to?

Dianna Moran followed up with this response she received from COMSUBPAC Public Affairs:

"Cdr Frank De Vere Latta was executive officer on USS Narwhal and eventually assumed command of the ship. William Anderson, former engineer on Narwhal said, "Frank Latta was a terrific skipper...a very versatile person...a real leader who was extremely popular with the crew...he slept in a cot in the conning tower and kept a motorcycle, dismantled, on board for his use in foreign ports.

"Latta took command of USS Lagarto (SS 371) and also was in command of the entire sub division. They were known as 'Latta's Lances.' His ship was lost with all hands on May 3, 1945."

From the archives of The Latta Family Newsletter

Latta Family Newsletter

[illegible]

CAREER ADVISORS; Sister-in-Law, Employee, Serviservant, Consultant-Manager, New York University;
 FarmLab: Farm Laborer, Dreamer/Dreammaker, FerryBt: Ferry Boating

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LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES

PERSONAL DATA										HATCHITY		CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION		EDUCATION		HOSE	
NAME	Relationship	Color of Hair	Color of Eyes	DATE OF BIRTH	Age at Birth	Married Status	Children Living	Place of Birth	Place of Living	Parents	Married	Years in U. S.	Declaration of Naturalization	Months and Years in School	Months and Years in School	Years in School	Years in School	Years in School	Years in School
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LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES																			
APARROD COUNTY, Missouri																			
Latta, John W.	Head M	Red	B	Nov 1869	51	30	1	Ind. Ky.	Ind. Ky.	Ind. Ky.	Ind. Ky.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Maryetta	Wife	P	Nov 1871	49	30	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Octa R. Latta	Son	M	Sep 1897	22	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, B. A.	Son	M	Sep 1897	22	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Fiddle	Son	M	Aug 1898	21	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES																			
CENTAR COUNTY, Missouri																			
Latta, Joseph P.	Head M	Red	B	Sep 1864	55	32	2	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Frank A.	Wife	P	Aug 1870	49	32	2	2	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, John A.	Son	M	Aug 1897	25	1	3	1	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Abbie D.	Daughter	F	Jul 1897	25	1	3	1	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Ohio Pa.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES																			
DALLAS COUNTY, Texas																			
Latta, Volney	Head M	Red	B	Sep 1874	25	1	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Willie	Wife	P	Sep 1878	21	1	1	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, John	Son	M	Aug 1897	25	1	1	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES																			
DALLAS COUNTY, Texas																			
Latta, James E.	Head M	Red	B	Apr 1869	51	26	7	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Sarah	Wife	P	Apr 1874	46	26	7	7	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Margaret	Daughter	F	Mar 1875	20	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Clara E.	Son	M	Jul 1896	21	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary E.	Son	M	Jul 1896	21	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Edith E.	Daughter	F	Mar 1896	21	1	3	1	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Nellie B.	Daughter	F	Apr 1899	14	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Daughter	F	Apr 1899	14	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Willie M.	Daughter	F	Apr 1899	14	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Effie	Daughter	F	Apr 1899	14	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Walter	Son	M	Jan 1900	10	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Edwin R.	Son	M	Jan 1900	10	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Franklin B.	Son	M	Jan 1900	10	5	3	3	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LOW, DANIELSON - UNITED STATES																			
DAVIS COUNTY, Missouri																			
Latta, Henry	Head M	Red	B	May 1865	56	21	6	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Latta, Mary	Wife	P	Mar 1871	49	30	11	4	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Ind. Ind.	Line 3	Married	0	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Latta, Mary	Wife	P																	

ABBREVIATIONS: Dau: Daughter, Daul: Daughter-in-Law, Wid:Widowed, Swed:Sweden, Ire:Ireland, Brde:Former, Bridg: Former, RRLab:Railroad Laborer, SchTech:School Teacher, Farmlab:Farm Laborer, Rkctech:Blacksmith

Litta Family Newsletter

PERSONAL DATA										MATRITY		CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION		EDUCATION		NAME	
Relationship to Head of Family	Color or Race	Birth Date	Month	Year	Age at Birth	Married Within	Year of Marriage	Place of Birth	Place of Marriage	Place of Birth	Place of Marriage	Year of Naturalization	Year of U. S. Citizenship	Married in U. S.	Married in U. S.	Grade	Grade	First Name	Second Name
DECLARANT COUNTY, New Brunswick, N. J.																			
Head	W	May 1867	26	8	30	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 50	Sheet 5	Farmer	Line 65	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, Stephen	John
Wife	W	May 1867	26	8	30	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 50	Sheet 5	Farmer	Line 65	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, Stephen	John
Son	W	Jan 1891	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 50	Sheet 5	Farmer	Line 65	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, Stephen	John
Son	W	Jan 1891	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 50	Sheet 5	Farmer	Line 65	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, Stephen	John
DECLARANT COUNTY, Franklin, N. J.																			
Head	W	Oct 1864	25	3	0	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 43	Sheet 6	Farmer	Line 93	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Wife	W	Oct 1864	25	3	0	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 43	Sheet 6	Farmer	Line 93	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1891	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 43	Sheet 6	Farmer	Line 93	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
DECLARANT COUNTY, Hamilton, N. J.																			
Head	W	Jul 1856	43	17	11	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Wife	W	Jul 1856	43	17	11	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	May 1885	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	May 1885	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.
Son	W	Jan 1888	18	8	18	0	0	Ind.	Ind.	Vol. 21, E.D. 47	Sheet 10	Farmer	Line 95	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Latta, John W.	Latta, John W.

LEBRERVATIONS, Bro: Brother, Sis: Sister, Da: Daughter, Serv: Servant, Wid: Widowed
Farm: Farm, Par: Laborer, M: Munch: Teacher Public School, Br: Boarder, Lodg: Lodger, M: Married

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[illegible]

ABBREVIATIONS: Paul's Daughter-in-Law, Brdr's Bonnier, CDau's Grand Daughter, Hlper's Oct's Bookkeeper Accountant.

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.

Branch 22**Latta's Saloon Robbed**
Christine Johnson, a Galland Girl,
Wrongfully Detained*From The Montrose (IA) Journal, 7 July 1905*

R. S. Latta's saloon was robbed Tuesday evening about 11:15 of the day's receipts, which amounted to something like \$250.00.

At eleven o'clock Mr. Latta had taken the money out of the cash register and had placed it in a shot sack, together with five watches, and laid it by the side of the register, telling his barkeeper to watch it as he was going upstairs. Somebody called the bartender to the back door during this time and when Latta came back a few minutes afterwards the sack of money was gone.

Suspicion was directed to some women about the place and a search for them was begun by Latta and officers.

The train that was due at 11:16 was late and when it came, some of the women were arrested when getting aboard. In the excitement Latta (who says that he was deputized) arrested a Miss Christine Johnson, as she was getting on the train for her home in Galland, who with the other prisoner were taken over to the hotel office and detained there until it was found that a mistake had been made and an innocent young girl had been wrongfully detained.

As soon as Latta discovered his mistake he sent Miss Johnson home with Deputy Policeman Charles Kendall.

The next morning July 5th the money was found in a manure pile back of Mr. Galantine's barn, there being about \$18.00 gone out of the sack.

An information was sworn out yesterday, Miss Johnson charging Latta with wrongfully detaining her. Latta appeared before Squire Newhouse who gave him till Monday to plead his case.

[The saloon's owner was 27 Richard S. Latta (4) of branch 22—ed.]

Branch 3**Letter from the homeland**

Cross, Ireland, Dec 21, 1853

My Dear Sister,

I received your kind letter and was very sorry to hear of my brother Samuel's death, but as we are all getting aged we cannot expect to be long in this world. I was glad to hear that you were enjoying good health. We are all well at present, thank God for his mercies. I have very good health, and can yet walk to St. Johnstown and back, in the same day. I am going to tell you a little of our affairs, and how we are getting on.

James has got married twelve months ago to a Miss Rankin, of Dromore, near Raphoe. We are living very comfortable, and are much better off than ever you expect to hear. We have plenty, and I am happy to be able to say that the last of my days are the best, a privilege for which I have a reason to render thanks to the Great Giver of all gifts.

I have gotten up to Ballyholly in the course of a month. They were all well the last time we heard from them. George Pinkerton and Esther are doing well. They have a fine family of three sons and two daughters. They have opened a grocery and cloth shop in St. Johnstown, and are doing very well in it. I have great reason to be thankful, for I have reared a well doing family, both for themselves and me. James is very much of the turn of my brother Samuel, and I think it was not a bad one. I reared three, and I never yet saw one of them coming in with a glass of liquor on them. I would have been a deal more happy if Isabella had lived. But them that the Lord has allotted to come to me I feel very well satisfied with. She is very good and kind to me.

If you were to come to the Church land now you would not know it, is so much changed, and so well improved. We used to have very poor land, but now we have excellent crops, thanks to the Providence who

(Continued on page 12)

Branch 1**Purdue honors Prof. Latta**

by Ken Mueller

My parents-in-law, Vernon and Janet Gerdes, very kindly gave me a copy of the following unpublished manuscript from the estate of Sarah Josephine Latta Evinger (1852-1939). The manuscript concerns William Carroll Latta, Sarah's brother. William Carroll Latta was born 9 March 1850 in LaPorte County, IN, the son of Robert Seegar Latta, Branch One, (12 Nov. 1826 - 13 Feb. 1900), and Mary Tumbleson (Jan. 1828 - 11 March 1907). William Carroll Latta married Alta E. Wood on 10 July 1879 at Mason, Ingham County, MI. William Carroll Latta died in December of 1935 in Lafayette, Tippecanoe County, IN. The manuscript, transcribed verbatim, appears below.

You are invited

to attend the

Unveiling of the

WILLIAM CARROLL LATTA PORTRAIT

on his

Eightieth Birthday

Faculty Lounge, Memorial Union Building

4:00 P. M., March 9, 1930

The Portrait is presented to Purdue University by the Alpha Lambda Chapter of the Epsilon Sigma Phi in cooperation with associates, faculty members, former students, friends and members of rural organizations with whom Professor Latta has been intimately associated for many years.

Program

Presentation of Portrait -----T. A. Coleman

Acceptance -----President E. C. Elliott

"Professor Latta and Farmers' Institutes" -----Mrs. Morton
Fordice

"Professor Latta Our Colleague" -----Dean M. L. Fisher

"In the Beginning" -----Mrs. Virginia C. Meredith

Music -----Mrs. Virginia Krug

Tea -----Committee: Mrs. J. H. Skinner,

Dean Mary L. Matthews

In Appreciation

To my many kind Friends:

In presenting my portrait to Purdue University you have given expression to a measure of kindness as unexpected as it is thoughtful and heart warming.

It is your interest in perpetuating my memory - not the portrait which is a fair likeness - that appeals to my heart.

With sincere thanks for, and grateful appreciation of, your very kind remembrance, I am, as ever,

Your friend,

W C Latta [signature]

[portrait in here]

WILLIAM CARROLL LATTA

Professor of Agriculture at Purdue University
since 1882.

Painting by Robert W. Grafton.

A TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR W. C. LATTA

Professor Latta is a native Hoosier. He was born in LaPorte County, March 9, 1850. His college training was obtained at Michigan Agricultural College where he graduated in 1877 with a bachelor of science degree and a master's degree in 1882. In August, 1882, he came to Purdue as instructor in agriculture and superintendent of the University farm. He was the thirteenth member of the Purdue faculty. His service to agriculture, civil and religious activities has been unselfish and unremitting.

A capable, sympathetic teacher, wise counsellor and good friend of all his students, Professor Latta has been a trail blazer and pioneer in the field of improved agriculture and rural education. He organized the School of Agriculture and very wisely laid out the first administered four year course leading in turn to the bachelor's and the master's degree. He conspicuously directed the administration of the School until 1907.

In 1883 Professor Latta began a number of soils and crops field plot experiments. Five years later he laid out the first permanent soil fertility field experiments, inaugurating a system of research which was considered one of the best in the country at that time. These original lines of experiments stand today as a monument to the foresight and vision of this man.

Professor Latta pioneered in the field of agricultural extension in Indiana. He was placed in charge of Farmers' Institute work immediately after the passage of the Farmers' Institute Act of 1889. These Institutes aroused interest in agricultural education among the farm men and women of the state and led to legislative provision for the Agricultural Hall in 1901, the first state appropriation for agricultural research in 1905, and the appropriation in 1907 for the Experiment Station Building.

Later, the Institutes played no small part in securing the passage of the Clore Act establishing the Department of Agricultural Extension in 1911. For thirty-five consecutive years Professor Latta supervised the Farmers' Institute work which, through four decades, has exercised a potent influence in advancing agriculture, en-

(Continued on page 12)

Branch 9**Latta Descendant Honored**

For those who love Latta Family stories, here is one that I wanted to share. I won't tell the whole story—just enough to let you know that the Latta blood and values are well represented in this lady, Frances Ross. (The full story can be found Page 1, Section D, April 16, 2000 edition of the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*.)

The story celebrates the life of one of the leading citizens Arkansas. It starts out like this: "When the descendants of James and Sarah Elizabeth Latta Mitchell gather for a picnic and family reunion this month, the occasion will be more than just a celebration of that family's heritage."

The article goes on to report the record of public service and humanity that should be an inspiration to anyone—certainly a point of pride for those who are members of her distant and extended Latta family.

Some of you cousins better versed in these matters than I may need to lend a hand, but I believe she would be the great-granddaughter of the Hon. James Mitchell and Sarah Elizabeth Latta, the direct descendant of #4 John Steward Latta, (which some question may also be the head of Branch # 11), back to #2 Thomas Latta and #1 John Latta, who come to America from Ireland in 1763 and settled in York District, SC, near Clover, SC.

The history of the Latta family that settled in northwest Arkansas is well recorded in "The Lord's Vineyard", by F. F. Latta. Their contribution to the history of the state is still recognized and honored by the presence of the original log home and barn built by John Latta (about 1815) that welcome visitors to the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, at Prairie Grove Arkansas. It is a place worth visiting. Ya'll come. Or write the park at PO Box 306, Prairie Grove AR 72753, or call (501) 846-2990 for infor-

mation. But back to the story of Frances Ross.

Sarah Elizabeth Latta and her husband, the Hon. James Mitchell, sometime after 1860, moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where he eventually started the *Arkansas Democrat*. Although it is not still in the family, that newspaper survives today in the form of the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, the largest daily in the state and one of the best in the nation.

Sarah Latta Mitchell took on the responsibilities of a good wife, mother and public citizen, doing those things that made for a better community. About 1884, according to great-granddaughter Frances Ross, she opened her home to orphans. That was the beginning of what blossomed into The Children's Aid Society and a separate home for orphans.

Over the years, the family has carried on Sarah's work and expanded it into a charitable foundation that works to help children and families in many ways. Today it is known as The Center for Youth and Families. Not only has Francis Ross helped direct the charitable causes that her ancestors started, she has been, as a long time member of the History Department of the University of Arkansas At Little Rock, a leader in promoting the teaching of history, and of the importance to understanding it in our lives today.

I will close with this thought quoting Francis Ross in the celebratory interview she gave for the article about her life: "...Every family has its history. I hope folks will all become interested in their own family histories. It tells them who they are, where they come from."

I would add: do what this branch of our Latta family has done. It does not have to be on the scale of the descendants of Elizabeth Latta and James Mitchell—but get involved in making the

(Continued on page 12)

Queries

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

LATTA	I am looking for anyone researching Branch 3, Family 16, or anyone looking for information on LATTAs in Londonderry or Donegal, Ireland. I have information from the Irish side from the 1700s, but have been unable to trace my ancestors after the mid 1800s, and assume that many came to America. —Anne Gilliland-Swetland, 7844 Canby Ave, Reseda CA 91335, swetland@ucla.edu
CALDWELL LATTA LATTO SPROUL	I am descended from the family that appears in Robert H Latta's Memorandum book: W. H. Latto, Colton, Wash. wrote: "There is no mistake in the spelling of my name, Latto. O is correct. My ancestors are of Scotch-Irish descent. My grandparents, William LATTO and wife, came from Ireland to Philadelphia in 1820. ...I have often heard my father say that the name was spelled Latta in Ireland, and from some cause was changed to Latto." William LATTA(o) was naturalized in Philadelphia, PA in 1828; went to Tuscarawas County, OH in 1852. I have information on his descendants. Am looking for information on William's parents or his wife's (Margaret SPROUL) parents (William SPROUL and Catharine CALDWELL). —Treva Waldrop, 7220 Whitetail Tr, Centerville OH 45459 bwaldrop@romanis.com
LATTA McLAUGHLIN	If anyone is interested in knowing more about Jane LATTA McLAUGHLIN's family, I have quite extensive information. She was married to Henry McLAUGHLIN. —Sandy Brown-Johnston, 788 Edgewood Bay Dr, Lakeview, AR 72642-7133, lejhjhj@centurytel.net
LATTA MERCER	Looking for info on Alucinda LATTA who married Jeremiah MERCER. We were told she was a Quaker from PA. Any info would be great. —Katrinka C. Pavlisin, 809 James Street, New Martinsville WV 26155, katrinka@ovis.net
LATTA McLAUGHLIN RALSTON RILEY SMITH	Any descendants of George LATTA (b. Jul 1853 OH) and Harriet A. "Hattie" McLAUGHLIN (23 May 1863 - 1 Oct 1893)? Lived in Clear Creek Twp, Ashland Co OH. Children were: Inez LATTA (1883-1952), married Roy SMITH; Elda LATTA (1887-1969), married Charles RALSTON; Wallace Burdette LATTA (1889-1972), married Dorothy RILEY. —Michael D. McLaughlin, 1102 Straight Arrow, San Antonio TX 78258, mike.mclaughlin2@worldnet.att.com
LATTA	I am one of the LATTA clan that originated in Dumbarton where my family were involved in shipbuilding. There is in fact a Latta Street in Dumbarton which is in memory of a dignitary of the burgh. If you read the book Hatters Castle written by A. J. Cronin he refers to a Sir John LATTA who is based on the same character. I wonder if we are of the same family as part of the family emigrated to USA in the nineteenth century. —Iain Stewart Latta, 6 Glebe Terrace, Kirkton of Skene, Westhill, Aberdeenshir AB32 6ZX, SCOTLAND, lattashlatta@aol.com
LATTA WALLS	I am trying to locate any descendants of Jennetta Anne LATTA who married Zachariah Sherman WALLS (my great-uncle). They lived in McComb TX. I think. She was from AR and he was from AL. —Margaret Delamar, 648 W Bay St, Winter Garden FL 34787, boggett1@aol.com
African-American LATTA RUFFIN	I am looking for the African-American descendants of the LATTA and RUFFIN family. I am the great great granddaughter of Ms. Catherine Joyce LATTA and Mr. Frank T. RUFFIN of Orange County or Hillsboro, NC. They had 13 children with two sets of twins. If anyone can help me with this information, I would be very grateful! —Kenia A. Morrison, 3737 Swann Rd, Suitland MD 20746-2235, CoolBreeze22@collegeclub.com
LATTA	My great-grandfather is Robert L. LATTA, b 4-16-1842, d 12-23-1921, reportedly born in VA and buried in TX. Any information on Latta family in Virginia is greatly appreciated. —Stanley Ray Latta, PO Box 998, Alamogordo, NM 88311, RedDog@wayfarer1.com

LATTA	I'm a descendant of Darius Knight LATTA (branch 4), Clinton WI. Have posted some photos on the FamilyTreeMaker web site at http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/s/l/o/Scott-S-Slocum/index.html Have been transcribing data, scanning and identifying photos, and collecting history for a few years, on occasional weekends. Always happy to learn more. —Scott S. Slocum, 1416 Birchcrest Dr, White Bear Lake MN 55110, slocu002@tc.umn.edu
LATTA GAMMELL GAMMILL MERRIFIELD	I am looking for information on Ephraim LATTA's family. He was married to Jane A. GAMMILL (or GAMMELL) and died in 1901. His parents were Silas and Sarah (FRANKS) LATTA. Ephraim and Jane had six children: Silas W.; Lou S.; John F.; George A.; Mary P.; and Freddie, who died December 25, 1881. Mary P. LATTA married Elbert MERRIFIELD and was my great-grandmother. They lived in Lagrange Co IN, native of Richland Co OH. I believe Ephraim was in Branch 1 and file #977, Mary P. was file #2767. —Carolyn J. Aumsbaugh, 413 McIntosh Ave, Kendallville IN 46755, mcaums@noble.cioe.com
GOW LATTA Branch 13	My great grandmother, Ethel Mildred LATTA, was born in 1880 in Latta, Ontario, Canada, and died in 1961. She married Joseph Harold GOW. Their children were George, Harold, Clare, Edmund, Jack, Rita and Eileen. I would like to make contact with anyone that may be related to that branch of the family. —Katharine Gow, Box 1397, Ladysmith B.C. V9G1A9, CANADA, kate325@home.com
LATTA PANTER	I would like to contact Sue Latta PANTER concerning the LATTA information found on the Latta website-Note 01-from 1997. —L. Marie Latta, 172 Dutchman Rd, Watsonville CA 95076, elmarielatta@aol.com
LATTA Civil War	I am deeply interested in any info or photos of Civil War LATTAs North or South. I have two photos now, a captain from PA and a Lt. from NC. Also have a good bit of info on all the NC soldiers in the Civil War. —David K. Latta, 200 Mill Ridge Dr, Hedgesville WV 25427, dkl@juno.com
LATTA	I would like to correspond with anyone searching for Latta's in OK. Branch unknown. —L. Marie Latta, 172 Dutchman Rd, Watsonville CA 95076, elmerelatta@aol.com
LATTO LAWRIE	Thomas Carstairs LATTO, b 27 Dec 1818, Kingbarns, married Margaret LAWRIE of Scotland. Children: Christian Mary LATTO, b 19 May 1844, Edinburgh; Harriet Johnston LATTO, b 1 Sept 1844, Edinburgh; Alexander LATTO, b 7 Aug 1846, Edinburgh; Helen Anderson LATTO, b 1 Oct 1848, Dundee; Charles James LATTO, b Apr 1850, Dundee. All emigrated to New York ca 1851. Alexander was drowned whilst bathing at Coney Island on 10 Aug 1871. Thomas was a Parliament House clerk and an estate agent in Brooklyn and in the publishing business of Ivison & Co. He died in Brooklyn 19 May 1894 and is interred in Cypress Grove Cemetery. I cannot find any word what the family did. Can anyone help? —Alex Latto, 3 Ochilview, Alva, Clackmannshire, SCOTLAND, EckLawtie@aol.com

Union Bank of Moody, Latto & Demuth

Alex Latto (see query above) sent a photocopy of a canceled certificate of deposit from the Union Bank of Moody, Latto & Demuth of Uhrichsville, Tuscarawas Co, OH. The date is 28 Oct 1899 and the cancellation is 24 Nov 1899.

J. E. Demuth was the Cashier of the bank.

Does anyone have any information about the LATTO who was a partner in this bank? When the bank was organized and when it closed?

'J'ever wonder...?

If a stealth bomber crashes in a forest,
will it make a sound?

Is it possible to be totally partial?

If one synchronized swimmer drowns,
do the others have to drown too?

What is the speed of dark?

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue

You are our bricks and mortar

<u>Subscriber</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Postal Address</u>	<u>e-mail address</u>
Merle W. Allen	29	9420 Newton St Westminster CO 80031-3172	
Joshua J. Armstrong	7	2045 Morgan Hill Dr Los Angeles CA 90068-3618	e.trash@worldnet.att.net
Gisele A. Atterberry	43	705 W Washington St Champaign IL 61820-3334	atterb7777@aol.com
James L. Barnes	28	16 Ronald Cir Orelan PA 19075-1320	
Katrina R. Bavissha	43	21443 S 80th Ave Frankfort IL 60423-9184	bathekat@aol.com
Lois L. Bennett	3	502 Walnut St Irwin PA 15642-3532	gardenloie@aol.com
Jane Latta Brother	22	2025 Prewitt Pike Mt Sterling KY 40353-9544	catalpa@mis.net
Jackay Latta Burnside	9	Address not published at subscriber's request	jacksarb@lcc.net
Paul H. Calhoun	3	736 Grant St Port Clinton OH 43452-2149	paul@latta.org
Jan Christensen	24	2600 NW 92 HWY Smithville MO 64089-8506	janchris@i4f.net
Michelle W. Cook	28	1805 Chestnut Ln Longview TX 75604-4312	ShellCook@aol.com
Carole L. Craig	3	Address not published at subscriber's request	craicg@1st.net
Larry D. Draughon	7	1709 E Kael St Mesa AZ 85203-2161	
Margaret M. Evans	27	9103 South Urbana #B Tulsa OK 74137-3958	Jnsfarplac@aol.com
Celia Gammel	18	PO Box 1114 Graham WA 98338-1114	dferd@bigfoot.com
Liz J. Latta Garver	3	3558 E High Mesa Ln Safford AZ 85546-7317	
Ada C. Heinson	3	9214 X Rd Meade KS 67864-9040	
Lucy L. Hilton	11	7613 Wilson St Harahan LA 70123-3828	lucyhilt@home.com
L. Stephen Hinson	15	4217 Miladies Ln Doylestown PA 18901-9639	lshinson47@aol.com
Shirley Joy		10 Abbott St Sandringham Victoria 3191 AUSTRALIA	
Tom W. Kelly	9	149 Chisholm Hills Rd Weatherford TX 76087-3101	tkellyjr@aol.com
Rose L. Kyle	3	1400 Gulf Blvd Apt 103 Clearwater FL 34630-2829	
A. Duie Latta	8	Address not published at subscriber's request	ADUIEL@aol.com
Alex L. Latta Jr.	16	6104 94A Avenue Edmonton AB T6B 0Y8 CANADA	allatta@gambit.ab.ca
Anne J. Latta	4	629 NE Jefferson St Minneapolis MN 55413-2101	annelatta@hotmail.com
Beth & Colleen Latta	45	4075 Peachtree Dunwoody Rd NE Atlanta GA 30342-3936	colleen_latta@rhco.com
Betty Rose Latta		1205 Lemmond Dr. Sanford NC 27330-7614	bettyrose@wave-net.net
Cathy S. Latta	3	3596 E Highway 86 castle Rock CO 80104-1808	clatta@resolution-software.com
Danny R. Latta	9	5904 Wescott Hills Way Alexandria VA 22315-4740	
David L. Latta	9	Address not published at subscriber's request	dllatta@hotmail.com
Donald R. Latta	29	490 W Coach Dr Tipp City OH 45371-2218	
Douglas A. Latta	11	Address not published at subscriber's request	thelat@earthlink.net
George P. Latta	13	112 Lee McAbee Rd PO Box 160247 Boiling Springs SC 29316-0010	
James M. Latta	3	343 Sunset Drive Pittsburgh PA 15235-5239	JLatta343@cs.com
John P. Latta	3	444 Demmler Dr Pittsburgh PA 15237-5683	
Keith Elgie Latta	13	2709 Queenswood Drive Victoria BC V8N 1X6 CANADA	klatta@islandnet.com
Kenneth W. Latta	7	4509 Briarhaven Rd Fort Worth TX 76109-4606	kwlatta@worldnet.att.net
Kim L. Latta	22	848 Terrace Dr Burlington IA 52601-1520	
Leroy & Pearl Latta	18	965 E Armstead St Azusa CA 91702-4732	
Oliver C. Latta	49	1808 Okmulgee Ct North Little Rock AR 72116-4529	oclatta@ix.netcom.com
Oliver C. Latta Jr.		PO Box 54 Hannibal MO 63401-0054	
Rebecca J. Latta		1110 S Dixon Rd Kokomo IN 46902-6051	rjlatta98@aol.com
Richard D. Latta Sr.	24	408 S 1st Ave Danville IA 52623-9608	rlatta4289@aol.com
Richard J. Latta	3	24 Greystone Rd Marblehead MA 01945-2848	vitabroad@mediaone.net
Robert W. Latta	4	120 Las Rosas Ave San Jacinto CA 92583-5268	boblatta@lasercom.net
Roseann Latta	3	PO Box 1413 Winter Park FL 32790-1413	fmha@bellsouth.net
Shirley W. Latta	31	1510 Columbia Hwy Pulaski TN 38478-9592	
Stanley R. Latta		PO Box 998 Alamogordo NM 88311-0998	reddog@wayfarer1.com
Ted R. Latta	37	PO Box 284 Greenup IL 62428-0284	
Linda K. Latta-Smith	9	16300 Cambridge Ct Bowie MD 20715-4342	LKSmith111@aol.com

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<u>Subscriber</u>	<u>Branch</u>	<u>Postal Address</u>	<u>e-mail address</u>
Alexander Latto		3 Ochilview Alva, Clacks FK12 5EU SCOTLAND	EckLawtie@aol.com
Richard M. Lyman	8	9 Puffin Ct Novato CA 94949-6638	RLYMAN3529@aol.com
Marilyn G. Macneall	13	2020 Coral Cres Burlington ON L7P 3K5 CANADA	macneall@cgocable.net
Charles X. McCalla III	32	PO Box 151 Paoli IN 47454-0151	cxm3md@kiva.net
Harriet H. McCown	12	1401 Fairfax Rd Florence SC 29501-5605	z54mom@aol.com
Dawn L. McGinnis	33	314 W North St Delphi IN 46923-1628	dandrmac@carlnet.org
Colleen L. Miller	1	1111 Wylie Rd Apt 16 Norman OK 73069-4456	okimom@aol.com
Izola C. Mottershead	16	3532 103 Avenue Edmonton AB T5W 0A7 CANADA	SMtford@aol.com
Sharon P. Mountford	4	23684 Schoenborn St Canoga Park CA 91304-3020	Mjflatt@aol.com
Robin L. Olson	15	8841 Faircrest Dr Las Vegas NV 89134-8575	audlou2@aol.com
Audrey L. Parker	6	6212 Baker NE Albuquerque NM 87109-2742	
Duane L. Phillips	9	5908 Richmond Rd Texarkana TX 75503-0418	Phillipsf2@aol.com
Randall G. Phillips	4	3303 Ferguson Corners Rd Penn Yan NY 14527-9344	pokerman@msn.com
Gary A. Pokoradi	13	11 Glenayr St Hamilton ONT L9C 7C1 CANADA	ratcliff@junct.com
Marilyn Sue Ratcliff	6	Address not published at subscriber's request	bredf331@cs.com
Beryl Redfield	45	2641 Stringham Ave Apt 215C Salt Lake City UT 84109-3920	
Marie Scaife		106 Banks Lane, Riddlesden-Keighley W. Yorkshire BD20 5PQ ENGLAND	dbsp@ix.netcom.com
Sharon O. Smale-Perry		687 28th Ave San Francisco CA 94121-2816	DMS826@aol.com
Dolores M. Smith	1	36500 Marquette St Apt 715 Westland MI 48185-3246	jstrickl@flash.net
Jane L. Strickland	3	1131 Melody Ln Roanoke TX 76262-8834	john.talvacchio@stanfordalumni.org
John J. Talvacchio	4	3650 Grosvenor Dr Ellicott City MD 21042-4916	bwaldrop@romanis.com
Treva L. Waldrop		Address not published at subscriber's request	

Financial report

from 1 January through 30 April 2000

PREVIOUS BALANCE \$438.60*

Receipts

Subscription contributions \$1020.00

Reprints 23.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$1043.00

Expenditures

Exchange Fees \$ 3.34

Postage 323.40

Printing 329.00

Processing Fees 21.46

Supplies 188.09

Web Services 138.80

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$1004.09

BALANCE ON HAND \$477.51

Estimated cost to print and mail issue 13: \$690.00

*Issue 12 contained a math error. Nobody caught it.

TRAIL Project

Beginning Balance 599.00

Contributions 200.00

Expenditures

Sherry Irvine research 42.00

Balance on hand 757.00

Necrology

Madeline Ann Latta, née Seyb, of Burlington, IA, died on Jan 21, 2000 at the age of 80.

Survivors include her husband, Edward E. Latta (branch 22), son Kim Latta of Burlington, a sister, brothers, and nieces and nephews.

Susan Latta (Rothwell), Br. #16, passed away May 21, 2000, aged 56 years. She was the oldest of Robert Latta's children, and grew up at Ballinakill, Co. Wexford, Ireland. She leaves her husband Ron, and two sons, Mark and Paul, of Ballyorrl, Co. Wexford.

Letter from the homeland

(Continued from page 5)

gives us more than we deserve.

Robert McAdoo got his thigh bone broken in summer, but he is now getting better, and able to walk about a little. I was speaking to some of his family last Sabbath, and they told me that Mary McAdoo died about three months ago. The old friends are scarce there, but the young ones are plenty. I hope that you are happy and comfortable, and that you will not want friends.

The Rev'd John Canning is in his father's place, and is very much liked and respected. His mother is living in the County Derry with one of her sons, and sister with another, and Thomas is away a missionary.

Give my compliments to Moses Latta and his wife, and tell him that I remember him very well. I send my love to all my friends there. You were a long time writing to me. I hope you will write when you receive this, as I will be expecting to hear from you.

No more at present, but remain your affectionate sister to the death,

Isabella Boyd

(Isabella Boyd is probably the granddaughter of 4 Mungo (2) Latta, [actually 7 Mungo (4)—ed.] and the daughter of Mary, who married Mr. Boyd.—RHL's note)

Latta Descendant Honored

(Continued from page 7)

world a better place to live with your neighbors on this planet. Our common interest in genealogy should have taught us that, in part at least, our ability to make a difference comes from knowing our family, loving them, and in recording the history of our individual families so that future generations of our descendants can look back with pride and honor on the memories we are making today.

Buddy & Mary (Latta) Whiteaker
Branch #9
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

T.L. Latta plays role in motion picture invention

(Continued from page 1)

place, Kingston-upon-Thames, England, where he died a few years later. His zoopraxiscope, together with many of his plates, were bequeathed to the Kingston-upon-Thames Museum, where they are on display.

If you know of living descendants of Thomas Love Latta, please contact:

Marta Braun, Professor
School of Image Arts
Ryerson Polytechnic
University
350 Victoria St
Toronto, Ontario, M5B 2K3
CANADA
(416) 920-4000
mbraun@acs.ryerson.ca

Thomas Love Latta will appear in a Muybridge photograph that is part of an exhibition called *Tempus Fugit: Time Flies* at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City MO from 15 October through 30 December 2000.

Purdue honors Prof. Latta

(Continued from page 6)

riching rural life and promoting community cooperation. The stable character of this work appears in the fact that after forty-one years 437 Farmers' Institutes were held in the state the past season, reaching more than 150,000 people.

During the last few years, Professor Latta has devoted his time to the preparation of the manuscript for a "History of Indiana Agriculture" soon to be published.

Professor Latta has truly left a great impress upon the local community, Purdue University and the agriculture of Indiana

DEAN J. H. SKINNER.

[end of program]

If any direct descendant of Professor Latta would like a photocopy of the above program, please contact me.

Your friend,
Doc Huer@aol.com