

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 18

Fall 2002

Starting A Family Tree

By Connie Sue Latta, Mudpie3133@aol.com
Branch 52 Captain

When someone asks about starting a family tree, or to begin genealogy, it appears that the same answer is given to almost everyone. Start with your family that you know, your living relatives. Basic questions are asked; where were you born?, where did you live?, where were your parents born, etc.. It is not easy for a beginner to ask for a copy of birth certificate or a death certificate, or even for a copy of a marriage license, but if asked in general conversation, without sounding like you are prying into a private life, it will save a lot of time later.

When you are with a family member, especially an older one, they often like to talk about the past and often divulge information that may have been a block wall in your research. I had that experience and will share with you my findings.

Searching the Latta family of Oklahoma/Arkansas for 30 years I was not able to get past 1914, which is fairly current. Claud Latta could not be located on the census, telephone books, SSDI, or Internet, when, at last, I had an untimely breakthrough. In 1993, a family member found information on this person who was his long, lost father of 56 years by searching a CD that was available at his local library called a People Locator. Finding this information opened the door for many answers of genealogy and put together pieces to a puzzle of his life. His father unfortunately had died in 1992, but through obtaining a death certificate, we were able to contact this family and join together three families that did not know each other existed. Located, also, were brothers, Frank Latta, and Howard Latta, who knew a lot more about their Latta family. We all decided to meet, in person, at the Latta Reunion in Prairie Grove, Arkansas in 1994.

At this meeting, I thought I had covered every question possible and heard family stories that had

never crossed my mind. I asked all the usual; Born where? Married where? In the Military at what time? Lived where? Parents who? Children?

We parted with a warm feeling in our hearts and really happy that we had met each other, however, when I got home there were still a lot of unanswered questions for my research. One of the big questions was on Andrew Jackson Latta. I was happy to hear his name and knew that somehow to locate this ancestor would close a big gap in this lineage. Great notes were taken and when we returned home, wrote for every death certificate, birth certificate, etc. that I could, to document this family's history.

The realization of five or six Andrew Jackson Lattas from the same area did not cross my mind until the documentation came to that specific point. Books on Oklahoma and Arkansas are not that plentiful at my local library. Except through census records, his name, for that time frame, was not to be found. One night, while online, I found a Andrew Jackson Latta with a record located in Ft. Smith Arkansas. I wrote for it and impatiently waited five weeks for the document to arrive. Knowing they were some kind of court papers, to say I was shocked at their contents would be underestimating anyone's imagination as to what they contained. After reading them through

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Editorial Page

Those readers with sharp eyes noticed that we now have 52 branches of the Latta Family. Virginia Curulla and I suggest that a new branch is discovered when a Latta researcher can trace his or her family back to at least 1850 with researched and documented sources, but not connect with an already established branch. We would expect that the researcher would publish the information, as Connie Sue Latta and Ken Erdle have done in this newsletter. And to help other Latta family historians, we would ask that the person proposing a new branch become that branch captain. Of course, our goal is to eventually connect all branches of the Latta Family. You can see this in the research in Ireland by Tom Kintigh, Robert Cowan, Alex Latta and others. This is why we ask our readers to keep on trying to trace your family, whether they were in Canada, like Marilyn Macneall, Pennsylvania like Beryl Redfield, or Germany as Gerriet Latta. This newsletter will also help you with such educational articles as Geoffrey Sherwood's article on Internet searching.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

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Please send your ged-com files and family group sheets
to your branch captain.

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

Revised List of Branch Captains

Another goal of our Latta Family is to find a branch captain for every branch of the Latta Family. Unfortunately, we do not have a Captain for every Branch. We could use some more volunteers. If interested, please contact us.

The duties of a branch captain were spelled out in the last newsletter, number 17. Here is a revised list of our branch captains, with names, addresses and e-mail addresses:

✓ Branch 1: Ken Mueller, 337 Gertrude St., Elgin, IL 60123-7401, Doc Huer@aol.com. I also double as your editor.

✓ Branch 3: *resigned 6/20/03* Jewell Latta Rader, 4701 Date Ave., #410, La Mesa CA 91941, jrader2527@aol.com. 159 cox.net

✓ Branch 6: Robert G. Nunn, 12 Dunbarton Court, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126, rgunn@qwest.net

✓ Branch 7: Joshua Armstrong, 2045 Morgan Hill Dr., Hollywood, CA 90068, garmstrong@sbcglobal.net

✓ Branch 13: Gary Pokoradi, 11 Glenayr St., Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L9C 7C1, pokerman@sympatico.ca

✓ Branch 15: Cindy Stiene, 102 Sugar Leaf Ct., Madison AL 35758-7925, csstiene@hiwaay.net

✓ Branch 16: Alex Latta, 6830 42nd St., NW, Edmonton, Alberta T6B 3C9, allatta@gambit.ab.ca

Alex also accepts photos of Latta family members for his website.

✓ Branch 17: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, latteacox@aol.com

✓ Branch 18: Mrs. Sue D. Martine, 3906 E. Simpson Rd., Gilbert, AZ, 85297-9402, suesea@qwest.com

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✓ Branch 27/47: Ellen Rowan Taylor, 8718 Dunmore Lane, Fort Wayne IN 46804, rowan.taylor@verizon.net

✓ Branch 45: Beryl Redfield, 4281 Winfield Rd., Taylorsville UT 84123-2344, Bredf331@cs.com

✓ Branch 51: Ken Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington, IN, 47408, kerdle@att.net

✓ Branch 52: Connie Sue Latta, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte, CA, 91732-2031, Mudpie3133@aol.com

✓ Branch 35 - *Janie Quarles Janie Quarles*
Sue Lattea Cox of Branch 17 has agreed to be the coordinator of our branch captains. Virginia and I welcome her.

McCorry

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FINANCIAL REPORT -LATTA GENEALOGY GROUP

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REPORT PERIOD FROM 5/25/02 through 10/31/02:

NORTHERN IRELAND RESEARCH FUND BALANCE 10/31/02

(unchanged during this period) \$ 800.00

GENERAL FUND BALANCE 5/25/02

\$ 454.96

Expenses

Newsletter Issue #17, newsletter reprints - copying, printing, postage, reimburse Ken Mueller, editor	(\$ 796.46)
Treasurer's expenses-postage and paper - reimburse Virginia Curulla, treasurer	(\$ 47.07)
Internet Cybergate - Latta.org website connection fee	(\$ 119.70)

Income - 113 Donors

\$2,442.00

Totals

\$3696.96 (\$963.23)

COMBINED FUNDS - BALANCE ON HAND 10/31/02

\$2,733.73

Because of your generous support, we now have a healthy balance in the general fund. We will be able to print and mail newsletter issue #18 (you are now reading it!) without borrowing from the Northern Ireland Research Fund. Funds also will be available to send complimentary newsletters to several important genealogical libraries and historical societies. We can become a formal nonprofit association (at nominal cost -- needed to address legal considerations) and establish a Latta archives at a prominent library (or libraries) where our information could be available on site to Latta researchers. The treasurer will be able to send postcard reminders to former subscribers.

IMPORTANT NOTES REGARDING DONATIONS -

- Please make donation checks/money orders to "The Latta Genealogy Newsletter" in U.S. funds.
- If someone else has contributed in your name, your name will be listed on the donation list & you will receive an individual donor sheet.
- Your donations not only support the publication and mailing of the newsletter, but also cover related expenses. These include the \$100 registration fee for the Latta.org website domain name (renewable every two years), the monthly website connection fee of \$19.95 per month, and making reimbursement available to branch captains for their expenses.
- We will continue to offer one free sample issue in response to inquiries from potential subscribers.
- Please inform me of any errors or omissions that you might find on your **individual donor** sheets. You will have surmised that I am not an accountant by profession, but I strive to be accurate. Suggestions welcomed.
- Please send any corrections, questions or comments about donations or financial matters to the treasurer, Virginia Curulla, address above.

Branch 9 - Lisa Barnes, stuartlis@aol.com
Branch 35 - Janice Giga, janicegiga.net
Branch 19 - 27 + 47 - Ellen Roman Taylor (+ Lisa Administrator)

Starting a Family Tree

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several times, double checked the dates and the time frame, my body sighed with great relief that he was not my ancestor. This only left a question, since this is not my ancestor, where is he?

On our next trip to Oklahoma/Arkansas, August 1999, we again visited Frank Latta of Harrison, Arkansas. Again, questions flew about our family, as he was the oldest living direct relative that we had, and in passing he said something that was like a huge heart flying through the sky. He said, that his father, Henry Latta, told him that he only had one regret. When he (Henry) returned from the war (WWI) in March 1919, he was a month too late from seeing his father alive, (Andrew Jackson Latta), as his Dad died in February, 1919. WOW! I couldn't believe it! A simple sentence, in the middle of a conversation about his Dad, revealed what I had been looking for, for several years. The next question was; did he know where his Grandfather had died and he told me yes, Yuma, Arizona, while visiting his daughter. I wrote for a copy of his death certificate that confirmed the census records, documenting what I had heard from Frank Latta. The moral of this story: be sure to listen, listen and listen.

The research of Connie Sue Latta lead to the discovery of a whole branch of the Latta Family. Connie continues her story of Branch 52.

Andrew Jackson Latta, 1869 - 1919

By Connie Sue Latta, Mudpie3133@aol.com
Branch 52 Captain

Andrew Jackson was born December 5, 1869 in the state of Missouri. According to the 1880 census record for Madison County, Arkansas, his parents were L. J. Latty and Missouri Latty. On this census, he is listed as A.J., age 11, along with W. R., a brother age 8, also born in Missouri and a sister, L. B., age 1, born in Indian Territory.

Information gathered on Andrew Jackson Latta was from his grandson, Frank Latta, who was born

in 1922 and died in 2000.

Andrew Jackson Latta's first marriage was to a Ms. Nancy Henson, Indian Territory at the First Judicial Division. George E. Wilson, an ordained minister of the Gospel, married them August 30, 1891. He was 21 and she was 22 years old. Mr. T. J. Latta and J. T. Creeprarie were security in the penal sum of \$100.00. They had one son, born in 1891, named Claud Latta.

Andrew Jackson Latta's second marriage was that of Sarah Francis Black, the grandmother to Frank Latta, the above mentioned. Sarah Francis Black Latta was born January 5, 1876 and died June 19, 1896. She is buried at Drake-Stand Cemetery, Sequoyah County, Oklahoma. There was one child born to them, Henry Latta. According to the 1900 census, Henry is living with his Uncle Thomas Latta. Andrew has remarried to his third wife, Lora and is still living in Indian Territory, Cherokee Nation, in Sallisaw, Oklahoma. He lists his son, Claud and a daughter Sophia. He is a farmer and the census states that he is educated. He also rents this farm of about 40 acres.

The 1910 census shows that Andrew Jackson Latta is still living in Oklahoma with his wife and children, Sofie, Ophelia, sons, Claud and Henry. He is now 40 years old, has been married to Lora for 12 years, and a fireman working a cotton gin.

Andrew Jackson Latta, sometime after the 1910 census, moved to Imperial Valley, California with his wife and children. One of his daughters moved to Somerton, Arizona, near Yuma. While visiting her, he suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and died. He was buried by Johnson Mortuary in the Old Yuma Cemetery. His obituary in the Yuma Morning Sun newspaper dated February 14, 1919 read: "Funeral services for the late A.J. Latta were held today from the Johnson Parlors, conducted by Rev. A.B. Tomilison of the Baptist Church. The deceased is a resident of the Imperial Valley and was here on a visit to a daughter in the Yuma Valley when death claimed him. He leaves a wife and five children."

With an actual death date of February 11, 1919, Andrew Jackson Latta is buried at the Old Yuma Cemetery, in a section marked Ancient Order of United Workmen. May he rest in peace.

Early Generations of Branch 51

by Ken W. Erdle,
Branch 51 Captain, k.erdle@att.net

Much of the research for Branch 51 seems to start with a family chart drawn from the records of a Latta bible in the Latta Family folder in the Vigo County public library in Terre Haute, Indiana. The earliest ancestor identified is Joseph Latta and wife Susannah. Only one child, John (b. 11 July 1795), is listed since, most likely, the chart was constructed by the 3rd or 4th generation descendents, but other research provides certain evidence of additional children of Joseph and Susannah. Confirming the information found in this family folder has been mostly successful as well as uncovering several other bits of fascinating information. It shows a trail of migration through Chester County, Pennsylvania and Wilmington, Delaware, through Fayette County, Kentucky and into the counties of Harrison, Washington, Greene, Owen, Clay and Vigo of Indiana. This article provides a synopsis of our current understanding of the first 3 generations of the Branch 51 descendents, the trail they left and some of the more interesting tidbits uncovered to date.

No proof of Joseph's parents has been established. Speculation is that it is possible that the Joseph of Branch 51 is the Joseph identified in the 1768 will of John Latta probated in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. John Latta is identified as having been one of the teamsters in Braddock's army and having lived along the Big Chickies. His will identifies children Alexander, John, Thomas, David, Jean and Joseph as well as stepchildren Samuel and William Ross. No proof of this speculation has been found but the timeframe seems to fit well with other evidence. There is no certainty but it would make sense that the children are listed in the will in chronological order. John is noted as deceased, but Thomas and David are listed as married. Thus the youngest, Joseph, may be likely to have been a teenager in 1768.

The marriage of Joseph Latta and Susannah Steen, daughter of John Steen, occurred in Old Swede's Church in Wilmington, DL on 2 Nov. 1772.

(Note: R.H. Latta's Memorandum Book

lists this marriage as 2 Oct. 1772. Also note that John Steen married Jane McCoy in this same church in September 1745.) It seems as though Joseph Latta and the Steen family resided in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Several records in the Pennsylvania Archives and Egle's Notes document Joseph, along with a couple brother-in-laws, as a member of the 4th Company of the Chester County Militia at various dates between 1777 and 1782. Various tax lists from this period also identify Joseph Latta/Latte/Lalla as a resident with 60 acres, 2 horses and 2 cattle. Families of Steen relatives also reside in the same Concord Township.

The trail grows cold after 1782 but then picks up as John Steen, father-in-law of Joseph Latta, is granted a license to operate a tavern in Harrodsburg, Kentucky as recorded from the 22 Sept. 1789 court records of Mercer County. Joseph Latty/Lattie shows up on tax lists in 1805 and 1807 in Fayette County, Kentucky, neighbor to Mercer County, in Levi Todd's district. (Note: an item of interest is that Levi Todd is the grandfather of Mary Todd Lincoln.) Joseph is also listed as the father of Ruth Latta on her 1805 marriage record to Andrew Walker in Fayette County.

The will of John Steen, probated in Mercer County in October 1799, provides further evidence that the above Joseph is of Branch 51 by including "...daughter Susannah, wife of Joseph Lathy". Susannah was apparently still alive in 1799 but no further record has been found of her or her death.

Sometime after 1805 Joseph migrated across the Ohio River into the area of the Northwest Territory that would later become Indiana. He is recorded as leasing a quarter section of land in Harrison County in an entry dated 9 March 1809. This is the first record in the first land book of Harrison County!

Three records of Joseph have been found in Harrison County in the year of 1812. One is an entry in the E stray Book noting that he claimed a stray horse, he is noted on a tax list and he is recorded as the father of Isabella Latta on the record of her marriage to Joseph Dirban on 4 Nov. 1812. Joseph also appears on the tax list for Harrison County in 1813.

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In 1813 William and John Latta, sons of Joseph, are listed as members of the Indiana Militia of Harrison County. John is listed as being born 11 July 1795 in the Latta bible transcript but William is not identified in that document. Several other records have left no doubt that John and William were brothers. No independent record of either the birth of John or his marriage to Jane McCroskey on 12 July 1814 has been found.

The last definitive record of Joseph is found as documenting his service on the first Grand Jury of Washington County (Indiana Territory) on 11 April 1814. Washington County was formed from Harrison and included the land leased by Joseph Latta.

The histories of Greene and Owen Counties written in 1884 as recollected by "old-time county residents" provide the next tracks on the trail of the Branch 51 Lattas. Official Greene County records from this period no longer exist but the county history provides accounts from 2 old-timers. One identifies William Latta as "the man who built the first log cabin in 1816". The other old-timer says "Old John Latta ... has the credit and honor of being the first white man that built a log cabin in Greene County, in the year of 1817".

The problem with this second recollection is that JOHN Latta was not OLD at this time. Could it have been possible that it was perhaps the elderly Joseph instead? Memories may have been foggy as to which Latta built the cabin, but it was most certainly a Branch 51 ancestor. It should also be noted that there is a Lattas Creek and a Latta railyard in this area today.

Also of interest is a 24"x36" poster-sized map published in 1932 by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. The map is titled "Indiana - The influence of the Indian upon its History - with Indian and French names for Natural and Cultural Locations" by E. Y. Guernsey. I happened to purchase a copy of the map because it seemed to be a good depiction of some of the early locations in Indiana. It was only upon closer inspection after I got home that I noticed, much to my delight, one of the annotations on the map across Greene County was "1st white set. John Latta 1817"!

In neighboring Owen County a few miles up the White River, the records, both unofficial and official, pick up the trail again and provide rather definitive evidence from here on. The unofficial records consisting of recollections of early county residents identify John and William Latta as the first permanent, white residents of Owen County as "...they had good improvements on their claims by the summer of 1818". A characterization of the two brothers as written in the county history is rather interesting: "John appears to have been a man of honor, and was well respected in the community which he founded; but the reputation of William was rather unsavory, and in later years he created quite a sensation by leaving the country [sic] in the company of a woman whom the laws of the State gave him no right to live with - in other words he took her for 'better or worse' without the formalities of a wedding ceremony."¹ As we will see later, the characterization of at least William is, if anything, generous.

Official land records document John Latta obtaining land in Owen County on the White River on 11 Oct. 1817 and William Latta on the other side of the river on 29 Nov. 1817. The first U.S. Census of the state of Indiana in 1820 shows the household of William Latty with 9 people and that of John Latty with a total of 6. Those listed in the household of William Latta remains a mystery but events soon to occur ensure a well-documented trail of the family of John Latta.

John Latta died sometime in December 1826 leaving a widow, Jane, and 6 surviving children (John, William T., James, Nancy, Abram and Susannah) between the ages of 5 months and 8 years. An inventory of John's possessions was filed with the Probate Court of Owen County dated 12 Jan. 1827 by administrators William Latta and Joseph Landrum, JP. A sale of the estate was held and accounted for on 27 Jan. 1827.

Before the sordid tale that follows, it is well to take a diversion from the trail and express some personal thoughts. When researching our ancestors it seems as though we invariably raise more questions than answers. Dates of birth, marriage and death as well as lineage information form the skeleton of genealogical research. But life stories of the

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Early Generations of Branch 51

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individuals represent the flesh and sinew that give definition and life to our ancestors. How certain events are woven into the tapestry of their lives are often incredibly interesting and provide fascinating insights into who our ancestors were - and, indeed, who we are. In researching historical events one soon learns not to be too judgmental about specific actions a particular individual took. We have only a distorted and very limited view of the context in which the person took such actions. Nevertheless, I cannot help but wonder why adults would be so irresponsible to leave children as wards of the state while money disappears as the adults move in and out of the picture.

Returning to the trail, the Owen County archives residing in the public library in Spencer, Indiana has a wealth of original documents covering the legal incidents over the next 16 years. John's land and possessions were sold and brother William was in charge of handling the affairs as the administrator of the estate. William is also named as the guardian of John's six children in 1829. Both William Latta and the widow Jane sold their Owen County lands on 8 Sept. 1829 and both appear separately in the 1830 census in Vigo County - about 35 miles away. The household of the widow Jane also includes the six children. Several Owen County court orders and receipts for expense reimbursement to William are recorded over the course of the next several years.

There is a record of William's marriage to Anne Landrum on 11 Jan. 1829 in Vigo County. Also, there is record of a transaction documenting his purchase of land there on 27 May 1830 and sale of the same land on 1 April 1835.

In a letter dated 13 May 1834 from William Latta to Owen County Probate Judge Thomas Allen, he states that Jane, the widow of John Latta who had remarried to Charles Tankersley of Vigo County in 1831, renounces all claims to the estate of John Latta and that he (William Latta) is about to move away.

In a statement to the Owen County court dated May 1835, Jane (Latta) Tankersley states that "William Latta removed to the state of Illinois taking James Latta, 14, but leaving John, 16, William, 15, Nancy, 12, Abraham, 11, and Susannah, 9, in Vigo County in the care of Charles Tankersley and don't know anything of money."

In a filing with the court in August 1835, Owen County Judge Thomas Allen requested that William Latta be removed as guardian of the five minor children left behind stating that William had left the area and was "entirely neglecting the children." The children then became wards of the state under the guardianship of Thomas Allen. This remained the case until John, the oldest of the children, took over as guardian of his siblings in 1841 when he was of legal age.

At this point in the saga the trail of William and nephew James grows cold. No additional information has yet been found on either of them. It is now clear why William's neighbors viewed him as having a rather "unsavory" reputation.

And the actions of John Latta's widow, Jane, also raise more questions than answers. Her second husband, Charles Tankersley, was 12 years her senior and she had 3 more children from this marriage. Charles Tankersley died in 1850 and Jane appears in the household of her daughter Nancy (Latta) Eversole in the 1850 census for Vigo County. Jane then shows up in the household of her youngest daughter Elizabeth (Tankersley) Young in Clay County in the 1860 census. A record of Jane's death has not been found.

Except for James, the other five children of John and Jane Latta all settled in Vigo and Clay Counties where they were mostly farmers and coal miners.

Unfortunately, tragedy was not finished with this Latta branch. John, the oldest of the five, died about 1852 leaving a widow and 3 small daughters.

The other four Latta children (William T., Nancy, Abram, and Susannah) married and had many descendents who mostly remained in the 2 counties.

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Early Generations of Branch 51

(Continued from page 7)

Abram is the great-great-grandfather of the author and was a few months shy of 82 at his death in 1906. Although somewhat old for service, he was enrolled into the U.S. Army toward the end of the Civil War. He was wounded, spent time in a hospital in Alabama and received a pension for his service. His pension application and service record can be obtained from the National Archives. The 1891 pension application lists his deceased wife, Levica Deen and living children Albert b. Sept. 1850, James b. Jan 1856, Elijah b. 1 Feb. 1862, Charles b. 13 Apr 1865 and Nora (Latta) West b. 20 Sept. 1870. Trying times seemed to continue to haunt a number of these descendants but some of the stories are too fresh to explore further.

As a closing comment, I suspect many of you would agree that exploring the mysteries of one's ancestors is psychologically rewarding to better understanding who we are. But it can also be a very humbling experience as well. Often the result is a very healthy appreciation of what those who passed before us endured. Such has been my experience in researching my Branch 51 ancestors. But I still have thousands of questions. If I could only ask them! I guess this is both the blessing and curse of this hobby.

1. History of Owen County (1884) edited by Charles Blanchard, Owen County Public Library, Spencer, Ind., 977.243, B1, p752.

Sarah Jane Latta Nally

By Betty Latta Kitchen, kitchen2@adelphia.net

Another name, date of birth, date of death ...

So often that is all we find while searching for our families. Sometimes, however, these facts can be used to give us glimpses into those unseen lives. The subject of this sketch is Sarah Jane (Latta) Nalley, the youngest daughter of John and Annie (Hockenberry) Latta [branch 17], my great aunt.

Sarah was born 29 August 1840 in Monroe County, Ohio. She was young, quite young, when

she married Marion Francis Nalley in 1855. She certainly had her share of sorrow. How could she possibly handle it all? To her nine children, death became a premature, but regular visitor.

The 1860's were a particularly bad period in Monroe County. Daughter Mary Ann was born and died in 1862. Son John William was born in 1863 and died in 1864. Although family legend contended that sons James "Levi" and George were both killed when struck by lightning while looking for the cows, contradictory material in the Monroe County, Ohio, Newspaper Abstracts of the Spirit of Democracy from the 12 July 1865 edition stated, "Died 2 July 1865 of diptheria, James L., eldest s/o Marion & Sarah J. NALLY of Wayne twp. 9y 17d." Then quoting from the 2 August 1865 edition: "Died in Wayne twp. 13 July 1865 of diptheria, George, s/o Marion & Sarah NALLY, 7y, 4m, 5d." So now her first-born two sons are gone too. Her brother John Copeland Latta also lost his two little boys, only one and three years old, that September--cholera we were told. November, 1865--her father died; December, same year, her mother. That year--1865--would be remembered.

When her husband Marion Francis Nalley died in 1885 of consumption, she was left with three daughters (19, 16, and 10), a blind son age 13, and a 24 year old son. In January of 1886 daughter Mary Jane married Simon Dougherty, and in June daughter Hannah married Jacob Morris. An article submitted to the MONROE COUNTY OHIO FAMILIES book by Mary Lou Henderson stated: "Because Hannah was only 16 and the law stated 18, Sarah, and her mother applied for the license. Since she could not write, Sarah made her mark (x) and the couple were married by a justice of the peace.

Sarah married William A Flanagan as a second husband in September, 1887. At that time only Louisa (Lida) and Henry Harvey were still at home. Henry Harvey was only 24 when he died in 1897. The measles which caused his blindness eventually claimed his life. Of her nine children, only four lived long enough to marry and have children. Again, I wonder, how did she cope?

Ireland Research

By Tom Kintigh, tqkintigh@worldnet.att.net

In taking over the coordination of research of the Latta family in Ireland, I decided it would be help me to summarize the results of the research done to date and also provide a progress report on what has been learned.

First, a little bit about the history Ireland. While Northern Ireland is frequently referred to today as Ulster, that is not correct. Ulster was a Province of the Kingdom of Ireland that included the six counties of Northern Ireland and also the counties of Donegal, Cavan and Monaghan which are in the Republic of Ireland. When King James VI of Scotland assumed the English (and Irish) throne in 1603 and became James I of Great Britain, he sought to settle some of his fellow Scots in Ireland as a way to consolidate his rule. He had land in Ulster to award loyal nobles and clergy in part because of rebellious Irish chiefs had fled their estates. This is what became known as the "Great Plantations" and had a complex organization with "Chief Undertakers" such as Ludovic Stewart, Duke of Lennox who received 3000 acres in the Portlough precinct; then "Ordinary Undertakers" such as Sir James Cunningham from northern Ayrshire who received 2000 acres in of the Portlough precinct, County Donegal. Below them were the tenants and undertenants that were granted either 21 year or life-time leases to farms. The undertakers were required to build fortified houses and organize armed men from their tenants. Native Irish were permitted to be both undertakers and tenants, but subject to limitations and at higher rents.

James I's grandson, James II, was disposed in 1688 for being Catholic and replaced by his daughter Mary II and her husband and first cousin, William III, Prince of Orange. In the ensuing civil war, James II drew on Catholic support from Ireland but the Presbyterian Scots in Ulster supported William and Mary and became known as "Orangemen" - distinctions that continue today as part of "The Troubles" in Northern Ireland. The brutal fighting included a lengthy siege of Londonderry in 1689 by James II's forces and his defeat at the Battle of Boyne on July 12, 1690. With William III's death in 1703, the largely Presbyterians Scottish settlers of

Ulster lost a protector against persecution by the established Anglican Church. The early 1700s saw massive emigration to the American colonies in search of religious freedom.

All of this is important because it appears that the Latta family in Ireland originated as Scottish settlers from Ayrshire (the county of Ayr) on the Ulster plantations, were Presbyterian, and subsequently emigrated in large numbers to North America.

Alex Latta of Branch 16 visits Ireland yearly and has done considerable research. He has produced a series of maps showing the location of Latta household throughout Ireland at different time periods; they show an interesting pattern. The earliest is dated circa 1650 and shows four Latta farms located in Taughboyne Parish, County Donegal in the townlands of Bready, Castlethirld, Tullyenan and Castleforward. To Alex this suggests that as many as three farms were settled simultaneously by Scottish families.

Early records found by other volunteers match nicely:

From 1630: Muster of the Barony of Raphoe "John Latay"

From 1663: Hearth Money Rolls (hearth tax), John Lata of Tullyennan, Parish of Taughboyne, Donegal, Ireland paid the tax.

From 1665: Hearth Tax, John Lata, Parish of Taughboyne and William Lata, Parish of Taughboyne.

From 1665: John Lata, an Irish student at Glasgow University.

Portlough precinct, Barony of Raphoe, and the Parish of Taughboyne are names that refer to the same area - counties are divided into baronies which are divided into parishes. It is located in County Donegal of the Republic of Ireland, between the cities Londonderry and Letterkenny, and on the border with Northern Ireland of the United Kingdom. Most of the undertakers of the Portlough precinct were from Ayrshire which is where the Latta family has been found in Scotland.

Other information placing the Latta family in this area is in Robert H. Latta's records for Branch 12. The 1780 Will of Robert Latta states that he is from the Parish of Donaghedy, County Tyrone.

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Ireland Research

(Continued from page 9)

This parish is across the River Foyle and less than 10 miles from Taughboyne Parish, County Donegal.

And then there is the legend of "Cattleman Latta" of Branch 3. From RHL's notes we have the following: "At the time of the Battle of Boyne, July 12, 1690, he lived near Donegal, Ireland. Was a man of wealth. He was a Protestant, but had Catholic cowboys. When Catholic King James II, defeated, hungry army passed through that part of the country, the cowboys drove all the live stock into the mountains. When the army had passed they drove the live stock back again. I do not know his name, but was told he was my ancestor. He was Scotch or Scotch descent."

A good case can be made that the Latta families first settled in the Portlough Precinct of the Barony of Raphoe circa 1630 or earlier. Some questions are:

How many families?

Who was "John Latay" and who were his descendants?

Who are "John Lata" and William Lata"; brothers or father and son; their descendants?

John Lata a student in 1665 when attending a university was really rare; how was that possible?

Interestingly, there has not been found any mention of a Latta being a defender of Londonderry during the siege of 1689. Does this indicate that they lived far enough away?

Going forward, we have the benefit of a research plan prepared by Sherry Irvine, a professional genealogist and expert on the British Isles. It includes focusing on the Barony of Raphoe, the Scottish undertakers and deeds. There is a long list of material to be checked which means I will be looking for volunteers. If you want to help, watch the Latta Mail List: LATTA-L@rootsweb.com.

REPRINTS of issues 1-17 are available for \$3.50 US per copy. Please make your checks payable to the Latta Genealogy Newsletter and mail your request to the editor, Ken Mueller.

Ulster Research Trip and Genealogical Materials

By Robert Cowan, CSCUNC@aol.com
Originally published on 6 Sept. 2002 on
LATTA-L@rootsweb.com.
Used with permission of Robert Cowan.

For approximately three weeks in May and June John Giacoletti and I made a research trip to Northern Ireland to gather information on some of the Defenders of Derry. I said I would post our findings to the various lists that had been contacted prior to our departure. To view all of our posts please go to the rootsweb.com main page and find the link to "threaded archives" Type in COWAN and search June and July 2002 and you will find some really interesting posts describing our research adventures. If you have any comments or questions please feel free to contact me at cscunc@aol.com.

Prior to the trip I offered four obscure, out-of-print publications that should be included in every Ulster Presbyterian's genealogical library. They all have either expired copyright provisions or, in the case of the Hagy thesis, I have the author's permission to reproduce the document. The publications are:

"The Laggan and its Presbyterianism" and "In the Days of the Laggan Presbytery," 1905, 1908, by the Rev. Alexander Lecky, B.A. member of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, Belfast 211 pages.

We met JB Shannon, age 90, who assisted in the 1975 reprint and he said these books are still the BEST source for Ulster Presbyterian research. The books contain lists of former generations of Lagganeers, and their places of abode, which have never before appeared in print.

"Fighters of Derry, Their Deeds and Descendants, being a Chronicle of Events in Ireland during the Revolutionary period 1688-1691," by William R. Young, 1932, Eyre and Spottiswoode, London, 350 pages.

One of the most difficult sources to locate, in fact almost impossible. It contains biographical sketches (1200+) of the Defenders of Derry.

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Ulster Research Trip

(Continued from page 10)

"A History of the Siege of Londonderry and Defence of Enniskillen in 1688 and 1689, with Historical Poetry and Biographical Notes," by the Rev. John Graham, M.A. Rector of Magilligan in the Diocese of Derry, Toronto, 1869, 311 pages. It includes the Battles of the Boyne, Athlone, and Aughrim and the siege and capitulation of Limerick by Lord Macaulay. It is full of genealogical information about the families who were at Derry.

"Castle's Woods: Frontier Virginia Settlement, 1769-1799, a thesis presented to the Faculty of the Department of History, East Tennessee State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts, by James Hagy, 1966, 150 pages. The most popular of the documents offered, this covers the families who settled in Russell county, Virginia when it was considered the frontier.

And a new addition:

"The Tinkling Spring, Headwater of Freedom" A Study of the Church and Her People, Howard McKnight Wilson, Fisherville, 1954.

This book contains more genealogy of the early settlers of Augusta/Rockbridge Counties Virginia than any other. It has baptismal records of the Rev. Craig and detailed analysis of many of the early families from the 1740's on.

Please contact me privately at cscunc@aol.com for details on how to acquire these materials. It is very slow and cumbersome to contact each list individually so in the future I will be putting these and other items I deem valuable on abebooks.com

Once again, I will be happy to answer any questions that have to do with the migration of Scots-Irish people from Ulster to Pennsylvania, Virginia and Tennessee.

But remember, I probably don't know who your mamma is, I had a hard enough time figuring out who mine was.

Regards,
Robert Cowan
525 Harrogate Rd.
Matthews, North Carolina 28105

The Latta Stone House

By Beryl Redfield, Branch 45 Captain,
Bredf331@cs.com

Because of its location in what is called "The Latta Plan," an area of houses in Roscoe, Washington County, Pennsylvania, it is called the Latta Stone House. The Latta Stone House was built by Allen Stockdale in 1803-1805. It is recognized as part of the Underground Railroad, and is of a duplicate design, although fancier, of a house built by a brother, Robert Stockdale, and of a house in California, Pennsylvania built by a sister. Thomas Stockdale had a brick house and farmlands that became the nucleus of the town that bears his name, Stockdale, in Allen Township. All were believed to be involved in the railroad, and all were Friends or Quakers. This stone house has had many owners over the years. The O. D. Latta mentioned in the story is Ostrander D. Latta. He was my great grandmother Irene Latta's uncle. Ostrander D. Latta and his brother Alexander Latta were deeded the Latta Stone House on 18 May 1868 by their father, William Latta of Branch 45.

Excerpted from "The Washington Observer"
Issue of Friday, October 29, 1937

LATTA STONE HOUSE IS MOST PERFECT
VIRGINIA TYPE MANSION IN THIS AREA
By Mary Herron

Miss Eliza Hazelbaker of Roscoe found a newspaper clipping several years ago that indicated that the house was then well over 130 years old. O.D. Latta bought the stone house that had taken everything its builder had in order that it might be perfect, and the house has come down through the family until it is occupied at present by Mrs. Ollie Latta Chester and her daughter, Miss Mary Margaret Chester. Before the Latta's came into ownership, the house was rented for several years by John R. Gregg. Some years later, it was again rented while Mrs. Chester's father was supervising the renovation of another farm he had acquired near there. So, for over a century the Latta's have occupied the great stone house.

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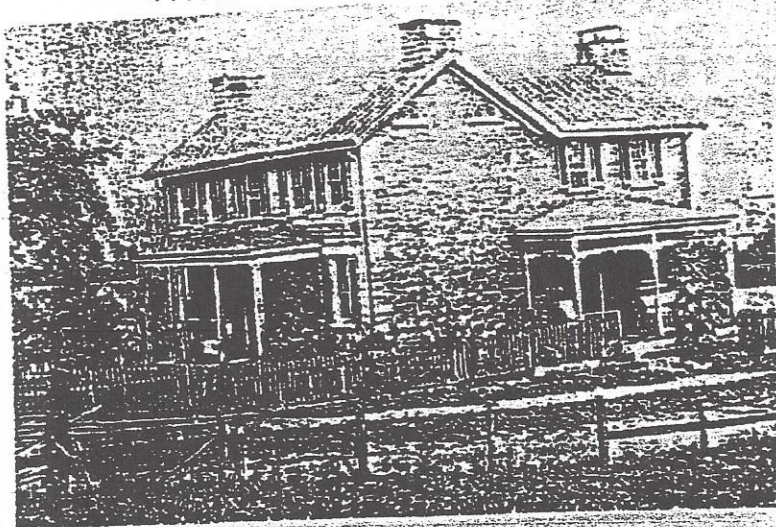
The Latta Stone House

(Continued from page 11)

Mrs. Chester can claim close relationship with the oldest families in Allen Township, her grandmother being an Allen, for whom the township was named, she herself being a Latta married to a Chester, another old family name in that place. An old indenture is also in the house. For the consideration of \$25, it states that William Allen obtained the ground on which the Latta House was built from William and Charles Penn. Mrs. Chester recalls sitting on the riverbank with her father to watch for the packet. It went up the river in the afternoon on schedule, but it had no return schedule and was very uncertain. As this was the only possible way to transport produce into the city, they waited on the dock with lanterns and then waved the lights frantically as the boat approached. The boat pulled in to shore, took on their goods and hurried off down the river.

End of Excerpt.

The author does not know if the Latta Stone House is still standing, and would like to contact the current owner.



The "Latta Stone House" was built in 1805, and is one of the most historical buildings in Roscoe. It has been listed by the Western Pennsylvania Architectural Survey as being one of the best representatives of the Virginia Plantation Influence to be found in Washington County.

A Latta Family on Manitoulin Island, Ontario

By Marilyn Macneall, marilynmacneall@cogeco.ca

This is a story about my grandfather, who is Thomas Sellers Latta, Branch 13. Thomas was born in Latta Mills, on July 18, 1859. He married Mary Sides March 27, 1888 in Manitoulin Island, Ontario. Thomas died Nov. 16, 1946. In the year of 1876 there came to the Manitoulin Island from Shelburne, Dufferin Township, Ontario, Thomas Latta, age 17, a grandson of a United Empire Loyalist, who took up land from the government known as lot 3 and 4 concession 4 of Barrie Island, Ontario. The farm was quite close to the water, which is known as Bayfield Sound. One of the reasons he chose here was, he was quite fond of the water and owned a boat, which could be rowed or sailed. By water was the fastest way of travel. He started clearing land on the south side of these two lots. On lot 3, he built a farm house, which faces south to the lake. In the hot summer there was always the cool breezes off the lake and in the winter it was sheltered by the bush on three sides. It was never lonely, as the only road off the island passed by, and there was always someone coming or going. The farm seemed a natural stopping place for many years, for people who came to the lake in winter to skate. Hunters came in the fall of the year to hunt around the lake and the farm. In the summer people gathered in the evening to swim and bathe. There was also many a picnic held on the shore of the lake in front of the arm near where the causeway now stands. In the early settlers time the channel was a meeting place of many people who always seemed to stop or a friendly chat, while passing the farm. In March of 1877 Thomas Latta moved into his home his father Archibald Latta who lived with him till his death in 1900. Thomas Latta's mother had died when he was 12 years old. In those days the water was quite deep in the channel, and there was no bridge for crossing, so Thomas used to ferry the people across the channel, which was finally bridged and later made a causeway. It took the early settlers a long time to clear

(Continued on Page 13)

Manitoulin Island, Ontario

(Continued from Page 12)

the land of trees and stones, and at the same time earn a living. Thomas used to work in the bush in the winter at hewing cedar railroad ties, in the summer he farmed and cleared more land. These early settlers on the land mostly walked following paths and trails. Many a man carried a 100 lbs bag of flour on his back to Gore Bay, which by car today is about 15 miles, and home again and women walked and carried eggs and butter and groceries and home again. Oxen and horses were soon in use. When Thomas used to ferry the people across the channel in his boat going to the mainland they would call at the house to be taken across, on the return there was a horn they blew on a little dock and could be heard at the house and he would go for them. The first bridge the government built was washed away in a storm and again the little boat was used to ferry people until a second bridge was built. In 1888 Thomas married Mary Sides who had come to the Manitoulin Island with her parents, the same year as he did. In 1898 there was a frame barn build to take the place of the log buildings at that time. This barn was considered one of the highest barns ever build and it still stands where it was built. On lot 3 east of the barn there is an ever flowing spring, which never freezes over in the winter, or goes dry in drought years. As a young child I thought it was wonderful that water came from the ground that way. Time and tide changes things. The water became so low a boat could not go through the channel. The Indians of West Manitoulin used to travel a lot by boat and came up to the farm to get a horse to draw the boats through the channel. We called them the blue berry pickers, as that was why they came. In winter time there was travel over the ice on the way to town and grist mills. Storms and deep snow delayed them at times and they stayed overnight on the farm. For many years the Lattas always had a lamp lit in the south window in the early fall evenings and winter nights. Many a person thanked them for this light, as it was a mark of direction when traveling on the ice. Mary Latta died in 1907, leaving Thomas with 8 children to care for. The youngest, George Henry, my father, was only 18 months old.

Thomas started carrying the mail between Gore Bay and Barrie Island in 1912 and carried it for 15 years. The farm was deeded to the third son James Gilbert Latta in 1930. Thomas continued to live on it till his death in 1948. James Gilbert Latta sold the farm in the 1950's. I hope that someone will find this interesting.

**Search Engine Tips
for Finding Your Ancestors**

By Geoffrey Sherwood, demidave@juno.com
Originally published by SHERWOOD-
L@rootsweb.com on 5 July 2002. Used with the
permission of Geoffrey Sherwood.

Search engines are our online super-librarian, and it helps to know how to unleash their amazing search capabilities. I thought I would pass on a few tips on how to increase the likelihood of finding your ancestors through the use of search engines. Some of this information will be old hat to many of you, but some of you may find it useful. Three such search engines are: www.google.com, www.yahoo.com, and www.altavista.com.

1. One of the easiest means to narrow down your search and eliminate a lot of search engine "noise" (useless links) is to enclose your search phrase in double-quotes. For example, if you are searching for Anson Latta, type in "Anson Latta", with the quotes. This guarantees that you will only get web pages that contain the exact phrase "Anson Latta," minus the quotes, of course. Search engines understand that the quotes are not part of the search phrase, but only mean that you want it to find that phrase exactly as it appears inside the quotes. The shortcoming of this search method is that results of your search will not include pages that have, say, "Anson G. Latta". But using quotes is still a powerful tool. If you do not use quotes, the search engine will list every page that has both "Anson" and "Latta" on the same page, but not necessarily together. For example, you may get a link to a page that has a list of names, like: "Anson Anderson, Mark Murphy, Zebediah Latta". The page satisfies your loose search criteria because it contains both "Anson" and "Latta."

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Search Engine Tips

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2. Another powerful search is to enter the name as follows: "Latta, Anson" (carefully note the order: surname comma space given name). This is a great search to use because names often appear this way in online census indices and other online records. Search method #1, above, will not capture the web pages that this search will capture. You will be surprised at how many additional pages you will get with this method. You can easily double your results by using both search methods.

3. Here's a really neat trick to use when you are searching for someone with a relatively common name, like "Benjamin Latta." Google.com found let's say 225 pages for that name when I searched for it in quotes. I do not want to wade through all of those pages, so suppose I know his spouse's name, or I want to verify that he was married to an "Ann Anderson." If I just type Benjamin Latta Ann Anderson without quotes, I get 13,000 pages. Useless. If I type "Benjamin Latta" Ann Anderson (Benjamin Latta in quotes, no quotes around Ann Anderson), I get let's say 40 pages. Not bad, but there is a better way yet. Type "Benjamin Latta" "Ann Anderson" (both names in quotes with a space between). Now I get only 3 pages, but every one of them has exactly the Benjamin Latta and wife, Ann Anderson, that I was looking for.

4. You may or may not be able to replicate the three searches above by using Boolean logic, which most if not all search engines understand. That is the straightforward logic which uses operators like "and", "or" and "near" to fine tune your search. They can be useful, but I am a lazy son of a gun, and I do not want to waste precious seconds going to the search engine's "Advanced Search" page in order to use the Boolean operators. I want to do it all on the main page, quick and easy. If you are willing to experiment a little bit, you may find even better ways to find what you are looking for on the main search page.

5. Recognize the shortcomings of search engines. As far as I know, no internet-wide search engine, like those I have shown above, can index PDF documents.

This is an ENORMOUS shortcoming, but fortunately, this shortcoming seems to inexorably, albeit slowly, coming to an end. The greatest obstacle to making genealogical information available online is the time and manpower it takes to transcribe zillions of census records, books, journals, correspondence, and other documents. The only rational approach is to make them available as online graphical images, i.e., scan them and save them online as PDF files or some other graphical image format. Once the techno-gurus figure out how to make these graphical documents searchable by the 800-pound-gorilla search engines, there will be an explosion of genealogical data on the internet. To get a taste of what it is like to be able to search within a scanned document, check out the online "Making of America" project sponsored by Cornell University and the University of Michigan <http://moa.umd.umich.edu/> They have scanned an astounding 8,500 books and 50,000 journal articles. Each scanned image has been enhanced with "Optical Character Recognition" (OCR) to facilitate searching and accessing the texts. I have only scratched the surface of the Cornell site, but because 19th century New York state history is one of its strong suits it is of interest to me. Keep in mind that you cannot search these documents from OUTSIDE the Cornell University and University of Michigan websites. That is what I mean when I say that this particular search technology is not currently in use internet-wide. You can only search the OCR-enhanced scanned documents from within the Cornell and Michigan sites. That was the last I knew, anyway. If the situation has changed, please let me know.

I hope this helps a bit.

The editor is always in need of good articles about the Latta Family. Especially needed are articles about the Latta Family in Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Great Britain, Belgium, France, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

There are even Latta families in Germany, as evidenced by the following article.

There are Lattas in Germany as Well

By Gerriet Latta, gerriet.latta@ewetel.net

Dear Mr. Latta, a long time ago you send us your genealogy newsletter. We discovered there was no branch in Germany. Thus, we want to tell you about our family. My name is Gerriet Latta. We live in Emden near the North Sea Coast. My father, Franz Latta, was born in Johannisburg, East Prussia in 1897. His father, Karl Latta was born in East Prussia as well, in Rezniken on Feb. 8th 1866. His father, Gottlieb Latta, was born in Adia Wolla on Dec. 1st 1835. The oldest ancestor I am aware of is Gottlieb's father, Adam Latta, born about 1808.

Due to the location of the family in the nineteenth century and the losses of documents in WW I and II, it has not been possible for me to trace my ancestor back any further so far. We assume and speculate, that Scottish soldiers named Latta came to Prussia in the 18th century following the alliance of England and Prussia (Frederic the Great). Potentially they stayed in that area and founded families. Do you have any information supporting this idea?

In case you are interested, I shall help you with any information I have about my ancestors. Looking forward to hearing from you. Yours Sincerely.

Non-Profit Family Association

By Ken Mueller, editor, Doc Huer@aol.com

Because of the tax regulations in the United States, we need to set up as soon as possible a non-profit family association for our newsletter and Ireland Research Project. Right now our treasurer Virginia Curulla is sitting on the hot seat, with all of the Latta funds in the bank under her control. She really does not want any tax liability for the Latta funds. To transfer these funds to an account with a non-profit status we need some legal advice. Cindy Steine has volunteered to investigate this matter, and help with the paperwork, but she could use some expert help. Is there a subscriber out there who is an attorney experienced in such matters? Please contact Virginia Curulla by mail at 9050 Meridian Pl. N., Seattle WA 98103, or e-mail at vcurulla@earthlink.net. We want to do it right the first time.

Report of 2002 Trip to Ireland

By Alex Latta, Branch 16 Captain,
allatta@gambit.ab.ca

Well! I'm home safe and sound after another 2000 miles on the wrong side of the road. I was not able to complete all the work I had set out to do, but did make one significant discovery, and took some good photos of the old farm buildings at Cross and Bready.

I arrived at Gatwick, London this time, as I wanted to take the "Chunnel" train to Belgium. Excitement rose as I new we were approaching the "Chunnel". A half hour later I woke up in France. Never saw a thing. Perhaps on the way back. Kevin Latta picked me up at Lille, France, as promised, and whisked me directly to the Military graves at Ypres, where the grave I looked for was promptly found. This was the grave of my Grandmother's brother, who died in WW1.

We then went to Kevin's home near Antwerp, where I was his guest for four days. I had an excellent walking tour of the Old City. The architecture was stunning, when compared to our modern buildings. The weather was great, and we stopped for lunch on a canal boat. Although I do not drink normally, I enjoyed a local beer with my lunch.

Visit over, Kevin drove me back to Lille, where caught the return train to London, this time keeping my eyes open. There was not much to see. It takes less than 20 minutes to go through. I then returned to Gatwick to rent a car, as I had to end up there in the end. I then drove to Corby, in central England. (See query #18, summer 2002.) I went directly to William Latta's home where I received a very warm welcome. He turned out to be the Mayor, and presented me with a plaque of the city. I stayed at a B/B, and after breakfast, there was William waiting to take me out on the highway to be sure I did not get lost. After five or six miles and a few roundabouts, I was away to West Yorkshire to visit Marie and Peter Scaife for two days. I then went across country to Blackpool to spend a couple of days with Jean (Latta) Tuck and her family. Jean was born in the Rectory house at the Church of Ireland, Taughboyne Parish.

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Research Queries

Send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 337 Gertrude Street, Elgin, Illinois 60123, Doc Huer@aol.com

For future Queries, the editor suggests that the contributor include both e-mail and snail mail addresses, as not all researchers have Internet access.

1. I have been back on the Latta family again, and am confused about this Branch 20, a James Latta who married Elizabeth, on the Branch 20 file it shows he was born April 3, 1785, but the cemetery inscription I found at the library from a book Ohio Cemetery Records, Extracted from The Old Northwest Genealogy Quarterly, published 1984, shows James died 1826 at the age of 52y, and his wife Elizabeth died 1854 at the age of 73y 13d. This would make them born about, James, 1774 and Elizabeth about 1771. Now, this will work with the theory that James is from William Latta branch 1, as his children were born during this time period. Now, as for my Mary(possible)Latta, she was also supposed to have been born around 1770, buried at the cemetery, Mary wife of John Starrett, d, Mar 7 1855 age 85y. I don't find a daughter to this William Latta (Branch 1) by the name Mary, but there is a Mayor Cotter, does anyone have anything on this daughter, could she have been a Mary? I still have no proof that the Mary who married John Starrett, was a Latta. Thanks, and sorry this is so long, Katy, dklwill@ipa.net.

2. I am looking for information on a Jane Latty. Here is what I know so far: Jane Latty (or Lattie) was either born in Ireland or Canada. She was married to Charles H. Reynolds, Sr. who was either born in Vermont or Canada. They had seven children: Edward E., Jennie M. (married name: Berry), Charles H. (Jr?) (born 09/29/1846 in Roxton, Quebec, Canada), Della C. (married name: McLain), Thomas, William O., and an unnamed female (married name: Mrs. Lyman Hutchins). Jane might not have been the mother of all of Charles H. Reynolds, Sr., children. Larry L. Reynolds, 2917 Gracefield Road, Silver Spring MD 20904-1668, United States, LReynolds@iitri.org.

3. Great-great grandfather was Samuel Rankin Latta of Dyersburg Tennessee. I am searching for a disk copy of the diary he kept from 1840s to 1865. I have a transcribed copy my mother typed from the original. Dr. Robert Latta Barret, 1956 Maryland Avenue, Charlotte NC 28209, bbarret@carolina.rr.com.

4. Does anyone have in their lineage or database a Sophie Latta who married a Mr. Conner of Strathmore, California and a Mrs. Ophelia Smith of Bakersfield, CA and an Andrew Latta, also of California and an Andrew Latta. All born in the 1890's. These are the siblings of Henry Latta, born in 1894. Any help is greatly appreciated. Thanks much. Connie Latta, 11931 Lambert Ave., El Monte CA 91722, Some-sup@aol.com.

5. I am Black and related to Lottie family from Arkansas and Oklahoma (by way of NC, AL, and TN). This is a variation in

the spelling of the Latta name. I would like to find out about any black or Indian heritage anyone has run across in their research. I found my ggg grandfather, Major Lottie in the 1870 census for Phillips County AR and his occupation was a carpenter. I don't know any info beyond this in terms of how he acquired his skills/trade, but his place of birth is listed as NC. Dorothy Wofford Witherspoon, 2405 S.W. 11 Street, Lee's Summit MO 64081, dspoonmo@att.net.

6. Some of you have been interested in a Joseph Latta. I don't recall if I posted that I found Joseph Latta listed in the 1790 U.S. Census in unknown township, Mecklenburg County, NC. This was roll M637-7, page 160. Listed just above him were Allison Knox, Thomas Holly?, Samuel Irwin, John Johnston, Lewis Jetton, Widow? Jetton, William Hamilton ... And just below him were Hugh Lucas, Michael Lawrence?, John Morrow, Robert Morrow, John Morrow Jr., James Maxwell, Benjamin Maxwell ... I know that there were some Jetton family members living near my branch 22 Lattas in Gibson County TN around 1825 to 1860 or 1870. Anyone think they know this Joseph? Might he be the one who later was in Fayette County, KY, and then in ? Ohio or was it Indiana? There also was a Joseph Latta, as I recall, living in Spottsylvania County VA around 1791, at the time of the death of his wife, Lucy. Identifying some of these early Lattas could help us trace some of the branches back farther, and perhaps linking with known branches. Virginia Latta Curulla, 9050 Meridian Pl. N., Seattle WA 98103, vcucurulla@earthlink.net.

7. I am speculating the origin of John (1) Latta in Branch 17, which states that he was an "Orangeman" and lived in Ulster Co., Ireland. I was doing some research for my mother's family and happened upon the origins of Monongalia County, West Virginia, which was once a large section of Augusta County, Virginia (as was a large portion of Pennsylvania and Virginia back in the early 1700s). Augusta County, Virginia had a heave migration of Scotch-Irish, Welsh and Germans from PA into Virginia about 1730. "Augusta County became the haven for Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. While Augusta County was officially formed from Orange County in 1738, it wasn't until 1745 that the first court was held." My question - do you think that John 1 was from Orange County and that he was here all along? Maybe the stories are not straight. After all, there was a John Lattea was was constable in Dublin Twp, Bedford County, PA in 1774 before the Rev. War. What do you all think? I am going to search the records of Augusta County further and see if I can find anything along the lines of Latta. The website can be found at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~vaugusta/augusta2.html>. Sue Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, Latteacox@aol.com.

8. I hope to find Claud Allen Latta, born in Indian Territory

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Our Financial Contributors since the last issue.

We really appreciate your support! Name, branch number, addresses:

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Research Queries

(Continued from Page 16)

Territory in 1891. He married Eliza **Hamilton**. He had a brother named Henry and died in Poteau, Oklahoma about 1958. Mrs. Donna L **Moore** 6402 32nd Street, Lubbock Texas 79407, econolab@aol.com.

9. Anyone have any information or interest in the following information on **Lattas** from Western Scotland - Paisley, Kirkcudbright, Glasgow?

First Generation

A. **James Rutherford** was born on 27 May 1905 in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland. James married Annie **McQuilkin** daughter of William **McQuilkin** and Ann Jane **Johnston** on 29 Jul 1932 in Constitution Hall, Rankin St Johnstone Scotland. Annie was born in 4 Aug 1905 on Hozier (or Hovis) Street, Partick, Scotland. She died on 21 Aug 1964 in 73 Underwood Road, Paisley, Scotland. She was buried in Woodside Cemetery, Paisley, Scotland.

Second Generation

B. **James Rutherford** was born on 13 Jan 1870 in Haw, Taughboyne, Donegal, Ireland. He died on 10 Jan 1951 in 10 Lady Lane, Paisley, Scotland. He married Mary Jane **Latta** on 5 Dec 1902 in Mount Pleasant, Paisley, Scotland.

C. Mary Jane **Latta** was born on 1 Aug 1873 in Dundonald, Ayrshire, Scotland. She died on 17 Mar 1908 in 41 Underwood road, Paisley. The cause of death was died in childbirth.

Third Generation

D. William **Rutherford** .William married Margaret **Peebles**.

E. Margaret **Peebles**. Dead by 1909 at the time of son James' second marriage.

F. **James Latta** was born in 1837. He married Jane **Kelvie** on 11 Sep 1861/1859 in Girthon, Kirkcudbright, Scotland, near Gatehouse of Fleet. I have a document in which **James Latta** transfers a grave to **James Rutherford** (probably Mary Jane **Latta's** grave). The document is dated 10 April 1908 so **James Latta** was still alive at this time. There is a record that **James Latta** worked as a ships carpenter or shipwright 8. This is on the grave transfer too). Given this he probably lived near a port - so his children would likely have been born near a port. Used to live at 27 Castle Street (in 1908 lived at 41 Underwood Road. Was unable to sign the grave transfer on account of physical disability.

G. Jane **Kelvie** was born in 1841 in Gatehouse of Fleet, Scotland.

Fourth Generation

H. **James Latta**. James married Helen **Hart** on 23 Oct 1832 in High Church, Paisley, Renfrew, Scotland.

I. Helen **Hart** .

J. David **Kelvie**. David married Elizabeth **Martin**.

K. Elizabeth **Martin**.

Prof. Cliff **Shaw**, Department of Geology, University of New Brunswick, 2 Bailey Drive, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 5A3, Canada, cshaw@unb.ca.

10. Could someone please tell me how to locate my mother's family within the **Latta** family branches of the website? What other information other than names and birthplaces would be helpful? My mother is Alison Marie **Latta** DOB 17//8/36, Portland, Victoria, Australia. She is the eldest of two girls. Her sister is Jillian **Grace** DOB 2/5/46. My Grandfather was Thomas Charles **Black Latta** DOB 19/11/04, Warrnambool, Victoria, Australia. He died in Portland, Victoria, Australia on 9/3/77 and was the 3rd youngest of 13 children. My Great-Grandfather was John **Latta** and he came from Ireland in the late 1800's and married a **Grace Parker** in Australia. I enjoyed looking at the photos of the **Latta** family on Scott Steven **Slocum's** site and was quite amazed by the family resemblance. The **Latta** nose and quite delicate features seem to be a feature which has leapt across the generations. I was at a recent 90th birthday of my great Auntie **Tup Latta** (The last surviving and youngest sister of my Grandpa) and about 40 of the **Latta** family were there. The family resemblance even to my own children is just amazing. We are also quite a lively and talkative bunch. I wonder if that also is a trait carried over the generations? If you have any information about the Irish/Australian **Lattas** it would be much appreciated. Thank you. Belinda **Peterson**, Senior Project Officer, eLearning, Learning & Teaching Innovation Division, Department of Education and Training, Level 3, 33 St. Andrews Place, East Melbourne 3002, Australia, peterson.belinda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

11. The following Andrew Jackson **Latta**, so far, has not connected to Branch #52.

1880 Census:

Andrew J. **Latta**, Male born 1829 age 51 in Arkansas
Sarah A. **Latta**, wife age 36, born Arkansas
Laura daughter age 9/12 born Arkansas
Edwin - stepson age 13 born Arkansas
Caroline **May** - Mother - in - law age 54, born Missouri.

1870 Census - Arkansas.

This states "Inhabitants in Illinois" in the County of Washington, State of Arkansas - Post office "Cincinnati". Page 7 - Line 48. Thomas **Latta**, age 19 Born in Arkansas - no other data. **note He is numerated with a George **Washington** age 37 who is a Farmer. It could be that Thomas **Latta** is working for him.

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Research Queries

(Continued from Page 18)

1920 Census - Oklahoma

Henry **Latta**, age 48, born Tennessee
 Sarah, his wife, age 41, born Missouri
 Louis L., daughter, age 5, born Oklahoma
 Mildred, daughter, age 16, born Oklahoma
 Albert, son, age 14, born Oklahoma
 Apiali (could this be April?), daughter, age 10, born Arkansas
 Jay, son, age 12 born Arkansas
 Ellie **Peltier**, Step Daughter age 17 Oklahoma
 Ralph **Peltier**, Step Son age 15, Oklahoma

****Note:** These children look out of sync as Ellie **Peliter**, age 17 and Ralph **Peltier** age 15 are his step children and yet the daughter named Mildred age 16 is not listed as a step child. We know from this census that Sarah was married before and since the children Mildred and Albert are ages 14 & 16, it's possible that Henry was married before, too.

1920 Census - Oklahoma

James **Latta** age 56 birthplace Arkansas
 Gertrude **Latta** wife age 37 born Nebraska
 Neol E son age 16 born Oklahoma
 Guy S Son age 14 born Oklahoma
 Kenneth A son age 13 Oklahoma
 Pauline A daughter, age 11, born Oklahoma
 James F. son age 10 born Oklahoma
 Gertrude L daughter age 6 born Oklahoma
 Donald G son age 4/12 born Oklahoma

I cannot connect any of these to Branch #52. Any ideas where they belong? Connie **Latta**, Branch #52, somesup@aol.com.

12. I must say I am very confused. There are too many John **Lattas** for me to discern just who his parents were. My John married Margaret **Potter** in 1794 in Pa. Their daughter Margaret Jane married Henry **McLaughlin** on Sept 8, 1816. Their daughter Margaret Ann married my great grandfather, Sample Robert **Moore** on Aug. 25, 1856 in Suez, Mercer Co, Ill (her 2nd or 3rd marriage). Their son, Abraham Lincoln **Moore** is my grandfather by his son, Floyd Paul. I also know that my John was a Major but in what war? Any help would be appreciated. Joyce **Moore Young**, 805 N. 57th Ave., Pensacola, FL 32506-4655, jyoung325@aol.com.

13. I am helping a friend search his ancestors and need help with (branch #45) Martha Jane **Latta** (his great grandmother). The information we have is: born 12 Apr 1830 in Fayette Co., PA; died 17 Oct 1893; married 25

May 1848 to James Henry **Lutz**. Her parents were William **Latta** and Rachel (Unknown) from Illinois. As we are new to genealogy, we would appreciate any & all information we can obtain. Thank you! Diane **Word**, 3150 E. 68th Street, Tulsa Ok 74136, DWord82647@aol.com.

13. Recently discovered my great, great (etc.) grandmother was a **Latta** born in Pennsylvania in the 1700s. Married William **Mayes**, moved to Miami County, OH. My only information at this point. Mrs. Gloria **Pendexter Surtees**, 2455 Shields Street, La Crescenta CA 91214, gloriaps@aol.com.

14. I am trying to find any information on John **Lattie** and his wife Helen **Clark**. Their son, Alexandre is the furthest link that I have any solid data on. Capt. Alexandre **Lattie** was born 10 May 1802 at St. Andrew, County Fife, Scotland, son of John **Lattie** and Helen **Clark**, members of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. According to Dr. John **McLoughlin's** letters, Alexandre **Lattie** was taken into the Hudson's Bay Company as a seaman in 1830. When he was about 28, the spirit of adventure prompted him to enter the Hudson's Bay Company's service as a seaman. **Lattie** was sent to the Columbia, probably on board the Gany-mede, which arrived at Fort Vancouver, in the summer of 1831. He remained in the company's coastal trade for the next 15 years. In this unorganized community of mixed races, two natural leaders - one English, one American, both with Clatsop Indian wives - lead the way to peace without fanfare. Captain Alexandre **Lattie**, a tall-red-headed, liquor-lovinq Scotchman, remained at Fort George (or Astoria) as the company's bar pilot. Indians loyal to one who knew how and who treated them justly, sided **Lattie** in navigating the ships over the treacherous bar, sometimes when both captain and helpers were tied to the masts. Also, does the **Latta**, **Lata**, **Lattie**, name belong to any particular clan? Thanks for any help, Steven D. **Coffman**, 19335 SW Pecan Ct., Aloha OR 97006, divinstr@dsl-only.net.

15. Tracing **Latta** and **Blackhouse** family connection. Robert **Latta** married to Elizabeth **Backhouse** NB. They lived on an island at Batemans Bay (4hours drive from Sydney) and started the first ferry service at the bay. Elizabeth was a nurse and would sail down the river to be a midwife for the Aboriginal women. Matt **Jones**, Haverfordwest Pembs, Wales, mattsend2me@hotmail.com.

16.

A. I am looking at the will of my gr gr grandfather John **Latta** (Branch 17) who died in Wayne Township of Monroe County, Ohio in 1865 at age 83 according to newspaper article.

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Research Queries

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"Item fourth. My other four children Samuel Latta, Julia A. Pool, Lucinda Mercer, George M. Latta, and also Hearriett S. Latta and Aalice Latta, heirs of Abraham Latta, all of whom I here mention as having received all that I allow them to have of my estate."

From my interpretation of this Abraham would have been a deceased child of John's. I have nothing on this Abraham. Perhaps he was born and married in PA (they were to have been from Huntingdon County) and did not accompany the rest of the family on the trek to West Virginia (Tyler County area) then on to Monroe County, OH in the 1830's. Does anyone have anything they can share on him, his children?

B. Robert Latta of Belmont County, OH was one of the original land purchasers in Monroe County, OH, made through the Marietta Land Office in 1802. Who is Robert? Does any branch claim him? Is he any relation to our John Latta (branch 17) who moved to Monroe Co, OH in the 1830's?

C. Looking for more information on Louisa Ellen (Latta) Matz and hopefully her descendants. She was born in Monroe County, OH, daughter of John Copeland and Mary Jane (Morris) Latta (branch 17), in 1871. Married Chris Matz. In the 1910 census they were living in Lewisville, Monroe County, with children Lake, 7; Nadine, 6; Mary U, 2; and Seleme, NR. About 1917 they moved to Ashland, Ohio. Betty Latta Kitchen, 3505 E. Aurora Road, Twinsburg, OH 44087, kitchen2@adelphia.net.

16. Latta Branch No. 31, Please take note! Greetings! The two Latta / Craig families that I have been engaged in trying to pursue for some time now are those of Moses Latta, born about 1806, and his brother, John Latta, born about 1810, who married half-sisters Matilda Craig, born about 1807, and Louisa Craig, born 1814, respectively. I am most eager to make contact with anyone descending through either of the above families, and hopefully we might be able to cooperatively work together in trying to make as accurate and as complete an accounting for the families of Moses and John Latta, down through 1920 or so, for the benefit of future generations of family researchers. Like you, I was in contact with Ruth Cunningham quite frequently during about the same time that you were, for approximately a year or two, before her health brought about an end to her active research.

"Always Looking for Cousins!"

Craig Beeman, 518 N. 24th St. Joseph, MO 64501, crb@ponyexpress.net.

Report of 2002 Trip to Ireland

(Continued from Page 15)

I then proceeded to Moffat, Scotland to visit Ian Latta, but he was going to be busy with guests for some time, so I continued on to Mauchline. I had a very interesting experience at the local Masonic Hall, but this is another story. Tom McLatchie who owned Millerston Farm, (Br. #34), had passed away, so I could get no answers here. Still staying in Mauchline, I drove to see the Rosslyn Chapel at Roslin, near Edinburgh. This shrine is in remarkable condition, highly recommended to visit. I got more out of this place than any castle I have ever seen. It is said to have been built by the Knights Templar, in the 1200s, and was left untouched by marauding armies from both directions.

One more night at Mauchline and I took the ferry to Belfast. I spent two or three days at P.R.O.N.I., and was able to make a significant find in the locations of both Airsty and Hastrough. The legal description of their location is as follows. Should be of interest to branch #3. Airsty is in the Parish of Tamlaght Finlagan, Townland of Back. This is near Limovady. Hastrough is in County Antrim, Parish Grange of Drumtullagh, townland of Iderown. This is very near Ballycastle.

I was able to procure maps for these regions, but neither place is mentioned, only the townlands. Description of the locations was given me by PRONI. A few days were spent doing research for names not connected to Latta.

I visited my cousin, David Gilliland, in Londonderry, and several of the remaining Lattas in the area. Several pictures were taken of the old buildings at Cross and Bready. My friend Anne Gamble that had helped me so much last year had passed away. The weather had closed in, so I left for County Wexford to visit family there. This is the main repository of my family research. I try to leave anything that pertains to my branch, here for future generations. I spent part of a day in Winchester, and noted several Lattas living in the area. More work! Until next time.

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(Continued on Page 22)

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Former Editor Paul H. Calhoun Dies

Subj:[LATTA] Paul H. Calhoun

Date:11/4/02 4:28:53 PM Central Standard

Time

From:tkkintigh@worldnet.att.net

To:LATTA-L@rootsweb.com

Sent from the Internet (Details)

I have tragic news for everyone on the list.

I received a phone call informing me that my
cousin, Paul Howard Calhoun, had died very sud-
denly this afternoon, November 4, 2002.

I will post more details when they are available.

Tom Kintigh

Branch #3

Tucson, AZ

A Personal Note

By Ken Mueller

Just as this issue of the Latta Genealogy News-
letter was nearing completion, I received the above
tragic news about our former editor, Mr. Paul H.
Calhoun. Although I am saddened by this news,
since Paul was a very devout Christian, I am sure
that he is in the home of his Lord God. We all pray
for this for Paul, and we send our deepest condo-
lences to his wife, Nola.

I am not personally acquainted with most of the
details of Paul's life, so like you, I will have to wait
for further details from Tom Kintigh.

In the meantime Virginia Curulla and I recom-
mend that if you wish to remember Paul Calhoun
that you consider a charitable donation in his name
towards cancer research.

Please complete the form below, and enclose it with your contribution.
Suggested: US and Canada \$10-15 US for 3 issues; Overseas \$15-20 US funds please.
Thank you.

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