
The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 51

Fall 2013

The Distribution of the Latta Name in 1850

By: Geoffrey Latta, Secretary Historian,
gwl820@hotmail.com.

How many Lattas were there in the world in 1850 and where were they? In one sense, this is impossible to answer, but by 1850 the US and Britain were running quite accurate censuses, the records of which are available to researchers.

The 1851 Scottish census listed 250 people with the name Latta, while in England there were 41 with another 2 in the island of Jersey. This is consistent with the assumption that Latta is not an English name but derives from Scotland. Unfortunately the records of the 1851 Irish census have been destroyed but there were obviously Lattas in Ireland at that point as well. Estimating numbers for Irish Lattas is quite tricky. Clearly a significant number of Scottish Lattas went to Ireland in the 17th century as part of the Plantation of Ulster, but by 1851 it seems reasonable to assume that many of these had moved on to the United States. Based on other information that the Society generated as part of its Irish research project and other information available to me, I would estimate that by 1851, about 150 Lattas lived in Ireland. However, this estimate has a significant margin of error.

FamilySearch.org shows 698 people with the name Latta in the US Census of 1850. It is interesting to step back and consider this number. It means that the number of Lattas in the US substantially exceeded the number in Britain and Ireland where nearly all Lattas in 1850 would have traced their origin. This implies either that many Lattas left Scotland and Ireland and/or that once they got to America, their birth rate was higher than families that stayed in the countries they had left. Both

factors may well be true and it is also a reasonable supposition that those in America were economically better off and enjoyed better health and lower infant mortality. They were also more likely to be farmers where there might be more perceived advantages in a large family compared to the more city-dwelling British Lattas.

It is also interesting to look at the birth places of Lattas in the 1850 Census. Only 66 were born outside the US, so over 90% were US-born, reinforcing the fact that Lattas came to the US early. Of the 66 foreign-born, 40 were from Ireland, 8 from England, 7 from Scotland, 6 from Canada, 4 from Germany and one from Italy.

The distribution of Lattas in America is also interesting. The states with the largest numbers were Ohio (132), Pennsylvania (127), Indiana

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside This Issue

Editorial Page	Page 2
List of Branch Captains	Page 2
Treasurer's Report	Page 3
Shipwreck Story Proven True	Page 5
Rev. James Latta	Page 5
Family Tree DNA	Page 7
Taking a Second Look	Page 10
Orphaned and Alone	Page 13
Robert Wallace Latta	Page 14
The Story of R. W. Latta	Page 18
Latta Branch 5	Page 19
Latta Branch 49	Page 20
Latta Branch 13	Page 20
Other Branch Captains	Page 20
Latta 2013 Elections Results	Page 20
Research Queries	Page 21
Our Financial Contributors	Page 22
2013 Annual Meeting	Page 24
New Auditor Needed	Page 24

Editorial

Beryl Redfield is retiring as our Treasurer at the end of this year. It has been my honor to work with her on our Latta Genealogy Newsletter. She has labored hard as Treasurer, written several very fine articles for our Newsletter, and continues as Branch 45 Captain. I hope to see more of her writings, and I wish her well in retirement. I dedicate this issue of our Newsletter to Beryl with heartfelt thanks.

Randy Phillips will step in as our Treasurer on January 1, 2014. We send our congratulations and best wishes to him.

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

Dedicated to research among the fifty-three branches of the Latta family worldwide, and of our family's origins in the Old World. Funded by members of the Latta Genealogy Society, a non profit corporation registered in the State of Washington.

Suggested membership contribution:
\$10-15 dollars per year (US and Canada)
International US \$15-20

Please send your membership donations to:

Randall Phillips, Treasurer, 1456 Lake St., Elmira NY 14901, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Please send your address changes, newsletter articles, queries, comments, etc. to:

Kenneth A. Mueller
Editor
7400 East Mule Circle
Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314-5429
e-mail: Doc Huer@aol.com

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

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

Articles will be edited for grammar, spelling, and clarity. Requests to publish an article will be individually evaluated by the editor.

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 Sue Lattea Cox, Branch 17, Coordinator of Branch Captains. The duties of a branch captain were spelled out in issue 27, Fall 2005, page 32. Here is a revised list of our branch captains, with names and addresses.

Branch 1: Ken Mueller, 7400 East Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, DocHuer@aol.com. I also am your editor.

Branch 3: Alan L. Latta, P.O. Box 508, Inkom, ID 83245, allatta@aol.com.

Branch 4: Randy Phillips, 1456 Lake St., Elmira NY 14901, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Branch 5: Margaret J. Hundertmark, W7489 Honold Rd., Fond du Lac WI 54935, mjc_mark@c-mark.us.

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

Branch 7: Lorraine Latta, 3268 1/2 Atwater Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90039, LorraineLatta@aol.com.

Branches 10 and 15: Cindy Stiene, 158 Intracoastal Dr., Madison AL 35758-7925, lmsjfs@knology.net.

Branch 12: Belinda J. Peterson, 43 Railway Pde, Murrumbena, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3163, Peterson.belinda.j@edumail.vic.gov.au.

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

Branch 14: Ian Latta, Ryedale House, Old Carlisle Rd., Moffat DG10 9QJ Scotland.

Branch 16: Kathy J. Latta, 6104 94A Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6B 0Y8, lattakj@telusplanet.net.

Branches 17 & 43 & 46: Sue Lattea Cox, 6 Woodhill Ave., Salem WV 26426, suelatteacox@yahoo.com.

Branches 19 & 27/47: Ellen Rowan Taylor, 2763 Gleggarry Way, Sierra Vista AZ 85650, ellenrt@cox.net.

Branch 20: Vicky Latta - McCain, 1216 West Elm Street Kokomo, IN 46901, v.latta-mccain@sbcglobal.net.

Branch 22: Robert M. Hawkins, 520 Audubon Place Ct., Manchester MO 63021, Bobhawk507@sbcglobal.net.

(Continued on Page 6)

LATTA GENEALOGY SOCIETY**Treasurer's Report****Nov. 30, 2013****TREASURER****Beryl Redfield****4281 Winfield Road****Taylorsville, UT 84123-2344****(801) -550-7360****AUDITOR****Randy Phillips****1456 Lake St.****Elmira NY 14901****(315) 759-9121**

REPORT PERIOD Sept. 1, 2013 – Nov. 30, 2013**Income 09/01/2013 – 11/30/2013 \$858.00**

General Fund Donations: \$793.00

Research Fund: \$35.00

DNA Research: \$30.00

Expenses 09/01/2013 – 11/30/2013 \$581.67

• Latta website fee \$44.85

May, June, July & Aug. @ \$14.95 per month

• Newsletter Issue 50 advance (Ken Mueller) \$400.00

• Newsletter 50 additional expenses (Ken Mueller) \$136.82

COMBINED FUNDS on hand – 11/30/2013 \$7230.42

General Fund Balance \$5178.92

Research Fund Balance \$1911.50

DNA Research \$140.00

Membership: The bylaws state, "Any person who supports the purpose of this Society may become a member in good standing upon payment of the minimum donation." The minimum donation currently is \$10 for subscribers within the U.S. & Canada, \$15 for other countries. Newsletter only status (non-voting) is provided for libraries and those interested in the newsletter but unable to make a donation.

Your donations support the publication and mailing of the newsletter and cover other expenses of the Latta Genealogy Society.

PLEASE SEND DONATIONS To Your New Treasurer: Randall Phillips, 1456 Lake St., Elmira NY 14901, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your generous support!

The Distribution of the Latta Name in 1850

(Continued from Page 1)

(101), Tennessee (79), North Carolina (54), Kentucky (43), New York (38) and South Carolina (29). These eight states represent 86% of US Lattas; for the total US population they represented just over half. Relative to population, Indiana had the highest concentration of Lattas. The total US population in 1850 was 23.2 million. The UK in 1851 was 22.3 million so very comparable in size so Lattas were more numerous per capita in the US than in the UK.

The Canadian Census of 1851 showed 42 Lattas although it should be stressed that complete returns for the Census are not available so this is probably an undercount; in 1871 there were 77. Of the 42 in 1851, two were born in Ireland, 2 in the US and one in England, so as with the US Census, it shows that Lattas were long-established in Canada.

There were also a handful of Lattas who had gone to Australia by 1850 as there are birth records beginning in 1845. However, the majority of Lattas in Australia went after 1850. The same applies to New Zealand where I have not positively identified anyone with the Latta name prior to 1850.

It is certainly possible that some British Lattas may have gone to other British colonies by 1850 but numbers who settled permanently except perhaps in South Africa are likely to have been small.

So where else were there Lattas?

Familysearch.org has 16 Latta baptisms in Finland from 1657-1890 of whom perhaps 5-6 would have been alive in 1851 but these are very incomplete records. It is possible that Lattas in Finland were descended from Scottish immigrants but it seems more likely that the name developed independently there. There are instances of the Latta name in Russia more recently but given that Russia controlled Finland for long periods, these may have been Finnish in origin. There are also some records from Sweden but again these could be from ethnic Finns.

One other country that has a well identified

incidence of the Latta name is Slovakia. There appear to be significant numbers of Slovak Lattas. Familysearch.org shows 93 Slovak christenings mainly in Nova Bana and Modry Kamen, although it is unlikely that these are complete records. In addition, since Slovakia was not an independent country in the 19th century, records may not always refer to the country by name. Ellis Island immigration records showed a number of Lattas from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Austria, who might all have been ethnic Slovaks.

Nova Bana is a small town in western central Slovakia. In 1850 it would have been part of the Kingdom of Hungary, which in turn was part of the Hapsburg Empire. Modry Kamen is in southern Slovakia, quite close to the Hungarian border. Some immigrants into the US came from Italy including one person in the 1850 Census. Most immigrants from Italy came later so the number for 1850 is not surprising. It would be difficult to estimate Lattas in Italy in 1850 or to speculate whether the name has an independent origin or derived from Scottish immigration. Today, the website cognomix.it which shows the distribution of surnames in Italy lists 25 Lattas mainly in the north of Italy. Ellis Island records showed immigration of Lattas from the south, Sicily and Sardinia.

The other country where Familysearch shows records is Portugal with 14 births – all in Campo Maior and Portoalegre. Given the historic ties between Britain and Portugal, a Scottish origin is certainly possible although both towns are in central Portugal on the Spanish border rather than on the coast where one might expect to find Scottish traders.

Given the difficulty of estimating Latta numbers in Slovakia, Italy and other countries, any number for Lattas in 1850 involves significant guesswork but it is probably reasonable to think that there were no more than 1500, emphasizing that the name is relatively rare.

If there are any members of the Society who trace their origins to a country other than Scotland or Ireland, it would be interesting to share their insights on the origin of the name in the country from which their family came.

Shipwreck Story Proven True

By: Cheryl Sue Cox, Vice President of
Research, suelatteacox@yahoo.com

I was recently searching through the older published books on <http://archive.org/> looking for information on the early settlers in Pennsylvania. I came across a letter written by Rev. Robert P. DuBois, containing a sketch of the life and character of Rev. James Latta. Rev. DuBois was married to Jane H. Latta, daughter of John Ewing Latta, who was the son of James Latta. Rev. DuBois had a brother named Charles E. DuBois who was an attorney. He married Mary Smith Latta, a sister to Jane H. Latta. The DuBois families both lived in Doylestown, Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Rev. DuBois stated in his letter, written May 9, 1850, that James Latta was born in Ireland in the winter of 1732. His family was Protestant, of the Scotch Irish Presbyterian stock. His mother's maiden name was Alison, and she was related to the Rev. Dr. Francis Alison. Nothing more is known of the family in Ireland. His parents migrated to this country when he was about six or seven years of age, bringing him with them. (This would be Branch 8, the year about 1738 or 1739) The vessel in which they sailed from Ireland was wrecked upon the American coast, and the family records being then lost, the exact date of his birth is unknown. During the three days and nights that he remained with others on board the foundering vessel, before they could be relieved, so remarkable was his attachment to his Bible, that he kept it continually under his arm. He seemed to think that the most precious of his treasures, and if he should go down, that he must carry it with him. Rev. DuBois noted in his letter that he had gathered his information from Rev. Latta's son and other family members. Rev. DuBois noted Rev. Latta's fine character, and that all of his sons became Presbyterian ministers as well.

More Biography on the Rev. James Latta

From: www.Latta.org,
Web Site of the Latta Genealogy Society

Latta, James, clergyman, born in Ireland in 1732; died in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, 29 January, 1801. At an early age he emigrated to this country with his parents, who settled near Elkton, Maryland. He was graduated at the College of Philadelphia in 1757, and became tutor there, while he studied theology with Dr. Francis Alison. He was licensed by the presbytery of Philadelphia in 1758, ordained in 1759, and appointed to the destitute settlements of Virginia and Carolina. In 1761 he became pastor of a church in Deep Run, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, but he resigned in 1770 to accept the charge of Chestnut Level, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Here he established a school, which was acquiring celebrity when its progress was arrested by the Revolution. During the war he served as soldier and chaplain in the American army. He published several sermons and a pamphlet showing that the principal subjects of psalmody should be taken from the gospel.

Rev. James Latta, D.D., Moderator of the General Assembly in 1793, and father of four sons who entered the ministry, the Revs. William, Francis, James and John E. Latta, the last of whom was for a considerable time permanent clerk of the General Assembly.

"He was born in Ireland, in the Winter of 1732. His parents migrated to this country when he was about six or seven years of age. He graduated from the College of Philadelphia, at the first Commencement of this Institution, and as a proof of his high standing there, has assigned to him, on that occasion, the salutatory oration in Latin. He was Tutor in the college for a few years, during which he studied theology under the Provost, Rev. Dr. Francis Alison, and was licensed to preach the gospel, February 15th, 1758, by the Presbytery of Philadelphia. He was ordained by the same Presbytery in

(Continued on Page 6)

Rev. James Latta

(Continued from Page 5)

October, 1759, and, by direction of Synod, spent some time in a mission to the then destitute settlements of Virginia and Carolina." The article goes on to state that "One Sunday morning as Mr. Latta and his daughter, Mary, were riding to church he fell from his carriage on his head and was somewhat stunned. He said to his daughter, "I am killed, but do not tell your mother." He conducted the church service and returned home. Soon he fell into a condition which alarmed his daughter and she relayed the episode to Mother. In a few days he died. His tombstone in the old cemetery bears the inscription: "By his death society has lost an invaluable member, religion one of its brightest ornaments and the most amiable examples. His genius was masterly and his literature extensive. As a classical scholar he was equaled by few. His judgment was strong and penetrating, his taste correct, his style nervous and elegant. In the pulpit, he was a model, in the judiciousness of the church distinguished by his accuracy and precision. After a life devoted to his Master's service he rested from his labors lamented most by those who best knew his worth." Mr. Latta was installed pastor of the congregation of Deep Run, in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, in 1761, the charge of which he resigned in 1770. On the second Tuesday of November, 1771, he became pastor of the church of Chestnut Level, in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania with this pastorate, and to aid in his support, he established a school, which was acquiring celebrity when its progress was arrested by the breaking out of the Revolutionary war. Subsequently the Principal of a school in the bounds of the congregation having been suddenly killed by a stroke of lightning, Mr. Latta was constrained to take charge of the school for a few years, and in it several distinguished men were educated. So deep was his interest in the cause of American liberty, that once, in the course of the war, when an unusual number of his people were drafted to serve in the militia, with a view to encourage them, he took his

blanket and knapsack, like a soldier, and actually accompanied them on their campaign. At another time he served for a while in the army, as a Chaplain. He was a delegate to the meeting of the first General Assembly in 1789 for the Presbytery of New Castle.

Dr. Latta labored on in the ministry until very near the close of life. He died January 29th, 1801. As a teacher, he was remarkably well qualified. Without severity, he had the faculty of governing well, making his students both fear and love him.

List of Branch Captains

(Continued from Page 2)

Branch 28: Carol Rini, 208 Alden St., Troy MO 63379, carril37@gmail.com.

Branch 29: Bill Latta, Q359 Co. Rd. 15, Napoleon, OH 43545, billlatta@embarqmail.com.

Branch 31: John Moore, P. O. Box 13429, Trapper Creek, AK 99683, johnm@mtaonline.net.

Branch 43: Ray Garlick Jr., P. O. Box 227, Coppell, Texas 75019, dfwrgk@hotmail.com.

Branch 45: Beryl Redfield, 4281 Winfield Rd., Taylorsville UT 84123-2344, Bredf331@comcast.net.

Branch 49: Stanley R. Latta, P.O. Box 998, Alamo-gordo, NM 88311, stanlatta@a.com.

Branch 51: Ken Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct., Bloomington IN 47408, sasquatsh1@gmail.com.

Preservation of Your Latta History

To preserve your Latta family history for generations to come, we send the Latta Genealogy Newsletter to a number of major libraries, including the Newberry Library in Chicago, the LDS Library in Salt Lake City, the Library of Congress, the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, etc.

Family Tree DNA One Surname Project

By: Kathy Latta, Co-Administrator, DNA Project,
Branch 16, Canada, lattakj@telusplanet.net.

For this report I have produced some tables which are not cast in stone. Please feel free to photocopy and then cut the Branch Biographies out and display them in a pattern that might make more sense of the information as we know it today. I wanted to have a sense of a time line between the Branch's and the information we received from doing the DNA tests. Some patterns are becoming apparent. Clearly there are gaps in the DNA Family lines and it would be great if we could find donors that could be placed in these gaps.

Placing the tables side by side with the 1700's on the left and the 1800's on the right, you can see the common Extra Surnames are carried through the generations. Comparing the rows across the time line, I lined up the Branch's with the same Extra Surnames listed for that particular Branch. One can get a sense that the Branch's on the right have descended from the ones on the left. There are some discrepancies and I have placed them in a slot that seemed convenient for the time period in that Branch.

Y-DNA donors with a surname other than Latta (or variant of Latta) have shown blood ties to the donors tested and their names have shown up in many of our Latta donors match lists. Common names shared are Nelson, Lewis, Haddaway, Henry, Brown, Tucker, Pierce, Pearce.

Constraints of page size made it hard to always place the Common Surnames on the same row as others. As I suggested in the first paragraph, cut the Branch Biographies out and place in an order that makes sense. Also where the Earliest Recorded Dates (ERD) seem out of line the Branch's could be placed in an earlier time period allowing room for a different Branch to move into place to create one continuous time line with the Common Surnames.

Hoping this makes sense, something to think about over the Holiday Season!

1600 to 1700

Branch 16

FG1 1657 Donegal, N. Ireland. Wide gap of 127 years to FG4, 1784. Family moves from Bready, Co. Donegal to Co. Wexford in 1862

About 3 to 4 gen. Missing

Extra Surnames listed for Donor 16b GD=4
Nelson, Henry

and for Donor 16a GD=3 Nelson, GD=4
Brown

1700 to 1724	1725 to 1749
Branch 3 Family lore ; mid 1600's located near Donegal, Ireland but were of Scottish descent. (Cattleman Latta) Family line follows FG3 with ERD of children of FG3 1730/1740, known dates for 2 out of 8 children. Extra Surnames listed for GD=4 Nelson, Henry	Branch 1 Family lore there are other sons but info only available for the family line that descends from FG1 DOB before 1730, Estates near Donegal, Ireland Extra Surnames listed GD=4, Nelson and Henry
Branch 29 FG2 states came from Ireland to N. America. ERD follows only one family line till 4th gen. In FG3 DOB1722, DOMig1750 FG2 led Rev War Co in which 3 of own sons were listed. Extra Surnames listed for GD=4 Nelson, Henry	
Branch 51 FG1 DOB 1710 St. Johnston, Ireland Extra Surnames listed for GD=3 Nelson, GD=4 Tucker, Brown, Elyea, Alvea	Branch 9 FG1 1727, Donegal, Ireland DOMig, 1763 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Tucker
Branch 6 Family lore, in 1700's 3 brothers came from Ireland ending up in N. Carolina. Only one of the 3 family lines is followed FG2 Early records are not consistent until the 4th generation. ERD FG4 DOB of children range between 1782 to 1825. No Extra Surnames listed	
Branch 8 Family lore Shipwreck on N. American shore. FG1 DOB Abt 1690/1700, N. Ireland. DOMig 1738, Widower remarried 4 c/o 1st wife, 1 of 2nd wife. At least 7 traveling at this time. Family line follows child of second wife. No Extra Surnames listed	

1750 to 1774	1775 to 1799	1800 to 1824
Branch 13 FG1 DOB 1761 Londonderry, Ireland. Was enlisted in Brandt's Co., State Rangers at age 15 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Nelson, Henry	Branch 31 Family lore, 5 sons came to N. America. This line follows from FG2 ERD for FG4 DOB 1764 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Henry	
Branch 7 Family lore 5 Bros. Came from Ireland to N. America. DOB of children of FG1 are from 1769 to 1793 with ERD on tax records for 1772/73 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Nelson, Henry		
Branch 17 FG1 DOB Abt 1750 Pa, from tax records 1772/1773 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Brown		Branch Canada Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Haddaway, Henry, Coyne, Levy, Yager, Leslie, Smith, O'Shea, Grenier, Plaza, Crawford, Wolcott, Harper, Anderson
Branch 5 FG2 DOB 1744, This Family line follows one of five siblings. FG5 DOB 1754 Westmereland, Pa. Family lore ; Breeches Bible Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Nelson, Lewis(2), Haddaway	Branch 30 FG2 DOB 1793 Pa, moved to OH Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Lewis(2), Haddaway, Nelson	Branch 49 FG1 born in Ireland, FG2 DOB of Mother 1815 Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Haddaway, Pierce, Pearce
	Branch 14 FG2 DOB Abt 1788 Scotland One son to NB, Canada Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Roberts(2), Overfield	Branch Australia Extra Surnames listed GD=4 Pearce, and Pierce
Branch 22 FG1 moves from Maryland to Kentucky. DOB of children range from 1765 to 1794 No Extra Surnames listed		Branch USAa No Extra Surnames listed

Taking A Second Look At The Neighbors

By: Sue Lattea Cox, Branch 17 Captain,

suelatteacox@yahoo.com.

I recently started looking for more information on my Branch 17 family. I was at a standstill with the first man in our Branch, John Latta, of Shirley, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. I knew that John had purchased land from J. James Dailey on September 19, 1774. I had a copy of the deed from the Bedford County Courthouse. I began searching through the patent and warranty records for the State of Pennsylvania on the "Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission" website. I knew that John Latta did not submit a patent for his land from the State of Pennsylvania, and that no survey was done, since he purchased his land from James Dailey, but I was hoping that I would run across one of his neighbors and that his name would show up as a neighbor on their patent. I searched the indexes of the warrant register and wrote down the map and plat number to every person in the "Dublin" or "Shirley" area. Then I went to the "Copied Survey Books" and searched the numbers and looked at the plats. Although I didn't find any plat with the Latta name on it as a neighbor, I did learn a lot about who was living in the area at the same time. I started searching into the history of some of John's neighbors. I learned that much of the land in the Shirleysburg, Huntingdon County area was purchased from the Indians years before settlers starting coming into that area by George Croghan, who had set up an Indian trading post which later turned into Fort Shirley. I also learned that J. James Dailey was a surveyor in the area, and that he had land in several counties of Pennsylvania.

I looked at the description of the land in the deed from James Dailey to John Latta and noted that John's neighbor to the west was Samuel Daniel. Samuel Daniel was applied for a patent to two pieces of property in the area, one being 511 acres originally plated as "Jeremiah Warder & Company in right of George Croghan, called "Smith's place" on Sept. 14, 1774 about the same time that John Latta bought his property from James Dailey. I found a plat of that property, which was across the Aughwick Creek from the Aughwick old town, or "Fort Shirley." I knew this was not where John's property was, because his property was bordered on the south by Sugar Run. The other piece of property warranted by Samuel Daniel was 100 acres in Dublin township, on which there was not a plat number. It was purchased October 6, 1773. I also found that the Jeremiah Warder Company was a company of Philadelphia suppliers who supplied good to the frontier trading posts. As I looked at the plats, some of them had the number for the neighbors' plats. I started writing them down and tracing the plats south hoping to find where they would connect on Sugar Run. The numbers started disappearing for the neighboring tracts. I had run into a dead end.

When I looked at other families who had bought land on Sugar Run, I ran across the Sharrer family. Adam and Paul Sharrer had "powder mills" on Sugar Run. What was a "powder mill." I googled the term and learned that during the Revolutionary War era, gun powder was in high demand for the war and "powder mills" were contracted to supply the much needed gun powder when the British issued a proclamation in 1776 stopping shipment of gunpowder to the colonies.

(Continued on Page 11)

Taking A Second Look At The Neighbors

(Continued from Page 10)

Gunpowder was made from charcoal, sulphur, and potassium nitrate (saltpeter). Saltpeter was extracted from animal droppings or urine, or from decomposing organic matter. Our family history stated that John Latta was a commissary who delivered supplies to the army, I wondered if there was a connection between his commissary duties and the supply of gunpowder to the army during the Revolutionary War. I had searched through the War Department records for any records of John Latta during the war, and did find a document from Joshua Dawson of the Commissioner's Office in Philadelphia to Joseph Howell, for sundry certificates to suppliers of the army. In the list was "John Latta, 101 days team hire." Also on the list was David Starrett, a balance for team hire. The list stated that the inhabitants of the list belonged to "this State" and the letter was from Philadelphia. I did find that David Starrett was in the 1st Battalion of the Associators and Militia in Cumberland County. I have been unable to verify that this John was Branch 17, since there was also a John Latta who served in the war from Lancaster County.

I have looked through all of the lists of soldiers and militia that I could find online serving during the Revolutionary War, and found language stating that these lists are not complete, and that many lists of militia and those serving went home with the leaders of the militia and were lost. Some resurfaced years later and were sent to the archives, but a complete list will never be found. I was able to find a list of land boundaries to the militia units in the area where John Latta lived, and found his property in the boundaries of the Seventh and

Eighth Company. The SEVENTH COMPANY boundaries stated "Beginning at Matthew Utley's, and from thence to James Cannon's, and from thence to John Lattey's, and from thence with a straight line to Jack's Mountain...." And the EIGHTH COMPANY stated "Beginning at Jack's Mountain and running with a straight line to John Lattey's, James Cannon's and Matthew Utley's, at the Shade Mountain, including them in said Company, and with the Shade Mountain to the County line, and with said line to Jack's Mountain, and with said Mountain to the beginning." This information would include John Lattey in the Eighth Company of the militia. I searched "Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission" website again and found the Second Battalion of the Bedford County Militia was the Dublin area, and that the Eighth Company was lead by Capt. Evan Shelby in 1777-1780. Only the officers of that Battalion are listed in archive records.

While searching the Pennsylvania warrants and patents, I noticed that there were several Lattas in Branch 29 who received warrants in neighboring Franklin County, Pennsylvania, just to the east of Shirley. I began searching neighboring Franklin County, thinking that perhaps John Latta had come over the mountains from Franklin County (once Cumberland County). I did find where Branch 8, John Ewing Latta had three daughters from New Castle, Delaware, had married into the DuBois family, and moved to Doylestown in Franklin County. My father had recently had his DNA worked up and it matched very closely with Branch 8 DNA. New Castle, Delaware borders on the north of Cecil County, Maryland where Branch 8 history begins with the early shipwreck story.

(Continued on Page 12)

Taking A Second Look At The Neighbors

(Continued from Page 11)

Looking over my history for John Latta again, I noted that he was taxed in 1801 with 200 acres of land, but was taxed in 1802 as renting from a landlord. His son, George Latta had been taxed in 1800, but a line drawn through his name in 1801 with a notation "removed." His son, William Latta, was listed in 1800, but a line drawn through his name in 1801. Looking at the yearly taxes, I found William Latta in Porter Township, further west in what would become Blair County, but he disappeared in 1828. I found two of his sons, William and George in the taxes in Porter Township, disappearing about the same time. George was later found in Frankstown in 1840 and then in Fulton County, Ohio in the 1870 Census with his daughter, Sarah Wilder.

Wondering how John Latta became a renter in 1801, I searched the deed books in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania and could not find where he deeded the property to anyone else, and looking at the properties sold between 1790 and 1810 for taxes owed, I could not find where the county sold his property for back taxes. Thinking he might have given his property to one of his seven daughters, I started looking again at his neighbors to see if I could find out who they were. Only two daughters' names have been found, Catherine, born in 1777, who married Isaac Burns, and Rebecca, born about 1796, who was taxed owning a horse in the 1817 and 1818 taxes.

I began looking through the Orphan's Court records page by page for that time period, hoping to find something that listed one of the daughter's names. Many of the Orphan's Court records

pertain to deaths in the area and the names of the deceased's children. As I was reading through the pages, I came across a piece of property in Orphan's Court Volume B, page 344, dated Sept. 9, 1815 which listed property of George Ward to be sold in Antis township. It listed that the property was adjoining lands of Agnes Latta, George Duffield and George Duffield Senior. I looked at the warrants and patents and found a plat of the property owned by Agnes Latta in D16-134 and A63-254 in Frankstown township, later divided when Antis township was formed. Who was Agnes Latta, and why did she own property in Antis township, in the northern part of Huntingdon County? I began looking at George Duffield and found that he was a Presbyterian Minister, and that his son, George, Jr. was a song writer and had written many hymns, including "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus." I had to look that up in our church hymnal, and there was the writer "George Duffield." Looking at the 1788 list of taxpayers in Shirley Township, I noted that Rev. George Duffield was listed as a non-resident property owner of 300 acres in Shirley Township. Further research showed that Rev. George Duffield was a minister in charge of the Third Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia. That should make him friends or acquainted with Rev. James Latta of Branch 8.

I began looking into the Philadelphia/New Castle connections, and ran across a website listing the marriages in New Castle. BINGO.....there was John Latta married to Mary Nixon on January 1, 1773 in New Castle. Also listed as a Joseph Latta married to Susanna Steen on November 2, 1772. (Joseph is Branch 51). Joseph Latta's parents are listed as William Latta and AGNES Rhea. Could she be the Agnes who owned property in Huntingdon County? What really makes me

(Continued on Page 13)

Taking A Second Look At The Neighbors

(Continued from Page 12)

believe that this John Latta is MY John Latta, is the fact that also listed in the marriage records is Francis Cluggage and Jean Nixon on June 19, 1775. Francis Cluggage is the son of Robert Cluggage of Black Log Valley, right there in Shirley, Huntingdon County, PA. Francis and Jean move to Black Log Valley also. Also listed is an Edward Daugherty and Elizabeth Bellicu, married March 11, 1773. There is an Edward Daugherty listed living next door to John Latta in the 1790 census for Huntingdon County. Also listed is George Duffield and Margaret Armstrong, married Jan. 1, 1767.

Looking at the estates for New Castle, I found a James Nixon who died in 1775, living at Brandywine Hundred. He leaves his property to his son George, and mentions his wife, Mary and children, Elizabeth, Mary, Catherine, Jean, George and James, Jr. I looked up the Nixon family history and found that James Nixon's son George Nixon served in the Revolutionary War. He served in Capt. Evan's Co. of Col. Duff's Delaware Regiment, and with Capt. McKee's Delaware Spy Company Preventing Tory Aid to British. He was with George Washington when he crossed the Delaware and was in the Battle of Trenton and Battle of Princeton. He was also in the Battle of Brandywine. Our family history stated that John Latta crossed the Delaware with George Washington and that he was in the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. Could the story have been changed, and was it really Mary Nixon's brother, and not her husband who was with George Washington? The Nixon family history goes on to state that George Nixon had a son named George,

Jr., who was the gg-grandfather of President Richard Milhous Nixon. That makes this Latta family a close associate with another American President. Looking at paperwork in the Nixon Library, I found a document called "The Nixon Line" written by Washington and Jefferson College. In the document, the Will of James Nixon is discussed. It stated that James Nixon left "To John Latta, my son-in-law and Mary, his wife, L20 in cash." The Will was written May 16, 1773 and probated June 26, 1775. His daughter, Jean Nixon, was unmarried at the time and was left L60 in cash.

I also noted that in Branch 29, there is a George Latta who named his children Edward Daugherty Latta, Isaac Burns Latta (John Latta's daughter Catherine married Isaac Burns), and John Nixon Latta. Is there a connection there? Branch 29's George Latta and William Latta had land warrants in Franklin County, Pennsylvania. Looks like more research into the neighbors.

Orphaned And Alone - Branch 37

By: Cheryl Sue Cox, Vice President of
Research, suelatteacox@yahoo.com

While looking into some history of Branch 37, I discovered that #3 Thomas Moore Latta lived in Stark County, Ohio. He was the son of Thomas J. Latta, who died in Wayne township, Jefferson County, Ohio, in 1818. The "Western Herald," a newspaper in Steubenville, Ohio, published on March 30, 1818, under their estate notices that Martha Latta and Josiah Crawford were administrators of the estate of Thomas Latta, late of Wayne township, deceased. Martha Latta would later marry Thomas Marshall on May 23, 1820 in Jefferson County, Ohio. They were married by Thomas Hunt, pastor of Two Ridge and Richmond Presbyterian Churches in Jefferson County.

(Continued on Page 14)

Orphaned and Alone

(Continued from Page 13)

According to the death certificate of his son, John Worley Latta, Thomas Moore Latta was born about 1799 in Gettysburg, PA. Thomas Moore Latta is found in the 1820 and 1830 census at Brown, Stark County, Ohio, and in 1840 and 1850 he is found in Paris, Stark County, Ohio. Thomas Moore Latta married Catherine Myers, daughter of Jacob Myers, who came to America from France. The 1850 census lists Thomas, age 48, and Catherine, age 33, with five children, Thomas, age 11, John, age 9, Albrat (Albert), age 7, Olive, age 5, and Mary, age 2. In late April, 1851, the Latta family moved from Ohio to Cumberland County, Illinois. On September 10, 1851, their mother, Catherine Latta passed away. No cause of death is found, however a cholera epidemic had hit Cumberland County, Illinois during that time, and those effected by cholera perished within three to four days of contacting it. Thomas Moore Latta is left a widower with four young children. The following year, Thomas Moore Latta passed away also, leaving the four children orphaned in Cumberland County, Illinois, far away from family members who might take them in. Guardians were appointed to the children, and in a "History of Cumberland County," John Worley Latta noted that his family came to Illinois in April 1851, and located in Marshall in August. Colery broke out in the neighborhood. His mother died September 9 of the same year. His father died October 10, 1852. "A gardian was put over us children and he bound me out for 3 1/2 years. I ran off and west to Pittsfield, Pike Co. Was there when Douglas and Lincoln canvassed the state in 1858. I joined the army 28th of July 1861. Was in the Battle of Shilo and Corninth, Miss. April 6 & 7 at Corinth, Oct. 4 and 5th, 1862 was in the battle at Brices Cross road June 10, 1864."

John Worley Latta's brother, Thomas Jefferson Latta, was an active school teacher before and after the Civil War. Thomas enlisted in the Civil War

in 1861 and served as a Sergeant in Co. B, 2nd Regiment, Light Artillery. He was wounded in the Battle of Guntown. He was run over by a heavy artillery wagon and left lying on the battlefield until a comrade came along and picked him up. In the battle of Shiloh, he rode a little white pony 150 miles in the retreat under General Grant.

The "History of Cumberland County" also stated that the brother's grandfather, was a Captain in the Revolutionary War and was killed in the Battle of Brandywine. It doesn't state whether this was their paternal or maternal grandfather. Their father, Thomas Moore Latta, was a Captain in the War of 1812. A history of Jefferson County, Ohio, shows Capt. Thomas Latta's Company from Jefferson County serving in the War of 1812. Could this link this family to Branch 27?

Robert Wallace Latta and Extended Family

By: Terri Hall, Branch 3, ancestry@2hall.net.

Many thanks to Jeanne Hebert Larson, Branch 3, for updating information regarding Robert Wallace Latta and descendents. I am the great, great granddaughter of R.W., and recently resurrected my interest in family genealogy. My grandmother, Beatrice Estelle Latta Lewis, completed "Genealogy of the Latta Family" in 1964 and included a lot of information regarding R.W. and his descendents. I updated information provided by Ms. Larson that is included in my grandmother's work, as well as information gained since its publication from descendents of the four surviving children of R.W. All updates are underlined:

Generation 1. James Latta-1 and Isabelle Nichols had the following children:

i. Elizabeth Jane Latta, married Thomas Sheridan (born 28 April 1809, died 11 January 1871) 20 August 1843, died 08 March 1883 in Huron, Iowa, USA.

(Continued on Page 15)

Robert Wallace Latta

(Continued from Page 14)

ii. John Briggs Latta was born on 30 Jan 1823 in Ross County, Ohio, USA, died 26 November 1896 in San Diego, San Diego, California, USA.

iii. Samuel Nichols Latta, born 31 May 1818 in Ross County, Ohio, USA, died 11 May 1880, heart disease. Married Sarah A. Thompson 30 July 1840.

iv. William Henry Latta, born 31 August 1819 in Ross County Ohio, USA, died 06 June 1851 in Louisville, Jefferson, Kentucky, USA

v. James A. Latta, died 11 April 1884 in San Pasqual, San Diego, California, USA

vi. Humphrey Arnold Latta was born 07 September 1824, died 29 September 1875 in Grandview, Louisa, Iowa, USA. Married Mary Ann Hubbard, born 07 January 1835 in Ohio, USA, died 27 May 1911 in Bright, Iowa, USA.

vii. Reuben C. Latta: Nevada County records show Reuben died in Nevada City, Nevada, California, USA. He died in a hydraulic mining accident. Reuben was buried in Nevada County, CA. His father James wrote a letter to Robert Wallace detailing the information he wanted Robert to place on Reuben's marker. James also mentions he is erecting a monument which will record the dates of Reuben and William's deaths. I believe William was buried in Kentucky where he died.

viii. Robert Wallace Latta married Sarah Alameda Darling. [Jeanne Larson believes that Sarah's middle name was spelled "Almeda."] Robert died on 7 Nov. 1875. Our information shows she died 12 October 1888 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA. Sarah was a widow with a daughter, Nellie.

ix. Thornton Buchanan Latta, born 24 June 1829 in Ross County, OH, died 03 Jul 1868 in a scaffolding accident while building the brick Methodist Church in Grandview, IA.

x. Francis Marion "Frank" Latta, born 21 Feb 1831 in Ross County, OH, died 19 Mar 1887.

xi. Mary Ann Latta, born 26 Jun 1832 in Ross County, IA, died 1891. Married Sam Marshall 22 May 1855 in Louisa County, IA.

Generation 2: Robert Wallace Latta and Sarah Alameda Darling had the following children:

i. Frank James Latta died in 1863.

ii. Wallace Latta was born about April 1862, died about October 1863 in Nevada City, Nevada, California, USA. [We have a copy of a newspaper article that mentions the loss of "two interesting children" who apparently died at the same time. No cause of death known.]

iii. Elizabeth Belle Latta was born on 06 Nov 1863 in Moore's Flat, Nevada County, California, U.S.A. She died in San Francisco, California, USA.

iv. Will Addison Latta was born on 9 Feb. 1865 in Moore's Flat, Nevada County, California, USA. He married Harriet Marie Smith on 20 April 1891. He died in Woodland, Yolo County, California, U.S.A.

v. Lillie Louise Latta was born in Moore's Flat, Nevada County, California, U.S.A. She married John O. Houser 22 August, 1886 in Lathrop, San Joaquin County, California, U.S.A. She died in Azusa, Los Angeles County, California, U.S.A. John was born in 1856 in Illinois, USA and died 14 February 1946 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA.

vi. Robert Menzo Latta was born on 08 Sept. 1868 in Moore's Flat, Nevada County, California, U.S.A.

Generation 3. Ms. Larson and I have been conferring about Nellie. Sarah's daughter Nellie was born before Sarah and Robert Wallace met. Robert Wallace migrated during the California Gold Rush, landing in Nevada County in 1850. Nellie was born in Michigan in 1855. We have a letter from R.W. to Sarah that mentions that he met her in Washington, Nevada County, California. They were married in 1858. It's possible that Nellie came west with her grandmother. Both show up on the 1870 federal census as living with R.W. and Nellie. They were not listed in the 1860 census.

Elizabeth Belle Latta-3 (Robert Wallace-2, James-1) married Chauncey Howard Litchfield in Lathrop, San Joaquin, California, USA. Chauncey was born in 09 September 1855 in Vermont, Fulton, Illinois, USA. Chauncey Howard Litchfield and Elizabeth Belle Latta had the following children:

(Continued on Page 16)

Robert Wallace Latta

(Continued from Page 15)

i. Percy Howard Litchfield was born on 17 October 1884 in Lathrop, San Joaquin, California, USA. He died 09 February 1961 in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, California, USA. Married Lillian Bradley. They had four children [information available upon request.]

ii. Asa Bell Litchfield was born in 06 December 1886 in Lathrop, San Joaquin, California, USA. He died 20 November 1967. Asa married Mary Adaline Gummow 03 December 1906 in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, California, USA. They had three children [information available upon request.]

iii. Dillworth Latta Litchfield was born in 05 October 1888 in Lathrop, San Joaquin, California, USA. He died 21 March 1964 in Soquel, Santa Cruz, California, USA. They had two children [information available upon request.]

iv. D. S. Litchfield: Unknown to the Litchfield descendants. Maybe an infant death?

v. Albert Ansel Litchfield was born in 14 June 1891 in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, California, USA. He died November 1948. He married Jessie Park in 1915 in Weed, Siskiyou, California, USA. They had two children [information available upon request.]

vi. Vivian Irene Litchfield was born in 26 June 1894 in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, California, USA, died 05 October 1943 in Ripon, San Joaquin, California, USA. Married Branch Donaldson Absher 11 November 1920 in San Francisco, California, USA. They had two children [information available upon request.]

vii. Ralph Merle Litchfield was born in 26 November 1897, died 29, June 1925 in Santa Barbara, California, USA.

viii. Emma Beatrice Litchfield was born in 27 January 1899 in Watsonville, Santa Cruz, California, USA. She died 09 December 1990. She married Percy Park in 1924 in San Francisco, California, USA. They had two children [information available upon request]. [Note: Jessie Park (Albert Ansel Litchfield) and Percy Park (Emma Beatrice Litchfield) were brother and sister.]

6. Will Addison Latta-3 (Robert Wallace-2, James-1) married Harriet Marie Smith who was born on 21 Feb. 1870 in Marysville, Yuba County, California, U.S.A. She died from cancer in 1906 in Sacramento, California, USA. They had the following children:

i. Ralph Olin Latta was born on 2 March 1892 on Smith Ranch near Marysville, Yuba, California, USA. He died by gunshot wound on 24 July 1931. They had no children.

ii. Beatrice Estelle Latta was born 09 November 1894 in Knight's Landing, Yolo, California, USA. She died on 28 Feb. 1986 in Berkeley, Alameda County, California, U.S.A. They had two children [information available upon request.] [This is the author's grandmother.]

iii. Harriet Elma Latta was born in Knight's Landing, Yolo, California, USA. She married Joe Finis Hackett 12 June 1920 in Corvallis, Benton, Oregon, USA. They had one daughter [information available upon request].

iv. Barbara Latta: Don't know who this is, but Gertrude Maud, below, was born the same month and year Ms. Larson notes.

v. Gertrude Maud Latta was born on 11 March 1900 in Sacramento, California, USA. She died 11 March 1972 in Sacramento, California, USA. She married George Leroy Jessup 12 September 1919. They had two children [information available upon request]. Will Latta's second marriage was to Nellie Grant Smith who was born on 24 March 1872 in Marysville, Yuba County, California, U.S.A. She died on 03 Aug. 1940 in Sacramento, California, U.S.A. Nellie was Harriet's sister and lived with the family prior to Harriet's death due from cancer.

7. Lillie Louise Latta-3 (Robert Wallace-2, James-1) and John O. Houser had the following children:

i. Ethel Alameda Houser was born on 24 July 1887 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA. She died in 18 November 1962 in Grants Pass, Josephine, Oregon, USA. She married Carl Keefer 09 September 1942 in Los Angeles, California, USA.

(Continued on Page 17)

Robert Wallace Latta

(Continued from Page 16)

ii. John Raymond Houser born 28 August 1888 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA, died 13 December 1888 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA.

iii. Mabel Lillian Houser was born in 12 March 1890 in Covina, Los Angeles, California, USA, died 21 September 1972. Married Charles Edgar Markloff. They had one child [information available upon request].

iv. Harold Ray Houser was born in Stockton, San Joaquin, California USA. He died 13 September 1969 in Chico, Butte, California, USA. They had one child [information available upon request].

v. Lillian Houser: Descendents of Lillie Louise Latta Houser did not provide information on a fifth child. She is new to me.

8. Robert Menzo Latta-3 (Robert Wallace-2, James-1) Married Mary Stineman who was born 01 February 1875. She died on 30 Sept. 1970 in Grass Valley, Nevada County, California, U.S.A. Robert Menzo Latta and Mary Stineman were married on 8 Feb. 1888 in Wheatland, Yuba County, California, U.S.A. They had the following children:

i. Esther Lorina Latta died in Sutter City, California, USA. She married Isaac Jackson Mayfield 20 February 1907 in Wheatland, Yuba, California, USA. They had two children [further information available upon request].

ii. Robert Wallace Latta died on 03 May 1973 in Aptos, Santa Cruz County, California, U.S.A. He married Dorothea Webster on 29 September 1940 in Reno, Washoe, Nevada, USA. They had two children [further information available upon request].

iii. Oscar Ellsworth Latta was born on 2 Jan. 1893.

iv. Anita Marie Latta was born on 4 Dec. 1895.

v. John Kenneth Latta died in 04 Jan. 1964 in Reno, Washoe, Nevada, USA. He married three times. He had 1 child with 2nd wife Patricia Slaughter. They married October 1949 in Reno, Washoe, Nevada, USA [further information available upon request].

vi. Edna Latta married Marcus William Wood on 10 July 1926 in San Jose, Santa Clara, CA, California, USA. They had two children [further information available upon request].

vii. Belle Latta married Alfred Hardy Chamberlin 20 June 1930 in Del Monte, California, USA. They had three children [further information available upon request].

viii. Chester Stineman Latta was married to Hazel Edith Ramsey on 29 March 1931 in San Jose, Santa Clara, CA. Chet and Edith died together in a car accident.

Generation 4. Will Addison's children's children Beatrice Estelle Latta-4 (Will Addison-3, Robert Wallace-2, James-1) was born on 09 Nov. 1894. She died on 28 Feb 1986 in Berkeley, Alameda County, California, U.S.A. She married Phillips Frisbie Lewis on who was born on 25 Aug. 1892 in Oakland, Alameda County, California, U.S.A. He died as a result of suicide on 24 Feb 1930 in Oakland, Alameda, California, USA. Phillips Frisbie Lewis and Beatrice Estelle had the following children:

i. Phillips Frisbie Lewis was born on 19 Dec. 1927. He died 14 March 1999 in Las Vegas, Clark, Nevada, USA. [Further information available upon request].

ii. Mary Beatrice Lewis was born on 21 April 1929 in Oakland, Alameda, California, USA. [Further information available upon request].

Harriet Elma Latta-4 (William Addison-3, Robert Wallace-2, James-1) married Joe Finis Hackett who died in 12 Jan. 1972 in Guadalajara, Baja California, Mexico. Joe Finis Hackett and Harriet Elma Latta had the following children:

i. Carol Cranston Hackett was born in 20 October 1927. [Further information available upon request].

Gertrude Maud Latta-4 (William Addison-3, Robert Wallace-2, James-1) She married George Leroy Jessup who was born 08 October 1895 in Rifle Creek, Colorado, USA. He died on 15 December 1983 in Contra Costa County.

(Continued on Page 18)

Robert Wallace Latta

(Continued from Page 17)

George Jessup and Gertrude Maude Latta had the following children:

i. Harriet Ellouise Jessup was born 31 August 1920 in Milton-Freewater, Umatilla, Oregon, USA. [Further information available upon request].

ii. Dorothy Royina Jessup was born in 08 November 1924 in Sacramento, California, USA. She died 12 March 1987. [Further information available upon request].

iii. Elsie Jessup: We have no information, oral or written, on an Elsie Jessup.

In regards to the U.S. Census taken 22 June 1870 in Nevada, Nevada Township and County, California included in Issue 50 of this newsletter, it is noted that Sarah A. Latta (Sarah Alameda Darling) was born in New York. This complements Ms. Larson's information and contradicts ours. Information in this census confirms birth date provided by Ms. Larson and gives us a middle initial for Nellie. Beatrice Latta Lewis originally noted in her genealogy that Sarah was born in Michigan and later changed that to Minnesota. Since Sarah disappeared after her husband's death, we know little about her.

The Story of Robert Wallace Latta

By Terri L. Hall, Branch 3, ancestry@2hall.net

Robert Wallace Latta (who signed letters as R.W.) was the eighth of eleven children, born in Ross County, Ohio in 1828 to James and Isabelle Latta. As a young adult, R.W.—along with many other young men of his time—decided to head west to find his fortune. In 1850 he landed in the heart of gold country in Nevada County in Northern California.

R.W. had many occupations in Nevada County. He was a stage coach owner and driver between Moore's Flat, Washington, and Nevada City for ten or twelve years. He traded groceries in Washington

in Nevada County, and by 1875 was a mining superintendent based out of Grass Valley. Notably, R.W. helped dig an irrigation and mining ditch from the South Yuba River to the town of Washington. The ditch was originally known as the Rice and Latta Ditch and eventually became known as the Washington Ditch. The ditch was located early spring of 1856 about two miles north of the town of Washington and was completed by June of that year.

R.W. married Sarah Alameda Darling in 1858 in Nevada City. Sarah was a widow who had a daughter, Nellie. Sarah was one of the first teachers in Nevada County. R.W. deeply adored Sarah, as noted in letters written to her. Written to "Dear and loving Wife," R.W. would sign his letters "Bobbity-Bob." R.W.'s work often took him away from Napa to work in the hills, particularly near Washington. The letters are fun to read. R.W. mentions the dangers of returning home as "there might be mischief done again—What do you say about it." R.W. and Sarah's first child, Frank, was born five months previously. R.W. mentions in one letter how he met Sarah in Washington when she provided tea and coffee "for a poor old sick bachelor [sic]." At the start of their marriage, Sarah lived in Napa, California, while R.W. worked in Nevada County. Her first two children were born there.

Tragedy struck the family first in 1863 when their two sons, Frank and Wallace, died in Napa. Records have not been located as to the cause of death. R.W. and Sarah eventually relocated to Nevada City and Moore's Flat, a mining town no longer in existence. They had four more children, and then, on November 7, 1875, R.W. was killed in Nevada City while constructing a fence to confine cattle. He was knocked from his horse by an overhead pole and gored by a bull. R.W.'s death left Sarah destitute with four young children. Sarah wrote Latta family members for help, but received only sympathy.

Eventually, Sarah sent her two boys, Will and Robert Menzo, to live on a ranch owned by John and Eunice Stineman of Wheatland, California.

(Continued on Page 19)

The Story of Robert Wallace Latta

(Continued from Page 18)

Sarah's son Robert Menzo Latta married their daughter Mary Stineman. The two girls, Elizabeth Belle and Lillie Louise, were sent to a convent. Sarah moved down to southern California sometime after leaving her children in others' care. Sarah's oldest daughter, Nellie, was married by this time, had three kids of her own, and remained in Nevada City.

Despite the family split, the Latta siblings maintained contact. Family members are still happily communicating today. Elizabeth Belle married Chauncey Howard Litchfield and raised a family in Watsonville, California. The Litchfields have a strong legacy in Watsonville and members continue to live there today. Will Latta went on to become an influential lawyer in Sacramento, pushing through legislation to support deaf children. (Will's daughter, Beatrice—my grandmother, was deaf. But that's another story.) Lillie Louise married John O. Houser and raised her family in southern California. Sarah Alameda eventually lived with daughter Lillie and died in Covina, California in 1888. Robert Menzo raised his family in Wheatland and in Nevada City. Great grandson and namesake Robert Wallace Latta, grandson to Robert Menzo Latta, currently lives in Sierra City, California, not far from where his great grandfather made his living.

Post Script: A copy of a receipt in hand notes that R.W. Latta purchased a plot at Tulouca Cemetery in Napa, California. Cemetery records show that R.W. was buried in Tulouca Cemetery, but not which plot. The cemetery records also show that someone is buried in R.W.'s plot, but not who is buried there. Given the lack of funds in possession of R.W.'s widow, Sarah Alameda, it seems unlikely that R.W. was buried in the cemetery but not in his own plot. In 1987 R.W.'s great granddaughter, Mary Lewis Ogden, and her daughter, the writer of this article, decided to purchase a granite headstone for R.W. and placed it on the R.W. Latta plot.

Reprints Available

Reprints of Issues 1-49 of the Latta Genealogy Newsletter are available at a price of \$4.00 each. Please contact the editor, Ken Mueller, at DocHuer@ol.com, or by mail at 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314.

Latta Branch 5

By: Margaret Hundertmark
Captain, Branch 5, Latta.org
mjc-mark@c-mark.us

I read in the newsletter that you wanted contact from Branch Captains that have not been in touch with you. I am Captain of Branch 5 and have never had an inquiry by anyone regarding my Branch.

My brother does have DNA 67 Marker and I have been in touch with those that are close matches. So far, to no avail. As the beginning of Branch 5 does not go back any farther, I have done the full branch on Family Tree Maker and it is transferred to Ancestry.com. I am currently trying to get all of the unknown deaths marked as deceased when born before 1910. As my mother was born in 1913 and just celebrated her 100th birthday, I don't feel I should take the chance of placing deceased on those born after that.

I have been doing genealogy for spouses of my children/grandchildren/great-grandchildren for their family records. I have also been very involved in the Sedat German genealogy for a close friend of mine.

I do need to go back into the Latta genealogy as Ancestry is now showing more data and info than ever before.

Right now I am trying to get all of the data and info from Ancestry digitally copied onto 8 1/2 x 11 sheets for printing to be able to give the whole

(Continued on Page 20)

Latta Branch 5

(Continued from Page 19)

genealogy as Christmas presents to family members. I am doing genealogy almost all of every day that I am at home. In the summer I do take some time off for gardening. Genealogy for someone has been my life since I started research, after the Lattas.

If I can be of help to you, please let me know. I do not have the money to do overseas research. I do as much as I can at home. I have even had to drop Ancestry World Search this year. I hope that next year I can again sign up for it. I do read the newsletter very carefully in case a name that is familiar pops up. There is not much more I can do.

Branch 49 Captain Asks for Your Prayers

I will have a stint and a catheter put in my heart 11-11-13 in Las Cruces at Mountainview Hospital. Please Pray for a successful surgery. Thank you. Stanley Latta, stanlatta@q.com.

Latta Branch 13

By: Gary Pokoradi, Captain Branch 13,
pokerman@sympatico.ca.

Branch 13 has hit a snag on researching William (1) Latta of Albany, New York. We cannot place him in any other location. I continue to research the family, and have received valuable assistance from George Latta of South Carolina.

William Latta appears only in the 1790 Census of New York. He fought in the Revolutionary War, and died prior to 1800.

William's wife was a Jackson, and she supposedly remarried to a Hay/Hays/Hayes. I have researched all the above, and I have found nothing to support this. But this information was report by Robert Latta and is in the foot notes of his research. Jackson was not an uncommon name the area in and around the 1800's in the Albany New York area.

Turns out that at the time William Latta became sick he must have borrowed money from a Jackson because George Latta found the legal document where William lost everything he owed to this Jackson, land, house logs, animals. Now it unknown if there is a connection to William's wife, as the fire in Albany in the year 1900 destroyed most of the records.

As for the Jackson family, I have yet to find anyone researching this line. Yes, there are Jackson researchers, but I yet to find the right Jacksons.

Lol some day I will hit the jackpot.

Other Branch Captains

By: Ken Mueller, President, DocHuer@aol.com.

Other branch captains are also encouraged to contact me or another officer. Please let us know how you are doing.

2013 Elections of Officers of the Latta Genealogy Society

By: Beryl Redfield, Retiring Treasurer,
Bredf331@comcast.net

The elections for Treasurer and President of the Latta Genealogy Society were held in October 2013. Elected to a two year term as Treasurer was Randall Phillips. The winner of the election for President was Kenneth Mueller, also for a two year term. Our congratulations to them both.

Research Queries, Replies and Notes. Send your queries to the editor, Ken Mueller, 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott Valley AZ 86314, DocHuer@aol.com.

1. Would you know where Katharine **Taylor Latta** is buried, wife of William **Latta**? The information that I have is that, Catherine J. **Taylor** was born about the year of 1738 and died about 1806. Born in Ireland.

The information that I have for my 4th gr. grandfather, William **Latta** is as follows:

Born abt. 1735 in Donegal County, Ireland.

I do not have his exact date of death, however his will reads as follows:

Will of William **Latta**, Bullskin Twp., Fayette Co. PA. Vol. 1, page 496. Dated April 21, 1808, Probated May 4, 1808.

Witnesses: Thomas **Fauruer**, John **Hatfield** and George Mark **Hatfield**.

Exectors: John **Bennet** and George **Brothers**.

Beneficiaries: Sons, William, John, Andrew, James, Robert, Samuel, Ephraim, and Moses. Daughters: Catherine **Huey**, Margaret **Gebbels**, Mayor **Cotter**, Jane **Bresser**.

It is my belief that he lived near Connells-ville, Bullskin Twp., Fayette County, PA.

His interment is at the: Middle Presbyterian Cemetery, Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland Co., PA., which is a short distance from the Connellsville, Fayette Co. PA.

His son, Ephraim **Latta**, relocated to Ohio and is burried at the Perrysville Cemetery. There is no tombstone for him, however, the church attendant took us to the plot where he is buried. He is my 3rd gr. grandfather on the **Latta** side of the family. Trust this helps with your research. Robert **Emerick**,
remerick@ligtel.com.

2. Hi! Robert, I have also seen this same will. There is also another will that you should see. It is on our **Latta** web site, www.Latta.org. It is the will of John **Taylor** dated June 1800 he lists his daughter, Elizabeth **Taylor**, as the wife of William **Latta**. John **Taylor** lived in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Look in

the Branch 1 records. I also checked Ancestry.com and Find a Grave. There is on Find a Grave a cemetery record for William **Latta** birth 1735 in Donegal, County Donegal, Ireland, and died 2 April 1808 in Connellsville, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. There is also a cemetery record on Find a Grave for Elizabeth **Latta**, born 1751, died 28 Sept. 1841 in Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. I am going to print this in the next **Latta Genealogy Newsletter**. William **Latta** (1735-1808) is also my wife Karen's ancestor through his son Robert **Latta** (1773-1851).

However, it looks to me like there is another wife in here somewhere. I have a record of a John **Latta** (1756-1842) as a son of William **Latta** (1735-1808). Some genealogists think that William **Latta** married Miss **Taylor** about 1754. If she was born in 1751, it looks like she was too young to marry in 1754. So now I am looking for a first wife and her date of death. I would also like to find a marriage record for William **Latta** and Miss **Taylor**. So for now I am not sure who is the mother of which child of William **Latta**. I will continue my research. Thank you, Ken **Mueller**,
DocHuer@aol.com

3. I just met a lady where I live and she was married to a guy named Tony from Malagash, Nova Scotia. Tony's parents were George and Muriel Langille **Latta**. From the obituary of George **Latta**, we have the information that George **Latta** was born about 1933 to Amos and Myrtie **Teed Latta** in Pugwash Junction, Nova Scotia. George died 22 Oct. 2011 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Would you possibly know which branch of the **Lattas** this George is from? Thanks so much. Jody **Latta-Poljanski**, Branch 13, jpoljanski@yahoo.ca.

4. I am, I believe, a direct descendant of James S. **Boggs** (b. December 5, 1850; d. November 5,

(Continued on Page 23)

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue. We really appreciate your support!
If there is a number before the name, it is that person's branch number. The editor suggests that the reader contact researchers of the same branch and share information.

17 Betty J. Kitchen, 8455 Meadow Dr.,
Brownsburg IN 46112.

Elizabeth Tull, 104 Mustang Creek Dr.,
Waxahachie TX 75165.

29 Bill L. Latta, Q359 County Road 15,
Napoleon OH 43545-7954.

14 Geoffrey W. Latta, 2432 Pine St.,
Philadelphia PA 19103-6417.

3 Eugene C. Latta, 5107 Wedgewood Rd.,
Granbury TX 76049.

1 Michael D. Latta, 37329 208th Ave., Auburn
WA 98092.

6 Forrest S. Latta, 4708 Old Shell Rd., Mobile
AL 36608.

7 & 15 Cynthia Walker, 225 Deerwood Trail,
Henderson NC 27537.

19 Marilyn H. Terwey, 4309 Wembley Ct.,
McKinney TX 75070-8583.

1 Ken Mueller, 7400 E. Mule Circle, Prescott
Valley AZ 86314.

9 Jack Latta, unpublished.

4 Richard Crawley, 254 Fleetwood Lane, Elk
Grove Village IL 60007.

51 Ken W. Erdle, 7890 Wexford Ct.,
Bloomington IN 47408-9339.

8 Ellen Ann Eckman, 217 W. Sickie St.,
Kennett Square PA 19348.

1 Dolores M. Smith, 6120 Middlebelt Rd., Apt.
312, Garden City MI 48135-2402.

1 John W. Duwe, 3000 NW 30th Circle, Camas
WA 98607-7367.

7 Kenneth Latta, unpublished.

3 Jeanne H. Larson, 3457 E. Redlands Ave.,
Fresno CA 93726.

18 Billie J. McInerney, 649 N. Ironwood Rd.,
Benson AZ 85602-7848.

5 Margaret J. Hundertmark, W 7489 Honold
Rd., Fond Du Lac WI 54937-8648.

4 Frederic John Latta, 1200 Shepherds Lane,
Oxford MI 48371.

7 John C. Creech, P. O. Box 70086, Henrico
VA 23255-0086.

4 Glenn W. Latta, 10612 Mission Lakes Ave.,
Las Vegas NV 89134.

6 Robert J. Latta, 2685 Belgian Place, Arroyo
Grande CA 93420-5347.

James P. Latta, unpublished.

3 Terri L. Hall, 6724 69th Dr. NE, Marysville
WA 98270.

11 Muriel C. White, 7632 Trophy Club Dr.,
Indianapolis IN 46214.

1 Barbara R. Smith, 3333 W 4630 S, West
Valley City UT 84119-5920.

Linda A. Carr, 229 Yacht Club Dr NE, Fort
Walton Beach FL 32548-6421.

3 Margaret J. Hoffman, 3105 Thompson Ave.,
Des Moines IA 50317-3145.

28 Thomas J. Slaton, unpublished.

16 Nancy E. DeFusco, 459 Bethel Church Rd.,
Spring City PA 19475.

John Latta, unpublished.

Jolene K. Hale, 760 Tunk Creek Rd., Riverside
WA 98849-9605.

52 Marilyn K. Larsen, P.O. Box 33, Sand
Point AK 99661-0033.

Newsletter by E-Mail

By: Ken Mueller, Editor.

If any member wishes to receive our Latta Genealogy Newsletter by e-mail, rather than U. S. Mail, please contact me at DocHuer@aol.com. This would save our Society postage and conserve resources.

Research Queries

(Continued from Page 21)

1912) who according to your records (as published on www.latta.org) is the son of James **Boggs** and Elizabeth **Latta**:

<http://www.latta.org/Branches/Branch%2030.htm>

I'm wondering if you can supply me with source information/documentation for the relationships detailed in that section of the site: the marriage of James Boggs & Elizabeth **Latta** (which you have as taking place in Ripley, Brown Co., Ohio March 25, 1847), along with anything else pertaining to any of the individuals in that nuclear family, though my primary focus is on James, Elizabeth, & their son James S.

BTW, possibly of interest to some descendants of Elizabeth **Latta**: according to my research, James **Boggs** was a direct descendent of King Henry III of England:

James **Boggs** -> Hugh R. **Boggs** -> Nancy **Wells** -> Abigail **Osborne** -> Hannah **Howard** -> John **Howard** -> Cornelius **Howard** Jr. -> Cornelius **Howard** Sr. -> Matthew **Howard Arundell** -> Sir Thomas "The Valiant" **Arundell**, First Baron of Wardour -> Sir Matthew H. **Arundell** -> Margaret **Howard** -> Lord Edmund **Howard** -> Thomas **Howard** -> John **Howard** -> Margaret **de Mowbray** -> Thomas **de Mowbray** -> Joan of Lancaster -> Henry, Third Earl of Lancaster -> Edmund "Crouchback" of Lancaster -> King Henry III of England.

This is traced back via wikipedia all the way from Matthew **Howard Arundell** to King Henry III via Sir Thomas "The Valiant" **Arundell**:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Arundell,_1st_Baron_Arundell_of_Wardour

I'm working my way through all the more modern links in the lineage to see how many I can verify / document.

Thanks for any help you can offer; let me know if you would like access to my work on ancestry.com - I'd be happy to share it. Sincerely, Miles **Shuman**, mshuman@gmail.com.

5. Good Afternoon All, My Name is Joan **Simpson** (nee **Glass**) rothesay07@tpg.com.au. I live in Australia and are doing my family tree **Glass**. They are from Scotland and a member of the family Malcolm **Glass** married a Ann Mary **Latta** in 1838 in Glasgow Scotland. They had 4 children. Is any of the information any help to you and your records? Look forward to your reply, Kind regards. Joan **Simpson** Nee **Glass**. Adelaide, Australia.

6. I am looking for John James **Latta** b 2 Feb 1823 Jackson Cty Ga d 25 Feb 1913 in Lamar Cty Texas. He just seems to have appeared with out ancestors! Can anyone help. Linda **Carr** from Facebook.

7. Hi Ken, thank you for your help in trying to understand your family tree. I am not a professional genealogist so all the numbers are very confusing at first. So from what I can understand is that Ephraim **Latta** had one son Moses. How do you know he only had one son? Moses married Sarah **Johnston**. Sarah is the sister to James **Johnston** (who is my 4th Great grandfather) and he married a Jane **Latta**. I am not sure of her birth. Some other people in the family think she was born about 1808. I figured that if Sarah and James are siblings then perhaps Moses and Jane are also siblings. Do you know anything about a Jane **Latta** who married a James **Johnston** and (MIGHT have been) born about 1808 and died about 1829 after the birth of her daughter Frances Jane **Johnston Cox** (my 3rd Great grandmother)? Thank you very much for your help. Mike **Irwin**, m4mike2001@yahoo.com.

Annual Meeting of the Latta Genealogy Society, Oct. 29, 2013

By: Randy Phillips, parting_glass65@yahoo.com.

The meeting was held at Barnes & Noble, 175 Falon Lane, Altoona, Pennsylvania and chaired by Randy Phillips, Branch 4, V.P. of Communication. In attendance were Sue Lattea Cox, Branch 17, V. P. of Research, and Geoffrey Latta, Secretary Historian.

Discussion was held on tracking of donations and matching with all subscriber information. Will check with Beryl Redfield on current donor lists and what information is matched with those records. Randy would like to compile a spreadsheet of all pertinent information; Branch member, last donation, mailing address, newsletter format, Facebook participant, etc. Goal is to incorporate as much information as possible into one master list. This could prove to be helpful in identifying members in a geographic region when planning future meetings in different areas of the country.

Randy mentioned that a new Auditor will be need to be named when he transitions to the Treasurer's position. He currently serves as the Auditor.

A discussion was held on the topic of the Irish Research fund and Scottish/Irish records. Geoff has done some fairly extensive research into Irish and Scottish records and has found that existing Irish records are very spotty as compared to those from Scotland. The opinion of the group was to continue to hold the research funds separately in hopes of a larger project opportunity in the future.

Geoff brought up the topic of making our membership feel more global in nature and encourage participation from family members outside the U.S. Since the majority of LGS members reside in the U.S., most of the primary focus ends up being on tracking families from the U.S. back to Ireland. There are a number of Latta families that did not immigrate to the U.S. Those family paths may ultimately lead back to Ireland or Scotland but did not take the routes typical of

those coming to the U.S. Our branch numbering system is focused on the U.S. immigration and is quite extensive; however, Lattas in other parts of the world may not connect to an established branch. Discussed adding additional branches for those currently considered as, not connected to any branch. Just as we hope to eventually connect some of the U.S. based branches, we could also add branches for other parts of the world in the hopes that eventually they will be connected in some manner along those different immigration routes.

Along the lines of the last topic; Randy, Geoff and Sue also discussed an increased effort through the Newsletter, web page, and Facebook, to encourage and identify Latta families living in other parts of the world.

The group also discussed our various database information files, who maintains them, and how are they archived to protect it. We should ensure that any current files and research are properly backed up and archived to prevent loss.

A question was also raised about collection and/or archiving of historical items such as documents and photos. Occasionally Randy will obtain a historical item on eBay which will then be published in an upcoming Newsletter. Ideally, this item might go to the appropriate branch family for future safekeeping, but not all items are connected to a branch or a family member can't be determined. The question then becomes what to do with the item. The group was not sure if these items would be sent to the Fort Wayne Library or if someone else is still maintaining an archive of documents and items.

New Auditor Needed

As mentioned above, we need a new Auditor. If interested, please contact Ken Mueller, DocHuer@aol.com, or any of our Officers.
