

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Issue 9

Winter 1999

Irish Research Project Announced

Wouldn't it be great to know more about the history of Latta families in Northern Ireland before they came to the U.S.?

Virginia Latta Curulla has come forward to undertake the planning for a cooperative

venture with a goal of obtaining research on the Latta family in Northern Ireland. If this concept sounds exciting, you can support the project in at least three ways:

1. Share any research that you have regarding Latta's in Ireland;
2. Share any experience—good or bad—that you have had with researchers in Northern Ireland.
3. Make a

pledge for a dona-

tion that we can pool with other donations to pay a researcher in Northern Ireland.

We are not collecting donations yet, but you could make a pledge so we can judge about how many people might be interested. When we do collect donations, they will be sent to Virginia to record the amount and send an acknowledgment. Then donations would be passed on to Paul so the funds can be man-

aged with other Latta Genealogy Newsletter funds.

We first need to collect information so that we can determine how much we already know about the Latta's in Northern Ireland. Several people already have sent information, including that from Peter Latta, Alex Latta, Cindy Steine, and Krismarie Fetter. We will make a plan for the research, then obtain suggestions and estimates from researchers who appear best suited to our needs.

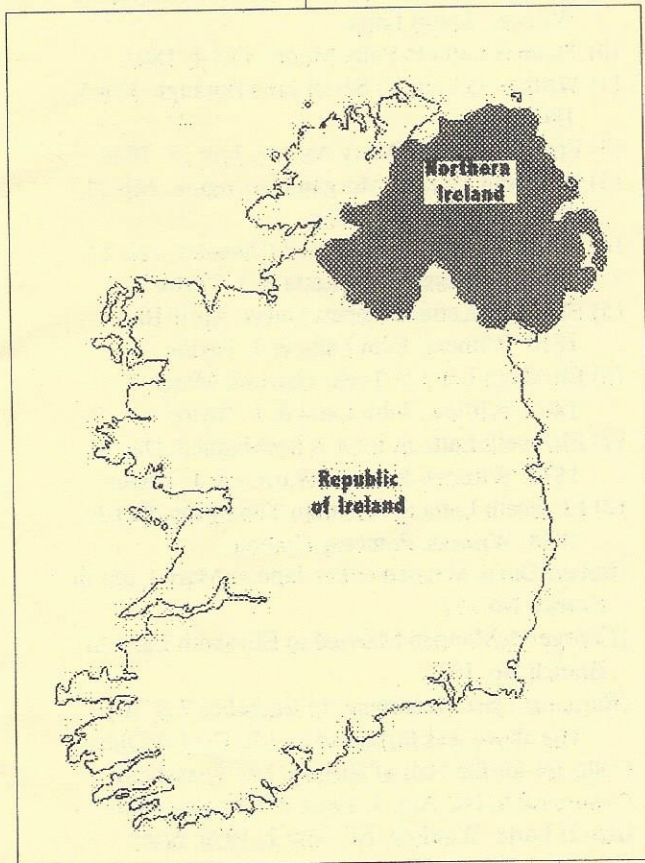
After plans have been made and revised as appropriate, we then would accept donations and make an agreement with a researcher based upon the amount collected. Results would be published in the Latta Genealogy Newsletter. We will keep you advised of our progress through the newsletter.

Please send any questions or information to Virginia Latta Curulla, 9050 Meridian Pl. No., Seattle, WA 98103-4153, (206) 524-0830. Email: vcurulla@cks.ssd.k12.wa.us

If you send an attachment, you will need to use the following email address: vcurulla@psesd.org *

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Editorial**So much to say; so little space**

We're excited about the Irish research project, and look forward to some breakthroughs in our genealogies.

We recently added a number of message boards through RootsWeb and GenConnect. Here you may post queries and responses, and also wills, deeds and biographies. The URL is <http://cgi.rootsweb.com/~genbbs/index/Surnames/L.html> (all one line).

Marion Latta Fawl has been writing the *Research Room* column for some time, but the reader response has been minimal. There is one more column in the hopper for the next issue, but beyond that, should we continue with this feature? Let us have your opinion. Write to the editor or to Marion at PO Box 2002, Weaverville CA 96093-2002.

In issue 8 we published a list of Kentucky burials sent by Bonnie Peifer, but we neglected to mention that these Lattas were from Branch 6. Better late than never.

This issue is jam-packed. Enjoy!

The Latta Genealogy Newsletter

Published approximately thrice annually

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

Funded by contributions from its readers. Suggested contribution: seven to ten dollars per year (US and Canada) international US \$10 to \$13

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

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Oakfield NY 14125-1217
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Send your subscription contributions, address changes, newsletter articles, queries, comments, etc. to:

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

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

Text of RHL's "Note G"**Marriage Licenses—Orange Co NC**

- 1) James Latta to Nancy Allen, Aug 24, 1790. Father, Jacob Allen.
- 2) James Latta to Elizabeth Dunlap, Apr 21, 1791.
- 3) James Latta to Patsy Moore, June 27, 1804. Witness, George Moore.
- 4) James Latta to Winnie Vrasey, Aug 21, 1865.
- 5) John Latta to Maria Burton, Dec 16, 1835. Witness, Thomas Latta
- 6) John Latta to Monna Burton, June 29, 1827.
- 7) John Latta to Nancy Cabe, Dec 8, 1812. Witness, Joseph Latta.
- 8) Robert Latta to Nancy Riley, June 29, 1827
- 9) Simpson Latta to Hawkins Malone, Feb 2, 1843. Witness, James Latta.
- 10) Thomas Latta to Polly Moore, Oct 4, 1803.
- 11) William G Latta to Sarah Jane Boraugh, Feb 5, 1861.
- 12) Pressley Latta to Mary Ashley, July 13, 1854.
- 13) Elizabeth Latta to Morgan Carrington, Feb 23, 1808. Witness, John Car
- 14) Elizabeth Latta to Shadrack Chandler, Feb 27, 1810. Witness, James Latta & J. Taylor.
- 15) Elizabeth Latta to Robert Davis, April 16, 1810. Witness, John Latta & J. Taylor.
- 16) Elizabeth Latta to Tyree Garrard, March 7, 1809. Witness, John Latta & J. Taylor
- 17) Elizabeth Latta to John A McMannen, Dec 14, 1832. Witness, James F Warren & J. Taylor.
- 18) Elizabeth Latta to Jonathan Thompson, Oct 1, 1838. Witness, Pomeroy Crabott.

{Robert Davis Married either Jane or Mary Latta in Branch No. 15}

{George McMannen Married to Elizabeth Latta in Branch No. 10}

{Surname Garrard is found in Branches 7 & 10}

The above was furnished by Mr. Fred A Olds, Collector for the Hall of History, NC. Historical Commission, NC Aug 3, 1926. and by Rev. William H Latta, Windsor, NC Nov 2, 1936, State Capitol, Raleigh, NC. He is of Branch No. 7.

Mr. Olds says: "I do not find any bonds in the Letter "L" case, as far back as 1776-80. The records of the county of Orange N.C. were removed in January 1781, on the approach of the British army, and were buried in the woods, and they were spoiled by the rain, etc."

Marriage Licenses—Granville Co NC

- 1) Isaac Latta to Martha Minor, Dec 22, 1865. Bondsman, C. Gooch.
- 2) Thomas Latta to Luetta Barnett, Oct 7, 1847. Bondsman, James D Hobgood ☼

Researching James and Nancy Latta of Note G

By Cindy Steine
csteine@traveller.com

I am currently researching the James and Nancy Latta family of Note G. The earliest known record of this couple was their marriage record in 1790. Since then Nancy has been identified as Nancy Allen, daughter of Jacob Allen Sr. She and her husband, James, show up on several land transactions related to the estate of Jacob Allen, Sr. in Orange County, NC. There is some evidence I'm waiting to receive that this James may be the son of James Latta, Sr. of the same county.

James and Nancy moved to Limestone Co. AL around 1825 although James held land grants in north Alabama as early as 1816 in both Limestone Co. and Madison Co., AL. The following children are associated with this couple: Jacob Allen Latta, Walter Allen Latta, John Latta (he may be a brother), Sarah Latta and Mary Latta.. John married Elizabeth T. Danna April 4, 1833 in Limestone Co., AL; Walter married Elizabeth Ann Speer Dec. 20, 1838 in Limestone Co.; Sarah married John Criss between 1831-1833. The spouses of Mary and Jacob are unknown at this time.

James and Nancy lived in Limestone Co. between 1825 and 1831 where I believe that Nancy may have died. At this time, James turned over his Limestone County property to his two daughters in 1831 and moved to Madison Co. Prior to this time all the land transactions James conducted included his wife, Nancy. After this time, Nancy is no longer evident in his business. James remarried briefly in 1836 to Marsilla Ray. The marriage lasted two years. Whether Marsilla died or divorced James is unclear at present. This point is based on the terminology used in a land transaction between Marsilla and James in 1838 where they referred to each other as "the late wife" and "former husband." Marsilla signed the transaction so she could not have died at this time.

James remained in Madison Co. until his death at the age of 96 in 1856. He was enumerated in the home of Elias and Fanny Wilbern in 1850. His relationship to the Wilberns is unknown. His son, Walter, and family remained in Limestone Co. until 1859-60. Walter and Elizabeth sold land in 1858 in Limestone Co. and then showed up in the 1860 Census for Blount County, AL. The whereabouts of John, Jacob, Sarah and Mary are unknown at this time; however, Sarah and Mary are known to have remained in Limestone Co. until 1833 where they sold the land their father bequeathed them. At this time Sarah signed as Sarah Criss and her husband, John, also signed. John Latta and wife, Elizabeth, sold land in 1833. And Jacob Latta buys land in 1840. Each of these transactions occurred in Limestone Co., AL. Children of all the Latta siblings except for Walter are unknown at this time.

Walter and wife, Elizabeth Ann, had 11 children: Jacob Allen, Robert T., Martha Ann, James B., Sarah, Parmelia F., John Pierce (my line), Mary E., Catherine D., Walter A. and Nancy B. As you can see, the Allen surname remained a traditional middle name in this family. The eldest son, Jacob, not only passed the tradition on to a son (also Jacob Allen) but named two other sons after two of his brothers, John Pearce and Robert T. The majority of Walter's family remained in Blount County, AL and descendants are there today. At least two of Walter's sons, John Pierce and Jacob Allen, had large families, 9 and 8 children each, respectively, with the majority reaching adulthood.

My primary goal is to trace my family tree back to the first Latta immigrant to the US, then add all the "leaves" (a.k.a. descendants) to the tree that I can. I've already found cousins that I never knew I had that I actually work with! I will be more than happy to share details with anyone who thinks they may be connected to my tree. Let me hear from you. *

From the archives of The Latta Family Newsletter

Page 12

Latia Family Newsletter

1800 CENSUS - UNITED STATES									
NAME	PERSONAL DATA			BIRTH		ACTIVITY		CITIZENSHIP	
	NAME	Relationship	Color or Race	Month	Year	Place of Birth	Place of Living	Years Residing in U.S.	Occupation
ARIZONA									
Latia, Susan	Latia, Susan	Wife	Caucasian	1	1892	U.S.	Phoenix, Arizona	Naturalization	Teacher
Latia, Susan									
Latia, Susan									
Latia, Susan									
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1900 CENSUS - UNITED STATES

Latta Family Newsletter									
NAME	PERSONAL DATA			NATIVITY	CITIZENSHIP		OCCUPATION	EDUCATION	MARRIAGE
	Relationship to head of family	Sex	Birth date		Years in U. S.	Year immigrated to U. S.			
Arkansas									
Latta, Cynthia	Daughter	F	1874	Ark.	26	1898	Domestic	0	Yes
Latta, Samuel	Head	M	1838	Ark.	62	1860	Farmer	0	Yes
Arkansas									
Latta, George	Son	M	1898	Ark.	2	1900	Farmer	0	Yes
Latta, William	Son	M	1896	Ark.	4	1898	Farmer	0	Yes
Latta, Vivian	Daughter	F	1899	Ark.	1	1900	Farmer	0	Yes
Arkansas									
Latta, John	Head	M	1868	Ark.	32	1896	Farmer	0	Yes
Latta, George	Son	M	1898	Ark.	2	1900	Farmer	0	Yes
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[illegible]

SOME GRAVE MARKERS FROM IRELAND

To be found at Bree,
Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

In Memory of
Alexander Latta
of Ballinakill
Formerly of Bready
Co. Donegal, Born 9th August
1821, Died 4th March, 1893
Elizabeth Latta
Died 23rd November, 1901
Robert Alexander Latta
Died 9th June, 1937
Elizabeth Mabel Latta
Died 22nd November, 1940

To be found in the cemetery of
The Presbyterian Church in
St. Johnstown,
Co. Donegal, Eire

Erected by
 Alexander Latta
 (of) Bready
 In the Memory of his Infant Sons
 Alexander
 Born 6th Aug., 1858
 Died 26th Jan., 1859
 And Alexander
 Born 14th March, 1861
 Died 11th April, 1862
 Here lie my children twain
 Whose lives I asked in vain;
 Oh; Then be just,
 Touch not their dust
 'Til I return again.
 Also, their Brother
 Robert Bruce Latta

The above grave marker inscriptions were contributed by Mr. Alex. L. Latta, Jr., 5114 56 St., Beaumont, Alberta Can. TOC QHO who has visited Ireland several times. Mr. Latta further states that it is believed the first Latta immigration to Ireland occurred about 1620 from near Ayr, Scotland to Bready (pronounced, brady), Ireland.

The census records on pages 57-62 were abstracted by Danny R. and Connie McD. Latta

To be found in the cemetery of
the Presbyterian Church in
Churchtown, Lifford,
Co. Donegal, Eire

Abraham Latta
Who departed this life
11th February, 1861
Also of his wife
Mary Latta
Who died 20th December, 1879
Aged 98 Years

In Loving Memory of
Robert Latta
Died 30th December, 1961

John Latta of Bready
Who died on November 28th 1700
Aged 68 Years
Also his wife, Mary Latta
(Alias Stegn) Who died on
August 24th, 1758, aged 89 years
Also Jane Latta
Wife of William Latta
of Bready
Who died July 9th, 1852,
aged 57 years.

To be found in the Presbyterian
Church Cemetery
Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny

In Loving Memory of my dear Husband
Herbert Lockhart Latta
Riverside, Castlecomer
Died 2nd April, 1966, aged 59 years
And our infant son
Robert Bruce William
Died 6th October, 1944

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

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

From the mail bag



This from Alex Latta, allatta@gambit.ab.ca

Further to my Newsletter article in issue #7.

My usual peregrinations were followed this year, but with an interesting purpose in mind.

In studying Br. #12, I saw a mystery, in that nothing more was known about Samuel, son of I-Robert-1, who had inherited Robert's land in Ireland.

I searched several cemeteries in the known area, with much help, but no success.

However, I kept getting closer, and by chance had pulled into the parking lot of a country pub, which was closed in the daytime, but the owner, Mr. W.E. Houston and his wife were just leaving, asked us what we were looking for.

I told him I was looking for the townland of Killenny.

He waved his arm in a broad swoop, and declared that this was Killenny.

I then stated my reason, which was to know just where the Latta farm was.

He pointed to a large white house just down the road, and said "that is the Latta house."

I was surprised that after more than 200 years I was able to find the very house that Robert had owned.

While I was talking to Mr. Houston, his wife disappeared into the house, and returned with a rolled up Plat of the area, which showed a part of Killenny known as Laatta's Tongue.

I had never seen this spelling before, and expressed a desire to have a copy of the map. While talking with Mrs. Houston, he disappeared for a few minutes, and returned with a copy for me, which he had talked the school

teacher into running off.

I thanked them profusely, and said that I would have had a drink with them, but the pub was closed. They opened it.

What a great day, but it wasn't over yet.

Mr. Houston said that the owner of the Latta house, (now called Cafward House), worked in Londonderry, as did his wife, so I returned in the evening to meet them.

I introduced myself to Mrs. Marbeth Riddles, and explained my purpose in wanting to meet them.

She said that her husband was descended from the Lattas, but on the female side. No male descendents have survived. She asked, as her husband would not be home 'till late, could we come back the next evening?

We did this, and to my surprise, they had duplicated many documents, including land titles, wills, maps, and a detailed list of their family, complete with dates.

I could not believe my luck. Unfortunately, he had no record of Samuel's children's names, so there are about two generations missing. I am working on this, and will report any findings.

John was not aware that he might have distant relatives in "America", and said that he would not mind if someone wanted to correspond.

His address is as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. John Riddles
52 Brook Road
Donemana
Strabane, Co. Tyrone
N. Ireland.

Linda Latta-Smith writes:

As a result of the Latta Newsletter, my sister (only child of our father's first marriage) saw my name on the subscriber's list, sent an e-mail and two sisters are now in communication. The fact that "my" father had been married before marrying my mother and had a daughter from that marriage was revealed to me on the day of my mother's funeral—42 years after his first daughter's birth. So I had no history for tracking her down. But thanks to your newsletter, she was able to track me down. Thank you.

Branch 3**Latta Inn, Lattaville, OH**

By Bonnie Peifer

On our way to Chillicothe OH to do research on my Latta family, we saw the little sign "Lattaville" and down at the dip of the road we saw a two-storied brick house.

There was a woman outside gardening and

we stopped to talk with her, asking if any Latta's still lived here. She said not that she knew, but after telling her my lineage she invited us into the house to show it to us. She was an architect and very proud of the house.

She told us

it was built by William Latta in 1835 and was an inn. Entering the back door we went into a large kitchen with a long table and fireplace. On the lefthand side of the fireplace was a small alcove with shelves with flowers on both sides. We were told it was the post office at one time many years ago.

The kitchen table could have seated 12 people. Opposite the fireplace wall the door entered into the front hall. There was a door on the lefthand side that went into the parlor.

The walls were 14 inches thick, with large inside sills.

Again this room had a fireplace and a door leading into the front hall. The front hall was

very large with stairs going up to the two large rooms, one on either side, used as dormitories. Men slept on one side, women on the other.

The front door was over 45 inches wide so they could carry a casket into the hall for view-

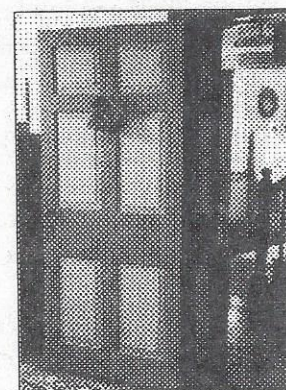
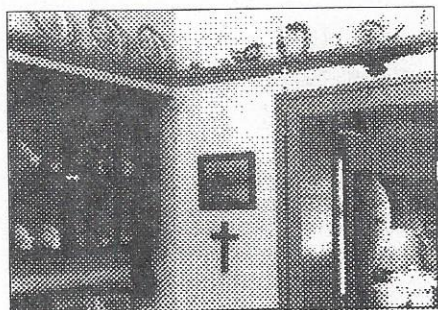
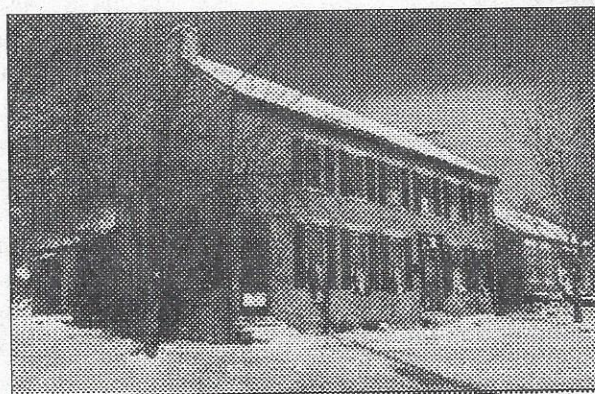
ing. We had never seen or heard of this before. The door on the left side of the building was used for the post office. She had partitioned the upstairs rooms to make individual rooms for her children.

Going into

the kitchen again she said, "Now I will show you why I like the house so much." She opened a kitchen cabinet door and lifted up the floor in front of it revealing old log steps down into the full basement

where you could see the hand hewn timbers supporting the house. Some were 10 by 12 inches and ran the length of the basement. All the beams were hand hewn with full 2 by 10 joists and just as solid as the day it was built.

The basement was full of old antiques. We don't know if they all came from the original owners, but we were very impressed.



The woman told us we were not the first ones who had stopped inquiring about the house. We were given the winter photos of the house. She wanted us to see what it looked like in winter as we were taking pictures of it in the summer.

The small house just beyond the inn was built by the same brick mason with the same trim down under the eaves and the style of laying the bricks are the same. She said it was where the family lived who ran the inn.

While we were there she called the Historical Society in Chillicothe to find out when they would be open. We also went to the church services at the Concord Presbyterian Church that Sunday and told them after the service why we were there. This church was founded in 1805, and is only about a half mile north of Lattaville. Here in 1833 my great grandfather, Samuel Nichols Latta, as well as all his brothers and sisters were baptized together. We looked at the adjacent cemetery but my direct ancestors weren't there because they moved on to Iowa in 1842.

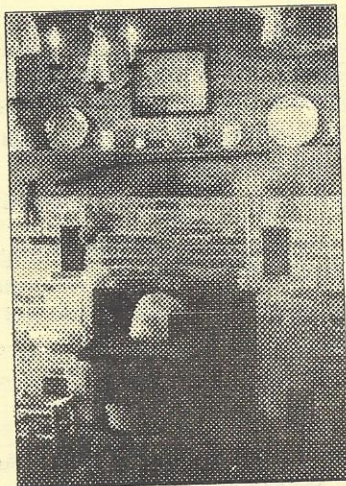
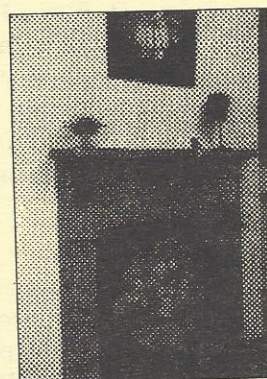
Samuel's father, James Latta, had a saw-mill which was located across from the inn and down a road to the right. The mill is still standing.

While traveling throughout Ohio, Indiana and Iowa we saw many lighted candles in the windows of old homes. This was a sign of welcome in the old days when people were traveling by horse or carriage. The lady who

owned the inn had electrified candles in the windows the first time we saw the inn.

The second time we went to Lattaville we stopped at the inn again and spoke to the same lady. She was packing up to move away. She

had divorced and didn't need the large house anymore. I asked her where I could buy some electrified candles such as I had seen there on our previous visit and she said she wouldn't be using them in her new home and offered to sell them to us. So we bought them and they are in our windows in our little home in Yuma, Arizona.



The Lattas of Lattaville

14 Moses (5) Latta of Branch 3 is credited as the founder of Lattaville, Ross County, Ohio. He married Mary "Polly" Scott in what is now Franklin Co PA in 1798.

Moses and Mary had two children: John, who died without issue, and Abraham Smith, a surgeon in the Mexican War, who married and had six daughters.

After Mary's death in 1836, Moses married Mrs. Porter of Chillicothe OH, a widow with three children.

Moses's brothers, John and James, and several sisters and their families also lived in or near Lattaville.

Several other Latta families, including Bonnie's ancestors, spent time in the Lattaville vicinity before moving westward.

Queries

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

FISHER GRIGSBY LATTA McDONALD NUZUM POST	Margaret (Peggy) LATTA, daughter of George and Mary McDONALD Latta, married Jared POST 24 September 1829, in Columbiana County, OH. He died in 1853, Monroe Twp. Perry County, OH. She migrated west with son, John Nelson POST in 1877 and is buried at Osaga Cemetery, 1/2 mile west of Fulton, KS, Highway 13. Their children: (1) Abraham-my great grandfather. Many of his family remained in this area of Perry Co. OH. I have much information on this group I would be happy to share. (2) John Nelson POST - Married Cynthia NUZUM in Perry Co., OH in 1856 and moved to Harding, KS. (3) Elmira POST married Jacob FISHER in Perry Co., OH in 1850 (at age fifteen??) and sometime later moved to Clinton Co., IN. Know nothing else but am especially interested in finding anything about this family as I am related to both of these people. (4) Thomas Jefferson Post m. Isabell GRIGSBY in Perry Co., OH 1859 and later moved to KS. Have some info on this group. —Georganne Price, price@netpluscom.com
HILDERBRAND JOHNSON LATTY	I am looking for information on Allen LATTY, born in TN in 1823. He migrated to the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory, date unknown, and settled on a farm in the Canadian District, near the town of Webbers Falls (Oklahoma), I.T. He had three children, Joseph LATTY, who married Louvenia JOHNSON, a Cherokee, at the close of the Civil War. Joseph died in 1896 at the age of 45. Mary Jane LATTY married Jacob TATE and Lydia LATTY married Reese HILDERBRAND, a Cherokee. We have no records about Allen LATTY's wife. He is on the 1860 census, listed as "colored", but to the Cherokees, this could mean Oriental, Black or some other Indian tribe not listed as "civilized". Any information would be appreciated. —Cheryl Gibney McDonald, PO Box 671, Farmington AR 72730-0671, Marwyn@webtv.net
LATTA WHITTINGTON	Sarah Ellen LATTA b. GA 1857, d. 1892 in AR, (from the information my grandfather has written, I believe she was called Ellen), her siblings included Martha, b. Dec 1858; Carlene Rebecca, b. Oct 1868 and Andrew J. (Doc) born Aug 1860. The 1880 Crawford Co AR census says her parents were born in TN. Sarah Ellen and her husband Bill WHITTINGTON d. 1892 in AR, leaving 10 children. The younger children (about 7 of them) were raised by Aunt Martha and Aunt Becky LATTA and lived in the home of Doc LATTA in OK. Doc eventually married, but no name. This family was living in the Talequah OK area. Does anyone have any connections? —Donna Jones Vancouver, WA, DONNAMAEE@aol.com
LATTA MERCER OLIVER	I am seeking information on William LATTA (branch 24, family 2) who married a Deborah OLIVER and later a Mary MERCER. William's father was apparently James LATTA. Can anyone confirm that and give information on James, when and where he was born and who his father and mother were? Also interested in information on the families of Deborah OLIVER and Mary MERCER. —Richard D. Latta 605 Market St. Burlington Iowa 52601-5442, rdlatta4289@aol.com
DOTY LATTA	Branch 3 shows 16 James(5) LATTA, born at or near Londonderry, Ireland Aug. 10, 1817; d. Feb. 22, 1849; m. Phebe DOTY who was born about 1785 and d. Jan. 11, 1832. They lived near Lattasville, Ross Co., OH. There are 9 children listed. I am having trouble justifying the dates of birth and death for James and Phebe. Surely Phebe wasn't 32 yrs. older than James. Does anyone have any other dates for these two people? —C. L. Craig, 802 Ashberry Dr, Belpre OH 45714-1149, craigc@speed1.net
HANAWALT LATTA	In Branch 3, family 16, Rebecca LATTA married George HANAWALT and her sister Isabella married John HANAWALT. In Marysville OH in 1924 there was a family reunion held. My Aunt Nellie was invited, but was not able to attend. My brother, Kenneth and I are now looking into our genealogy. We would like more information on our family. We can also share additional information. —John R. Hanawalt, 8932 Sallys Way, Alvarado TX 76009
ALLISON LATTA MACFARLANE MORISON	Henrietta LATTA, born 1815 in Greenock West, Co. Renfrew, Scotland UK, d/o Robert LATTA and Henrietta ALLISON. Henrietta LATTA married Neil MORISON at Greenock West in 1837. He was s/o Malcolm MORISON, b. 1838, immigrated to Melbourne about the 1850's and married Elizabeth MACFARLANE, born co. Derry, Ireland. —Roger Norman Oliver, Lot 75 Grevillea Place, Gidgegannup Wa 6083, AUSTRALIA, george@gidgenet.com.au

ARNOLD ELLIOTT JACKSON LATTA MITCHELL WOOD	I am interested in anyone searching branch 31. The names I have are John B. married Mary Jane JACKSON, John J. married Elizabeth WOOD, Martha Ann married Jessie MITCHELL, Ada (Addie) Jane MITCHELL married William Austin ARNOLD, Rebecca ARNOLD married Robert ELLIOTT. This is the line my husband is from and I would love to hear from anyone that has any information. —Mary Lou Cayton, RR 1 Box 35, Balko OK 73931, ddcayton@ptsi.net
LATTA LINCOLN TODD	Seeking children of Wm. (aka Moses) LATTA and Rachel TODD (Branch 46, family 2). Wm. was born in Ireland on the late 1750s and died between 1824-1829. He settled in Chester Co. PA but I am sure they moved on to ??? I know they had 4 more children than Rachel. This branch ties in with the TODD's of PA and NC. Rachel was a cousin to Mary Todd LINCOLN. —Linda Wright, Bx.1164, Willow Creek CA 95573, 102031@thegrid.net
HARRINGTON HENDRICKS HERRINGTON LATTY SANDERS	I'm looking for a connection between Lucinda "Annie" HENDRICKS and a LATTY. The family line is that she was of Indian descent and may have been adopted by a family by the name of SANDERS. She was married to Henry 'Clay' HARRINGTON and they had a son named Albert Latty HERRINGTON. He was born around 1881-1883 in NM Indian Territory and is said to have gotten his middle name from Lucinda's family. —Jerry M. Bates, 401 S. Kentucky Ave, Roswell NM 88201, JayBee@dfn.com
LATTA MERRITTS	William LATTA d. 1899 in Petersburg, PA. He married Minnie MERRITTS who d. 1914 in Tyrone, PA. Known children: Verna LATTA b. 16 Apr 1890 in Broad Top, PA, d 3 Feb 1990 in Bedford, PA. According to family notes William LATTA was killed by a train. He had a son who also was killed by a train at a young age. Verna was sent to an orphanage at the age of 12 when her mother remarried. She was there for about one year, when an uncle had taken her to raise. Any help with this family would be greatly appreciated. —Joy A Weicht, 412 Poplar St, Roaring Spring PA 16673, jweicht821@aol.com
JACKSON LATTA	John LATTA, b. 5 Mar 1759 in Orange Co., NC. Would like to know when and where he died and his marriage date. Need the same information on his wife, Mary JACKSON, b. 11 Jan 1761. I would also like the day and month of the death of John LATTA's father, James. He was born in 1731 in PA and died in Orange Co. NC in 1804. Who was his James's wife? —Janet Wall, 3616 Watauga Ave, Memphis TN 38111
LATTA POWELL	Mary LATTA, wife of Empsom POWELL is my gggrandmother from NY, OH and MI, b. ca. 1800, buried in Ohio. Request information on her ancestors. —Keith E. Bazaire, 1010 Sheldon Row, Charlotte MI. 48813, kbazaire@voyager.net
LATTA	I am looking for information on LATTA's who migrated from Scotland to Australia and New Zealand. The earliest I have information on is Thomas LATTA who was born in Alloa, Scotland in 1797, died 28 Sep 1855 in Adelaide. Thomas was married to Sarah GIBSON, b. 1789, d. 21 Apr 1883 in Bulls Creek, South Australia. —Susan Marie de Geest, 20 Greta Street, Oamaru, New Zealand, degeest@es.co.nz
LATTA	Looking for a Kathleen LATTA who went to Kent State University in the early 1980's. Her father was David LATTA of Detroit, and her mother is named Bonnie (divorced from David). The last I heard of Kathleen, she was about to be married to a guy from Pittsburgh. We are old college friends, and I'm trying to contact her. —David Perez, 11880 Airport Way, Broomfield CO 80021, davidperez@northpointnet.com
FORD LATTA	I am descended from James John LATTA born 24 Jun 1855 in Benton Co. AL. His wife was Julia Ann FORD b. 10 Feb 1862. They moved to Van Zandt Co. TX. Family legend says they came from Ireland to SC. Would appreciate any information. —Linda A. Carr, 229 Yacht Club Dr, Fort Walton Beach FL 32548, bcarr@prodigy.net
GRIFFIN LATTIE NOONAN O'DONNELL	Seeking information on Thomas (NMN) LATTIE, who lived in Nova Scotia. Did not become a US citizen. His children were all born in MA. Married Blanch GRIFFIN in Boston MA. They had 9 children born in or around Dedham, MA and Boston. Thomas LATTIE II b. 29 Mar 1921, d. 2 Jan 1994, being child number 6 I know the most about. The oldest being Evelyn, Pat, Willard (died at age 7). Ken (not Kenneth) b. 1915, Muriel Irene Lattie (married O'DONNELL) Tom, Blanche (married PHILLIPS) Charlotte Pauline (never married), and Jacqueline Ann(e) Lattie NOONAN. —Phyllis S. Lattie, 31 Saint John, Dana Point CA 92629, pslattie@fea.net

Our Financial Contributors since the last issue

Without you we'd be just an idea!

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Lattas in the DAR patriot index with annotations

Submitted by Larry Sullivan

I cross-checked the DAR Patriot Index (1990) of Lattas who served in the Revolutionary War against the "Latta Connection" genealogy and found only one omission. There are the occasional expected discrepancies in dates and spellings, but here are the DAR listings and the corresponding genealogy entries:

1. Ephraim [6 EPHRAIM (4) in Branch #3]: b 1759/60 IR d p 11-28-1803 PA m Mary Thompson PVT PA
2. James ["Latta Connection" entry not found]: b 3 1735 d 8-16-1804 NC m X PS NC
3. James [2 JAMES (2) in Branch #4]: b c 1735 d p 8-16-1804 NC m Sarah Jackson CS PS NY
4. James [2 JAMES (2) in Branch #8]: b 1732 IR d 1-29-1801 PA m Mary McCalla CHP SOL PA
5. John [3 JOHN (3) in Branch #1]: b 9-15-1756 PA d 10-4-1843 PA m Margaret Potter PS PA
6. John [2 JOHN (2) in Branch #29]: b 1722 IR d 1798 PA m Mary Dougherty PVT PA
7. John [1 JOHN (1) in Branch #9]: b. 1727 IR d 1-9-1795 SC m Sarah Ramsey PS SC
8. Moses [4 MOSES (2) in Branch #4]: b a 1760 IR d p 1790 NY m Elizabeth Jearman PVT NY
9. Samuel [3 SAMUEL (2) in Branch #4]: b 1756 IR d 8-19-1822 NY m Elizabeth Schultz SOL NY
10. Thomas [2 THOMAS (2) in Branch #27]: b c 1745 d 7-1797 PA m Deborah Johnston CAPT PA
11. William [2 WILLIAM (2) in Branch #1]: b a 1736 IR d 1808 PA m X PVT CL PA

Hope this helps someone. Perhaps other listers can provide the genealogy identifications for James Latta of North Carolina, whom I couldn't find among the "51 Branches."

Financial report

from 1 Sep through 31 Dec 1998

PREVIOUS BALANCE		\$ 63.68
Receipts		
Subscription contributions	\$1059.00	
Reprint contributions	90.00	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$1,149.00
Expenditures		
Bank Fees	\$ 5.00	
Postage	265.60	
Printing	285.60	
Supplies	249.16	
Web Services	79.80	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$ 885.16
BALANCE ON HAND		\$ 327.52

Estimated cost to print and mail Issue 9: \$558.43

Branch 29:

Marriages in Bourbon Co KS

Submitted by Sandra Wilson (Branch #1)

July 4 1867 - Frank Latta and Elizabeth E. Thomas
 April 27, 1872 - George Latta and Melissa A. Morgen
 January 28, 1877 - Isaac Latta and Hannah Wright
 April 10, 1880 - E.F. Baldwin and Mary M. Latta

'J'ever wonder...

Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
 Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
 Why kamikaze pilots wear helmets?

Queries continued from page 9

DAVIS LATTA LOTTA	Maria Elizabeth LOTTA; b.10 Nov 1844 Hemlock, Howard Co IN; d. 30 May 1880 possibly TX or OK; m. James Monroe DAVIS ca 1861. I find no LOTTA in Howard Co., but do find LATTA. Could be connection to William Robert LATTA (branch 1, family 12) b. 27 Dec 1798; d. 2 miles east of Hemlock, Howard Co. IN? —Stella Davis Van Note, 2750 W Acacia C-21, Hemet CA 92545-3686
LATTA TAYLOR	Does anyone have any information on William LATTA who married Elizabeth TAYLOR in PA ca 1790? She was d/o John and Jean TAYLOR. William and Elizabeth's eldest son was John Taylor LATTA. William LATTA appears 1800 census Beaver Co PA same page with Andrew LATTA (Branch 1, family XX). Were they brothers? Later Andrew moved to KY then OH. 1830 Census of Sprigg Twp, Adams Co OH shows Andrew LATTA on p. 80 and John LATTA (Branch 30, family XX) on p. 79. 1840 census of Sprigg Twp shows John T. LATTA. Could this be John Taylor LATTA? The age is about the same and John T. LATTA has a daughter Elizabeth, which was the name of John Taylor LATTA's mother. Any information welcomed. —Wilma Chambers, 3006 S Chrysler, Independence MO 64052-3237

First-person account (Branch 4)**Railroad telegrapher: "The Erie Years"**
Concluded from Issue 8

I was not at White House Tower many months when a Mr. Salisbury, an old time operator on the Erie working at H. R. Tower, 1-1/2 miles east of Olean Station, died and I was now old enough in the service to get this vacancy. We immediately moved our goods to Olean and again began housekeeping. We rented a good house in Boardmanville, just across the small river from Olean (and now a part of Olean proper). This location being nearer to the tower yet still over a mile away. Louie Johnson, the other operator, lived in East Olean, still much farther away. This made it so difficult to make the usual half day and night change that we worked days and nights. I was lucky enough to get the day shift. H. R. Tower was nearly a mile and a half east of the Olean station at the west end of a long siding and was much larger than the other towers. The company had intended to put in an interlocking system making this the main railroad yard, but because the New York and Pennsylvania crossed the Erie just west of the station – making it necessary for all trains to stop there – they abandoned this plan. We had to go quite a ways to get water from a farmhouse, so I personally drove a water well close to the tower. I had a hard time in doing this, as I had to go through a bed of quicksand, but I finally got a good well.

For the information of those not familiar with some of the tower workings, I will explain some of it. At each east and west side is a signal bell with a push button, never placed together or where it could be reached from the desk. As a train approaches from either direction, the operator from that direction rings a signal asking for a clear block. If we give him a clear block, we immediately drop the semaphore headed from the opposite direction, which protects the oncoming train. As soon as the train enters the clear block, the operator signals me that he has done so, and before it reaches me I get a clear from the operator in the next tower. I then pull down the semaphore, which gives the train the go-ahead signal, ringing the train in the next block and ringing the back operator that the train has passed that block. I then report by telegraph to the train dispatcher the number of the train and the time it passed. So one has to go to each end of the tower twice for every one that passes. Because of all the trains having to stop at the RR crossing, they did not stop at H. R. Tower, so that we did not get many train orders or other usual business.

This was the easiest job on the division.

During the time that Johnson and I were at H. R. we both tried a Civil Service examination for Railway Mail Clerk and Local Mail Carrier. I passed the highest mark ever passed in that office, 99 plus, which was only good for one year at the end of which I again headed the list, but during this entire time there was not a single vacancy or any increase in the force. The point counting the most in these examinations was the reading of fifty cards with names and addresses, which were given us bottom side up. Time and accuracy were what counted. To prepare for this we went to the Olean House (the leading hotel in the city) where in the basement we found a big stack of old hotel registers. We were allowed to take them to the tower for study, and for variety of signatures and addresses they could not be equaled anywhere. This study enabled us both to make remarkable showings in this test.

Johnson secured a temporary position weighing the mail on the Erie between New York City and Salamanca, NY, and some time later became a regular mail clerk on this same run. By the way, that system was a big fraud on the government. For thirty days all mails are weighed both on and off the mail trains. Upon the results of this weight, a five-year contract was made for carrying the mail. All along the route they had big sacks of newspapers, magazines, etc., that were never taken to the Post Office but piled upon the baggage trunks and again put on a train and reweighed over and over again, thus securing contracts for many times more than they should have.

A couple of years or so after moving to Olean, one of our good family friends and neighbor, the Elsworths, moved away from Olean and we rented their house in which we lived until leaving that city.

At one time while in H. R. Mother Graham, at Friendship, was sick for some time and Helen went there to help take care of her. I went there for meals and lodging, part of the time going to Olean on #1 at 9 p.m. working at H. R. twenty-four hours, then back to Friendship on #12.

The one and only great event happening during my long sojourn at H. R. Tower was that on October 22, 1897, we had born to us a charming and beautiful daughter, Romaine Dorothy Latta, who has been all these years a most wonderful and appreciative daughter that could not be surpassed.

On February 1, 1898, I resigned from the old reliable Erie RR, after ten years of service without receiving a reprimand of any kind or form. ❄