

# Franklin Family Researchers United

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**Death Mask of Benjamin Franklin**

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## **Cover Image: Death Mask of Benjamin Franklin**

Probably Philadelphia, April, 1790.

Plaster of Paris; Overall Length: 9 1/2 inches, Overall Width: 6 inches. Maximum Height to tip of nose: 4 1/2 inches.

Manuscripts Division; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections; Princeton University Library

In the collections of Princeton University is a copy of a mask of Franklin's face, which has been called both a life mask and a death mask. Its resemblance to other images of Franklin at the end of his life reinforces the identification.

*Portraits in Plaster*, from the Collection of Laurence Hutton. This collection was donated to Princeton in 1897 by Laurence Hutton. He was the literary editor of *Harper's Magazine*. He came across a cast of Benjamin Franklin's mask, "while rummaging among the relics of an old curiosity shop," (reported the *New York Times*).

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## Letter from the Editor

Wow! It's been a very long time since I have written one of these letters. Since the previous issue of FFRU, I have been laid off from my job of 26 years. It wasn't really a surprise and in fact it was more of a relief. I'm now working for myself, and working 60-80 hours per week to build a new company. That is the primary reason that this volume is soooo late.

I've been gathering Franklin documents at an ever-increasing rate. This volume features several articles written by other researchers., and a few short, random references

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# Famous Franklins: Gertrude Franklin Atherton, Author

By Ben Franklin, Editor, FFRU. This is yet another person who during her lifetime capitalized on a fictitious connection to Benjamin Franklin, the Statesman. While her grandfather was a Franklin, he is not connected to the Statesman's lineage. Atherton seems to have known this, but claimed it anyway.

## First Generation

1. Thomas Franklin was born 5 Jul 1744 New Shoreham, Rhode Island; died before 22 Dec 1810. He was the son of Stephen Franklin and Margaret Mitchell.

Thomas Franklin married Borodel Avery on 3 Oct 1784 in Stonington, New London County, Connecticut. Thomas died before 1806.

Borodel Avery was christened 1 Aug 1762 in First Church of Stonington, Stonington, New London County, Connecticut. She was the daughter of Amos and Patience (Borodel) Avery

See *Rhode Island Roots* Volume 15 Number 2, page 34-37 "The Will of Stephen<sup>4</sup> Franklin, Jr. (Stephen<sup>3</sup>, Abel<sup>2</sup>, James<sup>1</sup>): How It Solved A Genealogical Riddle", by Earl P. Crandall.

Child:

- \* 2 i. Amos Avery Franklin was born 27 Jun 1785 Stonington, New London, Connecticut.

## Second Generation

2. Amos Avery Franklin born 27 Jun 1785 Stonington, New London, Connecticut. He was christened 22 Jan 1806 in the First Church of Stonington, Stonington, New London County, Connecticut; died 14 Apr 1858 Patch Grove, Wisconsin.

While his biography says he moved to Wisconsin in 1847, but he appears in the 1842 Census of Wisconsin.

## Census Records

1850 Wisconsin, Grant County, 24th District, page 14, HH 187/189:

Amos A. Franklin, 65m, farming, born CT; Minerva Franklin, 62f, born NY; Amos A. Franklin, 35m, farming, born NY; Ann M. Franklin, 25f, born NY; Lyman W. Shelden, 11m, born NY.

In Oct 1809 he married 1) Anne Howe in Oxford, Chenango County, New York.<sup>1</sup>

Child:

- \* 3 i. Stephen Franklin born 8 Jul 1810 in Oxford, Chenango County, New York; died 16 Jan 1890 San Francisco, San Francisco County, California.

On 14 Jan 1814 he married 2) Minerva Cary<sup>2</sup> at Oxford, Chenango County, New York. She was born 17 Oct 1787 New York and died 25 May 1859 - Patch Grove, Grant County, Wisconsin.

They had the following children:

- 4. ii. Amos Avery Franklin born about 1815 in New York; died 31 Mar 1896, Grant County, Wisconsin. He married Susen Vanvickle on 19 Jun 1859, Grant County, Wisconsin.
- \* 5. iii. Minerva Franklin born 4 Sep 1817; died 27 Jan 1872; married Rev. Samuel H. Stevenson on 23 Aug 1848 in Richmond, Kentucky; died 27 Jan 1872

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1. PRF Disc #130 Pin #2294343

2. PRF Disc #30 Pin #217231

Gilman, Iroquois County, Illinois.

- \* 6. iv. Sarah F. Franklin born 1822 in New York.
- \* 7. v. Mary Franklin born 6 May 1830, Oxford, New York; died 20 Nov 1914, Fayette County, Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky.
- \* 8. vi. Benjamin Franklin born about 1830 in New York

## Third Generation

3. Stephen Franklin was born 8 Jul 1810 in Oxford, Chenango County, New York;<sup>3</sup> died 16 Jan 1890 San Francisco, San Francisco County, California.

His granddaughter described him as “a superb figure of a man, tall, noble, and dignified, who was pointed out to strangers on the streets as the handsomest of San Francisco’s many handsome men. He was the more conspicuous for being smooth-shaven, a novelty for many years.”

Because he was threatened with tuberculosis when he was sixteen, he was sent to New Orleans to recover his health. There he contracted yellow fever and cholera, which left his hair as silver.

After his education was finished, he remained in New Orleans and went into business with a partner and prospered. At this point he married a girl that he had known from childhood in New York. Gertrude and John were born at their country place, Pass Christian.<sup>4</sup> Every summer he took his family north to escape the heat, and during one of these migrations his partner speculated and ruined the firm. He was forty at the time.

He left the remnants of the business in his partner’s hands, and according to Gertrude Atherton, entered “my mother at the then famous Spingler Institute in Union Square, New York”, however, Gertrude’s mother was instead found in the 1850 Census, living with Eliza (Gertrude’s grandmother) in a boarding house in New Orleans.

On his 39th birthday, 8 Jul 1849, Stephen began a 3-month journey to California to seek his fortune. He traveled via the Isthmus of Panama and from there to the California gold fields. He soon discovered that the life of a gold miner was not for him, and he moved to San Francisco, where he became a reporter for one of San Francisco’s early newspapers, *The Mercantile Gazette* in 1860-61; editor of that paper in 1861-63, residing at San Jose. In 1864 the Bank of California was founded by two of his friends, William C. Ralston and D. O. Mills, and they appointed him the secretary of their new bank. He served in that capacity his death; “his copper-plate handwriting and prose were familiar in all the great banks of the world.”

He waited two years before sending for his family.

After new left New Orleans, Stephen’s former partner in New Orleans had a reversal of fortune, and sent Stephen thirty thousand dollars. Stephen immediately bought a charming country place named Laurelwood; he had always had a country place and it seemed the natural thing to do. As he had only his salary to keep it up, and entertained as freely as in the South, he soon found himself hopelessly involved, and sold Laurelwood to Peter Donohue, one of the new millionaires. With what was left after his debts were paid, he bought “The Ranch,” which, being more isolated and unpretentious, he managed to keep for many years.

A year or two after his arrival in San Francisco he sent for his family.

Stephen Franklin was an elder in Saint John’s Presbyterian Church, and registered 22 Jun 1866 as Secretary

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3. Do not confuse this family with the Franklins of Pharsalia, Chenango County, which also includes a contemporaneous Stephen Franklin who lived his entire life in that area.

4. Editor’s Note: Gertrude Atherton reports her mother’s birthplace as Pass Christian, and the census reports her birth state as Louisiana. A quick web search reveals that the community of Pass Christian is in Mississippi, near New Orleans.

of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Stephen Franklin married Eliza Hallam Brown. She was born about 1809 and died 7 May 1865 San Francisco, San Francisco County, California.<sup>5</sup>

### Census Records

1850 Louisiana, Orleans Parish, Representative District 3, page 306, HH 2515/3337 [Boarding House]:<sup>6</sup> Lewis St. John, 63m, boarding house keeper, born CT... Eliza Franklin, 25f, born CT; Gertrude Franklin, 20f,<sup>7</sup> born LA.

1860 California, Santa Clara County, San Jose, page 372, HH 1255/735:

Stephen Franklin, 50m, farmer RE\$4,000/PP\$500, born NY; Eliza H. Franklin, 50f, born CT; Gertrude F. Horn, 22f, born LA; Gertrude F. Horn, 2f, born CA.

Children:

9. John H. Franklin, born in 1834 Pass Christian, Mississippi.
10. Gertrude Franklin, born in 1838 Pass Christian, Mississippi.

5. Minerva Franklin born 4 Sep 1817; died 27 Jan 1872.

She married Rev. Samuel Harris Stevenson on 23 Aug 1843 in Richmond, Kentucky. He was born 19 Oct 1813 in Iredell County, North Carolina. He was one of the authors of *A History and Genealogical Record of the Stevenson Family From 1748 to 1926*; Authors: Rev. Samuel Harris Stevenson, Rev. J. A. Harris, Rev. W. F. Stevenson. For much more detail on his life and descendants, see the portion of the foreword of this book which is entitled: "A Biographical Sketch of the Author of this Genealogical History and a Tribute to his Memory", and Chapter III, pages 62-122. He was the son of Thomas Stevenson (born 15 Oct 1790; died 3 Oct 1851) and Lydia Harris (born 22 Dec 1791; died Sep 1857). Thomas and Lydia married on 7 May 1812.

From the forward: "[...1841...] Finding that a female school at Richmond, Kentucky, was then available, he took charge of it, and began there the work to which he now thought he was called. There he met Miss Minerva Franklin, who had been a teacher for several years. This young lady, by the beauty of her person, her high mental endowment, and pure Christian character, won his affection, and became his wife. The new partners in life and work, found, after three years of experiment, that the school was not profitable, and gave it up. They then removed to Danville, Kentucky, and opened a private school for girls, which, after two years, was merged into the Danville Female Seminary. This school they carried on till the spring of 1854, when they sold the property to the Danville Theological Seminary, which had been established by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church at its meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the spring of 1853."

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5. Gertrude Atherton wrote that her death was shortly **before** Lincoln's assassination which occurred on 14 Apr 1865, but this appears to be incorrect, according to the obituary in the *Sacramento Daily Union*: "**Franklin**--In San Francisco, May 7th, Eliza Hallam Brown, wife of Stephen Franklin, in her 56th year." Source: Sacramento Daily Union, 10 May 1865. Transcribed by Betty Loose.
  6. Note: There were approximately 70 people living in this boarding house
  7. The census record states that Gertude's age was 20, however she was only 12 at the time.



## Census Records

1850 Kentucky, Boyle County, District 2. page 352, HH 78/89:

Samuel H. Stephenson,<sup>8</sup> 36m, teacher, RE\$2,500, born NC; Mary F. Stephenson, 32f, born NY; Thomas F. Stephenson, 4m, born KY; Richard M. Stephenson, 2m, born KY; Sarah F. Franklin, 28f, born NY; Mary B. Franklin, 20f, born NY; Gabriella Franklin, 12f, born "L. A."/LA?; Ellen Davenport, 17f, born KY; Emily Franklin,<sup>9</sup> 40f, born NY.

1860 Illinois, McLean County, Randolph, page 589, HH 653/36:

Samuel H. Stevenson, 46m, clergyman, OSP,<sup>10</sup> PP \$450, born North Carolina; Menerva Stevenson, 44f, born NY; Frank Stevenson, 14m, born KY; Robert M. Stevenson, 12m, born KY; Minnie Stevenson, 8f, born KY; Lydia Rowland, 18f, born PA.

1870 Illinois, McLean County, Heyworth, page 645, HH 36/36:

Samuel H. Stevenson, 56m, minister presbyterian, RE\$3,000/PP \$875, born North Carolina; Minerva F. Stevenson, 52f, keeping house, born NY; Minnie Stevenson. 18f, at home, born KY.

### Children:

11. i. Thomas Franklin Stevenson, born 26 May 1846 in Kentucky. On 1 Sep 1880, he married 1) Mary Christine Fox. She was born 23 Mar 1859; died 22 Jun 1892. They lived in Illinois, but after her death he removed to Bozeman, Montana. On 5 Aug 1903 he married 2) Eva Jane Murphy, of Iowa, who died 2 Apr 1910 at Bozeman, Montana. On 5 Oct 1916 he married 3) Mrs. Addie Fox Culver at Bozeman, Montana. She was an older sister of his second wife. They resided at Bozeman, Montana.
12. ii. Robert Montgomery Stevenson, born 17 Jul 1848 Danville, Kentucky. He married on 13 Jun 1878 in Illinois, Emma Louise Arnold. She was born 23 Aug 1856, in Illinois. He was a Presbyterian minister and was president of the Presbyterian College at Salt Lake City, Utah. He retired to Berkeley, Alameda County, California. He and his wife are listed there in the 1930 Census, ED 291, page 3A. In 1920 they were enumerated in Washington, D. C. In 1910, New York City, New York. In 1900, Omaha, Nebraska. In 1880, Ford County, Illinois.
13. iii. Minnie Stevenson, born 28 Jan 1852 in Kentucky. On 1 Jun 1876 she married Charles Menaphe Noble. He was born 16 Dec 1850, died in the Fall of 1924. He was a leading doctor and capitalist in Bloomington, Illinois, where he lived and died at 1913 Grove St.

6. Sarah Frances Franklin born 1822 in New York.

In 1850 she was living in Boyle County Kentucky with her married, older sister, Minerva.

She married John Henry Moore on 13 May 1855 at Danville, Kentucky. John Henry Moore was the son of James and Elizabeth L. (Cheek) Moore. He was born 15 Apr 1823 in Green County, Kentucky; died 18 May 1880 at Birmingham, Iowa. She survived her husband, with three sons and one daughter.

### Children:

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8. Minerva Franklin married Sam H. Stevenson on 24 Aug 1843 in Madison County. See also article: "Samuel Stevenson-Minerva Franklin, Kentucky" in *Kentucky Ancestors*, Volume 34, Number 3 (Spring 1999)
  9. At first glance, I thought this was the mother-in-law, but she seems to be too young. Perhaps an older sister of Minerva's but was not listed among Minerva's siblings, so based solely on her age and position in the census, I'm guessing an aunt or cousin, until I get further data.
  10. Old School Presbyterian

14. Samuel Cheek Moore born 1850 in KY?
15. Cary Franklin Moore born 1859

7. Mary Franklin was born 6 May 1830, Oxford, New York; died 20 Nov 1914, Fayette County, Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky.<sup>11</sup>

In Jul 1858 at Richmond Kentucky she married Robert Stapleton Bullock (Major, CSA). He was born 8 May 1828 in Fayette County, Kentucky; died 6 Mar 1912 in Fayette County Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky.

He was the son Waller and Maria O. (Burch) Bullock of Virginia. (They are both buried in the Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky.). For more information about Major Bullock, see *History of Kentucky* by Charles Kerr, William Elsey Connelley, Ellis Merton Coulter; The American Historical Society, 1922, volume 3, page 359.

The Smithsonian lists two oil paintings by M. W. Clark, one of Robert S. Bullock, and the other of Mary (Franklin) Bullock, painted in Jan 1890. Described as: Medium: Oil on canvas; Dimensions: 30 x 25 in.; Inscription: (Right, 1/3 up from bottom, in red:) M. W. Clark / Jan. 1890 signed; Description: Right, three-quarter profile, waist-length portrait of an elderly Robert S. Bullock; Front view, bust-length portrait of an elderly Mary Franklin Bullock.

Mary and Robert resided in Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky.

Children:

16. i. Robert Bullock, died in infancy.
17. ii. Thomas Stapleton Bullock, born 5 Jun 1859; died 27 Jul 1929 Fayette County, Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. He married Nanette Clay "Nettie" McDowell on 19 Apr 1892 in Ashland, Frankfort County, Kentucky. She was born in Louisville, Kentucky.
18. iii. Franklin Avery Bullock, born 22 Dec 1860, Fayette County, Kentucky; died 18 Dec 1925, Fayette County, Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. He married Grace Hambrick on 9 Jun 1904. She was a native of Scott County, Kentucky. He was a county judge of Fayette County, Kentucky for about 30 years.
19. iv. Sarah Bullock was born 2 Aug 1862 in Kentucky; died 7 Aug 1942, Fayette County, Kentucky; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. She married Rev. Carey F. Moore. He was born 18 Feb 1859 in Illinois; died 21 Jan 1931; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. Cary Franklin Moore was a presbyterian minister.
20. v. Mary Bullock born 1869; died 3 Nov 1892; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. Her tombstone says that she died age 23. Her father's bio says age 20.
21. vi. Samuel Bullock, born 1871; died 6 May 1891; buried Lexington Cemetery, Lexington, Fayette County, Kentucky. His tombstone says that he died age 20 years.

8. Benjamin Franklin born in 1830 in New York. Gertrude Atherton merely mentions him in passing, that her Uncle Benjamin Franklin had a "mansion in San Francisco."

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11. Kentucky Death Certificate #28354.

## Fourth Generation

9. John H. Franklin, born 1834 Pass Christian, Mississippi.<sup>12</sup>

### Census Records

1870 California, Santa Clara County, San Jose, page 198, HH 338/315:

John H. Franklin, 36m, farmer, born LA; Margaret Franklin, 23f, keeping house, born MO; Mary E. Franklin, 3f, born CA; Stephen Franklin, 1m, born CA.

1880 California, Santa Clara County, San Jose, ED 246, page 98B, HH 213/217:

John H. Franklin, head, 46m, accountant, born LA, Fa: NY, Mo: CT; Margaret Franklin, wife, 33f, keeping house, born MO, Fa: VA, Mo: VA; Mary E. Franklin, daughter, 13f, attending school, born CA, Fa: LA, Mo: VA[sic]; Stephen Franklin, son, 11m, attending school, born CA, Fa: LA, Mo: VA[sic]; Bessie Franklin, daughter, 2f, born CA, Fa: LA, Mo: VA[sic]; Eugene Franklin, son, 1m, born CA, Fa: LA, Mo: VA[sic]. Address: 581 Fifth Street.

By the 1900 census, neither of the parents are found. Stephen, age 30, is single and living in a boarding house in San Francisco. The girls may have married, and Eugene is not found in California.

Children:

22. i. Mary E. Franklin was born in 1867 in California.
23. ii. Stephen Franklin was born in Oct 1869 in California.
24. iii. Bessie Franklin was born in 1878 in California.
25. iv. Eugene Franklin was born in 1879 in California.

10. Gertrude Franklin was born in 1848 Pass Christian, Mississippi

This is about Gertrude Franklin, written by her daughter Gertrude Franklin (Horn) Atherton: "She was beautiful, vivacious, flirtatious, fascinating, without an ounce of common sense. Nor had she any awareness of the change in the family fortunes. Brought up until the age of fifteen on a Southern plantation, surrounded by slaves, luxury was in her blood, with its concomitant love of pleasure. Thence she went to a fashionable boarding school in New York, and another in New Haven, spending her vacations with wealthy friends of her father. There was nothing to suggest to her gay carefree mind that life was not hers to command. When she arrived in San Francisco after the long sea voyage, she lived at its best hotel with her parents, and although told in plain language by my practical grandmother that her father would never be a rich man again, the warning made little impression. The novelty of the city distracted her; it was socially very gay; she was beautiful and captivating; and the world was made for youth. She had beaux by the score, and was too interested in being a belle and breaking hearts to think of "settling herself."

"At that time there was an unusual number of gallant and charming men in San Francisco; young men whose family fortunes had declined, and who were far too considerate to disgrace their people by working in their

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12. There was another John H. Franklin in the area at the time. His obituary lists his as "Beloved son of W. H. and M. R. Franklin, a native of Philadelphia."

"FRANKLIN--John H. FRANKLIN, a recluse and a victim of a drug habit, killed himself Friday night in San Francisco by cutting his throat with a razor." Source: Sacramento Bee, 8 Jan 1906. Transcribed by Sandi Bordelon.

"FRANKLIN--Ends a Miserable Life - John H. FRANKLIN, a recluse and the victim of the drug habit, killed himself on Friday night in San Francisco by cutting his throat with a razor." Source: Sacramento Bee, 8 Jan 1906, p.6. Transcribed by Nancy Phillips.

native city. Out here on the edge of creation, connected with the East and South by neither railroad nor telegraph wires, it was quite another matter. Moreover, it was work or starve, and they did their best. One even sold shoe laces on the street, and with no detriment to his social position. San Francisco Society in those days was wholly in the hands of Southerners, to whom family was all and money naught.

“All danced attendance upon the beautiful Gertrude Franklin, and one—the gentleman of the shoe laces, now a bank clerk—threatened suicide unless she promised to marry him. My mother in telling this story said to me: “I folded my arms and laughed.” In reading Ouida later I was often reminded of my mother.

“My father-to-be, Thomas Lodowick Horn, born in Stonington, Connecticut, of a long line of shipping men, was a man of another kidney.<sup>13</sup> He and his brother Benjamin devoted themselves to business and prospered. He was one of my mother’s most determined suitors, but she disdained even to flirt with him. He was not only a Yankee but looked like one. (To the day of her death she was a red-hot Southerner.)

“Finally Mr. Ralston and Mr. Mills called on her one day and delivered a lecture. “You must be made to realize,” they said in effect, “that you are no longer a Southern heiress but the daughter of a poor man, a man on a salary, and who will never be anything else. The best man that ever lived, but a man without a future. In this cut-throat community it takes a man of unconquerable energy and ruthless initiative to succeed, and your father has lost both if he ever had them.

“The only man worth considering who wishes to marry you is Thomas Horn. He is rich now and will be richer. The others are decent fellows, but good for little save dancing and flirting. Youth passes quickly, my dear, and only in youth has a woman the power to marry well. You will be on the shelf before you know it, your chances gone.” My mother protested that she hated Yankees (quite forgetting that every drop of her blood was Northern), liked neither Mr. Horn nor his name, that she didn’t want to marry yet; she was only nineteen and having a wonderful time. She wept; she vowed she’d never marry a man unless she loved him; she no doubt had hysterics. But they returned to the siege several times, and finally prevailed. They were supported by her parents, who thought the match highly desirable.

“The marriage lasted three years. My father built a house on Rincon Hill and permitted his young wife every extravagance. But she hated him increasingly. They quarrelled incessantly; he took to drink, and as my mother was in hysterics most of the time while I was on the way, it is a wonder I was not born an idiot. Undoubtedly the abnormal conditions caused that dislocation of particles, or rotten spot in the brain, or whatever it may be that produces fiction.

“The divorce created a terrific sensation. In these days it is difficult to realize the disgrace incurred by divorce in the sixties. It is quite possible that my mother was the first woman to apply for one in San Francisco. My grandfather and grandmother had the sympathy of the community. My father forswore drink for ever and devoted himself to business; Society knew him no more. My mother was ostracized as had she been a leper wandering through the streets in a cowl, a warning bell in her hand.

“But she spent little of her time on The Ranch. A few friends were loyal. She stayed with them in town and they accompanied her when she paid us one of her visits. Her admirers flocked about her once more. And social ostracism meant nothing to her so long as she had men at her feet.

“One of my first vivid memories is of some ten or fifteen buggies hitched under the large oaks and sycamores surrounding the ranch house. The young men drove sixty miles on the Sundays when she was there and spent the day. Faithful souls! Their names are as forgotten as their dust.”

(end of her daughter’s depiction)

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13. Atherton: “My father’s blood was Dutch and French, and I have reason to believe that his family was connected with that of George Sand”

Gertrude Franklin married 1) Thomas Lodowick Horn, 29 Jan 1857 and divorced in Sep 1860. He was born about 1834 in Stonington, Connecticut.

Children:

- \* 26. i. Gertrude Franklin Horn as born 30 Oct 1857, Rincon Hill, San Francisco, San Francisco County, California; died 14 Jun 1948 in San Francisco, California. (This is the "Famous Franklin" of this volume and there is a separate article about her herein.)

Gertrude Franklin married 2) John Fredrick Uhlhorn on Good Friday, 14 Apr 1865, the day the President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. He left the family in 1870, and Gertrude Franklin returned to live with her father, Stephen Franklin.

- 27. ii. Aleece Uhlhorn
- 28. iii. Daisy Uhlhorn

## Fifth Generation

26. Gertrude Franklin Horn was born 30 Oct 1857, Rincon Hill, San Francisco, San Francisco County, California; died 14 Jun 1948 in San Francisco, California; inurned Cypress Lawn Memorial Park, Colma, San Mateo County, California.

Her biography is found below.

### Census Records

1880 California, San Mateo County, Menlo Park, District 238, page 416C, HH 428/453:

George H. B. Atherton, head, 28m, broker, born Chili[sic], Fa: MA, Mo: Chili[sic]; Gertrude F. Atherton, wife, 22f, keeping house, born CA, Fa: MA, Mo: LA. George Atherton, son, 3m, born CA, Fa: Chili, Mo: CA; Muriel Atherton, daughter, 2f born CA, Fa: Chili, Mo: CA; Ellen Gurian, (no relationship listed), 50f, housekeeper, born Ireland, Fa: Ireland, Mo: Ireland; Albert Foster, (no relationship listed), 30m, gardener, born England, Fa: England, Mo: England; Elizabeth Foster, wife, 30f, keeping house, born England, Fa: England, Mo: England; Patriaice Release, (no relationship listed), 59m, laborer, born Chili, Fa: Chili, Mo: Chili.

Gertrude Franklin Horn eloped with George Henry Bowen Atherton in Feb 1876 at Menlo Park, California. He was born about 1852 in Valparaiso, Chile, the son of Faxon and Dominga de Goñi Atherton. George Atherton died of kidney failure in 1887 on an ocean voyage from California to Chile.

Children:

- 29. i. George Goñi Atherton was born 20 Oct 1876 in California; died about 1882
- 30. ii. Muriel Florence Atherton was born 14 Jul 1878 in California; died 1962. Muriel's children: George, Florence, and Dominga.

28. Daisy Uhlhorn married John Craig on the Wednesday before 24 Nov 1889 St. John's Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, California.

*Daily Alta California* Sunday 24 Nov 1889.

**Craig — Uhlhorn.**

The nuptials of Miss Daisy Uhlhorn and Mr. John Craig were solemnized in St. John's Presbyterian Church on California street last Wednesday evening. The young ladies of the congregation, as a mark of affectionate esteem for the bride—one of their companions—decorated the chancel and reading desk with autumn blossoms and foliage. The front of the lectern was finished with an applique of golden-toned chrysanthemums that shaded into a rich, deep, mahogany tone that blended harmoniously with the handsomely-finished woodwork. Above this extended a canopy woven of smilax ribbons gemmed with marguerites and supported by slender columns which were encrusted with sprays of California red berries. Crowning the canopy was a tip-tilted wedding bell wrought of white blossoms, from the heart of which depended a golden floral clapper. An artistic finish was imparted to the ornamentations by a tasteful arrangement of growing palms and tropical plants, the jars which supported them being imbedded in variously-colored chrysanthemums.

The wedding service was read by Rev. J. K. Smith, D. D., pastor of the church. Mr. Little presided at the organ, and rendered the "Lohengrin" bridal chorus as the bridal party entered the church and advanced up the central aisle. As they left the chancel, the organ pealed forth the strains of Mendelssohn's "Wedding March."

The bride was assisted by her sister, Miss Aleece Uhlhorn, as maid of honor, Miss Lucy Craig as bridesmaid, and by two dainty, attractive little maidens, Miss Muriel Atherton and Miss Marie Messer. The groom was attended by Mr. John Kittle. The ushers were Mr. Dubrow, Mr. Van Bergen, Mr. Hellmann and Mr. Mayhew.

The bride wore an imported robe of heavy-corded white silk with court train. The jupe des deesus was richly embroidered, as was also the decollete corsage. The white silk tulle veil was confined in the becomingly-arranged coiffure by a diamond ornament and fell in fleecy folds over the entire figure. She carried a large cluster of marguerites.

Miss Aleece Uhlhorn wore a gown of white silk, gracefully draped with white crepe. The Directoire corsage was embroidered in pearls, and the skirt was set in accordion pleatings. She carried an exceptionally large bunch of delicate maidenhair ferns.

The bridesmaid, Miss Craig, was costumed like the maid of honor, but instead of ferns carried a cluster of beautiful violets.

The little maidens, Miss Atherton and Miss Messer, were dressed alike in quaint long white gowns, with short low-neck waists, finished with tiny puffed sleeves and girdled with broad white silk scarfs.

Mrs. Uhlhorn, mother of the bride, wore a robe of black silk velvet finished at the throat with fine point lace.

The bride is a granddaughter of Mr. Stephen Franklin, Secretary of the Bank of California, who presented her to the groom, and she is a sister of Mrs. Gertrude Atherton, the well-known author, who is at present sojourning in New York.

Invitations were issued exclusively for the ceremonies at the church, and at the conclusion of the marriage rite only the bridal party was entertained at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. G. F. Uhlhorn, where, after congratulations had been offered to the bride and groom, a wedding supper was deliciously served. The bridal presents were many and handsome, consisting of a necklace of jewels, solitaire diamond eardrops, silver table service, and rare porcelain wares, pedestal lamps, handsome clocks and artistic engravings.

Mr. and Mrs. Craig left Thursday on their bridal tour and on their return will make their home in this city.

## Famous Franklins: Gertrude Franklin Horn Atherton

Gertrude Franklin Horn was born 30 Oct 1857, in San Francisco, California. Her father was Thomas L. Horn, a businessman, and she claimed that her mother, Gertrude Franklin, was a relative of Benjamin Franklin. This was not true. At the age of two, young Gertrude went to live with her maternal grandfather when her parents separated and her mother remarried. She attended Saint Mary's Hall high school in Benecia, California, then went on to the Sayre Institute in Lexington, Kentucky for a time but contracted tuberculosis and returned to California. She was an avid reader and early on started to create short stories.

In 1876, at the age of nineteen, Gertrude eloped with George H. Bowen Atherton, a former suitor of her mother's and the son of Faxon Atherton, a wealthy merchant and the person for whom the town of Atherton, California was named. They had a daughter, Muriel. Their son George died at the age of six. George Sr., and Gertrude lived with his mother Dominga de Goñi Atherton at her estate called Valparaiso Park in San Francisco, which is said to now be haunted by their ghosts. Some think that because of both women's domineering ways, George decided to travel to Chile in 1887 on business but he died of kidney failure on the trip.

Gertrude decided to pursue her life as an author and moved to New York, though travelled extensively in France, Germany and England.

She had moved back to San Francisco and published her autobiography *The Adventures of a Novelist* in 1932. She had become known as one of California's most distinguished women, and earned several honorary degrees in her lifetime. Her works are now appreciated for their romantic-realism, exploring themes of nature versus nurture, characters often changing their environments on their pursuit of happiness and success. *The House of Lee* (1940) and *The Horn of Life* (1942) were followed by *My San Francisco* (1946).

Gertrude Franklin (Horn) Atherton died 14 Jun 1948 in San Francisco and her ashes are inurned in a niche at the Cypress Lawn Memorial Park columbarium in Colma, San Mateo County, California. *California's Daughter: Gertrude Atherton and Her Times* by Emily Wortis Leider was published in 1993.

## Franklins of Newberry County, South Carolina

By Ronald H. Templeton, who is descended from Franklins of Newberry County through his mother's paternal line. Comments and questions can be directed to him via mail at 2818 Redriver Hill, San Antonio, TX 78259; telephone 210-495-2971; or email at <templetonr@aol.com>

This article includes three basic sections. The first outlines the process I used to find information regarding my great-grandfather, William B. Franklin, of Newberry, South Carolina, where very little data about him existed in the family. The second is the research I used to see if I could determine who his parents were by investigating the first Franklin in Newberry County, South Carolina, a Charles A. Franklin. The third is my theory on the Franklin household W. B. might have been born in. I conclude with a summary of Franklin migrations out of Newberry County. What I have uncovered may be of interest to descendants of Charles A. Franklin. I have included a number of resources within the paragraphs and as footnotes.

### William B. Franklin Research

When I began researching my ancestors, I was able trace both sides of my father's lines (Templeton and Lipe) and the maternal side of my mother's Darby line back into the 1700s, prior to the Revolutionary War. However, I ran into trouble with my mother's paternal Franklin line. The family Bible entries go back only to my grandparents. Thankfully, my parents had entered the name of my great-grandfather, William B. Franklin, and his wife, Abigail Caroline Caldwell, in my baby book, but they listed no dates of birth or death. By the time I started researching my Franklin line, only my mother and one uncle out of seven siblings were living. They had very little knowledge of the family line past my grandfather; only the names of my great-grandparents. My uncle did know where my great-grandfather was buried. Unfortunately, his tombstone only bore his name, no date for birth or death. Fortunately, he is buried in the family plot of his wife and her parents. This gave me information on birth/death dates for my great-grandmother and her parents. Near his tombstone was an iron cross signifying he served in the Confederate States of America (CSA) military force.

es during the Civil War.

Using census records for 1860, 1870, 1880, and 1900, I found my great-grandfather and was able to identify who his children were, in addition to my grandfather. In 1860 he is shown as being married with children. Also living in the same household in 1860 is an Eli Franklin with his family. Eli will surface again later. The 1900 census gave William's birth month and year as Nov 1834, and that he and his parents were born in South Carolina. He should have shown up by name in the 1850 census, but does not.

He does not show up in the 1910 census, so I assumed he died between 1900 and 1910, and proceeded to find a death date. I was able to narrow my research by using articles from old Newberry papers. Thankfully, members of the Old Newberry District Genealogy Society had extracted articles from the papers and published them, listing surnames alphabetically.<sup>14</sup> Another abstract entitled "Newberry Happenings 1878-1903/Obituaries From 1/1/1998 to 12/31/2000" was also helpful. The last newspaper article I found on William was in the *Newberry Observer* of 31 May 1907, which stated he was attending a CSA reunion in Richmond, Virginia. Using 31 May 1907 as a starting point and scanning *Newberry Observer* microfiche, it did not take long to find his obituary. An *Observer* article of 6 Aug 1907 stated William had died the day before, 5 Aug 1907. With this date, I found the coroner's report<sup>15</sup> for 6 Aug 1907 which stated William died of natural causes from heart failure. Neither the obit nor the coroner's report mentioned his parents.

I found quite a bit of interesting data in the newspaper articles on a number of my ancestors. I knew my Uncle Hiram had been a policeman, as well as my grandfather from the picture I have of him in uniform. From the articles, I found Howard Franklin, brother of my grandfather, and Eli Franklin (a possible brother or cousin of my great-grandfather) were policemen. Numerous newspaper articles refer to Howard as a policeman in Newberry. He later served as a policeman in Branchville and Orangeburg, South Carolina. An article in the 10 Mar 1917 issue of the *News and Courier* states Sergeant Howard Franklin was shot and killed while attempting to arrest an escaped fugitive. This occurred while he was a policeman with the Orangeburg Police Department. There is an interesting article in the 1 Nov 1900 issue of the *Newberry Observer* regarding Howard's wife, Sudie. The article states a burglar broke into her home while Howard was away on duty. Hearing the burglar, Sudie went to look for him with her pistol. The burglar heard her and made an escape through a window as Sudie fired two shots. According to the article, she "showed pluck and courage in the affair, and she had a good nerve, for neither of the bullets struck the window casing as they went after the burglar's carcass." It's time to turn back my great-grandfather.

As stated earlier, William had served in the CSA and I was able to obtain a copy of his CSA muster records. The records show he enlisted on 27 Jul 1861, and was assigned to Company B, 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment South Carolina Volunteers. He served until the end of the war, being paroled at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on 9 Apr 1865. The records also show he was wounded at Gettysburg on the first day of the battle. An article in the 13 May 1902 issue of the *Newberry Observer* states W. B. Franklin was bestowed with the Southern Cross of Honor by the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) during Memorial Day ceremonies on 10 May 1902.<sup>16</sup>

With all the resources used above, I was still unable to determine the names of my great-grandfather's parents. I contacted Franklin Family Researchers United (FFRU) and was informed they had a publication titled *The Andrea Papers* which contains the research of the late genealogist Leonardo Andrea on some Franklin families from South Carolina. I was told there was an interview in the publication given by a C. H. Franklin to Mr. Andrea. The late C. H. Franklin was my Uncle Hub. I obtained a copy of the publication from FFRU and the interview is on pages 18-20. The interview took place prior to 1938 since Uncle Hub stated at the time his brother Otto was living in Maine. Uncle Otto lived in Maine from at least 1925, when he married a lady from Maine, until 1938 when he married for a second time in South Carolina. Although there is some good information in the interview, there is no mention of my great-grandfather's parents. My great-grandfather did state he was left an orphan before he was eight. As we will see later, this may be the

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14. Edith Greisser, *Early Newberry – Abstracts From Herald and Newberry Herald 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877 and Early Newberry – Abstracts From Newberry Newspapers 1859-1869*

15. Coroner's Inquisitions Book 2 1893-1908, Newberry County, South Carolina"

16. Recorded in *UDC Southern Cross of Honor Ledger Book #18*, page 255



reason he is not listed in the 1850 census. Before discussing the research beginning with the first Franklin in South Carolina, here is what I have as a descendant of William B. Franklin, which includes information from other descendants:

- ..... 1 William B. Franklin (1834 - 1907)
- ..... + Abigail Caroline Caldwell (1835 - 1899)
- ..... 2 Roman Presley Franklin (1864 - 1941)
- ..... + Ida Florence Darby (1874 - 1940)
- ..... 3 Laddie Iola Franklin (1908 - 2001)
- ..... + William Howard Templeton (1909 - 1987)
- ..... 4 Ronald Howard Templeton (1936 - )
- ..... + Faye Carroll Blair (1937 - )
- ..... 5 Ronda Faye Templeton (1959 - )
- ..... + Bruce Davidson (1956 - )
- ..... 6 Elizabeth Faye Davidson (1986 - )
- ..... 6 James William Davidson (1989 - )
- ..... 5 Allison Templeton (1964 - )
- ..... + Kevin James (1977 - )
- ..... 3 Marion Franklin (1913 - 1998)
- ..... + Evelyn Vance Davis (1916 - 1995)
- ..... 4 Marion Elizabeth Franklin (1941 - 1941)
- ..... 3 Lonnie William Franklin (1895 - 1969)
- ..... + Janie Vines (1899 - 1982)
- ..... 4 Lonnie W. Franklin, Jr. (1920 - 1968)
- ..... + Mary Lee Gantt (1921 - 1992)
- ..... 5 Lonnie W. Franklin, III
- ..... 5 James Henry Franklin
- ..... 3 Charlie Herbert Franklin (1898 - 1952)
- ..... + Dove Elam
- ..... 3 Walter Gussie Franklin (1897 - 1933)
- ..... 3 Otto Klettner Franklin (1900 - 1948)
- ..... + Bernice Proctor (1910 - unknown)
- ..... 4 Ida Nancy Franklin (1928 - unknown)
- ..... + Lucille Maddox
- ..... 4 Laddie Franklin (1940 - )
- ..... + Clifford Hurt
- ..... 3 Hiram Franklin (1905 - 1964)
- ..... + Minnie Boyd Shealy (1915 - 1995)
- ..... 4 Reginald Perry Franklin (1935 - 1991)
- ..... + Patricia Snipes
- ..... 5 Perry Allen Franklin
- ..... 5 Regina Denise Franklin (1972 - )
- ..... 4 Tony Boyd Franklin (1945 - 1997)
- ..... + Darlene Tucker
- ..... 5 Tony Franklin
- ..... 5 Heather Franklin
- ..... 4 Larry Allen Franklin (1949 - )
- ..... + Diane Lynn Burkett
- ..... 5 Brady Lee Franklin (1973 - )

..... 5 Teresa Lynn Franklin (1976 - )  
 .....+ Carlan Chastain  
 ..... 6 David Austin Chastain (1994 - 1995)  
 ..... + Larry Michael Hammond  
 ..... 6 Christopher Allen Hammond (1993 - )  
 ..... 4 Jimmy Lee Franklin (1939 - 1942)  
 ..... 3 Curtis Oliff Franklin (1910 - 1911)  
 ..... 2 Ed Franklin (1871 - 1895)  
 ..... 2 David I. Franklin (1867 - 1937)  
 ..... + Bessie Boozer (1876 - 1914)  
 ..... 3 Willie H. Franklin (1897 - 1898)  
 ..... 3 Herman G. Franklin (1909 - 1970)  
 ..... 3 Olin D. Franklin (1911 - 1961)  
 ..... 3 Zack Franklin (1905 – 1970)  
 ..... 4 Sadie Franklin  
 ..... 2 Howard Franklin (1857 - 1917)  
 ..... + Sudie Crump (1869 - 1950)  
 ..... 3 Howard Johnson Franklin (1906 - 1946)  
 ..... + Helena Williams  
 ..... 3 Katie May Franklin (1896 - 1946)  
 ..... + John Wesley Tiller McAlhany (1887 - 1940)  
 ..... 4 Howard J. McAlhany (1918 - 1993)  
 ..... + Mary Ruth Pettus  
 ..... 4 John W. McAlhany (1915 - 1988)  
 ..... + Georgia Ann  
 ..... 2 [Unknown] Franklin (1860 - 1870)

## Charles A. Franklin Research

With the possibility William B. Franklin’s parents were from Newberry County, I began my second analysis and research starting with the first census records and proceeding forward. The first Franklin to appear in Newberry County was Charles A. Franklin.

Some descendants of Charles A. Franklin state he was the son of a Gillis Minor Franklin<sup>17</sup> who died around 1770, but I have found no proof of this. The *FFRU* reference states family lore has Charles’ father dying prior to the Revolutionary War. I have found several references for a Gillis Franklin, other than Charles’ son, in South Carolina, but he was alive after 1770. Around 1796 a Gillis Franklin and his wife, Susannah, sold some land in Edgefield County (*Andrea Papers*, page 73). In the on-line South Carolina Archives there is a will for an Edmund Franklin dated 3 Apr 1790, which was not recorded until 23 May 1804. In the will he states everything goes to his wife and, if there were no children by them before she died, all his lands were to go to his “youngest brother, Gilles Franklin.” The “Gilles” is probably a typing error from the original and should be Gillis. There is a record where Gillis Franklin sold some land on 12 Dec 1807 which was left to him by Edmund Franklin, per Edmund’s will.<sup>18</sup> This Gillis shows up in later South Carolina census reports: 1810 in Edgefield County with age 25-45 and 1820 in Greenville County over 45 years of age. More than likely he was living in the household of his brother Edmund prior to 1810.

Charles was born in 1761 (more on proof later). A letter dated 17 Jan 1931 from The Adjutant General’s Office of the War Department states a Charles Franklin served in the Revolutionary War from 21 Sep 1776

17. *FFRU* Volume 30, “Descendants of Gillis Minor Franklin” pages 4-14

18. Carol Wells, “Edgefield County Deed Book 29,” page 9 and 10, in *Edgefield County South County Deed Books 27, 28 and 29*, pages 93, 94

until Dec 1776 (see comment in note 13). The letter further states he was a private in the 1<sup>st</sup> South Carolina Regiment, which was under the command of Col. C. Pinckney. The referenced *FFRU* Volume 30 states Charles also served under General Francis Marion in the 1<sup>st</sup> South Carolina Regiment, but Marion never commanded or served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment.<sup>19</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment was initially commanded by Colonel Christopher Gadsen and later by Colonel Charles C. Pinckney.<sup>20</sup> In 1938, William Willis Boddie published a list of 2500 men who served under Marion. (Leonardo Andrea retyped the list in 1949.) Boddie's pamphlet is titled "General Francis Marion's Men – A List of Twenty-five Hundred." There are no Franklins listed as having served under General Marion. I wish there had been!

A Charles Franklin is listed in the South Carolina 1790 and 1800 census reports living in Edgefield County. He has a wife but no children in 1790. In 1800 he has two boys and two girls, all listed between 0 and 10 years of age. The two boys could be John (born 1790-1794, based on 1800 and 1810 census) and Reason (born 1796-1800 based on census records). There is a male older than Charles listed as being in the house who may have been his father-in-law. No one in the family lines descended from Charles has ever listed a name for his wife, but it is possible her name was "Lueseny" Minor. In *Edgefield County Marriages 1769-1880 Implied in Edgefield South Carolina Probate Records* by Barbara Langdon, there is an entry on page 37 which list "Franklin \_\_\_\_, Lueseny Minor." It states she was alive in 1803, implying the probate took place about that time, which gives some credence for the older male in the household in 1800 possibly being Lueseny's father. The use of the given name Minor by descendants of Charles might be referencing the maternal side of the family, not the paternal

Between 1800 and 1810, Charles moved his family to Newberry County, where he shows up in the 1810 census reports for Newberry. Charles is the only Franklin listed for Newberry County in the 1810 census. He has one male 16-24 who could have been John; one male 10-16 who could have been Reason; and two males under 10 who could have been Gillis Minor and William B. (not my great-grandfather). There are three females; one under 10, one 10-16 and one 24-45. It would appear one of the girls from the 1800 census report was already married and out of the household, or dead.

The 1820 census report has only two Franklin families in Newberry County, Charles and his son Reason (spelled Rezin). John is not listed in this census and does not show up in any subsequent South Carolina records. John apparently left the state between 1810 and 1820. John's marriage to a Susannah Hatcher is based on the records for Seth Hatcher of Newberry County.<sup>21</sup> According to the Hatcher genealogy, John and Susannah left South Carolina prior to 1820. This census for Charles has two male children; one under 10 and one 10-16. Based on birth data of Gillis and William listed by descendants, they should have been in the 10-16 and/or the 16-24 age brackets. It is possible one of them may have been living in a household other than Charles' at the time. It appears Charles and his wife had a fifth son; the one under 10. My theory is he is the J. M. Franklin who shows up in the 1850 census with an age of 34, giving a birth year around 1816. As we proceed forward, I will explain where I think J. M. fits into a Franklin 1830 and 1840 household. Interestingly, this 1820 census shows Charles and his wife now have six female children in the household; two each in the under 10, 10-16 and 16-24 ranges. The two under 10 could have been those of Charles and his wife, with one each in the 10-16 and 16-24 ranges being from the 1810 census. This leaves one female unaccounted for in the 10-16 and 16-24 ranges. The one in the 16-24 range could have been the wife of either Gillis or William. There is also an extra female in the over 45 age range. Could she have been Charles' mother or mother-in-law? Reason's household has one male 16-24, one female under 10, one female 16-24, and one female 24-45. The female 24-45 may have been Reason's mother-in-law. This is the last entry for Charles and Reason in South Carolina records.

In 1830, the census record has families for Gillis, William and a female named "Lenoma." This is the last entry for Gillis since he left South Carolina between 1835 and 1836, based on birth years for daughter Susan and son Charles (*FFRU* Volume 30). William has two males under 5 and one female 5-10. William's wife

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19. William Dobein James, A.M., *A Sketch of the Life of Brig. Gen. Francis Marion*, page 8. Book states Marion served in and commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment.

20. Edward McCrady, *The History of South Carolina in the Revolution, 1775-1780*, pages 14, 305

21. Hatcher Families Genealogy Association, [www.hatcherfamilyassn.com](http://www.hatcherfamilyassn.com)

at this time is Hannah Montgomery, whom he married around 1824.<sup>22</sup> Lenoma's household has three males under 5, one male 5-10, one male 10-15, one female 10-15, one female 15-20, two females 20-30, and one female 30-40. Lenoma's household needs further examination.

Comparing Lenoma's 1830 five females by ages with Charles' 1820 six female children, we find the five in 1830 could have been from Charles's household. It should be noted there is no male old enough in Lenoma's household who could have fathered any of the male children. The male listed in the 10-15 age bracket could have been the J. M. Franklin mentioned earlier, and a son of Charles. As to Lenoma, I am not sure of the spelling since the handwriting of the census taker is hard to read. Was she an unmarried daughter of Charles? Her age range is listed as 30-40, giving a birth year range of 1790-1800, and possibly being one the females listed in 1800 census report. Due to the similarity of names and possible errors by the census taker, could she have been named after her mother? It should be noted a large segment of the population was illiterate and unable to spell their names, or verify the spelling by the census taker. The census taker was left to spell the name as he heard it pronounced. There is another possibility. What if the census taker made a mistake in recording the age of "Lenoma" (reference later comments on the 1840 and 1850 census records) and she was Charles' widow? What if Charles' widow was there but missed in the census, which brings us to a discussion on the death of Charles Franklin.

The death of Charles Franklin is recorded on page 69 of *The Georgia Black Book* by Robert Scott Davis, Junior. Entry number 264 has the following:

"Charles Franklin, assault to murder; 4; 13 April 1825; 13 April 1829: Gwinnette County; Blacksmith; South Carolina; 1; 64 years; 6 feet 1 inch; Fair; Dark; Blue; Died 5 June 1825"

This would be the Charles from Newberry as he is the only Charles listed in the census reports for South Carolina from 1790 to 1820. His age of 64 in 1825 gives him a birth year of 1761. A possible scenario is Charles set out sometime in late 1824 or early 1825 to accompany his son Reason west. While in Georgia, a fight between Charles and another man resulted in Charles being convicted of murder. Charles's widow, with some children, could have returned to Newberry County, when considering the 1830 and later census records for Newberry County, and assuming they did in fact accompany Charles. Reason continued to Autauga County, Alabama, where he shows up in the 1830 census as R. Franklin, with a household of himself, age 30-40, one male 5-10, and one female, 20-30. Let us look further at Reason and another possibility for some of the children in Lenoma's household.

Comparing Reason Franklin's family from the South Carolina 1820 census with the Alabama 1830 record, there is a missing female child in the 1830 census. The male child in the 1830 census is the proper age (5-10) for the stepson, Silas F. Starley, whom Reason left everything to in his 1847 will (see last section on migrations for the will data). The 1850 census for Cherokee County, Texas, has Starley's age as 26. Did Reason's South Carolina family, for whatever reason (excuse the pun), not accompany him? If they did not, this could explain some of the younger children, especially males, in the 1830 census. At least two of the females in 1830 could have been from Reason's 1820 household. Based on the age in 1820, the female child in the 1830 10-15 bracket could have been his daughter. One of the 1830 older females could have been Reason's wife who would have been between the ages of 26-34 in 1830. It does appear Reason Franklin has remarried by 1830. Reason could have been a widower when he left South Carolina, leaving his daughter and possible son(s) in South Carolina in the care of his relatives.

The 1840 census has three Franklin households headed by William, Mrs. L and Nancy. William is now married to a Nancy Bickley,<sup>23</sup> as his first wife Hannah died around 1833. Based on the census and other records, this William Franklin could not be the father of my great-grandfather. He had three sons (John, William Riley, Thomas) and a daughter by his first wife, and a son (Charles) and a daughter by his second wife. The household of Nancy Franklin has one male under 5, one male 15-20, one female under 5, one female 10-15, one female 20-30, and one female 40-50. The household of Mrs. L has one male under 5, one male 10-15, one male 20-30, two females 5-10, two females 30-40 and one female 70-80. The male in the 20-30 age

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22. [www.freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~franklinton/franklin.htm](http://www.freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~franklinton/franklin.htm)

23. Nancy Franklin's 1861 will; 1862 Newberry Estate 109-13, Charles Franklin, Admr.

bracket could have been the J. M. Franklin mentioned earlier. He was the possible son of Charles and Mrs. L, if she is the widow of Charles. Mrs. L would have been born between 1760 and 1770, of the right age and birth period to have been the wife of Charles Alexander Franklin – and the fact a “Lueseny” Minor married a Franklin.

In the 1850 census, there are eight households in Newberry County which list Franklins. I used the 1998 revised edition of *1850 Census Newberry County South Carolina with Genealogical Data on Many Families* by Eleanor Clyburn Wicker. This book was published by the Old Newberry District Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society (SCGS). The numerical household listings which show Franklins are: 18, 459, 495, 966, 967, 953, 995 and 996. The Franklins listed in 966, 967 and 996 are all associated with William Franklin, the son of Charles. William is in household 966 with his wife Nancy and two children by her, Charles and Angeline. William’s son John is listed as a farm hand in 967, and his son William Riley is in 996. It would appear William’s son Thomas Willibe had already left the state for Mississippi (1850 census for Pontotoc County). In the 459 household, headed by Robert Caldwell and his wife, are two Franklin children named Pinckney (age 5) and Elizabeth (age 2). These are the Caldwell’s’ grandchildren by their daughter Elizabeth Caldwell Franklin who died between 1848 and 1850.<sup>24</sup> She was married to Archibald Franklin (age 28) who appears in household 18. Archie married again and took the children with him when he left South Carolina. (See last section on migration of Franklins from Newberry County.) Archie is possibly the male listed as 15-20 in the 1840 household of Nancy Franklin. Household 995 is headed by a J. M. Franklin (age 34), and in earlier statements I gave my theory that he might have been a son of Charles Franklin. He has two females in his household; a H. L., age 20, and a L. A., age 3. J. M. does not appear in any subsequent census records and it is possible he is the James Franklin who was shot and killed near the Newberry court house in Sep 1854.<sup>25</sup> In the 1870 census there is an Adelene (or Adeline) Franklin, age 23, and a James, age 10, who were probably his children. There will be more on this family and another son later when I discuss theories on my great-grandfather’s possible parentage.

This brings us to the last two households, 495 and 953, headed by Nancy and Lavinda, respectively, which we will discuss in a little more detail.

Nancy Franklin is listed as head of household 495. Her age of 41 implies an error in either the 1840 or 1850 census. In 1840, she was in the 40-50 age bracket. There are two males listed, Eli and John. Eli’s age is 13 and he would be the male listed as less than five in the 1840 census. John’s age is seven but there is no older male listed in this census for Nancy, or the 1840 census, who could have been John’s father. John is not listed in the 1860 census for Newberry, unless there is an error in the listed ages between the two census records. There are three other females in the household: Mary (33), Sarah (11) and Mary (1). By ages, the older Mary and the Sarah are in the 1840 census for Nancy. Who is the mother of the younger Mary, the older Mary or Nancy? As with John, who is the father of this younger Mary? This also brings up the question of Eli’s parents. Was his mother Nancy or Mary and who was his father?

Lavinda’s age in the 1850 census is 81, giving a birth year of 1769; the right year to have eventually been Charles Franklin’s wife. Two males in the household are C. R. (21) and George W. (10). The C. R. is probably the male listed in the 1840 census under Mrs. L in the 10-15 age bracket. George is probably the male listed as under 5 in the 1840 census for Mrs. L. In the 1900 census, George stated he was born in Apr 1840. The 1840 census enumeration date was for June of that year, meaning George was about two months old when that census was taken. There are three other females listed: L.F. (39), Martha E. (16), and N. H. (4). L. F. is most likely one of the females in the 30-40 bracket for Mrs. L in 1840 (age off by one year and more likely 29) and the female in the 15-20 bracket in 1830 for Lenoma. Martha E. would be one of the two females in the 5-10 bracket for Mrs. L in 1840. By age then, L. F. would have been the mother of George. Who is the father of N.H.? Who is the father of George? Before going to the 1860 census for Newberry County, some additional data on C. R. Franklin is submitted.

C. R. Franklin appears in the 1860 census for Laurens County. A Charles R. Franklin appears in the 1870 and 1880 census records for Richland County. In the on-line South Carolina archives, there are records

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24. Mrs. Wicker’s *Census Book*, page 230, referencing *Newberry Real Estate Book 1859-1873*, page 36.

25. *FFRU*, Volume 21, “Edgefield Deeds (1786-1795)” page 30

which show a Charles R. Franklin is listed in indictments by the state. In one, Charles was indicted for petit larceny and receiving stolen goods. In three others, he was involved in assault with attempt to commit murder. Charles was indicted with assault in two and in the third someone was indicted of committing assault against him.

This brings us to the 1860 census for Newberry County, which is the final one for discussion in detail on Franklins. The household numbers being used are from the *1860 Census Newberry County South Carolina* by David Edmond Sease and published by the Old Newberry District Chapter, SCGS. There are seven households in this census which have Franklins listed. Households 506, 519 and 520 are all associated with the William Franklin, the son of Charles A. Franklin. Nancy Franklin (44) is the lone Franklin in 519. In her will of 1861, Nancy stated her husband William had left her and her two children about six years earlier to go to Mississippi and had not been heard from since. Nancy's son Charles by William is listed in 506 as Charly (26). William's son William Riley by Hannah Montgomery is listed as Riley in 520, but his age is incorrect. In 560, there is a John Franklin (10) listed with 14 others who are not Franklins. This household is a "poorhouse" according to David Sease. Household 559 has Mary (45), Mary (12) and Tuly (male, 8) Franklin. Tuly is listed as a mulatto. The two Marys are from the 1850 household of Nancy Franklin. Household 948 has Lary (female, 49), Martha (28), Haseltine (14), George (6) and Eliza (4). Lary, Martha and Haseltine are from the 1850 household of Lavinda where Lary was listed as L. F. and Haseltine as "N. H." Haseltine married W. P. Williams and both are buried in Rosemont Cemetery in Newberry. Haseltine's tombstone has her name as N. H. Franklin Williams, daughter of L. L. Franklin. The "LL" is assumed to be Lary, with a possible mistake on the second L by the 1840 census taker. Lary, along with Martha, George and Eliza show up in the 1870 census, with Eliza shown as E. McCullough Franklin. The 1880 census clears up the family relationship with this group. George is head of the household with Lary as his grandmother, Martha as his mother, Eliza as his sister, and Mary (age 1 month) as a niece, assumed to be the daughter of Eliza. The George in this household is not the George who appeared in the 1850 census. Who was George's father? The final household has William B. (my great-grandfather) and Eli Franklin living in the same household, both married and with children.

Based on the birth date listed in the 1900 census mentioned earlier, W. B. Franklin should have been in the 1840 census in the 5-10 age bracket. For the Newberry 1840 census, all the young Franklin males are accounted for and there are none left to be W. B. He also does not show up by name anywhere in the South Carolina 1850 census. In 1850, he was either missed by the census taker, recorded under another name or – he was born in one of the households headed by Nancy or Mrs. L and in an orphanage when the two census records were enumerated. As stated earlier, W. B. stated to C. H. Franklin he was orphaned before he was eight. Here are my two theories.

The first theory that he may have been born in Nancy's household is based on an article in the 21 Nov 1891 issue of the *Newberry Observer*. The article states Reuben Franklin, the only son of Eli Franklin, lost his life at a granite quarry when crushed by a boulder. The article further states: "He (meaning Reuben) and his 2 cousins, R. P. Franklin and D. I. Franklin, were splitting posts at the bottom of the quarry..." R. P. Franklin and D. I. were brothers, sons of my great-grandfather. This means there could be a family relationship between W. B. Franklin and Eli Franklin, being either brothers or cousins. Per the 1850 census, Eli was in the household of Nancy Franklin. There is the possibility the wives of W. B. and Eli were sisters. The death certificate for Elnora (Franklin) Darby states her parents were Eli Franklin and Amelia Caldwell. I have not been able to determine if Amelia and Abigail were sisters. If W. B. Franklin was from the household of Nancy Franklin, his mother could have been either Nancy or Mary. If we trace Mary backwards in the census records by age, we find she could have been the female between 10-15 in "Lenoma's" 1830 household and possibly the daughter of Reason Franklin, assuming Reason did not take his family with him to Alabama. She would have been 17 when W. B. was born.

The second theory is W. B. might have been the son of the J. M. Franklin mentioned earlier as a son of Charles Franklin from Mrs. L's household. There is a Thomas Franklin, age 9, in W. B. Franklin's household for 1860 but he was not W. B.'s son. Thomas shows up in the 1880 census with his own household and living next door to W. B. In that census W. B. is listed as a farmer and Thomas as working on a farm. The 10 Apr 1929, Certificate of Death for a Thomas Jas. Franklin (died on 28 Mar 1929) states his parents were Jim Franklin and Hannah Franklin, and gives his birth date as 9 Apr 1851. The 1850 census has J. M. Fran-

klin's wife listed as H. L. Was the "H" for Hannah? Additionally, in the 1870 census there is a household headed by an Adeline Franklin (age 23) and includes a James Franklin (age 20). The daughter of J. M. in the 1850 census had the initials L. A. Was the "A" for Adeline? Her age of 23 in 1870 is in correlation with her age of 3 in 1850. The age of James Franklin in 1850 is in correlation with the birth of Thomas James Franklin. The possibility is J. M. Franklin may have been married twice as his wife in 1850 is 20; 13 years his junior. If J. M. was previously married, his first wife could have died and W. B., if J. M.'s son, put into an orphanage. Was Thomas Franklin the brother of W. B. and a reason he was living with W. B. in 1860?

Another observation from the census records could tell us why it will be hard to determine the parentage for some Franklins from Newberry County. There are a number of Franklin children born between census enumerations where there are no males in the households old enough to have been husbands or fathers.

## Migrations From Newberry County, South Carolina

The following is a summary of Franklins migrating out of Newberry County, and note how many ended up in Pontotoc County, Mississippi:

John Franklin (son of Charles A. Franklin): Left South Carolina prior to 1820 and may have gone to Illinois.

Reason Franklin (son of Charles A. Franklin): Left South Carolina between 1820 and 1830 for Alabama. Reason is listed as R. Franklin in the 1830 census for Autauga County, Alabama. It appears he left Alabama for Texas prior to 1839. An April 1867 Texas Supreme Court hearing (30 Tex 257) for a lawsuit regarding some land states a Reason Franklin had a tract of land surveyed and patented. A map with court action shows a "Reson" Franklin with 640 acres surveyed and patented on 6 Dec 1839. A probate record for a Reason Franklin can be found on page 54 of *Probate Records of Cherokee County Texas 1846-ca 1875 (Minute Books A1-N)* by Ogreta W. Huttash. The probate is for May 1858 and mentions his will dated 13 Aug 1847 in Cherokee County. In the will he left everything to his stepson Silas F. Starley, with the probate stating he left no wife or kin in the state. His estate consisted of 42 items including: 440 acres of land, 16 head of cattle, a bay horse, a roan horse and other miscellaneous items. Since Reason does not appear in the 1850 census for Texas, it is possible he died just prior to that, and could be why he wrote his will in 1847.

Charles A. Franklin: Left South Carolina after 1820 and prior to or early in 1825, probably accompanying Reason. As stated earlier, he died in 1825 while in prison in Georgia.

Gillis Minor Franklin (son of Charles Franklin): Per one descendant listing, Gillis left South Carolina to join a brother in Autauga County, Alabama.<sup>26</sup> The brother is not named, but this should be Reason since he was in Autauga County in 1830. The 1840 census shows Gillis in Fayette County, Mississippi.<sup>27</sup> He later moved to Carroll Parish, Louisiana, where he appears in the 1850 census.

Thomas Willibe Franklin (son of William B. Franklin, not my great-grandfather): Thomas does not appear in the South Carolina 1850 census and it is assumed he went to Pontotoc County, Mississippi. A Thomas from South Carolina, age 21, is listed in the 1850 census record for Pontotoc County.

Archie Franklin: Left South Carolina after 1850 and appears in the 1860 census for Pontotoc County, Mississippi, with his wife Nancy (29, born SC), son Pinckney (16, born SC), and daughter Elizabeth (11, born SC). Archie later went to Texas and then to Florida. He served in the Civil War in a unit from Mississippi.<sup>28</sup>

William B. (Charles' son) and son John: Left South Carolina after 1850. Could not find William in the 1860 census but did find a John W. Franklin listed at age 32 from South Carolina living in Pontotoc County, Mississippi. They both appear in the 1870 census for Pontotoc County, Mississippi, with William's age listed as 66 and John's as 42.

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26. <http://marilynusers1.50megs.com/franklin>, Note: This site contains a copy of the 1931 War Department letter mentioned earlier in the text.

27. He's actually found in Fayette County, Alabama. There is no Fayette County, Mississippi - Editor

28. [www.rcaldwellfamily.net/getperson.php?personID=I03503&tree=RobertCaldwell](http://www.rcaldwellfamily.net/getperson.php?personID=I03503&tree=RobertCaldwell), Caldwell Family Tree

## ***Genealogical Abstracts from 18th-Century Virginia Newspapers***

By Ben Franklin, Editor, FFRU. From *Genealogical Abstracts from 18th-Century Virginia Newspapers* by Robert K. Headley 1987, Genealogical Publishing Company, page 128

Franklin, Dr. Benjamin: died on Saturday, the 17th ult. in his 85th year (*Willis's Virginia Gazette and Winchester Advertiser* 8 May 1790); buried on Wednesday [an account of his funeral] (*The Virginia Independent Chronicle and General Advertiser* 5 May 1790)

Franklin, Jesse: apprentice, ran away from James Burke who believes he is in Petersburg (*The Examiner* 7 Jun 1799)

Franklin, Thomas: his executor, Elisha Williams of Henrico County, Virginia. will divide the estate on 10 October next (*The Virginia Gazette and Weekly Advertiser* 30 Sep 1791)

Franklin, Thomas Sr.: deceased, estate accounts with his executors, Thomas Worsham and William Smith of Chesterfield (*The Virginia Gazette: Parks; Hunter; Royle, Purdie, Dixon; Dixon and Nicolson* 12 Feb 1779)

## ***Vital Records From The Gentleman's Magazine***

By Ben Franklin, Editor, FFRU. From *Vital Records From The Gentleman's Magazine* by David Dobson, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company; 1987, page 104

Francklin, James Boutineau, born 1764; died Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, 22 May 1841. (NS16:446)

Francklyn, Peter, Customs Collector. Kingston, Ontario, Canada, married Mrs. Elizabeth Harding, Weston Favel Est., Trelawney, Jamaica, Sep 1794. (64:1052)

Franklin, Ellen, only daughter of the late William Franklin, former Governor of New Jersey, married Capel Hanbury, Royal Scots Regiment, 8 Jun 1818. (88:562)

Franklin, Mary, wife of William Franklin, former Governor of New Jersey, son of Dr. Franklin, died 3 Aug.1811. (81:196;

Franklin, Peter, Deputy Post Master, Philadelphia, brother of Benjamin Franklin, died 15 Aug.1766. (36:391)

Franklin, Thomas, of Jamaica, died 26 July 1767. (37:524)

Franklin, William, Governor of New Jersey, married Miss Downes, London, 5 Sep 1762. (32:448)

Franklin, William, born 1731, former Governor of New Jersey, died London, England, 16 Nov 1813. (83:510)

## ***Abstracts from Norfolk City Marriage Bonds, 1797 - 1850***

By Ben Franklin, Editor. From *Abstracts from Norfolk City Marriage Bonds, 1797 - 1850* by George Holbert Tucker; 2001

page 1: 26 May 1802—William Franklin and Mrs. Nancy Parker. Simeon Peck, security.

page 69: 24 Dec 1816—Thomas Franklin and Mrs. Catherine Cooper. Lorenzo Nicholett, security.

page 134: 16 Aug 1833—Thomas Franklin and Miss Orfa Waller. William (mark) Smith, security.

page 144: 6 Jun 1836—Thomas Franklin and Miss Elizabeth Jones. John (mark) Dexter, security.

page 154: 1 May 1839—Thomas Franklin and Mrs. Elizabeth Myers. Andrew Anderson, security.



# Trigg County, Kentucky, Court Order Books, Volume 1

By Ben Franklin, Editor. From *Trigg County, Kentucky, Court Order Books, Volume 1*, By Barbara Smith Simmons Historical Publications; 1997-2001, page 42.

(236) Ordered that Absalom Franklin, Jr. be appointed a surveyor of the road leading from Cadiz to Clarkeville commencing at Casey's Creek and continuing to the state line, in the place of James Clark with the same list of hands, to wit:...

## The Migratory Franklins: From Massachusetts to New York<sup>29</sup>

Submitted by Susan Daniel <susan.daniel@sympatico.ca>. Reformatted to Register Format and genealogical date formats by Ben Franklin, Editor. I have diligently tried to NOT mess this up. If I have done so by misunderstanding the original, I apologize. When I couldn't figure out what Sue meant, I've just left it as she wrote it. Other FFRU articles that have featured this lineage include:

- Volume 4: "Ancestors and Descendents of my Raymoure - Hubbell - Franklin - Osborne Grandparents"
- Volume 17: "Abel Franklin"
- Volume 22: Ancestors and Descendants of the Franklin, Barnes, Ormsby, Horton, Whitman, Kimble, Darting and Mixon Lines of my Family
- Volume 49: "Book Review: Descendants of James Franklin: Massachusetts circa 1675"
- Volume 49: "DAR Patriot Index"

Let me answer the first question before anyone asks it: NO, we are NOT related to Benjamin Franklin—as far as anyone knows, anyway! Franklin, in a variety of spellings, was a very common name in England, right back to the days of Chaucer, who includes "The Franklin's Tale" in *The Canterbury Tales*, the earliest fictional/travel book written in England. In the 14th and 15th centuries, a "franklin" was a free but not noble small landowner, and many, many of them came to New England in the years between 1620 and 1700—and they had lots of children, as did virtually everyone in those days, because death by disease, starvation, childbirth, accidents and Indian warfare was an occupational hazard of being an early settler in North America. By the time of the 1850 census, if you hit 'Franklin' as a search word in US genealogy data bases you get more than 23,000 entries—so clearly it was more than a handful of Franklins who were ancestors of all of these people!

So it is not perhaps surprising that we don't know exactly which of the many English Franklins were our earliest American ancestors, much less being able to move further back to his (and her!) English roots. Ships lists often were incomplete, nonexistent, or not preserved, and those which are extant frequently have no first names, or no wives or family members' names, or no ages, or no indication of where in England they were from. Many have been re-constructed in this century from later recorded information in New England which shows who must have been here by when, who was part of a family or religious group, and who came from the same part of England.

The only reason we know, for example, who came on The Mayflower was that they were supposed to land in Virginia and ended up in Massachusetts because of a) storms at sea b) the Pilgrim leaders not wanting to go to Royalist Virginia c) the Dutch paying the Captain to stay well north of New Amsterdam d) take your pick e) all of the above! Unhappy because they were nowhere near any balmy English settlement in Virginian tobacco country, the non-Pilgrims aboard—and only 35 of the 102 were Pilgrims—were ready to muti-

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29. Original title: *The Migratory Franklins: Part One: From Massachusetts to New York with information from on line genealogy resources, the letters of Lafayette Franklin and Bertha Englund Franklin, and the research of Eber Franklin descendents Barbara Franzen, Deb Golley, Claire Sandler, Allen Kenyon, and most of all Terry Olson: the guru of Franklin genealogy!*

ny. So to avoid rebellion and the potential failure of the colony before it began, the Pilgrims made a remarkable concession to the other colonists and issued a call for every male on board, regardless of religion or economic status, to join in the creation of a “civil body politic.” Thus the Mayflower Compact with the names of every male on board—very democratic for its time and one of the very few largely accurate lists of who came on any ship! Because of this accuracy, the genealogy of virtually all the Mayflower passengers has been tracked carefully over the intervening 390 years—for example, Hannah Alden, descended from John Alden on The Mayflower, married into the Blodgetts and one of her descendents, Mary Riddle Blodgett, married Daniel Folsom Weymouth, whose daughter Annie married James Kerr Kirkland, parents of Lillian Kirkland Jallings. Follow that if you can!

The story of the migrating Franklins is similar to the stories of many other early families in colonial America—they kept moving west in the “pursuit of happiness”—e.g. finding better land and more opportunities for their large families. It is the result of many people’s lengthy research: Terry Dean Olson, the Franklin expert descended from one of Andrew Jackson Franklin’s sisters, has the encyclopedic mental and computer database to which we owe much of this; Myrtle Franklin Kenyon’s grandson Allen Kenyon can be credited for large chunks from his great web site, along with Bertha Franklin’s and Betty Jallings’ earlier research, notes, and oral history interviews.

My job has been to collect, collate, fact check, fill in blanks and use historical context and my active (overly, my mother might say!) imagination to ‘flesh out’ a greater sense of their lives and the issues and events which impacted on them. It has all the appeal of Greek tragedies, soap operas and mystery books missing key pages which supply motives for events!

Some of the people who have researched the early Franklins in America believe that the ‘immigrant ancestor—e.g. the first one in the line who came here from England—was a William Franklin, born probably in 1607 and died in 1658. However, the most thorough investigation of this William Franklin (and another less desirable William Franklin who lived at the same time and in some of the same places, but who was convicted and executed for beating a servant to death in 1644—so we’re glad he’s not ours!) have been recorded in *The Great Migration* (TGM), an incredible compendium of all the people mentioned in any documents in New England between 1630 and about 1645—it continues to be expanded past that time and will eventually record the information about all the earliest New England families. TGM has found no evidence to suggest that this William had a son named James at all. So I have to conclude, on the balance of evidence vs. hopeful hypotheses, that this William was NOT the ancestor we continue to hope to find.

TGM does mention a John Franklin and a sister Martha, who are related to William in some way, and I am not sure anyone has explored them in as great depth or tracked backward any of the other Franklins listed in *New England Marriages Prior to 1700* (e.g. two Benjamins, 3 Henrys, a Jonathan, 2 Josiahs, a Matthew and a Richard—they all must have had someone as a parent, and given the times, lots of siblings too!) Given the paucity of identifying information about people in such lists—only partial birth/marriage/death dates, no parents, no children—we may never know for sure who was the first Franklin in our line in America. But we do know who the second one was!

## Generation One

1. James Franklin, Sr. was born about 1650 and died 1721. He married 1), \_\_\_\_\_, possibly in England (*Franklin Stoves*<sup>30</sup> gives her name as Eunice Marah Barnes, born about 1660 Rhode Island, married in Barrington, Rhode Island) married 2) Elizabeth Hammond on 17 Apr 1695 in Massachusetts She was born 24 Sep 1673.

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30. Possibly refers to *Franklin Fireplace* page 599, but the information in this article does not match what is in FF, so is *Franklin Stoves* perhaps a different publication? Not found on Amazon, WorldCAT, FHL, Google, etc.

The children of James Franklin, Sr. and his first wife were (we really have no idea if there were others!):

- \*        2        i.     John Franklin, born 1678. He may be the John who married Ruth Willson in 1703 in Swansea, Massachusetts; they had children 1703 to 1728 when she died; he married 2) Hannah Record of Pembroke in 1728 and they had children until about 1734 in Swansea, Massachusetts.
- \* +       3        ii.    James Franklin, Jr., born 8 Jul 1682
- \*        4        iii.   Daniel Franklin was born in 1686. He isn't listed in all versions of their children
- \*        5        iv.    Lydia Franklin was born 18 Jun 1688
- \* +       6        v.     Abel Franklin was born 18 May 1690 and died 1758.

We assume that James Franklin, Sr. was born in England, not Massachusetts, but there is no proof either way—however, the very absence of a marriage of possible parents and birth records for him, given that the early Massachusetts township records are quite good, are the best evidence that he WAS born in England and probably arrived either as a young bachelor or as a married man with existing children—e.g. those born before those listed above. The identification of Eunice Barnes as his wife has turned up in various sources—as “Uni” in one—but *Franklin Stoves* is the only place where I have seen such a clear identification for her birthplace, place of marriage and age—so this may be right. Or not! On the other hand, they also assert that the already TGM disproved William born 1624 and Joanne born 1628 in England are his parents, with no sources presented for this. There are a number of possibilities as his father if the two Williams are excluded: a John, who arrived in Roxbury, Massachusetts in 1664; Jonathan, to Hadley, Massachusetts in 1678; Benjamin, to Boston in 1677; Benjamin, to Marlborough, Massachusetts. Not his father, definitely, was Josiah, son of Thomas Franklin of Ecton England—this is Benjamin Franklin's family. The most likely two, I think, although I haven't researched this in any depth yet, were each known to have had a son James born in the approximate time frame—John or Jonathan—especially since James Franklin, Sr. named his oldest son John and two of his sons also named a son John.

At any rate, James Franklin, Sr. lived at different times in Rehoboth, Braintree, Dartmouth, and Swansea, Massachusetts, and fought in several different regiments during King Philip's War, 1675-76. His children were all with his unknown first wife—which makes it more likely that they were married and some, at least, of the children born in England, hence no Massachusetts records. We don't know when he died, or even where, although probably in Massachusetts, but Elizabeth, his second wife, outlived him and married twice more.

## Generation Two

3. James Franklin, Jr. was born 8 Jul 1682 in Swansea, Bristol County, Massachusetts and died 21 Oct 1765 in ? Massachusetts?. He married Martha Ormsby (or Ormsbee) in 1705/06. She was possibly born in Rehoboth, Massachusetts and died 2 Mar 1738 /39 in ?Massachusetts?. She was the daughter of John Ormsby and Grace Martin

Their children were probably (i.e. there are variant lists with more/ fewer children):

- \*        7        i.     Philip Franklin, born 27 Feb 1707, married Rachel Horton; a parallel line runs from this Philip to a son Philip, to James, James, Henry and down.
- \*        8        ii.    Lydia Franklin, born 26 Jul 1708, married \_\_\_\_\_ Rowland.
- \*        9        iii.   James Franklin, born 16 Dec 1709;. He may be the James Franklin who married 1) Hannah Talman in 1738 and married 2) Eunice Barnes in 1742; children Lois Franklin and probably a James Franklin, possibly others.
- \*        10       iv.    Gideon Franklin, born 10 Oct 1711, married 18 Nov 1735 to Mary Chaf-fee.

- \* + 11 v. Ichabod Franklin(1) born 1 Jul 1713.
- \* 12 vi. Abigail Franklin, born 1 Jan 1715, married Ebenezer Handy.
- \* 13 vii. Elisha Franklin, born 8 Jan 1716, married 28 Jan 1737 to Hannah Luther.
- \* 14 viii. Mary Franklin, born 10 Nov 1718, married James Aylesworth in 1741 in Scituate, Rhode Island.
- \* + 15 ix. Uriah Franklin, born 10 Dec 1720.

All of their children seem to have been born in Swansea, Massachusetts, but they moved to Scituate, Rhode Island at some point; we don't know anything else about them, and it is unclear where either of them is buried. They are responsible for starting the dreaded<sup>31</sup> Ichabod name which unfortunately keeps on through the next several generations, and that alone makes them memorable although it perhaps indicates they had little taste... James is unusual in that he is the only Franklin male in our direct line between 1650 and 1860 who did NOT have to fight in a war—just lucky enough to have missed all but Indian skirmishes, I guess.

6. Abel Franklin was born 18 May 1690 and died 1758. He married Sarah Remington. She was born 1687 and died 1778. They moved to Jamestown, Rhode Island, where he was the first keeper of the Beavertail Light and ran ferries to and from Block Island.<sup>32</sup>

The children of Abel Franklin and Sarah Remington were:

- \* 16 i. Stephen Franklin was born in 1715.
- \* 17 ii. Abel Franklin was born in 1719
- \* 18 iii. John Franklin was born in 1727

All moved to the island. where they raised their many children.

## Generation Three

11. Ichabod Franklin(1) born 1 Jul 1713 in Swansea, Massachusetts and died about 1790 in ? New Hampshire?<sup>33</sup> He married 1) Hester Horton of Rehoboth, Massachusetts; on 22 Nov 1735. She was born 27 May 1711 in Milton, Massachusetts and died 28 Apr 1739, probably in Attleboro, Massachusetts. She was the daughter of Solomon Horton and Susannah Badcock.

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31. History must needs be understood in the context of the times. There was nothing “dreaded” about the name Ichabod at the time, although it was a somewhat uncommon given name in Colonial New England. It is found in the Bible in 1 Samuel 14:19, meaning “glory (had) departed from Israel.” It gained a negative stigma in 1820 with the publication of *(The) Legend of Sleepy Hollow* by Washington Irving, which included the bizarre-looking character Ichabod Crane, and the last time it was given in this lineage was in 1828. The name has passed out of vogue as did many names that were more common in previous centuries such as Prudence, Constance, Patience, Mehitable and Hermione, to name a few. - Editor

32. See *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Volume 105, page 254-256, “Notes on Eighteenth Century Block Island”. See also FFRU Volume 17. - Editor

33. DAR

The children of Ichabod Franklin(1) and Hester Horton were:

- \* 19 i. Stephen Franklin was born 10 May 1736 in Rehoboth, Massachusetts
- \* 20 ii. Daniel Franklin was born 1737? (not on all lists)
- \* 21 iii. David Franklin was born 1738 (ditto)
- \* 22 iv. Asa Franklin was born was 1738-39 (ditto—possible twin to Asa or Ichabod?)
- \* + 23 v. Ichabod Franklin(2) was born 28 Apr 1739 (same source as for above says his middle name was “Hatch” but I haven’t seen it anywhere else)

Ichabod Franklin(1) married 2) Hannah Andrews of Attleboro, Massachusetts on 20 Sep 1739. She was born 3 Jul 1713 in Attleboro, Massachusetts and died ? New Hampshire?. She was the daughter of John Andrews and Hannah Hall.

The children of Ichabod Franklin(1) and Hannah Andrews were:

- \* 24 vi. John Franklin was born 20 Aug 1740 in Massachusetts, married Sarah Thresher.
- \* 25 vii. Molly Franklin was born 1741 (ditto re different list).
- \* 26 viii. Hannah Franklin was born 5 Sep 1742, married a Jonathan Richardson.
- \* 27 ix. Nathan Franklin was born 2 Feb 1744 (different list)
- \* 28 x. Gideon Franklin was born in 1745 (different list)
- \* 29 xi. Oliver Franklin was born in 1748 (different list)
- \* 30 xii. Esther Franklin was born 12 Mar 1749.
- \* 31 xiii. James Franklin, Sr. was born 1750, died 1843; this James is founder of a parallel Franklin line which is found later in New York and as early settlers in Leon and who fought in the Revolutionary War; unclear who he married but his son James Franklin, Jr. married Betsy Oathout, his son Andres Franklin married Dorothy Pratt; and son Asa Franklin married Roxanna Chapman; possibly others, especially girls?

Ichabod Franklin(1) fought in the Revolutionary War although he was already 63 when it began; the DAR has his records, although they confuse the various generations of Ichabods and their sundry marriages—easy to do! They seem to have lived in Rehoboth, Massachusetts, Attleboro, Massachusetts, and Winchester, New Hampshire at various times. His first wife, Hester, was orphaned very young, soon after her parents arrival in Reheboth, and she and sister Patience were put into the guardianship of a John Wilmouth, while other sibs—probably including the Rachel Horton who married Ichabod Franklin(1)’s oldest brother, Philip Franklin, seem to have been spread out to other relatives, which was quite common—no one expected a relative to have room for eight or ten extras, but anyone could use a couple of extra pairs of hands. Hester probably died in childbirth with Ichabod Franklin(2).

As was the custom, from necessity with two small children to raise and a farm to run, Ichabod married Hannah within a few months. He had five more children from this second marriage but we have no specific birth dates or other info about most of them. We assume Attleboro for births as Ichabod Franklin(1)’s family was living there when Ichabod Franklin(2) was born, but they seem to be living in Winchester, New Hampshire by the 1780’s.

15. Uriah Franklin was born 10 Dec 1720.

The children of Uriah Franklin were:

- \* 32 i. Uriah Franklin,
- \* 33 ii. Joshua Franklin
- \* 34 iii. Abel Franklin.

## Generation Four

4. Ichabod Franklin(2) born 28 Apr 1739 married 1) Mollie Whitman on 22 Jan 1761 in Chelsea, Vermont, born 1743 in Weymouth, Massachusetts in Attleboro, Massachusetts died 24 May 1778, Winchester, New Hampshire died about 1800.<sup>34</sup> She was the daughter of Daniel Whitman and Zurviah Braman of Winchester, New Hampshire.

The children of Ichabod Franklin(2) and Mollie Whitman were:

- \* 35 i. Daniel Franklin was born 11 Jan 1762; married Sabra Temple in 1785, She died in 1826 in Chili, New York. Their son Col. Daniel Franklin (War of 1812) and his wife Jerusha and family all settled in Chili as well—which is where Ichabod Franklin(3) and his family also lived briefly—but Daniel Franklin didn't go on to Leon.
- \* + 36 ii. Ichabod Franklin(3) was born 7 Aug 1764
- \* 37 iii. Noah Franklin was born 16 Jul 1767
- \* 38 iv. Abel Franklin was born 16 Jun 1770
- \* 39 v. Ashael Franklin was born 2 Jun 1773
- \* 40 vi. Sarah Franklin was born 7 Oct 1775
- \* 41 vii. Molley Franklin was born 16 May 1778

Ichabod Franklin(2) married 2) Hannah Franklin on 17 Mar 1779 in Woodstock, Connecticut born ? probably Connecticut died ? in Vermont or New Hampshire?. She was the daughter of yet another James Franklin.

The children of Ichabod Franklin(2) and Hannah Franklin were:

- \* 42 viii. Benjamin Franklin was born 12 Feb 1780
- \* 43 ix. Amasa or Aman Franklin was born 3 Apr 1783 and died 25 Aug 1784
- \* 44 x. Amasa Franklin was born 1 Oct 1785

Ichabod Franklin(2) also fought in the Revolutionary War, but DAR records of his marriages are inaccurate as they have Lavinah, wife of his son Ichabod Franklin(3), as a third marriage for him, although the dates make that impossible. The lack of children born to them between 1775 and 1778 may be due to the impact of war and separation on family life.

Before the war almost everyone in even quite remote places, like Orange County, Vermont and Winchester, New Hampshire, were caught up in angry debates, civil unrest and riots. Terry Olson has a copy of an important New Hampshire document, the Oath of Association, which men in each town in every colony standing with the rebellious colony against the Crown signed—those who didn't were often ostracized or even driven from their homes and known as Tories or Loyalists—it is entitled "Resolve of the General Congress

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34. DAR

to Stand By within the Covenant” and dated 3 Jun 1776; signers of this include Ichabod Franklin(1), Ichabod Franklin, Jr.(2), Stephen Franklin (Ichabod Franklin(2)’s older brother) and James Franklin (his youngest brother), plus Alexander McDowell, father of Ichabod Franklin(3)’s future wife, and Nathaniel Oak, probably her mother’s father or older brother.

The children of Ichabod Franklin(2) and his first wife, Mollie, were all born in Chelsea, Orange County, Vermont, but after her death from the aftereffects of childbirth in the middle of the war, the children were probably taken back to Winchester to be cared for by their grandparents. One assumes that as soon as possible during an interval between fighting, Ichabod looked around for another wife and shortly married a Hannah Franklin, almost undoubtedly a relation he already knew, who was from Woodstock Connecticut, and she came back with him to Winchester, New Hampshire where all their children were born.

## Generation Five

5. Ichabod Franklin(3) born 7 Aug 1764 in New Hampshire and died 25 Dec 1837 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. He married Levinah McDowell on 11 Dec 1788 in Winchester, New Hampshire. She was born 27 Aug 1770 in Winchester New Hampshire and died 8 Feb 1845 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. She was the daughter of Alexander McDowell and Levinah Oak.

The children of Ichabod Franklin(3) and Levinah McDowell were:

- \*        45        i.     William Franklin, born 13 Nov 1789 Vermont; no info about him, but he did not move to Leon with the family so it’s likely that he either fought and died in War of 1812 and/or married and moved west earlier.
- \* +     46        ii.    Eber Franklin, born 8 Jun 1791 in Chelsea, Orange County, Vermont.
- \*        47        iii.   Sophia Franklin, born 20 Sep 1793 in Vermont; may have died young.
- \*        48        iv.    Henry Franklin, born 24 Oct 1795 in Vermont; living in Lake Mills, Jefferson County, Wisconsin by 1850.
- \* +     49        v.     Whitman Franklin, born 24 Jun 1798.
- \*        50        vi.    Betsy Franklin, born 26 Jun 1802. No further information, but probably married someone in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \*        51        vii.   Polly Franklin, born 10 Dec 1804 - as above
- \* +     52        viii. Ichabod Franklin(4), born 22 Jun 1811.

By the 1790 census, Ichabod Franklin(3) had taken his wife home to the town where he was born, Chelsea, Orange County, Vermont, where his two oldest sons were born, while his father, Ichabod 2, remained in Winchester, New Hampshire with his second wife Hannah and their youngest four children, Sarah, Molley, Ben and Amasa. Levinah’s parents had also moved to Chelsea, where her father became Town Clerk and Treasurer, thus ensuring that at least HER name would be spelled correctly in the records!<sup>35</sup> Only the first four of their children are recorded as born in Chelsea, with exact birth dates noted; it is likely that at least Whitman was also born in Vermont, but since we don’t know when exactly they moved to New York, the youngest three could have been born in either place.

By the 1800 census, Ichabod Franklin(2) and Hannah had rejoined him in Vermont. All this moving back and forth was not unusual—most places in New England were relatively close together, and all had been lived in and travelled through for hundreds of years of Indians and more than 100 years of settlers. Also, during the war men usually only enlisted for a specific battle or for a few month period, and went home to work their farms until they were needed again, so they had a lot of opportunity to see other places they might

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35. Because spelling of names was not considered standard or even very important, there should be no expectation of consistent spellings of names prior to the 20th century, even by a parent. The concept of a standard spelling became prevalent after the advent of the typewriter. - Editor.

want to live and to marry women from outside of their home communities.

Many early settlers moved into less heavily populated areas right after the Revolutionary War, where more unclaimed land was available, less damage had been done to it during the war, and there was less of a 'hands on' government, the Republic's officials proving even more interested in taxes than the British had been and far more clever and determined in collecting them! Vermont had been a hot bed of rebellion against the Crown long before the Revolution—the Green Mountain Boys had virtually set up their own colony which they defended against anyone likely to want to take their money or their land—and that isolationism was still a very popular attitude in Vermont after the war and easy to act on due to the mountainous, forested terrain.

As you can see, the list of children includes some new names—William, Eber—which came from her family; it also includes a Whitman, after Ichabod's mother Mollie Whitman. Empty spaces of more than two years, as between Polly and Ichabod, usually indicate children who were born dead or lived for such a short time that they were not recorded. Generally women had children every year or two from the time they married until they hit 40+ or died in (or from the aftereffects of) childbirth.

Sometime before the 1810 census, Ichabod and Levinah were on the move again, and this time into western New York, a far more remote and less inhabited place, so that moving back to Vermont again would not be an easy option even if they could get enough real money collected to go home. It is likely that they came down to Lake Ontario via the Saint Lawrence River, or by rough roads along the river valley which had been developed during the war. Why they decided to come is an unanswered question—in fact it is THE most difficult question to answer about most migrating families like the Franklins—we will probably never know what political, social or economic events in their lives prompted packing up all their belongings and many small children and heading into what was still largely a trackless and underpopulated area. But go they did, very probably with Ichabod's brother Daniel and his wife Sabra, and settled in the area around Riga and Chili in upstate New York, not far from Fort Otswego on Lake Ontario; one factor in their choice might have been that Ichabod's Uncle James had been one of the first settlers there. It is not known where Ichabod 2 and Hannah ended up after Ichabod 3 left for New York—in Vermont or back in New Hampshire—since we have no further census or death records for them after 1800. Western New York today; Cattaraugus County, shows the area where the Franklin settled after 1821. It is easy to see why a canal which bypassed Niagara Falls was a popular idea, making movement between Lake Ontario and Lake Erie feasible and settlement in New York and Ohio far easier than by existing land routes.

When the War of 1812 began virtually every adult male living in western New York was required to join the militia, although they were often called up only to fight in a specific upcoming campaign or battle and then sent home, and the government paid their travel costs. Thus it was not infrequent for men to fight in more than one regiment at different times—these were usually named after the officer who enlisted them. So both Ichabod Franklin(3) and his son Eber Franklin fought in this war; we don't know where William Franklin was, but he seems not to have enlisted or to have lived in this part of New York after the war, so he may have moved further west already. Another soldier in Captain Kelsey's regiment with Eber Franklin was Nathan Kimble, whose family was probably living in the same area at this time, and whose sister Martha would marry Eber after the war. (Their parentage is currently very much in question: see the Missing Links piece for details!) After the war Ichabod 3 's extended family along with that of his Uncle James Franklin, Sr. and his cousin James Franklin, Jr., who like Eber Franklin, had fought in the recent war, decided to move on again to Leon, Cattaraugus County, in the furthest southwestern corner of New York.

Any picture of a generous government offering land to eager homesteaders at cheap prices for opening up the area, travelling there in groups with great difficulty, risking trouble with the Indians, and settling it with farms and villages is wildly inaccurate for New York and Ohio. This was land belonging to the Holland Land Company of Amsterdam which had bought literally thousands of acres from the cash-poor and debt-ridden American government shortly after the Revolution; thus most of western New York was already owned by land-owning companies looking to make a profit by reselling it to land-hungry settlers. Virtually no one who settled there could afford the payments, since the land wasn't good for farming and there was no other way to get cash to pay with—in fact by about 1860 many of those who settled in the 1820-30's just walked away and abandoned whatever they had built since they could neither pay for it or sell it. Daniel



Pomeroy, among many others, bought up land which people defaulted on in hopes of holding it until someone wanted it and reselling—generally a vain hope.

When you look at the lists of children of the various Franklins you'll notice that most did not stay in New York, but headed west to Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and South Dakota in search of land they could actually farm well enough to live on—and they were not alone in this continued migration west. Furthermore, although all those who had fought in the war were offered land grants by the government in addition to what they might purchase, in fact these grants did not come through for almost 40 years, in 1854, long after many veterans had died or given up on the poor land and moved on! (pensions were usually this far behind as well—applications for Civil War pensions, for example, were still being filed by veterans and their widows in the early 1900's!) There were no roads built into western New York yet aside from supply routes established for warfare with the Indians and their woodland paths, it was mountainous and heavily forested, and there was no easy water access as most rivers became shallow mountain rapids or, in summer, muddy sluggish streams. It must have been a particularly gruelling journey—it's not a fun drive even now, especially in the rain and/or snow, and I can't even imagine travelling it without gas stations, restaurants, and motels in a clunky horse-drawn wagon with little kids!

James Franklin, Sr., James Franklin, Jr. and his other sons Asa Franklin, born 1781, Andres Franklin born 1784, and Henry Franklin and their families were among the very first settlers in Leon in September of 1818, which indicates that James Franklin, Sr. was seen as a leader and encouraged to find others to go with him—after looking through the HLC records in Fredonia, New York, it is clear that they were offered what choice land existed, and possibly financial bonuses for recruiting other settlers, by the Holland Land Company agents. In 1821 Ichabod and Levinah and their younger children—Whitman Franklin, Betsey Franklin, Polly Franklin and Ichabod Franklin(4)—along with their son Eber Franklin and his wife Martha and their oldest three children, all went to Leon, claiming Lot 43 as the first of several land purchases over the years. They seem to have specialized in selling plots back and forth within the family and to the neighboring farmers who were also in some cases in-laws—for which there must have been reasons I can't deduce!

By the time of the New York state census in 1835, many Franklins from these two families had contracted to buy land in Leon: Ichabod Franklin(3), Eber Franklin, Whitman Franklin, Ichabod Franklin(4), Daniel Franklin, Samuel Franklin, James Franklin, Sr., James Franklin Jr., Asa Franklin, Andres Franklin and Henry Franklin—along with some Kimbles, Harmon, Chapmans, Bonds and Pomeroy's who may or may not have been related to those of the same names to whom the Franklins were connected by marriages. It's not clear from the Holland Land Company records how much they had to pay down in cash, or how many of them ever actually paid off their land, given the absence of any easily-earned cash; many are gone by the 1840 or 1845 census, however.

## **Generation Six**

46. Eber Franklin was born 8 Jun 1791 in Chelsea, Orange County, Vermont and died 22 Jun 1876, Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. He is buried in Fairview cemetery, Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.

He married Martha "Patty" Kimble on 15 Mar 1816 in Chili, Monroe County, New York.

She was born 27 Apr 1797 in New Jersey and died 30 Sep 1874 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. She is buried in Fairview cemetery, Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. I think she was the daughter of Daniel Kimble.



Eber Franklin



Martha Kimble

The children of Eber Franklin and Martha Kimble were:

- \* + 53 i. Sophia Franklin, born 31 Mar 1817 and died 18 May 1870.
- \* + 54 ii. Andrew Jackson Franklin, born 25 Sep 1818 and died 10 Oct 1897
- \* + 55 iii. Benjamin Franklin, born 26 Aug 1820.
- \* + 56 iv. Lyman Franklin, born 5 Jul 1822 and died 9 Nov 1905
- \* + 57 v. Lovina Franklin, born 30 Mar 1824, died 24 Oct 1905 in South Dayton, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* + 58 vi. Mary Franklin was born 17 Jun 1826 and died 28 Sep 1901.
- \* + 59 vii. Ichabod W. Franklin(5) was born 2 May 1828 and died 31 Dec 1914.
- \* + 60 viii. Aurelia Franklin was born 28 Jan 1830.
- \* + 61 ix. Eber Franklin(2) was born 24 Aug 1832 and died 27 Jan 1863.
- \* 62 x. Joanna Franklin, born 24 Jul 1836 Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York, died about 1912-15,<sup>36</sup> married Freeman Milks on 23 Oct 1856. He was born 22 Jul 1831 at Dayton, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 9 Dec 1900 at Dayton, Cattaraugus County, New York. He was the son of Benjamin Milks and Elida Miller. Freeman Milks and Joanna Franklin had a 200 acre farm and sawmill, near Dayton, New York. They had no children. She may have married again, but she later lived in her sister Lovina's house after her death; she and her husband are pictured in the *Dayton History* book.<sup>37</sup>

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36. Died after 1915, when her nephew Albert Sherman wrote about her having remarried in a letter to his brother James Wells Sherman. (Terry Dean Olson's website) - Editor



Freeman Milks

Joanna Franklin

- \* 63 xi. George W. Franklin, born 27 Mar 1838 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 4 Jul 1863<sup>38</sup> at the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He married Diana P. Russell in Jan 1860 in Pennsylvania. She was born in 1841 in Pennsylvania and died in 1948 in Pennsylvania. George enrolled in the Union Army in August of 1862 and died a scant six months after his brother Eber, at Gettysburg on 4 Jul 1863, and his remains were never found. Diana remarried a Henry Radle, who was a veteran of the Civil War, and they had four more children. George W. Franklin and Diana P. Russell had one child: Nellie Franklin, born 1862. In 1876 she was living in Townville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania with her uncle Benjamin Franklin and his wife—possibly so that she could collect an orphan’s pension, possibly because her stepfather didn’t want her around.
- \* + 64 xii. William Henry Harrison Franklin was born 25 Nov 1840 and died 5 Apr 1926.

Eber Franklin’s wife Martha Kimble was apparently from one of the zillion or so Sussex County, New Jersey Kimble families; the total absence of any New Jersey census records prior to 1820 and totally inconsistent spelling—neither the farmers nor the census takers probably could read, let alone spell, as frontier areas were far less likely than New England to have schools—makes tracking them particularly difficult, especially as there were also huge clumps of Kimbles<sup>39</sup> living in Massachusetts and Maine, with a scattering in New Hampshire and Vermont as well. (See the Missing Links piece for details on the not very fruitful Kimble search!)

Some Kimbles moved directly west into Pennsylvania, some into New York, and many into various parts

37. For more on the Milks, see *History and genealogy of the Milk-Milks family* by Grace Hildy Croft, 1956, page 252. The photo is from *Historical and biographical history of the township of Dayton, Cattaraugus County, New York*; by Charles J. Shults; 1901; page 163, courtesy of Terry Dean Olson’s website. <fix this - get permission.> - Editor
38. Terry Dean Olson has 1 Jul 1893.
39. Kimbles/Kimballs/Kempels/Kimbels of varying English, Dutch and German extraction.

of Ohio, Indiana and Michigan; we may never know exactly who Martha's parents were, although Terry and I and sundry others have spent many years and dollars trying to find out. It is recorded in later census info that she was born in New Jersey, as was her brother Nathan, in 1794-5, and that the only other sibling we know for sure existed, her sister Hannah, was born in 1801 in New York (there may have been a James as well, as one turns up living near Nathan in Ohio later) suggesting that their family moved from wherever into the same general area as the Franklins at about the same time. Hannah married Daniel Harris Pomeroy in 1821, whose family lived in Geauga County, Ohio; his uncle Daniel Pomeroy was a major land speculator in Holland Land properties who lived for some years in Niagara County not far from the Riga/Chili area, and he may well have utilized Daniel H's skills (He was something of a con man whose farm injury made physical labor difficult for some years, and not entirely honest, apparently: see *The Puritan Pomeroy's* for more details!) in the travel needed for land speculation deals, which may be how he met Hannah. They later moved to Elba, Dodge County, Minnesota and one of their grand daughters was the Emma Amelia Pomeroy who married her second cousin Lafayette Franklin in 1877—Martha's only surviving grandson via her son Andrew J. Franklin.

We know more about Eber and Martha because by the late 1840's even western New York had some records, especially land transactions (which were always the first to be kept accurately in America!) and Eber and his sons did a lot of land buying and selling, much of it to each other, or to in-laws, which shows up on successive early plat maps along with the names of each farm's owner. One ten acre chunk, where AJF had his first farmhouse, changed hands within the family about four times from 1850-1870, for reasons which are unknown. In addition, there is a very good *History of Cattaraugus County*<sup>40</sup> which details early settlers' lives, which lots they owned, and which churches they attended. Because the area around Leon was resettled by Amish farmers after most of the original landholders vanished, some of the original houses are still inhabited, sans electricity or fashionable improvements, so they may look much now as they did then.

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40. There are many histories of this county, but it appears that this is referring to *History of Cattaraugus Co., New York: with illustrations and biographical sketches of some of its prominent men and pioneers* by Franklin Ellis, copyright 1879. There are a few mentions of various Franklins in the book. Here is a sample of them:

page 485: The books of the Holland Land Company, in 1818, contained the names of Edmund Dudley, James Franklin, James Franklin, Jr., John Dye, Nathaniel Cooper, Nathan Skinner, Asher Glover, and Harlon Beach, as contractors for land in the present town of Leon. Some of these, also, were THE PIONEER SETTLERS. The first to permanently locate were James Franklin and his son, James. They came from Monroe County, in September, 1818, and settled on lot 50, where they put up a log house that season, the first in town. Both died in town, the latter about 1843. Many descendants of the Franklins live in town. ...The same year (1820) came Asa Franklin, and settled on lot 46, and there, a few years later, opened the first tavern in town. He moved to Erie County. ...In 1821, Hazeltine Streeter, from Biga, settled on lot 51, Eber Franklin on lot 52, and Richard Oathout on lot 43. He lived here many years, teaching the first school in town, and, in 1825, put up the first frame building, on the farm now occupied by Leroy Rideout. He moved to Pennsylvania. A number of settlers came to this locality this year. But few of them remained any great length of time. Among these may be named Levi Sikes, A. McDonell, Stephen Parish, John Battles, and Hill. In 1822, Ichabod Franklin and his son Whitman settled on lot 43, Oliver Pool on the same lot, Philip Bigler on lot 28, Alpheus Stearns on lot 51.

page 486: ...Other early births were Philena, daughter of Asa Franklin ...

page 487: Half an acre was finally set aside for a grave-yard by James Franklin, which has been inclosed with a stone fence, and is kept in good condition by the people living in that locality.

page 488: In 1845, Mathew Franklin got in operation a saw-mill at Peace Vale, which has been rebuilt, and since 1858 has been the property of J. C. Green. It can cut 3000 feet per day. In 1861...

page 489: The first public-house in the town was kept by Asa Franklin, on lot 46, on the old Kent road.

- Editor.



More than ten cemeteries, many long abandoned, and several churches, ditto, are still in Leon, although very few people, new houses, or businesses exist in this depressed area now.

Also, Eber's probated will, dated 1876, is on file in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York at the County Records Office, providing the names of all his living children—including the daughter's married names, a big help—and those of the grandchildren of his dead children. By and large his daughters married men from Leon, many of whom had lands on the plat map close to the Franklin lands; the land transfer records provide much of what we know besides this, since the town of Leon records are very incomplete due to early fires, and the 1845 state census, which would have provided us with valuable info, was incomplete, not done or lost for Cattaraugus County—the exact answer depending on whom you ask!

*This house stands on what was Eber's farm in Leon today; the residents believe it to date from the early 1800's with later additions, so it may be the original farm house. The church is the one Eber & Martha and family attended and is still in use-- the cemetery in which they are buried is east of this, abandoned with few stones, on a heavily forested hill.*





*Plat Map of Leon, 1869: circles show Franklin family places of interest, those with great eyesight or a magnifying glass will be able to find many familiar names shown in the neighborhood—the farms of families into which the large Franklin clan married—a practical reality then, when work was hard and long and travel next to impossible, was that people married for convenience rather than for romance to close neighbors, cousins, and those who attended the same church in that village or area.*

49. Whitman Franklin was born 24 Jun 1798. He married 1) Laura Poole in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. She was born about 1810 and died 1860.

The children of Whitman Franklin and Laura Poole were all born in Fredonia, Chautauqua County, New York:

- \* + 65     i.    Thomas J. Franklin was born in 1832 and died in 1918 in Dodge County, Minnesota.
- \* + 66     ii.    Luther Franklin was born in 1844 and died in 1933 in Payette County, Idaho.
- \* + 67     iii.    Oliver E. Franklin was born in 1848 and died in 1910 in Marion County, Oregon.
- \*     68     iv.    Harrison Franklin was born in 1849 and died in 1910 in Watertown, Codrington County, South Dakota.
- \* + 69     v.    Albert Franklin was born in 1854 and died in Codrington County, South Dakota.

Whitman Franklin married 2) Phebe Ann Auglein in Byron, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. She was born Feb 1817.

52. Ichabod Franklin(4) was born 22 Jun 1811. He married Laura (Harmon?). They lived in Waupun, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin and had six children, with a high likelihood that all the boys served in the Civil War:

- \* 70 i. Emily Franklin was born in 1834.
- \* 71 ii. Louisa Franklin was born in 1836.
- \* 72 iii. Rawson Franklin was born 1841. He married Adelia Rideout. She was born in 1849. She was daughter of Nathan Rideout and Sophia Franklin (Eber's oldest child); there are four Franklin/ Rideout marriages in total. They lived in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin and Day County, South Dakota and he served in Civil War from Wisconsin; she died in Marion County, Oregon 1933; 2 boys
- \* 73 iv. William Franklin was born in 1844.
- \* 74 v. Charles Franklin was born in 1845.
- \* 75 vi. Marion Franklin was born in 1848.

## Generation Seven

53. Sophia Franklin was born 31 Mar 1817 in Riga, Monroe County, New York and died 18 May 1870 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. She married to Nathan Rideout on 12 May 1833 Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. He was born about 1807 and died after 1880. They lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York, and had 8 children:

- \* 76 i. Sarah Rideout was born in 1835. She married \_\_\_\_\_ Cooper. They lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* 77 ii. LeRoy Rideout was born in 1837. He lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* 78 iii. Cornelius Rideout was born in 1844—twin to Cornelia.
- \* 79 iv. Cornelia Rideout was born in 1844. She married William Hodges. They lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* 80 v. Eveline Rideout was born in 1847. She married Lansing Sykes. They lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* 81 vi. Amelia Rideout was born in 1849. She married \_\_\_\_\_ Mosher. They moved to Crawford County, Pennsylvania.
- \* 82 vii. Adelia Rideout was born in 1849 and died in 1933 in Marion County, Ohio. She married Rawson Franklin.
- \* 83 viii. Ralph Rideout was born in 1856. He married Lettie E. Kierstead. They moved to Oregon and then Idaho.

54. Andrew Jackson Franklin was born 25 Sep 1818,<sup>41</sup> Riga, Monroe County, New York and died 10 Oct 1897 in Concord, Minnesota. He married 1) to Aurilla \_\_\_\_\_ in about 1845-6. She was born about 1818 and died 18 Feb 1853. She was possibly the daughter of Cadwin and Parthia Francis but there is no clear proof of this.

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41. 15 Sep 1818 according to Terry Dean Olson's website - Editor.

The children of Andrew Jackson Franklin and Aurilla \_\_\_\_\_ were:

- \* 84 i. Everett Franklin and Leverett Franklin, twins, born 13 Feb 1847, died before 1850 census
- \* 85 ii. Adelbert Franklin, born 10 Dec 1848, died before the 1850 census.
- \* 86 iii. Jerome Franklin [twin] born 10 Feb 1850 and died 1853.
- \* 87 iv. Jeanette Franklin [twin] born 10 Feb 1850, died shortly after birth
- \* 88 v. Lafayette Franklin [twin] born 11 May 1851
- \* 89 vi. Lynette Franklin [twins] born 11 May 1851 and died 1853.

Andrew Jackson Franklin married 2) to Rebecca Rideout in about 1855-6. She was born 1822 and died 3 Jun 1859 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. She was the daughter of Ezra and Mahala Rideout

The children of Andrew Jackson Franklin and Rebecca Rideout were:

- \* 90 vii. Adelia May “Ida”<sup>42</sup> Franklin, born 1858, died 23 Jan 1935.
- \* 91 viii. [unnamed female child] died with her mother in childbirth in Jun 1859

Andrew Jackson Franklin married 3) Susan Aurora Wilcox on 10 Sep 1859 in Ellington, Chautauqua County, New York. She was born 9 Nov 1839 and died 17 Feb 1901 in Concord, Minnesota.

The child of Andrew Jackson Franklin and Susan Aurora Wilcox was:

- \* 92 ix. Grace Luella Franklin, born 17 Nov 1860, died 31 Jan 1935.

Andrew Jackson Franklin’s life was complex and must, to him and to those around him, have seemed extraordinarily unlucky even in those perilous times for keeping wives alive and raising children to adulthood. He moved to Leon when he was a small child and grew up on a farm which couldn’t have been very profitable, but he was in a growing and probably still optimistic community surrounded by, literally, dozens of Franklins to whom he was related—his parents and grandparents, most of his younger brothers and sisters, his grandfather’s Uncle James and several of his sons and their families. Near their farm were many other families whose children would marry into his extended family—Cooper, Darling, Francis, Durfey, Filley, Rideout, Wilcox.

Andrew had his own farm before he married his first wife, whose name we now think was Aurilla, although in the only census with her actual name it looks more like Amelia. However, the birth certificates for their first three sons and Jerome’s list her as Aurilla and the land transfer records say Orilla. Such records required wives to provide a witnessed signature to each land sale which relinquished her 1/3 interest in any land her husband had when they were married or acquired during the marriage—otherwise at his death she had the “dower right” to that land even if it had been sold earlier. It seems possible that wives signed these under duress occasionally! Such records are often the only place the name of a wife can be found prior to 1850 in the absence of mandatory vital statistics reports in most midwestern states until about 1907. We have no proof of what her maiden name is, as is only too often the case. For example, we know the name of virtually every Pomeroy born after 1635, male and female—but we seldom have maiden names for the women who married them, nor where or when they were born, and death records only if we know where they were buried. We know a little more about most Pomeroy girls than we do about earlier Franklin girls, largely because of *The History of the Pomeroy Family in America*, written in the early 1900’s—although it contains many errors, omissions and false claims, it does have husbands listed for most of the Pomeroy girls, at least from about 1840 on. (See *The Puritan Pomeroy Family*)

I believe Aurilla may have been a Francis, daughter of Cadwin and Parthia Francis—they farmed nearby, Andrew’s sister Aurelia married their son Lathrop Francis, there is a daughter in the right age range in the

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42. 1860 census.



1840 census to have been Aurilla, and they named most of their girls with slightly strangely spelled names. They were another family who had come to America from England a long time earlier and slowly migrated from the east to New York. Or, although less likely, she could have been a Mosher—there were many of them in the area, they had other family members with names like Adelbert, and they were ‘foreigners’—from Germany, which might explain the later comments about Lafe’s mother being a foreigner, and three of his four children looking ‘foreign’.

In actual fact Newton, Myrtle and Flora look much more like they have Indian blood than German, and it is just barely possible that Aurilla was from the Seneca Nation, whose land is directly south of Leon—which would help to explain her apparent isolation at the time of her death. Although Seneca records exist, with no idea of her last name and given the cost of research into native records, this may be impossible to discover. I suspect, however, that had she been native her suicide and the murder of two of her children with a hatchet would have been bigger news in a not very tolerant society, and most likely her only surviving son, Lafe, would have known. We probably will never know, since there are no death records for that time period, and after 1850 virtually no vital records at all for Leon due to a fire.

So Andrew married Aurilla, probably some time in 1846, and in February of 1847 they had twins, Everett and Leverett, followed quickly in December of 1848 by Adelbert—certainly the names all sound vaguely Germanic or inventive, compared to others at that time! But by the 1850 census all three of these little boys have disappeared without a trace—no graves, no records—nothing remains except the sad little clippings of their hair preserved in an envelope I have which was probably kept for years in a long gone family Bible, and which ended up in my Grandma Franklin’s things, probably passed on to her by her father in law, Lafe or her sister in law Myrtle. The most probable causes are fire and epidemic, although in either case it was more likely that the mother would die too—this way she must have felt terribly guilty about surviving, along with her grieving. In February of 1850 they had another set of twins, Jerome and Jeanette—only one birth is registered, but both are written on the same list as the earlier children, and there are very fine, pale little hair clippings for them too—so Jeanette may only have lived a short time—there is also a clipping of black hair marked “Orrilla.”

1850 is the only census in which Andrew and Aurilla are recorded: Andrew is 30, Aurilla 32, Jerome 4 months—the census was usually begun in June but often took months to finish in isolated areas. In May of 1851, twins Lafayette and Lynette were born; Aurilla had now had seven children—including three sets of twins, which seem to run in the Franklin family—in under five years, on a farm which would probably never support them, with a husband who was undoubtedly working 18 hours a day to be able to feed them and pay the Holland Land Company payments! Four of her children were already dead, and according to Lafe, when he told this story to Bertha in the early 1920’s, Aurilla knew she was pregnant again. Today we would see her as a high risk for postpartum depression, and it is hard to imagine why her family, whom we assume lived fairly close, didn’t realize how fragile her mental health was—perhaps they all worked so long and hard they seldom saw her, or since many women watched their children die, they assumed she could handle it, in fact had to handle it.

But on 18 Feb 1853, according to the story Lafe told Bertha, Andrew was away from home cutting wood and left early in the morning. When he came home, the house was dark and when he opened the door, he found the bodies of Jerome and Lynette who had been killed with a hatchet. He went looking for his wife and found her hanging in the woodshed. Then little Lafe, with a big gash in his head, crept out from under a cupboard where he had hidden and thus survived. He had a deep dent in the top of his head for the rest of his life. When found, Lafe was almost frozen but his head wound had stopped bleeding because of the cold as the fire had gone out. This story, with some rather inventive additions, was reported many years later by someone in Leon—but it listed the farmer’s name as Francis, and said he and the remaining child had gone away afterwards. Although we know the name is wrong, the attachment of ‘Francis’ to this tragedy is one of the reasons I think she could have been Aurilla Francis. Lafe was only 21 months old, and he didn’t remember his mother—in fact he thought that Rebecca was his mother until he was a teenager and heard about his mother’s and siblings death from another boy at school. This is understandable, since he was probably under five when Andrew married her and none of his relatives would be likely to speak of such a tragedy to a young child if he didn’t remember it.

There was nothing in any newspaper in Cattaraugus County about this event—at that time most newspapers didn't print any local news, since they figured everyone knew it—mostly they reprinted national and international news bits they got from other papers, along with melodramatic fiction and romantic poetry. It isn't until about 1870 that news of births, deaths and marriages start appearing in most village newspapers. However, the story was carried on March 3, 1853, in the Owego Gazette:

“A correspondent of the New York Tribune writes from Leon, Cattaraugus County, that on the 18th instant, a Mr. Andrew Franklin of that place returned home in the evening, having been absent during the day, and as he entered his house, stumbled over the bodies of two of his children, lying dead on the floor. A third was lying near severely wounded, and nearly frozen. Passing into an entry he found his wife hanging dead. A postscript, dated the 20th, says: “I have just learned verbally the result of the inquest—that the children came to their death from blows inflicted by the hands of the mother, with some weapon unknown, and the mother by her own hand.”

I'll never understand where they got the information from since it apparently wasn't news in Leon! I hoped to find the results of this inquest, since equally old land records and probated wills were on file in Leon, but when space got tight they burned—without recording on microfiche—all inquest and trial records prior to 1900.

No one named Aurilla Franklin is buried with an existing headstone in any of the many old Leon cemeteries—the only one we haven't searched and in which she may have been buried was quite near the Francis farm and Andrew's first farm, but it has no stones anymore, and they were not transcribed before it was paved over for a school playground in the early 1900's. There is a difference of opinion in the Leon historical museum about whether the stones and burials in this old cemetery were moved elsewhere or whether most were already broken and many graves unmarked, so no action was taken short of recording that once there had been a small, possibly mostly family cemetery on that spot. I suspect that by 1900 so few of the original settlers still had descendents in the area that ignoring it was pretty easy! It is also possible that they were simply buried on the Franklin farm (the 10 acre piece that kept getting sold back and forth in the family) if the church had scruples about burying suicides. Much to my surprise, while investigating this family tragedy I discovered that after women's deaths in childbirth or men's in war, the most frequent cause of death on the frontier for both sexes was suicide (rather than fire, epidemic, or accident, which is what I had assumed from my hitherto scanty acquaintance with pioneer reality gleaned from the Little House books!)—which is probably another reason it wasn't 'news'—just a sad reality. The reason for this makes sense once you get over the shock of the idea. Because it took at least one healthy man and woman and as many children as possible to make a farm work, any accident which made one of the adults unable to carry their load would have a potentially disastrous effect on the ability of the family to keep farming—and to keep their land—especially if most or all of the children were under 12.

So if a man had a farm accident which would cripple him, or a woman had a child and was so badly damaged internally that she would not be able to work for months, they were quite likely to commit suicide so that the remaining adult could marry again as soon as possible and both the children and the land would be saved. Men tended to drown themselves or shoot themselves where their families wouldn't see or hear it; women tended to drink lye or ingest other available poisons and be found dead in bed. So while first marriages in pioneer communities were most likely to be to young people of nearby farms, and often the young couple lived with one or the other family while they raised enough money to put down on their own nearby land, second or third marriages tended to be to whomever was most quickly available, regardless of whether they were close in age or emotionally or physically compatible. Neither individual choice nor happiness was the issue—survival was.

Andrew plodded on—I can't imagine how, but it's very likely that he and Lafe went to live with his parents so that his mother could care for Lafe, as he was so young and Andrew had to farm and was quite probably too distraught to be 'husband material' even in those times. He sold his original land to various siblings and their husbands—no wonder he didn't want to live on it anymore!—and I think the more valuable and larger farm he was on in 1855, which was some distance away, with a larger house and actually farmable land, may have been that which his father, Eber, received as a land grant (due to him since the end of the war of 1812, and only received in 1854) Perhaps, having sufficient land himself and getting on in age, he wanted

to do something for the son whose life had begun so well and turned out so dreadfully. We'll never know, as there are no land records for this lot coming into AJF's ownership, but it is useful to note that Eber didn't leave AJF or Lafe anything in his will—which would indicate that they had each had something from him earlier that he felt balanced out what he was leaving to his other children. The first photo of Lafe is one taken in 1855, when he was 4 and, according to the census, living alone with his father on the new farm. Shortly after this, Andrew married Rebecca Rideout (his sister Sophia had married her brother Nathan) and they had a child, Adelia May, in 1858. Rebecca died in June of 1859, which was reported in the 1860 census under 'deaths in this year' as 'in childbirth'; she is buried in the Rideout plot in the Treat Cemetery in Leon as "wife of Andrew J Franklin, with their infant."



Left, Lafayette Franklin in 1855- a tintype photo. Right, the view from the hill where AJF's second farmhouse once stood;



Left, Rebecca Rideout Franklin's grave. Right, the hills and forests through which the early settlers in Leon had to travel.

Andrew had both Lafe, age 7, and Ida (later known as Addle, age 2, to raise, so he married quickly to the much younger Susan Aurora Wilcox, in September of 1859 (in the 1860 census she is listed as ‘married in this year’—e.g. from June 1859 to June 1860); they are all listed in the 1860 New York census. For some reason, probably having to do with the fact that all but one Franklin ancestor since the 1650’s had gone to war—James Franklin, Sr. in King Phillip’s War, Ichabod Franklin(1) and Ichabod Franklin(2) in the Revolutionary War, Ichabod Franklin(3) and his father Eber Franklin in the War of 1812—Andrew Jackson Franklin joined the Union Army; perhaps he felt he had to do so, as the oldest son living in the community—we’ll never know. Andrew enlisted in 1861, at 42 years old and the father of three young children, including Grace Luella, born in 1860 to Susan. In under a year he was mustered out due to illness—until his death he tried to get a pension for this, claiming he developed heart disease from his war service, and after his death Susan was still trying! In October of 1864, probably to get further away from the war and put the events of Andrew’s past behind them, Andrew and Susan embarked on an entirely new life in Concord, Dodge County, Minnesota, where his brother Ichabod 5 had been living with his wife Samantha and two young children since 1860, along with several other families from the Leon area. It’s a beautiful rolling wooded area with lots of streams in the southeastern part of the state and not far west of Waupun, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin where Ichabod and Samantha were married and it was good farm land—a vast improvement on Leon, and until the railroad went through West Concord instead of Concord, a thriving community. Other Franklins lived in nearby Mentorville, the county seat and a lovingly restored historical village today. For some reason the family does not show up in the 1865 Minnesota census although they had been there for some months, and by the 1870 census, Andrew and Susan, Addle and Grace were in Minnesota, but Lafe was not—he was back in New York, working as a farm laborer for his grandfather. Who knows if this was because he was too much of a reminder to Andrew of the tragedies of his past, or because Susan didn’t like him, which later events suggest, or because he was much closer to his grandparents and they needed the help? In 1874 Lafe made a homestead claim in Kasson, near Concord, so he must have lived or at least visited there by then.

Over time, Susan either purposely or carelessly began to blur the ages of Addie and Grace in censuses, as well as the date of her marriage, so that by the time of her death and obituary both girls were listed as having been born during her marriage, which was given as a year earlier than it was, and this confusion is seen even on their death certificates and tombstones! She also, conveniently, left out one of Andrew’s two earlier wives entirely when she applied for her widow’s Civil War pension—only \$8 a month, but she kept after it for years. And although later she and Andrew went to live for a short time in Waubay, Day County, South Dakota near other related Franklins, they apparently saw little of Lafe and his family and returned to Concord where Andrew died in 1897; after Susan’s death in Concord in 1901 Addie went to live in Woodburn, Oregon where Grace Franklin Beaman and her family already lived; Addle was a schoolteacher, and she and Grace died within eight days of each other in 1935. Lafe was vocal in his dislike of his stepmother even years later, and when his wife died in 1896 he refused Addie’s offer to take care of his children; he wasn’t notified of his father’s death nor did he get anything from his father’s estate. I don’t think I would have liked Susan very much!<sup>43</sup>

55. Benjamin Franklin was born 26 Aug 1820. He married Mary Rideout. She was born about 1824. They moved to Crawford County, Pennsylvania. They had four children:

- \* 93 i. Melissa J. Franklin was born in 1844 in New York
- \* 94 ii. Esther M. Franklin was born in 1846 in New York
- \* 95 iii. Earle Franklin was born in 1854 in Pennsylvania. He married Alice \_\_\_\_\_, 1 boy, 1 girl.
- \* 96 iv. Flora Franklin was born in 1858 in Pennsylvania.

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43. Continued in *Part 2: On to Wisconsin & South Dakota* [I do not have a copy of this - Editor]

56. Lyman Franklin, born 5 Jul 1822 Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 9 Nov 1905 Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. He married Jane Cooper about 1849. She was born about 1824. They lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. They had four children:

- \* 97 i. Cecil Boyden Franklin, born 1850
- \* 98 ii. Charles Franklin died young.
- \* 99 iii. Alice Franklin, born 1854 and became a schoolteacher
- \* 100 iv. Agnes Franklin, born 1856

57. Lovina Franklin was born 30 Mar 1824 Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 24 Oct 1905 in South Dayton, Cattaraugus County, New York; married Joseph B. Sherman on 27 Jan 1844. He born in 1822 and died in 1904. He fought and was injured in the Civil War. They had two children:

- \* 101 i. Albert L. Sherman was born in 1845. They moved to Bradford Pennsylvania after his parents died
- \* 102 ii. James W. Sherman was born in 1848 and died in 1927 in Duluth, Minnesota.<sup>44</sup>

58. Mary Franklin was born 17 Jun 1826 and died 28 Sep 1901. She married George C. Filley and lived in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York. They had children:

- \* 103 i. Hill Filley was born in 1848.
- \* 104 ii. Henrietta Filley was born in 1853.

59. Ichabod W. Franklin(5) was born 2 May 1828 Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 31 Dec 1914 Woodburn, Marion County, Oregon. He married Samantha Durfee on 15 Feb 1855 in Wisconsin. She was the daughter of George Durfey who had moved to Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin. Later both the Durfees and IWF and SDF, plus some Moshers and Darlings from Leon and AJF and his 3rd wife, Susan and two daughters, all moved to Concord, Dodge County, in southeastern Minnesota. Later IWF moved to Iowa and then to San Jose, California and ended up in Marion County, Oregon. As can be seen above, Wau-pun, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, Concord and Kasson, Dodge County, Wisconsin and Woodburn, Marion County, Oregon were places several Franklin relatives and Leon neighbors/connections by marriage also settled. They had two children:

- \* 105 i. Inez E. Franklin was born in 1860 in Minnesota and died in 1942 in Oregon.
- \* 106 ii. George H. Franklin was born 1861 in Minnesota and died in 1910 in Oregon.

60. Aurelia Franklin, born 28 Jan 1830 in Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York and died after the 1910 Census.<sup>45</sup> She married Lathrop Francis on 16 Nov 1848. He was born in 1825. The Lathrop family lived very near the Franklins and their oldest daughter Diantha's daughter Mary Elizabeth was married to the youngest son, WHH Franklin. It's likely that the second Francis daughter was the Aurilla who married A. J. Franklin. They lived in Leon and had two children:

- \* 107 i. Myron Franklin, born 1854
- \* 108 ii. Nellie A. Franklin, born 1859

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44. This is one of Terry Dean Olson's ancestors

45. She was living then with daughter Nellie Hallenbeck in Fredonia, Chautauqua County, New York,

61. Eber Franklin(2) was born 24 Aug 1832 in Conewango, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 27 Jan 1863, aboard the Steamer *Nebraska* between St. Louis, Missouri, and Alton, Illinois. He married Frances Ann Dugan. She was born in 1842 and died in 1920.

Eber Franklin(2) enlisted in Union Army in Iowa in Aug 1862 (a month before his son was born) and died of typhoid and pneumonia contracted on river boat 27 Jan 1863. He was buried in Alton National Cemetery in Morgan, Illinois. His wife took the children to Concord, Minnesota where AJF and IWF were living and remarried there, having 4 more children and divorcing her second husband after many years in Nebraska. Her son Thomas supported her until her death, and in the 1920 census he was also supporting a widowed half sister and her children but no wife, so he may never have married.

The children of Eber Franklin(2) and Frances Ann Dugan were:

- \* 109 i. Sarah S. Franklin, born 1861 and died 1864 in Iowa
- \* 110 ii. Thomas E. Franklin, born 1862 in Iowa, lived Nebraska, Minnesota.

64. William Henry Harrison Franklin was born 25 Nov 1840 in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York and died 5 Apr 1926 Pomfret, Chautauqua County, New York. He married Mary Elizabeth Darling on 31 Dec 1863. She was born 1839 and died before 1926.

William Henry Harrison Franklin was by far the most successful of the children, at least partly because he lived and farmed with his father for years, slowly buying up his own land while spending little. He also had the farm help of AFJ's son Lafe after Eber and Martha retired from farming and then died. He owned a large farm on Well's Hill, a very scenic spot with a stream and woods, which for some years also had a cheese factory on it; see below sketch of the farm. WHH and MEH and their oldest son in the *History of Cattaraugus County*. The 14 year gap between their two boys suggests several miscarriages or children dying in infancy. The farm burned to the ground in Aug 1936, along with several other buildings in the area, apparently as a result of the combination of a dry summer and lightning from a severe electrical storm. They moved to Fredonia, Chautauqua County, after he retired in 1880 and before 1900.



William Henry Harrison Franklin



Mary Elizabeth (Darling) Franklin





Ara M. Franklin

William Henry Harrison Franklin

Elizabeth (Darling) Franklin

They had two children:

- \* 111 i. Ara M. Franklin, born 16 Dec 1868 and died 4 Jan 1887 and buried in the old Franklin Cemetery in Leon, Cattaraugus County, New York.
- \* 112 ii. Walter G. Franklin, born 9 Jan 1881 and died 29 Dec 1965; married Elinor M. Pine in 1912. She was born Connecticut. They lived in Fredonia and he was a schoolteacher.

65. Thomas J. Franklin was born in 1832 and died in 1918 in Dodge County, Minnesota. He served in the Civil War. He married Julia Goodrich in 1860 and they lived in Fond du Lac and Kassan, Minnesota. Their children were:

- \* 113 i. Carrie Franklin was born in 1866. She married F. M. Cooper
- \* 114 ii. Jennie Franklin was born in 1869. She married \_\_\_\_\_ Herschler.

66. Luther Franklin was born in 1844 and died in 1933 in Payette County, Idaho. He married Mary Ann Steward in 1868. They lived in Fond do Lac, South Dakota, and Idaho. Their children were:

- \* 115 i. Fred Franklin was born in 1870;
- \* 116 ii. Jennie Franklin was born in 1874;
- \* 117 iii. Charles Franklin was born in 1875;
- \* 118 iv. Earnest Franklin was born in 1877;

- \* 119 v. Eddie Franklin was born in 1887.

67. Oliver E. Franklin was born in 1848 and died in 1910 in Marion County, Oregon. He married Mary Vandenhuten before 1875. They lived in Fond du Lac, South Dakota and finally Woodburn, Oregon. Their children were:

- \* 120 i. Leonard Franklin was born in 1875;
- \* 121 ii. Clara Franklin was born in 1876.
- \* 122 iii. Lucy Franklin was born in 1880.

69. Albert Franklin was born in 1854 and died in Codrington County, South Dakota. He married Phebe Ann Hewitt. They lived in Fond du Lac and South Dakota; Their children were:

- \* 123 i. Lottie Franklin was born in 1877.
- \* 124 ii. Elmer Franklin was born in 1880.
- \* 125 iii. Willie Franklin was born in 1880.
- \* 126 iv. Carrie Franklin was born in 1884.

## Queries

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Do you have any information on the Acree Franklin Family of Danville, Virginia or any Franklin's in the Danville area? Ernest Franklin <Frank810@aol>

*Editor's Notes: Acree Clyde Franklin, born in 21 Apr 1881, who married Lilly M. Crawley*

*I started by looking at Ernest Franklin's submission on Ancestry.com, and then found him in the obvious places (working backwards): SSDI, WWII Draft Reg, 1930 Census, 1920 Census, WWI Draft Reg, 1910 Census (Listed as "Acree" in the index), 1900 Census (listed as "Alice" in the household of "Ben P.")*

*Acree Franklin is also listed in a book called The Family of Early: Which Settled Upon the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Its Connection with Other Families by Ruth Hairston Early, Published by Brown-Morrison, copyright 1920, page 81, bottom of page.*

*The surname "Acree" is connected to the Franklins thus:*

*Marriage Bonds of Henrico County, Virginia - 1782-1853*

*14 Nov 1789 Franklin, Joseph to Mary Jennings giving her own consent. Isham and Joshua Acree, witnesses to the consent. William Acree, surety.*

*...and of course the Acree family lived in Danville, so I would guess that there was probably a more recent (recent to 1881) Acree who was associated with the family in some way. A Franklin married an Acree in Covington County, Georgia, but the connection to that family is pretty doubtful.*



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