

David and Isabella Elder

and

THOSE WHO CAME AFTER THEM

The information contained within this document was originally compiled by John Orville Elder, Grandson of David and Isabella Elder, in 1928.

My wife, Carole Ann (Michelson) Buchanan, re-typed the book into a word processor for me. This document is nearly a duplicate of the original, with only minor spelling corrections etc.

Since the original publication, I know of two copies, is no longer in print, I wanted to make this valuable information available to those searching the Elder family line.

*Richard Michael Buchanan
Great-Great-Grandson of David Clark Elder*



DAVID ELDER

Born May 1, 1798 in Tath Valley, Franklin Co., PA, and died August 18, 1885 in Alexis, IL, where he is buried by the side of his wife Isabella. David Elder is the father of the Elder brothers and sisters herein referred to. He was in his 88th year at the time of his death. He was of Scotch descent. His paternal ancestry came from Scotland at the time of religious persecutions. He moved to Beaver County, PA, about 1812, to Western Ohio, Tiffin, 1830, to Belfontaine, Ohio, in 1840, to Warren, IL, 1855. Those of us who remember our grandfather David Elder, remember the fine stable qualities of character which distinguished him. He was built of heroic materials and his quality has been reflected in many descendants. He was a Christian man, of the old school type, firm, uncompromising, true to the faith with his eventual eyes fixed on the Golden City, and yet, he was of the earth earthy to the extent of being vitally interested in the affairs of the world. Voltaire has said that a "gentleman needs no grandfather." Still it doesn't discourage any of David Elder's grandchildren when they remember that they had one, and a real one.



ISABELLA ELDER

Wife of David Elder and mother of the sons and daughters herein referred to. Isabella Elder's maiden name was Isabella Latta Wray. She was born February 3, 1798, and died March 25, 1877, in her 80th year. She was of Scottish descent, too, but we have no data that gives a definite understanding of her ancestry. Her father, James Wray came to America about 1795 settling in Philadelphia. This James Wray's mother was a cousin of Robert Burns the Scotch poet, according to the traditions of our family. Also, it is said that Isabella Elder is a descendant of Queen Ann Stuart. Since grandmother Elder died some eight years prior to the death of grandfather Elder, we know just that much less about her. In fact, the memory of grandmother Elder is dim to most of the nephews and nieces. A number of us saw her, but saw her only as one of "great age" in that period. We know her better through our parents who revered her memory most tenderly. She was the feminine head of a home that was consecrated to Christian principles, and she did her full part in moulding the fine characters from which we of the later generation have sprung. If we have not kept to the measure, it is not the fault of this dear old lady.

PART I

SOME ANCESTRAL DATA

The most ancient Elder that we can get direct word from though is John Elder, father of David Elder, who with Isabella Wray were the parents of John, William, Clark, Alonzo, and James Elder and Rebecca and Margaretta Jane. This ancient John Elder, great grandfather of the generation of Elders of which this writer is one, was a Revolutionary soldier, a pensioner, was blind for several years prior to his death and was twice married. His home was in Beaver County, Pennsylvania.



Our authority for such knowledge as we have about this John Elder comes from his namesake and grandson, John J. Elder, uncle of the writer and father of Orr and Manley Elder, both deceased, but both parents of children, who with their children survive. John J. Elder saw his grandfather, remembered him and the following written by our uncle, "John J." in 1901 is the transcript of his communication which was found among the correspondence of Leanna Elder McCall, who died October 12, 1926.

Albany, Mo. April 21, 1901

The following with regard to my ancestry I learned from my father, David Clark Elder, partly, and from my own knowledge and personal recollections. My grandfather was John Elder of Beaver County, Pennsylvania. Moved there from

Tath Valley, Franklin Co. Penn. (as I believe) about the year 1805-6. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and drew a pension as such when I knew him from 1826 or 7, until his death. He was blind for many years.

He was married in Franklin Co., PA, to Nancy Clark who died before I was born; he married again and his 2nd wife survived him. I do not know her maiden name. By his first wife he had 9 children, that I know of, 4 sons, 5 daughters as follows:

Abraham Elder, John Elder, James Elder and David C. Elder, my father and youngest son.

Nancy married John McClellan.

Mary (Polly) married Robt. McGeehon.

Rebecca married John Carlon.

Jane married Henry St. John.

My father was born in the year 1797 or 8 and married Isabella Latta Wray in Beaver Co., PA in 1821 or 2. Also I was born June 21st, 1823, the first child. Argeline, 2nd child, born 1825, died in 1828 or 9.

Rebecca Ann, 3rd born 1828.

Margaret Jane, 4th born 1830.

William Alex, 5th born 1833.

David Clark, 6th born 1836.

Abm. Alonzo, 7th born 1838.

James, 8th born 1840.

Brother James volunteered into the 36th Illinois Regmt. in 1861 and was shot and instantly killed in battle at Stone River Dec. 1862. Of the above brothers and sisters only brother William and I are now living.

John J. Elder.

In that connection, too, the following excerpts from another letter to Mrs. McCall from uncle John J. may add a little more that is interesting and fairly authentic. This letter was written in March, 1903, at a time when uncle John was recovering from a spell of sickness. It would seem that Mrs. McCall (Leanna Elder McCall) had written to uncle John to make inquiry about some Dr. William Elder and the following is a part of this answer, the other parts of the letter referring principally to his illness:

Now in reply to your inquiry. The Dr. Wm. Elder referred to in the Journal you sent me, I presume is the same who wrote the life and explorations of Dr. Kane, one of the first Arctic explorers. If the same, he was a cousin of my father's gr. grandfather. I know very little of my grandfathers' brothers and sisters. Only that there were several of them and that nearly all remained in eastern Pennsylvania, Tath Valley, Franklin Co. I have met a number of persons who knew the Elders there and there were many and all sprung from grandfathers stock. Grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner, and he with several others came west of the Alleghanies and settled in Beaver Co., PA, and eastern Ohio. Among them, the Johnsons, Taggarts, Forbes and others. I have seen my grandfather Elder, who was blind for some years.

My father had 3 brothers and 5 sisters, Abraham, John, James, Nancy, Esther, Mary (Polly), Rebecca and Jane. All got married and raised families, who are scattered all over the northern states. One (John) went South in 1826 or 7 and settled, married there and raised a large family so we learned many years ago. I am sorry that I do not know more of the families than I do.

Now, my dear Leanna, I have taxed my strength somewhat in writing you at considerable length. I hope the reading will afford you as much pleasure as yours did me.

My dear wife Mary wishes to be kindly remembered by you. Wish you would come and see us. It would afford us more pleasure I assure you. Give our love to all, tell Orville to write me and you answer this that I may know you received it. Love to your husband.

Affectionately,

Jno. J. Elder

Among Mrs. McCall's accumulation of data, I found also the following written on a sheet of paper in pencil and in the handwriting I think of her father and mine, David Clark Elder:

The Elder Family is of Scotch origin of the County of Argyle and on the maternal side the head of the house of Argyle the mother of the first Duke of Argyle being an Elder. The first one of the name to come to America was one John Elder who with several of his family left Scotland about the middle of the 17th century, the others went to the North of Ireland but he (John) came to America settling in Southeastern Penn., and the descendants are the family to which we belong, he being my great grandfather's great grandfather. My mother's family the Wrays were also of Scottish origin. My grandfather James Wray came to America about 1795 settling at Philadelphia, the rest of his family coming about 1815. My grandfather's mother was cousin to Robbie Burns.

Still another little family record evidently gathered by correspondence by Mrs. McCall is incorporated in the following notation written by her and filed with the letters above referred to:

David Elder, papa's father, descended directly from Robert Bruce. Isabel Elder, wife of David, descended from Queen Ann Stuart. Papa's great grandfather was with Washington through the Revolutionary War and he, papa's grandfather, and all his sons who were old enough took part in the war of 1812 and all the Elders who could go were in the war of the Rebellion.

The Elders all went from Scotland to Ireland on account of Christian persecution excepting one, John Elder, who took to the sea and came to America where his grandson and a grandson of one of his brothers who had left Scotland and gone to Ireland, met and discovered their relationship, tracing their genealogy back to the time when they left Scotland on account of the persecutions.

There is another of those random notations made by Mrs. McCall, which may be taken for what it is worth. It is evidently based on

the foregoing, and on such information as she could gather from inquiry and from access to such records as she may have had an opportunity to see:

Grandpa's grandfather came direct from Scotland about 1700 A.D. Papa's grandfather James Wray was a second cousin of Robert Bruce. The mother or wife of the original Duke of Argyle was an Elder.

The Elders of today are really not greatly concerned about whether they were in any way connected with the dukes and duchesses, lords and ladies of the 17th and 18th century periods, but since there are rumors of such connections we do not hesitate to include a reference to those rumors in this little family record. Happily for us who are still here, we live at a period when all are dukes and duchesses, lords and ladies, kings and queens. We live in a period of which the original Duke of Argyle never dared to dream and if Robert Bruce were dropped down among us today he would have to spend all the balance of his days trying to adjust himself to the somewhat commonplace routine of the day in this new world.

We regret very much that such information as we have been able to gather about our earlier forbears is so indefinite, unauthenticated. It brings back to our original premise that we must start with David Elder and his wife, Isabel Wray Elder, father and mother of the parents of the older Elders, Campbells and Lawheads, who are still here. We will take up the families of the sons and daughters of David and Isabella Elder in the age order, i.e.:

John J. Elder ----- See part II
Rebecca Elder - Campbell ----- See Part III
Jane Elder - Lawhead ----- See Part IV
William Alexander Elder ----- See Part V
David Clark Elder ----- See Part VI
Abraham Alonzo Elder ----- See Part VII
James Elder ----- See Part VIII

PART II

JOHN J. ELDER

John Jay Elder was the eldest of the children of David and Isabella Elder. He was the first born and it is regrettable that the facts concerning John J. Elder and his family are so meager as they are. At various places in the little history will be found "family facts" that were supplied by uncle "John J." but in all those facts he failed to include anything definite about his own immediate family.



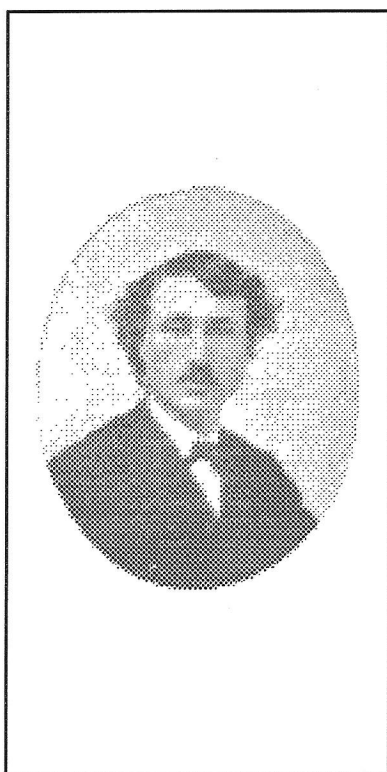
John Jay Elder



Elnora

"Uncle John" was born June 21st, 1823. He was past eighty-two years of age when he died. He was perhaps the most brilliant member of the family of six children. He was a trifle lame and that tended to turn his attention more to the studious life, than to other things. He was unable to do heavy work, so he naturally turned to things more intellectual. He was well read, a wit, keenly interested in politics and religion. He probably outshone any other member of his immediate family, but he was less stable in character, more erratic.

"Uncle John" was twice married. His first wife was "Elnora" and other facts concerning her are not available. They had two children and they are both dead now. They were sons: "ORR" and "MANLY". Both were telegraph operators and both died young. Orr, the older, died in Chicago, leaving his wife, Amy, and two children, Blanche and Ethel. Blanche was wedded to Joe D. Eddy, a young man in the publishing business of Chicago, and after a few years of happy wedded life she died, yet in the full bloom of young womanhood, a bright, beautiful young woman. Ethel was married to a young engineer in the city of Chicago, Walter Marr, and he died after a few years, too, leaving Ethel with four children. Amy, the wife of Orr, lived with Ethel during the latter years of her life and died in Chicago a few years ago. The name of Elder was not perpetuated by this branch of the family.



Orr Elder



Amy

Manly Elder was the younger of "Uncle John's and Aunt Elnora's" two sons, and he died as a young man in Farmington, IL where he was the station agent and telegraph operator. He left his wife Belle and two sons, Fred G. and Orr J. "Belle" married later to a Mr. Emmons of Farmington. She died a few years ago. The two sons went to New York where both are in business. Fred G. is a manufacturer and Orr J. is the vice president of the McFadden Publishing Co. Both have done remarkably well in a business way.

To this writer the early memory of Orr and Manly Elder and their wives is particularly vivid. We lived in Ipava, IL, for a year or so and that was "Uncle John's and Aunt Elnora's" home for several years. While living there I remember that both Manly and Orr and their young wives visited Uncle John's home. I was a boy; they were young married people, celebrating still their respective honeymoons, keenly appreciative of life, laughing, happy, gay. Orr was of a dark complexion, curly haired, slender, active, daring, dashing. His wife, Amy, was small, dark eyes, dark hair; very pretty, I thought.

Manly was the taller of the two boys, straight as an arrow, less emotional in temperament than his brother Orr, calm, deliberate. His wife Belle was of medium height, dignified in appearance, beautiful. There was something regal in her bearing. I looked upon her with awe. What wonderful beings these were, these young married people, who came from "away off" to visit us! Life awaited them, though, as it awaits almost all others, with some heart breaking experiences mixed in with the joys of existence.



John Jay Elder



Manly Elder



Mary Comstock
Eldrige

"Uncle John" was twice married. "Aunt Elnora" died after the two sons were grown and some few years later Uncle John married "Aunt Mary". This seems to have been a very happy union, but few of us ever saw the new aunt. The only description of her that is available we quote from a letter by "Uncle John" to cousin Electa Campbell Buskirk dated April 20th, 1905. "Uncle John" says this about "Aunt Mary":

You have never seen my wife, your Aunt Mary, but Belle has and has probably spoken to you about her. If she told you she is beautiful I will disabuse your impression by telling you she is not. But, she is very passable in appearance, 4 feet 11 inches in height, weighs about 100 pounds, wears 2 1/2 shoe, light blue eyes, and has

a mouth full, all her natural teeth. She is to me a very kind and affectionate wife, anticipating my every need and care and giving a loving wife's attention, at all times. She keeps house, does all her own work and all up town errands (nearly). We are considerate of each other's interests, comfort and happiness and enjoy life together.

"Aunt Elnora" Uncle John's first wife, I remember as one whom I feared, somewhat. She was rather austere in appearance and if I remember correctly a very circumspect housekeeper, and we feared always that we might upset something, or be guilty of some other infraction of her home rules. We were very, very good when we were at "Aunt Elnora's house."

There was a second child to David and Isabella Elder, Angeline, born in 1825 and died in 1827 or 28.

PART III

REBECCA ANN ELDER (CAMPBELL)

"Aunt Beckie" was the way we used to know her, when we were children. She used to come to visit us in Illinois--came all the way from Ohio, and we used to feel that "Aunt Becky" was our "rich relation." At any rate "Aunt Becky" used to wear rich looking clothing with fluffs and lace, and she "smelled good." That was one of the tests of a child in those days. We remember her as a buxom woman, gentle, dignified, considerate. She looked like an Elder; she was an Elder; and she was the oldest sister; one who was entitled to super-respect. She got it.

And her husband, "Uncle Campbell" we called him; he is remembered as a buxom man, too, with a chin beard. This is just a memory. I probably never saw him but once or twice, but we seemed to naturally loved "Uncle Campbell." That was enough. He must have been a fine man for that is the confirmed recollection we have of him after about fifty-five years, or so.



William Campbell



Rebecca Ann Elder

Rebecca Ann Elder was born at McCutchenville, Seneca Co., Ohio in 1828 and died in 1898. We are sorry that there is no one to tell us about the home life of these Elder brothers and sisters. All are gone now. But, there must have been a beautiful home away back there when David and Isabella Elder were a young married couple rearing their splendid family of girls and boys. There was "character" in that home; there was discipline. There was a sense

of responsibility; there was religion there, too; a consecrated devotion to Christian principles. So, we are left to surmise, with the assurance that we are surmising on the safe side, that Rebecca was a typical oldest sister, carrying her big share of household responsibilities; helping mother take care of the little brothers and sisters as they came along.

And in due course "Aunt Becky" married. She was wedded in 1847 to William Campbell who was born in the North of Ireland in 1824, but he was of Scotch descent. He died April 1, 1901 and both are buried at Kenton, Ohio. To William Campbell and Rebecca Elder Campbell were born the following children in the order given: John Elder Campbell; Emmett G. Campbell; Electa Jane Campbell (Buskirk); Isabelle Campbell; William James Campbell; Dave G. Campbell; Perle A. Campbell.



Electa Buskirk



Bell Campbell

JOHN ELDER CAMPBELL--was born in 1849 at Huntsville, Ohio. He was manager of his father's stove factory for many years. He died in Kenton, Ohio, in 1903, a widower, leaving no children. The cause of death was pneumonia.

EMMETT GIBSON CAMPBELL--was born October 11, 1850, at Huntsville, Ohio, married at Mansfield, Ohio, May 20, 1874, to Ida Renefrew Whitney, who was born January 17, 1853, at Ashland, Ohio, and who died in Mansfield, Ohio, December 22, 1901. He was a traveling salesman for over forty years and is now retired. He lived in Mansfield, Ohio; Toledo, Ohio, and his permanent address is now 1162 Franklin Ave., Columbus, Ohio where he lives with his daughter, Faye Whitney Campbell - Redding. Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Gibson Campbell had four children:

I. Pirie Arlington Campbell was born at Kenton, Ohio, March 5, 1875. He is a traveling wall paper salesman with permanent address Hopkinton, Mass. He traveled through England, Germany, France and Italy in 1906, lived in Chicago from 1901 until 1911 and in New York until 1914. He was Sunday School librarian when a young man. He has spent most of his life as a traveling salesman, with the exception of a few years spent in the grocery business in Kenton, Ohio and Mansfield, Ohio.

II. Jessamine Gibson Campbell--Brown, was born September 14, 1876, at Kenton, Ohio, and was married December 20, 1917, at Columbus, Ohio, to William Fell Brown, who was born July 21, 1860, at Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. Brown says:

I have been much interested in child welfare since I was eighteen, first in free kindergartens established for poor children from 1894 until 1902; then spent much time living in Chicago; spent the summer of 1906 abroad, returning to Mansfield (where we lived from 1889 until 1917). During the war I spent a year and half in state welfare being connected with the Ohio Board of State Charities. My husband was secretary in office of the Pennsylvania Railroad when a young man, later in the mill and mine supply business. Now is president of the Brown Steel Co. with our permanent address Columbus, Ohio. My father and mother had the first wedding in the new Congregational Church, Mansfield, Ohio.



Right, Emmett G. Campbell, father, and three children: left to right, Pierce A. Campbell, Faye C. Redding, Jessamine G. Brown. Picture taken Christmas, 1927.

III. Faye Campbell Redding was born November 4, 1877, at Kenton, Ohio, married October 31, 1899 at Mansfield, Ohio, to Henry Newton Redding, who was born October 10, 1876, at Ashland, Ohio, and who died December 20, 1910. He was an architect connected with his brother, Vernon Redding, at Mansfield, Ohio. He was at one time Exalted Ruler of the Elks, Mansfield, Ohio. They had three children:



Four Generations--Left to right, Fred Whitney Redding, father; Andre Redding, son; Faye Campbell Redding, mother, grandmother; Emmett G. Campbell, father, grandfather, great grandfather.

1. **Fred Whitney Redding**, born July 31, 1900, in Mansfield, Ohio, and is interested in the Brown Steel Co., Columbus, Ohio.

2. **Carl Newton Redding**, born August 22, 1904, in Mansfield, Ohio, and is interested in the Brown Steel Co., Columbus, Ohio.

3. **Frances Jessamine Redding**, born October 26, 1906, in Mansfield, Ohio.

Mrs. Redding says:

"I have three of the finest children a mother could have, never any cause to worry over them.

I remember Grandma Campbell as a dear sweet grandma, wonderful sweet disposition and so fair and good to each and every one of us."

IV. **William Benjamin Campbell**, was born September 13, 1879 in Kenton, Ohio, and died in Mansfield, Ohio, May 12, 1901.

ELECTA JANE CAMPBELL was born Nov. 30, 1854, at Huntsville, Ohio, and was married in 1878 at Kenton, Ohio, to Emory K. von Buskirk, who was born in 1852 at Tiffin, Ohio. Her address is 507 Michigan Ave. W., Jackson, Mich. The husband died of pneumonia, November 25, 1913. There are two children: William Henry Buskirk, born Nov. 1, 1880, in Kenton, Ohio, now a physician and surgeon, in Los Angeles, California, and Clara Buskirk Palmer, born in Jackson, Michigan, May 29, 1886. William H. Buskirk has one son born in 1910, and Clara Buskirk Palmer has three children, Jane, born in 1912; William (the 3rd) born in 1914, and John Buskirk Palmer born in 1915. Electa Jane Campbell says:

"I had a happy childhood and a happy home with my husband and children. My brothers and sisters and I were all sent to college, so we started in life with a good education. Father and mother were generous in helping us in all our endeavors. We have sweet memories of them. My husband spent several years of his life on a cattle ranch in Nebraska. The ranch was owned by his father and himself. The last few years of his life he was a traveling salesman."

ISABELLA CAMPBELL was born in Huntsville, Ohio in 1856. She was married in 1876 to John Fechen at Kenton, Ohio. The husband was a dry goods merchant. He is not living. Two children were born into this family: Nelly Campbell Vicker born in 1878 in Rushsylvania, O.; Lou Campbell Kauthlehner born in Cary, O., in 1881. Her husband is a jeweler, a diamond specialist. Nellie Campbell Vicker died in 1924 leaving one son, now about 16 year old. Isabella Campbell Fechen, after the death of her husband, went with her two children to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Campbell, and resumed her maiden name.



Perle Campbell, left; David Campbell, right, sons of William and Rebecca Campbell. Picture taken in Kenton, Ohio 1871.

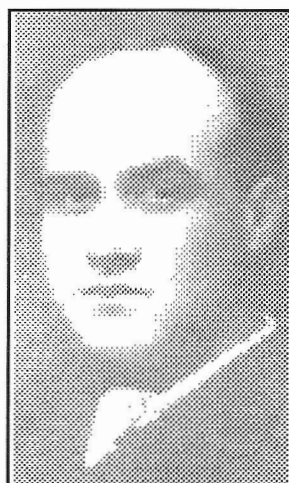
WILLIAM JAMES CAMPBELL born in Huntsville, Ohio, in February, 1857. Married in 1879 to Ella George who was born in Rushsylvania, Ohio, in 1857. The wife died in Boise, Idaho, Oct. 24, 1924. Four children were born to W.J. Campbell and wife: W. George Campbell, Rushsylvania, Ohio; Laura Bessie Campbell, Rushsylvania, Ohio; Mary Rebecca Campbell, Kenton, Ohio; Frank Harold Campbell, Grand Island, Nebraska. Mary Rebecca Campbell died in 1899 at Jackson, Michigan. The permanent address of William James Campbell is Boise, Idaho, where he is in the seed and grain business. Aside from his business duties, he has long been active in church work and has held church offices as deacon and trustee for many years.

DAVID CLARK CAMPBELL was born in 1860 in Kenton, Ohio. He was married in 1911 to Mary Adell Thurston, who was born in Jackson, Michigan. They have no children. Mr. Campbell is a traveling salesman and his permanent address is Corpus Christi, Texas.

PERLE ALONZO CAMPBELL was born in Kenton, Hardin Co., Ohio, February 25, 1867. He was married March 26th, 1891, in Kenton, Ohio, to Clara Rogers, who was born October 16, 1869 at Kenton, Ohio. They have one son, John Walter Campbell, born June 7, 1894, at Kenton, Ohio. A son, Roger Campbell, was born in April 1892, and died March 16, 1893. Perle was graduated from a Military School at Pontiac, Michigan, was sent to West Point, served as a Major in the Cuban war, was president of a manufacturing Radiator



William James Campbell

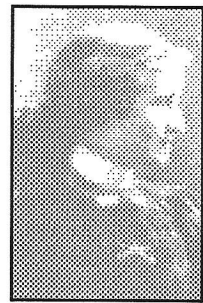
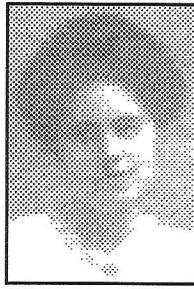


Captain W.H. Buskirk

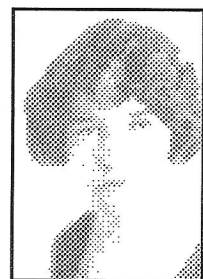
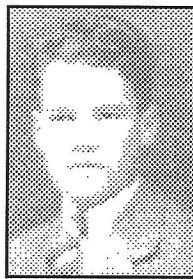
Son of William Campbell and Rebecca Ann Elder Campbell. Picture was taken about 1905, Boise Idaho.

Son of Electa Campbell Buskirk. Captain Buskirk is now a physician and surgeon in Los Angeles, California. Graduate of Michigan U. 1905; member of the National College of Surgeons; Nu Sigma Nu Fraternity.

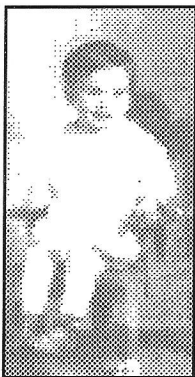
Company in Columbus, Ohio, for a number of years, now retired, living at Lake Side, Ohio.



Left to right: Mrs Clara Palmer, daughter of Electa Buskirk; Bessie Campbell, daughter of W. J. Campbell; Mrs. Lou Kauthlehner, daughter of Isabella Campbell. Great grandchildren of David and Isabella Elder.



Left to right: Fred Whitney Redding, Frances J. Redding, Carl Newton Redding, sons and daughter of Mrs. Faye C. Redding, grandchildren of Emmett G. Campbell, great great grandchildren of David and Isabella Elder.



Left to right: Andre Westerman Redding, Fred Whitney Redding, Jr., sons of Fred Whitney and Dorothy Redding. The former 2 years old, the latter 3 months old. Pictures taken 1927. Great great great grandchildren of David and Isabella Elder.

PART IV

MARGARETTA JANE ELDER LAWHEAD

We called her "Aunt Maggie," if I remember correctly, although, I do not remember seeing her so very often. My recollections of Aunt "Maggie" are that she was slender, rather frail, darker in complexion than Aunt "Beckie." The impression left with me was that she was not blessed with such good health as other members of the Elder family, but the foundation for that impression is obscure. I remember seeing her but a few times, once particularly when she came to Alexis, IL at the time of the death of grandpa Elder. I remember seeing the brothers and sisters together in a front room. I remember that they talked about grandpa and about portentous business affairs in connection with his demise.

Margaretta Jane Elder was born October 16th, 1830 in Columbiana County, Ohio and died August 2nd, 1894, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa. She was married to Robert Jackson Lawhead September 30th, 1851. Robert Jackson Lawhead was born in Logan County, Ohio, June 23rd, 1830, son of William and Martha (Jackson) Lawhead and died October 7, 1903 and was buried in Mr. Ayr, Iowa. "Uncle Robert Lawhead", as we called him, was a soldier in the Civil War, a member of Co. C 83, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. "Uncle Robert" and family lived for a number of years on the old Elder homestead in Warren County, Illinois, a farm about three miles west of Alexis and ten to twelve miles north of Monmouth.



Robert J. Lawhead & wife Margaretta Jane Elder

My recollection covers that period but dimly; however, by some means I have always carried the idea that the Lawhead family was a pretty lively bunch. I can remember the old swimming hole in the creek that ran through the south pasture, and I can remember some very lively little gatherings in which the older of the cousins, of which I did not happen to be one, made exceedingly merry, exciting the jealousy of the younger of us, who could not quite grasp the significance of all the merry making. Uncle Robert's and Aunt Maggie's older children, Carson Elder and Maggie, and my own sister Helen were our superiors in age and sophistication. I remember particularly that Bert Lawhead, my brother Arthur and myself hung a little in the background in the presence of these "young men and women" who were old enough to go with the "boys" and with the "girls."



Cassius Campbell
Lawhead, died 1879



Imogene Lawhead Nichols
1874-1918

I think Uncle Robert and Aunt Maggie had their hands full for a number of years, with "Elder", "Emmitt" and "Cash", "Erk" and "Bert" to look after, to say nothing of the "awesomely" charming "Nettie." I remember Nettie as a very striking girl in appearance, a great "hit" with the boys. I remember, too, a story about prairie chickens that "Doc" told me when I was yet a boy; a story that inspired my admiration for the older Lawhead boys more than ever. Emmitt insisted that the only day in the week that the prairie chickens would come near the Lawhead farm home was Sabbath morning. Every Sabbath morning in season they would come in considerable numbers and roost on an apple tree near the house.

Those prairie chickens were game which the boys coveted beyond endurance, but in the Lawhead home there was no hunting on the holy Sabbath day. Nevertheless, "where there is a will there is a way," it was said even then. The Lawhead boys decided they would shoot at those prairie chickens Sabbath morning. So they loaded the old shot gun; one of the boys feigned sickness one Sabbath morning and remained in his room while the others joined in the family prayers.

When the voices rose high in "Psalmful" praise in the sitting room below, Emmett from the window of the sick room above, blazed away at the chickens. The postlude to this story is forgotten, but I am of the opinion that Uncle Robert forgave his sons after a gentle reprimand, while maybe Aunt Maggie reached that point eventually but with greater deliberation.



Above: David Elder Lawhead, Dr. William E. Lawhead. Center: Mrs. Lois Isabella Lawhead Buchanan. Lower: James Eskirne Lawhead, Robert Alva Lawhead.

We quote the following obituary notice of Aunt Margaretta Lawhead which we assume comes from the Mt. Ayr, Iowa, Record. It was sent to us by Mrs. Electa Buskirk, clipped from one of her old scrap books:

IN MEMORIAM

Died, on Thursday, August 2, 1894, Mrs. Margaretta J. Lawhead, wife of R. J. Lawhead of Mt. Ayr, Iowa, aged 63 year, 12 months, and 16 days. Mrs. Lawhead was born in Columbiana county, O., and her maiden name was Margaretta Elder. She spent the early years of her life in the place of her birth. She afterwards moved with her friends to Huntsville, Logan county, Ohio, and there when 16 years of age united with the Associate Presbyterian church and to the close of life witnessed a good profession. She was an intelligent christian and could give a good reason for her faith and hope, but always did so with meekness and fear. At Huntersville, Ohio, on Sept. 30, 1851, she was united in marriage to Mr. R. J. Lawhead. She had ten children, seven sons and three

daughters. Three sons died early in life. All her children, save one who was far away attended her funeral. Mrs. Lawhead was remarkable for her general bearing as a christian lady. Her sense of the properties of life was keen and always correct. She had a charm of refinement which was diffused over all things. All approaches to coarseness and crudeness were foreign to her nature and tastes. Her very presence was a standing rebuke to all ungodly conversation. In 1854, the family moved to Warren county, Illinois and again in 1875 to Van Buren county, Iowa. In 1880, they moved to Ringgold county, where she has since made her home. During the war her husband went into the Union service, and Mrs. Lawhead went to Clarksville, Tennessee, as a teacher under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau. In all probability she established the first S.S. among the freedmen, and without doubt, the first school in the western department. She was a successful teacher and nothing save duty to her husband and children could draw her away from the work. Her funeral took place from the U. P. Church Saturday Aug. 4 at 2 p.m., service being conducted by her pastor, who preached from 1st John 3:2, "But we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." Rev. Dr. Thompson assisted. There was a large attendance, many relatives being present.

The children of Robert Jackson Lawhead and Margaretta Jane Elder who lived to establish families were:

1. *David Elder Lawhead.*
2. *William Emmett Lawhead.*
3. *James Erskine Lawhead.*
4. *Nettie E. Lawhead.*
5. *Robert Alva Lawhead.*
6. *Lois Isabella Lawhead.*
7. *Maggie Imogene Lawhead.*

Cassius Lawhead, died as a young man, a victim of tuberculosis; Lawrence John Lawhead, a twin to Lois Isabella, was born December 4, 1870, and died August 9, 1872. There was an infant son who died also.



William Thompson Lawhead

*Son of David Elder Lawhead
General Secretary Y.M.C.A., Sedalia, Mo.*

DAVID ELDER LAWHEAD--was born September 26, 1853, at Huntsville, Logan County, Ohio, married September 26, 1876, at Monmouth, IL to Margaretta Wright, who was born August 24, 1851, in Adams County, Ohio, and who died May 2, 1919, at St. Joseph, MO. She was a daughter of James and Eliza (McLean) Wright. Her mother died when she was six years old and her father moved to Leavenworth, Kansas, where he became principal of the public schools. He died in 1864. After her father's death, she was raised by an aunt (Mrs. Samuel Graham) at Monmouth, IL. She was educated in the public schools and Monmouth College. She taught school one year before her marriage. She was a member of the United Presbyterian Church from early childhood.

David Elder Lawhead says:

"When one year old was hauled in covered wagon overland from Logan County, Ohio, to North Henderson, Mercer County, IL where my parents moved to seek larger farming opportunities. Was educated in the public schools of Illinois and Monmouth College. United with United Presbyterian Church in early childhood. Taught school in early manhood. Resided Vernon, Van Buren County, Iowa, 1876-79; Mt. Ayr, Iowa, 1879-86; Redding, Iowa, 1886-91; Tarkio, MO, 1891-1904; St. Joseph, MO 1904-24; Sedalia, MO 1924 till present time. Have been dry goods merchant from 1879 until time of my retirement in 1924. Ruling elder in United Presbyterian Church, first at Redding, then at Tarkio, then at St. Joseph, now ruling elder in Presbyterian Church, Sedalia, MO., where I am making my home with my younger son. I am a republican politically."

His address is 1602 S. Osage St., Sedalia, MO. Their three children are:

I. Robert Orr Lawhead, was born June 21, 1877, at Vernon, Van Buren County, Iowa.

1. One daughter.

II. William Thompson Lawhead, was born May 14, 1887, at Redding, Iowa, married September 12, 1912, at St. Joseph, MO. to Helen Eudell Coppock, who was born at Corning, Iowa, July 18, 1890, and received her education at St. Joseph, MO.

William Thompson Lawhead moved to Tarkio, MO, at the age of 4 years with his parents, where he received his schooling; moved to St. Joe, MO in 1904 and entered the wholesale dry goods business. In 1910 entered the general insurance business. In 1912 accepted a position with the St. Joe Y.M.C.A. as religious work secretary. In 1917 became general secretary of Y.M.C.A. at Sedalia, MO. where he is now located.

A daughter, *Maxine Vienna Lawhead*, was born July 25, 1913, and died December 24, 1917.

Two sons are living:

1. William David Lawhead, born December 13, 1916, at St. Joe, MO.

2. James Stout Lawhead, born August 9, 1919, at Sedalia, MO.

III. Minta Elizabeth Lawhead was born November 27, 1894, at Tarkio, MO, married July 11, 1919, at St. Joe, MO. to Edward Kirkpatrick, who was born May 1, 1891, at Omaha, NE. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was a teacher in the St. Joe public schools before her marriage. Mr. Kirkpatrick served with the Missouri National Guard on the Mexican border in

1916-17; was in the World War 1918-19. His occupation now is Railway Postal Clerk. The family is United Presbyterian in their denominational religion, Republican in politics. Their address is 5008A Devonshire St., St. Louis, MO. They have one child:

1. Robert Lawhead Kirkpatrick, born October 9, 1920, at St. Joe, MO.

WILLIAM EMMETT LAWHEAD--was born March 25, 1856, in Mercer County, IL; was married Nov. 5, 1879 in Van Buren County, Iowa, to Mary E. Cresswell, who was born July 22, 1856, in Bentonsport, Iowa. W.E. Lawhead is a physician by profession, permanent address Burlington, Iowa. He got his early education in the country schools, later taught school and studied medicine until 1882 when he began the practice in Swedona, IL. Later he moved to Redding, Iowa, where



Mary E. Cresswell Lawhead
Wife of Dr William Emmett Lawhead
Picture taken in 1890

his health broke down under the strain of a large country practice. He moved to Burlington, Iowa, in 1896, and took up special work and has enjoyed a remunerative practice ever since. Mrs. Lawhead graduated from the Bentonsport Academy in 1875 and taught school until 1879. They have no children.

JAMES ERSKINE LAWHEAD--was born March 20, 1861, in Warren County, IL, was married Nov. 21, 1888 at Union Star, MO to Bertha Stewart, who was born March 1, 1870 in Shelby County, IL. Mr. Lawhead was raised on a farm in Illinois, moved with parents to Van Buren County, Iowa, in 1875, afterwards to Mt. Ayr, Iowa, clerked in a book store and attended high school for two years, quit school to learn telegraphy and was in the employ of the C.B.&Q. railroad when sent to Union Star, MO, as agent, was agent five years and in 1890 elected as cashier of the People's Bank and served 32 years retiring on account of bad health. Mrs. Lawhead came with her

parents to Union Star at about the age of 14 years. They have the following children:

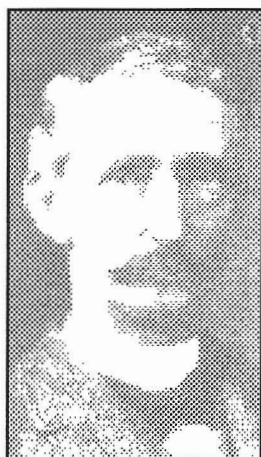
I. Margaret Isabel, born July 8, 1891, married J.C. Duncan, of St. Joseph, living in St. Joe.

II. Eva Lucile, born December 16, 1894, married J.R. Moyes, September 17, 1919, living at Union Star, MO.

III. Samuel Jackson, born Dec. 13, 1896, with Tootle-Campbell Dry Goods Co., St. Joseph, MO.

Another son, *Emmett Erskine* was born April 24, 1889, and died at Canon City, CO Feb. 11, 1918.

NETTIE ELEANOR LAWHEAD--was born December 20, 1864, in Warren County, IL, married July 12, 1882, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, to William Wirt Askren, who was born August 9, 1851, at Thornton, IN. Nettie Eleanor Lawhead Askren died December 9, 1904, and is buried at Carbonado, Washington. Their children who are now living are:



William Wirt Askren



Nettie Lawhead Askren

I. Thomas Merle Askren was born April 27, 1883 at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, was married June 16, 1909, at LaConner, Washington, to Lillian D. Esary, who was born October 4, 1885, at Seattle, WA. Thos. M. Askren went through High School at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, graduating in 1900, spent a year and a half in Oklahoma, went to Washington in 1902, spent one year at Whitworth College, entered University of Washington in 1905, graduated with degree Bachelor of Laws 1908, admitted to Supreme Court of Washington in 1908, U.S. District Court 1908, Circuit Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit 1918, United States Supreme Court 1918, practiced law in Seattle since 1908; Republican in politics; member of Delta Upsilon college fraternity; 33rd degree Scottish Rite Mason, Mystic Shriner; contributor to Masonic periodicals; particular hobby, growing of fancy dahlias.

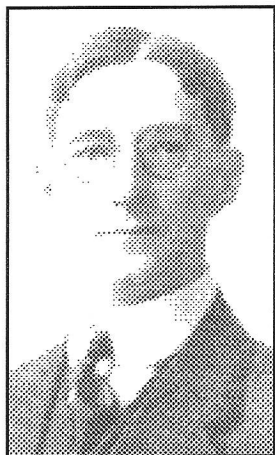
Lillian D. Esary Askren moved with parents to LaConner, Washington in 1900, she graduated from LaConner High School in 1906; attended the State University of Washington in 1906-7-8.



William Wirt Askren and wife, Nettie Lawhead Askren, and children. Upper left to right: William David, Thomas Merle; center, Margaret; lower, left to right, Virgil, Eleanor. Picture about 1895.

Their address is 631 Lyon Bldg., Seattle, Wash. Their children now living are:

1. *Elizabeth*, born at Seattle, Washington, January 10, 1914.
2. *Thomas Edward*, born at Seattle, Wash. Nov. 15, 1924.



Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Merle Askren, Seattle, Washington. Mr. Askren is a great grandson of David and Isabella Elder.

One son, **Richard**, was born Nov. 12, 1916, died Dec. 9, 1916.

Thos. M. Askren says:

"Grandfather Lawhead (R.J.) was a fine Christian gentleman. He had a keen sense of honor, abhorred a liar, was an ardent Republican and a very lovable man. He was a strict prohibitionist, and never used tobacco, and he was opposed to secret societies of every kind.

Grandmother Lawhead died when I was ten years old. She was very kind, a most unselfish woman, gifted with a poetic nature, which she displayed only to her family and immediate friends. She was one of the first teachers in the school established for the free slaves at the time of the Civil War."

II. William David Askren was born October 1, 1885, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, was married June 5, 1907, at Tacoma, Wash. to Bessie Frances Caldwell, who was born March 9, 1888, at Garnett, Kansas. William David Askren was admitted to practice law in 1908; Deputy Prosecuting



JUDGE WILLIAM D. ASKREN
*Justice of the Supreme Court,
Washington. Son of
Nettie Lawhead Askren*

Attorney in 1918 and served till 1920. While Prosecutor was shot down at home by criminal he had convicted, bullet missing heart by narrow margin. Elected Judge Superior Court 1920 and served till 1924, when was elected Justice Supreme Court of State of Washington. Address, Olympia, Wash. They have two daughters:

1. *Kathryn Marie*, born Aug. 22, 1908, at Tacoma, Wash.

2. *Marion Eleanor*, born Sept. 27, 1911, at Tacoma, Wash.

III. *Mary Margaretta Askren* was born Feb. 9, 1889, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, was married June 27, 1917, at Bothell, Washington, to Henry A. Simonds, who was born April 9, 1861, at Athol, Mass. Their address is 6727 Division Ave. N.W., Seattle, Wash. They have two children:

1. *Dorothy Simonds*, born Sept. 6, 1918, at Seattle, Wash.

2. *Charles Wesley*, born Sept. 4, 1921, at Seattle, Wash.

IV. *Virgil Lawhead Askren* was born December 19, 1895, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, married Oct. 11, 1916, at Seattle, Wash. to Miriam Tracy, who was born December 20, 1893, at Chicago, IL. Mr. V. L. Askren sold retail jewelry at Tacoma, Wash, wholesale jewelry at Seattle, Wash, and wholesale meat, Swift & Co. Address 2317 Oakes St. Everett, WA. Miriam Tracy Askren was stenographer in the Education Dept. University of Washington, at Seattle, before her marriage. They have a daughter:

1. *Janet Tracy Askren*, who was born Jan. 26, 1918, at Seattle.

V. *Eleanor Askren* was born Oct. 30, 1897, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, married April 12, 1924, at Seattle, Wash. to Carl Sarginson, who was born Sept. 25, 1893, at Rock Island, IL. Mrs. Sarginson graduated from



NETTIE ELEANOR LAWHEAD

*As a young woman
Picture taken in the 1880's*

Bothell High School in 1916, attended the Bellingham Normal at Bellingham, Wash., taught at the Cushman Government School for Indians at Tacoma, Wash, and worked in the Accounting Office of Frederick & Nelsons, at Seattle from 1918 until marriage. Mr. Sarginson resided in Illinois until he went west in 1903 with his parents and went through grade and high school at Seattle, enlisted in U.S. Army in 1918, serving 8 months at Camp Lewis, Wash. in the 13th Div. Was discharged in February, 1919. Their address is Seattle, Wash.

Isabel Askren was born Feb. 27, 1892, and died Apr 22, of the same year.

Paul Elder Askren was born May 16, 1894 and died Jan. 3, 1897.

Reference has been made above to Nettie Lawhead (Askren) as she was when a girl. They were lively girls; Nettie Lawhead, Margaret Elder and Helen Elder as the older daughters in the Robert Lawhead, Clark Elder and Lon Elder homes. They lived near each other in the Alexis, Illinois, community for a few months, perhaps two or three years. They were just coming into young womanhood at the time and I remember with what awe we younger boys and the younger girl cousins, too, looked upon them.

What wonderful creatures they were, those young women, so pretty, so saucily challenging, so tenderly considerate, too, when the occasion demanded. The potential qualities of ideal motherhood revealed themselves in these girls long before they had little broods of their own around them.

Nettie Lawhead, if I remember correctly, had--not red hair, but a sort of a "gold stone" hair; dark red with little flashes of a brighter color through it. Her complexion was in keeping with the color of her hair, delicately tinted. She was full of life, and full of ideas and principles, too. In fact all these girls were victims of their consciences. Maybe the conscience, in those days, was a sterner master than it is today. At any rate, I know that we used to go to our big sisters to find out what was right and what was wrong. They knew!

Here is a little newspaper clipping taken from some paper somewhere, which gives a little insight into Nettie's activities back in the "Blue Ribbon" times. All the older cousins remember the "Blue Ribbon" societies when the great aim of the crusaders was to get "drinkers" to sign the pledge and wear a blue ribbon. It seems that the society referred to in this clipping was a "Purple Ribbon" society, but it evidently stood for the same thing:

"James M. Wolf was elected president of the Vernon Prairie Purple Ribbon Society. The society now numbers upwards of 150 members. Your correspondent attended one of the meetings and came away very favorably

impressed. We were especially pleased with the remarks of Miss Nettie Lawhead, a young lady of about 15 years. Temperance lecturers often speak for an hour and in the end say less to the point than this girl said in ten minutes. The other speakers were John Burns, H.P.L. Muir, Thomas Henry and David Simmons.

ROBERT ALVAH LAWHEAD--was born February 11, 1867, in Ohio, married January 3, 1888, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, to Anna Laura Beard, who was born December 11, 1868, at Clinton, Indiana. Robert Alvah Lawhead attended High School at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, commenced business as a dry goods clerk at the age of 17 years, continued in the goods business for over twenty-one years, tried farming in Kansas for three years, but returned to Tingley, IA, to continue in the goods business, was elected Treasurer of Ringgold County, IA, in 1908, and served as Treasurer for eight years. Homesteaded in Goshe County, Wyoming, in 1917, was appointed Deputy County Clerk in 1921, which position he is still holding. He is an elder in the United Presbyterian church. His address is Torrington, WY. Anna Laura Beard Lawhead was the daughter of James Beard (a Civil War veteran) and Aurelia (Ogdon) Beard. She graduated from the Mt. Ayr, IA, High School in May, 1887. They had the following children:

I. Robert Neil Lawhead, born July 22, 1889, at Ellston, Iowa, married Myrtle Gertrude McKee November 16, 1910, died March 27, 1917, at Sterling, Kansas. He was graduated from Tingley, Iowa, High School, took a business course at Tarkio, MO College. They were both members of the United Presbyterian Church.

II. Analeta Lawhead, born April 8, 1891, at Elston, Iowa, married Earl G. Sparks, July 27, 1923, who was born May 19, 1885, at Aurora, NE. Mrs. Sparks graduated from High School at Tingley, Iowa, in 1908, attended Iowa State Teachers' College and Wyoming State University. Taught in public schools for eleven years, is a United Presbyterian. Mr. Sparks graduated from Pagosa Springs, CO, High School in 1904, owned general merchandise and feed store in Pagosa Springs, CO, homesteaded in Governordor, NM, is now a clerk in County Treasurer's office, Torrington, WY, is a United Presbyterian.

III. Rex Elder Lawhead, born Jan. 15, 1894, at Ellston, Iowa, married August 17, 1919, at Monmouth, Illinois, to Lillian Blayney, graduated from Mt. Ayr, Iowa, High School, attended Tarkio, MO, College and graduated from Monmouth College and Pittsburgh Seminary in 1920, first pastorate at Alexis, IL, moved to Greeley, CO, then to Los Angeles, CA. At present Associate Pastor, First United Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles, W. Washington St. Lillian Blayney Lawhead is a graduate of Monmouth College and received her Master's Degree at Champaign, IL. She was a teacher. They have one son:

1. Robert Blayney Lawhead, born July 30, 1921, at Greeley, Colorado.

IV. James Beard Lawhead, born March 6, 1896, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, married September 13, 1920, at Torrington, WY to Edna Alberta McConnell, who was born August 25, 1895, at North Bend, NE. He graduated from Mt. Ayr High School, attended Cooper College at Sterling, Kansas, graduated from Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL in 1924. Joined the United States Army Air Service in December 1917, and served with the A.E.F. in France for eleven months. Edna Alberta McConnell Lawhead graduated from Torrington High School in 1914 and from Monmouth College in 1920. Taught in Torrington High School. Mr. Lawhead is now science instructor at Torrington, WY. They have three sons:

1. **James Donald Lawhead**, born August 16, 1921.

2. **Lloyd Neil Lawhead**, born July 21, 1924.

3. **Robert McConnell Lawhead**, born July 21, 1926.

V. Aurelia Lawhead, was born March 13, 1901, at Welda, Kansas, married June 9, 1925, at Torrington, WY to George Bryant Berkeley, who was born August 19, 1893, at Kansas City, MO. She was graduated from High School, attended Monmouth College, taught school in Wyoming and Nebraska, is a member of the M.E. Church, is now teaching at Scottsbluff, NE. Mr. Berkeley graduated from Kansas City High School, taught in the city school for a number of years, served in the Navy in the World War, homesteaded in Goshen County, WY, graduated from The Needles School of Optometry at Kansas City, MO, now located at Scottsbluff, NE, is a member of the M.E. Church.

VI. John Ogdon Lawhead, born June 3, 1905, at Tingley, Iowa, graduated from Torrington, WY High School in 1922, commenced work in printing office while in High School, took course in linotype operation and construction in Chicago in 1925, is now advertising manager of the Torrington Telegram, Torrington, WY. Bareback riding has been his favorite sport, won prizes in Cheyenne Frontier Days. His record there made him eligible to a place among the boys who went to London with the Tex Austin Rodeo in 1924. While in London went by air to Paris and visited the battle fronts.

Robert Alvah Lawhead says of his mother:

"Mother was a school teacher, while father was stationed at Nashville, TN. Mother took three of her children and went to Nashville and taught in school for the colored people and her life was threatened. I have often heard her tell the story, how she instead of going to bed right, would dress in black ready to hide if they should make a raid on the house."

LOIS ISABELLA LAWHEAD--was born December 4, 1870, near Alexis, IL, was married Sept 10, 1891, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, to John Norris Wallace, who was born Sept 13, 1861, at New Concord, OH, and died

at Kansas City, MO Dec 4, 1900; was married Feb 27, 1902, at Welda Kansas to **Lincoln C. Buchanan**, who was born March 24, 1864, at Albia, Iowa. Mrs. Buchanan graduated from High School at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, May 25, 1888, taught school, then assisted brother in bank before first marriage. Lived in Tarkio, MO for eight years during marriage to Mr. Wallace. Lived at Welda, Kansas, and Sterling, Kansas, after marriage to Mr. Buchanan. Her address is now Sterling, Kansas. Mr. Buchanan was the son of **Samuel and Mary A. (Snodgrass) Buchanan**, who moved from Albia, Iowa, to Anderson County, near Garnett, Kansas, when he was four years old. Eleven years later moved to Welda, Kansas. Is a farmer and stock raiser; is an elder in U. P. Church. He was married April 10, 1884 to Lena Wilkin, who died March 12, 1896. He had six children, four of whom died in infancy. Harry S. and Stella are living in Emporia, Kansas. Mrs. Buchanan's children are:

I. Lowell Elder Wallace was born December 14, 1892, at Tarkio, MO, was married July 14, 1921, at Lamar, CO to Elizabeth Venn, who was born January 25, 1904, near Lamoni, Iowa. He went to Bent County, CO in November, 1916, and made proof on 640 acres, enlisted in U.S. Army



Mrs. Belle Lawhead Wallace and children, left to right, above. Lowell, Vere, Vernon; cener below, Ava. Picture taken in 1901.

July 18, 1917,
trained at Ft.
Logan, CO and
Camp Keaney,
CA, saw service
in France and
England and was
discharged May
17, 1919.
Elizabeth Venn



*Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Buchanan (Belle Lawhead) and
children. Above, Robert and Mary; below, Eda May.
Picture taken in 1923.*

Wallace moved to Colorado when she was ten years old with her
parents where they proved up on a 320 acre homestead. They have
one son and one daughter.

1. *Delbert Leroy Wallace*, born Jan 13, 1923, Near Lamar, CO.

2. *Clara Isabelle*, born May 30, 1926.

Their address is Deora, Colorado.

II. Vernon Lee Wallace was born May 21, 1895, at Tarkio, MO, was married
May 16, 1921, at Chanute, Kansas, to Lois Louanna Colton, who was
born March 21, 1895, at Anamosa, Iowa. Attended grade school at
Welda, Kansas and High School at Breckenridge, MO and Welda,
Kansas. In 1913-14 attended Kansas State Agricultural College. In
May, 1916, filed on homestead in Bent County, CO. Enlisted in
World War June 23, 1918, in France 3 months. Discharged Feb 3,
1919, at Camp Owen Bierne, Ft. Bliss, Texas. Married and lived at
Eureka, Kansas for 2 years, moved to claim in November, 1923,
poultry and dairy farming. Address Deora, CO. Their daughter,
Frances Ruth was born and died March 3, 1922.

III. Albion Vere Wallace was born May 21, 1895, at Tarkio, MO, was married
December 31, 1917, at Clearfield, Iowa, to Myra Carson, who was
born July 23, 1897, at Clearfield, Iowa. Worked way through High
School, served in Army for 10 months, worked in Des Moines one year
after discharge and is now manager of A & P Tea store at
Independence, MO. Myra Carson was educated at Clearfield and
taught school three years before her marriage. Both were brought
up in United Presbyterian homes. Their children are:

1. *Audrey Louise*, born Oct 21, 1919, in Des Moines, Iowa.

2. *John Carson*, born Oct 24, 1921, near Clearfield, Iowa.

Albion Vere Wallace says of his father:

"Was active in church work. Was President of Young People's Society in Church. Was a gentleman in every respect."

And of his mother:

"Mother is a quiet and patient, forgiving, and by her life an inspiration to others to live good clean lives. When in grief or sorrow bears it alone with God and makes no one else less happy. Always appears cheerful. A favorite saying is: "Everything worketh together for good for those that love God."

IV. Ava Margaret Wallace was born Feb 17, 1897, at Tarkio, MO, was married July 23, 1924, at Clearfield, Iowa, to Ezra Doyle Groves, who was born June 18, 1900, at Benton, Iowa. Mrs. Groves attended school at Welda, Kansas and then went to High School at Mr. Ayr, Iowa, taking the Normal Training Course and staying with her Uncle Bert Lawhead. Taught primary grades for several years, and took college training at summer sessions. Mr. Groves lived on his father's farm at Benton, Iowa, until October, 1923, when he went to Kansas City, to become a post office employee. He received his training for Civil Service work at Chillicothe Business College, Chillicothe, MO. Their address is 4907 E. 31st, Kansas City, MO.

One child, **Ira Norris Groves**, born Sept 24, 1926.

Mrs. Groves writes:

"As I was only three years old when my father died, I remember very little about him. I do remember two or three instances that are very liable to be impressed on a child's mind. I have always cherished the thought that he was good to his family, so thoughtful as to our comforts and desires. I remember he used to always ask me if I was tired when we would be walking to a street car line, while living in Kansas City. Of course, I knew what would be the result if I said "Yes." I was always carried then.

My mother has always been a wonderful mother, every one admires and loves her. Her wonderful disposition and goodness are outstanding characteristics. I have never seen my mother angry and don't know anyone else who has. She undoubtedly has had many troubles and worries during her lifetime, but she never shows it to others. Instead, she hides her own, and helps all others she can over the rough places. I am sure we (all the Wallace children) wish that our work had not kept us away from her so much in late years, and we realize what we have missed by not being with her. Nevertheless, her good training, we shall always remember and prize.

My grandfather Lawhead lived with us for some time after my father's death and I remember him as having the same wonderful disposition and desire to help others in every way, as my mother has. Uncle Bert Lawhead is another. I have not been around the others as much, but when I was there they were

wonderful to me. That must be an Elder trait, at least it is typical of the Lawheads."

V. Mary Imo Buchanan was born at Welda, Kansas July 11, 1903. Attended school at Welda, Kansas and graduated from High School at Sterling, Kansas, in 1922. Graduated from Sterling College June 1926.

VI. Robert Charles Buchanan was born April 4, 1905, at Welda, Kansas. He attended school at Welda, Kansas, and graduated from High School at Sterling, Kansas, in May 1924, assisting in a bank after school hours. He is a member of the United Presbyterian Church and lives at Sterling, Kansas. Attended Sterling College for two years and now is employed in First National Bank, Sterling, Kansas.

VII. Eda May Buchanan was born Sept 28, 1912, at Sterling, Kansas, and died April 6, 1924, of whom her mother says:

"She was a very bright, lovable child and was loved by everyone that knew her. She was a good little Christian and early united with the church."

MAGGIE IMOGENE LAWHEAD--was born August 13, 1874, in Warren County, IL, was married Sept 14, 1897, at Mt. Ayr, Iowa, to William G. Nichol, who was born June 4, 1862, in Warren County, IL. Mrs. Nichol moved with her parents to Iowa when quite small, later moving from the farm to Mt. Ayr, where she attended school, spent several years in Tarkio College. After her marriage moved to Stuttgart, AR. Four years later they bought a farm and moved to Welda, Kansas, living there three years. Her health was beginning to fail so they sold the farm and moved to Fowler, CA, where they lived for twelve years. On March 9, 1918, she passed away and was buried at Mt. Ayr, Iowa. Mr. Nichol lived on a farm all his life. He moved with his parents to Ringgold County, Iowa, in the spring of 1880 where he helped improve the prairie into a good farm and home. They had no children.

PART V

WILLIAM ALEXANDER ELDER

I remember him as "Uncle Will." His wife was "Aunt Jennie." And, what a wonderful uncle and aunt they were! My association with them was principally on the old Elder homestead three miles west of Alexis, IL. Their home was a perpetual open house, according to my recollection. I lived with "Uncle Will" and "Aunt Jennie" for two or three years, and their home was my home, a real for sure home, where I was a part of the family, so recognized, so treated.

I worked with "Uncle Will" in the fields and lived with him in his home and I do not remember that I ever saw him angry and I never heard him use bad language of any kind. He was a truly Christian man, who wandered not from the path, but he was always a boy at heart, in full sympathy with the children, full of fun, full of religion, full of politics, a lover of song and of story. One of my outstanding, pleasant recollections is of sitting around the stove at night in Uncle Will's and Aunt Jennie's home and hearing the "Swiss Family Robinson" read aloud. Uncle Will was the reader.

I can remember a cold evening, almost fifty years ago, when Uncle Will and I, a boy of twelve years, went out to milk the cows; the snow was deep in the cow lot; the wind snarled bitinglly from the west; "dogs" were attending the frost coated sun as it sank into its evening bed; ice hung from Uncle Will's whiskers as he pumped away at his cow. I envied him those whiskers and blew my breath up over my upper lip in an effort to build pendants on my only as yet indistinguishable mustache. Blow as hard and as long as I would, I could get no frost to light on the whiskers which were not.

I remember one day in midsummer--a very, very hot day. I shoved hay back under the eaves of a low hung hay mow. It was terribly hot. A neighbor pushed the hay up to me. I fell sick and the next thing I knew I was lying on a bed in a little room in Uncle Will's home and looking up into the air, away up, I could see strange aerobatic forms wiggling about; then they began shoving hay into my little bedroom; it came rolling in in great loads; it seemed to me that I would be smothered; it certainly would cover me up entirely. I struggle from the bed, staggered out to the porch where Aunt Jennie was and asked her if she thought they could get three more loads of hay into that room. She looked at me with a startled expression and then came and put her arms around me and that's all I knew until a few hours later, when I awoke to find myself in a buggy with my father and big sister Helen who were taking me home for a few days.

I remember, too, that one day Uncle Will came to me and told me to get on the blind horse--old "Tom," I think--and hurry to town and tell the doctor to come right out. That was Aunt Jennie's birthday; also, it was the very day that her youngest child, cousin Alice, was born. If I have any favorite cousin, Alice is that cousin because I had such a responsible part on the reception committee the day she arrived.

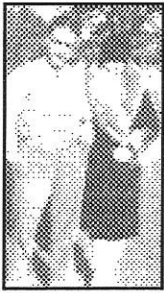


WILLIAM ALEXANDER ELDER



ANNE JANE STEWART ELDER

I knew Uncle Will and family best when they were in Alexis, IL back there in the 70s and early 80s. Then we separated and some of the members of the family I have not seen since, others but once or twice. I had business in western Iowa some twenty-five



Center: Electa Elder Widney, eldest daughter of William A. and Anne Jane Elder, picture of the 1890's. Right: Mrs. Widney's daughter, Electa Elizabeth, "Bettie." Left: Mrs. Widney's son, Stanley and his wife Joyce.

years ago, or maybe not quite so long ago, and had the opportunity to drop down to Tingley where Uncle Will lived. Neither Uncle Will nor Aunt Jennie knew me after so many years, but to me they looked much the same as they had looked when I lived at their home in Warren County, IL.

When I came to their home in Tingley, Aunt Jennie was ironing. She might have been ironing for the twenty-five years interim, so like was the picture of that day to the many that I had seen a quarter of a century before. Uncle Will came in later; he looked upon me as a stranger, couldn't guess who I was, but he was the same Uncle Will with the same whiskers which I had so distressingly envied years and years ago, and with the same smile, same kindly voice, same sympathetic manner. Alice was at home; Audley lived near by and we met again.

In the summer of 1927, one rather dark, rainy, muddy day, a young girl invaded my office and asked if "this is Mr. Elder." I admitted to the charge. "Well, I'm Alice Eighme, your cousin, a daughter of "Clara Joyce Elder Eighme." Here was another "Alice Elder" and on this particular day, she, with her father, her brother and two cousins had been attempting to navigate the Iowa mud roads in an automobile and a few miles west of Washington, Iowa, they had skidded into the ditch and the car turned over on its top, and there they were.

Other friendly travelers soon landed the party unhurt in Washington and Alice and her brother Franklin paused long enough in Washington to make themselves known to the Washington, Iowa, cousin. In this gentle manner a little more intimate touch was again established

with branches of Uncle Will's family. And those Elder branches, wherever you see them, are good to look upon. They came from good old Scotch-Irish Presbyterian stock; the hard boiled kind; the "cover to cover" brand, who pretty generally adjust their steps in life to fine Christian ideals.

When I was at Uncle Will's home as an alleged farm helper the children in Uncle Will's family were all young. Electa, the eldest, was about three years my junior. I remember Electa as a "chatty" little miss; a pretty girl, too, and it has always been a question with me whether my stay at Uncle Will's home could be invoiced as an asset or a liability to the William Elder estate. I liked to visit with Electa; to play with the children, for I wasn't much more than a child myself. There was the old orchard south of the house into the depths of which we used to penetrate, playing hide and seek, hunting for apples, chasing rabbits, or turning our desperate attention to anything in preference to real work.

On Sundays when the weather permitted we used to drive to church in the old lumber wagon. Uncle Will and Aunt Jennie sat on the front seat, the great tall spring seat, while the children, including myself, sat on board seats at the rear. One day as we were jogging along to church some development in the rear of the wagon made it appear necessary for me to rearrange the board seats. I had my companions on the seat rise while I proceeded to readjust the seat. One end of the seat caught in the spokes of the revolving wheel and in an instant I was flung over the back of the wagon landing on the cruel earth square on my head. Why my neck was not broken no one has ever explained, and science makes no attempt to solve the mystery.

We drove home from church one "Sabbath" day in summer time, and just as we came through the gate into the barn yard we noticed a little flame and smoke coming from the barn. Uncle Will jumped out, ran to the barn and frantically dragged blazing straw out into the barn yard and stamped out the flames. One minute later and the barn, cribs and several stacks of grain and hay would have gone up in flames. Little Audley, who had stayed at home with his mother on this particular day had confiscated a match or two from the kitchen and wandered out to the barn to play with them. I marvelled at the good nature with which Uncle Will contemplated this narrow escape after the danger was all over.

Teeny and David Archie were just little tots, Dave two or three years old, maybe four and, as above noted, little Alice was choosing that period for her debut into Elder society. Another cousin of the children lived in the home for a time while I was there--Addie Stewart, a daughter of Aunt Jennie's brother and wife. She was older than any of the rest of us, a young woman of sixteen, or seventeen, in fact, and we looked upon her as a very superior being. She had lived in "town"; she was much more sophisticated

than we. She wore bangs, and bustles, and basques, and had a necklace, and rings on her fingers. She was very grand and beautiful, and she had "fellows", two of them, three of them. One day there came a young minister to visit at Uncle Will's home. He was a cousin, or second cousin, by the name of Rev. Chalmers Carson. It was love at first sight. Rev. Mr. Carson and Addie were married in a few months.

Uncle William Elder was born in Logan County, Ohio, April 23, 1833, died March 3, 1911, at Tingley, Iowa, married January 11, 1854 to Anna Jane Stewart, who was born May 27, 1834 in Logan County, Ohio, died November 26, 1912, in Tingley, Iowa.

The children are:

1. *Electa Elder Widney*, Yorktown, Iowa.
2. *Audley Stewart Elder*, Yorktown, Iowa
3. *David Arche Elder*, Loveland, Colorado.
4. *Clara Joyce Elder Eighme*, Shannon City, Iowa.
5. *Alice Elder Templeton*, Shannon City, Iowa.

ELECTA ELDER--born September 1, 1869, in Mercer County, IL, married March 18, 1897, at Tingley, Iowa, to Martin L. Widney, who was born March 18, 1875, in Page County, Iowa. Mrs. Widney received most of her education at Alexis, IL, attended "Old Lone Star" when living on old Elder farm, finished High School in Alexis in 1891. In 1892 moved to a farm near Tingley, Iowa, then moved into Tingley where clerked in a store. Spent one year in Beaconsfield, 2 1/2 years in Deadwood, SD, but spent most of married life in Yorktown, Iowa. Mr. Widney has spent most of his life at Yorktown, for many years was a stock buyer but since 1905 has been R.F.D. carrier on Route No. 1. They have two children:

I. Stanley Arden Widney, born in Deadwood, SD August 29, 1901, was in army, volunteered in April, 1917, joined the Coast Artillery, was stationed at Ft. Kamehameha, Honolulu, HI, where he was a bugler, being discharged in August, 1919. He is an actor.

II. Electa Elizabeth Widney, born at Yorktown, Iowa, October 13, 1908, is a senior in college at Clarinda, IA.

Electa Elder Widney says:

"My father and mother William and Jane Elder were both teachers in Logan County, Ohio before their marriage. Soon after that they moved to Illinois. Father had gone to Illinois when young with his people. There were no trains

then, they went in wagons and Grandfather bought the "Old Elder place" in Warren County. Father went back to Ohio and married while there. When Alexis started he was among the first to move there, was in the lumber company, "Lafferty & Elder," afterward sold and went into grocery, and afterward the dry goods. He never was strong in body, had many illnesses, but was as earnest Christian as was mother. They were charter members of the Alexis United Presbyterian Church. Father was a ruling Elder in the church and clerk of session almost all the time until his death, for when he moved to Tingley was elected to same office. Father and Mother went back to Alexis and attended the 25th anniversary of the church. He was honored many times by being sent by Presbytery to the General Assembly. I think the word "Mother" describes my mother. She was to so many. I recall when we were young we thought too many claimed her, as she was ready to go to people in sickness and trouble. When my grandparents died soon after mother was married, she took her younger brothers, Wilson and Thomas, and sister, Mary, into the home. When I was 9 years old, Mother's niece was left an orphan and came to live with us, Addie Stuart; all were welcome and loved by Father and Mother. Grandfather and Grandmother Elder lived with us at my first recollection, in Alexis, IL. Father had two rooms built on the house for them, and we loved them dearly. Grandmother died at our home when I was quite young, but I recall seeing her and remember her kind face. Grandfather was with us a great deal and was a dear old man, never very strong, coughed a good deal, but was a throat trouble, doctors said. Lungs were strong."

CLARA JOYCE ELDER--born November 7, 1872, at Alexis, IL, married December 4, 1905, at Tingley, Iowa, to Lucius Franklin Eighme, who was born March 16, 1872, at Salem, Iowa, and are farmers living at Shannon City, Iowa. Children:

I. Alice Marie Eighme, born January 18, 1907, Ringgold Co, IA.

II. Franklin Elder Eighme, born June 4, 1909, Ringgold Co, IA.

III. Rex Earland Eighme, born February 4, 1911, Ringgold Co, IA.

IV. Lucius Dale Eighme, born January 28, 1915, Ringgold Co, IA.

AUDLEY STEWART ELDER--born May 8, 1875, at Alexis, IL, married first in 1896 at Tingley, Iowa, to Edith Dunlap, who was born

December 21,
1877, in
Ringgold
County, Iowa,
died May 10,
1901, in
Deadwood, SD;



Shannon City, Iowa. Left to right: Franklin Elder Eighme, Lucius Dale Eighme, Mr. and Mrs. Eighme, Alice Marie Eighme, Rex Earland Eighme. 1-1-1928

married second time February 14, 1906, at Holdrege, NE, to Pearle Bevington, who was born August 20, 1886, in Ringgold County, Iowa. His children are:

I. William Newell Elder, born June 29, 1897.

II. Orville Newton Elder, born February 16, 1907.

III. James Nevin Elder, born August 18, 1909.

IV. Margaret Elder, born February 3, 1912.

V. Helen Elder, born March 25, 1914.

VI. Audley Elder, Jr., born July 12, 1916.

His deceased children are:

Lawrence Arch Elder, born March 21, 1899, died May 20, 1902.

David Victor Elder, born August 19, 1908, died Sept. 23, 1908.



*Left-Frances Ann Templeton
Center-Alice Marie Eighme
Right-Dorothea Templeton*



*Alice Eighme
Orville Newton Elder*

Audley Stewart Elder says:

"Uncle John Elder told me shortly before his death that Grandpa Elder's father was 101 years old when he died and his grandfather was 103 years old when he died. One of them was a soldier but I have forgotten which and what his given name was."



Left to right: Clara Joyce Elder Eighme; Electa Elder Widney; Pearl Bevington Elder (Mrs. Audley Eder); Audley Elder; Alice Elder Templeton; Martin Widney.

DAVID ARCHIE ELDER--born June 11, 1878, near Alexis, IL, married January 22, 1903, at Shannon City, Iowa, to Iva May Dunlap, who was born August 30, 1880, at Shannon City, Iowa. Mr. Elder is now a salesman living at 1105 Garfield Ave., Loveland, CO. He says:



Newell Elder & wife, Stella Elder. Newell is Audley's oldest son.



Audley Elder's children. Left to right: Margaret Elder; Newton Orville Elder; James Elder; Helen Elder. Front: Audley Elder, Jr.



Hazel & Jean, daughters of Newell & Stella Elder

"When I was about seven years old we moved from Alexis back to the old Elder farm and lived there for about four years. This always seemed more like home than any place we ever lived. How well I remember the old place, the house, the barn, the trees, two cherry trees just north of the house, west of these the old boxelder with that big limb on which the old chain swing hung on which I left a pair of trousers hanging when trying to slide down from the limb, the old cottonwoods out at the road, and then the creek with its wild plums, grapes, cherries and haws.

Above all I remember the Sabbath afternoon walks when the whole family would walk quietly down through the pasture, along the creek and up the lane. Sometimes my heart longs for those good old times altho I know they were really not better. Just this afternoon we motored up into the mountains, parked the car and walked along the canyon with those gigantic mountains all around us, the Big Thompson plunging down its rocky bed beside us and saw some deer

feeding on the hillside. I thought life is ALWAYS better and better, and I have faith to believe it will ever be so until by His grace we of the Elder family will meet at the great reunion.

When about fourteen years of age, I moved with my parents to Tingley, Iowa. As a young man I made several trips west and since I have been married have lived in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Colorado. We came to Colorado in 1912 where the wandering spirit seems to have left us. Have continued in the faith of my parents, having been an elder in the United Presbyterian Church since September, 1909.

My wife lived with her parents near Tingley, Iowa, until the age of 18 when she went to Colorado Springs, CO, and lived with her sister. In April 1900 she was called to Deadwood, SD by the illness of another sister there. In Dakota we renewed our acquaintance and she went back to Colorado Springs and lived until I persuaded her to come back to Iowa shortly before the great event January 22, 1903."



DAVID ARCHIE ELDER AND FAMILY

Left to right, above: Anna Mae, David Archie, Teena Altha.

Below: Mrs. Iva May Dunlap Elder, Archie Lee.

They have three children:

I. Anna Mae Elder, born December 6, 1903, at Yorktown, Iowa. Having finished her college course at Sterling, Kansas, she is now teaching in Loveland, CO.

II. Teena Altha, born January 4, 1915, at Ft. Morgan, CO.

III. Archie Lee, born July 11, 1922, at Ft. Morgan, CO. "Boss of the ranch."

Dean Dunlap, born June 24, 1913, at Ft. Morgan, CO died the same day.

David Archie Elder also relates the following regarding his youth:

"It hardly seems possible but I remember father holding me on a horse and letting the horse walk to the barn at the old farm in Illinois when I was only about two years old. We moved soon after to Alexis. At that time my uncle John Elder and Uncle Clark Elder were also living in Alexis. Uncle Alonzo was living at Gerlaw, IL. Soon after this the uncles began to move away and we were soon left the only family of Elders there. I remember grandfather David Elder. When I was a very small boy I used to go with him to the barber shop to show him the way, as he was old and would sometimes lose his way when going alone.

When coming home from a trip back to Iowa a few years ago I met a man on the train that said he once owned and lived on the farm east of grandfather's farm. I remember it as the McFarland place. One day he started a fire to burn some weeds along the fence between the farms, the fire got beyond his control and was threatening grandfather's barn. He said grandfather helped put out the fire, then gave him a lecture on when, where and how to start fires. The man said he had the lecture coming to him and grandfather delivered it well."

ALICE ELDER--was born September 1, 1880, at Alexis, IL, married June 4, 1913, at Clarinda, Iowa, to James Tussey Templeton, who was



*"THREE OF A KIND"
Dorothea Templeton, Teena
Elder, & Frances Anna
Templeton*

born May 31, 1879, at Sinking Valley, PA and died December 13, 1921, of pneumonia, buried in "The Tingley Cemetery" at Tingley, Iowa. Children:

I. Frances Anna, born November 10, 1914.

II. Dorothea Electa, born April 9, 1916.

III. James Elder, born November 17, 1919.

PART VI

DAVID CLARK ELDER

David Clark Elder was the father of this writer. He was born in St. John's Mills, near Tiffin, Ohio, December 26, 1835. He died January 13, 1900, in Washington, Iowa, where he is buried. He was married to Samantha Jane Curry in Washington, Iowa, April 1, 1857. Mother was born in Milford, Union County, Ohio, March 17, 1840, and



DAVID CLARK ELDER
Picture was taken at time of Civil War.



SAMANTHA JANE CURRY
Wife of David Clark Elder. Civil War time picture.

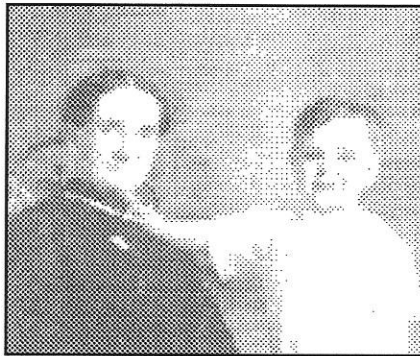
died in Washington, Iowa, September 24, 1915. The children were:

- I. Helen Isabel Elder.*
- II. John Orville Elder.*
- III. Arthur Alonzo Elder.*
- IV. Alta Leanna Elder.*

V. Mary Grace Elder.

VI. Pearl Irene Elder.

All of these are living at this writing excepting Alta Leanna Elder.



Mrs. Samantha Jane Elder and grandson, David Rall Elder, about 1914. Mrs. Elder was about 75.

Three children died early in life: Ida Louise Elder, born October 23, 1858, died December 16, 1861. She was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery, Warren County, IL. The cause of death was probably diphtheria. This first born of the family died at about the midnight hour one cold winter night while mother was at home alone with the desperately sick little daughter trying to prolong the little life until the father could bring the doctor from Monmouth in Mercer County, just across the Warren County line. The home was a log house long since torn down.

Electa Jane Elder, born May 27, 1865, died Dec. 22, 1865.

Infant son, born October 14, 1876, died Oct. 25, 1876.

David Clark Elder, my father, was always called Clark Elder, and he was thus distinguished in address from his father who was also David Clark Elder, with the "David" as his distinguishing address. Father did not have the best of health although that fact did not evidence itself very conspicuously. He had difficulty in getting into the army because of his health, but eventually got through and served three years, until the end of the war. Here follows a copy of the wording of father's discharge from the service:

"To All Whom It May Concern:

*Know Ye, That David C. Elder, a Private of Captain James Moore's Company,
(B), 83d Regiment of Illinois Infantry Volunteers who was enrolled on the*

eleventh day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two to serve Three years or during the war, is hereby Discharged from the service of the United States, this twenty-sixth day of June, 1865, at Nashville, Tennessee by reason of being mustered out in accordance with instructions from the War Dept. dated May 29th, 1865. (No objection to his being re-enlisted is known to exist.)

Said David C. Elder was born in Seneca in the State of Ohio, is twenty-six years of age, five feet eight inches high, light complexion, blue eyes, brown hair, and by occupation when enrolled, a Farmer.

Given at Nashville, TN, this twenty-sixth day of June, 1865.

**This sentence will be erased should there be anything in the conduct or physical condition of the soldier rendering him unfit for the Army.*

James Moore,

Capt. Comdg. Company.

J. W. A.

Capt. 88th Ills. Inf.

A. C. M. 2nd Div. 4th A. C.

(Across the face of discharge)

Paid in full July 5th, 1865.

H. B. Reese,

Paymr."

While father went to war and was a soldier, yet he never seemed to his children to be a warrior in spirit. He was a gentle man, kind hearted, tender, emotional. He was sometimes light hearted and gay, boylike even in his late years, and again he seemed to droop, to grow somewhat despondent, to feel the suffocating pressure of fate, of mortality.

He had an expansive soul, a very deep appreciation of the finer things of life, but--he had a big family and the inevitable obligations of fatherhood cramped him. He had a tremendous job on his hands providing for his family; it was a battle. He had spent three years in war service, and those three years were years of prosperity to many of those who stayed at home. He came back into the distressing conditions that always follow wars and the battle was a hard one. He never saw "easy" times, financially speaking.

But, as a father, no one could have had a better father than we had; he disciplined by example; he believed in the rod, but he didn't use it. He was perhaps a little too lenient, too gentle with us, but we have none but sweet memories of him. We regret that we did not make his life easier for him while he was with us. As children we "did not understand." Now that we are grown we do "understand" and as parents ourselves are at least partly consoled by the knowledge that parents make all due allowances for the seeming ingratitude of children. It is not ingratitude; it is nothing more than the recurring natural experiences of parenthood and childhood.

From among the few keepsakes that I have of my father I dig up the following which may explain why even this gentle character went to war. This is a reproduction of an address delivered by my father in 1856 before the students and faculty of the old Washington College, the institution to which both father and mother went. It was there they met, and formed that acquaintance that resulted in their marriage. This is the address. It is redolent of the times:

"October 11th, 1856.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The heart of the true American as he contemplates the past history of his country, its present prosperity and future destiny swells with pride and delight as he looks back but a little more than three quarters of a century and beholds this present powerful nation only a public confederacy yet contending with one of the most powerful kingdoms of Europe. We see her after a severe contest of over seven years acknowledged a free and independent nation and behold her taking a prominent position among the nations of the earth. We see her growth from that time to the present unparalleled in the annals of history, her commerce and influence extends into all sea, her principals of government has shaken Europe throughout her length and breadth. They have uprooted despotism of the past and made her more liberal and progressive. They have set fire to a train which is destined to rock the old world to the center. The American looks upon this republic in its influence, mighty in its power, vast in its resources and spacious in its extent. We reflect that it is in its infancy, that this mighty nation is yet only a youth, that it has not yet arrived at maturity. Whose heart does not beat quicker as he reflects upon what his country has already done and for what she is yet to distinguished. She has already twice made the British lion to crouch down at her feet and sue for peace. She has defeated the Mexicans led on by one of the greatest generals ever on earth. She has taught the world that her sons knew the value of liberty and were ready to fight for it both on sea and on land. Behold her capturing ships of the British and victoriously sailing them into port with the pine tree or the stars and stripes floating at the mast head. Behold her sons at Bunker Hill and Lexington, at New Orleans and Chippewa. See them stand the charge of the British artillery without ever flinching and then behold them on the bloody field of Buena Vista, and the city of Mexico. Behold her marching on to victory crying our country or death and now look at her name in the arts, sciences. See our churches and academies, our institutions of learning. Look at our railroads, telegraphs, steam boats and our numerous factories. Look at her and behold one of the most powerful nations of the earth and yet not one century old. But are there no causes at work to hinder the onward march of progress and which if not seen to in time will overthrow her liberties. Yes, here is one stain resting upon the American name of a dye sufficiently dark to call down the vengeance of an angry God upon us. I refer to slavery. We declare to the world that all men are born free and equal and that certain inalienable rights belong to them among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness and yet we trample upon the happiness of over three millions of our fellow beings. We boast that we have the most free government in the world and yet there is not a despotic or pagan government on the face of the globe where the souls and bodies of men are in such complete subjection as to the slave states of the south. What is the influence of slavery in those states. Where it exists it is of the most degrading kind more to be dreaded than the plague. It holds the colored people in ignorance and misery, it spreads a

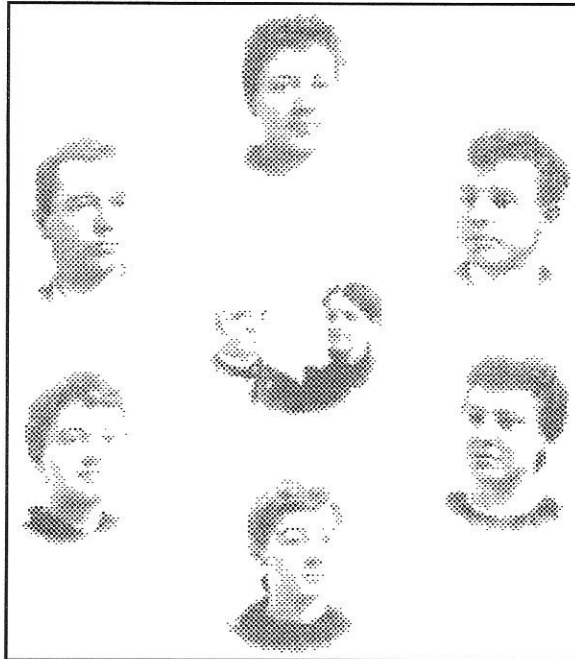
gnawing disease over the nation which eats to the very heart's core. It hinders the onward march of progress; it is in fine subversive to all morals and liberty. Can two such antagonistic principals as slavery and liberty grow side by side and flourish. It is impossible; either liberty must drive slavery out or she must herself be driven away to make room for slavery. They cannot grow together much longer and flourish. There is and must be as long as they exist together a continual strife for the mastery of this evil. What does it become us as free men and women and citizens of a free country to do. It is to exert all our influence to drive out this perfidious monster and suffer it no longer in our land. We now begin to see the dawning of a brighter day for the slave. The repeal of the Missouri Compromise was not in vain; the compelling of free northern men to become slave catchers for the south, the assault of Sumner in the senate chamber, the destroying of the printing presses and ballot boxes in Kansas was a good thing for this nation and it has aroused a feeling in the north deep and abiding. It has shown us that there is a north made up of something besides doughfaces. The North is awake, let her not again go asleep until not a slave remains in our land and our country is what she professes to be, free and independent. Yes, Americans, I mean true Americans, lovers of light and liberty, not those secret would be Americans who sail under the contemptible name of know nothings, but you free lovers of our glorious republic your work is now before you, your men are now in the field, all you have to do is to work with interest and energy and God will grant to them victory to whom victory is due."

SAMANTHA JANE CURRY ELDER

Mother was one of a family of three children. Her mother was Jane Curry; her father Moses Curry. The father died at the age of thirty years leaving her mother with the three girls: Margaret, Samantha and Mary. They were just little tots, so there spread out before this mother the usual prospect that greeted the eyes of a young widow in a new country back in that period before all modern conveniences were known. There was no such thing as a match, when mother was a little child; if the fire went out, it was frequently the case that one must go to a neighbor's to borrow some fire. That just illustrates how primitive the times were. Life, then, as compared to what it is today was a bitter struggle. But it made heroic men and women just the same.

Grandma Curry reared her three children and got along. She accumulated a little property during her life. She was thrifty. I remember her as one who did hair work. She made switches, for one thing, and often when mother took us to visit grandma, I used to look on with great interest as grandma combed out the hair and fixed it into switches. Faintly yet I can remember hearing grandma say: "Mrs. 'so in so' is coming this afternoon to see about her switch." "Mrs. "so-in-so' will bring her hair over today."

Mother grew up in Washington, Iowa, attended the old Washington College, was married to my father in Washington, Iowa. She went south during the war for a few months and was at Ft. Donaldson with my father. In that way she got an experience that was unusual to young married women. Coming back from the south after the war



David Clark Elder and Samantha Jane Curry (Elder) and children. Top, Helen Elder (Peterson); John Orville Elder; Arthur A Elder; Grace Elder (Lewis); Leanna Elder (McCall), bottom, Pearl Elder.

father and mother settled on a farm and that was their occupation for several years. Mother was different in temperament and characteristics from father. She was ambitious beyond her strength. As a mother she was one who demanded the strictest kind of obedience and if we failed in that she did not hesitate to punish us. She didn't spare the rod as father did. She believed in discipline with the rod and she saw to it, too, that we were raised in the fear of the Lord. The catechism, the bible verses, the Sunday School, the evening prayers, the Sabbath service--all those were the regular part of our daily and weekly program and it was all backed up sternly.

Mother had some literary talent, too, but she had no opportunity to indulge it in her earlier life. The children came along a little too rapidly. There were too many other things to do. After we were grown she devoted some time and thought to literature; wrote some for church papers. She was a very enthusiastic member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union. Back in the "Blue Ribbon" times mother was a crusader, despite the home obligations, and as they lightened her activities increased. She loved to "preach the gospel to all creatures," and she was one of the few who went to the county jails, the county homes, the houses of refuge to carry the Gospel to the inmates. She got great joy out of this work and it was not unavailing.

* * *

Of the children in our family sister Helen was the eldest, and upon her fell a heavy part of the family responsibilities. We all remember her as a most devoted sister; conscientious to an extreme, we thought; always an example of the most exemplary conduct. She was a fine student in school, and it was she who tried most painstakingly to "learn" her little brothers and sisters that we should never use double negatives and equally to be abhorred was "I seen him on the street." She urged that we talk circumspectly and keep our noses and finger nails clean.

It was sister Helen who tried most slavishly to teach us the necessity for taking baths other than such as we might be able to take in summer time in the little slough that ran through the hog pasture on Dr. McClanahan's farm north of town. It was she who literally drove us to the unseemly inconvenience of heating water and bathing in a tub, every Saturday night that she was at home. It was she who left home first, began earning money by teaching school, and it was she who contributed of her means for over a score of years helping to clothe and to feed and to send her younger brothers and sisters through school.

From sister Helen, too, we got expressions of sympathy that we found nowhere else. She understood. She was older, and yet she was young; she was still a girl while carrying a woman's burdens. She was in touch with the present while comprehending the past. She was our sure defense, in time of need. The others of us, Arthur, Lea, Grace, Pearl and myself owe much to this eldest sister whose life has been filled to the brim with "service" for others.

We had a happy home, though it was not a home of luxury. We made the best of that we had. We sang Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual songs. If we were sometimes hungry on earth, we contemplated a plenty when we got to heaven. We had fairly rugged bodies, clear minds, good appetites. Father, mother and sister Helen, in our home, were our inspiring examples and that influence was not lost. Who can escape the salvation that is an inevitable part of an environment that is one of sobriety, of honest, of devotion to Christian principles, of faith, of sympathy, of love for those who need to be loved?

After the family had broken up entirely, father had passed on and the children were all married, mother spent part of her time visiting around among the children and for several months she assisted in a home for unfortunate girls in Chicago on the north side. The years growing upon her, though, she could not stand such work so she settled down and lived the latter years of her life with her daughter, Leanna (Mrs. Harry McCall). Her time was spent in reading, attending church services when able, and in visiting with such old friends as were still here on earth, and near her.

The children of David Clark and Samantha Jane Elder:

HELEN ISABEL ELDER--was born September 9, 1861, at Washington, Iowa, married June 8, 1899, at Washington, Iowa, to Albert Peterson, who was born September 9, 1861, near Swedona, IL, died in May, 1915, at Carlsbad, New Mexico, where he is buried. Mrs. Peterson's permanent address is Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. She says:

"When very young was taken by my mother to Ft. Donelson, TN, where my father, a Union soldier, was stationed. After the war my girlhood was spent partly in Illinois and partly in Iowa. I started school in Washington, Iowa. Later, attended country school in Monroe County, Iowa. Gerlaw, IL graded school in Ipava, IL and lastly High School in Alexis, IL. From last named I passed at a little more than eighteen years of age to teaching. With the exception of a term at Washington, Iowa Academy and a year at the Washington, Iowa High School, I followed this profession almost continuously for twenty years, the last ten of which were spent in the Washington public schools. After marriage lived in Illinois, then Kansas and later again in Illinois. From last named moved to Assinaboia (now Saskatchewan) Canada, where on the beautiful, lake dotted, wonderful wheat producing prairies of which we pioneered for five years, fifty miles or more from a railroad, at first. From there we moved to Calgary, Alberta, a beautiful city beautifully situated high up near the foot hills of the Canadian Rockies on the clear swift flowing Bow River. Our stay here was intermitted by a brief period spent on a farm near Nanton, Alberta. Leaving Calgary in the fall of 1912, we moved to Winnipeg, the "Queen City of the West," in the province of Manitoba. With the exception of a short health seeking sojourn for my husband in San Antonio, Texas, and Carlsbad, New Mexico, this city has been our home ever since."

Albert Peterson was born near Swendona, IL, September 9, 1861, a coincident in that it was the same birth date as that of his wife.



Albert Peterson and wife, Helen Elder Paterson, and their three children, left to right, Isabel Peterson; Ida Leanna Peterson; Clark Elder Peterson.



He was of Swedish parentage, both father and mother having come from Sweden in their younger days. His boyhood and young manhood were spent on a beautiful farm in Henry County, IL. His education was received at the district school near his home and at Galesburg, IL. Farming and the hardware and implement business were in the lines he followed combining the two for some years.

Their children are:

I. Clark Elder Peterson, born at New Windsor, IL, April 29, 1900.

II. Ida Leanna Peterson, born in Galesburg, IL, April 24, 1901.

III. Christine Isabel Peterson, born in Lumsden, Saskatchewan, Canada, April 13, 1905.

Mrs. Peterson says further:

"My father was a soldier in the Civil War. He belonged to Company B of the 83rd Regiment of IL Volunteers. Twice or three times he was rejected because of a physical defect in one of his arms but when the need of men became more apparent he was accepted. He was captured by the Confederates once but was paroled and set at liberty without the delivery required by the cartel agreed upon by the Government of the U. S. and the Confederate authorities for the exchange of prisoners. He loved the associations of war comrades and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His first church affiliation, I think, was with the "Seceder," later becoming a United Presbyterian and still later Presbyterian. Nothing could come between him and his loyalty to the services of his church and his faith in its teachings.

Although the Elders were genial and friendly, they were strong partisans. Grandfather David Elder was in politics a Whig, later becoming with that same party, a Republican. I remember my father's telling how once when he was a very little fellow Grandfather whipped him for swearing. Contrary to the present method prescribed in educational discipline, he punished before inquiring into

the cause of the offense. Upon being told that his boy had sworn because a neighbor had (teasingly) called him a democrat, he dryly remarked he didn't blame him for swearing.

Grandfather had a big white horse of which he was very fond. Like some very lovable people he was at times very exasperating and would tax Grandfather's patience sorely. When he got to the exploding point his last and most scathing epithet was to call that horse a democrat.

The following was told to me by my father:

My great grandfather's great grandfather came to America at the time of the persecution in Scotland. He came direct from Scotland to southeast Pennsylvania while most of his brothers and sisters went to the North of Ireland. A number of descendants of the latter came to America shortly after the War of the Revolution settling in Western Pennsylvania. Some of them, however, came as late as 1840 or about. My grandfather was born in Franklin County, PA in 1798. He came to Beaver Co. about 1812, we think, from there to western Ohio (Tiffin) about 1830, from there to Bellefontaine, Ohio in 1840 and from there to Warren Co, IL in 1855, where he lived until his death in 1885. His name was David Clark Elder and my great grandfather's name was John Elder. We met some of the Elders who are descendants of those who came from the North of Ireland. A number of them are or were living in and near Albia, Monroe Co., Iowa. The resemblance is so striking that my father was often taken for Dr. Thos. Elder of that place.

I remember my Grandfather David Elder as a mild gentleman with a gentlemanly bearing. As I look back and think of the characteristic most prominent in the family, I would say it was just--that mildness, gentleness and refinement and dignity which is inherent to natures in which the first named qualities predominate.

They were quick to see the humor or feel the pathos of any situation, were friendly, genial and ready to give any man his dues regardless of race or creed. They neither scorned the poor man nor bowed to the rich. Another characteristic which I recall to admire, especially of my uncles, whom I had the better opportunity to know, was their extreme loyalty to each other, loyalty and concern as to the welfare and happiness of each other and readiness to assist the less fortunate."

JOHN ORVILLE ELDER--was born October 13, 1866, in Mercer County, Illinois, about three and one-half miles west of Alexis, IL. We

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Carolyn Rall Elder
1878-1919

a babe, then later to Gerlaw, IL where father and Uncle Alonzo Elder ran a general store for a few years. There I began remembering things and from that time on mental history developed. After Gerlaw we went to Ipava, IL where we ran a restaurant for about a year, then we moved to Alexis, IL where some of us grew up. I was about eighteen years of age when we moved to Washington, Iowa, and that became the permanent family home.

In Alexis I had floundered through school far enough to get a teacher's certificate and I taught school for one year. In Washington I went to high school for three month, then vacation time coming began work in a coal yard, got a job bookkeeping and after three years went to St. Joe, MO where I worked in the claim department of the C.B & Q.R.R. for a few months. Seeing no particular future in that business I burnt my bridges behind me and went to Colorado where by brother Arthur was. Spent three years there, part of the time acting as news agent on trains over the mountains making a specialty of selling mountain views and mineral specimens. Brother Arthur and I leased a hotel in a little mountain town and ran it for about six months gradually witnessing the evaporation of all our savings in the hotel business.



Josephine Babock
Elder



David Rall Elder



John Orville Elder

I drifted back to Washington, Iowa, about the year 1894 and went into the grocery business with Harry McCall, my brother-in-law. I had \$100 and Harry had a business that was worth about the same amount, so we set sail. After six years I retired from the business, bought the "Evening Journal", a small daily paper in Washington, Iowa, and it has been running me ever since.

In 1907, April 4, I was married to Carolyn L. Rall, of Cedar Falls, Iowa, the second youngest child in a family of nine children. April 18, 1911, our son, David Rall Elder, was born. In 1919 Carolyn died after an illness of several months. In 1921 I was married again to Josephine Babcock. So far as I was concerned I have been most happily married in both instances and my son has had two wonderful mothers. At this writing, I am still connected with the Evening Journal, Washington, Iowa, with four associate partners.

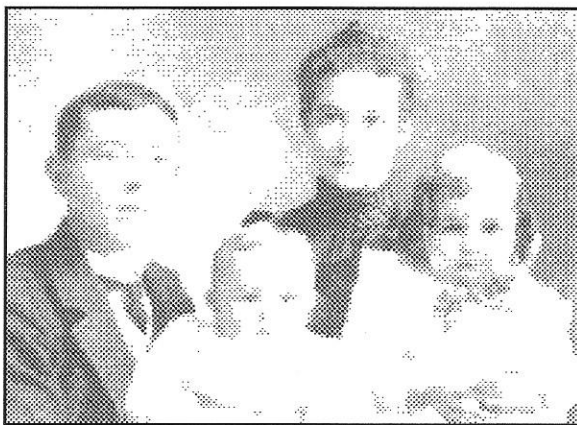
While the newspaper business is a rather exacting business, and generally demands its pound of flesh, I have, nevertheless enjoyed it, and it has opened up opportunities for travel and study that I might not have had otherwise. In the travels of our family and myself I have covered the United States and Canada pretty well and in addition made tours to the Panama Canal Zone, the Hawaiian Islands, Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Holland, England and France. I inherited the ambition to write from my mother and am the author of several things which I have never been able to get anyone to publish. A few things have been published, however, but it is taking me a long while to live it down.

If life has been kind to several of us of the second generation after the beginning, it is because of the beginning and the generation just preceding us. They were sturdy stock. They sought to teach us to live lives of righteousness; to treat all men squarely; to observe the common rules of decent conduct, and above

all they set a compelling example before us all the while. We owe so much of it to grandpa and grandma Elder and their children--and some of us, to their children's children! One son:

David Rall Elder, born April 18, 1911, in Washington, Iowa, graduated from Washington High School in June, 1927, now a student at Pomona College, Claremont, California.

ARTHUR ALONZO ELDER--was born March 1st 1869 on a farm near Albia, IA. His present address is Chicago, IL. When he was still a small boy the family moved to Illinois, and he spent most of his boyhood



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alonzo Elder and sons, Orville and Carl. Picture take 1899.

in Alexis, IL. He was troubled with asthma and when about sixteen years of age he went to Colorado for his health. There he got relief and later he returned to the east. He was married November the 11th, 1895 at Kenosha, Wisconsin, to Vera Margaret von Steulpnagel who was born April 7th 1878 at Pottsdam, Minnesota. The family moved west and were residents of Denver, Salt Lake City and Ogden at different periods. There were six children, one deceased: Rena Luise Elder, born in Denver, Colorado, Nov 23rd, 1902, died Dec 13, 1909. The other children are:

I. David Carl Elder, born in Chicago, IL, Sept. 18, 1896, now a resident of Winnipeg, Manitoba, in the grain brokerage business, married, one daughter.

II. John Orville Elder, born Minneapolis, MN, Nov 11, 1897.

III. Arthur Adolph Elder, born Chadron, Nebraska, Dec 28th, 1900.

IV. Paul Frederick Elder, born Denver, CO, Feb 24, 1905.

V. Helen Victoria Elder, born Winnipeg, Canada, August 23, 1912.



Mr & Mrs David Carl Elder and daughter Joy, Winnipeg, Manitoba. "David Carl" is the oldest son of Mr & Mrs Arthur A. Elder.



*Helen Victoria Elder
Daughter of
Mr & Mrs Arthur A Elder*

Arthur Alonzo Elder, has the following to say about our grandfather David Elder:

"I recall an incident in connection with grandpa Elder that left a lasting impression on my mind. We children were playing--(I think cousin Electa Elder was one of the group) in our home at Alexis, IL. My mother was thinking that we were boisterous, cautioned us not to be so noisy as we might disturb grandpa who was visiting us. In deference to mother's wishes we stopped and I went to grandpa and asked him if he would not sing us a song that he used to sing when he was a little boy. To gratify us, he sang the following:

*'Down in the corn brake, close by the mill
There lives a yellow gal, her name is Nancy Till
She knows that I love her, she knows that I do;
Goin' to serenade her, when I sing this to you.
Come love, come, oh come along with me--
I'll take you down the old Tennessee.'*

That is all I can remember of it, and I am not sure that I have quoted it correctly. I have an impression that he was pleased with me and I think it was the next day that he bought me a pair of little boots with copper toes.

My father told me one time, I remember, that grandpa never used a swear word. If he was disgusted with a man, the strongest expression he used to show his contempt was to refer to the man as a "Lucifer" or a "Democrat." The old fashioned sulphur matches used to be called "lucifers," and the Republicans used to call the Democrats "lucifers."

The first funeral I ever remember was in Gerlaw, IL. I think it was some member of the Sickafosse family. The next was that of grandma Elder in Alexis. I didn't know her. We children were not allowed near her because she was so feeble. I remember crying at the funeral as if my heart was broken. I guess it was because everybody else was crying.

I remember, too, that all the uncles and aunts were there: Uncle Campbell and Aunt Campbell from Ohio; Uncle John and his two sons Orr and Manly from that big city of Chicago. There was one street in Chicago, five miles long, and Chicago's new water works was going to give to the city the best and purest water of any city in the world.

I seem to remember of grandpa being in Chicago and going to the theater and seeing 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' He didn't like the part where they whipped uncle Tom. My one desire when a boy was to see things, go somewhere. I have had my wish fulfilled and then some. I have been way down east and way out west, but I think I am anchored now on LaSalle Street, Chicago."

ALTA LEANNA ELDER--was born August 9, 1871. She was married to Harry McCall at Washington, Iowa, November 8, 1894. She died October 12, 1926, buried in Washington, Iowa. There were no children.



Left to right, above: Mrs. Arthur Elder, Mrs. Helen Elder Peterson, Christine Peterson, Helen Elder, David Elder. Below, Carl Elder, Mrs. Carl Elder, Paul Elder, Orville Elder. Picture was taken in Winnipeg, Canada, 1923.

Sister Lea never had very good health. She got practically all of her education in the schools of Washington, Iowa. She had splendid musical talent, as well as a fine singing voice and when she was strong enough, she taught music, piano and vocal.

For several months she was an assistant in the office of Dr. D. J. Dewey, dentist in Washington. Her early church affiliation was with the Presbyterian church, later she took up Christian Science and abandoned herself to that faith, in which she died.

She was vivacious, chuck full of nervous energy. What she did, she did with all her might. She was very emotional and in her confirmations, she was immovable. She exhausted her strength

rather early in life, but she had lived tensely. She had no reserve.

Once for a few months the family lived in an upstairs apartment in Ipava, IL. Lea was just a little girl then. I remember that we didn't consider it unusual for her to roll down the stairs about once each day. She experimented too, with a disregard for consequences that caused her parents frequent alarm. On one occasion, sent to get a bottle of "bluing," she could not resist the temptation to pry the cork out and take a drink of it.

She had many friends; fine friends who enjoyed her enthusiasm and respected her opinions and judgment. To her own family she was true as steel; no one could say aught against those whom she loved. Their faults she failed to see; their virtues, their good points magnified themselves in her eyes. The last few years of her life were years of growing ill health.



Harry McCall



Alta Leanna Elder McCall

She kept closer and closer to her home each year and narrowed her activities with her declining strength. She died the evening of October 12, and is buried in the family lot in Washington, Iowa, by the side of our father and mother.

MARY GRACE ELDER--was born February 15, 1874, at Gerlaw, Warren County, Illinois, married May 27, 1896, at Washington, Iowa, to Clarence Cameron Lewis, who was born December 29, 1871, at Washington, Iowa. Mrs. Lewis says:

"My first recollections are of life at Alexis, IL. Here I began my school life and here I knew the various Elder families. Uncle William's family, Uncle Will, we called him, lived on a farm and it was a joy to visit with them. There were children there near my own age and this Elder family as a whole was impressed upon my mind more than any other. Prior to their life on the farm I have a

faint recollection of them living in town, not far from our home, across a sort of common, a place where we children used to play blackman, crack the whip, and a game which called into action our vocal chords. I remember the lines 'Here come three dukes a roving, a roving, a roving, Here comes three dukes a roving. With a ratch-a-ma-chach-a-ma-chee.' That is all I can get, but I can still sing it.



Top: Clarence C. Lewis and wife, Grace Elder Lewis, and sons: left, Clifford Elder Lewis; right, Harvey Lyton Lewis. Picture taken probably about 1910. Home of the family, Carlsbad, New Mexico. Left, Lieut. Clifford Elder Lewis, as a world war soldier; right, center, Clifford E. Lewis and wife, Helen Wright Lewis and their daughter, Patricia, at their Los Angeles home; lower right, C.C. Lewis, Grace Eder Lewis and their son, Harey Lytton Lewis.

It was while they were living there that I have memories of grandfather for he made his home with them. He was pretty old. He had wanted me named Kate

and always called me by that name, so as a child when asked my name, my response was "Mary Grace Kate Elder." I remember his burial faintly. I cannot say that I remember Grandfather, I cannot visualize him, but I have an impression of a kindly spirit. Let me say this of all the Elders, there was a spirit of kindness about them, Uncle Lon, Uncle Will and Uncle John, Aunt Margaret--these I remember, Aunt Rebecca, I believe I never saw. One of her daughters, Belle Fechen, visited us, bringing a child, a girl with her. She was very lively and we children were quite taken with her.

I do not remember either of Uncle John's children, but the two girls, Blanche and Ethel, daughters of his son, Orr, and Amy, the wife, I remember very well. I visited them in Chicago, probably in 1882 or 1883. Aunt Margaret's family, I did not know, at least I do not remember any of them except Imogene and Dr. Emmet. Imogene came to visit us in our home in Washington, Iowa, twice I believe, once with her mother and again after her mother's death. Dr. Emmet I saw several times when passing through Burlington, Iowa, either at his office or in his home.



Are these "war pictures?" Not all of them. The top picture is of Lucius Franklin Eghime, husband of Clara Joyce Elder Eighme, and their three sons, Franklin, Rex, Lucius, Jr., and their two dogs. The boys were too young for war, but they are not too young to pursue game birds and animals. The picture was taken on their Iowa farm, near Shannon City.

At the left is Harvey Lytton Lewis, member of Troop B, 111th Cavalry, New Mexico National Guard, a graduate of the New Mexico Military Institute. Picture taken in New Mexico.

At the right is Captain William Henry Buskirk, physician and surgeon, Los Angeles, California. Captain Buskirk saw active world war service, is a leader in his profession. He is son of Mrs. Electa Campbell Buskirk, of Jackson, Michigan.

When I was twelve our family moved from Alexis, IL to Washington, Iowa. Here I spent six years in school, one in the grammar school, three in the high school, and two in the Academy. In addition to this I did extra work one summer in Latin, and two summers attended the regular Teachers' Institute sessions. At eighteen I started my teaching experience, which was of four years duration. The last two years of my teaching experience were spent in a small town composed almost entirely of Germans. My love of singing was an

incentive to study German, that I might be able to join the local singing society. This I did and became a regular member of the class. I thank a native teacher for the rapid progress I made in pronunciation.

Then I married. The first eight years of our married life were spent on a farm. Here our three boys were born. We were busy people, but we tried to do our bit outside of home as well as in it. My husband, Clarence C. Lewis, served on the school board for several years and we both helped in the church and Sunday School at Nira.

In 1904 we came to Carlsbad where C.C. installed and ran an ice factory until 1908. This was a very busy period of our lives. We lost our youngest boy, Donald, but we still had two growing lads to think about and work for, and we had come to a new country. There were many problems to be faced. Here were open saloons, gambling rooms, and the usual attending evils. We have used our influence toward sobriety, culture, and righteous living. We have seen the town make a wonderful growth in all these lines. I have been almost a continuous member of the Woman's Club, since coming here, have served on the Library Board, and the Cemetery Association Board, also P.T.A.

In 1909 the First P.E.O. Chapter of New Mexico was formed at Carlsbad, Chapter A, New Mexico. Mrs. John Lewis, Pearl Elder, my youngest sister, and myself, were the only initiate members of P.E.O. in New Mexico.

When the World War finally claimed us and the Red Cross organization was set into action here, I was made chairman of the Eddy County Red Cross Chapter. I held this office until after the signing of the Armistice, when I asked to be relieved.

In 1919 C.C. again took up farming and sheep feeding and we moved out of town a few miles to be more conveniently located for this work. We retain our interest in the town organizations and while not as active as in former days, our interest has not abated.

We are Presbyterians, attended the Presbyterian Church at Alexis, IL after Father and Mother transferred their letters from the United Presbyterian Church to the Presbyterian church of that town. My letter with the others of the family was transferred to the Washington Presbyterian church when we moved there. It remained there until we came to Carlsbad, when it was again transferred, this time to the Presbyterian Church South, of Carlsbad. C.C. was a member of the 2nd United Presbyterian Church of Washington, Iowa, from boyhood until our removal to Carlsbad, when he transferred to the Presbyterian Church. The boys both joined when lads.

While living on the Iowa farm, we were interested in building and supporting a community church and Sunday School.

C.C. drew the plans for this church and he and Father Lewis put a lot of thought, enterprise and money into this project. In Carlsbad we found a church still under the Mission Board. We have seen it emerge from that state, to be self supporting now for many years.

C.C. was a member of the building committee when the time came to build the manse, also when the new addition was made to the church.

When the flu epidemic struck our community in 1918-1919, C.C. was chairman of the committee to look after the sufferers, both Mexican and white of the large country district south of town. This called for the installation of a temporary hospital to care for the Mexicans and the drafting of nurses to care for them. This was accomplished and he served as a night nurse in the local county hospital for several weeks.

Our town has been a resort for those afflicted with tuberculosis, and for many years every winter there was some lonely soul, sometimes two or three, who looked to him for cheer and help. He gave of himself willingly.

In politics, we are Republicans. In Iowa that was all right. While New Mexico as a state has usually been claimed by the Republicans, Eddy County is a very strong Democratic community, and being a Republican has meant practically oblivion. However, in the last few years, we have worked in county affairs with the Democratic ticket, there being no other in the field, but several candidates for each office on that ticket. We have voted for the best man, in our judgment.

Clarence Cameron Lewis was educated in the County country schools, Nira, Iowa, Washington Academy, graduated in 1891 in classical course, Ames, Iowa (Iowa State College) Dept. of Mechanical Engineering--Degree B.M.E. Member of Tau Beta Pi (Honorary Engineering Fraternity). Member of "Cyclones" first football team of Iowa State College. Was pioneer ice manufacturer of Carlsbad. Has been Member of School Board, Member of Commercial Club, Deacon in Presbyterian Church and Member of Choir.

We've both sung in various entertainments from Japanese operettas to minstrel shows, to help raise funds for various enterprises, from Women's Club Home to carpet for the Church, also for hospital benefits, etc., etc.

I've been president, I've kept minutes, I've handled the money, I've led the devotionals, I've kept the door and one year I even managed the choir, and another season had to be organist.

This is just to let you know that we've not been 'drones.'

Their two sons are:

I. Harvey Lytton Lewis, born March 6, 1897, near Nira, Washington County, Iowa, educated in Carlsbad public schools, New Mexico Military Institute, member of first troop of Boy Scouts, Carlsbad, NM. Volunteer in the World War, not accepted because of a physical deformity. Member of Troop B, 111th Cavalry, N.M.N.G. 56 Cavalry Brigade from 1920-1925. Is associated with his father in farming and sheep feeding near Carlsbad.

II. Clifford Elder Lewis, born August 30, 1898, near Nira, Washington County, Iowa, educated in Carlsbad public schools, graduated in

1917; Ames, Iowa; member of first troop of Boy Scouts organized in Carlsbad. Volunteer in the World War. Enlisted May 6, 1917, in Co. B, N.M.N.G. Sailed for France August 10, 1918. A sergeant in Co. B, 143rd Machine Gun Battalion. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in Infantry February 1, 1919, being a graduate from Infantry Candidate School at Camp de la Val bonne, France. Sailed from Brest, August 19, in charge of Le Mons Casual Co. 1834, the last single company coming out of Le Mons. Discharged at Ft. Bliss, Texas, September 15, 1919. Was associated with C.C. & H.L. in farming and sheep feeding from 1919 to 1923, married October 6, 1923, to Helen Leone Wright, daughter of Dr. C.H. and Mary Abel Wright, who was born March 5, 1901, at Carlsbad, educated in Carlsbad public schools and graduated at Ames, Iowa, 1918. Clifford Elder Lewis is now special agent for The Commercial Casualty Co. of Newark, NJ, with office in Los Angeles, California. They have one daughter:

1. Mary Patricia Lewis, born Nov. 18, 1926.

Donald Robb Lewis, youngest son of Mary Grace Elder and Clarence Cameron Lewis was born October 10, 1902, near Nira, Washington County, Iowa, and died March 10, 1905, at Carlsbad, NM where he was buried.

PEARL IRENE ELDER--was born December 30, 1877, at Alexis, IL, married July 14, 1903, at Nira, Washington County, Iowa to John William Lewis, who was born October 25, 1873, at Washington, Iowa. Mrs. Lewis says:

"When I was eight years of age, the family 'went West', crossing the Mississippi and locating in Washington, Iowa, a town with good educational advantages, the seat of the old college which father and mother attended before their marriage. Graduated from Washington High School in 1895 and from Washington Academy 1897, classical course. Taught in Washington County Schools three years, 1899 entered Knox College, Galesburg, IL, graduated 1903, A.B. degree. The years in Carlsbad, NM have been devoted to family and community interests. Have held responsible offices on school, library and hospital boards, in church societies, P.E.O. and Woman's Club. At present time serving on the State Council as chairman of Literature in the Fine Arts department.

We have clung to the 'faith of our fathers' and are Presbyterians. John William Lewis spent early years on farm in Washington County, Iowa, graduated Washington Academy, 1892, classical course, graduated Iowa State College, Ames, 1895, B.C.E. degree. Spent 1898 in Alaska and Klondyke. Joined the 20th U.S. Infantry Co I, 1899, and spent the following three years in the Philippine Islands during the Philippine War. Returned to U.S. 1902, and was discharged from the Army at Ft. Sheridan, IL in April. In 1907-8 served as assistant state engineer, since then as irrigation engineer for numerous private projects. In 1926 he did committee work for the Carlsbad project in Washington, DC for two months. In 1926 was elected county surveyor for Eddy County.

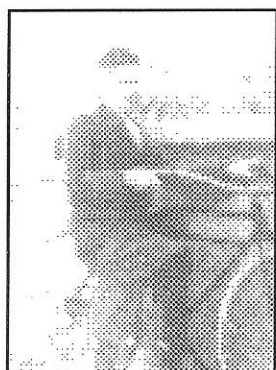
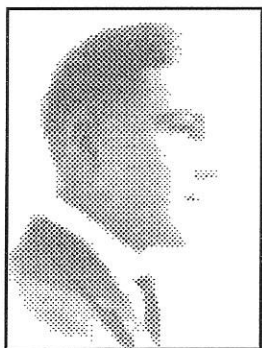
For several years we have had farming interest under the local project of the U.S.R.S. having cleared our land and helped to make the 'desert' to bloom as the rose."

Their three sons are:

I. John William Lewis, Jr., born May 27, 1905 at Carlsbad, NM, was a Boy Scout, graduated Carlsbad High School, 1922, student Civil Engineering Dept. New Mexico College, A & M 1922-1926. Member R.O.T.C. Married August 26, 1926, at El Paso, Texas, to Vera Dickerson, of Las Cruces, NM who was born August 7, 1907, at Wentunka, OK.

II. Arthur Harry Lewis, born January 31, 1911, at Carlsbad, NM, is an Eagle Scout and De Molay, Carlsbad High School class of 1928.

III. James Porter Lewis, born December 10, 1915, at Carlsbad, NM. Student Carlsbad Junior High School, member of "Children of American Revolution" Society.



Above, John W. Lewis and wife Pearl Elder Lewis. Center, left to right, John W. Lewis, Jr., and wife Vera Dickerson Lewis and Arthur Harry Lewis, second son of Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Lewis, Sr. Left, botton, James Porter Lewis, third son of the family. Top two pictures taken probably 1900; other pictures 1926 and 1927.

PART VII

ABRAHAM ALONZO ELDER

This uncle we called "Uncle Lon." Uncle Lon was the handsomest of the Elder boys. He had clean cut features, a frank, open, smiling countenance. I remember him though during just a brief period. That was when he and my father ran a store at Gerlaw, IL. Brother Arthur and I were youngsters, could not have been beyond six and eight years of age. Gerlaw was a little station between Monmouth and Alexis, IL. The little station in those days was of more importance than it is now. Monmouth was some six to eight miles distant, I think, and it was almost a day's journey from Gerlaw to Monmouth and back.

Transportation was principally in lumber wagons.

There was a train or two each way through Gerlaw daily, on a branch of the C.B. & Q.R.R. The event of the day was the arrival and the passing of the trains. And of course, "goods used to come in on the train." We watched the train to see if the "goods" came, and



Abraham Alonso Elder
1838-1896



Sarah Ellen Hogue
Wife of Abraham Alonzo Elder

we watched Uncle Lon and father open them up. If we got in the way, Uncle Lon would "make eyes" at us. The "eyes" didn't frighten me. I saw clear through them down into the sympathetic depths, but

brother Arthur couldn't understand those eyes, and when Uncle Lon made eyes at him, he would run.

There was another event of weekly importance in Gerlaw. That was the arrival of "Dart's Man." "Dart's Man" was the Henry Darts Wholesale Grocery salesman. He was a story teller; he had a loud laugh; everything took on a brilliant color while "Dart's Man" was in town. He made Uncle Lon and father laugh a whole lot.

Aunt Sally was Uncle Lon's wife. We were a nuisance to Aunt Sally sometimes, I think. There was a whole house full of children at our home; there were four lively children in her home, and when we all got together we got on Aunt Sally's nerves sometimes. But she was kind to us; she loved us, even if it did become necessary for her to protect her property against us frequently. Uncle Lon's oldest child was Carson. He was our hero. He was older, began taking on mannish ways when we were yet kids, and we held him in great respect, and in awe. Cousin Margaret, we called her Maggie, was a pretty girl. I remember that I thought she was very beautiful; such pretty skin, such snappy eyes, such a charming smile. My remembrance of her sees her smiling, only. Cousin Annie, the third child, was a "Tom Boy." No boy in the herd could out do her. She was one of the party, whatever that party might happen to decide to do. But our intimate acquaintance with Uncle Lon, Aunt Sally and the children covered but a few months; we moved away, fifty or sixty miles at first and then later we were at Alexis, only a few miles away, but we rarely saw each other. A few miles were considerable of a barrier in those days.

I was living at Uncle Will's in the country out from Alexis when "Bertie" the youngest child of Uncle Lon and Aunt Sally died; and I remember that when the word came to Uncle Will's home that Bertie was dead, I suffered strange emotions.

The last time I remember of seeing Uncle Lon was when he visited at Uncle Will's on the old farm. He came around the corner of the house and some little girl (who was she?) ran and jumped into his arms. Later I heard them all singing:

"I've a peanut in my pocket, Emiline, Emiline,
Jerk the kernel from its socket, in due time, in due time."

Abraham Alonzo Elder was born in Ohio, June 27, 1838. He was married December 8, 1859, to Sarah Ellen Hogue, and died December 31, 1895, at Albany, Missouri. Aunt Sarah died June 15, 1910, at Albany, MO. There were four children:

William Carson Elder

Margaret I. Elder--McConnell.

Anna Lee Elder--Kendall.

Albert A. Elder, born April 14, 1873, died February 10, 1880.

WILLIAM CARSON ELDER--was born December 18, 1860, near Alexis, IL, married April 25, 1888, at Albany, MO, to Lola Clarice Twist, who was born March 24, 1866, in Licking County, Ohio. William Carson Elder was graduated in the 8th grade at a country school near Gerlaw, IL, clerked in father's store and played baseball and finally took up telegraphy, went to Farmington with Cousin M.P. Elder, agent at that place, in the fall of 1878 and finished course during the winter, commenced working extra for the Rockford-Rock



*Lola Clarice Twist
Wife of William Carson Elder*



*William Carson Elder
Albany, Missouri, Fifty
years with the C.B. & O.
Railway*



*Harry T. Elder
Son of William Carson
and Lola Elder.
Harry died in camp at
Gettysburg*

Island and St. Louis R.R. in the spring of 1879 which developed into the C.B. & Q.R.R. and has been with this company continuously

for 48 years. Alsey, IL was first regular station, was transferred to Gerlaw, IL, his home town, June 6, 1880, thence to Mt. Ayr, Iowa, August 27, 1882; thence Humeston, Iowa, June 20, 1883; thence to Ridgeway, MO January 8, 1884, and to Albany, MO January 12, 1886. Was twice elected to the City Council, served four years as Chairman Electric Light and Water Works committee.

Lola Clarice Twist moved from Ohio to Missouri with her parents while she was in infancy, located at Albany where she attended public school up to the Sophomore year, held the position of Assistant Postmaster with Postmaster A.C. Case, later clerked in Tipton & Robison dry goods store.

They had the following children:

I. Frank Cleo Elder, born March 10, 1889, died June 3, 1892.

II. Frederick A. Elder, born January 16, 1891, telegraph operator on Burlington Route--York, Nebraska.

III. Harry T. Elder, born February 10, 1893, married Helen Margaret O'Brien of Seattle, WA, died in camp at Gettysburg, PA in October 1918. Had enlisted in tank service at Seattle, WA, their home, and is buried there.

IV. Morris D. Elder, born November 1, 1894, telegraph operator at Albany, MO.

V. Paul S. Elder, born February 1, 1897, deputy internal revenue collector, St. Joseph, MO.

VI. Clarice May Elder, born January 24, 1900, teacher in school at Big Pine, California.

VII. Margaret Frances Elder, born June 30, 1903, teacher in schools at Big Pine, California.

VIII. Alice Kathryn Elder, born December 1, 1907, housekeeper for her two big sisters at Big Pine, California.

MARGARET I. ELDER--born August 27, 1863, at Spring Grove, IL, married October 23, 1884, at Tingley, Iowa, to Clark McConnell, who was born October 6, 1858, at Spring Grove, IL. They reside at Fairfax, MO. They have eight children:

I. William Carson McConnell, born February 13, 1886, at Tingley, Iowa, married Louise Moore of Omaha, NE. He is a public accountant and lives in Denver, CO. They have one daughter:

1. Margaret Jean.

II. Elvin Lewis McConnell, born January 21, 1888 at Tingley, Iowa, married Verna Ross of Mound City, MO. He is a farmer and stock man living near Mound City, MO. They have three sons:

1. *Robert*

2. *James*

3. *Jackie*

III. James Clarkson McConnell, born September 23, 1889, at Tingley, Iowa, married Lena Oldfield of Braymer, MO. He is a farmer and stock man living near Fairfax, MO. They have two children:

1. *Kathleen*

2. *James*

IV. Charles Grimes McConnell, born July 18, 1891, at Tingley, Iowa, married Lillian Carter. He is a farmer and stock man living near Fairfax, MO. They have one son:

1. *Charles Grimes, Jr.*

V. Anna Lillian McConnell, born June 27, 1893, at Tingley, Iowa, married Lester Nauman, a farmer at Craig, MO. Their three children are:

1. *Margaret Alice*

2. *Clark J.*

3. *Barbara Lee.*

VI. John Arthur McConnell, born April 18, 1896, at Tarkio, MO, is a farmer living at home at Fairfax, MO.

VII. Marguerite Isabel McConnell, born April 8, 1898, at Tarkio, MO is secretary to Dr. O.A. Hunter, Fairfax, MO.

VIII. Mary Helen McConnell, born December 21, 1900, at Tarkio, MO, married Wm. Sly, a farmer of Fairfax, MO. They have one daughter:

1. *Beverly Jean.*

ANNA LEE ELDER--was born November 24, 1865, was married October 14, 1886, at Tingley, Iowa, to Wm. H. Kendall and died January 19, 1917. They had two sons:

I. Glen G. Kendall, who is in drug store in Kiowa, CO.

II. Wm. Lee Kendall, who is in the insurance business at Omaha, NE.

PART VIII

JAMES ELDER

And this is the story of the youngest son of David and Isabella Elder, a very brief story for I never saw Uncle "James"; never heard very much about him. He went away to war and never came back. That in itself is a story that needs few words. It tells itself. As a young man, probably about twenty-one years of age, Uncle James enlisted in the Civil War and saw active service from the very start.



James Elder

Born 1840, died Dec 31, 1862 while in active service in the Civil War. He was shot in the advance movement of his battalion near Murfreesboro, Tenn.

I sometimes wonder why we didn't hear more about Uncle James. Maybe the older folks talked about him among themselves more. At any rate, to me and so far as I know to most of the other nieces

and nephews, Uncle James was just the much loved, youngest son of "grandpa and grandma" who died "in the army."

Yes, there was one who spoke about Uncle James to me, too. That was Aunt "Jennie." On several different occasions, she told me about "her dream." Probably I was talking to her about dreams, and fortune telling, and mental telepathy. Aunt Jennie had a dream, during the war. For three nights in succession, she had the same dream, Uncle James who was then far away in the Southland under arms, appeared to Aunt Jennie in her troubled sleep, turned back his collar and showed her a ghastly wound. That dream disturbed Aunt Jennie and in a few days there came the word that Uncle James had been killed in action near Murfreesboro.

And then, too, there was another time when Uncle James was mentioned in awesome tones. That was after grandpa Elder had died. Grandpa lived to a fine old age. He was in his eighty-eighth year when he died. His sight had failed, his hearing was somewhat impaired. He walked unsteadily, with a cane. He remembered things of the present with difficulty. But grandpa never forgot his youngest boy, "Jimmy," and just as the curtain of this life dropped for grandpa, he murmured: "Mother! Jimmy!" and he was gone. They met him at the brink of the river and bore him company as he was ferried across to the new, strange land. They had prepared a place for him.

So that is about all that we can say about Uncle James. Few, if any, of his nieces and nephews ever saw him. He was gone before they came. He had turned away from fields, from the plow and the harrow, and he had shouldered a gun and marched away; away from home, from father and mother, from brothers and sisters; off to the battle fields of the South; off to help free the slaves; off to help save the Union. His physical body perished in the attempt, but his "soul went marching on" and the end was victory for the cause to which he gave himself.

We have just one message from Uncle James. It is one of his letters from the battle field. The letter carries the date of March the 12th, but he left the year off. It was probably written in 1862, sixty-five years ago, at this writing. The writing is faded; it is hard to decipher; it may be possible that the transcript here given will be in error slightly from the original, but it is a direct message from Uncle James, written by his own hand. The stationery used was "soldier's stationery." The sheet has a picture in red in the upper left hand corner showing a soldier sleeping on a battlefield, his arms at his side. Above him is the imaginary representation of "his dream." That dream is of his home, and a reunion with his loved ones. The printed caption to this is:

"The Soldier's Dream of Home"

*"At the dead of the night a sweet vision I saw,
And thrice e'er the morning I dreamt it again,*

*But sorrow return'd with the dawning of morn,
And the voice in my dreaming ear melted away."*

The following is the letter:

"Camped near the Battlefield, March the 12

Father and all the rest:--

I thot I would write you another letter. I wrote you one that went yesterday morning but it is so uncertain about a letter going I thot I would write you again. Well father there have been three days hard fighting at this place, yet I with the company and regiment got along fine. There was only 8 killed in the regiment and 20 or 30 wounded, one killed and two wounded in this company. This regiment supported General Siegel's batteries. They did great work. They did the work on the rebels. They call him the flying Dutchman. Well old Custer is the Commander of the forces, but I don't like him near as well as Siegel. Company B had the first day between 20 and 30 prisoners taken. None that you know except Thomas Donnell and Than McCutcheon. Well I can not give you a description of the fight. When I see you if ever I do I can tell you all about it so that it will be interesting I think. I would say that our division fought the enemy on their right. Well I have done what I don't want to do again. That is, to march over dead bodies, but we were after our enemy. They were running and we had to follow them. We have taken about 1800 prisoners. I don't know how many we have lost, not a great many, compared with theirs. Well we move in the morning. I don't know where we will go. We are bound to whip old Price and his followers. They say that he is at the Boston Mountains about 50 miles from here. I suppose we will follow them and then in a few days to Fort Smith. Well Price had some 1300 Indians with them. We fought them on Friday; the second day the Indians ran as soon as the grape and shell came amongst them, and the artillery did most of the fighting, yet some of the infantry regiments got cut up pretty badly. Oh, I wish I could write you a full account of the battle but I can't for want of time, as it is getting dark and I will have to quit. Well we have lighted a candle and I will write some more if I can think of anything to write. Well I got a letter from Lon and one from you the day after the fighting. I was glad to hear from you all but it was almost a month old, yet new to me. I have written a letter almost every week since I left Springfield. But I know that they didn't all get to you, especially those written the last of February for they detoured our mail for about three weeks but the road is clear now. Well orders have just come for us to be ready to march at seven in the morning and I would rather march than to stay in camp, for it looks like doing something for our country and winning of the war and that will be done inside of three months, I think."

No doubt grandpa, grandma, the brothers and sisters received several letters from Uncle James while he was in the service, but this is the only one that has been saved, so far as we know. Just how it came into my hands I don't know, but I am of the opinion that it was given to me by my father, who had inherited it from grandpa Elder as a much prized remembrance of "Jimmy." With that letter I inherited another. It is the letter that conveyed to grandpa and grandma Elder, and the brothers and sisters the news of the death of Uncle James, written by the captain of the company in which Uncle James served. This is the letter:

"Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn.

January 17th, 1863

Mr. David Elder:

Dear Sir:

It becomes my painful duty to announce to you the death of your son James. You will doubtless ere this have heard of his death, thru the public prints, and I will not particularize more than to say that he was killed on the morning of the 31st of December '62, in the terrific fight in which our regiment was engaged that day. He was shot early in the engagement and lived but a few moments. We were so closely pressed by our enemies that we were obliged to leave the field, leaving our dead and wounded in their possession and it was two or three days before we retook the ground. As soon as this was done details were made to bury our dead. Being the only officer then with the company I could not go myself to assist, but some of our best men were sent--and our thirty-six dead were all buried with all the tenderness and care that could under the circumstances be given.

James had four months pay due him at the time of his death. Also one hundred dollars bounty. Statements of his accounts with Government have been forwarded to Washington City and any attorney can tell you how to proceed better than I can. His clothing and personal effects were lost on the field.

I cannot close without bearing testimony with regard to James as a soldier and a man beloved by his tentmates, esteemed by his Co. Commander, and respected by the whole Company.

His loss is deeply felt here and in closing I would desire to extend my sympathies to you his bereaved parents--expressing the hope that our loss is HIS eternal gain.

Respectfully yours,

Jno. M. Turnbull

P.S. Anything that I have omitted I will gladly state to you upon inquiry by letter."

I have referred to the writer of the above letter as Captain, and yet I am not sure whether he was a captain, or not. There was a captain William Turnbull who was in command of a company at Ft. Donaldson--the company to which my father belonged, Co. B the 83rd IL. Captain William Turnbull and the Elders were very intimate and my father told me that he had been a very frequent companion of his captain in reconnoitering expeditions in the vicinity of Ft. Donaldson.

There came a morning when Captain Turnbull with a few men rode out from Ft. Donaldson on a short expedition prompted by the word that there were signs of the enemy about. Father happened to be on guard duty, or was occupied in some such capacity, and on this occasion did not accompany the captain. Captain Turnbull and his squad of men were ambushed by the enemy and refusing to surrender were all killed, as I remember the story. It was while on duty at

Ft. Donaldson later that father, himself fell into the hands of the confederates on one occasion, but he was exchanged in a short while and never saw the inside of a Confederate prison.

The letter from John M. Turnbull above copied explains that Uncle James Elder was buried on the battle field. We had always understood that some forty of the soldiers had all been buried in one long grave. The above seems to confirm that story. At any rate, somewhere in the vicinity of Murfreesboro, is the grave of Uncle James and the other comrades who fell in that battle. It was destined that grandpa and grandma Elder were not to escape the tragic contribution of a son's life to the Union cause. I remember hearing some one state, too, that grandpa Elder was in Monmouth when the news of Lee's surrender reached that city, and it was he who carried that news from house to house all the way out from Monmouth to the Elder homestead some twelve to fifteen miles north.

MORE ABOUT OUR ANCESTRY

Just recently Ruth Elder, of Anniston, Alabama, coming into prominence as a cross sea aviator invited the attention of the public to the name in an unusual way. Noticing that Ruth's father's initials were the same as my own: "J.O." I dropped a note to him making inquiry about his family. He referred me to Mr. John Howard Elder, of Decatur, GA, as one who was better informed about Elder ancestry, and from Mr. J.H. Elder I received a letter which would connect our family with three Elder brothers who came to the colonies in 1655. The following are the parts of the letter which bear upon that point:

*"Decatur, GA
November 29, 1927*

*Mr. Orville Elder
My dear Sir:*

Yours of Oct 31 would have had my attention before now but for the condition of my eyes--in 1911--I had an unfortunate fall that made an invalid of me--for seven years. I hope to dispel your seeming doubt as to the Elder family in the United States--descending from three brothers. In 1655--1, Daniel Elder--2, David--3, John Elder found themselves in London, Eng. orphans. After discussing their situation with the gloomy prospect for a career in England, they determined to go to the American Colonies. They had a friend, a ship captain, trading with the Colonies. They consulted him, and he advised them to go to the Colonies, as they would have better prospects, than in England, for success. They then informed him they had so many "lbs. and shillings," which proved one fare short, but he advised them that he would carry them over on his next trip, provided they would pay him as soon as they could make it after arrival, which they, or rather John Elder did.

They were landed at Norfolk, VA 1656. The Captain went to see a merchant for whom he had brought over goods, etc. In their conversation the merchant informed the Captain that he was in need of a clerk, the Captain informed him that he had brought over three fine young men, recommending them highly, that he would bring them to his place of business the next morning, which he did. The merchant selected John, who afterwards married his daughter, succeeded his father-in-law at his death and made a fine success. I am descended from John.

Daniel and David went with the Captain until they arrived at Annapolis, MD, Anne Arundel Co., where they bid their benefactor farewell. They settled there. After one year, Daniel left, went to Pennsylvania, where he remained one year, going from there to New York, afterwards to Connecticut, then to Dorchester, MA, where he settled in 1667.

David Elder, after residing a number of years in Maryland, moved to Pennsylvania, not far from Harrisburg. So, you see, you are descended from David.

When in Philadelphia and New York, I made it convenient to go see your relatives. David D. Elder, Philadelphia, was a fine man, as well as all the rest, upholding the traditions of the family for honor, integrity, etc., etc. David was in business on Chestnut St. Elder & Bentley.

John Elder's descendants are scattered all over the U.S.

My great, great, great Grandfather was John Elder of Virginia, married Mary Matthews, the daughter of Dan Ephriam Matthews and granddaughter of George Matthews, Staunton, Augusta County. They had seven sons: 1 George--2 Ephriam--3 Joshua--4-----5 David--6 William--and 7 John--and one daughter. Of these sons, Ephriam and David were Revolutionary soldiers, serving in the Virginia line, others in the Continental Army. For service of Ephriam and David Elder, see Roster Virginia Revolutionary Soldiers, Page 152--George, Roster Page 397--404 and 460. They served in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Hence, their names appear on roster of each state.

I am descended from David Elder, who married Mollie Reade of Brunswick Co, came to Georgia in 1807, died 1853, age 93. His oldest son, Edmund Elder, was my grandfather. He married Nancy Hall Tigner, Clark Co., Georgia. My father Phillip Tigner Elder was their oldest son, born 1812, died 1853. He married Taliitha Anna Bassett. I am their youngest son, now in my 78th year.

Rev. Wyche Elder, son of David, and brother, Edmund Elder, my grandfather, moved from Clark County, GA to Roanoke, AL in 1835. He is the great grandfather of Ruth Elder. Her grandfather was Edmund Elder, father, James O. Elder, Anniston, AL.

*I have met all of James O's family except Ruth. They are fine people. She has one uncle in Texas: one Wm. D., Cleveland, Ohio; one Jesse, Anniston, AL; one John Tillman Elder, Atlanta, GA, one of the largest wholesale and brokerages houses in the city. * * * **

Have you coat of arms of Elder family?

Hon. Robert H. Elder of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, a descendant of John Elder, who moved from Virginia to Kentucky, writes me that one of Daniel Elder's descendants resides in that city, but did not give his name.

John Elder, who went from England to San Francisco, CA in 1848, is the only Elder I have been able to locate that is not descended from the three brothers, Daniel, David and John.

*With highest regards,
Very truly yours,
John Howard Elder
Decatur, Georgia
No. 305 Morgan St.
E. Lake*

ADDENDA

A TRIBUTE TO HER PARENTS

BY MRS. ELECTA BUSKIRK

William Campbell:--All Campbells are of the Scotch race. Their characteristics are: Religion, Bravery, Humor. It was a sorrow to my grandfather that my father, William Campbell, refused to take up theology, preferring the commercial life, in which he was prosperous. When the children were small he always held morning worship, and always asked a blessing over the food at the table.

The Campbell clan can be traced back to "Arthur of the Round Table." One of his children asked William to talk about the "Argyles of Locknow." In his terse and forceful way father said: "What good would it do you today? The knowledge would not buy your child a dress, or pay for the one it wears." On occasions my father demonstrated the saying of his friends that "he was not afraid of man or devil," but kindness of heart was his strongest attribute.

Rebecca Elder Campbell:--Was married young to my father William Campbell. They lived very happily in their home in Kenton, Ohio, for many years. Their greatest achievement was raising seven children, training and giving each a college education, each child living to pass his fiftieth birthday. My mother, Rebecca, was frail, with little strength to give to society. She devoted her time to her children, to church and to charity. In her sweet modesty, and in her gentle ways, she will live in the hearts of many who felt her kindness, her love and her sympathy.

As a daughter stood weeping by her casket, a little girl five years old came in from the street. She stood looking for a short while and then said: "Are you sorry that Mrs. Campbell has gone to heaven? I am, too, but just think how glad the angels will be to see her coming." The child was a little comforter. Rebecca Elder Campbell was:

*"A perfect woman, nobly planned
To warn, to comfort and command
And yet a spirit still, and bright,
With something of an angel light."*

CLARA JOYCE ELDER AND ALICE ELDER

Alice Eighme writes as follows:

CLARA JOYCE (TEENA) ELDER EIGHME:--Mother, Clara Joyce, was born near Alexis and moved to Tingley in 1892. She went to school in and near Alexis. They moved to Tingley three months before her high school class graduated, so she didn't graduate. She learned the milliner trade and trimmed in Tingley, Essex and Kellerton for five years. Then she clerked at Heyers' General Store in Tingley for about five years.

On December 4, 1905 she was married to Lucius Franklin Eighme. He had lived in and near Mount Ayr, Iowa, since a very small child. They went to live at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Eighme, on a farm south of Tingley. There they lived until 1909 when they moved to a farm of their own. I was born while they lived at Grandfather Eighme's and was a little over two years old when they moved. This moving was my first memory. When they were all fixed up, I was taken to the new home. I remember a corner by the cupboard that had my high chair and toys, doll, wooly lamb and blocks.

Here we lived for five years. Franklin and Rex were born here and I started to school. Then Grandfather Eighme died and father and his sister held the old home farm in partnership. We lived here until 1918 and with the war boom sold out and moved North of Tingley. This is where we now live.

In 1920, August, the Eighme family and the Templeton family went on a three weeks trip to the Rockies. We visited Uncle Archie's in Colorado and Cousin Bert Lawhead in Wyoming. We came home from this trip two days before I started to high school, at Shannon City. After the customary honors and happenings I graduated in 1924. Then in September, 1924, I went to Tarkio to college. This same year Franklin started to high school in Tingley. I was in Tarkio two years. Then on account of mother's poor health, I stayed out of school one year and tried my hand at housekeeping. Last summer I went to Iowa University and am this winter teaching (as I probably shall be for the next sixty years) the fifth and sixth grades in Tingley.

Franklin will graduate from high school this May. (He's quite tickled that he's had his last examinations.)

Rex started to High School this year. Lucius is in the seventh grade.

This is as far as it goes. Wouldn't you like to turn over to the back of the book and see how it ends?

ALICE ELDER TEMPLETON--Now, for Aunt Alice. When the family moved to Tingley she was a small child. In September, 1895 she started to Tingley high school. She graduated from the three-year-one-teacher high school in 1898. She clerked in Beaconsfield and Mount Ayr a little while and then in Slentz's general store in Tingley until her marriage in 1913. For several months she was

out when her mother was very ill and at the time of her death. After her mother's death in 1912 she boarded at Slentz's until she was married.

On June 4, 1913, Alice Elder was married to James Tussey Templeton, a farmer from north of Tingley. He was born and lived until a young man in Sinking Valley, Pennsylvania. They went to live at the home of the Templeton's, Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Templeton. Mr. Templeton died shortly after the marriage and Mrs. Templeton went back to Pennsylvania.

On November 10, 1924, Frances Anna Templeton was born. Mrs. Templeton came home shortly after this.

On April 9, 1916, Dorothea Electa Templeton was born.

In November, 1916, Aunt Alice, Uncle Jim and the two little girls went to Pennsylvania to Uncle Jim's grandmother's 89th birthday. (She died that year not long before her 90th one.)

On November 17, 1919, on his great grandmother's birthday James Elder Templeton was born. His grandmother (Uncle Jim's mother) died in April before this.

They lived on their farm north of Tingley where December 13, 1921, James Tussey Templeton died after a few days of pneumonia. The last of December, 1921, Aunt Alice and the three small children moved to Shannon City and I stayed with them (except for a few days at a time) until I graduated from high school in 1924.

Frances Anna and Dorothea started school together in September, 1921. They went a few months to the country school and the rest of the time to Shannon City. They are now in seventh grade.

James Elder (or Jimmie) started to school in September, 1925.



*Minta Lawhead Kirkpatrick, daughter
of David Elder Lawhead, and her son,
Robert Lawhead Kirkpatrick*



*Robert (Rex) O. Lawhead
Son of David Elder Lawhead*



*Edward H. Kirkpatrick
Husband and father of above*

WHO ARE OUR RELATIVES?

As one checks through the various reports that have supplied the data for the preceding pages of this book he is more than ever impressed by that fact that was referred to at the beginning of the book: the wide "nomenclaturage" of our family connections. No longer are the Elders all *Elders*; they have become *Campbells, Lawheads, Kirkpatrick, Buskirks, Browns, Reddings, Eighmes, Vickers, Widneys, Templetons, Kauthlehnners, Lewises, Palmers, Askrens, Sarginsons, Buchanans, Wallaces, Groves, McConnells, Sparks, Berkeleys, Duncans, Moyes, Simonds, Eddys, Marrs, Petersons, Etc., Etc., Etc.*--and the end is not yet.

Is it any wonder that we don't know our relatives when we see them? Is it not evident to all of us that a neighbor with a strange name, may, when he is tapped, show a stream of Elder blood in him! So, whenever you meet a fine, upstanding man or woman who is religious, gentle, dignified, spiritual, honorable, capable, home-loving, country-loving, God-loving don't fear to claim him as a relative. Anyway, that's the kind of stock we came from. Whether we honor it or not, we alone can answer. It certainly honors us. If people are justified in being proud of quality ancestry, we have reason to be proud, for our grandparents and their sons and daughters were good quality folks; sturdy Christian characters; home builders and home and country protectors.

It does not seem so long ago, either, since they were here--those uncles and aunts of ours; uncle John, uncle Will, uncle Lou, uncle Clark, aunt Maggie, aunt Becky, uncle Campbell, uncle Robert, aunt Jennie, aunt Samantha, aunt Sally, aunt Elnora. But, that generation has gone, just as the generation preceding it sank back into the shadows of the past. We know so little about the brothers and sisters of David and Isabella Elder, so little about their parents. It is to be hoped that from this time on, we may be better historians, that some one will carry on from the foundation which we have sought to establish in this little record. It will not be very long now until the present senior generation of Elders will begin to hurry home in ever increasing numbers. We will be remembered as other "uncles and aunts" who came and went. Most of us will admit that it has been very nice to be here awhile and all the nicer because we have been children and grandchildren of David and Isabella Elder.

* * *

In reading the brief life stories of various of our cousins in this work, too, one cannot fail to be impressed by the numerous evidences that the sons and daughters of the sons and daughters of David and Isabella Elder are registering in as "good and faithful servants," in this work field of the world.

"True to the faith of my fathers" is an expression used frequently. "Shot down in service," almost fatally, is the record of one of the Askren judges. Interested in "Child Welfare;" active in "Red Cross" work. Spanish war soldiers, World war soldiers, physicians, surgeons, city officers, county officers, ministers of the Gospel, farmers, civil service employees, merchants, travellers, good citizens one and all, ready to pay the price that is demanded to preserve our blessed institutions, to make the world a better place to live in.

* * * * *

In the sketch of my own life, in Part VI, I mentioned that I am still connected with the Evening Journal, Washington, Iowa. I purchased the plant in 1900 and have been here ever since. The publishing of a daily paper in a town no larger than Washington, Iowa (about 5000) is a job for a "Jack of all Trades" in the publishing line. One must do a little of everything that is done in a newspaper plant. I have been busy, very busy, and that is one of the reasons why this book has been slow in arriving. Then, too, the opportunities came for me to take some extended trips and I took them.

But, the persual of the stories of other lives in our little history has made me feel that as a matter of self defense I ought to admit that the Journal, while a small paper, in a restricted territory, with a clientele that numbers only a few thousand, has had its ideals, still has them. They have been unpopular to the local public at times.

We have stood for what we believed to be right and needful for the community at times when it became unpleasant to expose ourselves within verbal range of a liberal proportion of our citizenship. That is all a part of the game. But, this matter was brought up here, just to furnish an excuse for publishing a letter which came to our hands just a few days ago. It is a letter which will assure "grandpa" and "grandma" Elder, and their children, that our little evening paper has been made the victim, to a certain extent at least, of those principles and ideals which were ever such a conspicuous part of the teachings and the example of our parents and our grandparents:--

The Letter

Washington, Iowa
Jan. 11, 1928

Elder, Shannon & Co.
Washington, Iowa
Mr. J. O. Elder.
Dear Sir:--

At a recent meeting of the Official Board of our church that body was discussing matters pertaining to the church welfare and the discussion involved remarks about the editorials that appear in your paper from time to time on the moral and religious situation in our community and also the fine spirit which you take in these matters and how fine it is that we have an editor who will come out in his editorial columns and express himself on these subjects as you do. As a result of this discussion it was thought worthy of mention so, in accordance with the wishes of the board, I am writing you this letter to convey to you the feeling of the entire board in these matter and to assure you that we are behind you 100%.

Yours very truly,
Official Board M.E. Church
By C. W. Davis, Secretary

* * * * *

There are probably some errors in dates and names at various places in this book, and it would be well for those who discover such mistakes to make notations in their books, so that others may not be misled. Much of the copy came to the printer in "long hand" and "long hands" vary in style and legibility, so don't scold so very fluently if there are a few mistakes.

One mistake we have noticed already. An effort will be made to insert correction lines on the pages involved, however.

Also, the first work on this little book was done about four years ago. The reports began coming in all of three and a half years ago, and they are not all in yet--but, we have gone ahead all the same and are leaving a few blank pages in the back of the book where those who are interested may make additional notations and insert pictures if they wish.

In the three and a half years no doubt there have been some changes which will impair the accuracy of the record as a present day reference work, but that was inevitable, and not of such great consequence, for no difference when the book might be issued it could not prevent the change of scenery.

We have in mind at this time one particular instance in which the scenery was changed rather rapidly. One of the first reports that we received was that Ava Margaret Wallace, daughter of Lois Lawhead Wallace Buchanan. Ava gave us a full report of herself, up-to-date, and then a few weeks after there came a hurried message from her to change her name. She taken unto herself a husband. The change was made in accordance with her wish, and then--well a year or so after, another special delivery message came from her to state in the report that a little son "Ira Norris" Groves had arrived to brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Groves, Kansas City, MO.

Important notice! It is too late to change any more scenery!

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THE WALLACE LINE

Lawrence C. McClure, a member of the Wallace family, whose home was in Artesia, California, wrote a genealogy of the family covering the period of 1690 to 1964 -- four generations in Ireland and six in America. This genealogy may be found in many libraries, including the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Lee Allen Wallace of Seal Beach, California, continued the work, following in detail the family of Robert Brown Wallace. Much of the material here is from the work compiled by Lee Wallace.

The Wallace ancestry reaches back through a clearly defined line to the Cromwell era when a "Wallace" came from Scotland, as a soldier of Orange to North Ireland, fighting in the Battle of Boyne (July 1690) and received a grant of land in Gramshawdown, Ireland. (Gramshaw is defined as a townland of about 1292 acres in the central part of the County Down.) In 1742, a stone farm house was built on this property. So far back as there were records, or traditions, the Wallace family lived on this farm.

WILLIAM WALLACE was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1720; and died there in 1816. At one time he resided in the above mentioned stone cottage. From his will, made in 1810, it was learned that his wife was AGNES SHAW, and that they had nine children: James, Mary, Elizabeth, Margaret, William, John, DAVID, Samuel, and Nancy. The four youngest children came to America, and settled southwest of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in the Robinson Run Region.

DAVID WALLACE (1771-1843) was born in Ireland. About 1800, he settled in Belmont County, Ohio. His first wife was Margaret Carson. They were married about 1798, and had six children -- Mary, William, John, David, Nancy and Eliza. This wife died in 1807. David married second JANE ALEXANDER, on March 21, 1811. They had five children: Thomas, Margaret, Samuel, James Hastings and ROBERT BROWN. David was an elder in the Reformed Presbyterian Church in St. Clairsville for many years, and served as Justice of Peace for thirty years. Land was plentiful and he was able to help his children secure a start in farming. David died December 10, 1843, and was buried in Fairview Churchyard Cemetery, Belmont County, Ohio.

ROBERT BROWN WALLACE (1821-1889) was born in Ohio. He married JANE NORRIS (1825-1911) on August 25, 1844, at New Concord, Ohio. She was born in Guernsey County, Ohio. In 1850, the census of Adams Township, Ohio, listed him as a farmer. They had nine children: Samuel Thomas, Joseph Norris, David, James Duncan, Francis, Mary Cecelia and Julia Doretta (twins), Elizabeth and JOHN NORRIS. Robert had a long illness which kept him hospitalized and/or separated from his family for many years. He died in Benton, Iowa, in 1889, and was buried in the Marshalltown Cemetery, Ringold County, Iowa. Jane died March 16, 1911, at Columbus, Ohio, of lobar pneumonia.

JOHN NORRIS WALLACE (1861-1900). See page 5.