Volume 3, Number 1

January, 1989



January, 1989

Volume 3, Number 1

In Those Days

Two good sources of information for genealogists hunting personal history on family members are obituaries and county histories. They come in handy because they were written by people with first-hand knowledge of persons, places and events. They are not always accurate, however, and should always be compared with other sources of information. Obituaries or funeral notices are often quite handy because they also list relatives who are living at the time and where, which can be invaluable for anyone trying to trace down missing family members.

If anyone has obituaries or similar items for Lytle Plantation descendants, I would be interested in getting a copy!

Here's what's in this issue:

- Obituary of Francis (Frank) Lytle Jr. (1794-1880), Shenendoah, Iowa.
- And, for his children:
- Obituary for Thomas (1824-1909), Marsland, Nebraska
- Fremont County, Iowa, History for James
- Obituary for James (1818-1904), Hamburg, Iowa
- Fremont County, Iowa, History for Winnie's husband, Samuel Edgerton
- Obituary for Luke (1839-1930), Lewiston, Nebraska
- Clarke County, Iowa, History for Sarah's husband, Reuben Huff
- Obituary for Sarah (1834-1911), Spalding, Nebraska
- Letter concerning the death of Henry Lytle (1844-1911), Sundance, Wyoming
- Obituary for Demerious (1849-1939), Rock Port, Missouri

Volume 3, Number 1

January, 1989

OBITUARY OF FRANCIS LYTLE

LYTLE - At the Lytle House, in this city, on the 29th of December, 1880, Mr. Francis Lytle, aged 84 years and 5 months.

Mr. Francis Lytle was born in North Carolina on the 29th of July, 1796; re- moved to the State of Indiana in 1832, from thence to Iowa in June, 1863. The last three years of his life were of great suffering and helplessness. His occupation during life, while strength permitted, was blacksmithing and farming. He was not connected with any evangelical church, but favored religion. He died in the hope of a blessed immortality through the Lord Jesus Christ, whom he had learned to love. He was visited by different pastors of this city and enjoyed the hearing of God's word read, and communion with God in prayer.

OBITUARY OF THOMAS LYTLE

This community has again been called upon to mourn the loss of another of her citizens. In the passing away of Grandpa Lytle another old landmark is removed from our midst. Thomas Lytle was born January 16, 1924, in Randolph County, North Carolina, and died Sept. 1, 1909, at the age of 85 years, 7 months and 15 days at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C.H. Ritchie of Marsland, Nebr. Early in life he was married to Elizabeth Lowder, and to this union were born ten children--six sons and four daughters--only three of whom survive the parents--C. Lytle, living in Kansas, and Mrs. T.J. Poole and Mrs. C.H. Ritchie, the former living near, and the latter in Marsland. Of his direct descendants there are thirty grandchildren and twenty-three great grandchildren. From the state of his nativity he moved to Indiana, and later moved to Missouri and Iowa. At Shenendoah, he built the popular hostelry called the Park Hotel, which still stands as a monument to the pluck and energy of the builder and it is a wellknown fact that wherever he lived he left his mark in many substantial ways. He came to Dawes County, Nebr., in the spring of 1886, and settled on land two miles east of where Marsland now stands, taking a pre-emption and timber claim. For the past ten years he has lived with his daughters, Mrs. Poole and Mrs. Ritchie, alternating between the two homes. As old age crept upon him and relaxed his bodily strength and energies, he often expressed a wonder why the good Lord took so many of the younger ones of his relatives and left him so helpless and dependent. The end came peaceful and calm, like a little child, tired out with play, falls asleep in the arms of his mother, so he, wearied of life, fell asleep to waken in the house of many mansions be. A large congregation of neighbors and friends gathered at the M.E. church Thursday afternoon to pay the last tribute of respect to one well known and much loved by every resident of the village. Rev. Otto of the Baptist church, and of which denomination Grandpa Lytle had long been a member, preached a very able and sympathetic discourse, after which the remains were laid away in Marsland cemetery. Relatives of the deceased who were here from a distance were: W.H. Lytle, Chadron;

Mrs. Dickey, Mrs. H.L. Richardson and son, Harley of Alliance, Mrs. Kate Walbridge and daughter Elsie of Edgerton.

January, 1989

Volume 3, Number 1

HISTORY OF FREMONT COUNTY

LYTLE, JAMES, farmer and minister, P.O. Hamburg; born in Randolph County, North Carolina, July 19, 1818, where he resided until 1833. He then moved to Grant County, Indiana, of which he was a resident until 1863, when he came to this county. He was married to Miss Esther Buller, April 26, 1837. They are the parents of eleven children: Mary J., Job, Sarah A., Charles W., Elizabeth, Sampson R., and Alfred W., living, and John (died September 1, 1870), George (died September 20, 1858), Thomas (died March 10, 1870), Simon L. (died February 8, 1878). Mr. Lytle and his wife have been members of the Wesleyan church for over thirty years. In 1866 Mr. Lytle was ordained a minister in the same, and has seen years of service as a pioneer preacher, encountering all the vexations and trials to which the elderly preacher is subjected.

OBITUARY OF JAMES LYTLE

James Lytle, son of Francis and Winnie Carter Lytle, was born in Randolph Co., N. Carolina, July 19, 1818, and died at Riverton, Fremont County, Ia, Nov. 27, 1904, aged 86 yrs, 4 months and 8 days.

At the age of 14 years he was bereaved of his maternal parent who left to the care of the widowed father eleven children. About this time the family removed to Monroe County, Ind., where they remained two years, then moved to Grant Co., of the same state, living there until James reached manhood. Their early life was under Quaker influence.

In the year 1840 under the preaching of James Pugsley of the United Brethren Church, he was converted and became a member of that branch of Christ's church. He was soon licensed to Exhort, in which field, and the office of class leader he found many opportunities to work for the Master. After working faithfully for five years in the U.B. church he transferred his membership to the Wesleyan Methodist connection of which church he remained a useful member to the day of his decease.

He was licensed to preach in the Wesleyan church in 1845, laboring as a local preacher for fifteen years when he was ordained an elder in the church at the meeting of the Indiana conference held at a camp meeting at Sugar Grove, Grant Co., Ind. In 1863 he was transferred to the Iowa annual conference, taking up his residence in Fremont County in which vicinity he labored in the work of the ministry until physical infirmity compelled him to relinquish the work and superannuate. During the many years he labored for the advancement of the kingdom of our lord he won many to righteousness. He had many friends and few, if any, enemies. Thus a man uneducated, classically speaking, and never seeking the applause of the people he won the love and esteem of multitudes, one prominent citizen declaring that "probably no man in the state has more friends than Father Lytle." Many rise up and call him blessed because his prayer was "Bless me and make me a blessing."

On April 26, 1837, he was married to Esther Buller of Grant Co., Ind. Of this union eleven children were born, five of whom with the mother have preceded him to the Glory Land.

The mother passed away Sept. 24, 1882, aged 62 years, 4 months.

On August 3, 1884 he married his second wife, Verinda Taylor who, after a union of sixteen years, died May 3, 1900. Since her decease he has been tenderly cared for by his daughter, Mrs. P. Van Fleet. He came down to the close of his life like a shock of corn fully ripe, and sweetly passed beyond the veil where he rests from his labors in the joy of his Lord.

Volume 3, Number 1

January, 1989

HISTORY OF FREMONT COUNTY

EDGERTON, SAMUEL, farmer and stock raiser, section 4, P.O. Riverton; is a native of Logan County, Ohio, and was born February 24, 1825. He moved with his parents while yet young to Wayne County, Indiana, where he grew to manhood. His youth was passed in working on a farm. He was educated in a school conducted under the auspices of the Society of Friends. When 16 years old he went to Grant County, Indiana, living there until 1852, when he came to Iowa and located in the immediate vicinity. Was married January 25, 1844, to Miss Winnie Lytle, a native of North Carolina. They have nine children: Thomas, William, Richard, Francis, Mary A., Erastus, Eleanor, Winnie E., John A. and Daniel, the latter two being deceased. He enlisted in Company E., 29th Iowa volunteer infantry, at Sidney in August, 1862. Was in all the battles in which his regiment participated except that of Saline. He ranked as corporal for two years. He was sick for some time, and finally after more than two years of service, was discharged at New Orleans, and mustered out at Davenport. He owns 120 acres of land, well improved. Mr. Edgerton is one of the pioneers of this county, and is respected by the people as a worthy citizen and christian gentleman.

OBITUARY OF LUKE LYTLE

Luke Lytle was born in Fairmount, Grant County, Indiana, July 16, 1839, and passed away at a hospital in Springfield, Mo., September 3, 1930, being 91 years, 1 month and 23 days old.

He volunteered under Colonel Lew Wallace in Company F., Eleventh regiment, Indiana, and was discharged from service August 1, 1861, having served his term of enlistment. He went to Westboro, Iowa, at an early date, after which he moved to Milton, Mo.

He was married January 15, 1880, to Mary Jane Brown at Milton, Mo. To this union were born four children: Mrs. Iva M. Miles, Omaha, Nebr.; Mrs. Una Richardson, Crab Orchard, Nebr.; Orba M. Lytle, Filley, Nebr.; and Erna B. Lytle, Lewiston, Nebr. Two children by a former marriage have passed on be- fore. He also is survived by 16 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren, and a sister, Mrs. Demerious Harris, of Rock Port, Mo.

He joined the Masonic lodge over 50 years ago at Milton, Mo., and still held the membership at his home in Mountain View, Mo., at the time of his death.

He, with his family, moved to a homestead at St. Francis, Cheyenne, County, Kas., in March, 1886, and after proving up he moved to Lewiston, Nebr., in January 1891, living here 28 years. In July, 1918, he moved to Mountain View, Mo., where he resided until his death. He was a loving husband and kind father and leaves behind many friends to mourn his loss.

Funeral services were held at Lewiston, conducted by the Masonic lodge of Burchard, and interment was in the Lewiston cemetery.

January, 1989

Volume 3, Number 1

HISTORY OF CLARKE COUNTY

REUBEN W. HUFF, farmer and stock-raiser, living in Doyle Township, on section 21, was born in Hancock County, Indiana, a son of Henry Huff, who was a native of Kentucky, and an early settler of the State of Indiana. Our subject was reared to agricultural pursuits, which he has made his life's work, and in his youth attended the log-cabin subscription schools, receiving such education as the schools of that early day afforded. In August, 1854, he came to Clarke County, Iowa, settling in Doyle Township on the farm where he now resides, but in April of the next year he removed to Ringgold County, Iowa, where he made his home for twenty-five years. He enlisted in the late war in Company B., Eighteenth Iowa Infantry, and was in the service of his country for eighteen months. He was married March 9, 1854, to Miss Sarah Lytle, a daughter of the late Francis Lytle. To this union were born nine children-Aaron, Henry, Luther, Reuben W., and Minnie, and four who are deceased. Aaron and Henry live in Wheeler County, Nebraska. The former married Lucy Combs and has six children, and Henry married Arcela McCutchin, by whom he has had one child. Mr. Huff returned to Clarke County in the fall of 1881, settling on the old homestead, on section 21, Doyle Township, where he has 100 acres of choice land, and has since been successfully engaged in his agricultural pursuits. He is a member of the Christian church. He also belongs to the Grand Army of the Republic. While living in Ringgold County he held the office of constable.

MRS. HUFF PASSES AWAY

Mrs. Sarah Huff died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W.W. Clark, on Wednesday morning of this week after a short illness due to old age, she being 76 years and 10 months old at the time of her death. Some time ago this good old lady became very ill, and while it was doubtful at that time that she would recover yet she gradually got better, and since that time, while not ever regaining her former strength, yet she was feeling fairly well for one in her advanced age. About a week ago she became very ill again and could not recover and gradually sank until Tuesday, when the end came. The deceased leaves one daughter and four sons to mourn her loss, all of whom were at her deathbed, they being, Mrs. W.W. Clark, Henry and Ruben of Spalding; Luther of Blockton, Iowa; and Aaron who resides in Wyoming. The body of the deceased was shipped on Friday morning to Blockton, Iowa, for burial. The bereaved sons and daughter of the deceased have the sympathy of the community in their sorrow--Spalding Enterprise.

Volume 3, Number 1

January, 1989

Sundance, Wyo., June 3, 1911.

Dear Aunt Maris:

Father died at 7:40 A.M. May 26, 1911, and was buried beside mother on Sunday afternoon, May 28, 1911. He and Tom had been living together since the girls were married, and since mother died April 14, 1895.

Tom came down stairs at the usual hour in the morning, and noticed father breathing very heavily. He went to his room immediately and endeavored to rouse him but it was too late--there was no response from father. Tom immediately came to my place and informed us of the serious illness and I hurried to father's bedside, but I was too late to see him alive--he had evidently breathed his last just after Tom left him. The doctor pronounced it a case of heart failure.

Father had apparently been as well as usual, although he had been taking medicine for a few days prior to his death. I met him on the street the day before he died, and he spoke as cheerfully as usual, and others say he was joking and scuffling with friends the evening before he died. He apparently went from sleep to death, as there was no indication of struggle. If his mission on earth was finished, it was an easy way to pass to the unknown world. I only hope my own leave-taking will be as peaceful and apparently painless.

It was just 27 years ago today that we first drove into Sundance. How well I remember the day--a beautiful early-June day, but too warm for the comfort of the faithful mules which hauled us from windy Kansas in a covered wagon.

Aunt Ellen was the first person we met in Sundance on that memorable June day more than a quarter of a century ago. She was running the only eating house in Sundance, and as it was just at the noon hour we drove up, she did not have much time to visit. We turned the tired mules to the east and retraced our trail for half a mile, where we stopped a week with the family of John Kim, who were very kind to us when we needed it so badly. I remember how glad we all were to be at our journey's end--the glorious Black Hills and the great, free west. It was such a change for us all, coming as we did from a windy prairie country. Here the very pines seem to welcome us. Mother was so glad of the timber, and she noticed at once a pleasing similarity in the sparkling mountain streams to those she had known in her girlhood days in Kentucky. Father was hopeful, as he saw great opportunities before us in a land of free homes, healthful climate, and great natural resources.

I am writing these lines in a home which father purchased 20 years ago from Aunt Liz. Ten years ago I purchased the place, father having bought a place a few blocks east which he seemed to like better. He had a neat and pleasant home, and his declining years seemed to be happy ones for one in his circumstances, having lost his life companion and all the children gone from the home except the youngest, Tom. All were present at the funeral but John, who was at Flagler, Colo., and could not reach home for the funeral. It was a very large funeral, and an old soldier carried the flag in the procession. The people were kind to us in our trouble, and we regard that as a token of esteem to father. He was a good and noble father.

The world would be much better if all mankind were as good as father was. We all have our faults and failings, but I am sure we would all be better today if we had adhered strictly to father's good advice to us while we were developing manhood and womanhood. His judgment might have been at fault at times (whose is not?), but I am sure his heart was always right toward his family, and such an example is certainly worthy of emulation. He gave us children the best school facilities he could. If it had not

January, 1989

Volume 3, Number 1

been for this feature, I am sure I could not have done as well as I have in life. I think the same is true of all the children. It was noble of father and mother to keep us in school when, in our younger days, we might have been inclined to drift far from the right and noble things of life. Mother made the home as cheerful as she could with her limited facilities, and father kept the wolf from the door as best he could by economy and daily toil. But it is all over for them both. They have certainly earned eternal peace in their long home, but after all it is hard to give them up.

Henry Rich and Burl Robinett attended the funeral. The nine grandchildren were also present. These are Debbie's three, my four, and Mate's two. They all thought a great deal of their grandpa Lytle, and they miss him very much. He lived respected and died regretted, which is a high tribute to the career of any man.

Debbie and Mate are at the old home for a few days, but will soon leave for their own homes. Goodbye.

Sincerely,

Joe Lytle

Volume 3, Number 1

January, 1989

Resident of This County Since Age 15

DEMERIOUS HARRIS DIES AT NINETY

Mrs. Demerious Harris of Rock Port, who would have reached her ninetieth birthday had she lived until May 28th, passed away at her home Sunday after- noon about four o'clock, after a lingering illness. She had been in poor health for several months.

Her maiden name was Lytle, her parents being Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lytle. She was born in the state of Indiana May 28th, 1849, and came to Missouri as a girl of fifteen. Soon after her arrival here, or in the year 1864, she was married to Ezekial Robinett. They had ten children, four of whom are living-Alonzo and Newton J. Robinett of Rock Port, Frank Robinett of Tekamah, Neb., and Burl G. Robinett of the state of Idaho. Newton J. and a grandson, Frank Robinett, have maintained the home with the mother and grandmother for some years. Mrs. Harris had lived in Rock

Port 23 or 24 years. The husband has been dead many years.

On November 19, 1899 Mrs. Robinett was married to Isaac N. Harris, who passed away October 5th, 1916.

With the exception of about eleven years spent in Wyoming, Mrs. Harris's past seventy-five years were spent in Atchison County.

The deceased was the last of a family of fifteen children.

She was a member of the Christian church.

In addition to the four sons who survive, Mrs. Harris leaves a large number of descendants, including 26 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. Her grandchildren at one time numbered 62, but several have passed away.

Funeral services were held at the Clifton Funeral Home Tuesday afternoon, with Rev. Benson Compton of Shenendoah in charge. Burial was in Millsap Cemetery.

Although a long-time resident of this community, Mrs. Harris was not familiarly known to many of our citizens, as she kept close to her home.

January, 1989

Volume 3, Number 1

Volume 3, Number 2

April, 1989



April, 1989

Lytle Boys in the Civil War

Many of Frank Lytle's descendants served in the Union Army during America's great Civil War. We wonder what sympathy they felt, as their grandfather, a former slave, was still alive throughout the war. How much did these white soldiers know of their far away black cousins, a few of whom were still in slavery's bonds?

When the war first broke out, no one thought that it would be as long and bitter as it turned out to be. The earliest regiments' soldiers enlisted for 3 months or sometimes 100 days of service. Shortly thereafter, a one-year enlistment was common. Later on, enlistment was for the duration of the war. When a regiment's enlistment period was over, the regiment would be reformed, often with the same men reenlisting, as well as gaining new men.

The earliest enlistments were by Francis's sons Luke and Stanford in the 11th Indiana Infantry, and Francis's grandson Thomas (James's son) in the 7th Indiana Infantry, who enlisted for a 3 months period in April, 1861. Also at this time, Albert's son Enoch enlisted in the 12th Indiana Infantry in May of 1861.

During this time the 11th and 12th Indiana Infantries patrolled the Ohio River along the Kentucky border, near Evansville, Indiana, to stop Confederate supply traffic. Enoch Lytle was wounded in his left arm by an accidental gun discharge, and shortly afterward had the arm amputated. He was discharged after serving approximately 10 weeks. (about 15 years later, Enoch was married and started a family of seven children).

The 7th and 11th Indiana moved on to Virginia (in what today is West Virginia). On June 3, 1861, the 7th took part in the battle at Phillipi. June 13, 1861 saw the 11th in the battle of Romney, which was a well-known battle in the early Civil War. These actions routed the Confederates out of the area and were largely responsible in allowing the pro-Union sentiment in the west part of the state to separate and become West Virginia.

These early regiments were mustered out in August of 1861. Stanford and Thomas reenlisted in the 8th Indiana Infantry, along with Francis's sons John and Newton, and grandson Harmon Jr. (Harmon Sr. died in 1844). In all, five Lytle in the 8th Indiana Infantry. Stanford Lytle died in St. Louis on February 25th, 1862 (sickness took far more lives that gunshot in those days). The 8th Indiana was in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, which took place in and around that area March 6, 7, and 8, 1862. This was the most significant battle of the region known as the trans-Mississippi, as two Confederate generals, McCulloch and McIntosh, were killed.

The 8th is also recorded in the battle of Bayou Cache on July 7, 1862 and then in Rousseau's raid in Alabama from July 11 to 22, 1864. Shortly after that, they took part in McCook's raid to Lovejoy's Station, Georgia, July 26 to 31, 1864. The 8th then took part in Rousseau's pursuit of Wheeler in Tennessee September 1 to 8, 1864. According to Indiana historical sources, John Lytle died in the battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on October 19, 1864. Although a Union victory, they lost 5,665 men and the Confederates lost 2,910 men. This battle was the last major push in routing the Confederates from the

Shenendoah Valley. Harmon Lytle, Jr. also died during service to the 8th Indiana Infantry, but it is not known when.

Volume 3, Number 2

Some of the Lytles also served from the state of Iowa. The family had begun migrating there in the late 1850's, and was almost entirely there by 1865. Francis M. Lytle served under the 5th Iowa Cavalry, the 2nd Nebraska Cavalry, and the 43rd Missouri Infantry. He was discharged for health reasons, once for an injury while shoeing a horse in Sioux City, and another time for a lung disease, which was treated at Paducah, Kentucky. Francis's son Henry (brother of Francis M.) served in the 46th Iowa Infantry, for which he suffered poor health for the rest of his life, including very poor eyesight. Albert's sons George and Lewis served from Iowa also. George served in the 18th Iowa Infantry.

Lewis served a short time and was discharged after contracting the measles. After a year out, Lewis reenlisted, but was never in good health. Eventually, he died at the Jefferson Barracks in the US Army Hospital at St. Louis, Missouri. This is probably where Stanford

Lytle died also. Many of the soldiers were buried on an island in the Mississippi river which later was washed away.

There is one main battle recorded for the 18th Iowa Infantry, that being the battle of Moscow, Arkansas on April 13, 1864. George Lytle had enlisted July 15, 1862. General Lee surrendered to General Grant on April 9, 1865. George mustered out on July 7, 1865, in Little Rock, Arkansas. George was married in Log Town, Arkansas on August 23, 1865 to Mary Martindale Daniels, a widow of the Confederate soldier William Daniels. We might assume that George and Mary met during the war. Later, George's brother Enoch and their father, Albert, were in Arkansas, in Madison County. This happens to be quite close to Pea Ridge, where their cousins had been in the battle.

To recap, those that died were:

- Stanford (1841-1862), Francis' son, died in US Army Hospital, cause unknown.
- John (1845-1864), Francis' son, killed in battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia.
- Harmon (1844-1864?), Francis' grandson, date and cause unknown.
- Lewis Lytle (1836-1864), Albert's son, died of illness in US Army Hospital.

Surviving:

- Francis M. (1833-1913), Francis's son; died in Woods County, Oklahoma.
- Newton (1837-1895?), Francis's son; probably died in Kansas.
- Luke (1840-1930), Francis's son; died while residing in Mountain View, Missouri, across the line and east from Madison County, Arkansas.
- Thomas (1844-1870), Francis' grandson; died in Iowa at a young age (dyptheria took several Lytles this year, including four children of Luke); Thomas may have died of dyptheria or a wartime illness.
- George(1829-1908) and Enoch (1834-1917), Albert's sons; always living near each other, they died in Haskell County, Oklahoma, about 100 miles southwest of Madison County, Arkansas.

April, 1989

Volume 3, Number 2

SERVICE OF ENOCH LYTLE

State of Iowa }

County of Clark } SS.

Before the undersigned Clerk of the District Court within a for said County, came Enoch Lytle and being by me first duly sworn, doth Say: That on the 11th day of May 1861, he enlisted as a private in Capt. Doves' Co. which was afterward known as Co. "H" of the 12th Indiana Vol. Infantry. That he enlisted with the full intention & expectation of soon being mustered into the service of the United States to Serve for the term of one year unless sooner honorably discharged. That on or about the 1st day of July 1861 while with his Co. and Regiment, stationed at the town of Evansville, State of Indiana, an alarm was raised by a report that t body of rebels, or persons in sympathy with the rebellion, were advancing to attack the said town of Evansville. That thereupon the Company and regiment to which he belonged were ordered under arms to repel the threatened attack. They were ordered to load their muskets with powder and ball and to advance in the direction from which the enemy was reported to be approaching. That they moved forward accordingly a distance of about two miles, when they were ordered to halt and form in line of battle. This order was obeyed, and while standing in line of battle, the musket of this affiant was by some means unknown to him accidentally discharged. That at the instant the discharge occurred the left arm of this affiant was directly over the muzzle of his musket, the ball from which passed through said arm completely shattering the bone, and necessitating amputation of said arm, which was done by Dr. William Lomax, Surgeon of said 12th Indiana Regt. at the Regimental Hospital, Evansville Indiana. He states that to his certain knowledge his musket was not cocked at the time the aforesaid discharge occurred, and that it was from no fault or carelessness of his part that the discharge occurred, and that the wound as aforesaid was received. He states that there was much excitement, and persons were hurriedly passing to and fro in front of him, and that he verily believed the hammer of his musket was struck by some hard body with sufficient force to explode the cap on the nipple of the Lock of his musket, thus causing the discharge. He states that inconsequence of the loss of his left arm, as aforesaid, he was never in fact, mustered into the service of the United States, but was honorably discharged from his enlistment by means of said loss on the 24th day of July 1861. He refers to his Certificate of Discharge herewith filed as full proof of his allegations in that behalf.

He makes this application to the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, praying that the Secretary of the Interior may be directed to inscribe his name on the Pension list Roll of the United States and refers to the evidence herewith filed for proof of the justice of his claim. He states that he has no income or means of support other than the proceeds of such labor as he can perform with one hand and arm. That when enlisted he was a farmer & has no other business, profession, or occupation by which to obtain a living. His Post Office is Hopeville, Clarke County, Iowa.

Sworn to and subscribed before me and I certify that I am no way interested in this behalf.

Volume 3, Number 3

July, 1989



July, 1989

Lytles on the Move

In the early 1700's, several Lytle families appeared in Pennsylvania, in present-day Lancaster and York counties. Most of them can be shown to be related. Lytles originally came from the area along the Scottish-English border, and some may have been transplants to Ulster County, Ireland and hence "Scotch-Irish."

In the mid 1700's, there was a large migration south from Pennsylvania and Maryland into North Carolina. Three Lytle families are known to have moved in the 1750's and 1760's with this migration. Thomas Lytle Sr. (1700?-1745?) had two sons, Thomas Jr. and Henry who moved into Rowan County. Robert Lytle moved into adjoining Orange County, about 45 miles to the northeast, and others of his family moved into Lincoln county, about 60 miles to the southwest of Thomas Jr. and Henry. It is not known if Thomas Lytle Sr. was related to these others, but based on his age and location in Pennsylvania, he could have been a brother to Robert Lytle.

Over the years, parts of Rowan and Orange Counties were taken to form Guilford County, and later the southern half of Guilford County was split off to become the present-day Randolph County. This is where the old plantation was located.



Mid 1700's

The first slaves in the Randolph county area came in the late 1750's. By the time of Thomas Lytle Jr.'s death in 1794, he had seven slaves, including Frank who was freed at that time.

Volume 3, Number 3

July, 1989

Volume 3, Number 3

In the 1830's, the west was beginning to slowly open up. Also at this time, the privileges of free Negroes in North Carolina were greatly decreasing. Frank Lytle's sons Francis and Albert moved to Indiana. Francis was first, in 1834, moving to Monroe County, where he married his third wife, Patsy Bulla. They moved to Grant County in 1836. Albert followed in about 1842.



1830-1850

During the time of the Civil War, the frontier was still moving west, and so were the Lytles. Although not out in the far west, they were still settling wild lands where Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska meet. Francis and several of his children moved to Fremont and Page Counties, in Iowa, and, across the border, Atchison County, Missouri.



Civil War 1861-1865

July, 1989

Volume 3, Number 3

Following the Civil War, several of Francis' children and grandchildren moved on into counties in Nebraska and Kansas. Albert and two of his sons moved to Madison County, Arkansas. Much of the family was still in Indiana and Iowa, growing and establishing large homesteads and businesses. Meanwhile, the families of Francis and Albert's sisters were growing large in North Carolina. There was a general movement north by free Negroes after the Civil War, which is difficult to follow.



1865-1875

In the late 1800's, Francis' children Henry, Eleanor, and possibly Newton moved their families into Crook County, Wyoming, to the town of Sundance. They were followed later by their sister, Demerious. Other lost branches of the family may have also moved to Colorado during this time. Some of the family in Sundance also moved later to Sheridan.



1875-1890

July, 1989

Volume 3, Number 3

From 1890 to 1910 there were still several groups of families moving together. Many independent branches moved to Montana and Idaho, where they still live close to each other today, though most do not know each other. With the continued advances in travel and transportation, there have been no major family groups moving together after 1910.



1890-1910

Today, the descendants of the Lytle Plantation families and its pioneers are spread across the country. There are some known in most states, and including the lost family branches, there must be relatives in all states. Still, family members are concentrated in several areas, and broadly in the western United States, as shown below. The further west, the more distantly related are the branches that have moved there.



Today

July, 1989

Volume 3, Number 3

Volume 3, Number 4

October, 1989



October, 1989

Volume 3, Number 4

Well, folks... It's bits and pieces this time. News from all over.

Lytle Plantation Update

In September, I had a phone call from cousin Gladys Betenbaugh in North Carolina, who reported that the remains of an old house were found on or near the old plantation in Randolph County, North Carolina. Upon further investigation of some newer maps I obtained of the area, we feel confident that this is, in fact, located on the 200 acres of land which Frank Lytle was given when his master Thomas died.

This land was obtained by Thomas Lytle from Henry MCulloch, a land agent for the Earl of Granville. The Earl of Granville was granted 1.2 million acres of land by the King of England in the mid 1700's, and sold it to immigrants to North Carolina. Originally, the land was sold to German immigrants so that they would be a buffer between the coastal English colonists and the Indians.

Cousins Everywhere

Of Frank Lytle's nine children, eight of them had children of their own. I correspond with descendants of four of them: Francis Jr., Elizabeth (Mrs. William Walden), Albert, and Dorcas (Mrs. William Swaney).

Of Francis' 27 or so children, from his first two wives, at least 17 probably have descendants today. I correspond with descendants of eight of them from these two wives.

Most of these people are in the western states.

Of Elizabeth Walden's children, I correspond with descendants of five from the Dorcas (Mrs. William Blizzard) line. These people are all in the eastern states. Many descendants are still in North Carolina.

Of Albert Lytle's six children, I correspond with one descendant in Missouri.

Of Dorcas Swaney's 14 children, I correspond with one descendant in Ohio. Many others are still in Randolph and Guilford counties.

Aunts and Uncles

In bygone days, the terms "aunt" and "uncle" were used not only for your parent's and grandparent's siblings, but often for their cousins, as they were of the same generation and were frequently raised closer than many cousins are today. The term cousin was used for just about any shirttail relative and was even used in some cases for an aunt or uncle close to your own age.

Volume 3, Number 4

Black and White

In America we see people who are black and people who are white and everything in-between. I don't think anyone can draw a line and say who is what.

The U.S. and state censuses used the letters B, W, M, C, and I for Black, White, Mulatto, Chinese and Indian. The term mulatto was generally applied to anyone who was not apparently "pure" black or white.

Though black, white and mulatto were the most common, the following terms were used in the last century when someone wanted a strict definition:

Mulatto	half black, half white
Quadroon	half mulatto, half white (1/4 black)
Octoroon	half quadroon, half white (1/8 black)
Mustifee	half octoroon, half white (1/16 black)
Mustifino	half mustifee, half white (1/32 black)
Sambo	half mulatto, half black (3/4 black)
Mango	half sambo, half black (7/8 black)
Cascos	both parents mulatto

There is one old document from Randolph Co., N.C. which, if correct, means that Frank Lytle was 1/4 black. When his great granddaughter Parthenia Blizzard was married, she had to make a written statement to the fact that she was mixed blooded "of the fifth generation on her mother's side."

If correct, it means that Frank Lytle's father was white and his mother's father was also white. By going back two more generations, this takes us into the early 1700's, when the slave trade was much smaller. It is likely that Frank Lytle had a paternal great-grandmother brought to America at that time. The slave trade earlier than this was very small in the early American colonies.

October, 1989

Volume 3, Number 4

Another Lytle House

Shortly after the Civil War, many of the Lytles in Indiana moved to Page and Fremont counties in southwestern Iowa, and Atchison County, Missouri, across the state line. Francis Jr.'s son Thomas set up a hotel in the Page County seat, Shenendoah, Iowa, called the Lytle House. Later it became the Park Hotel. It was still standing until about 1970. This is where Francis passed away on December 29, 1880.



AT SHENANDOAH. PAGE CO. IOWA, THOMAS LYTLE, Proprietor.

Volume 3, Number 4

October, 1989

The Bulla House

Francis Jr.'s third wife was Martha Bulla. The old Bulla homestead still stands in Randolph County, North Carolina, about 10 miles south of the old Lytle plantation. It was in the Bulla family until just a few years ago. Many plantation descendants are also descended from this Lytle/Bulla marriage's fifteen children: Newton, Eunice, Luke, Deborah, Henry, Demerious, Eleanor and Louisa have descendants living today. Francis' oldest children, James and Mary, also married Bullers who were from North Carolina, distant cousins to the Bullas.



When the Bullas moved to Indiana, some as early as 1808, the spelling changed to match the southern pronunciation: Buller. The early Bullas settled in Richmond, Wayne County, is southeastern Indiana. Martha's father, John, died young, but many of her uncles settled in this area. One or more of them supported the Underground Railroad, helping freed slaves move northward. The Bullas had "railroad" connections in Randolph County, N.C. as well, and so served as an important link. The Quaker religion of the Bullas defined their attitude against slavery.

Francis' sons Newton and Luke were known to have moved to Wayne County in the 1850's, probably after their mother Martha died in 1854. They married sisters, Elizabeth and Elzira Henson, daughters of Solomon Henson and Sarah (Small) Henson, who are buried in Centerville, Wayne County.

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Volume 3, Number 4