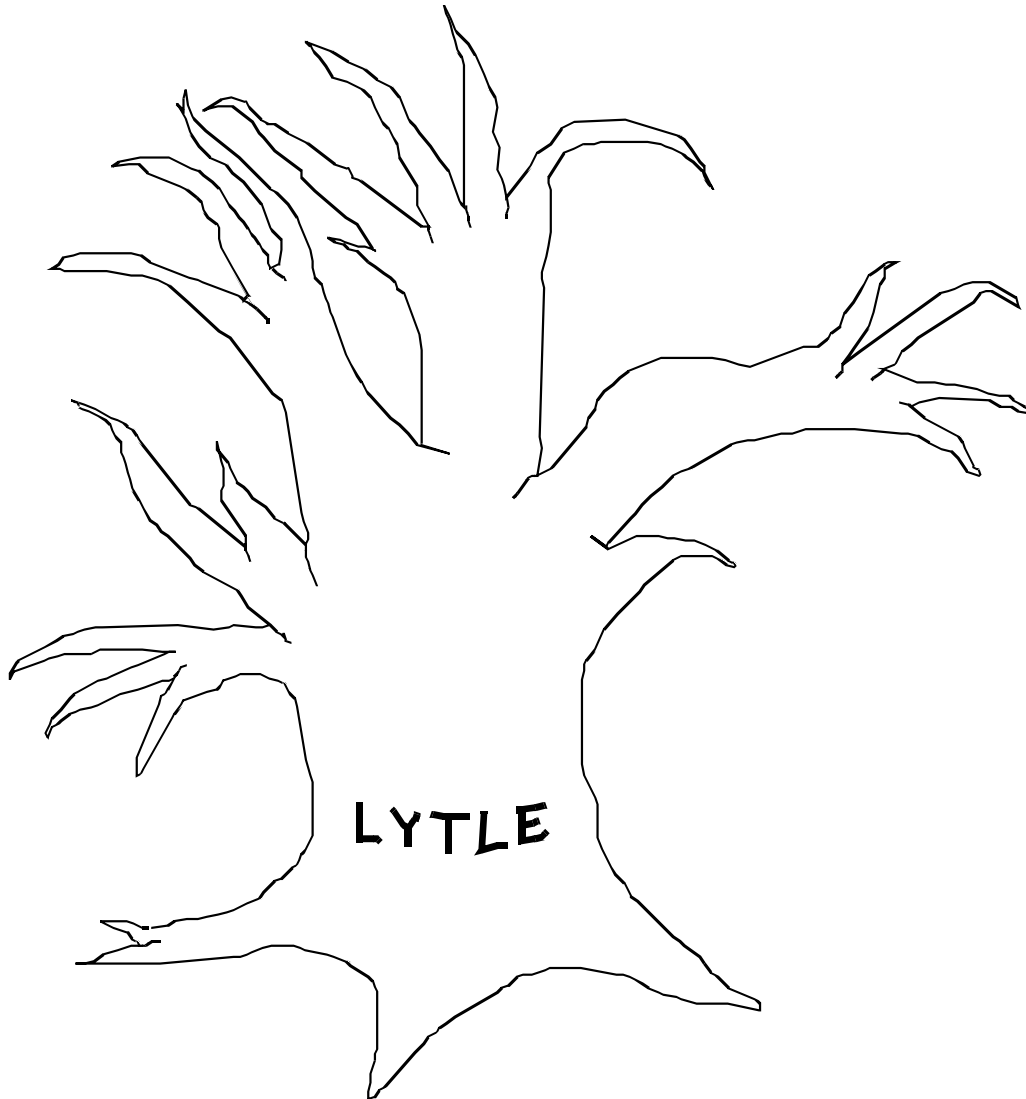


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From the Family Files

This issue is devoted to past lives. Rummaging around through the 'Biographies and Obituaries' file, I decided to run a few interesting articles from the past. For future reference, some minor corrections have been made. All of these are descendants from Francis Lytle Jr. (1796-1880) on down. They are:

Francis' daughter, Sarah (1834-1911)

Sarah's sons, Henry Huff (1859-1920), and Reuben Huff (1868-1939)

Sarah's granddaughter (William's daughter), Jennie (1890-1901)

Francis' granddaughter, Mariam (daughter of Thomas; 1845-1923)

Francis' daughter-in-law, Mary Jane (wife of Luke; 1857-1945)

Mary Jane and Luke's son, Orba (1884-1956)

Mrs. Huff Passes Away

Mrs. Sarah Huff died at the home of her daughter, Minnie, Mrs. Worley 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 Reuben, of Spalding, Luther, who lives at the West End of Headquarters, 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, Nebraska, Enterprise.

Death of Henry Huff

After an illness of four weeks, during which time, everything that medical science could suggest was done for him, Henry Huff passed on Tuesday to that ethereal trysting place from which no traveler has ever returned, and the entrance to which mankind has built its hopes through all the centuries, in the wish that in that far land suffering, disappointment, and sorrow would not be known.

Henry Huff had rounded out more than three score years, and yet, until the grim destroyer made its entrance into his home, he was a boy in nearly everything that pertained to life. Cheerful, optimistic and charitable, he looked on the bright side, and even his closest friends would stop to make a computation before believing that he had passed the sixtieth mile post that marks the length of years.

He was one of the true pioneers, and came to this part of the country to grapple with the future when it required a brave, courageous heart to face the trials of the bygone years that tried men's souls. But he was never discouraged, and the place that was his home for so many years soon became known far and wide. The grove he planted was one of the first, and his orchard teemed with milk and honey. Hospitable to a degree, the hungry traveler knew that a feast awaited him there.

Henry Huff was, perhaps, the most widely known man in this part of the country. If he ever made a mistake, it was when he left the farm to engage in business. Instead of spending the evening of his days in ease and contentment, he refused to recognize the fact that the years were crowding upon him, and became ambitious to brave, new and untried fields. He was accommodating to a fault, and no night was too dark or the day too stormy to keep him from taking the traveler on his way.

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Henry Huff was a true friend. His best eulogy is pronounced today by those who were in his employ. In the rough battle with life he was as tender as a child. He recognized the responsibilities of life, and provided for those who depended upon him. In that generation that is passing away he stood out high and prominent. His death was unexpected and in the past few days many pleasant words have been said of bluff, hearty Henry Huff.

He leaves a wife and daughter and countless friends to mourn his departure.

Reuben William Huff

Reuben William Huff was born April 12, 1868, in Ringgold County, Iowa. He started to School in Clark County, Iowa, and at the age of 16 came to Bartlett, Nebraska.

He was married to Miss Elnora Sheets on August 25, 1889, at the age of 21. To this union were born ten children, six of which preceded him in death.

Mr. Huff passed away at his home in Lyman July 26, 1939.

He leaves to mourn his death his widow, Mrs. Elnora Huff and the following sons and daughters: Mrs. Sadie Francisco of Lyman, Mrs. Bessie Myers of Potter, Mr. Tom Huff of Boise, Idaho, Mr. Harry Huff of Scottsbluff, and Mr. Wm. Huff of Lyman. Also one sister, Mrs. Minnie Clark in Oakland, Cal.; twenty one grandchildren, five great grandchildren and many friends.

Mr. Huff was a member of the Methodist Church at Kimball, Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Huff would have celebrated their golden wedding anniversary August 5, 1939. -- Lyman Leader, August 3, 1939

It is with sadness we mention the death of Jennie Huff, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Huff, aged 11 years and 10 months.

Let not your hearts be troubled,
She has only gone before;
You will find her at the portals
When you reach the radiant shore.

-- Albion, Nebraska, Argus, Nov. 1, 1902

Obituary of Mariam Lytle

Mariam Lytle was born in Greene Township, Grant County, Indiana, August 13, 1845, and was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lytle. When seven years old she came with her parents to Fremont County, Iowa, where she grew to young womanhood and where, on December 30, 1865, she was married to Thomas J. Poole. To this union were born seven children, one dying in infancy. Those living to mourn the loss of a noble mother are Niram Grant and Arthur D. Poole of Marsland, Neb.; Lytle Thomas Poole of Sidney, Neb.; Mrs. Addie Bennett of Sheridan, Wyo.; Mrs. Winnie Burton of Oklahoma, and Mrs. Ruth O. Willis of Idaho.

Mrs. Poole died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. O. Bennett at Sheridan, Wyo., on the morning of March 20, 1923, where, with her husband, she had made her home for about two years. She had reached the good old age of 77 years, seven months and eight days.

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She was a faithful member of the Baptist church, and an earnest and devoted member of the "International Order of King's Daughters," holding a membership of the Helping Hand Circle, Marsland, Neb., for 31 years, and left a paid up membership until January 1, 1924.

The body was brought to Marsland on No. 44 Thursday morning and taken at once to the Methodist Episcopal church, where at 1 o'clock a large gathering of friends assembled, to pay the last tribute of respect to one who had lived among them since the year 1886, and whom all held in high esteem.

Rev. Estabrook preached a very able sermon and was assisted by the Rev. Birmingham, a visiting minister from Oshkosh. The choir sang several very appropriate songs. The floral tributes were unusually beautiful.

For these, and all other deeds of love, the family wishes to express its thanks, and hereby append their names to the card of thanks:

"We wish to thank the many friends both at Marsland and elsewhere for their kindness at the death and burial of our wife and mother."

Mary Jane Lytle

Mary Jane (Brown) Lytle was born May 15, 1857, in Guernsey County, Ohio, and died June 7, 1945, at Lewiston, Nebraska, aged 88 years and 23 days.

When a girl she came west with her parents and settled on a homestead near Tecumseh, Neb. At the age of 19 she went to Milton, Missouri, where she met and married Luke Lytle Jan. 15, 1880.

To this union four children were born, Ivy M. Miles of Omaha, Una V. Richardson of Crab Orchard, Neb., Orba Merlin Lytle of Vesta, Neb., and Erna Brown Lytle of Lewiston.

She united with the Methodist church at the age of 19 at Milton. Mo. March 27, 1886, she moved with her husband and family to Benkleman, Neb., where she lived on a homestead five years, coming to Lewiston Jan. 1, 1891. She made here home here until Aug. 12, 1918, when she moved with her husband to Mountain View, Mo., where she lived until the death of her husband in 1930, when she returned to Lewiston. She made her home here with her youngest son, Erna.

She leaves to mourn her passing her four children, eight grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren; also three sisters and two brothers, Margaret J. Brown of Elk Creek, Neb., Sarah A. Stover of Elk Creek, Grant W. Brown of Hopkins, Mo., George T. Brown of Tecumseh, and Amy C. Fuller of Elk Creek.

She was a kind and loving wife and mother, her thoughts always being of her loved ones. Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church, conducted by Rev. Homer Clements, and interment was in the Lewiston cemetery.

Relatives from a distance who attended were Mr. and Mrs. Marion Miles of Terre Haute, Ind., Mr. and Mrs. Charles Norman, of Stromsburg, Neb., Mr. and Mrs. Grant Brown of Hopkins, Mo., Mr. and Mrs. Arlo Diehl of Fairbury, Neb., Mrs. Ada Myers and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts of Lincoln, and Mrs. W. R. Porter of Nelson, Neb.

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Orba M. Lytle

Orba Merlin Lytle, son of Luke and Mary Jane Lytle, was born in Milton, Atchison County, Mo., Oct. 17, 1884, and passed away at his home near Tecumseh, Neb., Dec. 13, 1956 at the age of 72 years, 26 days.

At 17 months, he, with his parents, brother and sisters, moved to a homestead near Benkleman, Neb., where he resided until Jan. 1, 1891, when he with his parents moved to Lewiston, Neb. Orba grew to manhood there, attending the Lewiston public school until the age of 17 when he, his father and brother purchased the butcher shop in Lewiston.

On March 19, 1898, he was united in marriage to Anna Grace Winchell. To this union three sons were born, Truman W. of Weeping Water, Wilbur R. of Tecumseh, and Lawrence L., of Helena, Mont. In 1910, Marion L. Miles of Terre Haute, Ind., a nephew, came to make his home with the family.

On March 1, 1923, Orba and his family moved to a farm near Filley where he resided for 22 years. While at Filley he took an active part in community affairs. He joined the Filley Christian church in 1926 and remained a member of that church until his death.

He leaves to mourn his passing his devoted wife, Anna; three sons; three daughters-in-law; seven grandchildren; one brother, Erna B. Lytle of Lewiston; and one sister, Una Richardson of Lewiston; a host of relatives, neighbors, and friends.

Orba was a devoted husband, a loving father and a friend to all, always ready to give a helping hand to all who needed help.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Dec. 16, in Tecumseh at the Wherry Mortuary with Rev. Kess of Sterling and Vesta conducting the service.

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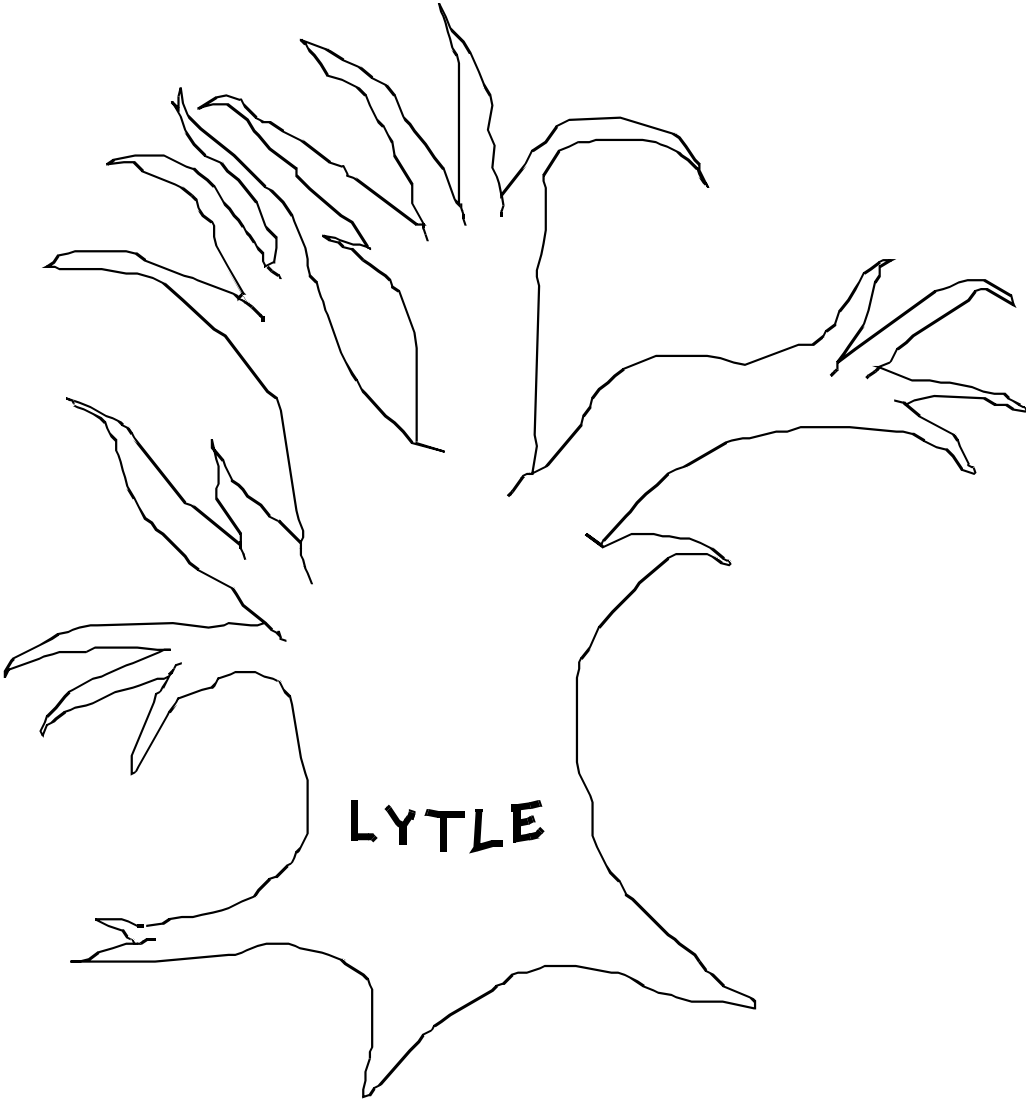
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Freemans and the Civil War

Joshua Freeman was born on the 24th of September, 1814, in Orange County, North Carolina. He was the son of Nathan and Mary Buckingham Freeman. According to the history of Montgomery County, Indiana, written in 1893, Nathan, born in the same state July 23, 1793, was the son of Robert and Nancy Freeman. Robert, in all probability, immigrated to this country from England. Mary was the daughter of Joshua and Rachel Piggott Buckingham and was distantly related to the Duke of Buckingham.

The family of Joshua Freeman were Quakers and as a young man he moved with his family to Randolph County, Indiana. Besides Joshua and his parents, the others included his sisters, Mary and Rachel, as well as two brothers, Nathan and Oliver. While engaging in farming in Randolph County, he married Mary Warwick of that county on December 2, 1832. To this union were born four children: William, Richard, Nathan, and Mary Jane.

Joshua moved to Howard County, Indiana, about one mile south of Greentown, in 1844. This is also just a short distance from the borders of Grant and Tipton counties. His wife Mary died either before this move or shortly thereafter. Within a year, he moved to Grant County and settled in an area called Little Ridge, which was in Liberty Township.

Joshua married Elizabeth Lytle on May 20, 1845. She was the daughter of Francis and Winnie Carter Lytle. Her older sister married Lindsey Buller, but more about him later. Joshua and Elizabeth had seven children: Lindsey, David, Jane, Sarah, Oliver, Winnie, and Harriett. Oliver and Winnie were twins.

Joshua and Elizabeth moved back to Howard County and were living there when the Civil War broke out. Although he was almost forty-eight years old, Joshua joined Company C, 26th Indiana Infantry. Enlisting in the same company were two of his sons: Nathan, from his first marriage, and Lindsey, the oldest of Joshua and Elizabeth's children. The 26th Indiana was sent to St. Louis, Missouri, in September of 1861 and saw action at Springfield and Sedalia. Joshua was left at Georgetown, Missouri, to nurse a comrade when he, Joshua, became ill. He was given a disability discharge on January 17, 1862, at Jefferson City, Missouri, with the notation of "recovery doubtful". He returned to Indiana and, stopping at his father's house for the night, died there before he was able to return to his wife and family.

Lindsey and Nathan continued with the regiment, going to Arkansas and fighting in the Battle of Prairie Grove. After capturing Van Buren, Arkansas, on December 29, 1862, the unit had various duties in southwestern Missouri until June 3, 1863, when they were ordered to Vicksburg, Mississippi, to assist General Grant in taking this important river town. After the siege of Vicksburg, they were sent to Louisiana, capturing Yazoo City and being at Port Hudson and Carrollton. In September, 1863, they were sent to Morganze, Louisiana. The 26th Indiana was stationed on the Sterling Plantation at Bayou Fardoche. The unit contained about five hundred men and were with the 19th Iowa, which had three hundred and twenty men. At about noon on September 29, 1863, they were attacked on all sides simultaneously by the rebel general, Thomas Green, and three brigades. The Iowa and Indiana units both suffered heavy casualties and most of the survivors were captured.

Lindsey and Nathan were captured at the Battle of Sterling's Farm and taken to the largest Confederate prison camp west of the Mississippi River. It was known as Camp Ford, near Tyler, Texas. The records of the prison camp list four hundred and sixty-eight prisoners, both officers and enlisted men,

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being sent to Tyler in October from the Sterling Farm battle. At that time, Camp Ford had only seventy-two guards for these and other prisoners, who numbered well over five hundred. Nathan spent nine months at Camp Ford and then escaped with two other men. Traveling by night and sleeping by day, they finally reached friends on the bank of the Mississippi after fourteen nights. He was discharged on January 15, 1865. Nathan Freeman died July 25, 1909, and is buried in the Ladago Cemetery in Montgomery County, Indiana.

In July, 1864, there were eight hundred and fifty-six prisoners from Camp Ford taken to Shreveport and down the Red River to an exchange point where they were traded for Confederate prisoners. One of these was Lindsey Freeman, and he received his discharge on September 21, 1864. On the 14th of February, 1865, he re-enlisted in the 153rd Regiment at Fairmount, Indiana. In March of 1865 this unit was dispatched to Kentucky. Travelling from Louisville to Russelville they encountered some skirmishes with guerrillas. Their destination was to be Nashville, Tennessee. While camping about four miles south of Cadiz, Kentucky, in Trigg County, Lindsey became acquainted with Allen Howard and his family. Trigg County was primarily in sympathy with the southern cause, but Allen Howard lost two sons in the war while protecting the county against rebel guerrillas.

Lindsey Freeman was mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, on September 4, 1865, returned to Trigg County, and married Nancy, daughter of Allen Howard, on September 17, 1865. He lived the remainder of his life in that county and died on June 6, 1912. He was originally buried in a field near his home, but some years later, when the farm was no longer in the hands of his heirs, his and Nancy's remains were moved to East End Cemetery in Cadiz.

David Freeman, the next oldest child of Joshua and Elizabeth Lytle Freeman, was born in 1849. He enlisted in the 7th Indiana Cavalry on September 4, 1863, when he was fourteen years old. On December 6, 1863, they departed from Indiana for Union City, Tennessee. They went to Paris, saw action at Huntington, and then went to Trenton, Tennessee in January of 1864. They were in Mississippi in February and back in Tennessee near Raleigh on April 3. This unit was back in Mississippi in July and August. On October 4, they were in Memphis. The rest of October and November were spent in Arkansas and Missouri. December through June, 1865, was spent in the vicinity of Memphis and northern Mississippi. June and July were spent in Louisiana before going to Hempstead, Texas, in August. David was on duty there until mustered out on February 18, 1866. The regiment lost during service one officer and forty-seven enlisted men killed, and three officers and two hundred forty-three enlisted men by disease. David Freeman and his family moved to Trigg County, Kentucky, in 1884. He died January 20, 1918, and is buried in an unmarked grave at the East End Cemetery in Cadiz.

The 1850 census of Grant County, Indiana, shows the family of Joshua and Elizabeth. Included in this family is Wesley Lytle, 12 years old. Since Joshua and Elizabeth were married in 1845, and Elizabeth's maiden name was Lytle, it appears that Wesley was her son. No records have been found to prove otherwise because it is known that he was not her brother, nor was he a nephew. This was Elizabeth's first marriage and she was twenty-seven years old, which was very unusual during that time period. Wesley was married on May 8, 1859, to Mary Jane Freeman. She was born in 1841, the daughter of Joshua and his first wife, Mary Warwick.

Wesley enlisted in the 130th Indiana regiment on March 10, 1864. Also in this regiment was Elizabeth cousin, Andrew Lytle, the son of Albert. The regiment left for Nashville, Tennessee, on March 16 and marched to Charleston, Tennessee in April. The unit performed operations in the Atlanta (Georgia)

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campaigns from May until September. October was spent in northern Georgia and Alabama against the confederate general Hood. They were assigned to the Nashville campaign from November until the middle of January. After the Battle of Nashville they were sent to North Carolina and fought in the Campaign of the Carolinas until May of 1865. After the surrender of Johnson and his army, the unit had duty at Charlotte until mustered out on December 2, 1865. This unit lost 147 men to disease and 38 were killed in action. Among them was Andrew Lytle.

After his discharge in December, 1865, Wesley Lytle lived in Howard County, Indiana, until March of 1870, when he moved to Tipton County. In April, 1873, he moved back to Howard County, and then to Logansport, Cass County, in March, 1874. He died in the Veterans Home at Marion, Indiana, on May 5, 1902.

As previously stated, Lindsey Buller married Elizabeth sister, Mary Lytle, and she died on November 28, 1863, in Grant County, Indiana. Lindsey was a Quaker and buried his wife in the Back Creek Church Cemetery. After the death of Joshua Freeman and the death of Mary Buller, Lindsey Buller married Elizabeth, the widow of Joshua Freeman and the sister of his deceased wife. They were married April 25, 1864, in Grant County. William Hall of Fairmount, Grant County, was appointed the legal guardian of the children of Joshua and Elizabeth that were under 16 years of age. These were the five youngest, namely: Jane, Sarah, Winnie, Oliver, and Hannah. William Hall was the first postmaster of Fairmount and was also the minister for over 50 years of the United Brethren Church. Elizabeth died September 7, 1891, and is buried near her sister, Mary, at Back Creek. Lindsey Buller died March 21, 1897, and buried by his first wife.

It is said of all stocks of Lytles that they are people small in stature, and hence the Scottish variation of the name Little. Lindsey Freeman was five feet eight inches, fair complexion, blue eyes, light hair. David Freeman was five feet three inches, fair complexion, hazel eyes, light hair. Wesley Lytle was five feet five inches, fair complexion, blue eyes and light hair.

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Joshua Freeman



Elizabeth Lytle Freeman

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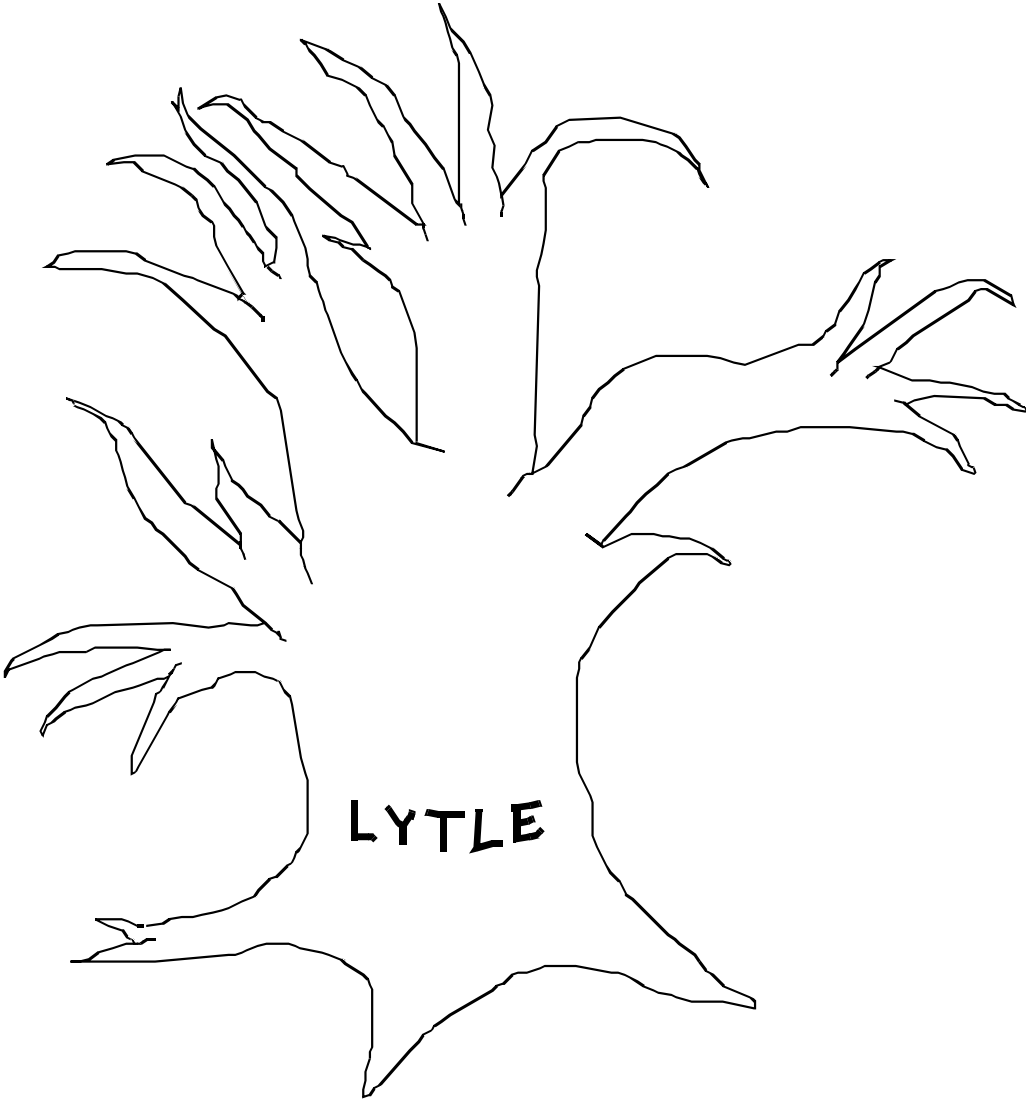
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A Lytle Chronology

1300's - The Lytle name first appears near the Scottish/English border. Several spellings existed, which was quite common for most words in that time period. The name is a variation of "Little", and it is said that Lytles were small people, and this seems to be borne out in our family.

Late 1600's - Many Scots were granted land in what is now Northern Ireland, in the hope of supplanting the Irish population. This occurred after England won a major battle against the Irish. It is from these Scottish immigrants that the term "Scotch-Irish" comes.

1723/1724 - Several Lytle families, probably related, arrive in Maryland and spread into Pennsylvania and Kentucky as well. The spelling of the name is often "Little", but most all to change the spelling to Lytle to match the Scotch pronunciation.

1735-1745 - William McCord's daughter marries Thomas Lytle Sr. in Pennsylvania and has two sons before his death, Thomas (about 1740) and Henry (about 1742). After the death of Thomas Sr., she marries a Mr. Means and has six more children.

1761 - Henry Lytle's marriage to Margaret Reed is recorded in Pennsylvania. The date and place of Thomas' marriage to Catherine King is unknown.

About 1765 - Thomas and Henry Lytle move to North Carolina and settle on Caraway Creek. This land was first in Rowan County, then Guilford, and is now in Randolph County. While Thomas acquired over 800 acres, Henry Lytle's name does not appear on any land records.

Thomas and Catherine Lytle have no children, but Henry has three daughters.

1773 - Frank Lytle Sr. is born, possibly in October. Thomas and one of his slaves are most likely Frank's parents. Several other slaves of similar age also appear, but their relation is less clear. Their names are Joe, Sam, Esther, John (Jack), and Pink.

1783 - Henry Lytle's daughter Elizabeth marries Daniel Merrill. Her sister Rosanna marries John Johnston (Johnson).

1786 - Henry Lytle's daughter Nancy marries John Johnston's brother, Joseph. Many Johnsons from these families still live in and around Randolph County.

1794 - Thomas Lytle makes his will, leaving all possessions to his wife and three friends. In a private paper, signed by the same heirs, they promise to set free the slave Frank at Thomas' death and the remainder at Catherine's death.

Shortly after the will is recorded, Thomas dies. His friends petition the state legislature for Frank's freedom, and ask specifically that he have the Lytle name.

1795 - Frank's freedom is finalized and granted by the state. He is probably married this year, though there is no record of the event. The other slaves and their offspring are hired out for wages.

1796 - Francis (Frank Jr.) Lytle is born on July 29. He is the oldest of nine children. Following him are Elizabeth (1799), Albert ("Bird", 1802), Catherine ("Kate", about 1805), Alfred (about 1806), Deborah (about 1809), Dorcas (about 1810), Mary ("Polly", about 1811), and Rebecca (about 1820).

1816 - Catherine Lytle dies. The remaining slaves are freed. The Means and Johnston families start a long court battle trying to gain the inheritance of several hundred acres and the remaining slaves of the Lytle Plantation.

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1817 - Francis Lytle is married about this time, to Winnie Blizzard. No record of this marriage has been found.

1818 - James, the oldest Francis' eleven children, is born. Albert Lytle marries Winnie Tucker

1825 - Approximate death date of Frank's wife.

1827 - Frank Lytle is named as the father on a "Bastardy Bond". Mother's name somewhat illegible, probably Sally Dunning. No info on the child so far other than its birth. Frank's daughter Deborah marries Emsley Robbins.

1828 - The court case against the Thomas Lytle estate is finalized. His heirs are allowed the proceeds from the sale of all slaves born after Thomas' death and from the sale of 403 acres of land. The slaves which lived in Thomas' time are allowed to stay free.

Frank Lytle's daughters Polly and Dorcas are married to Richard Laughlin and William Swaney.

1832 - approximate death date of Winnie (Blizzard) Lytle and remarriage of Francis. Second wife's name is unknown, but family tradition ties her to Jefferson Davis, the Confederate President. Their only daughter is born in 1834, and Francis' wife dies.

1833 - death of Elizabeth (Lytle) Walden. Several children were born to her and William Walden. With the exception of some of her children's families, the remainder of Frank Lytle's descendants passed as white.

1834 - Francis moves to Monroe County, Indiana, possibly ahead of his family. He is married there in October to Martha (Patsy) Bulla, another Randolph County native. They have 15 children. The oldest, Albert, is born in 1835.

1836 - Francis moves a bit further to Grant County, Indiana, with his entire family.

1837 - Francis and Patsy's second child, Newton, is said to be the first white child born in Fairmount Township.

James, the oldest child of Francis, is married to Easter Bulla/Buller, another North Carolina native. Her relationship to Patsy Bulla is likely but has not been determined. James' sister Mary and Easter's brother Lindsey are also married this year.

1839 - Frank's daughter Deborah Robbins dies, leaving three daughters: Lydia, Mary, and Elizabeth.

1840 - Alfred Lytle is not found after this date, when he was living in Duplin County, NC.

1842 - Francis' brother Albert brings his family to Grant County from North Carolina.

1854 - Francis son Thomas moves to Iowa, but returns to Indiana by 1860. Francis' wife Martha (Patsy) dies probably in childbirth, with their 15th and his last child, also presumed to have died then. Sons Newton and Luke, possibly others, go to work for their Bulla uncles in Wayne County, and later marry there.

1856 - Francis marries Charity (Mendenhall) Benbow, a widow and mother-in-law of his daughter Deborah. She is seven years older than him.

1858 - Francis' wife Charity dies, and he remarries to Lucinda (Hoggatt) Rich, a young widow who was raised by Charity's son. She also dies late in the year. Francis keeps two stepsons, Henry and Calvin Rich.

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1860 - Francis marries another widow, Susannah (Said) Wright, who has three small children.

1861-1865 - Civil War. Five of Francis and Martha's boys serve for the Union: Newton, Luke, Stanford, Henry, and John. Stanford and John are killed in the war. Numerous grandchildren also served and several were lost. Four and possibly all five of Albert's sons also served. Andrew and Lewis died in the service. Enoch loses his left arm, but settles in Arkansas with his brother George, where they both raise families. Dorcas Swaney's sons serve in the Confederate Army, apparently for a short time, in North Carolina.

1863 - Most of the Indiana Lytle's sell everything and move to southwestern Iowa, settling in Page and Fremont counties. Some of them and their families later move back and forth to Atchison County, Missouri, just across the line. Freeman and Buller families remain behind.

Also this year, Francis marries a woman named Nancy. Nothing other than an old Bible has been found regarding this event, so her name and the marriage place are still unknown. His sixth wife, Susannah, has presumably died.

1869 - Frank Lytle Sr. dies in September, age 95, and almost 96 years old, having been born before the Revolutionary War and living past the Civil War. Three of his daughters and probably Alfred have died before him. None of his descendants named Lytle have lived in the state for almost thirty years, but the Swaney and Walden descendants are numerous. A handful of Black Lytles, descendants of the other slaves, still have families in the area. Of those sold in the 1820's, some were freed and kept the name, but most are unaccounted for after being sold to lawyers Hogan and Humphreys.

1870 - Albert and his wife Winnie are found living with their sons in Madison County, Arkansas. Francis has yet to be found on the 1870 census, but it has been notorious for its omissions.

1871 - Albert Lytle dies in Arkansas. Frank Lytle's estate is finally settled in North Carolina. It is split by the daughters, who remained in North Carolina. His sons, it was determined, had already received their share in his lifetime. His original 200 acres from Thomas is split, part being sold to daughter Dorcas Swaney, the rest to a Mr. Riley Hill.

Mid 1870's - Francis' son is running the Lytle House in Shenendoah, Iowa. Years later it is sold and becomes the Park Hotel.

1880 - The Lytles are now in Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, and Wyoming. Francis Lytle dies at the Lytle house on December 29th, aged 84 years and five months. Of 27 children born to him, 13 are still living and three daughters' whereabouts are not now known.

1884 - Frank Lytle's daughter Dorcas Swaney dies. Sometime after this his last two children, Kate Lytle and Polly Laughlin also pass away. Also this year, the last known record of Francis' son, Newton, appears when his wife is granted divorce on the grounds of desertion in Sundance, Crook County, Wyoming. Many branches of the family, though, have "Uncle Newt" stories.

1900 - some of Albert's descendants begin migrating from Arkansas to Oklahoma. Two or three branches of Francis' family also move there later.

1904 - James Lytle, Francis' oldest son, dies in Riverton, Iowa, age 86.

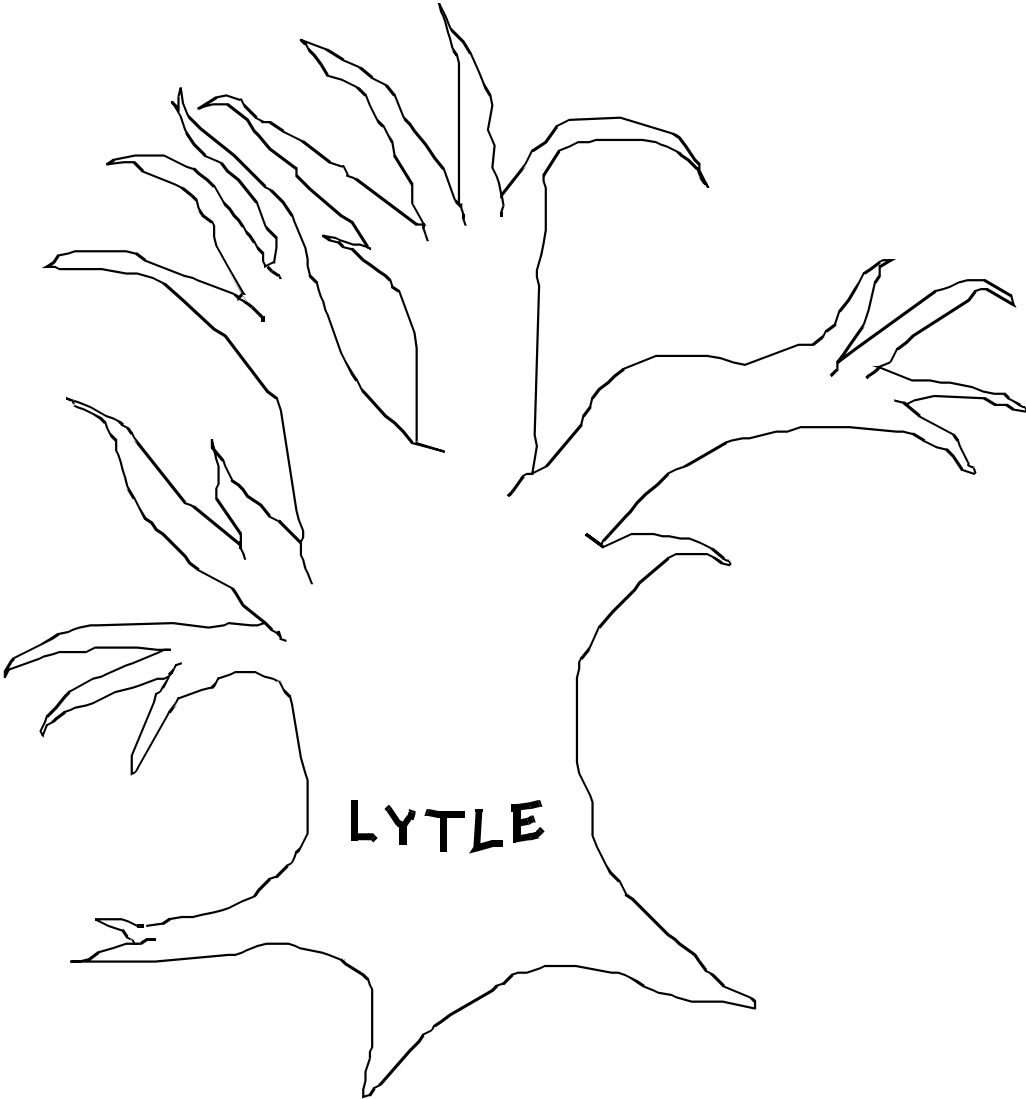
1908, 1917 - Albert's last sons, George and Enoch die in Oklahoma.

1930 - Francis' last living son, Luke, dies in Missouri at age 90. Only Demerious remains of his brothers and sisters. She passes away in Rock Port, Missouri in 1939, just short of 90 years old.

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Land Record Clues

County land records have yielded up several clues in their details that have allowed new avenues of Lytle pursuits. What might seem at first glance to be a rather dry subject (“Sure they owned land - so what?”) can turn into a gold mine of hints, clues, or straightforward answers.

Let’s look at a few examples from the Lytle entries in Grant County, which begin with the first settlers in the year 1836. The compass abbreviations N, S, E, and W are used throughout.

From Liberty Township:

Francis Lytle purchased 80 acres, W 1/2 of SW 1/4 of Section 25, March 7, 1836.

Lindsey Buller purchased 40 acres, NE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 25, May 27, 1836.

James Lytle purchased 40 acres, SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Section 25, Dec. 3, 1836.

Lindsey Buller married Francis’ daughter Mary, and his sister Easter married Mary’s brother, James. Lytles and Bullers were all from Randolph county, about 10 miles apart, and then ended up as neighbors here as well. Then they married. Two good genealogists’ rules of thumbs: neighbors move together, and neighbors marry neighbors. Also by this time Francis (1796-1880) had married Martha Buller, though her connection to the other Bullers is unknown.

From Liberty Township:

Albert Lytle purchased 40 acres NW 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 34, Apr. 17, 1847

Albert Lytle purchased 40 acres SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 33, Sep. 7, 1849

Francis Lytle purchased 40 acres SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 33, Sep. 7, 1849

Albert Lytle purchased 40 acres SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 29, Jan. 6, 1852

Francis Lytle and wife Sarah sold SE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 33, Nov. 1 1850

Albert Lytle (1802-1871) and his son, also named Francis (1820-?), were both still in North Carolina in the 1840 census, but were both in Grant County in 1850. It is possible that they came in the early 1840’s and lived with other relatives, but these entries in the late 1840’s are the first record of their arrival. There are additional entries showing land transactions between Albert and his son.

The son was in one entry listed as Francis Jr. This convention was used in past times not to show a relationship, but to denote any two individuals of the same name. Albert’s brother Francis had his own son Francis, but by this time he was living in Missouri. The last entry for Albert’s son is 1851. Francis, his wife Sarah, and their son, William B. Lytle (1839-?) have not been positively located after this date, though a Francis B. Lytle appears near Brownville, Nebraska with a Civil War record.

From Fairmount Township:

Thomas Lytle bought 20 acres part of SE 1/4 Section 29, Sept. 15, 1848

Thomas & Elizabeth Lytle sold 20 acres part of SE 1/4 Section 29, Sept. 6, 1852

Thomas & Elizabeth Lytle of Howard County bought part of NW 1/4 Section 29, July 8, 1858

During early research, Thomas was not found in the 1860 census near the other Lytles in Grant County. This land entry helped to locate Thomas in the Howard County census. Some of his children were born in Iowa, where he had moved his family between 1852 and 1858. Later he moved to Shenendoah again to operate the Lytle House hotel.

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From Fairmount Township:

Francis & Nancy Lytle sold 40 acres NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 Section 6 and 80 acres N 1/2 of NW 1/4 Section 5, May 9, 1863

James & Easter Lytle sold NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 Section 6 June 23, 1863

James & Easter Lytle 35 acres of NE 1/4 Section 6 and 37 acres of NW 1/4 of Section 5, Aug. 11, 1863

During the Civil War, many of the Lytles moved, apparently together, to southwest Iowa. Exactly what prompted the move and who was first to go (who followed who?) is unknown. Several of the Lytles who served in the war served first from Indiana and also from Iowa, even some from Missouri and Nebraska. After this time there are only one or two related Lytles in Grant County and they both appear to have moved back to their mothers' families after their fathers' deaths. The fathers were Andrew Lytle, son of Albert, and John Lytle, son of Rev. James Lytle and grandson of Francis (1796-1880).

An old Bible record lists 1863 as the marriage date for Francis Lytle Sr. and his wife Nancy, last name unknown. Because the marriage is not recorded in Grant County, it was initially assumed that he married in Iowa. However, this land entry shows that Nancy was at one time living in or near Grant County. We cannot rule out that he met Nancy while scouting out land in Iowa. Nonetheless, surrounding counties in Indiana should be searched for the record. Section 5 is near Delaware, Madison and Tipton counties.

From Page County, Iowa

Thomas Lytle bought 10 acres of Section 5, Township 69, Range 42, July 7, 1853

Thomas Lytle sold 150 acres of Section 33, Township 68, Range 41, Sept. 29, 1860 to A.J. Connor

Francis Lytle bought 150 acres of Section 4, Township 67, Range 41, Aug. 6, 1863, from A.J. Connor

These entries show the approximate arrival of Francis and his son Thomas. A.J. Connor is not known to be a relative. Although Thomas was shown in the Grant County, Indiana 1860 census, the records indicate that he may have traveled back and forth often during the years 1852-1862. Francis later sold 20 acres of his parcel to his son James in 1865. James was likely in the area before this time, but both are shown here in 1865. Several other sons of Francis and Albert appear in neighboring Page County, Iowa, and Atchison County, Missouri, from this time also.

1994 - Bicentennial Reunion

Yes, we're still planning a get-together for next year in North Carolina. Current plans are to hold a family reunion in honor of ancestor Frank Lytle's freedom sometime early in the fall. We have a long ways to go in order to plan events and activities, as well as find a meeting hall to gather in for the main event.

There will likely be two or three days of activities planned both before and after the main reunion so that people can have time to meet and greet the relatives and spend some time together. This will also allow people to arrive early or stay late at their convenience and still have things to do with family members. North Carolina offers a wide variety of both historical and recreational activities.

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