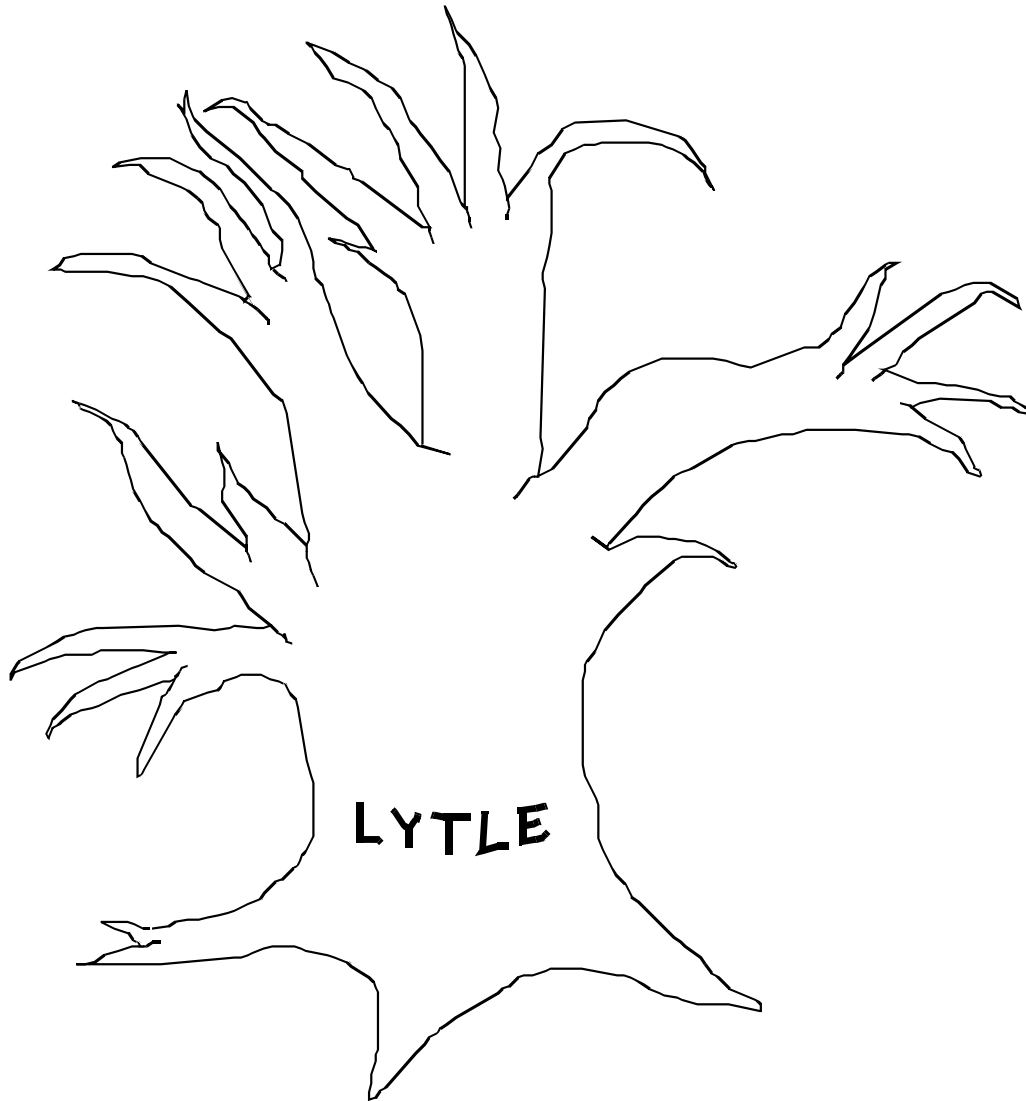


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Where are They Now?

After my visit to Lewiston, Nebraska, just before that last visit, I got to thinking of cemeteries, which shouldn't surprise anyone who knows me. The Lewiston cemetery was tended for years by Erna "Ernie" Lytle (1884-1976), son of Luke, and is now tended by a grandson of Luke, Gilbert Richardson.

Thinking of finding other Lytles? I decided to compile a list and print it here. In several instances I may know a location, though there may be no gravestone. This is the case with the earliest known generations of Lytles.

Going clear back to brothers Thomas and Henry Lytle, born around 1740, we might guess that they are buried in the "Old Lytle Burying Ground" in Randolph County, NC. This plot has had no stones since the late 1950's, and is now part of a residential area. It is also likely that a few generations following Thomas, his slaves and their descendants, are buried there, too. Henry Lytle's sons-in-law Joseph Johnston and John Johnston were known to be buried there in the early 1800's. Afterward, though, that piece of property fell to Frank Lytle, and was known to recent times as a "colored" cemetery, which was tended by a descendant of Frank's until the 1940's. Four of Frank's daughters are probably buried there -- Elizabeth Walden, Dorcas Swaney, Katie Lytle, and Rebecca Lytle. They all appear to have lived on or near Frank's land. Deborah Robbins died in Randolph County and could be there as well. All of Frank's sons moved away from Randolph County.

Francis Lytle (Frank Jr., 1796-1880) has a stone standing in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Shenendoah, Iowa. Although none of his children are buried there, other descendants are. His brother Albert died in Madison County, Arkansas, but no grave has been located.

Of Francis Lytle's many children, only two are known to be in the same cemetery. Daughters Mary Buller and Elizabeth Freeman (later Buller) are both in the Back Creek Friends' Church burial grounds near Fairmount, Grant County, Indiana. James Lytle has a stone at the Zion (also known as "Utterback") Cemetery in Riverton, Iowa. Thomas Lytle is buried in Marsland, Nebraska. Francis Moore Lytle is buried at Hope Cemetery, near Chester, Oklahoma. Tobias Lytle is buried in the Mt. Union Cemetery in Philomath, Oregon. And Winnie Edgerton is buried in Adams Co., Nebraska. Sarah Huff, from Francis' second marriage is buried in the Rose Hill Cemetery in Blockton, Iowa.

Francis' third marriage was to Martha Bulla. Although there are no stones left in the Union Cemetery near Fairmount, Indiana, she may be buried there, along with sons Albert and Harmon, who died in Grant County, and possibly three infant children, whose names, if any, are unknown. Of Francis and Martha's other children, Luke is buried with his second wife in the Lewiston, Nebraska Cemetery, along with three children and several grandchildren. Luke's first wife, along with four young children, is buried in the Irish Grove Cemetery, which is in a remote location in Atchison County, Missouri. Henry Lytle (1844-1911) is interred at the Sundance, Wyoming, Cemetery. Although there is no stone, his sister Ellen Miller might be there, also. Demerious Robinette (later Harris) is in the Milsap Cemetery in Rock Port, Atchison County, Missouri, while here sister Louisa is buried without a stone at the Green Hill Cemetery in the same city. Francis' sons John and Stanford were probably buried on Civil War battlefields where they died.

Four of Francis' daughters and one son have unknown burial places. These are Jane Benbow and Anna Brown from his first marriage, and Deborah Brewer, Ellen Miller, and Newton from his third marriage. It is not known whether Ellen or Deborah is the "sister who died in Colorado" as mentioned in a 1903 newspaper.

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I will try to publish gravesites for descendants of Albert Lytle, Dorcas Swaney and Elizabeth Walden in the next bulletin. I have some data on their children, but have to collect a bit more. Would anyone with knowledge of these locations please contribute them? Thanks!

Research Notes

A number of bits from here and there, which will hopefully be of interest. Just prior to the previous bulletin, I had occasion to be in Lewiston, Nebraska, where my own great-great-grandfather, Luke Lytle, is buried with many family members (though he died in Missouri). And now I have just been to Luke's birthplace, Grant County, Indiana. I spent some time in the library there, as well as in Fort Wayne's large genealogy section, making notes on people and trying to extend some "dead ends". And, at last, I had a chance to meet cousin Martha Stair and her husband Ira. A very nice and very miniature family reunion.

One long-term goal, pursued to a great extent by cousin Marilyn Sanders, is to find living descendants for each child of Francis Lytle -- if we think they exist. Several of his children did die without any children of their own, but there are still two we don't know about. It is not known whether his daughters Eunice and Deborah have living descendants today. Deborah's husband Willis Brewer died in the Civil War, and we cannot find record of her after about 1870. Perhaps she remarried. Eunice did have four children, and died fairly young. Only one has been found after the 1860 census, a daughter named Martha Ann Cry. And now a marriage record for Martha has turned up in Madison County, Indiana, just across the line from Grant County. Martha married Frederick Lowery (or Lowrey) on February 10th, 1884. But, this couple has yet to be found in any subsequent record, though a search was made of the 1900 census index. Madison County does have three different marriage records for a Martha Lowery, one of which could be our Martha, but nothing has turned up yet on these potential husbands: Adolphus Lowery, Frank Callawy, or George UMBERHOUSE. One of them could be her second husband.

Grant County marriage records turn up another one of those complicated relationships. This time amongst four sets of siblings. James Lytle had sisters Winnie and Mary. Lindsey Buller had sisters Easter and Rebecca. George Rich has a sister Mary. Samuel Edgerton had a brother Owen. And here is how they intermarried: James Lytle married Easter Buller, while his sister Mary Lytle married Lindsey Buller. Winnie Lytle married Samuel Edgerton. Owen Edgerton married Mary Rich, and George Rich married Rebecca Buller. So there it is, a full circle, Lytle to Buller to Rich to Edgerton and back to Lytle again.

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The Randolph County Journal recently mentioned Catherine Lytle, widow of Thomas Lytle, in a record from the county court, dated 1811: “against John Short and Robert Miller, charging them with a riot on the night of the 29th [of September] at the house of Catherine Lytle. Ely Powell became surety for Short, Abraham Vickery and George Adams for Robert Miller. The presentment in this case called Catherine Lytle, widow, ‘an infirm, antequated, helpless woman’ and defines the affray in terms of profane swearing, drunkenness and gaming. Witnesses: William Miller, Alexander Gray, Solomon Goodman. Two slaves of Miller were involved.”

Your Editor has recently acquired the entire 1880 census on computer CD-ROM. There is a nationwide index of every name, and it allows for spelling variations. Within individual states, one can search by combinations of first name, race, age, and a few other factors. This has allowed several “lost” family members to be found. One example, and perhaps the biggest surprise: Louisa Lytle, daughter of plantation slave Jesse, was found far from home, in Kansas, with husband Daniel York Kearns and three children, whose birthplace was listed as Indiana. They had still been in Randolph County in the 1870 census. Anyone needing an 1880 census lookup, contact the Editor.

We’ll close out this issue with a poem, found in *The Making of a Township*, which chronicles the settlement of Fairmount Township, Grant County, Indiana.

Back Creek Graveyard

By Mark Baldwin

Old, uncared for, ‘most forgotten,
Overgrown with weeds and grass,
Scarcely noticed, little thought of,
By the people as they pass,

Is an ancient Quaker graveyard,
With its stones in quaint array,
Sculptured o’er with hopes eternal
Of the resurrection day.

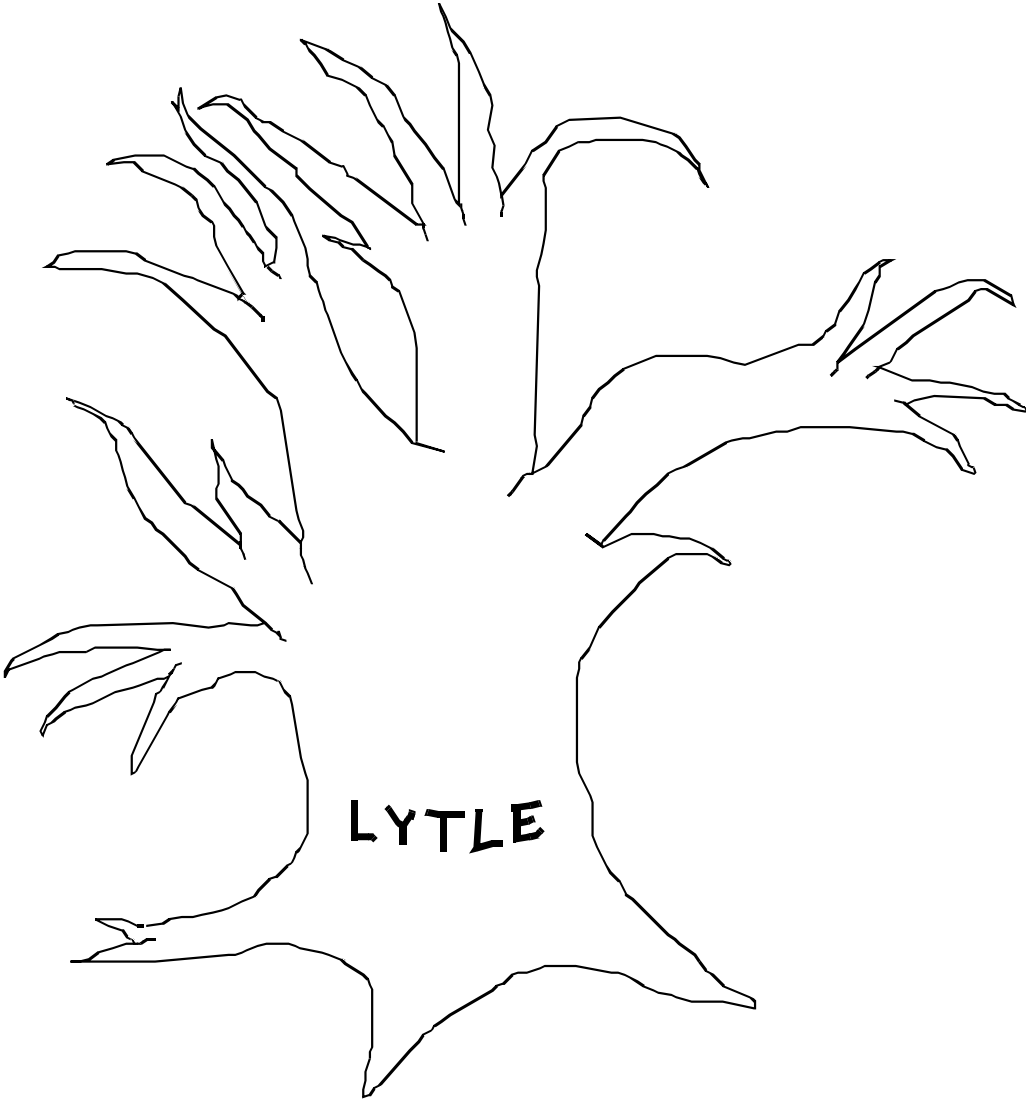
Yet beneath this sod are resting,
Folded in their last long sleep,
Men who toiled that we might proposer,
Men who sowed that we might reap,

Their glory not in martial deeds,
Quiet, simple lives they led,
They built their faith on vital creeds,
Not on ruins of the dead.

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Where are They Now?

A list of Lytle burials, continued from the previous bulletin. This time, we look at descendants of Albert Lytle, Elizabeth Lytle Walden, and Dorcas Lytle Swaney.

All of Albert's sons served in the Civil War. Lewis Lytle, the youngest, died of infection in St. Louis, Missouri, and was buried in the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. There are numerous Union soldiers buried there without identification. Alfred Lytle also died in the Civil War, in Decatur, Alabama, and was probably buried there as the Union suffered 605 casualties in a three day campaign in 1864. George Washington Lytle lived until 1908 and is buried in Enterprise, Haskell Co., Oklahoma. Enoch was he last surviving child and died in 1917. He lived in Haskell, Haskell County, and is buried in the Mountain Home Cemetery, along with numerous Lytle relatives.

Of Albert's two daughter, a grave has not been found for either. Mary Jane (Lytle) Wright died in 1849 in Grant County, Indiana, and it is likely that no marker survives. Many other Lytles are known to have died there, and only a few markers are known to exist, even when the cemetery is known. Sarah (Lytle) Quinn died around 1901 in Webbers Falls, Muskogee County, Oklahoma. She was married a second time to James Martindale. There may be a marker under either surname, but it has not been located.

Elizabeth (Lytle) Walden (1799-1834) had five known children. Only one grave has been found, and that is for her daughter Dorcas (Walden) Blizzard (1828-1879). She is buried at the Caraway Church just south of Hillville and the old Lytle land in Randolph County, NC. Dorcas' line is the only white Walden line. All others lines to the present day are black. This, sadly, may help to explain why some of their burial markers have not been found. I have personally been to several old and disused cemeteries in the Randolph County area, and found that many of the older black cemeteries have fallen into disuse and abandonment. There are quite a few Walden burials in the southeast corner of the county, out in the woods, where trees and tangles make it hard to locate stones. Some are readable, some are nothing more than field stones, and many graves are likely unmarked to begin with.

Further west is the Streiby community. There, in the Streiby churchyard, are buried many Walden descendants, but these are descendants of William's uncle, also named William. The Rev. Islay Walden is buried under a field stone there, the middle one of three in a row on the north side of the church. Islay was the son of Branson Walden, who was a grandson of the latter William. Most of the other relations there are descendants of Anderson (1822-1871), another grandson of the latter William, who may be buried there as well, along with his wife Julia.

As to the descendants of Dorcas (Lytle) Swaney, there is not enough room in this bulletin to do them justice. The Swaney's are quite numerous, and for nearly 200 years most of them have never strayed far from Randolph and Guilford counties. Dorcas and William Swaney had 14 children. I will mention a couple of them whose markers I have seen. Reuben Swaney (1832-1914) is buried in the Caraway Church Cemetery near Dorcas Blizzard. Dock Swaney (1848-1919) is buried in the Mt. Shepherd Cemetery along with his wife Julia (Hill).

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Huff Reunion Announced

Calling all Huff descendants! There will be a Huff reunion in Colorado Springs on the weekend of July 17th, 2002. This includes the descendants of Sarah Lytle (1834-1911) who married Reuben Huff, and of George Lytle (1829-1908) who married Leah Huff are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Shirley Searles at donandshirleys@rraz.net or at 2335 N. Palo Verde
Lake Havasu City, AZ 84604
1-928-854-8353

HOW Many Children!?

Readers will likely recall that Francis Lytle Jr. (1796-1880) had 27 children by his first three wives. None of his later wives bore him any children that we know of, but the next three did come with children of their own, for a total of 26 more step-children!

Wife number 4 was Charity (Mendenhall) Benbow (1787-1858), the widow of John Benbow (1787-1844). Both of this couple were from Randolph County, NC. They had fifteen children, all of whom were actually adults or had died before Charity's marriage to Francis in 1856. Charity was the only wife older than Francis. Her son Moses Benbow, was also married to Francis' daughter, Jane, in 1843. Charity's children were:

Miriam (1808-1851), m. Nathan Morris
Evan (1809-1872) m. Margaret Scott
Benjamin (1811-1863) m. Nancy Morris
Aaron (1812-1879) m. Catharine Elliott
Moses (b. 1814) m. Jane Lytle
John (1815-1866) m. Leah Modlin
Lydia (b. 1817) m. Joseph Hollingsworth
James (1819-1829)
David (b. 1820) m. Lydia Osborne
Enos (b. 1821)
Charity (b. 1823) m. Aaron Van Scoyoc
Mary (b. 1824)
Martha (1826-1830)
twin William (b. 1827)
twin Jesse (b. 1827) m. Nancy Jessup
Sarah (1830-1904) m. Silas Cook

Most of these children were born in North Carolina, and, in fact, all of them were born even prior to Francis' second marriage. Some of the later children may have been born in Ohio or Indiana, but there is disagreement on this. Most of them were also married in Grant County, Indiana. From Charity's children we know of one branch related through Moses and Jane (Lytle), and I also know once descendant from Aaron's line, not related to the Lytles.

Francis' next wife was Rocinda (Hoggatt) Rich (1824-1858), widow of John Rich (1817-1855?). They were married in 1858, and Rocinda died quite shortly thereafter. Rocinda had six children: Nancy (b. 1843), Calvin (b. 1845), Milton (b. 1847), Jane (b. 1848), Jesse (b. 1850) and Henry (b. 1851). Of

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these, only Henry's whereabouts are known past the 1860 census. In 1870 he was accused of brandishing a knife against step-brother Luke Lytle in Milton, Missouri. He was later married there to Mary Million. When step-brother Henry Lytle died in 1911, Henry Rich was listed as attending the funeral. Henry Rich was

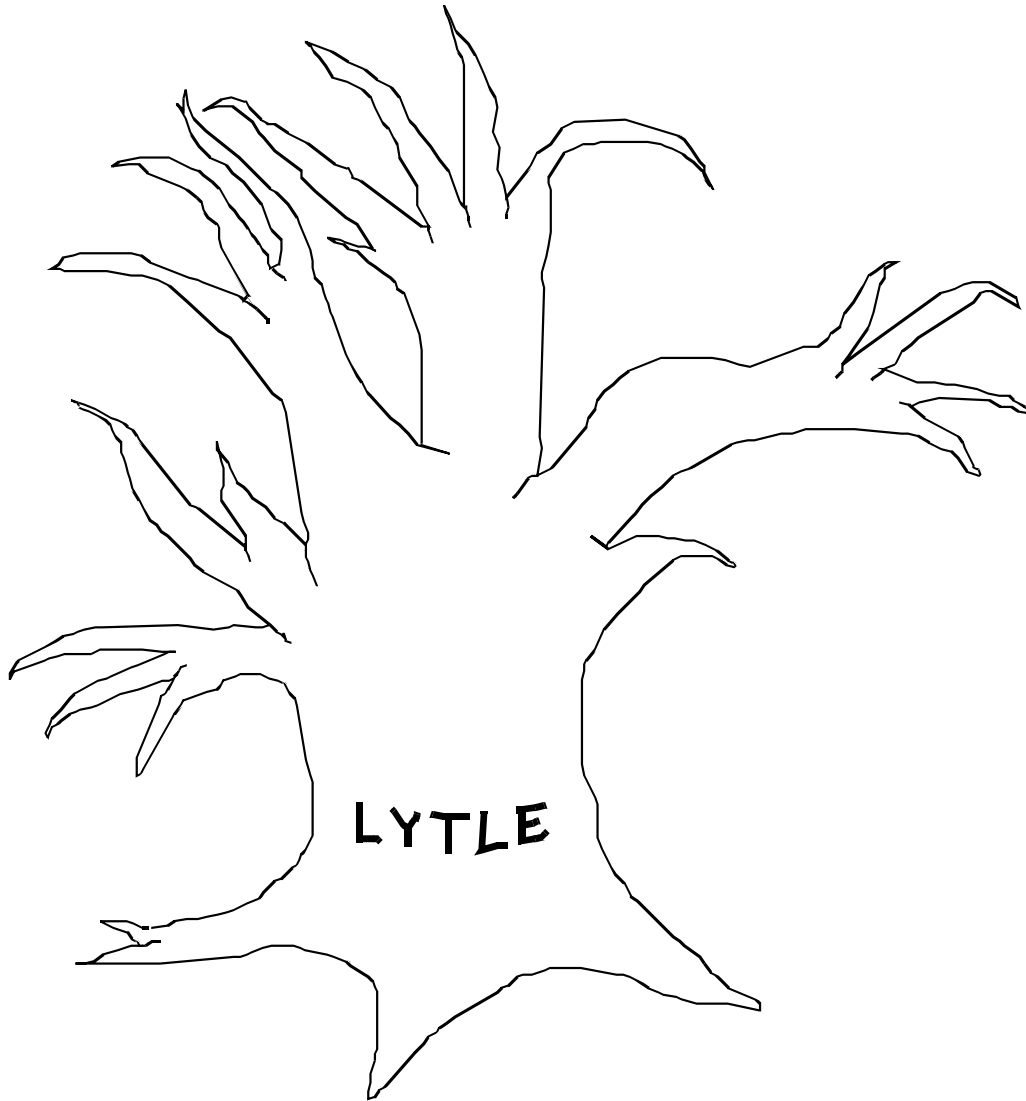
Susannah (Said) Wright (1825-1862?), widow of Joel Wright (1817-1858?) came with four children: James (b. 1848), Nancy J. (b. 1854), W.J. (b. 1857) and David (b. 1858). Susannah and her children are listed with Francis in the 1860 census. None have been found after that date. It should be noted that Francis has not been found in the 1870 census.

According to a family Bible, Francis was married to Nancy, maiden name unknown, in 1863. We assume that Susannah and Nancy, like the others before them, died before Francis. He is widowed in the 1880 census. It may be that any or all of his wives five through seven died in childbirth, but this is only speculation.

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Monroe County, Indiana

In 1834, Francis Lytle (1796-1880) was known to have been in Monroe County, Indiana. This is from the record of his marriage to Martha Bulla (1815-1854). No other record exists of them in Monroe County, and it is not known if he went ahead of the rest of his family, or if they came to Indiana together. They may have been here until 1836 or 1837. We can guess this because of the birth of the oldest child of this marriage, Albert, in 1836. Newton was next oldest, born in 1837, and he was said to have been the first white child born in Fairmount Township, in Grant County, the next home of the Lytles. Had Albert been born there, the distinction would have been his, so it may be that these Lytles remained in Monroe County, or were also somewhere in between.

I was in Bloomington, the seat of Monroe County, for a couple of days, starting on July 22nd. Having seen much of northern Indiana -- from Richmond to Indianapolis, Kokomo, Marion, and on to Chicago, flat land with regular township lines -- it was a surprising change driving south 50 miles from Indianapolis. The land becomes more hilly, and thickly wooded in places. As Beautiful as it was, it is easy to imagine farming folk being attracted to the much flatter land to the north.

Bloomington is quite nice. It is a busy college town. The county courthouse is large and stately, with an ornate dome which can be seen from quite a bit of town. An interesting concrete marker on the south side of the courthouse reads "Center of U.S. Population - 1910 Census." One evening I even saw their county fair!

The county library is nice, and has a good-sized section of genealogy in its Indiana Room. But, the only record of the Lytles is the one marriage record. The license was issued on October 28, 1834, and the marriage was performed on October 30, by James Crane, Justice of the Peace.

*Francis Lytle
and
Martha Buller
30th October
28th 1834*

*State of Indiana
- Monroe County
1834 by me a Justice of the Peace of said County James Crane Jus. Peace*
I do hereby certify that Francis Lytle and Martha Buller were joined in matrimony on the 30th day of October 1834 by me a Justice of the Peace of said County James Crane Jus. Peace.

Francis Lytle
and
Martha Buller
Issued October
28th 1834

State of Indiana } I do hereby certify that Francis Lytle and Martha
Monroe County } Buller were joined in matrimony on the 30th day of October
1834 by me a Justice of the Peace of Said County, James Crane, Jus. Peace

Note: This record has been indexed more than once. Lytle is often "Lytte" and here Bulla, written as "Buller" is sometimes indexed as "Butler." Doubtless no one in the county heard of the names before or since.

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It Runs in the Family

Some years back, Lytle Plantation News listed a large number of Lytles and their descendants who used the names Francis and Frank. There were even a few ladies by the name of Frances. But there are several other names shared amongst the families.

First, recall that Frank Lytle Sr. (1773-1869) had these children: Francis, Elizabeth (Betsy) Walden, Albert, Catherine (Katy), Alfred, Deborah Robbins, Dorcas Swaney, Mary Laughlin, and Rebecca. Frank also had an illegitimate daughter, Louisa (or Lucy) Dunning. These names were passed on to Frank's grandchildren, too, and sometimes beyond. Others names were shared by Frank's grandchildren. And here they all are:

Albert: Albert Lytle (1836-1859) son of Francis, and Albert Walden (1827-?), son of Elizabeth Walden.

Alfred: Alfred Walden (1828-?) son of Elizabeth Walden; Alfred Swaney (1840-1913), son of Dorcas. Also an Alfred Lytle (1835-?), son of the slave Jack Lytle, possibly a brother of Frank.

Deborah: Deborah (Lytle) Brewer (1841-?), daughter of Francis.

Doctor: Doctor Nixon Swaney (1848-1919), son of Dorcas; Doctor P. Laughlin (1838-?), son of Mary. Yes, "Doctor" is a name, and is even in use by a Swaney to this day. The name "General" was also used in a different branch of the Walden family.

Elizabeth: Elizabeth (Lytle) Freeman Buller(1822-1891), daughter of Francis; Elizabeth Robbins (1839-?), daughter of Deborah; Elizabeth Swaney (1838-?), daughter of Dorcas. Note: Elizabeth Clark was the mother of slaveowner Thomas Lytle.

Henry: Henry Lytle (1844-1910), son of Francis; Henry Thomas Lytle (1862-1930), son of Luke and grandson of Francis. Note that Henry was the name of slaveowner Thomas Lytle's brother.

James: James Lytle (1818-1904), son of Francis; James Walden (1831-?), son of Elizabeth; James Swaney (1829-1914), son of Dorcas. Also a James Lytle (1833-?), son of the slave Jack Lytle.

Jane: Jane (Lytle) Benbow(1824-?), daughter of Francis; Jane Robbins (1825-?), daughter of Deborah. Note: Jane Thornburg Moore may have been the mother-in-law of Frank Lytle. See also Mary Jane Lytle, below.

John: John Lytle (1845-1864); Jack Lytle, brother of Franks Sr., was probably named Jack originally, but changed his name to John for official records. James Lytle and Luke Lytle both had sons named John.

Louisa: Louisa Lytle (1852-1923), daughter of Francis.

Mary (note, this was probably the name of Frank's wife; and there are LOTS of Marys, and often the oldest daughter for those of Frank's children who had daughters): Mary (Lytle) Buller (1819-1863), daughter of Francis; Mary (Walden) Calvin (1827-?), daughter of Elizabeth; Mary Jane (Lytle) Wright (1825-1849), daughter of Albert; Mary Robbins (1835-?), daughter of Deborah.

Sarah: Sarah (Lytle) Huff (1834-1911), daughter of Francis; Sarah (Lytle) Quinn (1825-1901), daughter of Albert.

Stanford: Stanford Lytle (1841-1864).

Thomas: Thomas Lytle (1824-1909), son of Francis; Thomas Lytle (1844-1970), son of James and grandson of Francis. See also Henry Thomas Lytle, above.

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In the News

Two cousins in Nebraska sent me a newspaper clipping about cousin Carl Lytle. Thanks to Bertha Richardson and Ellen Ford. Carl Lytle is a first cousin of Ellen's.



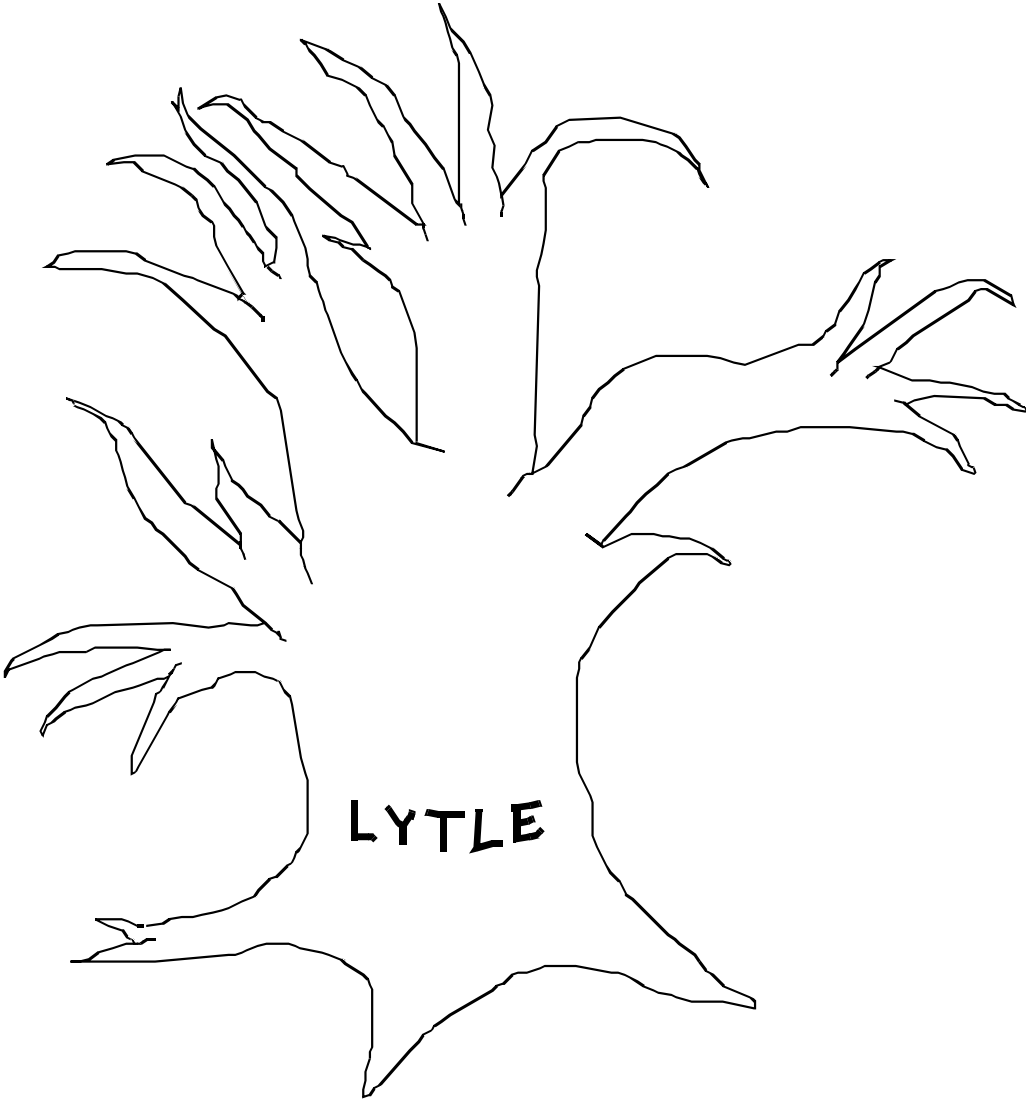
Carl Lytle, of Odell, Nebraska, has collected over 600 antique levels over the past 15 years. Most are from carpentry and woodworking, but others are for machinists, military, or leveling kerosene stoves. Many are wooden, made of cherry, mahogany, or sometimes rose. He finds most of them at auctions and then restores them. Old wooden ones require a bit of oil and glue. About 50 are on display in his garage.

Carl is a retired grocer and Korean War veteran. His wife's name is Marilyn. A son, Patrick Lytle, of Madison, Wisconsin, collects plumb bobs, which his father claims to have gotten him started on.

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In Memory

Once again I must report the death of one of our cousins. Phyllis Eldridge Friesner passed away last July after several years of poor health. Through it all, though, Phyllis maintained a life very active in genealogy and other hobbies.

Phyllis was my first-ever Lytle contact. She had a Lytle who died in Missouri and so did I, so I contacted her in 1977 - now 25 years ago - after reading one of her submissions to the *Genealogical Helper* magazine. Neither of us realized at the time that we were actually related, so she gave me another contact, and it was a few years later when I got back to her with the good news that we were indeed related.

Since that time, Phyllis often sent me articles on Lytles (related or not), genealogy in general, and sometimes Norwegian genealogy, in which we both had an interest. She was also my sounding board for ideas about Lytle research, and was quite helpful in critiquing ideas; she had spent some years as a professional genealogist in Iowa. I only met Phyllis and her husband Ted on one occasion, and that was the Lytle reunion in Rock Port, Missouri, about 12 years ago. Many of the newsletter readers who attended may also remember her from that occasion.

I want to use this opportunity to let all the readers know of my gratitude to Phyllis for her great amount of help over the years. I will sorely miss hearing from her. Thoughts and prayers for her husband Ted, their children and grandchildren are appreciated.

News from the Past

The following is an obituary from Asheboro, North Carolina, for a distant cousin descended from the Lytle Plantation. Louisa (Lytle) McCain (1842-1926) was the daughter of Jane "Jenny" Lytle (born about 1816) and granddaughter of Pink Lytle (about 1788-1845?), a slave of Thomas Lytle (1740?-1794). Louisa died February 1, 1926. She was married to George McCain on December 1, 1868. They had one daughter, Cornelia McCain, who married John Wesley Brower on December 25, 1889.

"Aunt" Lou McCain, an aged and highly respected colored woman, died at the home of her daughter, Cornelia Brower, Monday. She was the last of her immediate family, all of whom were of the old school type of their race. Aunt Lou was a consecrated Christian and lived her religion daily. In her earlier days, Aunt Lou was a regular attendant at church service and her home at all times was open to the ministers of her church. She is also survived by one grandson, Emmons Brower, who is principal of the colored school in Asheboro. She was the widow of the late George McCain, who died a little more than a year ago.

Thanks to Juanita Kessler, Asheboro, for pulling this article from microfilm

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Huffs Hold Reunion

Descendants of Sarah Lytle Huff (1834-1911, wife of Reuben Huff) were among the attendants at a July Huff family reunion held on July 17th and 18th at Fountain Colorado, near Colorado Springs.

We had a good turnout of 6 generations of the family. Many of us had never met, some of us had not been together for 64 years. We represented the families of 1.) Sarah Olive "Doll" Huff and Herbert Victor Baker; 2.) Leigh Huff and Minnie Baker; and 3.) Aaron Huff and Lucy Anice Combs. We shared pictures, family history records and travelled to Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs to the graves of Aaron Huff, Herman Wheeler Huff, Climera Huff Miller.

We were dismayed to discover that the death date on Aaron's marker is in error by 3 years and Herman's marker has been destroyed and has no markings whatsoever. We also learned that Lucy Anice Combs Huff Baker is buried in Durango, Colorado in a grave with no marker other than the cemetery number. Cousin Shirley Jameson has agreed to check into prices and the possibility of taking up a family collection to mark these sites.

We plan to have another reunion around the end of June to the first of August in 2004. It will be held on Catherine Creek near La Grande in eastern Oregon. Many committees were formed to take care of everything from procuring the lodge for the reunion, the food, activities for adults, activities for children, genealogy swapping etc. Phyllis Huff Harrison lives in the area and will coordinate all events. She should have a tentative date in the near future. We're hoping to be able to draw in more of the Lytle cousins as well as expanding the cousins back to Frank Lytle, Henry Huff, Case, Combs and other family members. At least four of our retired cousins and spouses travel to Arizona in the winter and hope to have a mini-reunion around February 2003. Every age group had a good time. It is generally agreed that there may be a few skeletons in our past, but our heritage is rich and our love for each cousin is sincere. The family members are all talented, interesting and wonderful.

-- Shirley Huff Searles

Aaron Huff (son of Sarah Lytle Huff) and Lucy (Combs) Huff had 12 children, but only 3 of them were represented at this reunion in Colorado Springs Colorado.

I, Jack Baker, am a grandson of Sarah Olive (Huff) (Avery) Baker through her son, Raymond Foss Baker. My wife, Anita, and I were the only ones present who were descended from Sarah. We drove down from Broomfield, Colorado.

Harold Leigh Huff was represented by two of his children. Marjorie (Huff) Tatman came to the reunion from Walsenburg Colorado. Brad Huff, La Veta Colorado, drove up with Marjorie. They are my father's first cousins. Marjorie's daughter, Tawn (Tatman) Howe, drove down from Cheyenne Wyoming. Shirley (Mason) Jameson is a granddaughter of Harold through his daughter, Audrey. She and her husband Dick drove up from La Veta Colorado. Tawn and Shirley are my second cousins.

Wesley Aaron Huff was represented by three of his grandchildren through his son Robert Ernest Huff. Shirley (Huff) Searles and her husband Don were there from Lake Havasu Arizona. Phyllis (Huff) Harrison and her husband Larry were there from La Grande Oregon. Bob Huff and his wife Caroline were there from Boone Colorado. All of them are my second cousins.

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There were also two generations of children present. I'm not sure who brought all of them. But the total in attendance was close to 50. The younger ones prepared a fabulous array of food or just plain had fun playing with their cousins. We, the older generation, enjoyed the food and the socializing.

Many of us made a trip to the Evergreen Cemetery, in Colorado Springs, to visit Aaron's grave. He is buried with his daughter, Climera (Huff) Miller and her daughter. Most of them had never been to Lucy A. (Combs) Huff's grave at Greenmount Cemetery, in Durango Colorado. I showed them pictures of the site and told them that there was no tombstone. We discussed pitching in to place a stone there and one of us will investigate that possibility.

The oldest and youngest attendees were identified. Marjorie Tatman is the oldest by only a few years. The youngest is Tristan Howe who is 2 years old. He is the son of Tawn.

I think we can call this year's reunion the first bi-annual reunion. We did make plans to do it again in 2004. Phyllis Harrison will be the focal point to organize the next one.

-- Jack Baker



Bob Huff, Casper Huff, Shirley Huff Searles, Deborah Searles Ogden, Jack Baker, Anita Baker
at Evergreen Cemetery, Colorado Springs

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Chasing Uncle Newt

Uncle Newton Lytle (1837-1900?, son of Francis Lytle) was last heard of with any certainty in 1888. His wife Elizabeth (Henson) filed for divorce in Crook County, Wyoming, in 1889, claiming abandonment and that Newt had left with one Mary Sellers. Several of the researcher cousins have been trying to find him ever since (see Volume V, Number 2, April 1991 for a detailed history of Newt).

So, has he been found after this date? Not exactly, but a clue for further research has turned up. Cousin Leta Olson of Texas found a birth record in Missouri which names Newton Lytle, originally of Grant County, Indiana as father of a girl child, not named. The mother's name is listed as Mary Lytle, maiden name Vine. This could be Mary Sellers if Sellers were her married name. The record also says that this was her sixth child, so it seems likely that she may have been married before.

This is definitely our Newton. His age, birthplace, and occupation (stock raiser) all fit. There's only one snag -- the birth record is from 1886, predating his reported departure from Wyoming. We can only speculate that as a cattle man Newton may have kept up a household at both ends of the cattle trail. The birth certificate for his daughter was found in Barton County, Missouri, on the Kansas border, and about 60 miles north of Arkansas (and even closer to Oklahoma).

The 1900 Census for Barton County finds one Lytle there: Bertha Lytle, aged 8 years, a boarder with the Rector family. Her parents' birthplaces are both listed as Missouri. So, it can't be told if she is connected to Newton or not. Newton has not been found in the 1900 census, and there is an unconfirmed verbal history that he in fact died in 1900. More research may yet turn up Newton's final resting place, or even some additional descendants.

LYTLE PLANTATION NEWS

October, 2002

Volume XVI, Number 4