NIRAN 7--Solomon Wheaton 6--Solomon 5, 4--Joseph 3--James 2--Clement 1.

Niran is listed in the April 1929 Bulletin page 29 as follows: b Fayette, Nov 27, 1801 marr (1) Oct 14, 1828 Charlotte dau of Col. John & Elizabeth Lamson Dennett, b Exeter NH 1802, d at East Machias, Me Dec 24, 1843. Niran marr (2) Aug 20, 1844, Susan dau of Marshall & Susanna Gardner Thaxter, b Feb 18, 1808 at Machias, d Jan 26, 1877 at Machias. He d Jun 1, 1863 at East Machias and was a Dr. Children by Charlotte Francis Niran b Mar 28, 1830, d Sept 15, 1834; Edward Payson b Nov 24, 1831 marr Mary Elizabeth Simpson, 1872, no children; Francis Niran b Nov 1, 1834 d Nov 26, 1842; Elizabeth Leach b Mar 16, 1837, marr Rev. C. H. Pope, July 31, 1865, d May 2, 1902; George Henry b Jan 22, 1843, d Sept 6, 1844. Children by wife Susan: Charlotte Dennett b Jun 13, 1845, marr Rev. Justin P Moore in Calif Mar 3, 1880; Frederick b Aug 11, 1847 d Aug 7, 1848; John Davis b Sept 9, 1848 at East Machias; ARLO b Dec 16, 1850; Clara b May 29, 1853. My note, son Arlo was a Prof for many years connected with the Boston Technology School, and a prominent writer. The University of Delaware Library, Special Collections has a collection of his writings and letters to and from him.

CHARLOTTE DENNETT 8--Niran 7--Solomon Wheaton 6--Solomon 5, 4--Joseph 3--James 2--Clement 1. Charlotte b Jan 13, 1845. The following is written by Celeste: This info taken from a hand written journal composed by my Great Grandmother Charlotte many years ago. She was

Charlotte Dennett & Husband
Rev. Justin P Moore

Arlo Bates

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a school teacher and principal in Benicia, formerly the capital of Calif. And she taught school in San Rafael, Calif. She married Justin Payson Moore from Portland, Me., who was a noted scientist in Calif. in the early days of the state. There were numerous newspaper articles written about her. She d Sep 2, 1936, Oakland, Calif. Children Ellery Moore, Carita Moore b Mar 2, 1882 in San Rafael, Calif., Arthur W. Moore b Aug 1875, b Calif.

CARITA MOORE 9--
Charlotte Dennett 8--Niran 7--
Solomon Wheaton 6--Solomon 5,4--Joseph 3--James 2--Clement 1.

Carita b Mar 2, 1882 marr Jun 27 1907 Alexander Young in Oakland, CA, He b Oct 18, 1862. He d Sep 7, 1946, in Oakland. She d Oct 15, 1966 San Rafael, CA. Had three children one being Carita Young b Apr 8,


CLEMENT LINE

We have an addition to the Clement Line taken from the Fall 2008 Bulletin, page 314. It has Harriet (Hattie) 10 and list children. Daughter Margaret was omitted. She marr. Jack Moulton.
ANOTHER LINE OUT OF SOLOMON BATES, OF GREENE, MAINE

A Deceased member of TBA for many years, Robert P Buchanan, was also a descendant of Solomon Bates of Greene, Maine, through Solomon’s son Caleb. Recently on Nov. 25, 2008 Robert’s wife Doris Bragg Buchanan passed away.


HENRY HERRICK 7-Caleb 6--Solomon 5--Solomon 4--Joseph 3--James 2--Clement 1. Henry b 8-8-1815, d 1893. Marr. Mirinda Sprague dau of Col Moses & Miranda ‘Reed” Sprague. Both are buried in the Old Valley Cem, Greene, ME.


ROBERT PORTER BUCHANAN 10--Arthur Perry 9--Lizzie 8--Henry Herrick 7--Caleb 6--Solomon 5--Solomon 4--Joseph 3--James 2--Clement 1. Robert marr. Doris Mary Bragg in 1940. They owned and operated the Norway Diner, in Norway, ME. They grew the food for the diner. After selling the diner they moved to Auburn, ME. Robert buried in Mount Auburn Cem in Auburn, ME. I believe Doris will have a Spring 09 burial.

BRICK WALLS

by Sandy Bates

In this and future Bulletins we will deal with Brick Walls and write up what we know on each of them. By showcasing them, perhaps someone can add something to help get us over this Wall.

If you have a Brick Wall and would like to submit the info you have thus far and add some pictures etc, send to me at SBates1011@gmail.com.

This time we are dealing with SIDNEY BATES, who Members, Frank E and Freda Bates are showcasing. Frank’s father, George Monroe
Bates told Frank back in the 1960’s, that he thought his family came to the Carolinas from England or Scotland in the 1700’s. And also that the large group of Bates in central Alabama were not kin to him. The Al. group trace back to Virginia. Frank thinks that his father and Katharine Lee Bates looks a lot alike. Which is interesting to me, as Frank’s DNA is only one mutation off from my husband Harold Bates, the baseline person for the Clement & his brother James of Dorchester Line! I have searched many times trying to find a clue as to who Sidney’s parents are. On-Line, I found a Sidney Paddock Bates b abt 1790 Hartland, Windsor, Vermont and his parents Jacob B & Charity Paddock, marr. 25 Oct. 1789. Jacob born 1770 in Middleboro, Plymouth, Mass. But I could find nothing else on these names.

MY QUESTION. Could this Sidney have gone south, and that is why no records seem to be showing up on his parents in the south?

Frank said that Sidney had a brother Hiram. On-Line I found a Law Suit dated 1834. Hiram versus James Honeycutt. Hiram wanted to recover $250.00 for work & labor done. He received his money. I found a Hiram born abt 1795 in GA. Died aft. 1860 in Al.

This threw me off since Sidney could have been born in Mass?? But for brother Hiram it says born in GA.? So does that mean I have to rule out Sidney Paddock? Who was born in VT????

From here on we submit the information that Frank has:

SIDNEY BATES is the earliest known Bates in this family. He was probably born in the old Pendleton District of South Carolina early in the 1790’s. The birthplace is estimated based on a record of Sidney’s service in a South Carolina Militia unit during the War of 1812. In 1819 he was in Alabama and married Lucinda Honeycutt on November 19, 1819 in Montgomery County. On October 7, 1834, Sidney Bates and Lewis J Jones purchased the Northwest ¼ of Section 21, Township 23N, Range 15E of Alabama, about 160 acres. This land is in the northeast portion of present day AL Chilton County 3-4 miles west of the Coosa River. When this land was purchased it was a part of Shelby County. Then in the 1860’s it became part of Baker County which was renamed Chilton County in the 1870’s. Sidney Bates died March 28, 1850. Lucinda Bates died about 1858 based on verbal legend. She was not in the 1860 census.

In 2002 Franklin E Bates, one of Sidney’s gggrandchildren had a DNA test that showed this family was probably related to Clement Bates of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The test also indicated there was no relation with the Bates Family of Old Virginia. There is a verbal legend that we are Scot-Irish. Based on some Internet information some Bates were sent from England to Scotland as colonists. According to a lengthy article in the Birmingham, AL News, Bates is the second most common surname in the McFarland Clan. Therefore, the Sidney Bates ancestors may have followed a circle route of Kent County, England, to Scotland, 1300-1400’s, then to the USA or colonies in the 1700’s. This would have given more generation in which our DNA could have mutated some distance from Harold Bates (Clement Bates)

Although many of the family stayed in the Alabama vicinity, many also reside in Texas. At times some of the family has resided as far east as Massachusetts, New Jersey, as far north as Wisconsin, and as far west as California.

Descendant Tree – 5 generations

1 SIDNEY BATES (1790 - 1850) + Lucinda Honeycutt (1802 - 1858) dau. Of Thomas & Josephine Honeycutt

Notes

Sidney Bates son, John Carl Bates, died in 1923 in Selma, AL. The Dr in John Carl Bates’ Death Certificate lists the birth state of Sidney Bates as Tennessee. The birth state for Lucinda Honeycutt Bates was also listed as Tennessee. Third hand memory, 133 years later, may not be a reliable source but it is a document with their birth place. Census records indicate Sidney was born in South Carolina and Lucinda in GA.

It is my understanding that Hiram Bates, a brother of Sidney, lived near Sidney Bates. Ashley Bates may be another brother.

From the Lucinda Honeycutt Bates Application for Bounty Land based on the service of her husband in
the War of 1812, located in the National Archives, and the South Carolina Military Records for Pendleton District we received this information: Sidney Bates was a Substitute in the Company Commanded by Captain Goss in the Regiment of Drafted Foot Men Commanded by Col. Naish in the War of 1812, Pendleton Court House, South Carolina, 1812 for the term of several months and continued in actual service for a term of three months and was honorably discharged at Sisters Gerry, South Carolina 1815. He was listed in the South Carolina Records as a private for Austin Reg't South Carolina under Captain Goss. Also listed with him in the same Company was Daniel and Lewis Gentry. After the War Sidney Bates along with the Gentry Brothers came to what was then the Alabama Territory. He married 19 November 1819, according to page 412 in Book C of the Montgomery Co., Alabama Territory, to Lucinda Honeycutt the daughter of Thomas and Sarah Honeycutt. They were married by Agrippa Atkinson. The 1820 census of Montgomery Co. Alabama index list him as Sidney Baty.

1830 Census of Shelby Co. Alabama on page 274 listed Sidney Bates between 30 & 40 (born 1790-1800). His wife Lucinda between 20&30. Their children were: 1 male 0-5; 1 female 0-5; 2 girls 5-10;

2 Mary Polly Bates (1820 - )
+ Jackson Dennis (The Dennis family moved to Wise County, Texas)
  3 Lucinda Dennis (1837 - )
  3 Jacob Dennis (1840 - )
  3 James Dennis (1843 - )
  3 Dosey Ann Dennis (1846 - )
  3 Susan Dennis Dennis (1848 - )
  2 Elizabeth Bates (1821 - 1881) moved to Wise Co, TX & died there.
+ Simon Jackson Gentry (1815 - 1888)
  3 Jane Gentry (1837 - 1914)
  + John Cearley
  + Mary Ann Gentry (1840 - 1870)
  + John Fulghum
  3 William Allen Gentry (1841 - 1927)

+ Sarah Margaret Moore
  3 Lucinda Gentry (1843 - 1908)
+ Andrew Jack Ray
  3 Eliza Adeline Gentry (1846 - 1920)
  + Joshua Benton Walker
  3 Thomas Jefferson Gentry (1848 - 1928)
+ Elizabeth Lackey
  3 Sarah E Gentry (1850 - 1876)
+ James Culwell Porter
  3 Susie B Gentry (1852 - 1903)
  + Charlie Cartwright
  3 Martha A Gentry (1856 - )
  + Henry Frank Anderson
  3 John Washington Gentry (1859 - 1935)
+ Mattie Burton
  3 Emma Lycurgus Gentry (1862 - 1920)
  + John Bunyon Walker
  2 Susan Bates (1824 - 1901) died 31 Jan 1901, marr. 20 Jul 1841
+ Elisha Marcus
  + Jesse Henley (1807 - 1884)
  3 Sara Henley (1860 - 1919)
  2 Thomas Jefferson Bates (1828 - 1898) CSA Civil War veteran b 12 Dec 1828, d 27 Jan 1898, buried Bay Springs Cem, Shelby Co. Al. Probably served in 64th Inf.
+ Minerva Caroline Pate (1830 - 1862)
  3 Charles Sidney Bates (1857 - 1923)
+ Margaret Wade Howard ( - 1951)
The Charles Sidney Bates family moved to central Texas, Limestone County, about 1891. Several hundred Texans spring from this family. 4 Carrie Lee Bates (1881 - 1967)
+ Marshall McMahon DuBose
  4 Elizabeth Cassie Bates (1883 - 1937)
+ Joe Dunn
  4 Mary Coryell Bates (1885 - 1951)
+ Jim Denton
  4 Ola Mae Bates (1886 - 1976)
  + R L Lusk
  4 Jesse Dean Bates (1888 - 1998)
  + Gus Ivey
  4 Samuel Sidney Bates (1890 - 1960)
  + Augusta Cornish
  4 Jake Edgar Bates (1892 - 1965)
  + Annabel Sealey
  4 Effie Augusta Bates (1894 - 1955)
  + W. Lon Chandler

Francis Marion Family
+ Mary M Springer (1871 - 1958)
  + Isabell Jones
  4 John Bates (1885 - )
  3 Vianna Bethanni Bates (1854 - 1875)
  + Joseph Vanderslice
  + Hettie Morris Beard
  2 Sarah Bates (1829 - )
  + Thomas G Coker (1827 - )
2 James R Bates (1830 - 1863) CSA died in northern Virginia, 1863, probably served in 12th Reg. Al Inf. Probably died 2nd battle at Bull Run, VA. 
+ Amanda McKee (1830 - )
  3 George Bates (1863 - )
2 Bethanna Bates (1832 - ) marr. 10 Sept 1847
+ William Thacker
2 Martin Marion Bates (1836 - 1915) CSA Civil War veteran b 26 July 1836 d 21 Nov. 1915, buried Old Shelby Cem, in Shelby, Al. Served in 31st Reg Al inf.
+ Sarah E Mahan (1843 - 1919)
  3 Della Bates (1871 - )
  + Oda Robinson
  3 Clanton L Bates (1872 - 1946) + Emma Keith (1875 - 1946)
  + Jesse M Bates (1896 - 1946)
  3 Lula Bell Bates (1875 - )
  3 N A Bates (1874 - )
  3 Josephine Bates (1878 - )
+ Francis Bonaparte Jordan
2 Amanda Bates (1837 - 1855)
2 JOHN CARL BATES (1839 - 1923) CSA Civil War veteran B 20 Feb 1839 Chilton Co Al. D 20 Feb 1923 in Dallas Co., Selma Al. Buried Christian Church Cem, Plantersville, Al. John and wife lived east of Canton, Al, in the 1880 census but moved to Dallas County prior to 1900 census. John's death cert. Lists father Sidney as birthplace TENN. But believe wrong as born in SC.
+ Ann Giles (1839 - 1875)

Earliest known photograph in the family is of Newell Carl Bates and part of his family at Newell's farm in southeast Neshoba County, Mississippi, approxi-

4 Charles M Bates (1886 - 1960)
4 GEORGE MONROE BATES (1888 - 1974) b 20 Apr 1888 d 24 Dec 1974 Meridian MS, buried Richie Hailey Cem, Noxubee Co MS. George was a very kind, friendly person who had many, many friends, A USPS letter carrier from 1917 till Nov 1950 in Meridian, MS. Member Highland Methodist Church but visited many churches. Wife Ethel was a strong Christian person. Folks would travel several hundred miles to have her pray over them. At times she could see events before they happened. Several other kin are buried in this Cem mostly Wades and Haileys. Ethel's grandmother Denton is buried there.
+ Lillian Ethel Wade (1897 - 1990)

George & Ethel 1944

George and Ethel Wade 1963

George Monroe 1907

George Monroe 1907

5 Omar Theron Bates (1918 - 1963)
5 Alice Geraldine Bates (1921 - ) WWII US Navy
+ Robert K Butts (1924 - 1960)
+ Sara Lafaye Daniels (1926 - 1992)
+ Durrell Mikul (1921 - 1996)
+ Lillian Louise Godwin Christian (1927 - )
+ "Dott" Francis Dorothy McCauley (1928 - 1992)
+ Emma (Sally) McCoy (1930 - )
5 FRANKLIN EVAN BATES (1932 - )
+ Freda Elizabeth Culpepper (1935 - )
Clarke A Bates (14 Dec. 1889 - 1958) Clarke was a supervisor for the State of MS Highway dept. He owned parts of two oil wells. They lived most of life in Heidelberg, MS. A small town
+ Lizzie Wedgeworth

4 Arthur Lee Bates (25-Oct. 1894 - 1987) WWI Veteran Perhaps Buried Magnolia Cem, Meridian, MS. I Frank visited many times in his household. He had a small neighborhood grocery store, that was on my paper route as a teenage paperboy. He enjoyed amazing health until his death at 93 with pneumonia. He was the only member of his generation that served in the Military during World War 1
+ Mittie Lee Partridge

Frank & Freda 1954

Franklin and Freda Bates 2007

5 Arthur Bates (1925 - 1975)
5 Rachel Bates (1931 - )
+ Raymond Hughes (1930 - )
4 John Carl Bates (Jul 1897 - )
+ Gusty Partridge
5 Carl Bates WWII veteran
5 Clyde Bates (1931 - )
4 Lillie May Bates (May 1898 - 1958) Buried Hester Cem
+ Jesse James
4 Marnie Bates (1904 - 1957)
+ Henry Louis Smith (1893 - 1967)
5 Luther Louis Smith (1921 - 1957)
5 Nevlin Smith
+ Unknown
5 Willis Levert Smith (1926 - 1995)
5 Sara Elizabeth Smith (1931 - )
5 Mary Louise Smith (1934 - 1934)
4 Hilliard Bates (12 Oct. 1900 – 31 Oct 1900)
3 Lewis Bates (1865 - )
3 Susan Jane Bates (1866 - 1935)
+ James Pink Milstead (1862 - 1936)
3 Lillie Alabama Bates (1869 - 1930)
+ William Chesley Barnes (1873 - 1904)
4 Emma Barnes
+ Godwin
5 Elnora Godwin
+ Elam
3 Oscar F Bates (1870 - 1953)
+ Mollie (1875 - )
4 Wheeler Bates (1900 - )
4 Henry Bates (1903 - )
+ Dora (1878 - 1966)
3 Hilliard Levert Bates (1872 - 1955)
+ Julia Mott (1883 - 1939)
4 Maggie R Bates (1904 - )
+ McKissack
4 Ernest Bates (1906 - )
4 Clifford Bates (1908 - )
4 Adolphus L Bates (1910 - 1970)
+ Ava Lee Felts (1915 - 1980)
4 Arthur Bates (1916 - )
4 Coley Monroe Bates (1918 - 1997)
4 Raymond Bates (1921 - )
3 Floyd A Bates (1875 - 1962)
+ Sarah E. (1892 - 1958)
+ Emma Coke Mahan (1854 - 1923)
3 Cora Lee Bates (1876 - 1933)
+ Edward M Porter (1872 - )
4 Ernest E Porter (1896 - )
+ ?
  5 Mary Sue Porter
+ Ira Martin
+ Hattie Porter
+ Frank Porter
+ Dock H Gentry (1859 - 1930)
4 Sidney J Gentry (1903 - )
+ Jennie Lowery (1903 - )
5 Emogene Gentry (1929 - )
3 John R Bates (1880 - 1936)
Mary Lou (1887 - 1918)
4 Catherine Bates
4 Lucile Bates (1913 - )
+ Millard Gallup
5 Danny Gallup
4 Ola Mae Bates (1914 - )
+ ? Ware
+ Una Verta (1887 - )
3 Nolia Bates (1891 - 1977)
+ Albert S Atchison (1886 - 1931)
4 Annabel Atchison
4 Martha Atchison
4 Ester Atchison
4 Ulman Atchison
4 JW Atchison
+ Desie
3 Dora Ella Bates (1881 - 1956)
+ John Ralifae Barrett (1883 - 1963)
4 Columbus F Barrett (1903 - 1988)
+ Thelma W (1910 - 1997)
5 Levern Barrett
4 Birdie Alma Barrett (1906 - 1978)
+ Hobson Lee Patterson (1898 - 1980)
4 Gerstle G Barrett (1908 - 1978)
+ Eunice C (1919 - 1976)
5 R C Barrett
4 Jeffery Barrett (1913 - 1972)
+ Selner E. (1914 - 1990)
5 Joyce Dannette Barrett (1953 - 1986)
+ Unknown Logan
4 Ennice Barrett (1914 - )
+ Guy Stewart Patterson (1909 - 1985)
4 Lannice Evie Barrett (1917 - )
+ Willard Jess Mobley (1915 - 1975)
5 Dora Alice Mobley
+ Bobby Hayes
5 Merle Mobley
+ Bill Walker
5 Douglas Mobley
+ Shirley
5 Eugene Mobley
5 Johnnie Lee Mobley
+ Fred Walker
5 Jeneva Mobley
+ William Earl Willitte
5 Molly Kay Mobley (1948 - )
+ Jerry Leon Dees (1939 - )
5 Leroy Mobley
+ Paula Sullivan
5 Gail Mobley
+ Keith Marchant
4 Ernest Barrett
3 Thomas Jefferson Bates (1882 - )
+ Lula Jane Rucker (1880 - )
4 Lottie Bates (1909 - )
4 Willie Bates (1911 - )
4 John T Bates (1915 - )
4 Arther Bates (1917 - )
4 Dessie Clara Bates (1919 - )
4 Omega Martin Bates (1921 - )
+ Gertrude C
4 Donald D Bates (1924 - )
3 Shelley Houston Bates (1885 - 1946)
+ Ora Blanks (1889 - 1917)
4 Shellie Lamar Bates (1906 - 1973)
Shelly Houston Bates
+ Hazel Davis (1913 - 1994)
5 Hazel Diane Bates (1942 - )
4 Roger Lee Bates (1910 - 1974)
+ Margaret Lois Hicks (1906 - )
5 Margaret Louise Bates (1934 - )
+ Richard Lester McCumber (1925 - 2003)
+ Gladys Mae Skinner (1909 - 1979)
5 Ora Evelyn Bates (1947 - )
+ Dwain Carlos Gilliam
5 Clifford Lamar Bates (1947 - 1998)
+ Feliza ?
4 Mary Louise Bates (1914 - 1992)
+ Samuel Titus Street (1906 - 1988)
5 Titus Julian Street (1937 - )
+ Patricia Ann Nachlinger
+ Virginia Ann Walf (1940 - )
5 Myra Gail Street (1941 - )
+ William Kenith Fuller (1941 - )
4 William Lenard Bates (1916 - 1917)
+ Lida L Olive (1894 - 1936)
4 Marvin Bates (1919 - 1922)
4 Robert Houston Bates (1922 - 1988)
4 Annette M Bates (1926 - )
3 Gilvey Bates (1889 - )
+ Bernice M (1894 - )
4 Marie Bates (1914 - )
4 Ocie M Bates (1916 - )
4 Elizabeth D Bates (1919 - )
3 Callhoun Bates (1893 - 1975)
+ Elizabeth ( - 1983)
3 David Hobson Bates (1898 - 1966)
+ Nettie B Lowery (1897 - 1989)
4 David Hobson Bates, Jr (1931 - )
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, and CORRECTIONS


ELECTION OF OFFICERS: RESULTS

We had the election ballot for officers for 2009, in the Fall 2008 Bulletin. It was voted unanimously as listed on the ballot. Sandy Bates, President- James Cleveland Bates as Executive Vice President- Duncan Bates Todd as Resident Agent- C. Ben Bates as Budget- Sandy Bates as Banking. C. Ben Bates remains as President Emeritus.

Thank you for your votes. Sincerely, Sandy Bates, President.

BATES ASSOCIATION LOOSES MEMBERS

Obit of Edwin R. Bates called Ted. In the Fall 2006 Bulletin I told of going to a Reunion in Turner, Maine and meeting Ted there. He made myself and my daughter so very welcome, and he considered it an honor to have the President of The Bates Association at his gathering. I in return considered it an honor to be invited and a part of this large Family of Bates & Rickers. Ted passed away Dec 12, 2008. His family described him as a wonderful, generous spirited and great man. A service was held Dec 30, 08 at the First Congregational Church in Evanston, Ill. A second service will be held in the Spring of 2009 in Turner, Maine during the Bates reunion on Ricker Hill where Ted will finally rest. I hope to attend this service. Ted and family are from the Edward of Weymouth Line: Edward--Edward--Joseph--Joseph--Eliphalet--Thomas--Thomas--Alfred--Edwin R. "Ted" Bates

Obit of Franklin Bates of Birmingham, AL. I met Frank at the 2002 Bates Association Reunion held here in Greene, Maine on our farm. Him and wife Linda showed up in an RV and set up camp in our back yard. In the back window was a big sign that said The Bates Motel. Then he put up his confederate flag, so we all called him the Rebel. (My Mother Leona, took an instant liking to Frank and Linda, when she saw the flag, as Mom was born in VA.) When we went out to eat, Frank and Linda had their first Lobster ever, and Lee Bates snapped a picture of them.

Frank passed away unexpectedly Jan 1, 2009 at age 82. Born in Yonkers NY on May 13, 1926. Survived by wife Linda and his children, 4 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. He spent 23 years in the Air Force as a Flight Line Crew Chief. Belonged to the Single Action Shooting Society, Birmingham Harley Owners Group, Shriner’s, various dance groups and Ham Radio Group. Funeral services will be held at Alabama National Cemetery in Montevallo, Al. Our hearts go out to Linda and the family. It is with great disappointment that I could never prove Franklin’s line out for him. It was a total Brick Wall.

Thanks to another member also named Franklin Bates for sending the original death notice, and to Linda for sending their last picture together.
FRONTIER JUSTICE?
By Stan Bates

Chapter Seven
“Greener Pastures?”

Time and distance are usually just what a doctor would order to cure situations such as the tragedy that the Bates family had endured. Levi and the rest of the Bates brothers and sisters knew that Seward did not offer them the peace and serenity they so desperately desired. Justice was not served by the actions of the Seward criminal justice community! Levi often wondered to himself where Sheriff Sullivan was at during the days prior to and following the shooting. Yes, he knew the Sheriff had an excuse that he was taking prisoners to the main prison but that was something that could have been delegated to deputies. Besides, why wasn’t the Sheriff allowed to give testimony at the Coroner’s inquest? After all, even if those who presided did not know the difference between self defense and pre-meditated murder, the Sheriff did and should have been a key witness. None of the Bates clan had used a weapon until William was mortally wounded and an attempt had been made to kill Levi.

Levi often wondering if the whole matter was simply just a political payback for some transgression he unknowingly committed when he was on the Seward County Board? Seward County had been through some rough financial problems during the time he had served on the Board. Could the decision not to try Gus Thomas for his brother’s murder have been predicated upon the lack of sufficient funds in the County Treasury to pay for a lengthy trial? What about his decision to award the second railroad line to the Atchison and Nebraska railroad instead of choosing the Union Pacific proposal which would have been better for his family’s farming interests? Levi would be haunted for the remainder of his life over these issues but he would never find the one single answer that would justify Seward County not taking appropriate legal action against the Thomas clan who murdered his brother and attempted to kill him.

Proper retribution for the killing of William would never occur nor would the Bates family ever find the closure it needed to get past this tragic example of frontier justice. The other bitter reality that resulted from the shooting was that the entire Bates clan was now divided. While most sided with Levi, there now existed a rift between Levi and Israel that would never heal. Levi, his brother George and his sisters Mary and Sarah decided to move to the Brown/Rock County area of Nebraska and be near Seth and Martha. James decided that while he would initially head to Long Pine but he wanted to go to Washington State because he heard the land was very inexpensive and the ability to grow crops was most promising. Israel on the other-hand decided to move back to the Plattsmouth area to be closer to his mother and Charles.

Shortly after his County Commissioner’s term was over in July of 1880, Luther Bates, Levi’s oldest son married Maggie Best. Since the Bates clan had decided to move, it only made sense that Luther get married and bring his new wife as the family moved to another less volatile area. Levi and his brother George made a trip to visit with Seth in the Long Pine area of Nebraska. George found property in Long Pine near to Seth’s farm. Levi purchased land just north of Bassett, Nebraska, which was about 20 miles from where Seth and George farmed. Mary and her husband Eldridge Brown as well as Sarah and her husband George Dunaway would move into Long Pine city itself.

Upon their return to Seward, all of the Bates families put their property up for sale in order to make the move before the winter months brought the heavy snows and cold winds from the North. They sold the vast majority of their animals at the bi-weekly sales in Bee with Mr. Butler as well as any of the older farm equipment and household furnishings that were not absolutely necessary.

It was late September before the families were ready to depart Seward in covered wagons towed by oxen. With any luck they would reach their destinations in Long Pine and Bassett by the end of October and have some time to get moved into their new homes. Given their luck so far in 1880, they would have been much wiser to have stayed
put and waited for spring before attempting the journey!

It was a freakish storm that hit the travelers late in October but it brought more snow than any of the storms of the past several years. They were stuck some 80 to 100 miles outside of Long Pine and were unable to continue. They had to stay in place until enough of the snow melted that allowed them to continue on the trail to Long Pine. Even then, passage through the rivers, streams, and creeks was much more dangerous as the melting snow raised the level of water much higher than normal.

Being hunkered down in the snow for almost 10 days caused most everyone on the trip to catch colds. Levi's wife, Helen, was the one who was hit the hardest during the freezing cold weather. She became extremely weak and had a great deal of difficulty breathing. Levi remembered his bout with pleurisy while he was in the Civil War and limited his outside activities to the bare minimum. He tried to comfort Helen as much as possible while most of the work on the outside of the wagons was performed by his brothers, his sister's husbands, and his sons who were now 16 and 14.

Be the time they finally arrived at Seth's farm, it was now November and everyone was exhausted! It was clear that Helen's condition was not really improving but at least she was able to be seen by a local doctor who pronounced that she should be able to continue the trip to Bassett if she stayed inside the wagon and limited her activities. Levi decided to depart his siblings in Long Pine after only a couple of days rest and continued on to Bassett, arriving at their new farm three days later. He just did not want to take a chance on another early storm that would keep them from their new home.

The early onset of winter caused Levi and his sons to spend most of their time getting the animals that survived the trip bedded down in the new barn. This property was not nearly as nice as their homestead had been in Seward, but Levi knew that with effort he'd have the farm whipped into shape the following year!

Helen tried to help out with the cooking inside the farm house but it was obvious that her condition was not improving. Most of the inside work fell on Luther's new wife, Maggie, who did an admiral job of taking care of the domestic matters. However, by the onset of spring in 1881, the local doctor from Bassett, had instructed Levi, that Helen needed to stay in bed and rest if she had any hope of surviving. Her condition was worsening rather than improving which was not the information Levi needed to hear. None-the-less, frontier farmers and their wives understood the hardships that accompanied their chosen life styles. They knew they had to do what needed to be done to survive.

Upon hearing of Helen's condition, Levi's mother, Catharine Kelley-Bates contacted him and indicated that she wanted to visit and to assist him with Helen until she could recover. Levi's mother, who was now 83 years old, arrived from Weeping Water in June and provided comfort for Helen Marie Whitwood Bates, who passed into the after life on August 18, 1881 at the age of 53. Services were held and she was laid to rest on the family farm cemetery plot north of Bassett.

Levi had no idea that his luck would continue to be bad and that 1881 was going to be just as bad as 1880 had been for him in Seward. His mother, Catharine Kelley-Bates, took ill shortly after Helen passed away and she also succumbed on October 10, 1881. Services were held the following day for Catharine by Elder H.H. Allen and she also was buried in the family cemetery on the Bates farm north of Bassett.

The passage of both his dear wife Helen and his mother Catherine forced Levi to think of his father's decision to leave New York. His father, Stephen Lyman Bates, told him he could not remain in New York because everywhere he looked it reminded him of his mother Elizabeth Renne Bates. That decision was the basis of his family's migration from New York to Illinois and later to Nebraska. Levi decided that he would not be able to remain at this farm so he decided to let Luther take over the operation of this farm. Hiram and he would move to a location closer to Long Pine where George and Seth were located. However, Levi learned his lesson from the last move and would wait for spring before moving again. He was not a man who repeated mistakes a second time!
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