A STITCH IN TIME: FEMALE DESCENDANTS OF POLLY HOLMES (1805–1839) OF MADISON COUNTY

BY HAROLD A. HENDERSON, CG*

“Ye fair that cast on this an eye
By me a pattern take and
Spend your time industriously
And such a sampler make
Polly Holmes her work done
In the year 1824”

Polly was about nineteen years old when she stitched these sentiments, an alphabet, and more onto a nine-by-seventeen-inch cloth sampler. Now somewhat faded, it is treasured and preserved by a great-great-great granddaughter, who received it from her mother, Eloise (Bassett) Scholes (1920–2011). Family connections suggest that Eloise may have received it from her mother’s unmarried older sister, Frances Laura Burdick (1885–1969), but the precise provenance is uncertain. Documentation is lacking, some likely candidates died young, and the sampler may have “skipped” a generation or not followed a particular line of descent. Still, the sampler was surely passed down through the generations outlined in the following genealogical summary.

In the twenty-first century, a 193-year-old hand-stitched sampler might appear as a mysterious, out-of-context heirloom. But in Polly’s day decorative needlework signified literacy, propriety, and refinement, and indicates that she likely attended school. Betty Ring writes that samplers were “with few exceptions the products of school instruction. . . . Until about 1840, every girl who had received the slightest education had made a sampler and was thereby prepared to mark the linens of her future household.”2

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1 The sampler is now in possession of the author’s wife, who received it from her mother Eloise (Bassett) Scholes (1920–2011).

In 1824 women had minimal rights at law and were mostly confined to the home. Their education centered on vocational and moral training, preparing them for marriage and keeping a home.

Over time, the cultural role of decorative needlework evidently shifted: from being a mark of established social position, it became more frequently an instrument of social advancement... [and] samplers, family registers, and other decorative needlework served as ‘passports to gentility.’

Needlework also served as a survival skill that sustained many female-headed households in the face of disaster, disease, or male abandonment.

Beyond those necessities, “To inscribe one’s name on a material object assured some sort of immortality.” The sentiment Polly inscribed was not original, but her stitching allowed her to speak to her posterity without speaking out of turn. Polly was a Holmes who married into the Denison family; as a matter of course her children were Denisons and her daughters became Yorks and Crandalls. Tracing Polly’s female descendants, “ye fair,” reminds us of what we have in common with the 1820s: most families are still defined by male surnames.

Through this sampler, passed down through generations of daughters, Polly (Holmes) Denison still speaks to her descendants. Because women are the traditional keepers of the family lore, tracing the sisters and daughters, departing from male-line research, often leads to treasure troves of genealogical information. Focusing on female lines does not deny or alter the historical facts of male domination, but it does provide a fresh perspective and remind us that family lore and mementos are often preserved and protected in the female lines.

**First Generation**

1. **Polly** Holmes was born about 1805–1806 and died 8 January 1839, aged 33. The daughter of Seth Holmes, she married cabinetmaker William Riley Denison 15 March 1829. He was born 1 June 1807 in Brookfield, Madison County, son of Joseph and Desire (Wilcox) Denison, and died there 12 April 1882.

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5. Schoelwer commented on these genealogical difficulties in *Connecticut Needlework* (note 3), 7. In order to investigate family connections in the samplers, she researched their creators’ ancestry back to the maternal grandmother’s birth family when possible, and deposited the resulting charts in “relevant object files” at the Connecticut Historical Society.
7. Seth Holmes was Polly’s father because he was her children’s grandfather. In 1851, twelve years after Polly’s death, he named grandchildren “Joseph Dennison, Cynthia York, Jerusha Dennison, & Francis Dennison,” bequeathing $5 to each (Seth Holmes will, 14 Oct. 1851, proved 2 July 1855, Madison Co. Surrogate’s Court, Will Book E:74–77; digital image [familysearch.org], citing Family History Library microfilm [FHL] 408,507). The identification of Polly’s mother is beyond the scope of this article.
1887. The two families were already linked by the 1825 marriage between Polly’s brother Henry Holmes and William’s sister Almira Denison.

William married second before 1842 (first-known child) as her second husband Jerusha P. (Church) Campbell, “a sister of Wait Church.” Jerusha was born in Jefferson or Herkimer County about 1804–1806 and died in Brookfield 28 March 1883, aged 77, having been “an invalid for many years.” In 1850 William was a “chair maker” with $600 in real estate. In later years he was a carpenter, a day laborer, a farmer, and by 1880 an aged “gardener” in the household of second wife Jerusha’s son-in-law Nelson Parr.

Children of Polly (Holmes) and William Riley Denison, all likely born in Brookfield:

1. **JOSEPH RILEY DENISON** was born about 1830, perhaps 30 August. He died after 1850, when he was enumerated as a wagonmaker in the Town of Tully, Onondaga County. He married 3 November 1850 GILBERT R. YORK.

2. ii. **CYNTHIA MARIA DENISON** was born 27 January 1832 and died 29 May 1869. She married 3 November 1850 GILBERT R. YORK.
iii. JERUAH/JERUSHA2 DENISON was born about 1834–1835, perhaps 25 February 1834. In 1855 she was a twenty-year-old milliner living at home.19 She may have married DANIEL/DAVID BALL and died in 1858.20

3. iv. FRANCES LETITIA2 DENISON was born about 1837–1838 and died 15 February 1899. She married 2 May 1855 CHARLES WELCOME CRANDALL.

SECOND GENERATION

2. CYNTHIA MARIA2 DENISON (Polly Holmes1) was born in Brookfield, Madison County, 27 January 1832, and died 29 May 1869. She married 3 November 1850 GILBERT RAY YORK, son of Ichabod and Freelove (Gardner) York.21 Gilbert was born in Madison County22 “on the farm a half mile south of the Waterman schoolhouse” 26 November 1827, and died of acute pneumonia in Brookfield 24 December 1917. He was buried with Cynthia in Cazenovia’s Evergreen Cemetery.23 He married second before 1870 Sarah Ann Dewey, who was born about 1834–1835 in Madison County, and died after the 1880 census (when she was enumerated) and before 22 July 1887 (when the executor of Sarah D. York’s estate notified creditors).24 She was likely daughter of Marcus B. and Ann N. (–?–) Dewey, living with her parents in Cazenovia, Madison County, in 1865.25

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19 See note 16. Riley Dennison household for Jeruah, age 19, 1855 N.Y. state census, Madison Co. (note 12).
20 Denison, et al., Denison Genealogy (note 6), 163, says David Ball. Jerusha reportedly died 18 Mar. 1858, aged 24, wife of Daniel Ball, and was buried in Section 5B, lot 8, Madison Street Cemetery, Town of Hamilton, Hamilton, N.Y.; she was Jerusha in the interment records and Jeruah in the Goodrich reading (Ball entry, Victor B. Goodrich, “Burials in the Madison Street Cemetery” [typescript 1984, transcribed 2009 by Anita M. Ingalls]). Also buried in the lot is a Ball couple old enough to have been Daniel’s parents (see madisoncountynewyork.com/Cemeteries/Hamilton/Madison/MadIndex.htm). The underlying Goodrich typescript is said to reside at the Hamilton Public Library, but does not appear in its online catalog.
22 Gilbert R. York household, 1855 N.Y. state census, Madison Co. (note 21). According to Everett Riley York’s death cert., Washington (state), 14 Dec. 1940, #1,607 (FHL 2,023,822), his father Gilbert was born in Brookfield.
In 1855 Cynthia and Gilbert were farming in Cazenovia and living in a “plank” house worth $300; he was a landowner and they had lived in the town just two years.26 Gilbert’s wealth rose to $5000 by 1870 as he worked variously as farmer, stone cutter, and shoe merchant.27 In 1875 their children were dispersed: Irving “traveling in Europe”; Nettie J. teaching school; Minnie F. a student at “C. S.” (perhaps Cazenovia Seminary); and Everett a store clerk.28 After 1880 Gilbert spent five years managing a sheep ranch near Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska. In 1889 he took a position in the U.S. Interior Department—“until a change of administration [the 1892 election of Democrat Grover Cleveland] led to his dismissal as a Republican and the appointment of an ex-Confederate soldier from North Carolina in his stead.”

After that Gilbert stayed with son Ervine and summered in Brookfield.29

Children of Cynthia Maria2 (Denison) and Gilbert R. York, all probably born in Cazenovia:30

i. ERVINE DENISON3 YORK was born 14 June 1853 and died in Glendale, Los Angeles County, California, 5 December 1929.31 He married first 3 November 1875 MINERVA A. WHITE, daughter of Milton White; she died in 1877. Ervine married second 20 June 1887 in Washington, D.C., DR. ALICE MARGARET MAGNON.32 Margaret was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, 10 June 1857, daughter of Noel and Mary Anna (McCarton) Magnon,33 and died in Glendale 23 March 1946.34 She held a medical degree from George Washington University, authored numerous articles, and was active in the Congregational Church and the women’s suffrage movement.35

In 1863 Ervine studied at Cazenovia Seminary.36 Later, as an attorney, he pioneered “the use of shorthand in the courts of northeastern Pennsylvania”; served as private secretary to U.S. Supreme Court justices; did legal work in St. Paul, New Mexico, and New York City; and was “for twenty years closely

26 Gilbert R. York household, 1855 N.Y. state census, Madison Co. (note 21). House value was the median for the neighborhood, as defined by the facing census pages.
30 Denison, et al., Denison Genealogy (note 6), 221.
34 Dr. Margaret York entry, memorial 110,039,626 (findagrave), which includes her obituary transcribed from Los Angeles Times, 23 Mar. 1946, p. 8 (no col. given). The entry notes that she was cremated and the location of her ashes is unknown.
35 Alice Margaret Magnon York entry, Women’s Who’s Who of America (note 33), 911.
identified with the development of a railway and bank in the republic of San Domingo in the West Indies.”

Ervine and Margaret had three children: Everett Magnon, Willard Denison, and Cynthia Magnon. In the 1920s and 1930s Margaret lived about a mile from her husband’s first cousin Fannie Fern Darling.

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ii. EVERETTE MERLE3 YORK was born 6 April 1855, died 25 February 1858.

iii. JERUAH ANNETTE “NETTIE”3 YORK was born 6 November 1856, and died in 1878, three months after her marriage. In 1870 she studied at Cazenovia Seminary. In 1874 she taught in the Waterman district, and later attended Oberlin College.

4. iv. FLORENCE A.3 YORK was born 8 February 1859 and died in Philadelphia 26 January 1947. She married 31 December 1889 LOWNDES TAYLOR.

v. EVERETT RILEY3 YORK was born 25 June 1860 and died in Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington, 14 December 1940. He married 15 June 1887 in Washington, D.C., CURRENCE BOSTWICK FITCH. She was born 20 August 1865 in Washingtonville, Orange County, daughter of Col. Butler and Anna (Moffatt) Fitch, and died of cancer 12 April 1948 at 301 North Tacoma Avenue, Tacoma. In 1873 Everett was a student in Cazenovia Seminary. An attorney, he served two terms in the Washington state legislature. They had four children: Florence L., Arthur F., Helen D., and Anna M.

vi. FRANCIS ELLA3 YORK was born 26 December 1861 “and died an infant.”

3. FRANCES LETITIA2 DENISON (Polly Holmes1) was born about 1837–1838, perhaps 1 April 1837, in Madison County. She died 15 February 1899, aged 61 years, 1 month, at 312 B Street Northeast, Washington, D.C., of chronic bronchitis and “exhaustion,” and was buried the 17th in Congressional Cemetery.

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38 Ervine Denison York, “Denison book; the ancestry and family connections of the Denisons of Brookfield, N.Y.” (partially typed manuscript, not dated; Milstein Division, New York Public Library, New York City).
39 Alice Margaret Magnon York entry, Women’s Who’s Who of America (note 33), 911.
41 “Obituary: Gilbert Ray York” (note 21), which includes his son’s death date.
42 Her father’s obituary says she died in 1878, three months after her marriage, but gives no other details (“Obituary: Gilbert Ray York” [note 21]). First Fifty Years of Cazenovia Seminary (note 36), 662.
44 Everett Riley York–Currence Bostwick Fitch marriage cert., Dist. of Columbia, 15 June 1887, #10,347 (FHL 2,025,891).
46 First Fifty Years of Cazenovia Seminary (note 36), 662.
there.\textsuperscript{51} She married 2 May 1855 in Brookfield Charles Welcome Crandall, son of Welcome Babcock and Emily (Dowse) Crandall.\textsuperscript{52} Charles was born 30 October 1833 in Brookfield; died of “Pulmonary Oedema” at 936 Argyle, Baltimore, Maryland, 9 January 1905, aged 71; and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.\textsuperscript{53} Charles married second, as her second husband, in Lansdowne, Baltimore County, Maryland, 16 October 1899 Mrs. Ella (Bartlett) Middlekauf.\textsuperscript{54} Ella was born 30 September 1863 in Easton, Talbot County, Maryland,\textsuperscript{55} daughter of Tench T. and Laura (\textit{[?]}?) Bartlett, and died after 24 September 1934 (when she filed for a remarried widow’s pension).\textsuperscript{56}

Charles enlisted 31 December 1863 in Company D, 22nd Wisconsin Infantry.\textsuperscript{57} Six weeks later, on 11 February, his active service ended when he “fell upon a log imbedded in the ice,” causing “severe injury of spine” and “palpitation of heart.” After months in hospitals, he was discharged with a certificate of disability 19 October 1864.\textsuperscript{58} He filed for a pension 25 October 1879, and his widow on 17 January 1905.\textsuperscript{59}

After the war, the Crandalls divided their time between rural Wisconsin and Chicago, without prospering in either place. In 1870 he was a “painter and carpenter” living in a Chicago apartment.\textsuperscript{60} In 1874–1875, he paid tax on three

\begin{footnotesize}
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\item Mrs. Frances L. Crandall death cert., Dist. of Columbia, 15 Feb. 1899, #123,621, in Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737, service of Charles W. Crandall (Co. D, 22nd Wis. Inf., Civil War), Case Files of Approved Pension Applications . . ., 1861–1934; Civil War and Later Pension Files; Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Record Group [RG] 15, National Archives and Records Administration [NARA], National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Mo. (because the file was still open after 1934, it is filed in St. Louis). This file includes Charles’s original application, Ella’s widow’s pension application, and her application as a remarried widow (Ella A. Haley), which outlines her marital history and Charles’s.
\item Charles W. Crandall dependents circular, Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737 (note 51); Rev. Joshua Clark officiated. For parents, see John Cortland Crandall, \textit{Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island and His Descendants} (New Woodstock, N.Y.: privately printed, 1949), 496.
\item Laura N. Bartlett deposition, 8 Nov. 1911, and Ella A. Haley Declaration for a Remarried Widow’s Pension, 24 Sep. 1934, Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737 (note 51).
\item Charles W. Crandall compiled service record, Co. D, 22nd Wis. Inf., Civil War, Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers, NARA, Washington D.C.
\item Charles W. Crandall, Certificate of Disability for Discharge, 6 Oct. 1864 at “Branch Harvey USA Gen. Hospital,” Madison, Wis., Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737 (note 51).
\item Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737 (note 51), which includes Charles’s original pension application #317,924, cert. #194,219.
\item Chas. W. Crandall household, 1870 U.S. census, Chicago, Ward 5, Cook Co., Ill., p. 6, dw. 32, fam. 46.
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acres in the Town of Walworth, Walworth County, Wisconsin; later in the decade their personal property was valued between $25 and $80.61 In 1877 he bought land in Walworth for $100.62 In 1880 he was a house painter (unemployed six months), while daughter Hattie, age 16, taught school (unemployed four months).63 Back in Chicago in the middle 1880s, around the time daughter Hattie married, Charles and Jacob W. Been operated a retail grocery at 254 Ogden Avenue.64 Charles and Frances mortgaged their Wisconsin property twice to C. W. McPherson of Harvard, McHenry County, Illinois, and then sold it.65 Charles’s brother R. A. Crandall paid Charles’s Wisconsin taxes in 1883 and 1884.66

Charles traveled back to Brookfield and then to Florida later in the 1880s.67 Charles, Frances, and daughter Fannie Fern were residents of Washington, D.C., from about 1892 until Frances’s death in 1899.68 Charles and his second wife lived in or near Baltimore until his death in 1905.69

Children of Frances L.2 (Denison) and Charles Welcome Crandall, both born in Walworth, Wisconsin:

5. i. **HARRIET ELOISE “HATTIE”3 CRANDALL** was born 2 February 1862 and died in Westerly, Washington County, Rhode Island, 11 May 1910. She married 1 October 1884 in Chicago Rev. CLAYTON ADELBERT BURDICK.

6. ii. **FANNIE FERN3 CRANDALL** was born 20 May 1864 and died in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, probably 13 April 1955. It appears that she married first, before 1887 (first-known child) FRANK IRA DARLING; and second, about 1900, [–?–] BROWN.

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61 Charles W. Crandall entry, 1874 Walworth Town tax roll, p. 53; University of Wis. Whitewater, Special Collections, Area Research Center [UWWARC], Walworth Series 55, Walworth County tax rolls 1849–1995; similarly, 1875, p. 49; 1877, p. 4; 1878, p. 5; 1880, p. 64; 1881, p. 48.

62 Angeline L. Clarke to Charles W. Crandall, Walworth Co. Deeds 62:9–10, 1 Oct. 1877, recorded 7 May 1878, for property in Section 22, Township 1N, Range 16E.

63 Chas. Crandall household, 1880 U.S. census, Walworth, Walworth Co., Wis., ED 237, p. 4D, dw. 23, fam. 24.

64 “The Courts: A Firm of Retail Grocers Object to Being Closed Out,” *Chicago Daily Tribune*, 17 Jan. 1883, p. 15, col. 3. Interestingly, city directories include him only in 1884, when he was called a “painter” and lived at 714 W. Van Buren (Lakeside Annual Directory of the City of Chicago 1884 [Chicago: Chicago Directory Co.], 350).


66 Charles W. Crandall entry, 1883 Walworth Town tax roll, pp. 48 and 79; similarly 1884, p. 41, UWWARC (note 61).

67 “Death of W. Riley Denison” (note 8).


THIRD GENERATION

4. FLORENCE A. YORK (Cynthia Maria Denison, Polly Holmes) was born in Cazenovia, Madison County (parents’ residence) 8 February 1859, died of arteriosclerosis in Philadelphia 26 January 1947, and was buried in West Chester Friends Cemetery, Chester County, Pennsylvania. She married 31 December 1889 LOWNDES TAYLOR, son of Richard Baker and Anna (Lamborn) Taylor. Lowndes was born in West Goshen, Chester County, 4 August 1853, died in Philadelphia 20 April 1936, and was buried in West Chester Friends Cemetery.

Florence graduated from high school, an achievement rarer then than a college degree is today. As “Minnie,” she attended Cazenovia Seminary in 1872. With her younger daughters, she crossed at least two oceans. In early September 1914, at the beginning of World War I, Florence, Anne, Agnes, and Elinor returned from Liverpool to Philadelphia. They were in Europe in 1922 and 1927, and visited Yokohama, Japan, in 1925.

Lowndes graduated from Swarthmore College in 1873. Later he was purchasing agent for the Colorado Coal and Iron Company, and town-site agent for the Northern Pacific Railroad during the construction of the main line. In 1902 he owned ninety-eight acres in West Goshen.

Children of Florence A. (York) and Lowndes Taylor, all born in Pennsylvania:

i. ARCHER TAYLOR was born in Philadelphia 1 August 1890 and died 30 September 1973. He married first 9 September 1915 ALICE JONES, who was born 20 March 1892, daughter of Samuel and Agnes (Dunham) Jones, and had with her a daughter Alice Elizabeth born 13 May 1916. He married second 20 June 1926 KATHERINE McLELLAN, who was born 20 May 1906, daughter of Charles and Margaret (McDonald) McLeenan, and with her had a daughter Anne born 9 April 1937.

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73 First Fifty Years of Cazenovia Seminary (note 36), 823.
74 Florence, Anne, Agnes, and Elinor Taylor entries, SS Haverford, 14 Sept. 1914, Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (NARA T840, roll 128); digital image (ancestry.com).
78 Lowndes Taylor household, 1900 U.S. census, West Goshen, Chester Co., Penn, ED 119, p. 26A, dw./fam. 22. This record states that Aurora and Eleanor were (impossibly) born Sept. 1895 and Jan. 1896, respectively. None of the four girls have consistent ages in other records. The unsourced Find A Grave source (note 90) says Aurora was born 22 Sept. 1894, but that implies that Florence gave birth to three singleton daughters within 27 months, between 13 July 1892 and 22 Sept. 1894. Birth dates reported in the text are a combination of sources, as cited.
24 May 1885 in Minersville, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, to J. R. and Mary (Bynon) Jones, both natives of Wales. Alice died of “bronchial asthma” and “pulmonary collapse” in Minersville 16 June 1930. Archer married second 17 June 1932 HASSELTINE BYRD. She was born 17 November 1905 in Little Springs, Franklin County, Mississippi, and died 8 March 1993 in California. Her parents were probably Willie L. and Estelle (–?–) Byrd. An activist and researcher, Hasseltine held advanced degrees in law and social work.

Archer was internationally renowned for his studies of folklore, proverbs, and riddles, and chaired Germanic Literature departments at the University of Chicago and the University of California at Berkeley. On 28 March 1933 he and Hasseltine arrived in New York City after a one-month voyage from Bombay on the S.S. *President Polk.* Archer had three children with Alice, and two with Hasseltine.

7. ii. ANNE4 TAYLOR was born 13 July 1891 and died 23 December 1982. She married about 1920 WILSON FRENCH STICHTER.

iii. AGNES4 TAYLOR was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, 27 August 1893, and died January 1969. She married 8 January 1932 in Philadelphia RALPH B. H. NOBLE. In 1935 and 1940 she and her child lived in her widowed mother’s household at 2006 Shunk Street, Philadelphia, and Agnes was a secretary in a private school.

iv. AURORA4 TAYLOR was born perhaps 22 September 1894 and died in 1903, possibly 29 January.

v. ELINOR4 TAYLOR was born in West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, 2 January 1896, died at Absecon, Atlantic County, New Jersey, 6 December 1971, and was buried in Roseland Friends Cemetery, West Chester, Chester County,

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83 Mieder, “Archer Taylor the Paremiologist” (note 79).


85 Mieder, “Archer Taylor the Paremiologist” (note 79).

86 Lowndes Taylor household for Agnes, 1900 U.S. census, Chester Co., Penn. (note 78). Exact day from Harlan, *History and Genealogy of the Harlan Family* (note 71), 589.

87 Agnes Taylor Noble entry, Rosedale Friends Cemetery, West Chester, Chester Co., Penn., memorial 33,356,345, no digital image (findagrave.com), which states 1 Jan. 1969 without sourcing. Agnes Noble entry, Social Security Death Index [SSDI], “U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1933–2014” (ancestry.com); the original was not viewed.


90 A. Florence Taylor entry, Rosedale Friends Cemetery (note 70), which includes a transcription of her obituary giving Aurora’s death year. Lowndes Taylor household for Florence (5 children, 4 living), 1910 U.S. census, West Goshen Twp., Chester Co., Pa., ED 81, sheet 9B, dw. 190, fam. 195. Aurora Taylor entry, Rosedale Friends Cemetery, West Chester, Chester Co., Pa., memorial 33,356,723, no digital image (findagrave.com), which is annotated: “entry made from a listing created by West Chester University Students.” Lowndes Taylor household for Aurora, born Sept. 1895, 1900 U.S. census, Chester Co., Penn. (note 78). See note 78 for discussion of the daughters’ birth date conundrum.
Pennsylvania. She never married. She graduated from Wellesley with a BA in 1920, and later reportedly taught school in Pleasantville, New Jersey. In 1940 she was in her mother’s household, and she was living in Philadelphia in 1947, when her mother died.

5. **HARRIET ELOISE “HATTIE” CRANDALL** (Frances Letitia Denison, Polly Holmes) was born in Walworth County, Wisconsin, 2 February 1864; died in Westerly, Washington County, Rhode Island, 11 May 1910; and was buried in River Bend Cemetery, Westerly. She married in Chicago, Illinois, 1 October 1884 **REV. CLAYTON ADELBERT BURDICK**, son of Rev. Russell G. and Adaline (Campbell) Burdick. Clayton was born 1 February 1858 in Utica, Dane County, Wisconsin; died 17 September 1936, aged 78, in Providence, Providence County, Rhode Island; and was buried in River Bend Cemetery. He was a prominent Seventh-Day Baptist, a Sabbatarian denomination dating from the 1600s, not to be confused with Seventh-Day Adventists. Rev. Clayton married second 5 October 1921 Emma Sheldon Langworthy, daughter of Albert H. and Georgeanna (Sheldon) (Loveland) Langworthy. Emma was born 9 August 1877 and died 8 August 1941, both in Westerly.

Children of Harriet Eloise “Hattie” (Crandall) and Rev. Clayton Adelbert Burdick:

i. **FRANCES LAURA BURDICK** was born 6 September 1885 in West Edmeston, Otsego County, died 6 July 1969 in Aztec, San Juan County, New Mexico, and was buried in Bloomfield Cemetery, San Juan County. She graduated

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91 Elinor Taylor marker (using traditional Quaker style with numbers for months), Rosedale Friends Cemetery, West Chester, Chester Co., Pa., memorial 33,356,724 (findagrave.com), which includes a digital image of her obituary, without identifying the newspaper. Her exact place of birth is given in her 1922 passport application (note 75).


93 Elinor Taylor obituary and grave marker (note 91).


95 A. Florence Taylor entry, Rosedale Friends Cemetery (note 70).


101 Crandall, Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island (note 52), 606. “Services Held Thursday for Frances Burdick,” Aztec [N.M.] Independent-Review, about 11 July 1969, clipping with no page, column, or exact date; in author’s possession.

102 Frances L. Burdick marker, Bloomfield Cemetery, San Juan Co., N.M., memorial 8,781,538 (findagrave.com), which gives only 1886 for her birth.
from Alfred University.103 In 1916 she was of Westerly, Rhode Island, when she attended her first cousin Flora Iris Darling’s wedding.104 Frances taught school in Aztec from 1929 to 1949. All six of her pallbearers were former students.105

ii. GRACE ELAINE4 BURDICK was born 13 March 1887 in West Edmeston, Otsego County, died in 1956, and was buried in Bloomfield Cemetery, Bloomfield, San Juan County, New Mexico.106 She married in San Juan County 1 August 1917 JOHN CARLISLE BERGIN.107 He was born 30 June 1893 at Colón, Isthmus of Panama (then part of the Republic of Colombia), and died in June 1968, son of Ralph William and Lottie (Combs) Bergin.108

Beginning in March 1888 John’s father, Ralph, served as “Receiving and Forwarding Agent” at Colón for the Panama Railroad and Steamship Line.109 In 1900 John, two sisters, and Lottie were living with her widowed mother Margaret Combs in Kentucky. Lottie had been married nine years, but Ralph was not in the household.110 He was likely in Panama, where he was still working in 1911.111 In 1917 John was farming in partnership with “R. W. Bergin,” probably his father, near Bloomfield, and in 1920 he was still there, in the next household to his parents, Ralph W. and Lottie Bergin.112 In 1925 Elaine and John were in Oklahoma, where a son was born. In 1930 they were farming in Blanco Town, San Juan County.113 In 1939 John served on an advisory committee of the Highway 55-44 Association, seeking improvements connecting San Juan Valley farmers to the rest of New Mexico.114

8. iii. RUTH ESTELLE4 BURDICK was born 26 April 1894 in Brookfield, Madison County, and died 25 March 1934. She married about 1919 CHARLES HEWARD DILKS.

9. iv. RACHEL MAY4 BURDICK was born 28 May 1895 in Brookfield, died 26 March 1945 in Alfred, Allegany County, and was buried at Alfred Rural Cemetery. She married 12 January 1918 LEON BURDETTE BASSETT.

103 “Services Held Thursday for Frances Burdick” (note 101).
105 “Services Held Thursday for Frances Burdick” (note 101). Crandall, Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island (note 52), 606, which places her there in 1936.
108 John Bergin marker, Bloomfield Cemetery, San Juan Co., N.M., memorial 8,781,541, digital image (findagrave.com). John Bergin index entry, June 1968, SSDI (note 87); the original was not viewed. No death cert. was viewed.
109 Ralph William Bergin entry, Society of the Chagres, 1911 Year Book (Mount Hope, C.Z. [Canal Zone]: Quartermaster’s Department, 1911), 41–42.
110 Margaret Combs household for John Burgin [Bergin], 1900 U.S. census, Precinct 11, Bullitt Co., Ky., ED 14, sheet 11B, dw. 207, fam. 211. The three children were born in the “Republic of Colombia.”
111 Ralph William Bergin entry, Society of the Chagres, 1911 Year Book (note 109).
113 John Bergin household, 1930 U.S. census, Blanco Town, San Juan Co., N.M., ED 8, sheet 5B, dw. 101, fam. 103.
6. FANNIE FERN3 CRANDALL (Frances Letitia Denison2, Polly Holmes1) was born 20 May 1864 in Walworth County, Wisconsin (parents’ residence),115 and died in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, 13 April 1955.116 Fannie’s marital history is obscure and poorly documented; no marriage records have been found. It appears that she married first before 1887 (first-known child)117 pension attorney FRANK IRA DARLING, who was born 25 December 1853 in Mason, Ingham County, Michigan, the son of Ira Oracle and Cordelia (Case) Darling, and died 30 December 1897 in Pennsylvania in melodramatic circumstances.118 No divorce record has been found. When Fannie’s father Charles W. Crandall died in 1905, she was named as “Mrs. Fannie P. Brown” of Washington, D.C.,119 implying that she married second before that date a man of that name, but no such man has been identified.120 Something happened, however:

- Fannie F. Darling appeared in Washington, D.C., doing clerical work 1892–1900.121
- From 1901 to 1906, she did not appear, but Fannie/Fanny (F.) Brown did. She did the same kind of work,122 and was repeatedly connected with Fannie F. Darling’s daughter Flora.123

116 Fanny Fern Darling entry, California Death Index 1940–1997, naming father as a Crandall and mother as a “Dennison.” The birth date in the index is identical to that given by Charles W. Crandall in 1898 (Charles W. Crandall dependents circular 4 June 1898, in Ella A. Crandall widow’s pension file #XC922,737 [note 51]). The original death cert. was not viewed. Fanny Fern Crandall Darling entry, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Los Angeles Co., Calif., memorial 85,375,622, no digital image (findagrave.com), which gives the same death date.
120 No Franc* or Fann* Crandall or Darling appears marrying a Brown between 1890 and 1910 in relevant available indexes: “District of Columbia, Select Marriages 1830–1921” (ancestry.com); West Virginia Culture and History index (www.wvculture.org/vrh/); Library of Virginia’s incomplete Marriage Records Collection Search Page (lva.virginia.gov/public/guides/marriage-records); and Howard County, Maryland’s marriage compilation 1860–1939 (for Crandall, Cranckell, Crandle, and Darling).
123 “The World of Society,” Washington [D.C.] Evening Star, 2 Nov. 1903, p. 5, col. 6, reports that Mrs. Georgia Doxen and Miss Flora Darling hosted a party at 918 I St. (Fannie Brown lived at 919) on Halloween 1903. “Crowds at Ocean City: All the Hotels at the Popular Resort Are Well Patronized,” Baltimore [Md.] Sun, 27 Aug. 1905, p. 7, col. 7, among those from Washington staying at the Oceanic Hotel were Mrs. Fannie F. Brown, Miss Grace Poole, and Miss Flora Darling. In 1905 Fannie
In 1910 Fannie F. Darling reappeared doing the same type of work in the patent office and pension bureau; in 1916 she was listed as the widow of Frank I. Darling. An appearance was never made by Mr. Brown.124

In her 60s and 70s Fannie was an artist living in Glendale, Los Angeles County, California, with her daughter and son-in-law.125 Her first cousin Ervine Denison York and family were about a mile away at 1105 North Central.126

Child of Fannie Fern3 (Crandall) and Frank Ira Darling:

i. FLORA IRIS4 DARLING was born in Wheeling, Ohio County, West Virginia, 10 September 1887, and died of myosarcoma in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, 24 June 1948.127 She married 4 September 1916 in Washington, D.C., physician JOHN PAUL FREY, and was attended by her first cousin "Miss Frances Burdick, of Westerly, R.I."128 John was born in the District of Columbia 7 November 1885 and died in Los Angeles 4 February 1970.129 In 1919 he was chief of the Bureau of Preventable Diseases in the District of Columbia Health Office.130 In June 1925, he and Dr. R. S. McKnight advertised their Laboratory of Clinical Pathology at Clara Barton Hospital in Los Angeles to fellow professionals.131 He and Flora and her mother were reportedly all buried in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Los Angeles County.132 No children.

FOURTH GENERATION

7. ANNE4 TAYLOR (Florence A. York3, Cynthia Maria Denison2, Polly Holmes1) was born in Pennsylvania 13 July 1891, died 23 December 1982, and was buried

F. Brown and Flora Darling both lived at 3040 Q N.W., Boyd’s Directory of the District of Columbia, 1905 (note 122), pp. 266 and 357.


125 Fannie Fern/Mrs. Fannie F. Darling voter registrations, California Great Register of Voters, Glendale City Precinct 7, Los Angeles Co., Calif., 1425 N. Columbus Ave., 1926, p. 1; same address, Precinct 9, 1930, p. 1; Precinct 8, 1934, p.1; Precinct 15, 1936, p. 1; Precinct 15, 1938, p. 1; Precinct 15, 1944, p. 1; Precinct 15, 1946, p. 1; Precinct 15, 1952, p. 1; digital images (ancestry.com). Fannie, Flora, and John registered Republican.

126 See note 40. Proximity was estimated using Google maps.


128 Dr. John Paul Frey—Flora Iris Darling marriage note, Washington [D.C.] Herald, 9 Sept. 1916, p. 5, col. 5; Flora was given away by “her mother, Mrs. Frances Crandall Darling,” and attended by her first cousin “Miss Frances Burdick, of Westerly, R.I.” He is not to be confused with the labor activist John P. Frey.

129 John P. Frey index entry, “California, Death Index, 1940–1997” (familysearch.org) and J. Frey death index entry, SSDI (note 87); the originals have not been viewed. John Paul Frey entry, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale, Los Angeles Co., Calif., memorial 85,403,548, no digital image (findagrave.com), in which the undocumented dates are the same as the index entries.


131 Advertisement, California and Western Medicine 23 (June 1925): 107.

132 Fanny Fern Crandall Darling entry, Forest Lawn Memorial Park (note 116); Flora Iris Darling Frey entry (note 127); John Paul Frey entry (note 129). They are in the Sanctuary of Guidance, Iris Terrace, Lot 0, spaces 12,637 (John), 12,630 (Flora), and 12,623 (Fannie).
with her husband in Parkview Cemetery, Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska.\textsuperscript{133} She married 16 August 1920 \textbf{WILSON FRENCH STICHTER}.\textsuperscript{134} He was born in Iowa 25 May 1876 and died 6 April 1969, son of Silas Lindley and Emma Kate (Wilson) Stichter.\textsuperscript{135} In 1900 he was a “college teacher” living with his parents and siblings in Hastings, Adams County, Nebraska.\textsuperscript{136} Anne graduated from Smith College in 1915.\textsuperscript{137} In 1930 the family lived in Denver, where Wilson was an auditor for the telephone company.\textsuperscript{138} They were at 466 High Street there in 1947.\textsuperscript{139}

Adopted child of Anne\textsuperscript{4} (Taylor) and Wilson French Stichter:

i. JEAN\textsuperscript{5} STICHTER was born 12 February 1924.\textsuperscript{140} Jean S. Sherman, “daughter of Anne Taylor and Wilson F. Stichter,” died 10 January 2003 in Slidell, Louisiana.\textsuperscript{141} She married in Vancouver, Clark County, Washington, 5 July 1947 \textbf{CAVEL VERNON SHERMAN} of Los Angeles.\textsuperscript{142} He was born 12 September 1923 and died 31 August 2003. Cavel served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, 22 January 1943 to 5 October 1945.\textsuperscript{143} He was son of Charles V. and Martha (Medenwald) Sherman. Although a divorce has not been found, Cavel was called divorced, married once previously, when he married second 2 November 1956 in Los Angeles County Irene S. Watt; they were divorced in Orange County, California, February 1976.\textsuperscript{144} He married third 29 January 1977 in Orange County, California, Joyce L. Ast; they were divorced there within

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{136} Silas L. Stichter household, 1900 U.S. census, Adams Co., Neb. (note 135).
  \item \textsuperscript{137} \textit{The Smith Alumnae Quarterly} (note 134), 257.
  \item \textsuperscript{138} Wilson F. Stichter household, 1930 U.S. census, Denver Co., Colo. (note 134).
  \item \textsuperscript{139} A. Florence Taylor entry, Rosedale Friends Cemetery (note 70). \textit{Denver City Directory 1947} (Denver: Denver Gazetteer Co.), 1675.
  \item \textsuperscript{140} \textit{The Smith Alumnae Quarterly} (note 134), 230. For adoption, Wilson F. Stichter household, 1930 U.S. census, Denver Co., Colo. (note 134).
  \item \textsuperscript{141} Jean Stichter Sherman transcribed obituary, citing \textit{Times Picayune} [New Orleans, La.], 12 Jan. 2003, no p. or col. given (genealogybank.com). Jean S. Sherman death index entry, SSDI (note 87); the original was not viewed.
  \item \textsuperscript{142} Cavel V. Sherman–Jean Stichter marriage, 5 July 1947, Clark Co., Wash., B394, D1046; digital image, \textit{“Washington Marriage Records 1865–2004”} (ancestry.com), which names the parents of each.
  \item \textsuperscript{143} Cavel Sherman entry, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death File, 1850–2010 (fold3.com/page/626800242_cavel_sherman_1923/details).
\end{itemize}
two months.\textsuperscript{145} He married fourth Helen Erlene Finn in Nevada 24 December 1986.\textsuperscript{146}

In 1947 Cavel was a messenger at the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.\textsuperscript{147} In 1952 he and Jean lived at 6047 Yearling, Lakewood, Los Angeles County, California, where he was working for Zellerbach Paper.\textsuperscript{148} Jean graduated from the University of Mexico. She lived in Slidell, Louisiana, for her last twenty-eight years and was a “retired vice president and treasurer of Dale Bonnette Associates.”\textsuperscript{149}

8. \textbf{RUTH ESTELLE} BURDICK (Harriet Heloise Crandall\textsuperscript{3}, Frances Letitia Denison\textsuperscript{2}, Polly Holmes\textsuperscript{1}) was born 26 April 1894 in Brookfield, Madison County,\textsuperscript{150} died 25 March 1934 in Swedesboro, Gloucester County, New Jersey,\textsuperscript{151} and was buried in Lawnside Cemetery, Woodstown, Salem County, New Jersey.\textsuperscript{152} She married about 1919 \textbf{CHARLES HEWARD DILKS}.\textsuperscript{153} He was born 1 November 1895 in Elmer, Salem County, New Jersey, to William and Alice (Unruh) Dilks,\textsuperscript{154} and reportedly died in March 1984 at Wicomico, Maryland.\textsuperscript{155} Charles married second by 1935, as her second husband, Mrs. Edna Nolte (Homan) Shoemaker, whose children with Joseph Willard Shoemaker\textsuperscript{156} were of an age

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\textsuperscript{146} Cavel Vernon Sherman–Helen Erlene Finn, Nevada marriage index entry, 24 Dec. 1986, Carson City, Douglas Co., Nev., citing cert. #82,930; the original has not been viewed.


\textsuperscript{150} Crandall, Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island (note 52), 606.

\textsuperscript{151} Ruth E. Dills death index entry, 25 Mar. 1934, “New Jersey, Death and Burials Index, 1798–1971,” database (ancestry.com), citing FHL 1,543,357; original not viewed.


\textsuperscript{154} For birthplace and date Charles Heward Dills World War II draft registration card (note 153). Howard Dills, 1 Nov. 1895, Salem Co., N.J., Register of Births, 51:219 (FHL 494,233). The borough of Elmer was formed from portions of Pittsgrove and Upper Pittsgrove townships in 1893.

\textsuperscript{155} Charles H. Dills marker (1895–1984), Lawnside Cemetery, Woodstown, Salem Co., N.J., digital image (billiongraves.com/grave/person/17564168). Charles Dills death index entry, SSDI (note 87), which confirms the birth date of 1 Nov. 1895 and adds the month and place of death; the original was not viewed.

\textsuperscript{156} Eleanor A. and Henry K. Shoemaker were Charles’s step-children in 1940 (see Charles H. Dills household, note 157). The same children were listed in Willard and Edna Shoemaker’s household, 1930 U.S. census, Swedesboro, Gloucester Co., N.J., ED 31, sheet 18B, dw. 440, fam. 451. Their marriage confirms her maiden name (Joseph Willard Shoemaker–Edna Nolte Homan marriage, 30 Oct. 1919,
with Hazel Elaine. In 1920, 1930, and 1933 the family was living in Swedesboro, where Charles was an executive in a basket factory.157

Child of Ruth Estelle4 (Burdick) and Charles Heward Dilks:

i. HAZEL ELAINE5 DILKS was born 8 October 1923 in Woodbury, Gloucester County, New Jersey, and died 27 April 2002 at St. Tammany Parish Hospital, Louisiana158 (not far from where her cousin Jean Stichter Sherman died the following year). Elaine married first in Swedesboro, Gloucester County, New Jersey, 31 March 1945 CHESTER WILLIAM AMBLER JR., who was born about 1924 in West Chester, Chester County, Pennsylvania, son of Chester William Sr. and Eva Julia (Hewitt) Ambler.159 Elaine married second before April 1970 BRUCE F. HARVEY.160

9. RACHEL MAY4 BURDICK (Harriet Heloise Crandall3, Frances Letitia Denison2, Polly Holmes1) was born 28 May 1895 in Brookfield, Madison County,161 died 26 March 1945 in Alfred, Allegany County, and was buried in Alfred Rural Cemetery.162 She married 12 January 1918 LEON BURDETTE BASSETT, son of William Henry and Myrta Stella (Bliss) Bassett.163 Leon was born in Alfred 9 April 1892,164 and died there 19 July 1973.165 Leon married second 4 April 1946 Virginia Foster.166

Rachel and Leon both graduated in Alfred University’s class of 1916; her father, Rev. Clayton Burdick, gave the invocation at the commencement. She


160 Elaine Dilks Ambler index entry, “U.S., Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936–2007” (ancestry.com), which confirms her birth and death dates, names her parents, and notes her name change to Elaine Dilks Harvey in 1970.

161 Crandall, Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island (note 52), 606.


163 Crandall, Elder John Crandall of Rhode Island (note 52), 606. Myrta is identified in Aaron Tyler Bliss, Genealogy of the Bliss Family in America (Midland, Mich.: privately printed, 1982), 528.


received the Bachelor of Philosophy degree cum laude, winning honors in modern languages.167

A ceramic engineer and World War I veteran, Leon worked in industry for sixteen years, where he was credited with “major contributions to early enamel breakthroughs and the feasibility of infra-red heating elements.” The Depression dictated his return to Alfred, where he worked for the local telephone company run by his father before joining the Alfred University faculty in 1938. He was involved in organizing spectroscopy and radioisotope laboratories, and was a charter member of the Alfred Historical Society.168

Children of Rachel May4 (Burdick) and Leon Burdette Bassett:

i. **HARRIET ELOISE5 BASSETT** was born 12 July 1920 in Winchendon, Worcester County, Massachusetts,169 and died 25 August 2011 in Geneseo, Livingston County.170 A 1942 graduate of Alfred University with a BFA in industrial ceramic design,171 she married in Alfred 31 October 1942 **JAMES BERT SCHOLES**,172 son of Samuel Ray and Lois Elizabeth (Boren) Scholes. James was born 16 April 1921 in Stamford, Fairfield County, Connecticut,173 and died 16 November 2016 in Livingston County.174 A World War II veteran,175 he taught American literature for three decades (mostly at the State University of New York, Geneseo), and was active on the Rochester-area stage for another three.176

ii. **WILLIAM LEON5 BASSETT** was born 22 July 1925 in Winchendon and died 23 March 1996 in Wellsville, Allegany County. His career as a ceramic engineer “took him to many parts of the United States, from the Alfred University laboratory in Kingston, New York, to the Silicon Valley in California.”177

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168 Leon B. Bassett obituaries (note 165). “L. B. Bassett,” one-page handwritten account describing his research, patents, and instruction, in author’s possession.

169 Harriet Eloise Bassett birth record, Town of Winchendon, Mass., 1920, #97, Bk. 148, p. 281, copy in author’s possession, provided by the town clerk’s office.


173 James Bert Scholes birth record, Town of Stamford, Conn., Births, 16 Apr. 1921, #393, Bk. 21, p. 144, copy in author’s possession, provided by the town clerk’s office.

174 James B. Scholes death cert., N.Y. Deaths, 2016, original certified copy without #, copy in author’s possession.

