



census records for the Laird/Leard/Lard, etc surname from a list provided by the 1850 census index. Currently the Missouri and Mississippi records have been transcribed from the original microfilmed 1850 Federal Census. Spencer Laird is working on a format that will make it easy for anyone to find their ancestor's census record on the LFA web site. Anyone who has located their ancestor in the 1850 census for these two states is encouraged to help with the project by submitting genealogical information on their ancestor. The information will then be posted below the actual census record, along with the name and e-mail address of the submitter. We are looking for information that helps provide the maiden name of the wife, the names of the children and their spouses, parents of the Laird heads of household, marriage, birth and death records, tombstone inscriptions, or any other genealogical information that will help the Laird researcher. To help with this project, please send your information to Patricia Laird Howard at: [pahoward@concentric.net](mailto:pahoward@concentric.net)

### **Current Newsletter Projects:**

I am currently working on transcribing Laird entries from the Parochial Registers, County Of Renfrew, Abbey, Paisley in Scotland. The transcribed records will be ready for the next newsletter. I have also ordered the church records for Carnmoney, Ireland which will be transcribed for a later issue. PLH

### **Ohio Lookups:**

A generous offer from one of our LFA Members: Curtiss N. Stuart, "Cap'n Curtiss," states that he has 22 history books about the Coshocton County, Ohio area and has acquired or prepared name indexes for each. He offers to do lookups for any Laird Family Association member, and will send copies of any information found. You may contact Cap'n Curtiss at: [stuart@adnc.com](mailto:stuart@adnc.com)

### **Earliest Known Laird Ancestor:**

William Laird, born abt 1770, Donegal, Ireland, married Mary Bradley. Please contact Rendel Smith at: [RENSMIT@aol.com](mailto:RENSMIT@aol.com)

### **Laird Genealogical Sources Submitted By Our LFA Members:**

**The following Will was sent via e-mail from John Maltby. John is seeking a connection between his early Laird's of Augusta County, Virginia and the early Laird's of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. John Maltby may be reached at [jmaltby@creative.net](mailto:jmaltby@creative.net)**

Will of James Leard.  
Will Book A, Volume 1, page 62-63.  
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

In the Name of God Amen. December the fforten in the year of our Lord one Thousd. Seven Hundred and fforty, I James Leard of Deary Township and Lancaster County and Province of Pennsylvania, Plantation man, being very sick and weak of Bodey but of Perfect mind and memory thanks bee given to God, therfor calling to mind the mortality of my boddey and knowing then for that it is appointed for all men once do Die, doo make and ordain this my Last will and Testament, that is to say, Prinsipaly and first of all I give my Soul into the hands of God that gave it, and for my Body I Recommend it to the Earth to be Buried in a christian and Decent manner at the Direction of the Executors, nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection I shall Receive the Same again by the mighty Power of God. And as Touching such worldly Estate where with it hath Pleased God to Bless me in this life I give and Donate and Dispose the same in the following manner. Impremis I give and Bequeth to Jean my Dearly belloved wife the one half moveable and unmoveable and to my wellbeloved Son and Daughter Deaind (Deavid?) and Marey Leards the other half of all my worldly Estate. I likewise constitute and Ordain my only and sole executors of this my Last will and testament Heaneary Chambress and Hugh Leard and I do hereby utterly disallow and revoke and Disannull all and every other Testatments, wills and Legicies Bequests and Executers by me in anyways befor this time above written willed and Bequeathed Rattifying and Confirming this and no other to be my Last will and Testament. In witness whereof I have hereinto set mye Hand and Seale.

James Leard (Seal)

Witness Present John Leard, James Gelmer, James Ireland.

Page 63:

Lancaster County, December the 22d Anno Domine 1741. Then Personally appeared James Ireland and John Leard, two of the witnesses to the within will and on their oaths did Declare they were Present and saw James Leard the Testator within named sign in the within writing as his Last Will and was of Sound mind and understanding, at the doing thereof. But that both before and after the Signing thereof he Expressed his Dissatisfaction in two Particulars, first that his wife should have been thereby obliged to bring up the children at her own Expense being for that Consideration he left her one Half of his Estate, and 2' ly that he intended by his will to have given his Brother Hugh Leard a pair of boots.

Sworn before me, Sa. Blunston D. Reg.

Be it Remembered that on the 22d Day of December Anno Domine 1741 The Last will and Testament of James Leard Decd was proven in one form of Law, and Probate and Letters Testamentary were granted unto Henry Chambers and Hugh Leard having first Sworn well and Truly to administer the said Deceas Estate and bring an Inventory thereof into the Registers Office in Lancaster County on or Before the 22d Day of January next and also to render an Acct. when thereunto Lawfully Required, Given under the Seal of the said office.

P. Sa. Blunston D Reg.

**Marilyn Eaton Laird Johnson sent the following information via snail mail, and is working on the ancestry of Glover Laird, a native of Ireland. You may contact Marilyn Johnson at: [emlejav@carrollweb.com](mailto:emlejav@carrollweb.com)**

Bibliographies from--History Of St. Joseph County, Michigan 1827-1877.  
Glover Laird.

The "gem of the sea," Ireland, sent one of her children to St. Joseph county among her early settlers, and his name was Glover Laird. He was proud of his name and his financial honor, and when the crash of 1837 hurled thousands into bankruptcy, and pinched fearfully thousands of others, he among the rest felt the stringency of the times deeply, and was most keenly alive to the mortification consequent upon his inability to meet his business engagements promptly and fully. One day a stranger accosted him, inquiring if he was Glover Laird; Mr. Laird responded quickly, "My name was Glover Laird, but since hard times have come on, and I am unable to meet the just demands against me, I think it will not be Glover Laird any longer."

Mr. Laird emigrated from his native land when a young man, and came to New York, and married a native of Connecticut, Samantha Wolcott by name. In In 1820 he removed to Ohio to fix upon a site for business, having seven hundred dollars of the notes of the Mansfield Bank of that State on hand. He settled in southern Ohio, in Butler county, and after reaching his destination und his money was worthless, the bank having failed. Ten years afterward he came to Michigan, arriving on Nottawa prairie in October, 1830, and located on section two in Nottawa township, adjoining the reservation on the south. In the spring of 1831 he built his cabin, and broke forty acres and fenced eighty.

In 1852 he sold his farm to his son, Henry W. Laird, and soon afterward lost his companion. He then returned to the east to visit his old friends at South Briton, Conn., where he met and married Miss Olive Hinman. He died in South Briton, March 22, 1872. His Irish nature made him a warm friend or an open opponent, and a cordial welcome was extended to all who came to his log-cabin home, at which the latch-string hung ever on the outside of the door. He was liberal to those in need, and his sympathies went out to all in difficulty and distress.

Henry W. Laird Taken from---History of St. Joseph County, Michigan 1827-1877.

The subject of this sketch, Henry W. Laird, or as he is familiarly called "Harry" Laird, is a son of Glover Laird, a native of Ireland. He was born in Green County, New York October 14, 1812 and with his father migrated to Ohio in 1820, and from thence to Michigan in October 1830. After assisting his father in breaking up forth acres and fencing eighty on section two in Nottawa township, in June 1831, he returned to Ohio to attend school. In 1833 he came again to Nottawa where he remained through the winter and returned to Ohio, making similar journeys in 1835-36.

In 1837 Mr. Laird was married, and in 1852 he purchased his fathers old homestead, whereon he still resides, a view of which we present to our readers on another page of our work. Since he purchased the old homestead he has made many improvements thereon, and has given his time mostly to agriculture pursuits. He is public-spirited and enterprising, and was efficient in securing the location of the Grand Rapids and Indiana railroad through the township, giving much time and considerable money in aid of its construction. He is an active member of the pioneer society, and has been zealously

engaged in gathering and writing of a history of the Nottawa Indians for the same, from which we have quoted largly in our work elsewhere. Mr. Laird is a Republican in politics, but was formerly a Whig. He has held the office of county treasurer several times, and was in the old Whig days, the most popular candidate of that party. His creed is embodied in his motto, "No man should live for himself alone, but also for others."

Mrs. Laird is a native of Harford County, Maryland, and was born February 10, 1817, and has borne to her husband six boys and one girl, all now living.

Obituary from the Globe-Leader December 30, 1920, Mendon, Michigan.

Marilyn notes: This fellow was the son of Glover Laird from Ireland. Obituary also includes a picture of the deceased.

Glover E. Laird

Death of Well-Known Citizen and Former Postmaster.

For several weeks past Glover E. Laird has been ill, with heart trouble, and it was known that his condition was considered very serious. Nevertheless, his sudden death Christmas night was a surprise and shock to all; and the news was heard with deepest regret Friday morning.

The heartfelt sympathy of the entire community is extended to the bereaved ones in their great sorrow.

Glover E. Laird passed away Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 1920, aged 62 years., 1 month and 5 days.

From the cradle to the grave Glover lived with the people and amid the scenes of Mendon. The trees, the flowers, the birds, the winding river, forming Hogarth's line of beauty, were old-time acquaintances of his.

He was in a very real sense a part of the community life of the Village. He served acceptably for several years as a member of the school board, as steward of the M. E. church, as rural mail carrier, village assessor, township treasurer, Justice of the Peace, Worthy Patron of the O. E. S. and Worshipful Master of Mendon Lodge, F. & A. M. He was also postmaster for a period of eight years.

He was of a kind and genial disposition and made a friend of life, and the years brought him many blessings.

He was of somewhat impulsive nature, but there was always the warm, generous, sympathetic heart to rectify any mistake of judgment.

He was industrious and paid his way.

He met the higher obligations of life in the performance of unselfish, useful service to the community.

He was a home builder and in his family relations exemplified the ideals of Christian life.

As the last sleep came upon him the Carols of Christmas were still echoing "Resurgam."

To him who believes that death was only the gateway to a new life, was not death in the nature of a benediction; God's Christmas gift to him of a more abundant life?

Mr. Laird left surviving him his wife, Edith Laird; three daughters, children of a former marriage, Mrs. Lulu Davies, Mrs. Ollie Belle Johns and Mrs. Ruth McGuire, all of Detroit; one son, Eugene Laird; a step-daughter, Mrs. Mildred Lane of Three Rivers; six grandchildren, Herbert, Newell and Dorothy Davies, Mary Jane McGuire, Maxine and Roland Lane; two brothers, George Laird of South Dakota and Gilbert Laird of Mendon.

The funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock, and were conducted by Mendon Lodge, No. 137 F. & A. M. The remains were escorted by the Masons from the home to the Methodist church, where the Rev. Chase conducted the services, preach a most appropriate and comforting sermon. At the cemetery the service were in charge of the Masons, Worshipful Master Frank Austin giving the burial service in an impressive manner. The pall-bearers were E. E. Harwood, I. J. Stephens, J. W. Deats, Dr Ramsey, Wm. Robinson, Chas. Calkins.

The floral offerings were many and extremely beautiful.

Obituary from McCune, Crawford County, Kansas, Friday, July 24, 1942.

Marilyn notes: The parents of E. L. Laird were Glover and Elizabeth Row Laird.

Charles E. Laird mentioned as a survivor was my first father-in-law. I married his only child H. Charles Laird who died in 1960.

E. L. Laird Died Thursday.

Long Time Resident of this Community Died in Mt. Carmel Hospital Thursday Evening-Funeral held Sunday Afternoon at the Christian Church.

Elsworth L. Laird, a long time resident of this community died in Mt. Carmel Hospital Thursday evening of last week at the age of 79 years, 11 months and 16 days. Mr. Laird had been in poor health several years, and seriously sick several weeks. He was cared for in his home till the day before his death when he was taken to the hospital.

Funeral services in charge of the Gregg funeral home, were held Sunday afternoon at the Christian Church, conducted by Rev. T? E? Burdette, assisted by Rev. ? Harris, pastor of the church.

Mrs. Harry Tridle and Mrs. Chester Baker sang, with Miss Frieda Wilson as accompanist.

The pall bearers were as follow: Geo. Watson, L. J. Nelson, C. C. Dickerson, Walter Davis, Geo. Harley and Clyde Rupard.

Mr. Laird was born at Spring Hill, Illinois July 31, 1862, and in 1872, at the age of ten years, came by wagon train with his parents, to Kansas, settling near the present town of Mulberry.

He was a grandson of a 33<sup>rd</sup> degree mason who took the oath of his degree in Scotland, and who was also a Methodist minister, belonging to the Whig party during the Revolutionary war.

He was the great grandson of Judge Wolcott of Boston, who was a signer of the declaration of Independence.

On January 27, 1884 he was united in marriage to Almedia Slawson, and five children were born to this union. One son and three daughters survive. One son died in infancy.

In November 1904, the family moved to a farm four miles south west of McCune, and in 1919 they moved to the present home, corner Sixth and Maple streets in McCune, where Mrs. Laird died in April, 1928. In 1922 he united with the local Christian Church under the ministry of Rev. J. D. Babb.

In 1930 he was married to Naomi Cunningham, who survives. Other survivors are as follows: Three daughters, Mrs. Mable Johnston of southwest of McCune; Mrs. Etta Burk of Girard and Mrs. Bessie Russell of Raymond, Kansas, and one son, Charles Laird of Emporia. There are also twelve grandchildren, a great granddaughter, and a niece, Miss Star McKay of Kansas City.

## **Laird Genealogical Sources Submitted By Patricia Laird Howard:**

The Famine Immigrants. Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846-1851. Ira A. Glazier, Editor, Michael Tepper, Associate Editor. Volume 1, January 1846-June 1847, Baltimore Genealogical Publishing Co., INC., 1983.

Page 28. Ship; Stephen Whitney, date of arrival; 6 April 1846, from Liverpool, passenger; Mary Laird, age 19, female, occupation, none.

Page 318. Ship; Panthea, date of arrival; 12 Dec 1846, from Liverpool, passenger; Mary Laird, age 26, female, occupation, none.

Page 425. Ship; Marion, date of arrival; 12 April 1847, from Londonderry, passenger; Mary Laird, age 60, female, occupation, spinster.

Page 509. Ship; Clifton, date of arrival; 17 May 1847, from Liverpool, passenger; James Leard, age 20, male, Occupation, unknown.

Volume II, July 1847-June 1848, Copyright 1983.

Page 54. Ship; Republic, date of arrival; 4 Aug 1847, from London, passenger; Peter H. Laird, age 31, male, occupation, farmer.

Page 315. Ship; Fanny, date of arrival; 18 April 1848, from Londonderry, passenger; Mary Jane Laird, age 18, female, occupation, none.

Page 390. Ship; Chaos, date of arrival; 16 May 1848, from Liverpool, passenger; James Laird, age 27, male, occupation, carpenter.

Page 394. Ship; Margaret, date of arrival; 17 May 1848, from Grennock, passenger; Robert Laird, age 38, male, occupation, laborer, Ann, age 35, female, occupation, unknown, Janet, age 4, female, child, Margaret, age 2, female, child, Alexander, age 1, male, child.

Page 519. Ship; E. Z., date of arrival; 27 June 1848, from Liverpool, passenger; Michael Lard, age 48, male, occupation, farmer.

Volume III, July 1848-March 1849, Copyright 1984.

Page 2. Ship; Bolton Abbey, date of arrival; 1 July 1848, from Londonderry, passenger; Ann Laird, age 17, female, occupation, laborer.

Page 188. Ship; Thomas H. Perkins, date of arrival; 29 Sept 1848, from Liverpool, passenger; Philip Lard, age 46, male, occupation, weaver.

Page 406. Ship; Ann Harley, date of arrival; 26 Jan 1849, from Glasgow, passenger, Maryann Laird, age 30, female, occupation, wife, James, age 12, male, relative, Sarah, age 9, female, child, Martha, age 5, female, child, John, age 3, male, child.

Volume IV, April 1849-Sept 1849, Copyright 1984.

Page 68. Ship; Rainbow, date of arrival; 17 April 1849, from Liverpool, passenger; Alexander Laird, age 20, male, occupation, laborer, Edward, age 18, male, occupation, laborer.

Page 153. Ship; Emma Searle, date of arrival; 4 May 1849, from Belfast, passenger; Malcolm Laird, age 3, male, child. Note: it is not clear who he was traveling with but the family listed before his entry is: Malcolm Crawford, age 60, male, occupation, unknown, Eliza, age 47, female, occupation, unknown, Eliza, age 25, female, occupation, unknown, Mary, age 16, female, occupation, unknown, Grace, age 14, female, occupation, unknown, Matilda, age 12, female, occupation, unknown, Rose Ann, age 10, female, occupation, unknown, Wm. Robert, age 8, male, child, Susan, age 6, female, child.

Volume V, Oct 1849-May 1850, Copyright 1985.

Page 6. Ship; Hannah Thornton, date of arrival; 2 Oct 1849, from Londonderry, passenger; John Laird, age 26, male, occupation, unknown.

Page 130. Ship; J. Z., date of arrival, 10 Jan 1850, from Liverpool, passenger; Jane Leard, age 30, female, occupation, none, John, age 8, male, child, Henry, age 6, male, child, Jane, age .10, female, infant, died at sea.

Page 394. Ship; Warren, date of arrival; 18 May 1850, from Glasgow, passenger; John Laird, age 23, male, occupation, laborer.

Page 475. Ship; Euphemia, date of arrival; 31 May 1850, from Liverpool, passenger; George Lair--?, age 24, male, occupation, unknown.

Volume VI, June 1850-March 1851, Copyright 1985.

Page 253. Ship; William Wirt, date of arrival; 19 Sept 1850, from Liverpool, passenger, Thomas Laird, age 21, male, occupation; farmer, Sarah, age 22, female, occupation; unknown.

Page 268; Ship; New World, date of arrival; 27 Sept 1850, from Liverpool, passenger, James Laird, age 29, male, occupation; laborer, Hugh, age 6, male, child.

Page 360. Ship; Liverpool, date of arrival; 30 Oct 1850, from Liverpool, passenger; Ann Leard, age 30, female, occupation; seamstress.

Volume VII, April 1851-Dec 1851, Copyright 1986.

Page 121. Ship; Annadale, date of arrival; 30 April 1851, from Belfast, passenger, Harriet Laird, age 20, female, occupation; servant, Mary A., age 12, female, occupation; servant, Robt., age 10, male, occupation; servant, Wm., age 5, male, child, Gilbert, age .00 male, Infant.

Page 200. Ship; Essex; date of arrival; 16 May 1851, from Liverpool, passenger; Jno. Laird, age 22, male, occupation; unknown.

Page 767. Ship; West Point, date of arrival; 4 Nov 1851, from Liverpool, passenger; Mary Laird, age 20, female, occupation; unknown.

Page 818. Ship; Constantine, date of arrival; 13 Nov 1851, from Liverpool, passenger, Mary Laird, age 18, female, occupation; unknown, Eliza, age 16, female, occupation; unknown.

Sumter County, Alabama Wills: 1828-1872, Mortality Schedules: 1850-1880.

Gwendolyn Lynette Hester, Ed. D., Southern Roots, Dallas, Texas, 1998.

Page 73-74. Sumter County, Will Book 1, 1828-1851, page 210 (p310) James Leard is a witness to the Will of Henry Boling, recorded 11 Oct 1843.

Page 105. Sumter County, Will Book 1, 1828-1851, page 303 (p443) John R. Leard is a witness to the Will of Henry Fort, recorded 4 February 1848.

Page 218. Sumter County, Alabama Wills, Will Book 2, 1851-1872, page 305 (p431) The State of Alabama, Sumter County, I, Obadiah Gregory of said county and state...I duly bequeath to my beloved wife Sarah Gregory all my real personal and named estate...3<sup>rd</sup>, At the death of my wife, I will that the remaining half of my estate be divided into six equal portions...to Aborett Lyon, Morgan Lyon and Ella Lyon (children of W. W. Lyon and Agnes Lyon) Frances Leard and Clinton Leard (children of James C. Leard and Laurina Leard) and Albert James Tomkins (son of George Jenkins and Martha Jenkins) share and share alike...5<sup>th</sup>, I hereby appoint my wife executrix and Robert F.

Houston executor...this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, A. D. 1858. Wit.: M. C. Houston, Robert Mason, Samuel Eskridge (Will recorded August 1, 1864) T. R. Crews, Judge.

Page 303. 1870 Sumter County, Alabama Mortality Schedule. Number of the Family as given in the 2d column of Schedule 1: 811. Name of every person who died during the year ending June 1, 1870, whose place of abode at the time of death was in this family. Township 18, Clinton Leard. Age last birthday; 13. Sex; m, Color, White, Place of birth, Ala., The Month in which the person died: March, Profession, occupation, or trade: Cripple, Disease, or cause of death; Inflam. Stomach.

Marriage Records Of Perry County, Ohio, by Nada M. Seymour, Volume 2, 1953.

Note: most of these marriages are for the children of William Laird and Mary Davis, who were originally from York County, PA. PLH [pahoward@concentric.net](mailto:pahoward@concentric.net)

Page 68. Groom: John A. Baird, Bride: Eliza Laird, Date of Marriage; 1 March 1836.

Page 69. Groom: David Laird, Bride; Elizabeth Beard, Date of Marriage, 4 Feb 1836.

Page 77. Groom; William D. Laird, Bride; Sarah Ann Cunningham, Date of Marriage; 4 May 1837.

Page 110. Groom; John Huston, Bride; Susanna Laird, Date of Marriage; 10 Apr. 1839.

Page 113. Groom; John Laird, Bride: Mary Hammet, Date of Marriage; 20 Oct 1839.

Page 141. Groom; Robert Pierce, Bride; Sarah Jane Laird, Date of Marriage; 12 Apr. 1846.

Page 155. Groom; James Washington Laird, Bride; Eliza Cromwell Willison; Date of Marriage; 16 Mar. 1848.

Page 161. Groom; Howard Willison, Bride; Rachel Laird, Date of Marriage; 21 Dec. 1848.

Page 359. Groom; Joseph F. Westall, Bride; Eliza Jane Laird, Date of Marriage; 3 Nov 1850.

Ohio Wills And Estates To 1850: An Index, by Carol Willsey Bell, C. G., Published by Carol Willsey Bell, C. G. Columbus, Ohio.

Benjamin Laird, E-1814, Greene County, Will Book CD, page 117.

David Laird, W-1828, Clark County, Case Number A376.

Davis Laird, W-1846, Perry County, Will Book AB, page 220: Case Number 3115.

Gabriel Laird, W-1837, Columbiana County, Case Number 1897.

James Laird, W-1827, Trumbull County, Probate Record 4, page 390.

John Laird, W-1824, Columbiana County, Case Number 687.

John Laird, W-1847, Fairfield County, Case Number 2298.

John Laird, E-1841, Guernsey County, Adm & Executor's Docket B, page 104.

John Laird, E-1850, Wayne County, Case Number L62.

John Laird, Sr. W-1847, Ross County, Case Number 4430.

Joseph Laird, E-1843, Knox County, Common Pleas Court Order Book L, p124.

Joshua Laird, W-1849, Hamilton County, Will Book 2, p340; Case Number A4298.

Robert Laird, E-1814, Warren County, Probate Record I, p85; Box 7, #25.

William Laird, W-1847, Perry County, Will Book AB p228.

William Laird, W-1826, Stark County, Will Book A p101; Case Number 257; Old Series -A p134.

William H. Laird, E-1817, Portage County, Case Number 2; Adm Docket 1, page 1.  
William W. Laird, E-1840, Wayne County, Case Number L-46.

History Of Trumbull And Mahoning Counties, (Ohio) with Illustrations And Biographical Sketches, Vol. II, Cleveland: H. Z. Williams & Bro. 1882.

Page 242. Abram Van Wye (deceased) was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, in 1797. In 1819 he married Charity Laird and had a family of twelve children, as follows: Charles, John, Lydia, Mary, Nancy, Catharine, Amanda, William, Joseph W., Darthula W., Almyra S., and Sabina H., of whom six are living. In the spring of 1834 he emigrated to Ohio and settled in Weathersfield township, Trumbull county. His original purchase comprised one hundred and fifty acres of land, but at the time of his death he owned four hundred acres. He was well and favorably known throughout this region. He died May 2, 1854, his wife surviving him about ten years. Charles, the oldest son, who owns the family homestead, was born March 28, 1820; married Miss Katie Draper, and has had ten children--Abram, Elihu, William, (page 243) George, Charles, Alice May, John, Kit, and two unnamed, dying in infancy. His first wife died in 1873, and he afterwards married Rebecca Caldwell (her maiden name.) No children by this marriage. Joseph W., the fourth son, was born on the old homestead in Weathersfield, April 16, 1837. In 1877 he married Alla Troxel and has had one daughter--Almyra. Mrs. Van Wye had been previously married and had one son--Freddie. He purchased the farm on which he now lives in 1872. He was in the war of secession three months as member of company B, Eighty-fourth Ohio volunteer infantry. Abram Van Wye was born in Weathersfield township, November 19, 1845. He was in the service of his country during the war of the Rebellion, a member of company C, Nineteenth Ohio veteran volunteer infantry, and participated in a number of severe engagements, among them the battles of Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, etc., but came through without a scar, and returned to peaceful pursuits. Mr. Van Wye married Sarah Leach. They have three children all living--Warren, Frank, and Anna. William Van Wye was born upon the homestead farm July 7, 1850. He has always followed farming, and now resides upon a portion of the old homestead. In October, 1873, he married Maria E. Bolin, by whom he has one child--Lizzie Bolin Van Wye.

Page 494. James Laird and family, from Washington county, Pennsylvania, arrived in this township April 15, 1811, making the thirteenth family in Mesopotamia. They lived in a log-cabin on the spot where Captain C. P. Lyman's house now stands, until October, 1814, when they removed the present J. J. Laird farm, lot thirty-nine. Of Mr. Laird's family of ten children eight came with him, viz; John, Matthew, Andrew, Margaret, Betsey, Polly, James, and William. His oldest daughter, Rachel Morrison, moved into this township with her husband in October, 1811. Josiah, the oldest son, settled in Beaver, Pennsylvania. Excepting him, the children spent most of their lives in this township, and all of them raised families but John and Rachel. Three, Matthew, James, and Mrs. Betsey Higby, passed their lives in this township; Matthew (page 495) upon the old place. Two only are now living, William, in Cleveland, and Mrs. Margaret Holbrook in Toledo. John and Rachel (Chambers) each married, but had no children. Andrew married Tabitha Parish in 1823, and settled one and one-half miles north of the center. He reared a family of four children, now all living. John resides in Stockwell, Indiana; Orris P., in Mesopotamia; Maria, single, in Fresno City, California; Mary is at present in

New York city. James Laird, Jr., married Catharine Cox for his first wife, and had by her six children who reached mature years. For his second wife he married Lorain Joslin, who is still living. By his first wife his children were Stephen, Josiah, Ralph, Susannah, Minerva, and James. All are living but Ralph. Stephen resides in Mesopotamia, and is a member of the Ohio Legislature for 1881-82-the first Representative ever sent from this township. Josiah and James reside near Jesup, Iowa. Susannah (Griswold) and Minerva live at Hart's Grove, Ashtabula county. Orris P. Laird, the second son of Andrew, was born in Beaver county, Pennsylvania, in 1829. Six years later his father returned to Mesopotamia, where Mr. O. P. Laird has since resided. He was married September 9, 1857, to Betsey I. Atwood, of Licking county, Ohio. Their children are Louie (deceased), Marcy C., and Martin W., living. Both are being educated at Hiram college.

Seth Morrison, Laird's son-in-law, came about the same time with the Laird family, and settled on lot forty-two.

Page 500. William Laird, son of James Laird, was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1809. He came to Mesopotamia in 1811. His father moving there at that time, and bringing his wife and eight children, was the eleventh settler in the township. His father and mother both died in 1826, and William, who was the youngest son, lived with an older brother until he arrived at the age of eighteen, when he commenced life for himself. He resided in Mesopotamia until 1874, at which time he went to Dakota Territory, where he pre-empted a claim in the Vermillion valley and became a citizen of that Territory. In 1832 he was married to Hannah Chambers, of Champion, Trumbull county, a daughter of John Chambers, with whom he lived forty-two years, and buried in Dakota, October 9, 1874. In 1877 he came to Cleveland, Ohio. In 1880 he was married a second time, to Mrs. Eliza Sartin, of Cleveland, and now resides at No. 34 Herman street, in that city. Of his children, five in number, Matthew A., the oldest son, married Rachel McDonald, of Toledo, Ohio, and is now a manufacturer and dealer in Kansas City, Missouri; John Chambers, his second son, died in 1855 at the age of eighteen and lies in Mesopotamia; Elizabeth M, his only daughter, married William B. Fauss, of Mesopotamia, and now resides with her husband and three children at Elk Point, Dakota, in the town where her mother is buried; Edwards W. married Ada E. Williams, daughter of Justin Williams-he is a member of the law firm of Marvin, Laird & Cadwell, of Cleveland, and resides at No. 266 Franklin avenue, in that city; Marcellus G., his youngest son, died in Dakota, August 20, 1874. Maggie Pierce, his wife, and daughter of Deacon Joseph Pierce, of Champion, Ohio, died September 21, 1874, in the same Territory, and son and daughter lie by the side of the mother in Elk Point. William Pierce, their son, and the namesake and only grandson, died in May, 1875, at the house of his grandfather, in Champion. Mr. Laird is of Scotch descent, being of the third generation born in this country. He has been a member of the Presbyterian church for more than fifty years, and was for many years one of its ruling officers. His early life as well as a part of his later years, has been spent on the frontier and his whole life has been an active one, yet at the age of seventy-three he is hale and hearty, retaining all his faculties. Though residing in Cleveland, he retains his old home in Mesopotamia, and says he will as long as he lives, and when he says home it means either Cleveland or Mesopotamia, the meaning of the word depending upon which place is spoken of.

Virginia Marriage Records From the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, The William and Mary College Quarterly and Tyler's Quarterly. Indexed by Elizabeth Petty Bentley, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 1984.

From W&MCQ, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, III (1923) 244-245: Marriages From the Augusta County Records.

Page 86. James Laird married Jane Patterson, 15 Aug 1797.

Page 86. Robert Cochran married Anne Laird, 17 December 1786.

From VMHB, VII (1900) 421-422. Marriage Licenses, Augusta County, VA 1749-1773.

Page 85. August 28<sup>th</sup> 1769, James Laird, Jun'r

From W&MCQ, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series, III (1923) 241-243. Rockingham County Marriages.

Page 548. Michael Mauzy to Grace Laird, 1807.

Page 549. Andrew Scott to Phoebe Laird, 4 July 1805.

Pennsylvania A History, Editor-in-Chief, George P. Donehoo, Former Secretary of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission and State Librarian; Collaborator of the Handbook of American Indians, Etc. Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., New York, Chicago, 1926, Volume V.

Page 137. Colonel Herbert Russell Laird, who has spent nearly all his life in the city of Williamsport, gained his early business experience in newspaper work, and after a lapse of years in other occupations, again returned to that field and is general manager and treasurer of the Williamsport "Gazette and Bulletin." (Note Williamsport is in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania.)

Colonel Laird is in the fifth generation from William Laird, a native of Ireland, born in 1727, and on coming to America settled in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, where he died in 1820. William Laird is accredited by the Pennsylvania archives with service as a private in the First Pennsylvania Line, Colonel Hand, and he also served in Captain Cluggage's company of the Pennsylvania Battalion of Riflemen of Colonel Thompson, marching to Boston, Massachusetts.

John Russell Laird, great-grandson of this Revolutionary soldier, was born at Williamsport, and during the latter part of his active career was engaged in the insurance business, continuing until his death in 1913. He married, October 8, 1861, Ellen Amanda Van Vorce, who was born in 1838, daughter of Aaron and Lucretia (Churchill) Van Vorce. She was a descendant of Josiah Churchill, one of the early Colonial settlers at Wethersfield, Connecticut, and her grandfather, Jonathan Churchill, representing the fifth generation for the Connecticut branch of the family, was a Revolutionary soldier. Mrs. John Russell Laird died in 1918.

Colonel Herbert Russell Laird, the only child of his parents, was born at Galesburg, Illinois, February 7, 1867, and a few months later his parents returned to Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He acquired his education in the grammar and high schools of that city, and after leaving school spent five years in the newspaper business with the Williamsport "Sun." In 1894 he entered the fire insurance and real estate business, and in 1900 was chosen general manager of the reorganized Williamsport Board of Trade, filling that office for nine years. Since 1909 he has been identified with the "Gazette and Bulletin" as general manager and treasurer.

Colonel Laird is a member of the Masonic Fraternity and has filled many prominent offices in the order. He is Past Master of Lodge, No. 106, Free and Accepted Masons;

Past High Priest of Lycoming Chapter, No. 222, Royal Arch Masons; Past Eminent Commander of Baldwin II Commandery, No. 22, Knights Templar; and served as Grand Commander of the Knights Templar of Pennsylvania in 1917-1918, and is chairman of the Educational Loan Fund Committee of that body; is a member of the Scottish Rite, and was one of the founders of the Howard Club of Knights Templar, serving as secretary and president of the club. For six years he was a representative to the Imperial Council Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He is a director of the Chamber of Commerce, chairman of its publicity bureau, a director of the Williamsport Chapter, American Red Cross, director of the Community Welfare Corporation, and has been a member of the Pennsylvania Society, Sons of the Revolution, since 1896. From 1917 to 1919, he was a member of the staff of Governor Brumbaugh, with the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and during the World War was a member of the Pennsylvania State Committee of Safety, a member of the Lycoming County Committee of Safety, and chief of the Special Service Bureau of that committee. Colonel Laird is an elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport.

Colonel Laird married, April 21, 1892, Mary Wilson, born at Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, daughter of Colonel Samuel and Harriet (Babb McGowan) Wilson, and representative of the Wilson and Nevius families, both long prominent in Pennsylvania. The Wilson family was established in Pennsylvania about 1725 by Samuel Wilson, who came from Ireland. Colonel Samuel Wilson, her father, was a Union officer in the Civil War, his first active duty being as first lieutenant in what subsequently became known as the Eighth Pennsylvania Cavalry; was promoted to captain and subsequently to lieutenant-colonel. He endured a period of imprisonment in Libby Prison, and was several times wounded. After the war he was prominent in public affairs in Pennsylvania, serving in the Legislature and as sheriff of Lycoming County.

Colonel and Mrs. Laird had two children; Samuel Wilson, born January 25, 1893; and Ellen Churchill, born July 29, 1898. The son, Samuel Wilson, is a veteran of the World War, being captain commanding Battery A of the 107<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery (the Bethlehem Steel Battery) spent a year in active service in France with the American Expeditionary Forces, and holds commission as major in the United States Army Officers Reserve. He graduated from Lehigh University as a mining engineer, and has been connected with the Bethlehem Steel Company since graduation.

### **LFA Newsletter Reminder:**

The Laird Family Association values your comments, suggestions, and personal support. We are seeking Laird information from around the world, including: bible records, births, deaths, marriages, deeds, wills, orphans court dockets, obituaries, census, cemetery, lineage's etc...To submit information for the LFA Newsletter, please send your information to Patricia Laird Howard at: [pahoward@concentric.net](mailto:pahoward@concentric.net) or via snail mail at: 7254 S. Dennis Blvd., Broken Arrow, OK 74014. Please specify that the information is for the LFA Newsletter. The information must have a Laird connection.

