

SAMAIN FAMILY IN US

JOSEPH SAMAIN

Joseph Samain was baptised 29th August 1773 at the church of St Leonard's Shoreditch London. He was the eleventh child of Abraham Samain, a weaver of Bethnal Green, and Ann (Whitoks). Joseph enlisted in the Royal Navy as an ordinary seaman at Chatham on the 30th June 1794 and served on the HMS Venerable until 1805. His name appears in the Muster Books and the Pay Books.

He fought at the Battle of Camperdown where the British fleet famously defeated the Dutch on 11th October 1797 and a week later, on 18th October he wrote a letter and sent it from the Nore to his parents in the East End of London giving them an account of the battle. The letter now is in the Archives of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. (Exactly how it made its way down river from Bethnal Green to Greenwich is an interesting mystery).

A transcription of the letter appears here. The only changes made by me were to the spelling of a few words.

Letter from H M Ship Venerable 20th October (1797)

From Joseph Samain Venerable
To Mr Samain at the sign of The White Horse Hare Street Bethnal Green London

Nore October 18 1797

Dear Father & Mother,

I send this with my love to you hoping it will find you all are in good health as I am at present thanks be to God for it considering the hard engagement we had for three hours and ten minutes and we had 4 ships of the line and one frigate at us for almost three hours and one brig till one of our ships came and sunk her and we took two admirals but you will see the list the first broadside we give the Dutch admiral we laid 100 men in there (sic) decks total killed and wounded 250 on board the frigate killed 36 wounded 90 and we had one hundred and 3 killed and wounded and very much shattered our ship is we are at anchor in the swim but we shall be at the Nore in two days so pray remember my love to my brothers and sisters we had the bloody battle on the eleventh day of Oct our admiral said it was the hardest battle that was ever fought by two fleets but three of our ships did not come in to the action not anything to speak of which did look cowardly which was 74 and two 64 I beg you will take care of this letter if you want to take it to the alehouse do not take this but copy it off and mind and keep it clean I did send a letter to Abraham last Saturday week but did receive no answer pray send word how you all are and how the family is so no more at present from your undutiful son Joseph Samain so I conclude this and remain involved in war till God send peace.

There then appears a list of 26 Dutch ships that were taken together with the names of the respective admirals and captains. The Dutch names are difficult to decipher accurately. The ships' ratings were: 74 x 4; 68 x 4; 64 x 3; 56 x 4; 44 x 2; 32 x 2; 24 x 2; 16 x 4; 6 x 1.

Joseph continues: NB they had 10 guns in the line more than the British but we expect there is more taking for some of our ships went after them that run away for we was in so bad a condition that we could not go after them but I will send you more in the next letter so pray take care of this it was a glorious day to those that was well the unfortunate day to the Dutch.

It seems that at some date Joseph became a married man, though no record of his marriage has yet been found. There exists at Kew an Allotment Register (ADM 27/9) recording the sending of wages by ratings serving on HMS Venerable to their next of kin. On the 22nd October 1805 his wife (unnamed) received £17. 10s. At a rate of 5d

per day or 11/8 for a 28 day period, £17. 10 would have covered a period of 30 such lunar months. The allotment commenced on the 5th July (no year given). But, by counting back from 22nd October 1805, we arrive at approximately 5th July 1803 when it is possible that Joseph and his wife were married.

On 22nd October 1805 Joseph's age was 32years, 1 month and 25 days. In the two years between that date and his second marriage, in August 1807, Joseph became a widower and travelled to America.

On 31st August 1807 in Baltimore Maryland Joseph married **JANE RAY**. She had been born Jane Prichard and was the widow of John Ray (or Rea). From the 1880 US census we learn that the parents of Joseph Semane (sic), a farmer in Michigan, had been born in England. They were without any doubt, Joseph Samain & Jane (Prichard Ray).

JANE PRICHARD RAY > SECOND MRS JOSEPH SAMAIN

Little is yet known with any certainty about Jane's English roots except that she married on 12th January 1797 at St Paul's Church Liverpool (by Licence)

John Rea (mariner) of St Paul's Liverpool married Jane Prichard spinster of the same.

Both signed.

Witnesses David -- (indecipherable) & Owen Williams

She was possibly the daughter of David Prichard (shoemaker) & Esther Inglesby. They had married 3rd October 1760 at Liverpool St Nicholas and had at least 4 children:

JANE, born 6th August 1770 & baptised 30th September 1770 Liverpool St Nicholas daughter of David Prichard shoemaker of Cheapside

DAVID, born 8th April 1776 baptised 28th April 1776 Liverpool St Nicholas son of David Prichard shoemaker of Preston Street

WILLIAM born 15th July 1778 baptised 22nd July 1778 Liverpool St Nicholas son of David Prichard cordwainer of Johnson Street

ESTHER born 4th July 1781 baptised 30th July 1781 Liverpool St Nicholas daughter of David Prichard cordwainer of Preston Street

The fact that John Rea was a mariner is significant as he and Jane later emigrated to the USA and settled in Baltimore, MD. There a daughter, Mary Ray, was born on 12th October 1802 and was baptised, possibly at St Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, on 28th August 1803. Mary played a very important part in the Samain History in the US. She married Elias Avery and settled in Monroe County New York State. It was there that her young half brothers, Joseph & Daniel Samain, first settled after they left Baltimore as orphans.

BALTIMORE AND THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH AND JANE

Joseph arrived in Baltimore after 1805 & worked there as a mariner. It would be interesting to know whether he worked his passage or travelled as a passenger and, if the former, what his arrangements were for leaving the ship in US. Directory entries show he was a mariner in 1810 and a rigger in 1814-15 & 1817. He and Jane lived at Fell's Point, first at 49 W Fleet Street and, by 1817, at 13 Argyle Alley. It is impossible to appreciate Joseph's feelings during the war between America and Great Britain (1812 - 1814) given his years of service in the Royal Navy. His concern must have been brought to a very high pitch when the British ships were firing on Fell's Point during the conflict. It is quite possible that had he been captured by the British things would not have gone at all well for him.

Joseph Samain and Jane (Prichard Ray) had at least five children.

a) **JOHN SAMAIN** born 19th June 1808 and baptised at St Paul's Baltimore. He died on 1st February 1812 in Maryland

b) **JOSEPH SAMAIN** born 23rd August 1810 St Paul's. He died on 10th February 1892 & was buried at Portland Ionia Michigan on 12th February 1892

c) **ABRAHAM SAMAIN** was baptised 14th February 1813 at St Thomas's Baltimore and died 12th September 1819 in Maryland

d) **DANIEL SAMAIN** was born 22nd July 1813 and died on 11th November 1867 in Rochester New York State

e) **JANE SAMAIN** was born in 1814 at Fell's Point and died on 10th February 1826 Maryland

Of these only two, Joseph & Daniel, lived into adulthood.

The forenames of the boys are of significance: three of Joseph's brothers still in London were also named John, Abraham and Daniel & he, of course, was also Joseph.

Joseph Samain (snr) died, at the start of his 47th year, on 12th September 1819 in Maryland and Jane on 10th February 1826.

It is a remarkable thing that their son Abraham died on the same day as his father and their daughter Jane on the same day as her mother.

THE FAMILY MOVED TO ROCHESTER NEW YORK STATE

Soon after the death of their mother & young sister in 1826, Joseph and Daniel made their way to Rochester New York State where they settled with their half sister, Mary Ray Avery, and her husband, Elias Avery.

Mary had married Elias, a sea captain and farmer, in Baltimore on 6th January 1820. (It was not unusual in Britain for people to work on the land and at sea - both of them being seasonal occupations). They had two daughters, both born in Baltimore and both died in infancy: Charity Avery born 3rd October 1821 and Mary Anne Avery born 11th March 1823.

Later they legally adopted **CHARITY AVERY CONNOLLY**, the niece of Elias. (There is more about Charity below). Elias and Mary, together with Joseph and Daniel, started to farm in nearby Greece, Monroe County NY. Elias & Mary spent forty years together until Mary died on 29th September 1860. She was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester. The exact date of Elias's death is not yet known. there is an Elias Avery (shoemaker) in the Greece/Rochester Directories in the 1890s, but, as our Elias Avery would have been in his 90s by then, this was probably somebody else...

It is not clear precisely when Elias and Mary settled in NY, but it was probably after the death of their daughters and maybe after the death of Jane (Prichard Ray) Samain in 1826. Nothing is yet known for sure, but Mary was the daughter of Jane and they may all have lived together following the death of Joseph in 1819. Elias and the other members of the family had definitely settled in Greece on the Genesee River, Monroe County by the census of 1830.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE FAMILY HISTORIES OF JOSEPH (JNR) & DANIEL

Both Joseph and Daniel were farmers.

In 1833/34 JOSEPH married **BETSEY BURHANS** (bn NY 1812) and settled in Michigan, first at Washtenaw and then at Sebewa. They had at least 10 children (7 sons and 3 daughters) most of whom were either farmers or teachers.

Betsey Samain died 1st February 1875 Portland, MI age 62 years 2 months & 17 days

Joseph Samain died 10th January 1892 Portland Ionia MI age 81 years 5 months & 18 days

In 1843, DANIEL married **CHARITY AVERY CONNOLLY** (born Mobile AL 1819) and settled in New York state at Rochester & Greece Monroe County. They had at least 6 children (1 son & 5 daughters).

Daniel Samain died 11th November 1867 & was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester NY

Charity Avery Samain died at 34 Reynolds Street Rochester and was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester NY on 6th March 1912

THE AVERY FAMILY - (there a number of websites concerning the Groton Avery Clan)

Because of Mary's marriage to Elias Avery and also because Daniel Samain married Charity Avery Connolly it is important to give a few details of the Avery family. The family has been very well researched and a substantial book, entitled the "Groton Avery Clan" was published in 1912. A long pedigree has been traced back to before 1600 in Devon, England.

In Groton, New London, Connecticut, ELIAS (born 1797) and his younger sister CHARITY (bn 1799) were two of ten children born to Frederick Avery and Charity (Davis).

In 1816 Charity Avery married JOHN CONNOLLY (son of Mary Herbert Mitchell Connolly & stepson of Rev John Howland). John & Charity Avery had a son, John Connolly, born later that year.

By 1819 John & Charity Connolly had moved to Mobile Alabama. John snr, an owner of ships, died on 27th September 1819 in an accident in Mobile Bay while they were searching for a new landing to escape a yellow fever epidemic. A fortnight later, Charity Avery Connolly was born on 12th October 1819 and then, on 15th October 1819, her mother died of yellow fever. The baby's older brother, John jnr, died also. Charity was an orphan and an only child at three days of age.

Charity Avery Connolly was taken in by her aunt, Mrs James Wilson, and stayed in Mobile, Alabama until she was 12 years old. Then, alone, she travelled north by sailing ship from the Gulf of Mexico to the Hudson River. Then, via New York, she made her way up to & along the newly opened Erie Canal to Monroe County & Rochester. That must have been a hazardous trip and I wonder what the reasons were for her journey at that particular moment. It was a testament to her courage & fortitude that as a 12 year old she managed the long journey unattended.

The following obituary, as well as giving an insight into Charity the person, paints a good picture of the life led by the Avery & Samain families in Monroe County NY.

CHARITY AVERY CONNOLLY SAMAIN'S OBITUARY

Newspaper article: Rochester Democrat and Chronical, March 7, 1912.

KNEW ROCHESTER DURING 80 YEARS

Mrs. Charity Avery Samain Had a Remarkable Life.

ORPHAN WHEN SIX DAYS OLD

Aged Woman Saw City Grow a Long Time, Coming from South at Age of 12 - Lived with Uncle on Farm Now Kodak Park

From her home, No. 34 Reynolds Street, the funeral of Mrs. Charity Samain took place yesterday afternoon, her death having occurred on Tuesday morning. Rev. J.W.A. Stewart, D.D., dean of the Theological Seminary, conducted the services which were private owing to the illness of Miss Emily Samain. Mrs. Samain, who was 92, had a remarkable life. To the last her mind was as clear as in youth, and she appeared many years younger than she was.

Eighty years of the ninety-two Mrs. Samain lived, were spent in this city and its suburbs. She was born in Mobile, Alabama, October 12, 1819. Six days before this date her father, Captain John Connolly, who ran a number of ships, went along the Southern coast in a yacht with some half dozen friends in search of a place where they might take their families, for they were planning a flight from Mobile, where yellow fever had broken out. This yacht, owned by Captain Connolly, was overtaken by a storm in Mobile Bay, on the day his daughter, Charity, was born. It capsized, and all the crew perished. Six days later the baby girl was an orphan, with neither brother nor sister, her mother having fallen victim to the dread disease of warm climates.

EARLY AMERICAL STOCK

Captain James Avery, an ancestor of Mrs. Samain's mother's, came to America in the next ship following the Mayflower, the "Arabella", which landed in 1630, and settled in Groton, Connecticut. The Avery homestead there remained for generations, and was long known as the "hive of the Averys." A few years ago it was destroyed by fire.

Captain Connolly's little daughter was adopted by her aunt, Mrs. James Wilson of Mobile. She lived there until 12 years of age, when she came to Rochester, then a small village. Her trip was made in a sailing vessel up the Atlantic Coast to New York, thence up the Hudson, and along the Erie Canal. On reaching here she landed on Exchange Street, and was taken to the home of her uncle, Elias Avery. He owned the brick hotel still standing on Ridge Road, one of the landmarks between this city and Charlotte. The home near by was the scene of old-time hospitality, where invited guests and the needy were alike made welcome. Younger persons liked to hear Mrs. Samain tell about the Indians coming there. She would tell how some nights her good aunt would "leave the latch string out" so that the Indians could enter and get warm, and how, in the morning, the family would find the Indians gathered about the fireplace. The people with red skins would bring their tents in warm weather and camp for a time on the farm across the way, which her uncle owned. This farm included the land now called Kodak Park.

FARM A SMALL COMMUNITY

Many of the things done in separate industrial establishments were all in operation on this one farm. There were a cider mill, a shoe shop, a brick yard, a blacksmith's shop and an ice pond. Mrs. Samain's uncle conducted a post office, which received mail from stage coaches traveling along the Ridge Road.

Miss Charity Avery Samain attended the old Seward Seminary, which stood on the site of the Homeopathic Hospital. She was married to Daniel Samain, brother-in-law of her uncle, whose boy-hood had been spent in Baltimore. He later came into possession of the land that is now Kodak Park, where his wife had played as a child. Horseback riding was a favorite pastime with her and she always kept a horse to saddle. After the death of her husband she came into the city proper, where she lived the past forty years.

Mrs. Samain's ability to tell her experiences, the habit of observation, an excellent memory and a sense of humor made her remarkably entertaining. All that she had seen in her life seemed to remain with her in closing years. Lafayette, when she saw him in the South, was among her memories. She would tell how when a child in Mobile she had seen slaves sold at auction and how the brutal treatment of the auctioneers impressed her with horror.

MADE VISIT TO OLD HOME

When past 60 years of age, Mrs. Samain made a trip to Mobile and visited her old home, remaining there four and a half years. While Mrs. Samain will be remembered by some for her entertaining qualities, she endeared herself to her family and close friends by beautiful traits of character. For many years she was in Brick Presbyterian Church, and for the past twenty was a member of the First Baptist. It was there that Dr. Stuart, of the Seminary, became a warm friend of Mrs. Samain's.

Mrs. Samain was the mother of six children, five of whom are living, a son, Daniel E. of Southern California; Mrs. S. A. (Sarah Ann) Giles, of Brooklyn; Charity A., Miss Helen F. and Emily R. of Rochester. Miss Helen Samain is principal of No. 16 School. Mrs. Samain also leaves eleven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

CHARITY LEE DAVIS AVERY

Before moving on to the family of Daniel & Charity I must say a final word about Charity Lee Davis Avery, the mother of Elias & Charity (snr) & grandmother of Charity Avery Connolly Samain. She was born 17th March 1765, Tyringham, Berkshire, MA and died 13th October 1834, Rochester NY. So evidently she was living with or close by her

son Elias and Mary Ray when Joseph & Daniel arrived from Baltimore after 1826 and also when her granddaughter, Charity Avery Connolly, arrived in 1831 from Mobile. She died just when the Mount Hope Cemetery was opening, but there is no record of her having been interred there.

There is no doubt that Elias Avery was living in Monroe County, NY in 1830. This was shown in the censuses of 1830.

The censuses of 1830 and 1840 were basically head counts grouped by age and gender. It isn't really possible with any certainty to say who was who. In Elias's household were:

1830 males: 1 (aged 15-20); 1 (20-30); 1 (30-40); 1 (50-60).
1830 females: 1 (5 & under); 3 (20-30).

1840 males: 1 (20-30); 1 (40-50); 1 (60-70).
1840 females: 1 (15-20) 1 (20-30); 1 (30-40).

Then, in subsequent censuses, more detail was provided. American census enumerators were clearly no better than the English at coming to terms with the name Samain:

1850 (Greece, Monroe): Elias Avery (53) farmer, Mary Avery (45), Daniel Sauvain (sic) (33) shoemaker, Charity Sauvain (30), Mary J (5), Charity A (3), Sarah A (0).

1860 (Hanford's Landing, Greece, Monroe): Elias Avery (63) speculator, Mary (57), Daniel Swain (sic) (40) farmer, Carrity Swain (35), Mary Jane (15), Carrity (sic) (12), Sarah A (9), Elias D (6), Ellen F (3). Their youngest child, Emily Ray, was born in 1861.

Elias Avery was Town Supervisor of Greece 1854-5. The population of Greece then was about 4,000 people and almost all of the area was rural farmland.

Part of the Avery property was the Ridge Hotel, situated on Lake Avenue at the corner of Maple Terrace (though this exact address may have been a later refinement). On 4th May 1926 it opened as the Lake Avenue Branch Library, but was later razed to make way for the Veterans' Memorial Bridge across the Genesee River.

THE NY FAMILY OF DANIEL & CHARITY

Charity's obituary mentions that she & Daniel had had six children. They & their dates were:

a*) **MARY JANE SAMAIN** born 10th August 1844 Rochester & died 10.3.1908 Rochester

b*) **CHARITY AVERY SAMAIN** born 21st April 1847 Rochester & died in June 1938 Rochester

c*) **SARAH ANN SAMAIN** bn 16th May 1850 Rochester & died 7th October 1928 North Haven CT

d*) **ELIAS DANIEL SAMAIN** bn 24th December 1853 Rochester & died 29th April 1921 Deschutes OR

e*) **HELEN FRANCES SAMAIN** bn 26th August 1857 Rochester & died 20th February 1944 at Turnpike Road, Brevard Transylvania NC

f*) **EMILY RAY SAMAIN** bn 1st March 1861 Rochester died in July 1947 Asheville, Buncombe NC

The family must have been very well to do, certainly after, if not before, the sale of some of their farmland to create Kodak Park - the site of the Eastman Plant.

Although some of the family travelled far & lived great distances from Rochester, all but one, Elias Daniel, were finally interred at Mount Hope Cemetery - the first Victorian cemetery in the US.

The South half of Lot 97 in Section W at Mount Hope was sold to Charity Samaine (sic) on May 20, 1872. It consisted of a property 10 feet by 20 feet, laid out to contain six graves.

The Samain name is shown sometimes ending in "e". A fairly complete list of those interred at Mt Hope, including those before 1872, is as follows:

Mary R. Avery, buried 1860.

Daniel Samaine, buried 1867

Mary Jane Wilcox, buried 1908.

Charity Samaine, buried 6th March 1912.

Sarah Samaine Giles, buried 10th October 1928.

Charity Avery Samain, cremated at Mount Hope on 9th June 1938

The ashes of Maude S Giles were buried 13th July 1942 in the same grave as Sarah, her mother.

Helen F. Samain, buried 23rd February 1944

Emily Ray Samain, buried 16th July 1947.

Of the daughters three remained unmarried: Charity, Helen, & Emily Ray.

a*) MARY JANE SAMAIN > MRS WILLIAM JOHN WILCOX

Mary Jane was the oldest of the Samain children. She was born in 1844 & was the only child to predecease her mother. She was buried at Mount Hope in 1908

Mary Jane married WILLIAM JOHN WILCOX before 1875. William had been born, also in Rochester, in 1843 the son of Lysander Byram Wilcox & Rachel Childs Ledyard. I am not very confident that I have got the details of their family correct; they had at least three, & possibly five, children. They were:

i) NELLIE WILCOX was born 1875

ii) VIRGINIA LEDYARD WILCOX was born 1877 & married CUTHBERT CHARLES FROST

The Frost brothers were sons of George Frost, a salesman, & Eliza. They were born in the early 1870s in Islington London. It would seem they emigrated to America before the 1881 census.

iii) BESSIE THROOP WILCOX was born 1879 & married FREDERICK GEORGE FROST

Bessie & Frederick had at least three children

i*) FREDERICK GEORGE FROST bn 1907 NY

ii*) T ROBERT FROST bn 1912

iii*) BARBARA FROST bn 1916

iv) ELLA WILCOX

v) LEWIS WILCOX

b*) CHARITY AVERY SAMAIN

The second child of Daniel & Charity was Charity Avery. She was born 21st April 1847 Rochester & died there on 9th June 1938. In 1910 She and Emily, a private secretary, were living in the house of John Barnard, an Englishman of 90 years, in Boston, Suffolk, Mass. Then there is a record that on 23rd May 1914 Charity arrived back in San Francisco from Yokohama, Japan, on board the S.S. Hong Kong Maru. There is a directory record that during 1888-90 Charity was living at 28 Strathallan Park, Rochester. She died at 135 East Main Rochester NY and was cremated at Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester NY on 9th June 1938

c*) SARAH ANN SAMAIN > MRS CHARLES EGERT GILES

is Bonny Lee Robinson's great grandmother. She married CHARLES EGERT GILES, the son of Dr. William Giles, who was born in Randolph, NY in 1850.

Sarah Ann was buried in the name of Sarah Samain Giles. She was returned from North Haven CT to be interred.

Bonny has some land records from Randolph NY, showing that Charles and Ann (sic) bought property there but had to give it up. From there they moved to Hornellsville, Steuben County, NY where their three children were born between 1873 & 1882.

They were:

i) **MAUD SAMAIN GILES** was born 8th December 1873 Hornellsville Steuben NY & died in 1942 in Brattleboro VT

ii) **CLAIRE SAMAIN GILES** a son was born 20th August 1879 Hornellsville NY & died after 1920 in Santa Monica

iii) **CHARITY SAMAIN GILES** was born 31st January 1882 Hornellsville NY d: 14.2.1944 Roslyn PA. On 10th June 1909 in Boston Massachusetts Charity married Burr Arthur ROBINSON (the s/o Frank Adrian Robinson & Julia Ella McKee. Born 1883 in Bradford PA, Burr died in 1962)

Sometime between 1886 & 1890, Charles left & went to Nevada, Missouri, to live with a sister. Subsequently the children were put into a Roman Catholic Orphanage in Rochester for 3-5 years. Sarah Ann must have recovered her health, got the children back and lived with the Samain family.

Afterwards, Maud aka "Aunt Polly", the eldest child, became a Roman Catholic, worked in Boston, Massachusetts in an office and retired to Newfane, Vermont.

Aunt Polly did a lot of genealogy and joined the Daughters of the American Revolution based on 5 ancestors. The ashes of Maud Samain Giles (Polly) were sent from Brattleboro VT to Mount Hope. (Note: Battleboro was the town that indicted G W Bush and his associate).

Bonny's grandmother, Charity Samain Giles, married Burr Arthur Robinson, a 1910 graduate of the School of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Engineering. At this time, her mother (Sarah Ann), lived in Rochester. A few years later, Sarah Ann lived with Charity and Burr. She died in their farm in North Haven, Connecticut. Bonny visited the farm a few years ago. Her Uncle Burr had told her many stories about living there and how his grandmother baked bread every morning.

Charity and Burr also did a lot of genealogy research which Bonny now has. Charity joined the Mayflower Society.

Sarah Ann Giles died 7th October 1928 in North Haven CT. When she was interred at Mount Hope on 10th October 1928 her entry in the register was as Sarah Samain Giles.

d*) **ELIAS DANIEL SAMAIN** was born 24th December 1853 Rochester NY. On 25th April 1881 in Kansas he married **KATE SANDERSON PRESCOTT**. She had been born in 1869 in Maine, the daughter of John B Prescott & Anna Bickford. Elias Daniel died 29th April 1921 at Deschutes OR

Elias Daniel, often known as Daniel, was in 1870 a machinist in Greece NY. He moved to Kansas and became a farmer there in Garden City, Sequoia. It is worth finding Garden City on the map - its nearest neighbour is Dodge City. At that particular time, around 1880, Garden City was a new township. Recorded in the census of that date Daniel was a farmer staying with John B Prescott, his wife Annie and their family - including Kate Sanderson Prescott, She had been born in January 1869 in Maine and her father was in the real estate business which in 1880 was booming. Daniel & Kate married - on 25th April 1881 when Kate was 12 years old. Soon after the 1880 census the whole family moved from Garden City to Colorado. Their seven children were born in Durango La Plata CO from 1883 to 1895. Five of them survived beyond 1910.

The family was:

i) **ANNIE SAMAIN** born 1883 CO

- ii) CHARLES DANIEL SAMAIN born 1886 CO
- iii) EMILY RAE SAMAIN born 1886 CO
- iv) SOPHIA SAMAIN born:1888 CO
- v) HARRIET SAMAIN born 1891 CO
- vi) JOHN BELLINGER SAMAIN born 1893 La Plata, CO. He later married PHYLLIS A - (born in 1895 CA)
- vii) DANIEL CHARLES SAMAIN born 1895 CO & married REBECCA LAURA WALLS (bn 1915 CO) and died 1st July.1976 CA

By the 1910 census E.D.Samain was divorced and living in Ely, White Pine, Nevada. His occupation at that time was carpenter (ehoes of Hanford's Landing). In 1910 Kate was in CA and then in 1920 she was living at Long Beach with her son. In 1921 Daniel died at Deschutes OR. It would seem he was a man who needed to press on to pastures new.

I shall write about Helen & Emily Ray together

e*) HELEN FRANCES SAMAIN was born 26th August 1857 Rochester NY, died 20th February 1944 at Turnpike Road, Brevard, Transylvania NC & was buried on 23rd February 1944 in Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester NY

f*) EMILY RAY SAMAIN was born 1st March 1861 Rochester NY, died in July 1947 in Florence Nightingale House, 85 North Liberty Street, Ashville, Buncombe NC & was buried on 16.7.1947 in Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester NY

Although it was the older sister, Charity, who was with Emily Ray in 1910 in Boston, (see above), I think Helen & Emily were also very close, especially after the death of their mother in 1912. It is understood they travelled together in Germany & Japan and in 1920 they were resident in Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi. In the 1940s both died in North Carolina. The NC death register entries for them say they were both retired school teachers. Helen certainly worked in the Rochester schools system though no record of Emily's having worked there has been found. Emily was a private secretary in 1910 when she was living in Boston with Charity.

Helen was a teacher at School no 11 in 1884-5 when she was lodging at 37 Comfort. She was teaching at the same school in 1889 and was living by then with her mother at 32 George. In 1897 Helen had become Principal of School 11, living still with her mother as boarders at 61 Manhattan and by 1905 she was Principal of School no. 2. They were then boarders at 34 Reynolds Street where her mother died in 1912. Earlier, in 1880, Helen had been a clerk in the Surrogate's Office at the Court House in Rochester.

In their final years of retirement Helen and Emily lived at Turnpike Road, Brevard, Transylvania, North Carolina. Helen died at that address on 20th February 1944. Emily died in Florence Nightingale House, 85 North Liberty Street, Ashville, Buncumbe, NC on 12th July 1947. In each case the undertaker arranged to send them back to Rochester for burial.

THE MICHIGAN FAMILY

Joseph Samain, born in Baltimore Maryland on 23rd August 1810, married Betsey Burhans from Ontario County, NY.

BETSEY BURHANS' FAMILY BACKGROUND.

Betsey Burhans was born in Ontario County NY on 14th November 1812. The obituary of her younger brother, Levi, says he was born in Greece Monroe County on Christmas Day 1819. That places Betsey already in Greece, the town to which Joseph moved after 1826 and where he spent his late teenage years. Betsey was the daughter of Isaac Burhans and Elizabeth Read. There were many Burhans families in NY State. The name has got Dutch associations and has connections with the Dutch

Reformed Church. Betsey was born Elizabeth and she was the second of six children: Daniel 1799-1868; Elizabeth 1812-1875; John 1814; Levi 1819-1901; Isaac 1825 and Susan 1830.

On the 4th September 1832, while he was still living in Monroe County NY, Isaac Burhans registered his application to purchase 80 acres of the Michigan-Toledo Strip at Northfield, Washtenaw County. The certificate of purchase was dated 4th April 1833 and the Burhans family moved to Northfield later that year where they farmed. By 1850 the two families (Samains & Burhans) were working three farms in Northfield.

THE HISTORY OF JOSEPH SAMAIN & BETSEY BURHANS.

It is still unknown where & when Joseph & Betsey married.

Through a Land Registry entry in Michigan dated 15th January 1835 we know Joseph purchased 60 acres of land on the Michigan-Toledo Strip. At the time he was living in Monroe County NY. It is certain that by that time Betsey's family had moved to Michigan, though she probably stayed in NY until she had married Joseph. It is not known for certain.

In an obituary for Betsey's youngest brother, Levi (died 1st May 1901), it says that he was *born in Greece Township Monroe County on Christmas Day 1819 ... He came with his parents to Washtenaw county in 1833*. So the Burhans preceded the Avery-Samains to NY. We know Elias Avery & Mary were married in Baltimore a fortnight after Levi Burhans was born in Greece and, if we can rely on obits, the Burhans preceded Joseph & Betsey to MI. This does make sense. The Burhans arrived in MI in 1833. When Joseph bought his land in Washtenaw in 1835 he was still living in NY - perhaps Isaac (Betsey's father) set the whole thing up for Joseph and managed the purchase from the MI end.

So, it was from Greece Monroe County NY that Joseph & Betsey set out for Michigan in 1836. By 1840 Joseph & Betsey & their young family had moved to Lyons in Oakland County, Michigan where they set up a farm. This may have been for only a short time.

The Burhans & Samain families were living next door to one another in 1850 at Northfield Washtenaw. There were three properties/farms: one occupied by Isaac Burhans (67), John (36), Isaac (25) & Susan (20); the second occupied by Levi Burhans (35), Louise (33) (Louise was nee GROVES), Frederick (8), Luther (5), Newton (1) & in 1852 Rosaltha was born (she died 1905 as Mrs Chalker); and the third one occupied by Joseph Sermain (sic MI enumerators clearly no better than those in NY) (40), Betsey (38), Levi (14), Mary (13), Jane (10), Daniel (8), Elias (5), Joseph Burton (3), William (1).

It was in Northfield Washtenaw County that Joseph Samain and Betsey brought up their family of ten children during their early years.

The complete family was: Levi bn 1835; Mary bn 1837; Jane bn 1839; Daniel bn 1843; Elias bn 1845 ; (Joseph) Burton bn 1847; William bn 1849; Ada bn 1852; Fredrick bn 1855; and, possibly, John bn 1859. This last named is very uncertain. They followed a variety of professions and occupations. Daniel & Elias were farmers. In one census Jane and Ada were entered as farm labourers. Joseph Burton (Burt) was a teacher and became Superintendent of Schools in the Portland Township just before his early death. William was an engine driver with the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Rail Road. He continued as an engine driver in Ohio where he moved with his second wife, Elizabeth, after the death of his first wife, Annie. Frederick was a teacher also. John was a house painter. But the Samains were very much a Michigan farming family - at least in the 19th Century.

By the time of the census in 1860 Joseph & Betsy, Levi, Mary, Jane, Dan, Elias, Burt, William, Ada and Fred were at Northfield Washtenaw but moved to Sebewa Portland later that year. At least some of the Burhans family was still in Northfield Washtenaw,

where Isaac, age 75, died in 1860. But Levi Burhans, when he was about 33, had moved to Portland *in 1852 and settled on what is now known as the Torrance farm.* Ten years later, in 1870, Joseph Samain & Betsy, Jane, Burton, William, Ada and Fred were living at 29 (district) Portland Ionia. Susan (Burhans) and her husband, Charlie Taylor, & their family were then living next door but one to Joseph & Betsey.

Betsey Samain, aged 62, died in February 1875. There was a notice of her death in the Portland Observer, but no obituary has so far been traced

Portland Observer Tuesday Feb 2, 1875

DIED

SEMAIN-In Portland Feb. 1st, of dropsy, Betsey, wife of Joseph Semain, aged 62 years, 2 mos and 17 days

Joseph Samain died in 1892 in Portland, Ionia. His obituary follows:

Portland Observer, 1 Feb 1892

Died – At his home in this township on the 10th inst., Joseph Samain, aged 81 years, 5 months and 18 days.

Joseph Samaine was born in Baltimore, Md., Aug. 23, 1810. Being left an orphan at the age of 15, he went to Rochester, N. Y., and made his home with a sister. He was married in 1836 to Miss Betsey Burhans, who died in 1875. They came west in 1836 and settled near Ann Arbor, coming from there in 1861, and settling upon the farm where he lived until his death. He was the father of ten children, seven of whom are living: Daniel of Sebewa, Elias of Midland, Fred of Belding, Mrs. Ada Wright of Shepherd, Mrs. Mary Storms and Miss Jane Samain of Portland, all being present at the funeral except Elias.

The funeral services were held at the Universalist church last Saturday afternoon, Rev. Goodell officiating, and which were very largely attended.

Ionia Standard – Friday, 19 February 1892

Wm. Samain and wife went to Portland to attend the funeral of his father, who died on Thursday morning at the age of 81 years. He was an old resident of Portland and was highly respected. Death was the result of la grippe. The funeral was attended at 2 pm on Saturday from M. E. church at Portland.

[Burial: Portland Cemetery]

There is an anomaly here and it is a very important one. The first obituary, above, said of the ten children born there were seven of them still living, but it then listed only six. In chronological order they were: Mary, Jane, Daniel, Elias, Ada & Fred. Then in the second obit William is added. So there are the seven. But I have found only two of the family, Levi & Burton, who predeceased Joseph. So, if seven attended the funeral and only two of the family had died previously, there was still a further one not accounted for. And that one was possibly John (about whom see what little there is below). John: not dead; not at the funeral. Perhaps there had been another child who died very young.

The members of the family in turn married and brought up their own families. Many of that next generation of children after that were girls so the Samain name, in Michigan as it had in New York, tended to disappear, though not entirely. In true MI style the new husbands were in the agricultural line and remained very much in the State of Michigan.

a*) LEVI SAMAIN

Named after his uncle, Betsey's brother, Levi was the first of the children of Joseph & Betsey. Levi was born in 1835 & in the IRS Tax Assessment of 1863 he was entered as "keeper of stallion". There is a parallel here with the family his grandfather Joseph had left behind in Bethnal Green London who, at that time, were horse keepers - Lydia & Charles Flanders, Julia and James Wells, Charles Samain and his younger brother, Henry.

In the Portland Cemetery book is the record:

LEVI SAMAIN died Aug 26, 1862 age 28 yrs & 6 months-son of Joseph & Betsy
He was buried in the same plot (EMD 199) as, in due course, were his mother, Betsey
(d: 1875), brother, Joseph Burton (d: 1877), his father, Joseph (d: 1892) & Minerva,
the first wife of his younger brother Daniel, (d: 1872).

b*) MARY SAMAIN > MRS GARY STORMS

There is not a great deal known yet about Mary the second child of Joseph & Betsey.
She was born around 1837 and married GARY STORMS, of California, around
1863/4. They had at least three children: Carrie born 1865/6, Jennie born 1868 & Andy
born 20th December 1874 and died 20th August 1875 Portland Ionia before he was a
year old (#A107-ANDY J STORMS d. Aug 20, 1875-age 8 months at Portland son of
Gary of Calif & Mary of MI)

According to Joseph's obit (1892), Mrs Mary Storms was living at that time still in
Portland Ionia.

Carrie Storms of St Johns, daughter of Gary & Mary married Homer G Hardy on 11th
January 1890 in Lansing Jackson. Homer had been born in Jackson in 1860 & was the
son of Benjamin F Harding & Sarah M Gates.

c*) JANE SAMAIN

Very little is known about Jane. Possibly named after her grandmother Jane Prichard
Ray Samain, she was born around 1839 in MI and died in 1892 when she was 53. She
was buried in Portland Ionia (E 444 OS). It is clear that the women were involved with
farming perhaps as much as the men. In 1880 Jane (aged 38) and Ada (aged 28) were
"laborers" working on the farm of William Pierson at Portland, Ionia. Shortly after this Ada
married

d*) DANIEL SAMAIN

Daniel was the fourth child of Joseph and Betsey. Born in Washtenaw County in April
1842 or 1843 he lived most of his long life as a farmer in Sebewa, Portland. He died on
3rd April 1922 and was interred in Portland Cemetery along with his second wife, Belle,
(d: 1934) and their son Ernest (d: 1913).

He married twice:

first to MINERVA BARRETT (1866) with whom he had four children:

Rena (aka Irene) Samain bn: 26.8.1867 Portland Township

Alta/Alice/Allie June Samain bn: 11.11.1868 Portland Township

Charles Oliver Samain bn: 8.9.1870 Sebewa

Oliver Samain bn 20.6.1872 Sebewa

and, second, to BELLE HADDEN LaROCHE (1880) with whom he had a further
seven children all born in Sebewa:

Dorothy (Deek) Samain bn: 15.10.1881

Kittiemay Samain bn: 15.3.1883

Margie Belle Samain bn: 16.3.1885

Claude Samain bn: 1.2.1887

(Estelle) Maude Samain bn: 11.3.1889

Ernest H Samain bn: 25.8.1890

Ursula A Samain bn: 5.9.1892

DANIEL SAMAINE

In Portland Observer on Thursday April 6, 1922

Sebewa Township Loses Early Pioneer Settler

*With the death of Daniel Samaine, which occurred at the family home, Monday evening
at 11:30 o'clock, Sebewa loses one of its most highly esteemed and well known
pioneer settlers.*

*Mr. Samaine was born in Washtenaw county, near Ann Arbor, 1842, and came to
Portland with his parents when a very small boy. In 1866 he was married to Miss
Minerva Barrett who passed away seven years later. In 1882 he was united in marriage
to Mrs. Belle LaRoche, who with six children survive. They are: Miss Alice Samaine of*

Grand Rapids, C.O.Samaine of Portland, Oregon, Mrs. Fred Brickley and Mrs.Leon Lockwood of Ionia, Mrs.Marjorie Campbell of Sebewa and Mrs.N.H.Howlett of Candias, Maryland.

The funeral was held from the residence today (Thursday), in charge of Rev.Floyd Blewfield. Interment was made in Portland cemetery.

Note of the surviving children mentioned, Alice Samaine and C O Samaine were the children of Minerva; the other four, Mrs. Fred Brickley, Mrs.Leon Lockwood, Mrs.Marjorie Campbell and Mrs.N.H.Howlett, were the children of Belle.

MINERVA BARRETT > FIRST MRS DANIEL SAMAIN

Discovering Minerva's identity was at first something of a mystery. There is no doubt that Minerva was the first wife of Daniel. In the 1870 Federal Census, Daniel and Minerva Samoin (sic) are recorded with their daughters, Rena* (bn 1867) and Alta (bn 1868). However, I found it very difficult to trace any other direct record of Minerva, so I was thrown back on to deduction to identify her and some of her family. The major clues appear in the 1880 and 1910 censuses. It is worth noting at this point that Rena has been variously named as E Rena and R Rena (it is quite likely her name was Irene) and that there is a birth recorded of Ettie 26.6.1867. This Ettie I am taking as being identical to E Rena. Rena's sister, Alta, also has a variety of names as I mention below.

In 1880 **RENA SAMAIN** aged 12 years was living in Orange, Ionia, Michigan. She was living with her unmarried uncle, Alonzo Barrett (farmer aged 39). It follows then that Rena's mother, Minerva, was the sister of Alonzo. Also living there were Rebecka (Alonzo's mother - and, therefore, Rena's grandmother, aged 65 yrs) and H Angeline Barrett**. (his sister and, therefore, Rena's aunt, aged 27yrs). It is clear that Minerva was a Barrett. From Alonzo's obituary (see below) it is clear that he had been born in Pittsburg Pennsylvania. H Angeline was born in Michigan, indicating the Barrett family had moved to Michigan between 1841 and 1853. Their mother, Rebecka, had been born in Ohio and their father (unnamed) in Vermont.

In 1910 in Kent County, Michigan, was **ALICE (sic) SAMAIN** aged 38 yrs (I am not too happy about her age). She was living with her uncle, Offin Barrett (aged 69 yrs) and his family - wife, Margaret, and Herbert, their son (aged 38 yrs). It is possible that this person really was Alice, but she was more likely to have been Altie or Allie (from Alta) the daughter of Daniel and Minerva. Alta is known as Allie elsewhere too. I thought if Alice is Allie, the daughter of Minerva, then Minerva would be the sister of Offin Barrett. Then I discovered in the "vital records" of Michigan a complete transcription of the 1850 Census for Ionia County MI. There were the names of Ebenezer Barrett (bn Vermont 1803) a farmer; his wife Rebecca bn 1815 Ohio; and their family: Ebenezer, a farmer aged 17; Orphan (sic) aged 12; Lorinzo (sic) aged 11; Oliver aged 8; and Minerva aged 5 years. They were all born in Pennsylvania. So, unless that record was faulty in some way, the family must have moved to Michigan from Pennsylvania between the birth of Minerva on 11.3.1845 and the date of the census in 1850. Alonzo's obit gives the year of removal as 1844. If 1844 is correct then Minerva would have been born in Michigan.

Minerva's death record shows the following:

#A-68-MINERVA SEMAIN d. June 26,1872 at Sebewa-age 27 yr/ 3mn/15 dys-Married b.Penn. dau of Ebenezer & Rebecca BARRETT.

Minerva was interred at Portland Cemetery on lot EMD 199 wife of Daniel. Her death certificate gives the cause of death as "childbirth". She died 6 days after the birth of her son, Oliver.

Careful scrutiny of the data shows the complete set of the children of Daniel and Minerva to be: Irene (Rena) bn 26.6.1867; Alta (Allie, Alice) bn 11.11.1868; Charles bn 8.9.1870; Oliver bn 20.6.1872. They were all born in Michigan.

It is interesting to note that Rena & Alta lived in later years with Minerva's brothers and not with their father and stepmother.

EBENEZER BARRETT

A note on Ebenezer, Minerva's father: he was born in Windsor, Vermont 30th April 1803. The son of Oliver Barrett and Mary Burnham, he was one of fourteen children. His siblings included Offin and Oliver. (One of the sons of Daniel and Minerva was named Oliver). Alonzo's obituary mentions that Ebenezer & Rebecca had seven children.

**from the obits below it seems likely that H Angeline married Lester WAKELY

EBENEZER BARRETT (obit)

Portland Observer – Wednesday 12 June 1901

Ebenezer Barrett died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Lester Wakely, in Sebewa, on Saturday last. He was a brother of Alonzo Barrett of Portland and a veteran of the civil war. He was 68 years of age and an inmate of the soldiers' home at Grand Rapids for the past five years. He was buried in Portland Cemetery Monday afternoon, funeral services having been conducted from the M.E. Church by the pastor. Although not a member of the post, quite a delegation attended the funeral.

ALONZO BARRETT (brother of Minerva)

ALONZO BARRETT (obit)

Portland Observer, 4 Jul 1912

Alonzo Barrett, a resident of this vicinity for 68 years, expired at his home in Culvertown shortly after the noon hour Saturday, following a long up-hill fight with dropsy. Funeral services were conducted from the M.E. church Monday at 2:30, Rev. David E. Millard officiating, and the remains were laid to rest in Portland cemetery.

Mr. Barrett was born in Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 12, 1841, coming to Michigan with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Barrett, in 1844, the family settling in Orange township. Mr. Barrett resided there until about ten years ago, when he located in this village. Of seven children in the Barrett family, but two are now living. They are O. Barrett, of Grand Rapids, who has been at the bedside of his brother for several weeks, and Mrs. Lester Wakely, of Portland.

Mr. Barrett never married, spending many years of his life in complete solitude. He was an active member of the local G.A.R. Post, his surviving comrades and members of the W.R.C. attending his funeral in a body. Mr. Barrett enlisted as a corporal in the 9th Michigan Infantry on Sept. 5, 1861, serving throughout the war. From the rank of corporal he was promoted to second sergeant, then to first sergeant and later advanced to second lieutenant of Co. D. He was mustered Sept. 15, 1865. Although Mr. Barrett had a number of peculiarities those who knew him best were his closest friends and his demise is deeply mourned.

At the funeral services Monday afternoon six surviving members of Mr. Barrett's company acted as pallbearers. They were A. S. Bunnell and Daniel Boyden, of Lyons, John W. Klotz, Daniel F. Saxton, James Jordan and W. G. Miner.

IRENE or E RENA SAMAIN > MRS GEORGE I HALLOCK

Irene was born 26th August 1867 in Iona County. She was the oldest child of Daniel & Minerva. She had a younger sister Alta also known also as Allie & Alice. They lived with Barrett uncles after the death of their mother (26th June 1872). She also had two brothers Charles (8.Sept 1870) & Oliver (20 June 1872).

In 1880 census Rena Samain aged 12 years was living in Orange, Ionia, MI with her unmarried uncle, Alonzo Barrett (farmer aged 39). Also there were Rebecka (Alonzo's mother/ Rena's grandmother, aged 65 yrs) and H Angeline Barrett. (his sister/her aunt aged 27yrs).

RENE SAMAIN HALLOCK (cemetery record, death notice & obit)

Portland cemetery book 1884 to 1908 funeral home book. This name had no dates in Portland cemetery.

HALLOCK, Rena Samain (irecord says Irene E.) buried with George HALLOCK but no dates given

In Grand Rapids Herald on Friday Dec. 3, 1915

PNEUMONIA FATAL TO MRS. GEORGE I. HALLOCK

Mrs George I.Hallock, 45** years old, wife of George I.Hallock of the Hallock Advertising agency, is dead at her home, 630 Scribner avenue, N. W. Death was due to pneumonia. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Daniel and Eston Hallock. Funeral services will be held Saturday at Portland, Mich

listed on Lot B3-153 Portland cem.- Rena (SAMAIN)HALLOCK
In secton records-Irene E.HALLOCK

RENA SAMAINE HALLOCK

Portland Observer on Thursday Dec 9, 1915

FATAL ILLNESS IS TRACEABLE TO GAS

Inhalation of Poinsonous Fumes Believed to Have Led to Mrs.Hallock's Death
One of the sad events of the week was the death, in Grand Rapids, of Mrs.G.I. Hallock, formerly Miss Rena Samaine, of Sebewa, and the subsequent transportation of the remains, accompanied by the bereaved husband and two young sons, to this place for burial. Upon arriving here on the late train Friday evening the body was taken to the home of Mrs.N.K.Wright, an aunt of deceased, where it laid in state until the funeral services Saturday afternoon, conducted by Rev.C.E.Pollock, of the Methodist church. The last rites were largely attended and expressions of sympathy for the bereaved relatives were heard on every hand.

Mrs.Hallock's death was due to a brief illness from pneumonia, said to be directly traceable to poisoning caused by the inhalation of escaping coal gas. While Mrs.Hallock seemed to suffer no ill effects at the time of the incident, members of the family are inclined to believe that it was this very thing that undermined her health and later resulted in her death.

Mrs.Hallock was a daughter of Daniel Samaine, of Sebewa, and was born in Portland township 48 years ago. Her husband is the proprietor of the Hallock Advertising Agency, of Grand Rapids, one of the biggest enterprises of its kind in the western part of the state. The two sons who survive her are Dan, aged 13, and Eston, aged 11. Brothers and sisters are Miss Alice Samaine, Grand Rapids; Charles, Portland, Oregon; Mrs.Fred W.Brickley, Orange; Mrs Frank Campbell, Sebewa; Miss Maude Samine, Kendallville, Ind; Mrs.John Ramsey, Portland.

Owing to the fact of there being no available space on the Samaine family lot to permit of the interment of the body it was placed in the vault here for the time being awaiting definite decision of the relatives as to where to inter it. It was Mrs.Hallock's desire to be buried near her own people, but because of unforeseen circumstances it may be impossible to carry out her wish.

ALICE SAMAIN

In Ionia Sentinel-Standard on Thursday January 3, 1957

Miss Alice Samain, 88, of Portland died Thursday morning at the Meitler convalescent home in Portland after being a patient there for four years. She was born in Portland November 11, 1868, the daughter of Daniel and Minerva Samain. Miss Samain had made her home in Grand Rapids for many years where she was head of the alterations department of the Herpolsheimers Co. Previous to coming to the Meitler convalescent home she had been living at the Women's home in Lansing for about ten years. She is survived by four step-sisters, Mrs.Fred Brickley of Ionia, Mrs.Margie Campbell of Lansing, Mrs.Leon Lockwood of Ionia and Mrs.H.H.Howlett of Springfield, Ill; two nephews, Dan Hollock of Chicago, Ill, and E.C. Hollock of St.Petersburg, Fla. Funeral services will be held at the Neller funeral home in Portland, Saturday, January 5 at 2 p.m. with the Rev.Newcombe officiating. Interment will be in the Portland cemetery.

CHARLES OLIVER SAMAIN

For someone who lived to be 83 years old, not a lot has yet been found about Charles Oliver, also known as Ollie. His obituary has very little detail. of his life There is a census record that he was married to Kate, but her surname has not yet been discovered.

Kate's father was born in Germany. Her mother was from Indiana, Charles O was living in Portland Oregon when he attended his father's funeral in 1922. Nearly twenty years before that, in 1913, when, as Ollie, he was present at the funeral of his half brother, Ernest, he was already settled in OR.

CHARLES O SAMAIN

In the Portland Review & Observer on Thursday April 15, 1952

Charles O. Samain Passes Away At Ionia Monday

Funeral services are being held here this (Thurs.) afternoon at 2:00 for Charles Ollie Samain, 83, who passed away Monday at the Ionia convalescent home.

Mr. Samain had been residing here for about four years. He was born in Sebewa on Sept. 8, 1870. Surviving are a sister, Miss Allie Samain, of Lansing and four half-sisters. Rev. Park Newcombe will officiate at the funeral at Neller Funeral Home, and burial will be in Portland Cemetery.

OLIVER SAMAIN

Nothing has been found respecting Oliver, except that it was only days after his birth on 20th June.1872 in Sebewa that his mother, Minerva, died.

ISABELL HADDEN > MRS BELLE LA ROCHE > THE SECOND MRS DANIEL SAMAIN

Daniel's second wife was a widow, Isabell(e) (known as Belle) La Roche nee Hadden. The date of the marriage of Daniel & Belle has not yet been traced, but their first child, a daughter named Dorotthy (known in her youth & married as as Deek), was born in 1881.

The parents of Isabelle Hadden were born in the UK: father, William Hadden, in Scotland & her mother, Margaret Lynn, in Ireland. Although the census data give a variety of places of birth for her mother, the death cert of her son, William, (Seeking Michigan) confirms it was Ireland.

In the 1860 census William & Margaret Hadden were living at Farmington, Oakland County with their family. The complete list was:

William Hadden aged 31; Margaret 31; James 9; Isabella 7; Margaret J 5; William 3; Ellen 1.

Isabella (Belle) was born in Pennsylvania and on William's death cert it says he was born in Michigan so they must have moved from PA to MI between 1853 and 1857. Belle, as Belle LaRoche, had a son, Bert. He attended the funeral of Ernest, his half brother, in January 1913.

In 1930 Belle, aged 77 yrs and a widow, was living with her daughter & son in law, Maude & Leon Ward Lockwood.

Belle died at the home of Edna & Leon in Ionia in January 1934 aged 81 years.

Belle Samaine is buried in Portland Cemetery Ionia.

Her obituary reads:

BELLE SAMAINE

Portland Observer Thursday January 11, 1934

Sebewa Pioneer Taken By Death

Mrs. Belle Samaine Died Wednesday at Home of Daughter in Ionia.

Mrs Belle Samaine, 81, died Wednesday morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Leon Lockwood, in Ionia, where she had been staying for the past two months. The body was removed to the Neller funeral home in Portland where funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2:30, in charge of Rev. J.H. Stewart. Burial will be made in Portland cemetery.

Mrs. Samaine was born in Philadelphia but had spent the greater portion of her lifetime in Sebewa. Besides Mrs. Lockwood three other daughters survive. They are Mrs. Fred Brickley, of Ionia; Mrs. Margie Campbell, of Sebewa, and Mrs. N.H. Howlett, of Milford, N. Y. Two sisters also survive, Mrs. Nellie Burns of Mass., and Miss Margaret Haddin, of Chicago.

The details of WILLIAM HADDEN, brother of Isabelle, confirms Belle's parentage. He was born 10th July 1857 & died 2st May 1916 (Ionia) the son of William Hadden (born Scotland) & Margaret Lynn (bn Ireland). (Seeking MI)

WILLIAM HADDEN AND MARGARET LYNN

A note on William Hadden father of Belle.

He was baptised 21st March 1830 in Aberdour Aberdeen Scotland son of William Hadden & Isabell Ritchie

Siblings Isabella 1825; Rebecca 1827; Samuel 1832; Mary 1836.

And Margaret Linn, mother of Belle.

She was baptised 3rd March 1830 Dromore Parish, County Down Ireland daughter of James Linn & Margaret Stewart

Note the oldest child of William Hadden & Margaret Lynn (ie the oldest brother of Belle) was also named James.

THE FAMILY OF DANIEL & BELLE LaROCHE SAMAIN

Born in Sebewa, Ionia MI in 1881, Dorothy was the oldest of the seven children of Daniel & Belle Samain. The three siblings who survived Dorothy were Margie Belle, who married Frank A Campbell (1908); (Estelle) Maude, who married Leon Ward Lockwood (1917); and Ursula A, who married Nathan H Howlett. Of the other three siblings who pre deceased Dorothy, Kitty May (also known as Kittiemay) and Claude both died in early infancy. They were interred at East Sebewa at the plot owned by their father Daniel. Ernest H Samain born in 1890, died in Portland 6th January 1913.

i) DOROTHY (DEEK) SAMAIN > MRS FRED BRICKLEY

Dorothy's name appears as Deek in her youth & in early census records. She was married as Deek.

In 1906 Dorothy was a teacher in in Sebewa & Danby. On 5th June 1907 Deek Samain married FRED BRICKLEY the son of Frank Brickley & Ada Wilson in Orange Ionia.

In 1920 & 1930 censuses Dorothy was known as Dorothy. In 1930 Fred's mother, age 73, was living with them. Fred & Deek had been together for 50 years when Fred died in 1956. He was buried on 18th February in Portland (92 C1). Just over five years later, on 28th March 1961 Dorothy was interred alongside her husband.

Dorothy & Fred had at least three children: William J bn 1909; Adabelle bornn 1st August 1916 Orange & died 29th November 1945 in Sandusky OH she married Herbert Wilkins in 1937; & Lois who was born in 1921 & married Harold Davis

MRS DOROTHY BRICKLEY

Ionia Daily Sentinel Standard, 26 Mar 1963

Mrs. Dorothy Brickley, 81, wife of the late Fred W. Brickley, Orange township farmer who died February 15, 1956, died at 2 a.m. Tuesday at Ionia County Memorial hospital. She had been in ill health 12 years. Mrs. Brickley was born October 5, 1881 in Sebewa township, the daughter of Daniel and Isabelle Hadden Samain. She was a member of LeValley Methodist church and WSCS. She was graduated from Ferris institute at Big Rapids and taught in Ionia county rural schools.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Harold Davis of route four; one son, William J. Brickley of East Lansing; three sisters, Mrs. Leon Lockwood of Ionia, Mrs. Margie Campbell of Lansing, and Mrs. N.H. Howlett of Springfield, Ill. A daughter, Mrs. Adabelle Wilkins died November 29, 1945.

The body will be at her residence on Kelsey highway until Thursday noon when it will be removed to LeValley Methodist church for service at 2:30. The Rev. Leonard Rowell will officiate and burial will be at Portland cemetery. Arrangements are by Stone-Kauffman funeral home.

FRED W. BRICKLEY

Ionia Sentinel-Standard Monday February 20, 1956

Funeral services for Fred W. Brickley who died Wednesday afternoon, February 15, were held Saturday at 1:30 at the LeValley Methodist church with the Rev. J. Lawrence Ward officiating. Bearers were Lester Wolverton, Harold Harwood, Forrest Nash, Carroll Hatinger, Theodore Ferris and Ora Walkington. Mrs. William Weisgerber, Mrs. Robert Weisgerber and Mrs. Harold Harwood were in charge of flowers. Mrs. Doris Larson was organist.

Attending from out of town were Mr. and Mrs. William Brickley of East Lansing, Mrs. Minnie Friedly of Boyne City, Bert Wilkins of Sandusky, Ohio, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith, Culmer Peterson, Cora Campbell, and Mrs. Margie Campbell, all of Lansing, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson of Detroit, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lockwood Jr., of Grand Rapids, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Burman, Mrs. Jennie Wilson, John Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Kelley, Mildred Brown, W. J. Spitzley, Mrs. Charles Wilson, Mrs. Velmie Shook, Roy Shook, Mrs. Frank Davenport, Virginia Christensen, Mrs. Andrew Christensen, Mrs. Oscar Ecklund, Freeman Monks, Betty Monks, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Bliss, Herbert Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Crosby, Mrs. Nettie Whitlock, Harold Whitlock, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Whitlock, Mr. and Mrs. Kendall Knox, Mrs. Edith Shotwell, Ed Peckins, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hair, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fred Klotz, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Kenyon, Mr. and Mrs. Webster Linebaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Eben Krausz, and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Roger, all of Portland, Neal First of Lansing, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Faul, Albert Reesor and Victor Eckardt, of Woodland, W. R. Weiland and Mr. and Mrs. Clark Parson of Lowell, Mr. and Mrs. Holgar Larson and Mr. and Mrs. Fay Nash of Lyons and Bert Moran of Portland.

ii) KITTIEMAY SAMAIN

Kittiemay was the second child of Daniel & Belle. Her life was not a long one: born on 15th March 1883 in Sebewa, She died 18 months later and was buried on 15th September 1884 in East Sebewa Cemetery in the plot bought by her father..

iii) MARGIE BELLE SAMAIN > MRS FRANK A CAMPBELL

Margie Belle was the third child (third daughter) of Daniel & Belle. She lived to the very good age of 87, having been born on 16th March 1885 in Sebewa and dying in Ionia in 1972. She was buried on 31st May 1972 at Portland Cemetery MI alongside her husband **FRANK A CAMPBELL**.

Frank was born in 1880 in Sebewa. His parents were Edward R Campbell & Senith Buell. Frank died age 40 and was buried in Portland MI. He & Margie Belle were married on 6th February 1908 in Ionia. They had at least three children: Coral E Campbell, a son, born 1910 MI; Velma Campbell, who became Mrs Velma Nitz, born 1912 MI & Charlie Campbell born 1918

In 1910 Margie & Frank were living next door to her parents, Daniel & Isabell (and family) in Sebewa, Ionia.

She continued her residence in Sebewa attending the funerals of her oldest half sister, Rena Hallock in 1915, her father in 1922 and her mother in 1934

By the time of Fred Brickley's funeral in 1956 Margie was living in Lansing, the State capital. She attended with her son, Cora Campbell, When Alice Samain, her half sister, was buried in 1957 and her full sister, Dorothy (Deek) Brickley, in 1963 Margie was still in Lansing.

MARGIE B CAMPBELL

Ionia Sentinel Standard Thursday June 1 1972

A former Portland resident, Margie Belle Campbell, 87 of 126 South Brye, Ludington died Wednesday in Ludington.

She was born in Sebewa township March 16, 1885, and had lived in Lansing 20 years before going to Ludington about a year ago.

Surviving are two sons, Coral E. Campbell of Lansing and Charles F. Campbell of Ludington; daughter, Mrs. Velma Nitz of Baroda; four grandchildren and two great grandchildren; sister, Mrs. Leon Lockwood of Ionia.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 11 a.m. at Neller funeral home in Portland. Rev

Carlton Benson of Portland United Methodist church will officiate and interment will be at Portland cemetery.

iv) CLAUDE SAMAIN

Claude, the first son of Daniel & Belle lived only seven months. Born 1st February 1887 he was interred on 3rd September alongside Kittiemay in the East Sebewa Cemetery.

V) (ESTELLE) MAUDE SAMAIN > MRS LEON WARD LOCKWOOD

Maude was born 11th March 1889 Sebewa MI & died 3rd June 1973 Portland. She graduated as a teacher in 1908 at Ypsilanti Normal College.

On 27th October 1917 in Portland Ionia Maude married **LEON WARD LOCKWOOD** who had been born 23rd September 1889 MI the son of Thomas J Lockwood & Clara Davis. Leon died 21st April 1975 in Florida & was buried in Portland.

I have a note that "Mr and Mrs Lockwood owned and lived in the John Blanchard house in Ionia for many years. The house is slated to become a museum for Ionia County under the auspices of the Ionia County Historical Society".

Other brief records of Maude & Leon:

In 1930 Belle, aged 77 yrs and a widow, was living with Maude & Leon Ward Lockwood. Belle died there where she had been staying for the previous two months.

Mr. and Mrs. Leon Lockwood Jr, of Grand Rapids, attended the funeral of Fred Brickley on 20th February 1956

Mrs. Leon Lockwood of Ionia attended the funeral of Alice Samain on 3rd January 1957

Mrs. Leon Lockwood of Ionia, attended funeral of Dorothy Brickley 26th March 1963

In the Portland Cemetery Maude & Leon are interred in lot A5-347 together with two of their sons: Walter Samain Lockwood (1920 - 1935) & Joseph Burton Lockwood (1923 2001) & Joseph B's wife, Jane L (Daughter of the Revolution).

Maude & Leon had at least six children:

- i*) Leon Ward Lockwood bn 1919 MI
- ii*) Walter Samain Lockwood bn 1920 MI d 1935 Portland
- iii*) Winifred Lockwood bn 1923 MI
- iv*) Joseph Burton Lockwood bn 1923 & died 2001 Portland
- v*) Thomas Lockwood bn 1925 MI
- vi*) Dwight Samain Lockwood

MRS MAUDE S. LOCKWOOD

Ionia Sentinel-Standard Monday June 4, 1973

A long time Ionia resident, Mrs. Maude S. Lockwood, 84, of 241 East Main died at her home Sunday afternoon following an extended illness.

Born in Sebewa township March 11, 1889, she was the daughter of Daniel and Belle Hadden Samaine. A graduate of Portland high school in 1908 she attended Ypsilanti Normal receiving her teacher's certificate.

She taught district school in Sebewa township, also South Haven and three years at Kendallville, Ind., and did substitute teaching at Ionia schools.

October 27, 1917, she was married in Portland to Leon W. Lockwood and they made their home in Ionia all their married life most of that time at the East Main address.

She was a member of First United Presbyterian church of Ionia, American Legion auxiliary, Ionia Literary club, Ionia Senior Citizen's club, Ionia Garden club, World War I barracks auxiliary, Grand Valley Rock and Mineral society.

A brother, three sisters and a son Walter, preceded her in death.

Surviving are her husband, Leon W. Lockwood, Sr.: four sons, Leon, Jr., and Dwight of Treasure Island, Fla, Thomas of Albuquerque of New Mexico and Joseph of Cadillac: daughter, Mrs. Winifred Perry of Ionia; 12 grandchildren; five great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. at First United Presbyterian church of

Ionia, Pastor Harold Johnson will officiate and interment will be at Portland cemetery. A memorial has been established for the Presbyterian church and contributions may be left at Leddick funeral home where the family will be Monday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

LEON W LOCKWOOD

Ionia Sentinel-Standard Tuesday April 22, 1975

Leon W. Lockwood, Sr., 85, of 241 East Main, Ionia, died Monday morning at the home of a son at Treasure Island, Fla., where he has spent a part of the winter.

Born in Danby township September 23, 1889, he was the son of Thomas and Clara Davis Lockwood. He graduated from Portland high school.

He was employed by the Ypsilanti Reed Furniture Company in Ionia when he entered the military service in World War I serving with a medical detachment.

After his discharge he returned to Ionia and resumed his work at the Ypsilanti Reed Furniture Company and its successor Ionia Manufacturing Company 51 years. He retired in 1964 as personnel director of the firm.

October 27, 1917, he was married in Portland to Maude Samaine and they made their home in Ionia on East Main most of their married life. She died June 3, 1973.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian church, American Legion, World War I barracks, Senior Citizens, Grand Valley Rock and Mineral society and Ionia Garden club.

Mr. Lockwood at one time was owner of the John Blanchard house on East Main, recently acquired by a pair of Ionia businessmen, Lynn Morris and George Vance who wish to preserve the structure with the aid of Ionia county's historical society.

Surviving are four sons, Leon Jr., of Treasure Island, Fla., Dwight of Redington Beach, Fla., Thomas of Albuquerque, N.M. and Joseph of Cadillac; daughter, Mrs. Winifred Perry of Ionia; 12 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; two brothers, Charles and Robert Lockwood of Portland and a sister Mrs. Grace Megarah of Portland.

Funeral services will be Friday at 1 p.m. at the Leddick funeral home. Rev Harold Johnson of First Presbyterian church will officiate and interment will be at the Portland cemetery.

A memorial fund has been established for the Presbyterian church.

The family will be at the funeral home Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m..

vi) ERNEST H SAMAIN

Ernest was born 25th August 1890 and died from complications following appendicitis on 6th January 1913 in Sebewa Ionia MI

ERNEST SAMAINE

Portland Observer-Thursday, January 9, 1913

LOST IN LONG FIGHT

Ernest Samaine, Victim of Appendicitis, Submitted to the Inevitable Monday Morning. WAS TAKEN ILL A YEAR AGO

Plucky Fight for Life Following Two Operations Was Amazing to All; Funeral Held Wednesday.

Stricken with appendicitis a year ago this month, undergoing two operations designed to save his life, lying in bed during weeks that seemed like months, Ernest Samaine, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Samaine, of Sebewa, gave up the fight and submitted to the inevitable early Monday morning. The young man's vitality had rapidly grown weaker during the past few days, and the family, who had hoped against hope for his recovery, have the sympathy of the entire community in their hour of darkness.

It was on Jan. 12th last that Mr. Samaine, who was returning from a dancing party at Collins, was stricken with appendicitis at the home of his friend, Miss Lenna Fitch. On one of the coldest days of the winter he was rushed across country to Muir in a covered sleigh and placed aboard a Grand Trunk train for Grand Rapids, at the DeVore hospital, in that city, he underwent an operation. His condition was so precarious that he was unable to leave the physicians' care for weeks but was finally removed to his home in Sebewa, where he gave every indication of eventual recovery. His vigorous fight for life

in the face of what seemed hopeless obstacles was amazing to the physicians, who gave up hope for his recovery from the start.

Under the devoted care of his parents, in Sebewa, Mr. Samaine seemed to improve with each week, and after gaining much of his strength expressed a willingness to submit to a second operation, which was performed in the university hospital, at Ann Arbor. The second ordeal under the surgeon's knife made no deteriorating effect on his vitality, and friends or family were of the opinion that the young man's plucky fight would actually result in his complete recovery. Mr. Samaine lived in a tent at his father's farm for weeks, where he amused himself by shooting targets with his rifle and playing the family phonograph. Later he was able to leave his bed, don his clothes and walk to the barn, but when the change came it proved to be for the worse, and his vitality has rapidly grown weaker.

Mr. Samaine was one of the big hearted young men of the vicinity, and his many friends have eagerly watched his illness with the hope that he might some day completely regain his health. Now that the inevitable has come they are filled with regret, and the family, who are among the well known residents of Sebewa township, have the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community in their bereavement.

Ernest Samaine was born in Sebewa, on the same farm where he died, August 25th, 1890. He attended the rural school in the neighborhood, and afterwards assisted his father on the farm. His death is keenly felt by the parents, with whom he has always resided.

After a short service at the house at 1:00 o'clock Wednesday, conducted by Rev. W. W. Slee, of the M. E. church, the cortege wended its way to the local Universalist church, where many sorrowing friends had gathered to pay their last respects. The remains were interred in Portland cemetery.

Besides the parents Mr. Samaine is survived by two brothers, Ollie Samaine, of Portland, Oregon, Bert La Roche, of Chicago, Ill., and six-sisters, Mrs. Fred Brickley, of Orange, Mrs. Frank Campbell, of Sebewa, Mrs. G. I. Hallock and Miss Alice Samaine, of Grand Rapids, Miss Maude Samaine, of South Haven, and Miss Ursula Samaine, living at home. All were here to attend the funeral with the exception of the brother residing at Portland, Oregon, who was unable to get here in time for the last rites.

Thursday January 16, 1913

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation to the friends and neighbors for the kindness shown us during the illness and death of our son and brother, for the singing that was so kindly rendered and for the many beautiful floral offerings.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Samaine and Family

vii) URSULA A SAMAIN > MRS JOHN R RAMSEY > MRS NATHAN H HOWLETT

Ursula, the youngest child of Daniel & Belle was born 5th September 1892 in Sebewa and died 15th July 1968 Springfield ILL She married twice. Her first marriage, to **JOHN R RAMSEY, was very brief. John, born 9th November 1889, the son of Robert Ramsey & Minnie Hastings, died 4th January 1916 in Portland. That was less than a year after their marriage on 27th February 1915 also in Portland. It was as Mrs John Ramsey that Ursula attended the funeral of her oldest (half) sister Rena less than a month before she became a widow.**

The Portland Observer, Thursday, January 6, 1916

*A business career abounding with the brightest of prospects was blasted in its infancy, late Tuesday evening, in the untimely death of **JOHN R. RAMSEY**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ramsey, at the family residence on Pleasant street. It was only a few hours prior to the new year's dawn that the young man was seized with the attack of pleural pneumonia that led to his death, and though given the tender care of a young wife and mother and the treatment of a physician who many years had been intimately associated with the family, Mr. Ramsey's case gave but scanty foundation for hope from the start. The shock of a young man's death was universally felt and is mourned in common by entire*

town and countryside.

Mr. Ramsey's illness developed from a severe cold contracted from driving his father's automobile to Portland from Grand Rapids last Friday afternoon in an unseasonable rainstorm. At the outset there appeared to be but little cause for apprehension but the night brought on an abrupt change for the worse. Crazed by an intense fever, Mr. Ramsey grew irrational shortly after midnight and was admittedly in a serious condition when Dr. R. W. Alton, the family physician, called and little relief could be afforded him and at 11:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, after an illness of only a trifle more than four days, the young man breathed his last. The case is one of the saddest The Observer has been called upon to chronicle in years.

Singularly enough, Mr. Ramsey's death took place while his father, Robert Ramsey, was confined to St. Mary's hospital in Grand Rapids suffering from the same disease. The parent had been taken ill just a few days previous, having, like his son, contracted his cold as the result of an automobile trip overland. John and his passenger brother, Fred, had taken an active part in their father's care and it was only a few hours after leaving his bedside that the former contracted the disease which has been epidemic over the entire country at a cost of thousands of lives. Some maintain that his illness is traceable to the care he gave his father.

The father was overwhelmed with grief when hospital attendants informed him of his son's untimely death Tuesday. Though feverish and weakened, he insisted upon leaving for his home immediately, and realizing that under the sad circumstances it would be cruel to deny him the privilege, hospital physicians lost no time in preparing the sick man for the trip. Mr. Ramsey reached here on the 1:23 train Tuesday afternoon, accompanied by a nurse and G. I. Hallock, his son's brother-in-law. He is being cared for at the home of Dr. R. W. Alton. While his general condition is much better, his presence at the funeral Friday afternoon will depend altogether upon developments that take place between now and that time.

The young man's mother is bearing up well under the terrible strain, but his young wife, formerly Miss Ursula Samaine, of Sebewa, a bride and a widow within one and the same year, is almost prostrate. Her condition, too, has been weakened by illness, though she bore up bravely throughout her husband's illness and it was not until life ebbed away that she collapsed under the nervous strain.

John R. Ramsey was a schoolmate of the writer and in his death we feel a keen loss. He was born on Pleasant street, less than a stone's throw from the scene of his untimely end, 26 years ago the ninth of last November. He obtained his early education in the Quarterline street school and upon completing the four grades there was promoted to the central building. Eager to shift for himself, he left the High school before completing the course and was assigned to a job in the Ramsey-Alton factory, of which his father, Robert Ramsey, is president. Seeing the need of a better business education, he entered the Cleary Business College in Ypsilanti and later studied at the Ferris Institute, in Big Rapids. Upon his return he was placed in charge of the Ramsey-Alton offices and from that time on had always filled a position of responsibility in the plant. At the time of his death he held a supervisory position over one of the company's buildings and in fact was the medium of efficiency between the office and the factory. He was a good man in the place.

On February 27, 1915, he took as his bride Miss Ursula Samaine, of Sebewa, who became a widow within the same year that saw her happily married. Her sad

plight has brought her the universal sympathy of the community. Besides the widow, Mr. Ramsey is survived by his parents, a brother, Fred, and a grandfather, Charles Hastings, of Portland.

Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock is the hour set for the funeral service at the late residence. Rev. John H. Stewart, pastor of the Portland Baptist church, who officiated at the young man's wedding less than a year ago, will deliver the sermon. Members of Portland lodge No. 31 F.&A.M., will act as escort to the body on the way to the cemetery and will take charge of the burial. Clyde A. Moore, past worshipful master of the order, will interpret the last Masonic rites. Messrs. Frank L. Jenkins, Arthur L. Francis, Sylvester S. Jenkins, Burton D. Smith, Roy W. Dawdy and Charles A. Selleck, all members of the Masonic order, will act as pallbearers.

The tragic sadness continued. John's mother Minnie Hastings Ramsey died in 1917 as a result of her young son's early demise.

MRS. ROBERT RAMSEY

RAMSEY, SMITH, CHRISWELL, LOOMIS, SAMAIN, HASTINGS, MANNING, WILHELM, MACGREGOR, STEWART, CHAPMAN, GREENE, NICHOLS, COMPTON, DUDLEY, MCKNIGHT, FITZGERALD, PEABODY, HIXSON, WARD, HATHAWAY, PRYER, LEWIS

Date 1917 Minnie (Hastings) Ramsey (Mrs. Robert)

MRS. ROBERT RAMSEY DIES OF APOPLEXY--PASSES AWAY SUNDAY NOON WHILE WEEPING OVER SON'S KEEPSAKES IN GARRET—STARTLING DISCOVERY SHOCKS ENTIRE TOWN—Body is Discovered by Neighbor Women Lying, Face Downward on a Cot; Funeral is Held Tuesday.

Secluded in a little room off the garret of her home on Pleasant street, surrounded by the personal effects and keepsakes of her son John, from the shock of whose death in January 1916, she had never fully recovered, Mrs. Robert Ramsey was seized with a fatal attack of apoplexy, shortly before noon Sunday, and died alone in the room before assistance could reach her. Her body, lying face downward on a bed, was found at about noon by Mrs. B. Smith and Mrs. Clara Chriswell, who, with other neighbors, had instituted a search for the woman, and was still warm when discovered. Dr. Alton, who preformed the autopsy, said that death had taken place about a half hour previous. Mrs. Ramsey had been subject to heart attacks for several years and had only returned home the Friday previous to her death from a consultation with University physicians at Ann Arbor, who pronounced her case curable providing certain precautions, were used. Mrs. Ramsey went away, primarily to visit with her friend, Mrs. Miles Loomis, at Ypsilanti, and during her stay there took a run down to Ann Arbor for a consultation with the specialists. They gave her so much encouragement that she decided to return home immediately. Her husband was in Grand Rapids at the time, and her daughter-in-law, thinking that Mrs. Ramsey would probably make an extended stay, had gone to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Samaine, in Sebawa, to remain indefinitely. Learning in a roundabout way of his daughter's unexpected return, Charles Hastings went to the Ramsey home Friday night and offered to stay, but Mrs. Ramsey said she really preferred to remain alone. Someone suggested that she call her daughter-in-law, but she would not consent to this. Mr. Hastings called several times on Saturday and again on Sunday morning and found his daughter in seemingly good health. Later in the morning one of the neighbor women called the Ramsey home by telephone, but got no response. She tried several times, but with the same result, and finally Mrs. Lewis Wilhelm and Mrs. James Manning, who live close by, conducted a search of the premises, but failed to find the missing woman. They concluded that the Ramsey woman had gone for a walk, but the woman was probably secluded in the little room then, weeping, undoubtedly, over her dead son's belongings. At noon Mrs. Ramsey had not yet returned and the entire neighborhood joined in the search, resulting in the discovery of the woman's dead body in the attic. She had evidently been looking

over her son's keepsakes, which were stored in a trunk, and in a violent fit of sobbing was undoubtedly seized with the apoplectic attack, which caused her death. Two tear-soaked handkerchiefs were found near the bed. News of the shocking discovery spread over the village like wildfire and caused deep regret in every quarter.

Mr. Ramsey drove in from Grand Rapids just as his wife's body was discovered. He was not aware of the fact that Mrs. Ramsey had returned from Ypsilanti and was doubly shocked by the crushing news. He had intended to take dinner at the hotel and spend the afternoon at the Ionia Golf club. Mrs. Ursula Ramsey was immediately sent for and Fred Ramsey, the only son, was summoned by wire from Detroit.

Preparations were then begun for the funeral, which was held at the late home Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Revs. MacGregor and Stewart officiating. Those from out-of-town for the last rites were Fred A. Chapman, Gen. Fred W. Greene and George E. Nichols of Ionia; William Compton, H. J. Dudley and the Misses Elizabeth McKnight and Mildred Fitzgerald, Grand Rapids; William J. Ramsey and family, Albert Peabody and Mrs. Jane Peabody, Mulliken; Dr. Charles Peabody and wife and Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hastings, Lake Odessa; Webster Hastings, Hastings; Dr. Martha Hixson, Grand Ledge; Mrs. Miles Loomis, Ypsilanti; George L. Ramsey, Detroit. The pallbearers were Chauncey E. Ward, Lewis Wilhelm, Charles Ward, Fred C. Hathway, B. D. Smith, Frank Pryer. The floral offerings were profuse.

*Mrs. Ramsey's maiden name was Minnie Hastings. She was born in Sebewa Township, September 2, 1870, and was married to Robert Ramsey, November 24, 1888. Of jovial disposition, she had endeared herself to everyone who knew her and in her death, the community realizes it has met with a heavy loss. She was socially affiliated with the Order Eastern Star, M. C. A. society and Ladies Literary club, each of which sent delegations to the funeral. (Buried in Portland City Cemetery-W522)
From the Ella Gunn Scrapbook Collection-Source unknown (Posted by a VOLUNTEER-NO family connection)*

Ursula's second marriage was to **NATHAN H HOWLETT** who had been born in 1889 the son of Nelson A & Dora V Howlett. By the date of the funeral of her father, Daniel, in April 1922 she was married to Nathan and living in Candias Maryland. Information from the obituary of her mother, Belle in January 1934 shows she was living at Milford NY. At the time she attended the funerals of her half sister Alice (Alte) Samain in 1957, and that of Dorothy Brickley, her oldest full sister in March 1963, Ursula was living in Springfield ILL. She died there on 15th July 1968.

The Social Security records for Illinois show: URSULA A HOWLETT b.Sept 5, 1892 d.July 15, 1968 at Springfield, Sangamon, ILL.

e*) ELIAS SAMAIN

Elias was the fifth child of Joseph & Betsie Burhans. His life has been slightly more difficult to trace. According to the census of 1900 he was born April 1850. His birth records have not yet been discovered. However in the 1870 census Elias was aged 24 (ie born 1846).

He married twice:

He was married in 1870/1 to **JULIA OLMSTEAD** daughter of Mont Vernon Olmstead & Abigail McKelvey, Julia was born in 1846, Lyons MI, and died 1882 in Orange

In 1870 Elias was unmarried. He was a farm labourer staying at the home of Jacob Benedict at Portland, Ionia. Also living there was Jenny Barnard (aged 31) who was a teacher.

In 1870 Julia, the future Mrs Elias Samain, aged 24 was living at the home of her father Mont Vernon Olmstead at Orange, Ionia she also was a teacher.

The exact date of the marriage of Elias & Julia is not yet known, but was probably in 1870 or 71: Julia Olmstead was unmarried in 1870 at the time of census and they had their first child, Vernon, baptised 9th February 1872

Elias & Julia had at least six children all born in Ionia County MI: Vernon born Ionia 1872; Edna bn Orange 1874; Lewis (Louis) and Lulu (twins) bn Orange 31st July 1876; Robert bn Portland 8th November 1882; and Marion E bn (no date) Portland. Robert was probably the last born.

ELIAS SAMAIN

Ionia County News on Thursday February 20, 1936

Elias Samaine died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Dorin, near Portland, Sunday. He was 91 years old. He had been a resident of Ionia county for 75 years, coming here from Ann Arbor when he was 16 years old. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon and burial was at Bridgeport.

JULIA OLMSTEAD > FIRST MRS ELIAS SAMAIN.

Although Julia was interred as Julia Olmstead, there are sufficient records of the births of Elias's family to be sure Julia Olmstead was his first wife.

Julia was the daughter of **MONT VERNON OLMSTEAD** who lived in Orange Township Ionia County MI where he was town supervisor and part benefactor of the Keefer-Olmstead Cemetery. Mont Vernon was born in 1816 in Burlington Township VT. His father was **LEWIS OLMSTEAD** and his mother **HANNAH HURLBURT** both of CT. In April 1843, when he was 27 yrs old, Mont married **ABIGAIL MCKELVEY** who had been born in 1821 in Rochester NY. Abigail's father, **JOHN MCKELVEY**, settled in Ionia Township in 1834. Before that he had been in Oakland County. Earlier, he & his family came from Rochester NY - where Joseph & Betsie Buhrans met (and possibly married). So the McKelveys and the Samains were in Rochester NY at the same time. Later their children, Elias & Julia, married. Abigail McKelvey Olmstead, Julia's mother, died in 1855 - possibly as the result of the birth of her son, Melvin (bn 1855) Mont and Abigail settled in Michigan first at Lyons and then moved to Orange Ionia in 1850. According to Mont's death notice he & Abby had five children of whom four were still living in 1899 when Mont died. The five were: Helen born 1844 Lyons, Julia born 1846 Lyons, Lewis bn Lyons, Hannah Jean born 1851 Orange and Melvin born 1855 Orange.

By 1864, at the age of 18, Julia became a certified teacher. The list of teachers in the Sebewa & Danby School District had her as the first person listed - on 17th April 1865. Five years later, at the time of the 1870 census, she was unmarried and still teaching school. In 1870/71 she married Elias Samain. They had the following family:

Vernon Samain bn 9.2.1872 Ionia
Edna Samain bn 8.5.1874 Ionia
Louis B Samain bn 31.7.1876 Orange
Lulu (aka Nellie) B Samain bn 31.7.1876 Orange
Marion E (aka Mamie) Samain bn July 1879 Orange
Robert Samain bn 7.11.1882 Orange

Shortly after the birth of Robert in November 1882, Julia died & was interred, in the name of Julia Olmstead, at the Keefer-Olmstead Cemetery Orange.

Julia, like Minerva before her, must have died as a result of childbirth.

i) VERNON SAMAIN

Vernon, the first born and named after his maternal grandfather, had a very short life. He was born 9th February 1872 and died in 1873. He was buried at the Keefer Olmstead Cemetery alongside his grandmother, Abigail. In due course of time, his mother & his grandfather were interred along with them. However, and here is a mystery, in the cemetery index both Julia and Vernon are named Olmstead and not Samain. I wonder whether it was because she was interred as the daughter of Mont Vernon Olmstead and Vernon as the grandson of Mont Vernon - Mont being such a significant person in connection with that particular cemetery. Or perhaps there are no obvious surnames on the stones/markers. This is true of Vernon. Then because they are with the Olmsteads

their surname was assumed to be Olmstead.

ii) EDNA SAMAIN > MRS FRANK DORIN

Edna, the second child of Elias & Julia, was born 8th May 1874 in Orange Ionia. She married FRANK DORIN on 27th March 1895 at Collins, Ionia. Frank & Edna had at least two children: Mabel & Frank junior.

A brief note on Frank's parents: in 1868 Frank was born in Lyons Township the son of James Dorin & Elizabeth (Johnson)

Frank's father was the son of Edward (bn Ireland) & Susie Fuller (bn England). He was born 1st May 1840 in Canada & died 9th July 1918 Lyons Township Ionia. A retired farmer, he was buried 12th July 1918 at the Keefer-Olmstead Cemetery Orange age 78 years. He predeceased his wife, Elizabeth.

In 1900 Frank, Edna & family were living in Portland Ionia. Staying with them was Louis Samain, Edna's younger brother.

Then in 1930 Elias, her father & then widower, was living with Frank & Edna in Portland Ionia and almost six years later, on 16th February 1936, Elias died at their home. Edna died in 1951, aged 84, & was buried in the Keefer-Olmstead Cemetery Orange.

MRS EDNA SAMAIN DORIN (1955)

Source: Unknown clipping from Ford Wright collection

Funeral services will be held this (Thurs.) afternoon at 2 at Neller Funeral Home for Mrs. Edna Samain Dorin, 81, who passed away Tuesday morning at the home of her son-in-law, and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Burman, in Portland.

The Rev. Richard Gardner will officiate at the funeral and burial will be in Keefer cemetery.

Surviving are the husband, Frank; a daughter, Mrs. Mabel Burman; a son, Frank, Jr., of California; and three grandchildren. The couple had been married 60 years.

Bearers will be Lewis Jones, Guy Fisher, Arthur Megarah, Victor Keefer, Jack Spotts and Robert Beard.

in 1958 Frank died and was interred alongside Edna.

FRANK DORIN

In Ionia Sentinel Standard on Tuesday Feb. 4, 1958

Funeral services are to be conducted at the Neller Funeral home at Portland Wednesday at 2:30 p.m. for Frank Dorin, 90, retired Portland farmer who died Saturday. Mr. Dorin died at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Sam Burman of Portland. A son Frank of Florida, a sister Mrs. Flora Morse of Portland and three grandchildren survive.

(Frank's sister Flora married a MORSE, related to my husband's grandfather Leonard MORSE. So I have all of the Morse research & connecting families.) Sam Burman's sister Anna married Everett MORSE.

Sam & Anna's mother was Blanche Agnes (MOSES) BURMAN. Jim Moses is an active member of Ionia Co. Gen. Society & he has MOSES information, but is a busy guy-not yet retired.

On 31st July 1876, in Orange MI, Julia gave birth to twins, Louis & Lulu

I would love to know what happened in Orange, Ionia. Julia must have died in childbirth - she died in 1882 the year Robert was born in November. A new born baby needed a mother to care for him. Presumably Sarah Perrett fitted the bill. There are records to suggest the Perretts were related to the Keefers.

Elias moved away to Midland at some point at least before 1890, when he married May, and quite likely earlier than that.

in 1894 at the Midland census, Louis & Nellie (twins from his marriage to Julia Olmstead) aged 17 years were living on the farm with Elias & May & May's father.

Six years later, at the time of the 1900 census, he was living with his older sister Edna, her husband, Frank Dorin, & their family in Portland Ionia.

iii) LOUIS (also LEWIS) SAMAIN

Louis B Samain was born 31st July 1876 Orange and died 23rd December 1925 at Eaton MI. He was buried in the Meadowbrook Cemetery in Mulliken Eaton.

Louis married twice:

First, on 12th June 1902 in Orange Ionia to **NORA M CRANE** who had been born on 25th December 1877 in Portland, the daughter of Lyman G Crane & Sarah Webster. She died in Portland 1st October 1945.

Louis & Nora had one daughter, Lorna, who was born 14th September 1903. She married Frank Halsey and died 8th February 1984. She also was interred in Meadowbrook Cemetery, Mulliken nearly sixty years after her father.

Lansing State Journal on Thursday Feb 9, 1984

HALSEY, LORNA

2815 Northwind Drive, East Lansing

Age 80, died Feb. 8, 1984. Born Sept 14, 1903. Mrs. Halsey is survived by 1 daughter Mrs. Robert (Sandra) Bailey of Mason; 1 son, Tracy O. Halsey of Lansing and 5 grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Sat., 11:30 a.m. at the Gorsline-Runciman East Chapel, East Lansing with the Rev. Philip E. Henderson, Pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church officiating. Interment in Meadowbrook Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home Fri. from 2-4 & 7-9 p.m.

The obituaries of Nora's parents were:

MRS L G CRANE

Lyons Herald, 24 & 31 Dec 1908

Mrs. L.G. Crane died at her home south of Lyons Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Funeral was held at the home Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock and the interment was made in Portland cemetery. Mrs. Crane has been a resident of this vicinity for many years.

The funeral services of Mrs. Lyman G. Crane was held at the home last Thursday, Rev. F.C. Fistler of Portland officiating. Burial was in the Portland cemetery. Deceased is survived by her husband and eight children, Mrs. Loren Wandel, Mrs. Anna Cooper, Mrs. Ellis Dorin, Mrs. Geo. Baker, Mrs. Lewis Samaine, Mrs. Frank Cooper, Mrs. Arthur Hopkinson and Lyman Crane Jr.

LYMAN G CRANE

Lyons Herald, 4 May 1922

Lyman G. Crane, aged 80 years, died at his home in Portland Saturday afternoon after an illness of six weeks. The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon and burial made in the Portland cemetery. His first wife was Sarah Webster of Pontiac who died in 1908. He later married Miss Alice Cobb of Milwaukee who survives. The surviving children by the first wife are: Mrs. Loren Wandel, Mrs. Geo. Baker and Mrs. Nora Samain of Ionia; Mrs. Horace Cooper of Danby; Mrs. Ellis Dorin of Sebewa; Mrs. Frank Cooper and Lyman Crane Jr. of Lyons. Deceased owned a farm south of Lyons and resided there for 40 years, until he moved to Portland last June.

Louis, a medical doctor, & Nora were divorced. Nora did not remarry and died in 1945.

NORA CRANE SAMAIN

The Ionia Daily Sentinel-Standard, Wednesday, October 3, 1945

Funeral services were held Monday at p.m. at the home of Lyman Crane for Nora Crane Samaine, a teacher for a number of years in Ionia county schools. Dr. Paul Stewart of Ionia officiated. Bearers were Jack Bigger, William Normington, Elwin Brown, Clare Baker, Elba Wandel and Tracy Halsey, all nephews.

Surviving Mrs. Samaine are her daughter, Mrs. Frank Halsey, and two grandchildren, Tracy and Sandra, of Lansing; four sisters, Mrs. Loren Wandel and Mrs. Hattie Baker of Ionia, Mrs. Frank Erdman of Sunfield and Mrs. Frank Cooper of Lyons, and one brother,

Lyman Crane, of Muir.

Attending from away were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Root, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Norris Moore, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Halsey, Sandra and Tracy; Mrs. Herbert Powell, Mrs. Roy Balcum, Guy Halsey and son, Owen, all of Lansing; Mrs. Mark Brokaw and daughter of Eagle, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Cooper, Mrs. Corwin Baum and Mrs. Mabel Burman of Portland, Mrs. Hattie Baker and granddaughter, Helen; Clare Baker, Mrs. Harold Harwood, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bigger, Mrs. Leroy Udell, Mr. and Mrs. Elwin Brown and Mr. and Mrs. Elba Wandel of Ionia. Mrs. Samaine was the daughter of Lyman and Sarah Crane, and was born in Portland township December 25, 1877. Later the family moved to a farm near Lyons, where Nora attended school and was graduated. In 1902 she was married to Dr. Louis Samaine. Early in life she became a member of the church, and was always devoted to it.

Following the divorce Louis married **DORTHIA NICHOL**, a spinster & teacher, on 20th May 1918 in Mulliken. Dorthia had been born in 1886 the daughter of Orvil Nichol & Sabina Farrand

Louis & Dorthia had one daughter, Eleanor Louise Samain who, very sad to say, was born & died on 2nd September 1919 in Roxand Eaton County.

Following Louis's death in 1925, his obituary named three surviving family members, but there was no mention of either Nora or Dorthia his wives past & present.

Dr. LOUIS SAMAINE Passes At Lansing

In Portland Observer on Thursday December 31, 1925

Dr. Louis Samaine, a prominent physician of Lansing, and well known in Portland, died suddenly at his home Wednesday evening of last week from heart trouble. An aged father, Elias Samaine, and one sister, Mrs. Frank Dorin, Sr., and a daughter, Lorna Samaine, survive. Funeral services were held at Lansing and burial was at Mulliken. (Obit from Ingham County & burial in Eaton County).

iv) **LULU (also NELLIE) SAMAIN > MRS BERT G ATHERTON**

It has proven too difficult to establish with absolute certainty that Lulu & Nellie were one and the same person, but everything does point that way.

In 1894 Nellie & her brother, Louis, both aged 17 years, were living with their father Elias & step mother, May Taggart, at their farm in Midland MI.

Six years later, at the time of the 1900 census, Nellie S Samain (24), niece of George & Adele Dickey was resident at Ludington Ward 1, Mason MI. Adele was nee Taggart and was almost certainly the sister of May. So Nellie was living with her step aunt.

On 1st June 1904 at Saginaw, Saginaw County MI Nellie (Lulu) married **BERT G ATHERTON** the son of William H & Caroline Seymour Atherton. She & Bert had at least two children: Robert Atherton (bn 1907) & Phillip Atherton (bn 1916)

Nellie died on 26th February 1919 in Bridgeport Saginaw County.

v) **MARION E SAMAIN > MRS ISAAC P TAYLOR**

Marion (aka Marnie) was born in July 1879 in Orange. She was married on 24th January 1906 Fenton Genesee MI to **ISAAC P TAYLOR** the son of Charlie Taylor & Susan Burhans. It is worth noting the family relationships here. Susan Burhans was the younger sister of Betsey, Marion's grandmother. So Susan was Marion's mother in law and her great aunt. More interestingly Marion was Betsey's granddaughter & her niece in law. Isaac & Marion, I make it, were first cousins once removed. The ancestors that Marion & Isaac shared were Isaac Burhans & Betsey Read but Marion & Isaac were of different generations: Marion was their great granddaughter while Isaac was a grandson.

To talk about Marion further we need to go back to her Aunt Ada, the younger sister of her father Elias (see more below). In 1900 Ada & her husband, Newton Kinsman Wright, were living in Isabella MI with two nieces, Mamie (bn October 1879) & Nora

Samain (bn February 1893). In 1910 Nora was still with Newton & Ada who were farming in Portland, Ionia, MI. I can now say for certain that the girls were not sisters. They were cousins, the daughters of two different sets of parents. We know with confidence who were Marnie's parents. There is less certainty about Nora (see below)

vi) ROBERT SAMAIN

Robert Samain, born 7th November 1882, was the sixth and final child of Elias Samain and Julia Olmstead. He was adopted by Henry and Sarah Perret .

Robert's obituary note reads:

Source: Observer (Portland, MI), Wednesday, July 24, 1901, pg 8

Robert Samain passed peacefully away at the home of Dr. Ogden in Lyons last Thursday. The cause of his death was heart trouble. Deceased was the adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Peritt of Collins who have the sympathy of the whole community.

The death notice for Robert J. Samain shows he died *July 18, 1901-age 18y 7m 11 dy-son of Elias Samain of Mich. & Julia Olmsted of Mich.*

Robert was interred in the same lot as his adopted parents, 106 (also Henry & Sarah Perret).

ELIAS'S SECOND MARRIAGE

On 5th November 1890 in Midland MI Elias married **MAY (MARY A) TAGGART**

Born January 1854 PA & dying on 6th June 1921 Ludington Mason she was the daughter of Alexander & Dorcas Hilda Taggart

While most of the family of Joseph & Betsey Samain stayed in Ionia as farmers or teachers, Elias went on to farm in Midland MI. There is no record of Elias & May having had a family, but in 1894 at the Midland census, Louis & Nellie (twins from Elias's marriage to Julia Olmstead) aged 17 years were living on the farm with him & May. Also there was Alex the widowed father of May.

The full record is from the 1894 Michigan Census Index for Midland County:

a) Samain, Elias age 42; Male; Husband; Married; birthplace: Michigan; father's birthplace: Maryland; mother's birthplace: New York; profession: farmer; years in MI: 42; years in US: 42.

b) Samain, May age 36; Female: wife: married; birthed 2 children; 2 children living; birthplace: Pennsylvania; father's birthplace: Pennsylvania; mother's birthplace: Pennsylvania; occupation: housewife; years in MI: 12; years in US: 36.

c) Samain, Nellie age 17; female; daughter; single; Birthplace: Michigan; father's birthplace: Michigan; mother's birthplace: Pennsylvania; occupation: at home; years in MI: 17; years in U.S. 17.

d) Samain, Louis age 17; male; son; single; birthplace: Michigan; father's birthplace: Michigan; Mother's birthplace: Pennsylvania; occupation: at home; years in MI: 17; years in US: 17.

e) Taggart, Alex age 82; Male; age 82, m father; widowed; birthplace: Pennsylvania; father's birthplace: Maryland; mother's birthplace: Pennsylvania; no occupation listed; years in MI: 12; years in US: 82.

Around 1890 Elias donated one acre of land to the City Cemetery. In doing so he emulated his first father in law, Mont Vernon Olmstead with his gift of land towards the Keefer Olmstead cemetery in Orange.

The Midland City Cemetery was "situated at 3220 Orchard Drive, City owned. Present location founded in 1873 and consisted of 40 acres. Prior to that time a burial site was used on Main Street. In 1889 all graves were moved to the Orchard Drive location. The Samain family donated an additional acre....The cemetery is divided into alphabetical sections and some named sections."

And two of those sections are SAMAINE A & SAMAINE B..

There is a list of people in Midland City in 1897 and Elias A Samaine (farmer) is listed - together with Eliza!! I think there was confusion over the names either at recording or at

transcription. Certainly May Samaine did not die until 6th June 1921 and she and Elias are recorded together on the 1900 census. She died in Mason County, where she had stayed earlier in 1910, at the home of her sister Adele. Elias was still alive - a widower - in 1930 and living with his daughter Edna in Portland Ionia. He died at their house on 16th February 1936 and was buried at Bridgeport.

f*) JAMES BURTON SAMAIN

The son of Joseph & Betsy following Elias was Joseph Burton. He was known variously in succeeding censuses as Joseph Burton, then J Burton and finally just Burton. Burton is an unusual name and I have looked without success for a family precedent.

Burt Samain was born 8th March 1848 at Northfield Washtenaw & baptised Joseph Burton. He married **ADA ARBELLA MCINTYRE** at the Methodist Episcopal Church, Greenville, Montcalm, MI on 23rd August 1876. Ada had been born at Clyde, Sandusky, Ohio in 1853. On Sunday 18th February 1877, after only six months of married life - for five of which he had suffered from consumption, Burt died. He was in his 29th year. His obituary follows:

Tuesday Feb 20, 1877 Portland Observer

DEATH OF BURTON SAMAIN - We are called upon this week to record the death of one of the most worthy young men of the place, Mr.J.Burton Samain, son of Mr.Joseph Samain, who died on Sunday last, Feb.18th, at 1 o'clock p.m., aged 28 years, 9 months and 20 days. He had been sick with consumption about five months, and for some time past no hopes had been entertained of his recovery. The deceased came to this township with his parents in 1861. He acquired a good education, and taught district school six winters, and was principal of the Sheridan union school one year. Last spring he was elected superintendent of schools for this township, a position which he filled with credit until he was obliged to resign on account of sickness, Burt was a general favorite with his companions and was loved and respected by all. His funeral will take place from the M.E.church at two o'clock this afternoon.

Ada, then, was a widow aged 23 years. In 1880 she was a dressmaker in Portland, Ionia, MI and staying at the home of Amanda Sprout and her family. On 9th November 1881 she married George Pilkinton in Ionia, MI. The son of a farmer, George had been born in 1854. He was a merchant by occupation. George died in 1915.

g*) WILLIAM L SAMAIN

William was born in 1850 at Northfield Washtenaw MI and was, as far as I can see, the only one of Joseph & Betsey's family to leave Michigan and settle in another state. With Elizabeth, his second wife, he moved in 1919/1920 to Clark County, Ohio where he died. His occupation was on the Detroit, Lansing & Northern Railroad first as a fireman and then, after two years, as engine driver. There was a short biographical piece about William written in 1891. It appears in the Ionia County Archives (see Ionia County under MIGenWeb. Follow "Family Trees"). The account shows him as having been an extremely conscientious & able worker. Anna is praised also as both home maker & "a true hearted wife". William was a staunch Democrat, as was his father, and a member of the Royal Arcanum Lodge in Ionia. At the time of writing, his father was reported as being still "hale and hearty". It is good to know that Joseph was in good shape up to the time of his death early the following year.

[If you count the family you will find only six mentioned.](#)

He married twice. The date of William's first marriage is uncertain; the date written in the sketch does not square with the Ionia records. I favour the records.

His first wife was **ANNA E McDONALD** She was born 13th May 1862 in Armstrong PA and died 4th January 1918 in Calhoun. Anna was the daughter of John McDonald & Jennie Forman. William & Anna married 14th March 1878 Ionia MI (Biographical sketch says 1883)

Little has been found about his second wife, **ELIZABETH**, but they must have married between 1918 & 1920.

h*) ADA SAMAIN > NEWTON KINSMAN WRIGHT

Ada was born 23rd October 1851 at Northfield MI & died on 4th September 1916 in Portland MI.

On 21st December 1881 Ionia MI Ada married **NEWTON KINSMAN WRIGHT** who was born in 1846 in Nichols Tioga NY & who died 1921 MI

Newton was a widower with a son, Walter, aged 4 yrs when he married Ada. He was then a blacksmith by occupation and was a veteran of the Civil War.

In 1892 Ada attended the funeral of her father Joseph, She & Newton were living at Shepherd at that time.

By 1900 Newton & Ada had moved to live in Isabella, MI with the two nieces, Mamie (bn 1880) & Nora (bn 1893) Samain. In 1910 Nora was still with Newton & Ada who were farming in Portland, Ionia, MI.

Ada & Newton K Wright bought the Mrs Alfreda Wade property on the North Hill. Mrs Alfreda Wade was the mother of Nora Wade, the first wife of Frederick Samain.

By 1920 Newton was again a widower. There is no record of any children born to Newton & Ada.

ADA (SAMAIN) WRIGHT

Ionia county State of Michigan death certificate # 334 Portland

Ada Wright d.Sept 4, 1916-age 64 yr, 10m, 11 dys-Married-Portland Cemetery

b.Oct 23 1851 Michigan-signed by N.K Wright

dau.of Joseph SAMAIN b.England & Bethany Burhans b. Mich

The final details are not correct, but it is easy to see how the errors may have come about. It should have read d/o Joseph Samain bn Baltimore MD & Betsey Burhans bn NY.

ADA (SAMAIN) WRIGHT

Portland Observer-Thursday September 7, 1916

Cancer Ends Life of Mrs. N.K. Wright

Had Been Ill For A Long Time, But Bore Her Suffering With A Smile.

Was Christian Woman And Ardently Loved Of Kind Disposition, She Reared Two Nieces to Womanhood with the Tenderness of a Mother.

The death of Mrs. Newton K. Wright at her home near the schoolhouse Monday morning was a shocking surprise to the community. Although Mrs. Wright had been ill for a long time with cancer, the end came unexpectedly nevertheless.

Mrs. Wright had always led a good Christian Life and had many ardent admirers. Among her many deeds of kindness was the opening of her home to her two nieces, Miss Nora Samaine and Mrs. I.P. Taylor, the latter of Elwell, both of whom were left motherless when young. Mrs. Wright gave them the same tender care as though they had been her own children.

During her sickness Mrs. Wright suffered a great deal, but endured it with a smile, explaining to those about her that the time would come when all would understand. This thought gave her courage and strength.

Mrs. Wright was born October 23, 1851, in the township of Northfield, Washtenaw county, and moved to Portland in 1860, where she spent her girlhood days. She was married to N.K. Wright, who survives her, December 21, 1881. The couple lived in various places throughout the state until a few years ago, when bought the Mrs. Alfreda Wade property on the north hill. Later they bought the cement brick house at the corner of Smith and Brush streets, built by the late J.C. Blacksten, where Mrs. Wright's death took place.

Funeral services were held at the late home Wednesday afternoon, Rev. Wm. H. Skentelbury, of the Congregational church, officiating, and burial took place in Portland cemetery.

i*) FREDRICK SAMAIN

Fredrick was born in Ann Arbor MI in 1859/60 & died 9th January 1923 Lincoln Town Isabella MI

Apart from discovering the names of the three wives of Fredrick, there is very little I have found out about him and his families. I do not think there are any records of children born. He was living at Calhoun at one time.

It was mentioned in his marriage to Myrtle Vanleuven in 1901 that Fred was a teacher.

He married three times

First to **NORA WADE** Born on 4th October 1863 she was the daughter of Dellamar Wade & Alfreda van Camp. Nora died on 4th May 1882 Portland MI age 18 yr/6m/8 dys d.at childbirth.

NORA SAMAIN

Portland Observer, 10 May 1882

Died, – In Portland on Thursday, May 4th, Nora wife of Fred Samain, aged 18 years 7 months. The funeral took place Friday afternoon from the M.E. church Rev. Levi Tarr officiating.

Nora's mother, Alfreda Wade, died 32 years after Nora, her only child.

MRS ALFLEDA WADE

Portland Observer, 26 Feb 1914

Dies In Her Chair

End Comes Peacefully to Mrs. Alfreda Wade After a Three Weeks' Illness.

Neighbor Discovers Body

Mrs. E. B. Swank Enters Mrs. Wade's Home to Find Her Dead; Woman Had Insisted on Staying Alone.

When Mrs. E. B. Swank, a neighbor, entered the home of Mrs. Alfreda Wade shortly after the noon hour Tuesday she found Mrs. Wade dead in her chair. From outward appearances the woman was merely sleeping, but when Dr. Alton arrived he found no signs of life. The peaceful expression on the woman's face plainly showed there had been no struggle when the end came. Heart disease was the immediate cause of death. Mrs. Wade had been ill for about three weeks, during which time many of her neighbors had volunteered to stay with her, but to this she would not consent, maintaining that her condition was not serious enough to need constant attention. At about 11:00 o'clock Tuesday, Mrs. Mary McVeigh, a neighbor, called Mrs. Wade's home by telephone but received no response. Thinking Mrs. Wade had gone to the home of a neighbor, which had been her usual custom during her illness. Mrs. McVeigh made no investigation. The woman was undoubtedly dead in her chair when Mrs. McVeigh called.

Mrs. Wade was born near Tecumseh, Mich., and had she lived until April 1st next she would have attained the age of 70 years. Her maiden name was Alfreda VanCamp. On July 3, 1862, she was married to D. W. Wade, and it was about 40 years ago that the couple came to Portland, where both resided until their death. Mr. and Mrs. Wade had one child, Mrs. Fred Samaine, whose death occurred on May 7, 1882. Mr. Wade died March 3, 1897

Mrs. Wade was an active member of the Women's Relief Corps, her late husband having been a veteran of the civil war. At the recent election of the W.R.C. she was chosen press correspondent, and had kept the local newspapers well posted on the affairs of the society since. Her death is keenly regretted by a large number of friends, who were greatly shocked, Tuesday, to learn of her sudden demise.

The funeral services are to be held at the late residence Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. Wm. W. Slee to officiate. Interment will be in Portland cemetery.

Frederick's second wife was **ROSETTA MOE**. She was born in 1861 in Ionia MI the daughter of Elam Moe & Catherine Wiggins and died 11th December 1896 Belding Ionia MI Fred & Rosetta were married 15th April 1891 in Smyrna Ionia MI There appears to be a connection between the Moe family & the Storms (Fred's older sister, Mary, had married Gary Storms). The obituary of Altie Moe Jenkins is interesting in tis connection.

MRS ALTIE JENKINS (nee MOE)

The Portland Observer, Thursday, May 22, 1924

Mrs. Altie Jenkins, aged 77 years, passed away Tuesday morning at the home of Mrs. George STORMS, on the west side. Although she had been an invalid for several years, she had been confined to her bed for only a few days. Mrs. Jenkins was one of Portland's highly esteemed pioneer ladies and will be missed by a large circle of warm friends. Her maiden name was Altie MOE. She was born in Smyrna, Michigan, April 22, 1846, and came to Portland when a little girl making her home with the late John Storms, who was an uncle, both parents being dead at the time. In 1867 she was united in marriage to Loren Jenkins who died in 1910. She is survived by one son, Breton C. Jenkins of Lansing. Funeral services will be held from the Storms' residence Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, in charge of Rev. G. H. Ashworth, pastor of the Universalist church of Lansing. Burial will be made in Portland cemetery.

[NOTE: it would seem the Storms and the Moes were related].

And finally he married **(EPHA) MYRTLE VANLEUVEN.**

Myrtle was the daughter of Luther Vanleuven & Mary Ann. She was born in 1872/3 at Mount Pleasant MI and died in 1951 in Lincoln. Fred & Myrtle were married 26th May 1901 at Freemount Township Isabella MI

The record of their marriage appears in Ionia County as reference # A-295

Samain, Fred 41 of Belding-Teacher-son of Joseph Samain & Betsey Burhans married May 26, 1901 at Fremont twp.(note Ionia does not have a Fremont twp. - Isabella Co does)

VanLeuven, Myrtle 29 of Mt.Pleasant dau.of Luther VanLouven & ?

Each one had a previous marriage

Fred & Myrtle were interred in the same lot at Green Cemetery, Lincoln Township, Isabella.

j) JOHN SAMAIN (was this Frederick by another name - ie a mistake in 1900 Census)

Data from 1900 census show that John Samain was born in July 1859; he was a house painter living in Belding Ionia & he was a widower. Other than that, little is known about him. He is not listed with the family in 1860 or 1870.

So there is no real evidence that he ever was a child of Joseph & Betsey or that there was any child named John Samain. He is not mentioned in the obit of his father, Joseph. But the obit says Joseph had 10 children and that seven of them were still alive. As far as I can make out only two of the children died before Joseph: Levi (died 1862) & Joseph Burton (died 1877). So the obit should have said of the ten children EIGHT were surviving - and the two not listed would then have been William (see above) &, possibly, John. However, there may have been a child who died very young and the records have not passed my way.

No record has been found of John's marriage, nor of any children born to him & his wife.

It is quite feasible that "John" was in fact Frederick. Certainly Frederick was a widower in 1900 and Belding was his home address when Rose died in 1896 & when he married in 1901. However, his occupation in 1901 was as a teacher not a painter.

AND there is Nora - and the mystery surrounding her identity must be addressed.

NORA SAMAIN, niece of Ada Samain Wright, was born 1893. In 1900 she was living with Ada & Newton in Isabella and, in 1910, with them in Portland Ionia. There is clear mention of Nora too in Ada's obituary (see above).

I am uncertain about the identity of Nora's parents. Clearly, because her name was Samaine (sic), her father was a brother of Ada. But I have not found a record of her birth and a candidate for fatherhood is not obvious. There are at least two possibles:

One is Frederick Samain who married three times including NORA Wade. But she died in 1882 and Nora Samain (Ada's niece) was not born until 1893. Fred's wife in 1893 was Rosetta Moe. She died in 1896, when Nora would have been 3 years old. He married again in 1901, by which time perhaps Ada had "adopted" motherless Nora. My inclination is strongly that she was the daughter of Fred & Rose and have entered thus in my Family list.

The other possible father was John, but his identity (or existence) is far from certain.

FURTHER NOTES

The obituaries of the siblings of Julia Olmstead Samain, first wife of Elias Samain, who died in Orange 1882 throw some light on Julia's family background.

MRS HELEN KEYES (nee OLMSTEAD)

Source: Ionia Sentinel, July 6, 1916. Mrs. Helen Keyes, one of the older residents of Collins, died there Tuesday night and will be buried tomorrow morning. She was the widow of one of the village's most energetic promoters.

Second article...

Source: Ford Wright collection of obituaries date July 6, 1916

WELL KNOWN COLLINS LADY DIES JULY 4TH

MRS. HELEN KEYES, WOMAN OF STRONG CHARACTER, EXPIRES TUESDAY EVENING. LIFE'S PATHWAY BESET WITH MANY OBSTACLES

Was Motherless at 11 and in Later Life Was Left to Support Large Family of Children.

Mrs. Helen Keyes, well known in and about Collins, died on the evening of the Fourth at her home a half mile north of the little hamlet, and on Friday afternoon her remains will be interred in the Keefer cemetery, following funeral services at the Collins Union church, of which deceased was a charter member. Two o'clock is the hour set for the service. Rev. John H. Stewart will officiate.

Mrs. Keyes was seriously ill only a few hours before she passed away. She had been ailing somewhat since winter with rheumatism and heart disease, but even up until the day she died was able to get about the house.

Helen Olmstead was Mrs. Keyes' maiden name. She was born November 15, 1844 on a farm near Lyons and with the exception of six years spent in Kansas had resided in the vicinity of Collins all of her life. She was well known through that section.

Mrs. Keyes life was beset with many obstacles, but against all of them she battled effectively and died in comfortable circumstances. Left motherless at eleven, she did practically all of her father's housework and cared for her sister and two brothers until they grew old enough to shift for themselves. Then, when her husband, Henry Keyes, died 30 years ago in Kansas, she was left as the sole means of support for a family of seven children. Of cheerful disposition, she carried her cross without a murmur and those who remember her early struggles regard her as a woman of exceptionally strong character. Only three of Mrs. Keyes' original family of eight children survive her. These are Mrs. Mary Cluff of Chicago, Mrs. Alice White of Collins, and Miss Ethel P. Keyes, a member of the teaching staff of the Sparta schools. Miss Keyes has been spending her summer vacation at the farm near Collins and was with her mother when she passed away. Mrs. Keyes is also survived by two brothers, Melvin Olmstead, of Portland, Lewis of Orange, and one sister, Miss Hannah Olmstead, also of Orange township.

LOUIS OLMSTEAD

Source: Ionia Sentinel – Saturday, February 13, 1926, pg 1

L. OLMSTEAD DIES FRIDAY AFTER STROKE ORANGE PIONEER SERVED FOR 12 YEARS ON BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; FUNERAL SUNDAY AT COLLINS.

Collins, February 13 – Louis Olmstead, one of Orange township's pioneer residents, died at his home Friday night at 8:30 following a stroke of paralysis which he suffered Thursday. Mr. Olmstead had been ill nearly all winter with heart trouble.

He was the son of Mt. Vernon Olmstead, and was born at Lyons. He moved to Orange township when a small boy. Mr. Olmstead served as supervisor of the township for 12

years following his father's 20 years of service on the board. He is survived by his brother, Melvin Olmstead, and a sister, Miss Hannah Olmstead, the three having lived together all their lives. He is also survived by a number of nieces and nephews.

The funeral service will be held at the Collins church Sunday afternoon at 2:30. Rev. Moore, of Portland, will officiate.

Miss HANNAH JEAN OLMSTEAD

Portland Review & Observer on Tuesday March 22, 1932

Dau. of Mont Vernon OLMSTEAD

Though she was 81 years of age Miss Hannah Jean Olmstead had never been ill enough to require a doctor until two weeks ago. Sunday morning she died at the home of her brother, Melvin Olmstead, in Portland. A month ago she suffered a fall and it is believed this brought on the ailment that resulted fatally.

Miss Olmstead was born on a farm southwest of Collins and had resided there all her life, except for the last four years. The Keefer cemetery, where she is to be buried Tuesday, following funeral services at the house, is located close to her birthplace. Deceased was a member of Collins church. Rev. John H. Stewart will officiate at the funeral which will be held at 2:00 p.m.

The brother, Melvin, is the only survivor of the immediate family.

HANNAH JEAN OLMSTEAD

OLMSTEAD, Hannah Jean Source: Ionia Sentinel – Tuesday, March 22, 1932, page 1 Miss Hannah Jean Olmstead, 81, a native of Collins, died Sunday night at the home of her brother Melvin Olmstead. Rev. John H. Stewart, of Portland, conducted the funeral services at the Collins church Tuesday. Burial was in Collins.

MELVIN OLMSTEAD

OLMSTEAD, Melvin Source: Ionia Sentinel Friday, May 17, 1940, page 2

Melvin Olmstead, 85, native of Orange township, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. O.R. Jenkins, of Portland, Thursday morning. He will be buried in the neighborhood cemetery now located on the Orange township farm where he was born. Funeral services will be held Sunday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon from the Banfield funeral home in Portland.