A Genealogical Record of the 19th Century Cothrell Families of New York, Ohio, and Northern Indiana

by

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Dedicated to Julie Arney
I don’t know her, but her inquiries on Ancestry.com for the Cothrell siblings sparked my quest to find out more about this branch of my family.
Elizabeth Cothrell is my great-great grandmother.

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There are no legal documents (i.e. wills, deeds, etc) giving any direct ties between the following individuals. However, there is enough other documentation to give valid credence to the connections which have been identified.¹

Levi and Letta

Levi Cothrell and his wife Letta Seward, the progenitors of the Cothrells of this research, had at least seven children: Jared, Newell, Jane, Ann, Elizabeth, Moses, and Ellen. They came west from New York and first settled in northern Ohio in 1837, then around 1844 they moved to Northern Indiana.

Levi Cothrell (c. 1789, New York to Jan 1850, Lima, LaGrange, IN)

Levi was born in New York, according to records of two of his children (Ann, Moses) in the 1880 census². His tombstone (in what is Howe, IN)³, states he was born c. 1789, and died in January 1850. His parents are unknown, but clues have been uncovered regarding his family of origin.

1. According to Lindenwood Cemetery records in Fort Wayne, Indiana⁴ his son, Newell Cothrell, was born in Cuyahoga County, NY. There is no such county as Cuyahoga in New York, but there is a Cayuga County, NY.
2. In the 1800 and 1810 censuses, there is a Daniel Cothrell in Scipio, Cayuga County, NY, who was born between 1766 and 1784, as well as a Garret Cottrell/Cothrell around the same age.

It is unknown who the father of this Daniel Cothrell was, but according to the Massachusetts Town Birth Records⁵ a DanL Corthrell was born 1747 in Bridgewater. The entries in Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution⁶ lists a Daniel Cothrell by two slightly different spellings:

Corthell, Daniel, New Braintree. Private, Capt. John Grainger's co., Col. Ebenezer Learned's regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 26, 1775; service, 3 mos. 1 week, 6 days; also, company return dated Oct. 7, 1775.

¹ Since census records are now easily accessed electronically through multiple programs, I did not include the exact page and line in this paper.
² Jared gave Scotland as the birth place for both his parents in the 1800 census. Moses listed Scotland as his father's birthplace in 1900. I could find no male Cothrell originally from Scotland. 1900 census was the same year Elizabeth stated her father was born in Vermont (actually the birthplace of her husband's father) and Ellen stated her father was from Connecticut (the birthplace of her mother). I contribute the confusion to senility on their part and lack of records at the time, so I had to do further research.
³ Cemeteries of LaGrange County, IN 1832-1982, prepared by Robert & Leonore Current. LaGrange, IN: LaGrange County Historical Society. 1984.
⁴ Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library website.
and


According to the *New England Historical & Genealogical Register* Daniel Cothrell married Hannah Rose, whereas the couple was listed as Daniel Corthrell and Hannah in the *History of the Early Settlement of Bridgewater in Plymouth County Massachusetts*. So I contend that they are one and the same – with the “r” having been dropped eventually, whether by accident or design. (How the “r” got added in the first place is a whole other subject, but quite possibly an accidental shifting of its location in what documents that did exist).

Because of illiteracy or uncertainty of spellings in the early 19th century (or neighbors giving faulty information), most of the time the census taker only had the sound of the name given by a family (or neighbor) to determine or guess at the spelling. Other mitigating circumstances were the person’s accent and the census taker’s hearing as well as (bad) handwriting. Although much of my research was through Ancestry.com on-line searches, I went to the original documentation (at Ancestry.com) to look up original spelling/handwriting to determine to the best of my ability what the actual name was.

The census records from 1800 to 1820 for Daniel and Garret Cotherrell are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>26-44</td>
<td>Scipio Cayuga Co NY (or Cothnll per viewing of original)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garret</td>
<td>26-44</td>
<td>Scipio Cayuga Co NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1810</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>45+</td>
<td>Scipio Cayuga Co NY (or Cothenll per viewing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garret</td>
<td>26-44</td>
<td>Scipio Cayuga Co NY (or Cottull per viewing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>45+</td>
<td>Adams Twp Darke Co OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garret</td>
<td>45+</td>
<td>Scipio Cayuga Co NY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As of this research, it is pure speculation, but quite possible, that these are descendants of the Revolutionary War veteran, Daniel Cothrell. I’m sure the Daniel (born c. 1765 or earlier) in both 1800 and 1810 is the same person. Whether he is the Daniel in Ohio in 1820 is only conjecture, but possible since the age progression is correct.

There was a Daniel Cothrell living in Springfield Twp, Lucas County, OH in 1850, age 50, born in NY. It is quite possible that this Daniel was the son of Daniel in Darke County in 1820. It is further supported by the fact that there was a male age 16-26 in the 1820 census, the right age for the Daniel born in 1850.

The named head of the household was presumably the oldest male, not another male, related or not, living with the family. There were also Cothrells/Cottrells in Washington County, NY (further east), including a Daniel during that time period; but I believe, although distantly related, they are not the group I am researching.

Three other Cothrell men (with various spellings) appeared by 1820 in Mount Morris, New York, which at the time was in Genesee County (a little less than 100 miles west of Cayuga). The following year (1821) Mount Morris was split off unto Livingston County.

Vincent Cothrill was mentioned on page 30 in the *Mount Morris Centenary*:

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7 *New England Historical & Genealogical Register*. pg. 60:246.
8 *Mitchell, Nahum*, *History of the Early Settlement of Bridgewater in Plymouth County Massachusetts Including an Extensive Family Register*. Kidder & Wright: Boston, MA, 1840. pg. 143.
9 There was a Daniel Cotherell living in Springfield Twp, Lucas County, OH in 1850, age 50, born in NY. It is quite possible that this Daniel was the son of Daniel in Darke County in 1820. It is further supported by the fact that that there was a male age 16-26 in the 1820 census, the right age for the Daniel born in 1850.
10 http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-bin/pageload.cgi?nathaniel::cottrell::1012.html (or Genealogy.com GenForum) which sources "Descendants of Nicholas Cottrell of Newport and Westerly Rhode Island 1638" and has the names Daniel, Nathaniel, and Garrett, which are included here. There may be some connection, i.e. descendants of Nicholas via another branch.
“From 1810 to 1820 settlers locating in Mt. Morris were more numerous: ...Vincent Cothrell...”

There was another mention of Vincent in the same book where the writer remembered an incident when they were in early school together. I could find no census with Vincent’s name as head of household.

William and Nathaniel Cothrell both appeared in local NY census records. William Cothrell was a witness to the will of Elisha Durkee of Scipio, Cayuga County, NY, October 23, 1818\textsuperscript{12} and William Catheral (born c. 1790) was listed in the 1820 Mount Morris, NY census. In 1840 a William Cothrin was living in LaGrange County, IN (born c. 1785) who I believe could be this same William.

Nathaniel (born c. 1792) had moved to Pembroke, Genesee County by 1820 (about 40 miles away) and returned to Mount Morris, Livingston County by 1830, according to the census.

The connection between Nathaniel Cothrell (c. 1792) and Levi Cothrell (c. 1789) is that there was a Levi Cothrell (b. c 1816) who remained in Mount Morris, taking part in the centennial parade in 1894:

\[\ldots\text{Cal. Palmer carrying sickle, and Levi Cothrell, carrying grain cradle; Mr. Cothrell is in his 76th year and is the oldest person in the town who was born and has always resided here.}\]

I believe this Levi was the son of Nathaniel Cothrell who named his son Levi after his brother Levi – subject of my research-and this Levi was still living in Mount Morris in the 1850 census, up to the 1880 census, the same place where Nathaniel was located, and presumably died there, some time after 1830, the last census in which he appeared. In addition, there was a minor male child in Nathaniel’s household that year, born c 1820-1825. The years don’t quite jive for this Levi to be the same people, but considering the inaccuracy of records, it’s quite possible.

Genesee/Livingston County was more of a wilderness than Cayuga and a destination for many “edging” west:

\[\text{In 1830 settlers came from Cayuga County, N.Y., in considerable numbers, and for a few years... the country then an almost unbroken wilderness...}\]

setting a migration pattern from Cayuga County to Mount Morris and Genesee County in general, and the forenamed Cothrells in particular.

There is good likelihood that Garret\textsuperscript{15} or Daniel is the brother, father or uncle of Vincent, William, Nathaniel, Levi and another Daniel, born 24 Mar 1802 in New York.\textsuperscript{16} The county of birth of this younger Daniel\textsuperscript{17} has not been established, but it is known that his daughter, Rhoda Ann, was born in 1824 in Genesee County.\textsuperscript{18}

\textsuperscript{12}Abstracts of Wills of Cayuga County, N.Y. From September 1838 to December 1842. vol. 4. Copied & compiled by Gertrude A. Barber. 1947. pg. 44. ("v. 1" was also written on the copy).
\textsuperscript{13}Parsons and Rockefellow, 1894, p. 10.
\textsuperscript{14}\textit{Ibid}. p. 32.
\textsuperscript{15}The will of Garrett Cotrill of Venice, Cayuga County, NY was probated January 20, 1842. No children were named, only nieces, nephews, a sister and eight Stewart family members. (Abstracts of Wills of Cayuga County, N.Y. From September 1838 to December 1842. p. 32).
\textsuperscript{16}http://www.heritagepursuit.com/Lucas/LucasTownshipAdams-841.htm
\textsuperscript{17}This is most likely the Daniel Cothrell living in Avon, Livingston County NY in 1838 who was named in a notice in the local newspaper to pick up his mail. Info in letter from Livingston County Historian M.P. Schaap Apr 21, 1998.
Daniel (1802) naming his daughter Rhoda Ann is interesting because in the 1810 census in Scipio, Cayuga County, NY is a (presumably) widow named Rhoda Cothrell (26-44 with two young children under the age of ten). 19th century families tended to give their children names of other family members, so it is quite likely that this Daniel is related to the elder Rhoda (possibly an aunt). This tendency is also why I linked Nathaniel and Levi in the above paragraph.

Now back to the subject Levi. As stated previously, I believe he lived in Cayuga County at one time for the birth of his son Newell, placing him in the vicinity of the other Cothrells mentioned. In the 1820 census Levi would have been around 31 and there was such a Levi (Cotherill) living near/in the town of Naples19 in Ontario County, NY with family members which closely resemble the birth years of their first three children which I have identified.

Levi and Letta were probably not married until after the 1810 census.20 However, every one of the children was born in New York according to the censuses which recorded state of birth. They were born approximately between 1812 and 1827, with Letta being around 19 when the first was born and 34 when the last was born. The list of children I presented in the beginning of this document does not rule out the possibility of other children being born into the family. The family did not appear in the 1830 census that I could find.

Letta Seward (c. 1792, Connecticut to Jan 21, 1846, Lima, LaGrange County, IN)

Letta may be a nickname for Leticia; she was also known as "Lettie A."21 Her tombstone22 states she died (in Lima, LaGrange, IN, now known as Howe) 21 January 1846, age 53, making her birth date around 1792 (assuming she was born prior to January of 1793).

The census records of three of her children state their mother was born in Connecticut (Elizabeth 1880, Moses and Ellen 1900). There is some confusion regarding their mother’s birthplace, but since record keeping was in its infancy and old memories had to be relied on, it takes some sleuthing to put things together. Ellen’s death certificate listed her mother’s name as Lettie A. Seward and her father’s name as Moses. Letta had a son she named Moses. Moses’ death certificate23 listed his father's name as Seth. Letta and Levi had a grandson Seth and another with the middle name of Seth. I estimate Letta and Levi Cothrell married around 1811 (when Levi was 22 and Letta was 19) and it is clear they were eventually buried side by side. The father of Moses and Ellen was not Moses or Seth, but Levi (Letta’s husband). Their children were elderly when they died (at the turn of the 19th to early 20th centuries) and names and stories had faded over the years. The living descendants only had memories told to them by their parents to add to the records.

Levi and Letta had a son they named Jared. When I went to the early Connecticut records24 I found a Moses, Seth, and Jared Seward in Durham, Connecticut from the late 18th to early 19th centuries. In this record, Seth, Moses, Abraham, Sutlief, and Isaac were all brothers, sons of Moses (1721-1792). Two of the brothers -- Isaac and Abraham -- named a son Moses, and this younger Moses had a grandson named Moses. Obviously this family had a strong tendency to keep family names. Letta having sons Jared and Moses and a grandson Seth fits this family tradition.

Seth Seward and the younger Moses never left Connecticut, Moses having died in 1799, before any of the other two headed west. The widow of Moses married a local man.

19 Naples is located approximately 41 miles SE of Mount Morris by modern maps.
20 Early New York marriages are not easily located. I have not found any concerted effort to record old records and there was no requirement for towns or counties to maintain them until late in the 19th century.
21 Death certificate of daughter, Ellen Cothrell, Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health, Fort Wayne, IN.
22 Cemeteries of LaGrange County, IN 1832-1982.
23 Department of Health, City of Chicago.
Abraham Seward settled in Rochester, NY, an area with which Levi and Letta are never identified. There is a Sutlief Seward living in Ontario County, NY in 1830 and 1840, but it appears to be a younger man (b. 1803), probably his son. No further information has ever been found on Sutlief, the brother.

Isaac had a son named Moses, and this Moses had a granddaughter Lettie, age 13 in the 1870 census in Ontario County, NY. Isaac and his wife were too young to be Letta’s parents. But the facts that

1) Letta was living in Ontario County in 1820 as the wife of Levi. Isaac Seward was also living there in 1830; and
2) Isaac Seward had a great grand-daughter named Lettie (the nickname given on Ellen Cothrell’s death certificate as her mother)

leads me to the theory that Letta was closely associated with Isaac, probably came west with him and his family, and was possibly informally adopted by him. I believe she was either the daughter of his brother Moses (who died young, leaving a young widow and young children to raise), but her birth records were lost, or was an illegitimate child of a female family member, or an unknown foundling, and her birth never recorded in town records, which seemed to be very abundant otherwise. Or not.

So how did Levi and Letta meet?

At some point Letta moved to New York with the Sewards:

Samuel Seward (a cousin from Durham, CT) was living in Scipio, Cayuga County, NY in 1800 and 1820, where I believe Levi Cothrell was born in 1789, and where Levi and Letta’s son Newell was born in 1815.

Joel Seward (another cousin from Durham, CT) was living in Ontario County, NY in 1810, where Levi and Letta were living in 1820. Joel was in Genesee County, NY in 1820 and 1830, where the two youngest daughters of Levi and Letta were born between those times. Job Seward (another cousin from Durham, CT) was also living in Genesee County in 1810.

It’s a possibility that all the Seward men mentioned came to New York at around the same time to a point where Levi and Letta met, married and started a family. After their marriage, Levi and Letta were probably on the move, and in the decades when they were not found in the census, they may have been living with another named head of household, or were just missed in the census entirely, which was not uncommon.25

Children of Levi and Letta

The estimated date of Levi’s and Letta’s marriage is 1811, give or take a few years, depending on the accuracy of the birth of Jared – which is based on his obit.

All of their children were born in New York. From census records, death certificates, and obits, their dates of birth and death were:

Jared (1812, New York to Apr 11, 1887, Fort Wayne, IN)
Newell (1815, New York to Apr 1, 1863, Fort Wayne, IN)
Jane (1819, New York to March 26, 1851, Palmyra, OH)

25 In my research I came across a family counted twice in the census, in two different locations, at two different times, within the census collection time-frame. The opposite would also have been true – a family moving out just prior to the census count in the area, into another area which had just completed the census count.
Ann (c. 1821, New York to ?)  
Moses (1822, New York to January 26, 1910, Chicago, IL)  
Elizabeth (1824, Mount Morris, New York to May 20, 1910, Ossian, IN)  
Ellen (1827, Mount Morris, New York to Jul 23, 1907, Fort Wayne, IN)

Moving to Ohio

Levi and Letta uprooted their family from New York and moved west at one point. Whether it was “in their blood” (so to speak) to move on or it was difficult for Levi to support his family, or whether the attractions of the opportunities in the “wild west” were too exciting to pass up, no one will ever know. But westward migration was common during this era.

The Erie Canal -- which was located in western New York in the area where they lived -- was their route to go west:

The Erie Canal, which was opened in 1825, became the great highway from New England to the West. Manifests of canal boats in the 1830s often read, "Flour, wool, and hides eastbound, farmers westbound." In one month, four thousand farm families passed through the canal.

They loaded up their possessions in their wagons and travelled north to the Erie Canal. There they would have sold their wagons and animals then headed west on a canal boat.

Then, arriving in Buffalo, they boarded vessels to cross Lake Erie to Cleveland, Toledo, or Detroit then westward overland to Michigan, Wisconsin, or across the Mississippi into Iowa or points farther west.

The above quote mentions Cleveland, OH which is in Cuyahoga County. This brings me back to the Lindenwood Cemetery records listing Newell Cothrell as being born in Cuyahoga, NY. After further research, I discovered that there was a Joel Seward living in Cuyahoga County, OH in the 1840 census. Although I retain my original theory that Newell was born in Cayuga, New York, there is a possibility that Cuyahoga, Ohio may have factored into where they lived at one time, but not where Newell was born. In passing down of the names of places, Cayuga and Cuyahoga could easily have been confused and details lost over time.

According to Jared’s obituary, the Cothrells came to Ohio in 1837, probably in the late summer. They were in Lucas County, OH for a time, where another canal was being built:

The Wabash & Erie section of the Miami & Erie Canal ran along the valley of the Maumee River. It was begun in 1837 but was not navigable until 1843 when a boat could be taken to near Toledo. Upon completion of this section of canal the system was officially designated as the Miami & Erie Canal in 1849.

The Maumee River ends in Toledo after beginning in Fort Wayne, at the confluence of the St. Joseph and St. Mary’s rivers.

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26 Encouraging letters to come west could have been sent by relatives: Joel Jun Seward was in Wood County, OH in 1830 and William Cothrin was in LaGrange County, IN by 1840.
28 Ibid.
29 The Panic of 1837 may (or may not) have given additional impetus to moving west: “The Panic of 1837 was a panic in the United States built on a speculative fever. The bubble burst on May 10, 1837 in New York City, when every bank stopped payment in specie (gold and silver coinage). The Panic was followed by a five-year depression, with the failure of banks and record high unemployment levels.” http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic_of_1837.
30 http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Prairie/6687/miami.htm
31 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maumee_River
There were other reasons why they may have been drawn to Ohio if they were looking for land and adventure:

In the early days of westward expansion, the young state of Ohio was an excellent place to relocate. Land was cheap, and the soil was fertile.

Hundreds of settlers flocked to Ohio, only to find themselves isolated in a wilderness. There were few roads and no navigable waterways in the northern part of the state. With irregular schedules and frequent breakdowns, the stagecoach lines were not much of an option. Something had to be done to make the area more accessible, or further settlement would certainly come to an end.

In the first half of the 19th century the “canal craze” was on, as America built 4000 miles of canals. The success of New York State’s Erie Canal inspired lawmakers to undertake a similar project in Ohio. Soon shovels were digging a ditch that would change history forever.  

Village of Providence, Lucas County, Ohio

Providence, Ohio, where the Cothrells first settled and now is a ghost town, was situated on the Maumee River at the southwest corner of Lucas County. Its location is only evidenced by the Providence Metropark and St. Patrick Roman Catholic Church on US 24, which runs southeast from Toledo, OH to Fort Wayne, IN. It once was a thriving canal town, across the river from Grand Rapids, OH (once known as Gilead), which still is a “sleepy” small town, as I have visited the village.

Connecting the Cothrell “Dots”

There are five different records which place our Cothrells in Providence, Ohio:

(1) 1840 census with Jared Cothrell as head of household
(2) 1840 census with Levi Cothrell as head of household
(3) 1843 published "stray notice" which named Newell Cothrell
(4) 1898 Carpenter Genealogical research showing Elizabeth Cothrell from Providence, OH
(5) 1902 obit of Andrew Jackson Cothrell, son of Jared, stating he was born in Providence.

(1) The first was the 1840 census where Jared Cothrell was listed as the head of household of twenty people in the village of Providence: 1 male child, 11 male adults, 1 female child and 7 adult females. At the time, Jared would have been about 28 years old but the oldest male was 40-50, and Levi would have been in the 50-60 age category --- so he wasn’t living with him. So why is Jared the head of household of a household which has so many adults, especially adult males?

With these presented facts and that Jared ran a hotel later in the 1850 census, clearly this was a hotel/boarding house for some of the hundreds of workers which the building of the canal demanded. However, most of the workers did not live in good housing that Jared

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32 http://americanhistory.suite101.com/article.cfm/the_ohio_erie_canal#ixzz0RHo0wbSK
33 The major portion of the business district was destroyed by fire in 1846 and never rebuilt. Then in 1852 there was a great cholera epidemic and Providence all but disappeared. Ohio Ghost Towns No. 3 Lucas County. Richard M Helwig, Ed. Galena, OH: The Center for Ghost Town Research in Ohio. 1987. p. 68
34 At the time there were five hotels in Providence. Ibid. p. 67.
provided as "scores of immigrant laborers were housed in make-shift shacks and shanties along the canal."

This great influx of men to Providence at the time helped to give it a reputation of being a "wild west town" during the building of the canal:

With the canal workers in the vicinity, one might imagine there were some lively days (and nights) at the head of the rapids, with traders and travelers passing up and down the river meeting the unbridled Irish [canal workers]…. Providence was the scene of… fights and drunken carousals [which] occurred during its period of greatest prosperity.

Drinking, debauchery, and other vices committed by life’s most colorful characters proved Providence was a place too obscene for sanctimonious old maids with cultural aspirations.

When the Cothrells first arrived in Providence, however, it had been a different scene:

The village was, in general, considered a favorable place to live by the westward travelers, often seen as a haven from the problems of lawlessness, drinking, fighting, and crime that typically plagued Ohio canal towns.

It was the rapid growth of people: canal workers, land speculators and storekeepers (including saloons) and other ne’er-do-wells which created a boomtown out of control. The Cothrells left around 1844 (see below), possibly looking for a quieter place, or else seeking to locate a family member, possibly William Cothrell, as mentioned earlier.

In 1840 Providence only had only seventeen households, with three of them (including Jared’s) having a total of fifty residents, with each of these three households having a high percentage of work age males. Clearly, they housed canal workers, making a hard living. Building the canal was extremely hard and difficult work as the men had to cut down a swath of trees sixty feet wide through the forest (when it wasn’t in the swamp), plus another twenty feet on either side for the banks.

Using picks, shovels, wooden scoops and wheel barrows these men excavated the earth and hauled it in wagons to build the towpaths through low areas… If those workmen could be heard today, they would speak of back-breaking labor, cave-ins, falling rocks and disease that took the lives of fellow workmen with whom they toiled shoulder to shoulder.

They also had to line the banks with cut stone, as well as haul stone from a quarry Sandusky, OH (150 miles away) for building the locks, each stone averaging 1200 pounds. In addition to this back-breaking work on the canal, there were

...cholera, typhoid and typhoid-malaria, sometimes called “Maumee Fever,” that infiltrated the ranks in epidemic proportions, not to mention hordes of mosquitoes that hatched in pools of stagnant water…. Working diligently… the men grubbed and

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37 Ibid. p. 15.
40 Ibid.
dug in mud and muck using inadequate and insufficient equipment: their compensation was a puny 30 cents a day.\textsuperscript{41}

In addition to Jared working on the canal (while female family members took care of the day-to-day job of running the boarding house), his father Levi, and brothers Newell and Moses were all of age to be working on the canal so they too would have endured these experiences.

\textbf{(2)} Levi lived six houses down from Jared in Providence in 1840, although his name was spelled “Cothran” so it wasn’t found with the Ancestry.com search engine, but with carefully looking at the whole village. The household contained four males and four females, and their ages pretty well match Levi, Letta, Newell, Moses, Elizabeth and Ellen, but not exactly. But then, the old census records are not known for their accuracy. There is another male and female living in the household and although I can’t prove it, there’s a good possibility it was their other daughter, Ann, who had married Chancy Dodge in 1838. Jane, also a daughter, had also married the year prior, but she and her husband Leonard Dix don’t fit as neatly into the age categories. Then again, it could be other family, or even strangers boarding with them. Or it could have been two more children who never survived the harsh conditions of the time and place and no recording exists of them.

\textbf{(3)} The third mention of the Cothrells in Providence was a stray notice\textsuperscript{42} posted in the \textit{The Providence Record} in 1843:

\begin{quote}
STRAY -- recorded April 22, 1843 by Newell Cathrel. A stay sorrel gelding supposed to be five years old about 14 hands high, has a white stripe on his face and scar on his head below his eyes supposed to have been made by a halter.\textsuperscript{43}
\end{quote}

Although only a short mention, it is enough to confirm that Newell Cothrell was living in Providence in 1843.

\textbf{(4)} The fourth connection between Providence, OH and the Cothrells was from published research on the family of Elizabeth’s husband, Lyman Carpenter, in which Elizabeth’s home town was given as Providence, OH:

Lyman Carpenter, born April 1, 1820, Greece, NY m. Betsey Cotteril of Providence, Lucius [sic] Co., OH January 1, 1841, born August 8, 1829.\textsuperscript{44}

At the time of the publication of the Carpenter family book (1898), Elizabeth was alive and well and living in Ossian, IN. Lyman’s Aunt Lydia assisted the author in collecting the genealogical information from Elizabeth for the book. So it is confirmation that indeed she did live in Providence.

\textbf{(5)} The last connection was many years later when Jared’s oldest son, Andrew Jackson, died and his obituary gave Providence as his place of birth:

Mr. Cothrell was born at Providence, Ohio.\textsuperscript{45}

Although there was no mention of his parents in the notice, as we will see later, he was clearly the son of Jared Cothrell, as evidenced by his residence in the same household in the census records, and being listed as the step-son of Jared’s wife, Ruthette, in her obituary.

\textsuperscript{41} Ibid. p. 15. Or about $7.68 a day – see http://www.measuringworth.com/calculators/uscompare/result.php#.
\textsuperscript{42} Stray notices were posted in conspicuous places when an unfamiliar animal was found, or when an animal was determined to be missing.
\textsuperscript{43} Huffman, June. \textit{The Providence Record}. Providence, OH. 1982. I found this little book while visiting the local library in Grand Rapids, OH.
\textsuperscript{45} \textit{The Fort Wayne Evening Sentinel}, February 26, 1902. Ancestry.com
Family Name Connections

As mentioned earlier, it was common for families in the 19th century to give their children names of close relatives. Although this list does not prove the connection between each of the stated siblings and their parents, it does strengthen the argument greatly.

**Levi**: father’s name and Jared’s son

**Letta**: Elizabeth named her daughter Lotta and granddaughter was named Lottie; Ellen’s daughter was named Lettie; – all strong similarities to mother’s name

**Albert**: sons of Elizabeth and Moses, and grandsons of Ann and Moses

**Charles**: sons of Elizabeth, Newell, and Ann

**Ellen**: names of the youngest sibling and daughters of Ann and Jane

**Frank**: sons of Elizabeth and Ellen

**Harry/Harriet**: son/daughter of Ann and Ellen, grandson of Jared

**Moses**: name of sibling and (incorrect) name of father on sibling Ellen’s death certificate, the probable name of Ellen’s grandfather Moses Seward through her mother.

**Seth**: son of Jane, middle name of son of Ellen (Perry), and (incorrect) name of father on Moses’ death certificate, but probably a relative (Seth Seward) of Letta’s

**Seward**: middle name of son of Ellen (Harry)

**William**: sons of Elizabeth and Jared.

In addition, there was an Erastus Cothrell living in Lucas County, OH in 1840 at the same time the family lived there. This is the same name given to Newell’s son, but no further research was done regarding the family connection. (This Erastus had moved to Fulton County by 1850.)

Ann

Ann was the first child to marry. On January 18, 1838, less than six months after arriving in Ohio, she was united in marriage to Chancy Dodge (originally of Vermont, b. 1814) by the Justice of the Peace H. N. Curtis in Williams County, OH. There were Dodge families in Cayuga, Genesee, Livingston, and Ontario, NY, and four Dodge families in Lucas County in 1840 (none in Williams), so there is a good possibility that they had known each other and their families even could have came west together. However, the couple was not married in Lucas County, but in Williams County, which is in the far northwest corner of Ohio, one county west of Lucas at the time (over 50 miles away by modern roads). The reasons are endless (eloped?), but they did stay in the vicinity of the Cothrell family later. It's unclear how old Ann was because her birth year given in the 1860-1880 censuses varies from 1821 to 1826. I tend to accept the earliest census age – making her birth year 1821 – so she would have been 18 or 19 when she married, and the age neatly fits in between Jane and Elizabeth. Chauncy (also spelled Chancey and Chauncey) would have been around 26-27. According to the census, their first child, Harriet, was born in 1843 and their second child, Charles, was born the following year in 1844, both in Ohio. It is assumed they were living in Providence, or possibly across the Maumee River in Grand Rapids, where Ann’s sister, Elizabeth lived at one time.

Jared

Jared was probably the oldest child, born in 1812 according to his obituary (aged 75 in 1887). He married Jane Nearing on December 14, 1838, their license being applied for in

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46 Lucas County Ohio Probate Court Records, Toledo, OH.
47 Williams County Probate Court Records, Bryan, OH.
49 Lucas County Ohio Probate Court Records, Toledo, OH.
Lucas County. The court house would have been thirty miles away, certainly an all day trip in 1838. Jared was around 26 when he married. No doubt Jared met Jane in Providence (or came west with them?) because there is a P. Nearing\(^{50}\) living in the small village of Providence in the 1840 census. Several family trees on Ancestry.com list a Jane Nearing, daughter of Jeffery/Jefferson Nearing, b. 1816 but with no further information on her. If this is the Jane Nearing that Jared married, she would have been 22 years of age. Jeffery died in Onondaga County NY in 1845, where it is presumed Jane was born. Per the family trees, it is unknown what happened to his brother Phineas Nearing. I believe he is the P. Nearing in the census and that Jane came west with him and her other uncles, leaving her father, Jeffery, in New York.\(^{51}\)

In June of 1841, their first and only child, Andrew Jackson was born (per census). At some point after that, Jane Nearing died, and Jared then married Ruthette Douglas on July 14, 1844 while still in Providence.\(^{52}\) Ruthette raised Andrew and he remained in the same household as she in every census and was listed as her step-son in her obituary.

Jane

Jane was born in 1819 according to her tombstone, and she married Leonard Dix on December 14, 1839\(^{53}\) in Lucas County, OH. In November of 1840, she gave birth to their first child, Seth, according to later census records. In 1843 their second child, Ellen, was born (1850 census). They were both probably born in Providence. The names given to their children tie Jane to their mother, Letta Seward, since it has already been noted that Letta was probably closely related to Seth Seward; Also, Ellen is the name of Jane’s youngest sister.

Elizabeth

Elizabeth (also sometimes known as “Betsey”) no doubt married Lyman Carpenter on January 1, but the year is in question and the place is unknown. So it takes some sleuthing. She did communicate some of her history to her family as stated in her obituary in May 25 1910\(^{54}\):

Mrs. Carpenter was born in Mount Morris, N.Y., August 8, 1824. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Cothrell. She was united in marriage to Lyman Carpenter, on January 1, 1840 and in 1852 moved to Wells County, Indiana.\(^{55}\)

However, census records lists her birth year as 1827 (1850), 1826 (1860), 1825 (1870), 1824 (1880), and 1824 (1900) showing that she was “getting older” as the years went by. Normally I accept the earliest known recording of a birth date (1850) as it is probably more accurate, and thus she would have been born on August 8, 1827 instead. However, with her birth date being 1827, she would have been 13 (turning 14 that August) when she married, too young even for the early 19\(^{th}\) century. Using the date in Carpenter (1898), she was born in 1829—making her 11 when she got married in 1841! Let’s throw that date out and go back to the census. It may be more accurate that she kept getting closer to her real age as the years passed, giving the older age in 1850 since she may have wanted to be

\(^{50}\) According to Helwig in *Ohio Ghost Towns No. 3 Lucas County*, a Neptune Nearing lived in Providence at the time who was a storekeeper and the father of the prominent Toledo banker Mars Nearing (pg. 68). According to the Ancestry.com family trees, Mars and Neptune were brothers of Jefferson and Phineas.

\(^{51}\) Or else her father did come west, but returned. As mentioned in the footnote above, their brother Mars was located in Ohio at one point, but family trees indicate he later died in New York.

\(^{52}\) Lucas County Ohio Probate Court Records, Toledo, OH.

\(^{53}\) Ibid.


older. (Maybe she looked very young for her age? I looked 13 at age 23 and I’m a descendant.) Thus I accept the 1824 date as the most likely one, making her 16 years old at the time of her marriage (1841), a little more reasonable, yet still young, age.

Carpenter (1898) and her obituary gave the marriage date as 1841. The fact that their first child was born in October 1841 supports the January 1841 date, with William arriving ten months later in October.\(^{56}\) Elizabeth was a prolific child bearer which fits with her having her first child in the same year as their marriage. In spite of some genealogists giving her place of marriage as Wood County (Grand Rapids) -- where William was born according to Carpenter (1898) -- no marriage record has been found, either in Mount Morris, NY or in any of the northwest Ohio counties. It’s quite possible they married in Henry County, OH, which was one county west of Lucas and was one of the places through which the Miami & Erie Canal passed. Since the Henry County courthouse burned in 1847\(^ {57}\) it would explain why no marriage license has been found. Since Ann married out of county, Elizabeth following in her sister’s footsteps and marrying in Henry County (eloping?) makes it a strong argument for the location of their marriage.

**Other Cothrells in Ohio**

Daniel Cothrell (b. 1802), who was probably born in Cayuga County, OH, had a daughter born in Genesee County. There was a Daniel Cothrell living in the western part of Lucas County in 1840 (which later became Fulton). The family ages are correct for this to be the same Daniel in Springfield Twp, Lucas County, OH (north of Providence, west of Toledo) where he was living in 1850. The 1880 census gives his and his parent’s birth state as New York. There is a possibility he could have been the son of Daniel who was living in Darke County, OH in 1820.

An Erastus Cothrell was a justice of the peace in Lucas County, having performed the marriage ceremony for Joseph Cothrell in 1839.\(^ {58}\) However, this Erastus was born in Massachusetts, according to the 1860 census, where he was living in Gorham Twp., Fulton County, OH (previously Lucas). Joseph Cothrell also was born in Massachusetts and also living in Fulton County, OH in 1860, so these two are not related to the subject Cothrells, although Erastus and Joseph were probably related to each other.

**Lima, LaGrange County, Indiana**

The family left Ohio and moved on to Indiana via the canal the men had been working on, according to Ruthette’s obituary (wife of Jared):

> Mrs. And Mrs. Cothrell came to Fort Wayne, making the journey by the slow stages of canal travel.\(^ {59}\)

Assuming they left the “wild west” atmosphere of Providence all around the same time, they migrated in 1844 soon after Jared and Ruthette were married.\(^ {60}\)

This coincides with of Ellen’s story in her obituary where

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\(^{56}\) It is not clear whether he was born in Providence or in Grand Rapids, OH

\(^{57}\) According to a phone call to the Henry County clerk in 2009.


\(^{59}\) *The Fort Wayne News*, Nov 18, 1901 p. 4. Ancestry.com

\(^{60}\) Ibid.
She came to Fort Wayne in 1844 and was married to William Van Alstine of this city.

Ellen and her husband were living in LaGrange County in the 1850 census, so the entire family -- except for Jared -- moved on to LaGrange. Fort Wayne was on the early canal system, connecting directly to the one in Providence and they went as far as Fort Wayne via the canal (see above). Then at a later point (probably between 1844 and 1845 as their mother, Letta died in Jan 1846), the other family members traveled on to LaGrange in a wagon of some type. Jared may have remained in Fort Wayne because of all the opportunities he found there, becoming a contractor on the Wabash and Erie Canal, for one. He never appeared in LaGrange County records.

Why LaGrange? Obviously, they were a family on the move. Earlier I stated that there was William Cothrin living in LaGrange in 1840 who I believe to be a close relative, possibly Levi’s father. This could explain their moving on to LaGrange (and their desire to escape the ever-increasing populace in the village of Providence?).

**Levi and Letta**

Although not directly named in any published record, Levi and Letta were considered pioneers in LaGrange, evidenced by his listing as one of the deceased pioneers of the county in the *LaGrange Standard Paper*, June 6, 1889:

_____ Cothrel, wife and son Newell.

His first name was not given but because Newell was his son, they were the only Cothrells buried in the local town cemetery, and the other research cited in this paper, makes it clear that the pioneers were Levi and Letta.

The only concrete evidence of Levi and Letta living in LaGrange are their tombstones in the Riverside Cemetery in Howe (formerly Lima), LaGrange, OH. Letta died in January 1846, probably within 18 months after arriving. Levi lasted four more years without her, passing away in January of 1850, just prior to the census.

The 1850 census brings to light the fact that all the children except Jared moved with their parents to west LaGrange. Four of the children were in (West) Lima:

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63 Levi’s last name was given as Cothrin the in 1840 census in Providence, same as William and misspellings were notorious in the recording of names in the early censuses.
64 Row 5, Plot 22 of the Southeast section.
65 *Cemeteries of LaGrange County*, IN 1832-1982.
66 According to the local librarian, there is no record of a West (or East) Lima. Just Lima.
Three of them (Newell, Elizabeth and Ellen) lived in the same household, and Moses lived next door. Since all but one household on the page (167) were farmers (the exception was a blacksmith), it is assumed they were living in a rural area west of Lima.

The fact that Newell (as head of household since he was the oldest male and the surviving son of Levi and Letta), Elizabeth, and Ellen lived in the same household, leads me to believe that it was the same homestead in which Levi and Letta had lived, with the daughters taking care of their parents in their last days and the sons (and sons-in-law) taking care of the farm.

On the “other” side of town (East Lima) were Jane (p. 182) and Ann on the next census page, six dwellings away (p. 183):
All the residents on the two pages had “town” occupations, so it is assumed they were living in the village of Lima proper.

Newell

The only two records of Newell living in LaGrange are the above census record and his name in the LaGrange Standard Paper as the son of pioneer Cothrell. He moved to Fort Wayne between 1850 and 1852, living in LaGrange less than eight years. He was born in 1815 according to his obituary.\(^\text{67}\)

Jane

Jane and Leonard Dix had their third child, Walden, in 1848 while living in LaGrange County. The 1850 census was the only one in which they were all found and Leonard was listed as a (stone) mason born in Vermont, estimated 1812. Somewhere between September of 1850 when they were listed in the census and March of 1851, the family moved to Palmyra, Portage County Ohio. Jane died on March 26, 1851.\(^\text{68}\) She is buried in the Palmyra West Cemetery, Section 1, row 15, along side her husband, Leonard, who died May 10, 1851\(^\text{69}\) leaving their three children orphaned and taken in by three different families. In the 1860 census their son Seth was living with his Aunt Ellen Van Alstine in Fort Wayne, their daughter Ellen with an unrelated family -- Joseph and Margaret Sparr\(^\text{70}\) -- in Sulphur Springs, Crawford County, OH, and the youngest Walden with the Loren B. and Sarah Dix family in Palmyra, Portage County, OH with their two older children, John age 18 and Albert age 14. Since Seth and Walden were with family members, it is possible that the Sparrs were also family members.

The children of Jane Cothrell and Leonard Dix were:

**Seth Dix** (Nov 1840,\(^\text{71}\) Providence, OH to Mar 29, 1917, Fort Wayne, IN\(^\text{72}\)) was living in his Aunt Ellen Van Alstine’s household in 1860 and remained in Fort Wayne for the rest

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\(^\text{67}\) *Dawson's Daily Times* 2 Apr 1863, Fort Wayne, IN. Ancestry.com
\(^\text{68}\) Records indicate the year as 1850, but that is impossible since they were living in Indiana in the 1850 census in September.
\(^\text{69}\) From Nancy Francis, via Dix Family Forum at http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-genforum/forums/dix.cgi
\(^\text{70}\) Spelling is difficult to discern – may be Spaer. Of course, there’s no proof that this is our Ellen, but the birth date is correct and the only Ellen Dix, age 13, born in Ohio, in the U.S. Census that year.
\(^\text{72}\) Fort Wayne City Health Department records. Allen County Public Library, 900 Webster Street, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46802.
of his life. He married Esther Bulger on Apr 24, 1865. His occupations were truck driver, hack driver, and laborer for the city parks according to census records. Seth died Mar 29, 1917 and Esther on May 20, 1932 and both are buried in the Fort Wayne Catholic Cemetery. Their sons were Frank and Hugh.

Ellen Dix (Sept 3, 1843, Providence, OH to Oct 15, 1925, Rootstown, OH) married Edward James Churchill in Portage County, OH in 1866 (per 1900 census) where they lived until she died in 1925. They had at least three children Alice (1870), Ellen (1876), and Walter (1877) (1880 census). However, it seems that the mother Ellen was married prior to Edward to a Mr. Keep as there is a Grant Keep (1864-Jul 23, 1943) living with the Churchill family in every census, listed as step-son to the head of the household. Ellen is named as his mother in the 1920 census.

Walden Dix (Dec 8, 1848, Lima, IN to Mar 31, 1926, Palmyra, OH) He was married to Alice Fisher on Mar 15, 1876 (Portage County), but he was a widower by 1900, living with his daughter Maggie (May 1876). Prior to 1910 Maggie married a Mr. Stewart and had two children (Royal: 1907 & Alice: 1910), and in the 1910 census, she and the children were living with Walden, sans Mr. Stewart. But by 1920, Mr. John Stewart was now the head of the household, and there were three additional children (Emma: 1914, Mary: 1917, Ellen:1919). The only occupation given in the census records for Walden was laborer. Walden is buried in the Whippoorwill Cemetery in Palmyra.

Ann

At some point between 1844 and 1848, Ann, her husband, Chauncy Dodge, and their two children, Harriet and Charles, moved to Michigan: Ellen was born in Michigan in 1848 according to the 1860 and 1870 census records. But they had moved back with the family at Lima, IN by 1850. With Ann naming her daughter Ellen, this made her the second daughter of Levi and Letta to name a child Ellen, after their own youngest, Ellen.

Ann’s husband, Chauncy, was the Lima village town constable in the 1850 census, and they had real estate property worth $200. Then in 1860, still living in LaGrange, their real estate value had increased to $1500 and Chauncy was running a town saloon, possibly owning it. At some point between June of 1860 and November of 1863, Ann and Chauncy moved to Kendallville, Noble County, IN (south of LaGrange) where Chauncy set himself up in another saloon business. Chauncy died a short time later on Nov 21, 1863 and is buried in Kendallville. No records have been found to indicate she ever remarried. Ann filed for legal guardianship of their two minor children (Charles and Ellen) on 6 Feb 1865. In 1870 Ann was living with her son, Charles and his family in Kendallville. In 1880 she was living with her daughter Ellen (Ella) and grandson Chauncey (son of Charles) in Angola, Steuben County, IN. None of the census records in which she was found indicated whether she was literate. Ann does not appear in any census records after 1880. When I checked

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73 Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959. Familysearch.org
74 The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN http://www.genealogycenter.info/search_ftwaynecatholic.php
75 Born either Oct 1866 per census or Nov 4, 1867 per Fort Wayne Catholic Cemetery, and died May 23, 1942. See http://www.genealogycenter.info/results_ftwaynecatholic.php
76 Born Apr 1869 per census or 1870 per Fort Wayne Catholic Cemetery, and died Jan 27, 1938. Ibid.
77 State of Ohio, Dept of Health Death Certificate, via Familysearch.org
78 Born Dec 01, 1848, died May 11, 1930 both Rootstown, Ohio. Familysearch.org
82 Per Nancy Francis via Dix Family Forum at http://genforum.genealogy.com/cgi-genforum/forums/dix.cgi
83 Listed in the U.S. IRS Tax Assessment List, 1862-1918; District 9; Annual List; 1863 June 2; retail liquor license. Ancestry.com.
84 http://gen.nobleco.lib.in.us/Cemeteries/XstoneD.htm
85 http://gen.nobleco.lib.in.us/Guardianships/AK.htm

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(via email) the Steuben County library for books with Steuben County cemetery records, I came up with nothing. She possibly could have remarried, frustrating any more research. Nothing further is known of her.

The children of Ann Cothrell and Chauncy Dodge were:

**Harriet Dodge** (1843 Lima, IN -?) The only information on Harriet after the 1860 census (where she gave her occupation as a housekeeper —possibly for her father’s saloon) was two marriages: to John Linderman Oct 26, 1865 and to George P. Macpherson, Mar 26, 1874, both in Elkhart County, IN (Elkhart County WPA records). The problem is, without further research, there’s no way of knowing which one was our Harriet. Harriet Linderman was living with Mr. Linderman in 1900 in Elkhart, and nothing further was found for Harriet Maophenrow after her marriage to Mr. Maophenrow.

**Charles Dodge** (Feb 1844 Lima, IN -?) married Augusta Gardner (b. 1845 NY-census) Dec 25, 1866 in Noble County, IN. Their children were Chancy (1868), Albert (Jan 1870), Benjamin (1872), Annie (1874), Gracie (1876), Mary (1880) and Charley (1884). The family lived in Kendallville, Ward 2, Noble County in 1870, moved to Grand Rapids, Kent County, MI by 1880, then to Augusta, Butler County, KS by 1885, then back to Michigan in 1910 to Lee, Allegan County where the couple was living with their son, Benjamin, and grandson, Harley Eddy (son of Benjamin). In each of the U.S. census records, Charles’ occupation was tinner (or tinsmith), except for 1910 when he was listed as a farmer. Nothing further was found on Charles and Augusta.

**Ellen/Ella Dodge** (1848 Michigan -?) Ellen was later known as Ella L. and married Edward E. Erwin on Jun 27, 1867 in Noble County, IN. She and Edward were living in Kendallville, IN, in 1870. According to the Gomes Family Tree (Ancestry.com) Edward died Dec 24, 1875. By the 1880 census, Ellen’s mother, Ann had moved in with her, evidently because Ann’s son Charles (Ellen’s brother) had moved on to Michigan. The 1880 census shows Chauncey, a grandson (Charles’ son) living with them in Indiana, as well as with his father in Michigan. The Michigan census was taken June 4th and the Indiana census June 10th. Either he left his dad’s home and went to live with his grandmother Ann and Aunt Ella, or he had lived with them all along after his folks moved, but was still considered a part of the family in Michigan. After Edward died, the 1880 census showed she supported herself as a dressmaker. Nothing further was found on what happened to her.

**Moses**

Moses married Ann Jeanette Dodge in 1849 probably while they were living in LaGrange (or else eloped to some other county). The 1900 census indicates they had been married for 51 years and as with Elizabeth, no record of their marriage has been found.

In every census record (and in her obituary) Anne Jeanette’s name was some form of “Ann Gennette” which was an actual signature in a land transaction of hers and Moses’ in LaGrange County. The name “Anna Jane Dodge” was given on the death certificate of her son, Edward. Angenette was usually used in the census.

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87 http://gen.nobeleco.lib.in.us/Marriages/Dh.htm
92 I looked up all land transactions for she and Moses and witnessed the signature on the original books.
93 Apr 29, 1939 Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.
Moses and Ann were living in Lima, LaGrange County in the 1850 census (with his occupation listed as farmer), next door to the household of Newell, Elizabeth and Ellen. Their first child, George, was born in 1849. He did not survive as he was not listed again in any census. Two years later in 1851, their second child, Albert M. was born in Lima, according to the cemetery (Fort Wayne, IN)\(^94\) and later census records. Elizabeth also named one of her sons Albert.

Of the siblings, Moses and Angenette lived the longest in LaGrange County and the only Cothrells for which there is a record of purchasing land. According to the clerk at LaGrange County Courthouse in a visit I made in 2009, it doesn't mean that Levi or any of the others didn't buy land as many of the early transactions were never recorded, but the sale simply agreed to and monies exchanged between the two parties.

On February 21, 1856 Moses Cothrell and wife paid $500 for Lot 7 and 2/7 of Lot 6 in block 7 in the village of LaGrange (which later became Lima) from Adam Reed.\(^95\) That fall -- on September 29, 1856 -- they sold that same land for $600 to Edwin Elliott.\(^96\) In this transaction, Moses signed with an X (Moses Cothrell) and his wife’s signature was given as “Ann Gennette, wife.”

Then on the same day (Sep 29, 1856) they paid $300 for four acres of land in Lima Township (Sec. 30, Twp 37 Range 10) from Christian Miller.\(^97\) No record of the sale of the four acres was found in the books.

Two daughters were born to them while they were living in LaGrange: Ida, born in Sep 1855 (1900 census) and Clara born in July of 1858.\(^98\) In 1860 Moses and Anne Jeanette were living next door to his sister, Ann, and Moses was working as a day laborer. With his brother-in-law Chauncy Dodge living next door and running a saloon, Moses was possibly working for him. The value of their real estate was listed as $400 and personal estate at $300. In addition to his three children, two others were living in their household: Mary Cummings age 10, born in Michigan and Elizabeth Kelly, age 19 born in Ohio. Three doors down is a Cummings family with 5 children, four born in Michigan. For whatever reason, Moses and Ann Jeanette took in Mary and Elizabeth. Throughout their marriage, they always had lots of people living in their household: sometimes extended family, sometimes non-family members, either children or boarders. In addition, according to the Allen County, Indiana Guardianships, 1829-1905\(^99\) records, evidently Albert was not their birth son, but had been taken in and informally adopted because Moses was legally appointed Albert’s guardian on May 13, 1870. Before they left LaGrange, their youngest, Edward, was born (Oct 8, 1859).\(^100\)

### Elizabeth

The September after her mother died in January of 1846, Elizabeth gave birth to her second son, Newton. Carpenter (1898) gave Lima, IN as his birthplace, which agrees with the census.

Elizabeth and Lyman, along with her two sons, William and Newton, were living in Lima, LaGrange County in the same household with her siblings Newell and Ellen in 1850. That fall she had another son, Walter.\(^101\) According to her obituary, Elizabeth and her family moved

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\(^94\) Actually it lists Lima, OH, as no one probably had heard of Lima, IN -- as it no longer exists -- and would have remembered Albert (or his mother) speaking of “Lima.”

\(^95\) General Index of Deeds, LaGrange, County, IN; Recorded Sep 20, 1856 Book 11, pg 537.

\(^96\) Ibid. Recorded Jan 3, 1857 Book 12, pg 36.

\(^97\) Ibid. Recorded Nov 21, 1856 Book 12, pg 5.

\(^98\) Maplewood Cemetery Records, Valparaiso, IN.

\(^99\) Book 2, page 34, file box number 294.

\(^100\) Per death certificate, Fort Wayne-Allen County Dept of Health, 46802.

\(^101\) Carpenter (1898).
to Wells County in 1852 (probably in the spring since their next child, Albert, was born in July of that year in Ossian), to the village of Ossian in Jefferson Township (south of Fort Wayne, over 100 miles away by modern roads) where Lyman owned a shingle factory in the 1850’s.\textsuperscript{102}

In 1860 they were living next door to the Methodist preacher in Ossian and Lyman’s occupation is shown as "Manufacture potash" and their personal real estate value was given as $200. Their household held William, Newton, Walter and Albert and the addition of three more children: Orlando (1854), Clark (1856), and Emma J. In that census, Elizabeth (Betsey) was the only one in the family who could not read or write.\textsuperscript{103}

In 1870 Lyman was no longer a businessman, but now a farmer (with personal real estate of $400), with Ossian still listed as his post office. No record has been found of what happened to his endeavor. They now had five boys working on the farm and Frank (1861) and Charles (1863) had been added to the household. Charles was listed as blind, and it is assumed he was blind from birth.

By 1880 Lyman was reduced to being a laborer and only Orlando, Frank and Emma remained at home. (Although he was still a minor, Charles had been sent away to blind school – see his section below.)

In 1900 Elizabeth and Lyman were living alone -- all children having moved on -- on Main Street, in the home they owned. This time, Elizabeth was listed as not being able to read or write. With two census records agreeing, it is pretty clear she did not have a basic education.

In the April 1910 census Elizabeth was a widow living with her youngest son, Charles, in Ossian, on Lefever St. The census listed that in her lifetime Elizabeth had a total of thirteen children, with five surviving. Elizabeth and Lyman lived in Wells County until their deaths in March 25, 1901 (Lyman) and May 20, 1910 (Elizabeth)\textsuperscript{104} respectively. Both are buried in the Oak Lawn Cemetery, Ossian, IN.\textsuperscript{105}

The following are Lyman’s and Elizabeth’s full obituaries\textsuperscript{106}:

\textit{Evening News}
Monday March 25, 1901
p. 3, col. 5

Lyman Carpenter, one of the oldest residents of Jefferson township, died this morning at five o’clock at his home in Ossian. The deceased had been seriously sick the past six weeks with severe stomach trouble. Mr. Carpenter was eighty-one years of age and had been a resident of the village for more than half a century. In an early day he ran a cooper shop and did a thriving business. He leaves a widow and several children, all of whom but a daughter, reside in other places. The funeral will occur tomorrow at two o’clock from the residence, Rev. J. Fred officiating.

\textit{Bluffton Chronicle}
May 25 1910
page 1

\textsuperscript{102} History of Wells County, Indiana 1776-1976. Dorothy Rose and Joyse Buckner. 1975. p. 64.
\textsuperscript{103} Elizabeth was also recorded as illiterate in the 1900 and 1910 censuses. Of her siblings, only Moses and Ellen had any record that they were literate in 1900. However, Moses signed his land sale in 1856 with an X and possibly Newell signed two receipts with an X – but it is unclear. How accurate the census record regarding literacy was will never be known. Many times it seems the recorder just skipped that category altogether.
\textsuperscript{104} Both death certificates from Wells County Department of Health, 223 W. Washington Street Bluffton, IN 46714.
\textsuperscript{105} Elizabeth’s cause of death arteriosclerosis – heart failure.
\textsuperscript{106} Both obituaries from Wells County Public Library, Bluffton, IN.
MRS. ELIZABETH CARPENTER  
DIED FRIDAY AFTERNOON--  
FUNERAL SUNDAY  

Mrs. Elizabeth Carpenter, mother of Charles A. Carpenter, of the Ossian Commercial College, passed away Friday afternoon at 12:45 after a prolonged illness, due to the infirmities of her advanced age. The funeral services were held Sunday forenoon at the Ossian Presbyterian church, immediately after the close of the Sabbath School about 10:30 and will be in charge of Rev. W.E. Hunter. The burial took place at Oaklawn. Mrs. Carpenter was known among the Civil War veterans in this part of the state as the Mother of the 34th having been elected to that honored position last October when the famous Morton Rifles held their reunion at Ossian. Her son William, who was killed during the war was a member of the regiment. Mrs. Carpenter was born in Mount Morris, N.Y., August 8, 1824. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Cothrell. She was united in marriage to Lyman Carpenter, on January 1, 1840 and in 1852 moved to Wells County, Indiana. Mr. Carpenter passed away March 25, 1901. For the last four years Mrs. Carpenter made her home with her son, Charles A, Carpenter. The decedent was the mother of thirteen children, of whom eight have preceded her in death. The five surviving children, four sons and one daughter are Emma, wife of James Kline, of Ossian, Frank, of Maiden Mo.; Walter, of Randolph, Mo; Albert, of Fort Wayne and Charles A. of Ossian. There are also 17 grandchildren and 21 great grand-children. Mrs. Carpenter was a member of the First Presbyterian church of Ossian.

The children of Elizabeth Cothrell and Newton Carpenter who survived to have their births recorded were:

**William Carpenter** (Oct 8, 1841, Gilead, Wood County, OH to July 1 1862, Mississippi River at White River, AR) never married. On June 29, 1860 he was living with his Aunt Ellen Van Alstine (and cousin Seth Dix) in Allen County, IN. On July 17, 1860 he was in Wells County living with his parents. Evidently he moved back home between the two census dates, or Elizabeth never considered him as having left. He was killed in the Civil War, Indiana 34th Regiment Morton's Rifles per Elizabeth's obit, Company A, Private, per Indiana records.108

**(Philo) Newton Carpenter** (Sep 26, 1846, Lima, LaGrange County, IN to May 31, 1904, Ossian, Wells County, IN). On Oct 15, 1871 Newton married Isabel Morgan (Oct 4, 1853 to Aug 13, 1886) in Wells County and their children were L. Malvern (Jun 12, 1872), Charles F. (Oct 7, 1873), Lottie P. (Feb 16, 1876), and Maud E. (Sept 25, 1880). After her death, he married Dora L. Abrams on Mar 29, 1888 (Nov 5, 1862 to Jun 9, 1920) and their children were Frank (Mar 14, 1889), Ethel Vern (Jan 6, 1892), and Artie (Dec 10, 1894 to Oct 10, 1895). Newton was listed in the 1870 census with his parents as “Philo N,” as “Newton” in the rest. In 1870 he worked on his father’s farm; in 1880 he was a teamster, and in 1900 a laborer in a livery barn, living in a rented house as a tenant on the David Craig

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107 Carpenter (1898). p. 526.
109 Wells County Dept of Health, Bluffton, IN.
111 Newton was listed in the 1870 census with his parents as “Philo N,” as “Newton” in the rest. In 1870 he worked on his father’s farm; in 1880 he was a teamster, and in 1900 a laborer in a livery barn, living in a rented house as a tenant on the David Craig
112 Children’s names and dates from Carpenter (1898) pp. 671-672.
113 Children’s names and dates from Carpenter (1898) p. 672, except for Artie’s death. That information came from Wells County Library cemetery index.
114 Teamster -- One who drives a team for hauling -- http://www.usgenweb.org/research/occupations.shtml
Newton was a member of the Emmaus Methodist Episcopal Church (4 ½ miles SE of Ossian), where he was mentioned as a steward of the church which was built in 1876. After moving to Wells County with his parents in 1852, he remained in Jefferson Township, Ossian until his death. He and both wives Isabel and Dora are buried in Oak Lawn Cemetery, Ossian, IN.

**Lotta Carpenter** (May 20, 1846 Lima, LaGrange County, IN to Apr 1850 Jackson, Jackson County, MI)

**Charlotte Carpenter** (Feb 1847 Lima, LaGrange County, IN to May 1850 Jackson, Jackson County, MI)

**NOTE:** Birth and death dates for Lotta and Charlotte are from Carpenter (1898), who listed Newton’s birth date as 1843. However, I am suspicious of Carpenter’s dates since 1) Newton’s age was given as four years old in the 1850 census, making his birth year 1846; 2) Newton was 24 in 1870 (born 1846); and 3) the 1900 census gave his birth year as 1846. Even if Lotta and Charlotte were twins (or even the same child), either birth date is impossible, given that Newton’s birth date is firmly established. It possibly could have been 1848. It was clear their parents were living in LaGrange in the 1850 census, and Lyman’s father and mother (Jabez and Lydia) living in Hanover, Jackson County, MI (113 miles distance north) at the time of their death. The children possibly met an untimely death due to disease while the family was visiting the grandparents.

**Walter H. Carpenter** (Sep 24, 1850, Lima, LaGrange, IN to 1943, Kansas City, MO). On Jan 5, 1871 he married Frances Emma Curry (Feb 10, 1851 IA to Jul 24, 1932) in Kansas City, MO. Their children were Mable May (Dec 19, 1876, Paola, KS), William Jewel (or Juel, Dec 30, 1878, Blue Eagle, MO), Lettie Almira (Dec 19, 1881, Kansas City, MO). Walter and Frances lived their entire married lives farming in Gallatin, Clay County, MO. Both are buried in the Rogers Cemetery, Clay County, Kansas City, MO.

**Albert Carpenter** (Jul 5, 1852, Ossian, IN to Apr 14, 1931, Fort Wayne, IN) married Sarah Grogan on Oct 31, 1876 at Fort Wayne, IN, where they lived for the remainder of their lives. After working on his father’s farm in 1870, Albert was a teamster from 1880 to the 1910 census, owning his own team in 1910. In 1920 he was a laborer. They had no children, but adopted a girl, Flora Canada, who appeared in the 1880 census, age 7. Unlike every other married couple where burial locations were found, Albert and Sarah were buried in separate cemeteries: Albert in Oak Lawn in Ossian and Sarah in Fort Wayne Catholic Cemetery.

**Orlando Carpenter** (Feb 9, 1854, Ossian, IN to Mar 15, 1881, Ossian, IN) died at the age of 27. In 1870, he was working on his father’s farm. In 1880, he worked in a stove factory. No cause of death at a young age was uncovered.

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118 Bluffton Chronicle. Jun 1, 1904, p. 4.
120 Personal knowledge and photos – visit to the grave site. See also [http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/cemetery/](http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/cemetery/)
121 [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com)
122 The 1880 census lists two daughters, Mable and Mary, but Carpenter (1898) indicates a male born 1878.
123 All dates are from Carpenter (1898), p. 672, except for death information, which is from [http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~moclay/rogers.html](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~moclay/rogers.html)
124 Birth from Carpenter (1898), p. 526; death from [http://www.genealogycenter.info](http://www.genealogycenter.info)
126 Birth from Carpenter (1898), p. 526; death from [http://www.genealogycenter.info](http://www.genealogycenter.info)
127 Carpenter (1898), p. 526.
128 [http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/obits](http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/obits)
129 [http://www.genealogycenter.info](http://www.genealogycenter.info)
130 Carpenter (1898), p. 526. There is no cemetery record in the area even though they are thoroughly recorded.
James Clark Carpenter (Sep 24, 1855, Ossian, IN\(^{131}\) to Oct 25, 1905, Indianapolis, IN\(^{132}\)) married Maggie McCrath (b. 1856)\(^{133}\) in Tippecanoe County, IN, Dec 11, 1876.\(^{134}\) In 1880 they were living in Fort Wayne and Clark worked on the railroad for a living. It is assumed that Maggie died sometime before 1892 as Clark married Eva (or Emma) Ross on Feb 9, 1892 in Marion County, IN.\(^{135}\) In 1900 they were living in Indianapolis, Marion County, IN, with Emma’s birth date given as Oct 1854. Also living in the household was Clark’s daughter Kittie (Katie) Carpenter\(^{136}\) (Apr 1880) and Emma’s son, Walter Ross. Clark’s occupation was saloon keeper, and they owned their own home. Still living in Indianapolis, Clark died Oct 25, 1905, with record of his death in the *Bluffton Chronicle*. No record of the death of his wife was found.

Emma Jane Carpenter (Feb 9, 1858, Ossian, IN\(^{137}\) to Jun 6, 1940, Ossian, IN\(^{138}\)) was listed as J. Emma in the 1880 census with her parents and Emma Jane in Carpenter’s and later records. She married James W. Kline\(^{139}\) on Jan 13, 1881 in Wells County.\(^{140}\) In 1900 they were living on Ogden Street in Ossian with seven children at home: Fred (May 1881), Carrie (Jun 13, 1888 to Jun 27, 1976), James Hansel (Jan 13, 1891 to Jun 8, 1971), Eva (Apr 1893), Willie/William (Jul 1895 -- 1983), and an infant son (unnamed) born in May who evidently did not survive as he is not seen again in records.

There is a marriage record for their daughter Maud, but no spouse or date on the record.\(^{142}\) In the 1910 census, Emma is still living with her parents and with a 10 month old son, Clyne.\(^{143}\) Fred and Carrie had left home (with Carrie marrying Albert Melching, on Jan 19, 1904\(^{144}\)) and there was a new son, Walter born in 1905.

Emma’s husband, James W. died on Mar 8, 1912, and is buried in the Oaklawn Cemetery in Ossian.\(^{145}\) In the 1920 census, Emma was still living in Ossian on Ogden St. with her daughter Maud (whose last name now given as Swihart), sons James and William and Maud’s son, Clyne. No census record was found for Emma in 1930 and she died on Jun 6, 1940.\(^{146}\) She is buried in the Oaklawn Cemetery in Ossian, IN with her husband, James.

Frank Carpenter (Jun 24, 1860, Ossian, IN\(^{147}\) to Jan 22, 1915, Jacksonport, Jackson County, AK\(^{148}\)) Frank worked at the stove factory in 1880 while he was living with his parents. Other than the obituary in the local *Ossian Journal*, nothing further is known of him. There were a lot of Frank Carpenters found in on-line records, but none fit the profile of this one.

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\(^{131}\) Carpenter (1898), p. 527.
\(^{132}\) http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/obits. Death date is date obituary was printed in the *Bluffton Chronicle*
\(^{133}\) Birth date was from Carpenter (1898), surname from *Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941*, WPA, Ancestry.com as Carpenter had “Lath”
\(^{135}\) Ibid.
\(^{136}\) Carpenter (1898) p. 672 gave her name as “Hattie”.
\(^{137}\) Carpenter (1898), p. 527.
\(^{138}\) http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/cemetery/
\(^{139}\) Born Aug 11, 1855 in Indiana, per Wells County Public Library Cemetery Index, in Indiana per 1900 census.
\(^{140}\) *Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941 Index to Marriage Record 1837 -- 1920 Inclusive Vol , W. P. A. Book C-6, Page 5. Ancestry.com*
\(^{142}\) A last name of Swihart, presumably a married name, was initially filled in, but blackened out in Maud’s column.
\(^{143}\) *Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941 Index to Marriage Record 1837 -- 1920 W. P. A. Book C-10 Page 251. Ancestry.com.*
\(^{144}\) http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/cemetery/
\(^{145}\) Ibid.
\(^{146}\) Carpenter (1898) p. 527.
\(^{147}\) http://genealogy.wellscolibrary.org/obits. Death date is date obituary was printed in the *Ossian Journal*. 

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Charles A. Carpenter (Mar 2, 1863, Ossian, IN to Mar 28, 1928, Fort Wayne, IN\textsuperscript{149}) was blind from birth and was educated at the Fryburgh Institution for the blind at Indianapolis, IN. On Jul 03, 1895\textsuperscript{150} he married Maggie H. Carpenter in Fairfield, Tippecanoe County, IN, where they were living in the 1900 census. His occupation was teacher. He taught at blind institutions and was known as “Blind Charley” according to family lore.

In 1908 there was a huge fire in Ossian that severely damaged or destroyed fifteen businesses in the downtown business district, which included one of Charles’. The headlines of the local Evening News paper (Wednesday May 27 edition) were spread across the front page about the fire the previous day:

$50,000 FIRE LOSS AT TOWN OF OSSIAN

Fire of Unknown Origin, Destroyed One Third of Business Section of The Town.

INSURANCE WON’T HALF COVER LOSS

A “Mr. Hatfield thought that mice and matches might possibly be responsible for starting the blaze and another theory was spontaneous combustion.” The mention of Charles in the article was:

Charles Carpenter, owner of Commercial School, loss placed at $1,600 and insurance was only $500....

School Will Resume. C.A. Carpenter, of the Business College, authorized the statement that his college will resume just as soon as he can secure a new location...

C.A. Carpenter saved three typewriters from his rooms, but lost most of the rest of his outfit.\textsuperscript{151}

About a week later there was a full article on the plans to rebuild the school:

Ossian Commercial School

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C.A. Carpenter-Announces It Will Be Bigger and Better Than Ever

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The Ossian Commercial college, which was completely destroyed by the fire of last Tuesday night is perfecting arrangements to reopen within the next few weeks. Temporary quarters have been secured for the school and the students will continue to flock in during the summer months. In the fall the College will occupy the entire second floor of the new Elzey block which will be constructed on the site of the old Hatfield store. When the College gets into its new quarters it will be better than ever for the business in hand. The demand on the college is such that it could not think of disbanding and Mr. Carpenter has perfected arrangements by which his school will become the leading institution of its kind in the state. The school is backed up by the Pennsylvania Railroad company and the officials of the Chicago & Erie Companies are lending help to the reestablishing of the school with a view of putting it in the front ranks of commercial schools in Indiana.

\textsuperscript{150} Indiana Marriages, 1780-1992, familysearch.com.
\textsuperscript{151} Evening News, Wednesday, May 27, 1908. page 1. From Wells County Public Library, Bluffton Main Library, 200 West Washington St., Bluffto, IN 46714-1954.
On Monday Harry Truesdale, a graduate, was given a place with the Pennsylvania Railroad company.

Miss Lillian Walters, who has been at North Manchester for several weeks' vacation, came to Ossian Monday to see what was left of the Commercial College, where she had made her home for the past year.\textsuperscript{152}

Evidently Charles never did rebuild, for it no longer exists, nor is there any evidence of any college. The fire must have devastated Ossian as today it is one of those "sleepy" towns of the Midwest, with no evidence that it was once booming with hope and growth.

In 1910 they were still living in Ossian with Charles’ mother, Elizabeth. Maggie was six years older than Charles and was the mother of two (one living). No children were living with them so it is assumed they were her children from a previous marriage. Charles could not be found in the 1920 census. However, he married Ellen Mann (b. Oct 1, 1863 daughter of J.J. Barton and Sarah Ann Cecil)\textsuperscript{153} on Feb 26, 1921\textsuperscript{154} in Wells County.

Charles died in 1928 and is buried in the Oaklawn Cemetery in Ossian, IN (Maggie/Ellen are not). His obituary from the \textit{Evening Banner} reads as follows:

\textbf{Chas. A. Carpenter dies at Ft. Wayne}

\textit{"BLIND CHARLEY" AS HE WAS KNOWN IS A FORMER OSSIAN RESIDENT}

Fort Wayne, Ind., March 29—A familiar figure was missing from the intersection of Calhoun and Berry streets today. "Blind Charlie" is gone.

Charles A. Carpenter, known to hundreds of patrons of his news stand at the busy downtown corner as "Blind Charlie," died suddenly at 2:30 o’clock Wednesday morning.

While sitting in a chair at his home at 2306 Gray Street, the blind news vendor suddenly fell to the floor. He was dead when his wife reached him. A heart attack caused his death.

"Blind Charlie" was 65 years old. He came to Fort Wayne from Kokomo five years ago and had conducted the news stand at Calhoun and Berry Streets since that time. He was well known to thousands who passed his stand each day.

He is survived by his widow, Ellen; two brothers, Albert, of this city, and Walter of Kansas City, MO, and one sister, Mrs. James Kline, Ossian.

Mr. Carpenter at one time conducted the Ossian Journal at Ossian. He was a teacher in a business college at Lafayette and afterwards conducted a business college at Frankfort. He was born in Wells County, near Ossian, March 2, 1863.

He was a member of the Grace M.E. church, at Kokomo, where he had lived for about 10 years before coming to Fort Wayne.

His body was taken to the Schone funeral home, where it may be viewed by his friends.

Charles A. Carpenter is a well known former Ossian resident.

\textbf{Ellen}

Sometime prior to 1850, Ellen married William Van Alstine (in Fort Wayne according to her obituary), as they were listed as a couple in Newell’s household in that census, with William’s occupation given as a laborer, age 25. As mentioned above, her obituary said she had moved to Fort Wayne in 1844 where William was from and where they were married.

\textsuperscript{152} \textit{Evening News}, Thursday Jun 4, 1908 p. 1, col 5. Wells County Public Library.

\textsuperscript{153} Indiana Marriages, 1811-1959, familysearch.org

\textsuperscript{154} Familysearch.com; Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959. She was born 01 Oct 1863 per the marriage record.
But she and William were in LaGrange in 1850 living with Newell, I presume to help take care of their parents. If the birthplace of their son Frank is correct in his obituary, then Ellen and William had moved back to Fort Wayne by February 1854.

**Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana**

Four of the Cothrell children eventually settled in Fort Wayne: Jared, Newell, Moses and Ellen.

**Jared**

There is no evidence that Jared ever lived in LaGrange, but there is plenty of evidence that he lived in Fort Wayne for the rest of his life after moving there. As mentioned earlier, Jared worked on the Miami and Erie Canal when he lived in Providence in 1850. The Wabash and Erie Canal from Fort Wayne intersected the Miami and Erie Canal at Junction, Ohio.

The following is his entire obituary, which is full of information about him:

*Fort Wayne Daily Gazette*
Tuesday April 12, 1887 Page 4

**Death of an Old Citizen**

Last night about 10 o'clock Jared Cothrell died at his home, No. 58 Nelson Street, at the age of 75 years. Mr. Cothrell was one of our oldest citizens, having come here in 1837. He was a contractor on the Wabash & Erie Canal, and helped to build the Pittsburg, Grand Rapids, Richmond and Saginaw railroads. He ran the Mad Anthony restaurant and saloon on East Columbia Street, near Thieme's clothing store, for a number of years. During the war he operated a truck line between Camp Allen and the city. He had been an invalid for about twelve years. Mr. Cothrell leaves a wife, four daughters and four sons. The children are: Mrs. H.R. Goddard of Hay Springs, Neb.; Mrs. J.E. Noble and Misses Etta A. and Edith M. Cothrell, the latter teachers in our public schools; A.J., Clinton, Will and Al, the latter now working in the Pittsburg yards at Chicago.

It states that “He was a contractor on the Wabash & Erie Canal,” so it is presumed he continued his canal work down through to Fort Wayne, the reason he ended up there. Although the Wabash and Erie Canal was finished by the time he arrived, canals required a lot of upkeep.

As mentioned in the Providence section, Jared ran a hotel/boarding house in 1840 with 22 residents; and his occupation in 1850 in Fort Wayne was hotel keeper -- with eleven hotel residents plus five members of the Cothrell family. Since there was a tailor next door and another hotel two doors down, they were probably living in the downtown area. The canal through Fort Wayne was still going strong in 1850 as there were three boatmen on the same census page, one of them living in Jared’s hotel.

Jared could very well have been considered of questionable character in his business dealings as he is mentioned more than once in records in less than a favorable light. His name was mentioned in *The Regulators of Northern Indiana*, which was a vigilante committee investigation into

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155 According to an 1860 map of Fort Wayne, the Wabash and Erie Canal followed what is now the railroad.

156 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wabash_and_Erie_Canal#Maumee_River_Section
rescuing our country from the hands of those vampires who were blighting and mildewing the best interests of this portion of our State.

It was said that “Jed Cothrell, who keeps the saloon, deals in counterfeit . . . used to get his money from Bill Hill and Burnam.”

Indeed he was arrested at one point in 1858, allegedly for counterfeiting:

ARREST. – J Cothrell, of this city, was arrested by the Deputy U.S. marshal on Tuesday night, and was taken to Indianapolis for trial. We have not heard the grounds of the arrest, but presume it to be a charge of counterfeiting.

Nothing further was found on the arrest or outcome of the trial. Apparently he didn’t receive a prison sentence because a month later a notice was posted in the paper (The Fort Wayne Sentinel on July 10, 1858) dissolving a partnership in which he had been involved:

Notice of Dissolution
The Copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned is this day, by mutual consent, dissolved, and all claims due to said firm, as those against it, are to be settled with and by Jared Cothrell.

John H. Wehmer
Jared Cothrell

July 9th, 1858

The notice also appeared on the 17th of July. There was no indication of the type of partnership, but one has to wonder if it was related to the counterfeiting arrest just one month prior, and that Mr. Wehmer didn’t want anything to do with Jared.

Jared was still making waves in Fort Wayne seventeen years later (1875) when he was taken to court over some issue and lost:

_Fort Wayne Sentinel_
Dec 15, 1875

In the circuit court, the case of Bittinger vs Cothrell resulted in a verdict against Jared Cothrell for $225, and in favor of Ruthetta Cothrell.

Bittinger may have been his next door neighbor as a J.R. Bittinger, Lawyer was listed right after the Cothrell household in the 1880 census. Perhaps Jared had argued with a lawyer and lost. The mysterious part is “in favor of Ruthetta Cothrell.” I assume this was his wife or daughter and what did she have to do with the case? Then another judgment was later made against Jared as seen in a small mention in the June 25, 1879 edition of _The Fort Wayne Weekly Sentinel_:  

George Jacobs vs Jared Cothrell et. al., judgment on verdict;

It is unknown what the judgment was about or how much it was, but it was clear indication that Jared was still a contentious man in Fort Wayne.

In the 1860 census (where he is listed as Jande Catherle), Jared was still a saloon keeper, living with his family. It wasn’t clear whether they lived in a separate home or above the saloon, but since the man next door was also a saloon keeper, in a separate building, they

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159 Ancestry.com
160 Ancestry.com
were probably living above their place of business. This was the “Mad Anthony restaurant and saloon” downtown on East Columbia Street, near Thieme’s clothing store” mentioned in his obit. The real estate value of the place was $3000 and personal estate was $100 (although the number was difficult to read).

Jared’s Mad Anthony Saloon was listed in the *The Fort Wayne City & Business Directory and City Guide for 1860-61*.

That block (Columbia Street between Clinton and Barr) no longer exists.

Although Jared did follow the law by paying the feds taxes for a liquor license for his saloon according to the record found for 1864:


> Cothrell, J, Fort Wayne, Retail Liquor Dealer

as well as 1863 and 1865.

Jared was a “colorful” character to say the least, and a savvy one at that. He was always on the look-out for something that would entice and interest his patrons at his saloon, which is seen in an 1858 newspaper article on a “brown” eagle which had been killed:

> Mr. Dave Lansford, of this city, shot a splendid brown Eagle at the Reservoir on Saturday last. His wings from tip to tip measure 7 feet 5 inches.... Jed Cothrell has got the bird and had it stuffed and placed in a conspicuous place in his saloon, to which it will prove an attractive ornament, well worth a visit and inspection. Such birds are not often seen in this region.

Then in the article “Indian Elm and the Big Rifle,” C.W. Evers connected Jared and his saloon with a huge rifle which was supposedly used to defeat the Indians at the siege of Fort Meigs in 1813:

> In 1865 Jared Cothrell, who kept the Mad Anthony saloon at Fort Wayne, had it standing back of his bar. The muzzle reached two-thirds to the ceiling, and its bore would nearly admit a broom handle. Its shoulder breech was cushioned with soft leather and green baize cloth. It was a prodigious gun, and not many men would care to fire it under a full charge of powder and ball.

Just think of the stories he must have told about that eagle and big gun in his saloon. Jared was proud of his saloon, as evidenced by an ad he placed in the *Dawson’s Daily Times* in 1860:

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163 In comparing an old Fort Wayne map to a modern map, it looks like Mad Anthony’s was located on what is now S. Barr St., which was originally Columbia St., the area now occupied by government buildings, according to maps.google.com.


167 Jan 11, 1860, p. 3.
Jared and his family were living in the 1st ward of the city in the 1870 census (as Gerard Cathrill in Ancestry.com search), so it is assumed that they still lived near the heart of town. His occupation was given as a railroad grader (probably on one of the railroads mentioned in his obit: Pittsburg, Grand Rapids, Richmond and Saginaw\(^{168}\)). Nothing is known of what happened to Jared’s Mad Anthony Saloon -- probably torn down in an urban renewal project to build the current government buildings. Besides living with his wife and six of his children, there was also a Jacob Miller (occupation clerk), his wife and infant daughter living in the same household, as well as their domestic servant, Mary Obinger age 20. There is no indication as to the relationship of the Miller family to the Cothrells, if any.

His address in the 1880 census was 58 Nelson St.\(^ {169}\) From the occupations of the others around, it was a very nice neighborhood: two lawyers, comb maker, cooper, engineer, confectioner, and carpenter. Jared would have been about 68 at the time, still working as contractor (pre-Social Security days). It was not clear what type of contractor, but it may have well been with building the railroads. Jared died on Apr 11, 1887\(^ {170}\) while he was living on Nelson St.

In contrast to Jared, his wife Ruthette was remembered as an outstanding citizen of Fort Wayne: “She was a woman of Christian characteristics and enjoyed a wide circle of friends who loved her for her many kind acts.” Her full obituary reads:

*The Fort Wayne Sentinel*\(^ {171}\)
November 18, 1901

Mrs Ruthette Douglass Cothrell, widow of the late Jared Cothrell and a resident of Fort Wayne for fifty-seven years, died at her home, 65 Douglas Avenue, Sunday morning. Mrs. Cothrell was born at Clayton, Jefferson County, New York, Jan. 14, 1821, and in 1843 moved to Maumee, O. Here she was married to Jared Cothrell and soon after the couple moved to Fort Wayne, making the journey by the old canal. Fourteen years ago her husband died. She was a woman of Christian characteristics and enjoyed a wide circle of friends who loved her for her many kind acts.

She was a devout member of the First Baptist church and one of its most energetic workers.


The funeral will take place Tuesday afternoon at 2 o’clock and will be private.

She had become a member of the First Baptist Church in May of 1850,\(^ {172}\) so she was active for over fifty years in her church. According to Douglas\(^ {173}\) she was born in Leyden, NY on

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\(^{168}\) See [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pittsburgh,_Fort_Wayne_and_Chicago_Railway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pittsburgh,_Fort_Wayne_and_Chicago_Railway)

\(^{169}\) The 1860 map of Fort Wayne doesn’t even show Nelson St. Evidently it was a new subdivision built between 1860 and 1880. See maps at [http://www.genealogycenter.info/search_1860maps.php](http://www.genealogycenter.info/search_1860maps.php).

\(^{170}\) Fort Wayne – Allen County Dept. Of Health Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Certificate of Death. Cause of death: Dropsy, age 75.

\(^{171}\) Ancestry.com.
January 11, 1821. Both Jared and Ruthette are buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne, Section B, Lot E½ 68.\textsuperscript{174}

The only child of Jared and his first wife, Jane Nearing, and raised by his second wife Ruthette Douglas, was

**Andrew Jackson Cothrell** (June 1841, Providence, OH to Feb 25, 1902, Fort Wayne, IN)\textsuperscript{175} Although Andrew was a step-son of Ruthette, he was no doubt close to her as he remained with her after his father died, and lived only four months after his step-mother. In the 1860 he was living in the city of Fort Wayne with his parents, and his occupation was listed as farmer. Since there is a strong possibility the family lived downtown, either they had a large lot nearby to grow food, or else he worked a nearby farm, maybe one he or Jared owned since he wasn’t listed a farm laborer. He had some schooling as that census showed he had attended school within the year and a later census indicated that he could read and write.

In 1870 his occupation was given as railroad grader, the same as his father. By 1880 Andrew was working as a teamster (he drove a team of horses, pulling a wagon much like semi-rigs today). After his father died, he and Ruthette, as well as other members of the family (his brother Jared Clinton, sister Julia and her two children) moved to 65 Douglas Ave near Webster Ave (which no longer exists, but was a fairly new home at the time) where they were living in 1900 at the time of the census. The home was being rented, and Andrew was no longer working (no occupation given), as his health was declining since he passed away less than two years later on February 25, 1902:

Andrew J. Cothrell died Tuesday evening at his home, 65 Douglas Avenue, at the age of fifty-nine years. Mr. Cothrell was born at Providence, Ohio, but came to Fort Wayne at an early age and was well known. During the Civil War he served gallantly as a member of the Eleventh Indiana battery in the ranks of which were so many Fort Wayne veterans. Mr. Cothrell never married. He had been in feeble health for many years. Funeral services will be held from the residence Thursday afternoon at 1:30, Rev. J. N. Field officiating.\textsuperscript{176}

Andrew Jackson Cothrell is buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Section B Lot 68.\textsuperscript{177}

The children of Jared and his second wife Ruthette Douglas are:

**Fanny Cordelia Cothrell** (Aug 21, 1847 Fort Wayne, IN to Dec 11, 1932, Cottage Grove, OR\textsuperscript{178}) married Harrison Godard\textsuperscript{179} on Dec 25, 1865 (Indiana) and they were living in Uniontown, Iowa in 1878.\textsuperscript{180} By 1880, Harry and Fanny were living in Hazel Green Twp, Delaware County, Iowa, where his occupation was listed as farmer in the census. According to Douglas (1879), their children were Herschel Leo (Apr 17, 1869) and Grace A. (Oct 2, 1871), born in Indiana according to the 1880 census, and Mabel (Feb 21, 1875) and Ruth Pearl (or Perl) (Mar 13, 1878),\textsuperscript{181} who was born after they

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{172} Valley of the upper Maumee River: with historical account of Allen County and the city of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Vol. II. The city of Fort Wayne Brant & Fuller: Madison, Wis. 1889. pg 2_303. Ancestry.com.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{173} Douglas, Charles Henry James. A collection of family records, with biographical sketches, and other memoranda of various families and individuals bearing the name Douglas, or allied to families of that name. Providence: E.L. Freeman & Co. Publishers. 1879. p. 263. Ancestry.com.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{174} Allen County, Indiana Death Index, 1870s-1920s, Book CH-3 Page 39 via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{175} Birthplace and death information from obituary: The Fort Wayne Evening Sentinel, February 26, 1902. Birth date from 1900 U.S. census.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{176} The Fort Wayne Evening Sentinel. February 26, 1902. Ancestry.com.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{177} Allen County, Indiana Death Index, 1870s-1920s, Book CH-3 Page 48 via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{178} Godard Family Tree. Ancestry.com.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{179} Born about 1841 in Ohio, per 1870 census.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{180} Fanny’s middle name, date of birth and marriage, husband’s name and residency in 1878 from Douglas, 1879.}

\footnotesize{\textsuperscript{181} Children of Fanny and their birth dates named by Douglas (1879).}
moved to Iowa. In 1900 Fanny and her family were living in Ainsworth, Nebraska and added another Jackson F. (Nov 1886-1910 census). By 1910 they had moved to Cottage Grove, Oregon, where they were living in 1920 and 1930. In the latter census they had a servant, Vonda Hubbard, age 19 living with them. According to the Goddard family tree (Ancestry.com), Fanny passed away on Dec 11, 1932 and her Harrison five days later on Dec 16th both in Cottage Grove.

**Levi Lewis Cothrell** (Aug 9, 1849 Fort Wayne, IN\(^{182}\) to Nov 7, 1872 Fort Wayne, IN) In the 1870 census, a "Levy L. Cothrell," born in Indiana in 1849 was living in Elizabethtown, KY in the Rowell household, working in the (railroad) express office. Since no other record was found in the U.S. census in that that year (or even later) and it fits his profile, this is clearly Levi. In addition, another gentleman living in the household, George Saunders was a clerk in the railroad office, and the head of the household, C. F. Rowell, was also possibly employed by the railroad as an agent (hard to read occupation in the census). Levi was only 23 when he died and is buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Section B, Lot 68.\(^{183}\)

**Julia Etta Cothrell** (Apr 11, 1852 Fort Wayne, IN\(^{184}\) to Feb 19, 1939 Waynedale, IN) married John Noble on Apr 23, 1874 in Fort Wayne.\(^{185}\) There is no record of them in the 1880 census, but by 1900, Julia was back in Fort Wayne, living with her family (with her brother Jared as the head of the family), along with her two children, Edith (Dec 21, 1876). Julia was living in Waynedale when she died on Feb 19, 1939 and is buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Section B Lot 68.\(^{186}\) Nothing further was found on her (presumed) ex-husband.

**William Douglas Cothrell** (Jan 17, 1854, Fort Wayne, IN to Apr 19, 1890, Fort Wayne, IN)\(^{187}\) was also known as "Billy" (Will in his father's obit) and W.D. In 1878, Douglas (1879) listed his occupation and residence as P & W Railroad, Peoria, IL.

The 1872-1882 Marion County Indiana Marriages\(^{188}\) show a William D. Cothrell married a Martha J Huston on Jun 3, 1874. There is a possibility (very slim) that there are two William D. Cothrells, but because William had a very tumultuous life, I’m betting it’s the same man. Assumed married to (or living with) Florence in Illinois, he moved to Indianapolis sometime prior to 1880.

By 1880 he and Florence were living in Indianapolis, IN on E. Ohio Street along with their son Henry (1873) who was born in Illinois. It would seem that William met Florence while in Peoria as Illinois is also listed as her place of birth (1856). William was working as a R.R. switchman in the census. By 1882 he was back in Fort Wayne, apparently leaving Florence behind (no further record found of her and Henry), and getting in trouble:

> A switchman named Cothrell was arrested last night, by Officer Tom Doyle, for raising a disturbance at Fitzgerald’s saloon, on Clinton street.\(^{190}\)

\(^{182}\) Douglas (1879).

\(^{183}\) Allen County, Indiana Death Index, 1870s-1920s, Book SCH-1 Page 26 via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.

\(^{184}\) Douglas (1879).

\(^{185}\) Julia’s birth and marriage information from Douglas (1879).

\(^{186}\) There was also another son, Alfred as listed in *The Longstreth Family Records*, Revised by Agnes Longstreth Taylor. Press of Ferris & Leacy, 1909: Philadelphia. p. 431.

\(^{187}\) *Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site. Also the death date is from this site.

\(^{188}\) *Allen County, Indiana Death Index, 1870s-1920s*, Book SCH-1 Page 8 via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.

\(^{189}\) Ancestry.com.

\(^{190}\) *Fort Wayne Daily Gazette*. Jul 13, 1882. Ancestry.com. His father’s Mad Anthony saloon was near Clinton Street.
Although his cousin Albert also had run-ins with alcohol and the law, I believe this was William as Albert was never a switchman, but William was. Then William married Lillie Decker on Apr 21, 1883, and on Nov 20, 1886 he married Sarah B. Rice, both in Fort Wayne. It is unknown whether the women divorced him, but presumably they did.

William was a heavy gambler (probably the reason for the divorces), as evidenced by an article in *The Fort Wayne Daily Gazette* on March 4, 1884 (pg. 6):

**The Police Descend on the “Occidental” Club Rooms—Ten Victims of Faro Arrested**

Last night at 12:30, the police raided the “Occidental” club rooms, where a good game of faro [Faro is an old card game played between a banker and several players winning or losing according to the cards turned up matching those already exposed or not.] was being dealt. Ten persons, mostly professionals, were arrested … Wm Cothrell ….

The officers had a hard time to get in. Somebody had given the warning cry, and the large oaken door was locked and heavily armed.

[Officers] however, broke in the door, the players endeavoring to escape from the windows. They hustled so hard to get away that a section of the ceiling over the billiard tables below gave way and was badly damaged. Of late the house had not been doing a big business and the game was slack.

Last night, however, there was not much caution, and the coppers got there.

By 1890, William had married again (or was living with as man and wife), to a Belle, and this time, although he had tried the “straight and narrow” he was unable to overcome the gambling habit and committed suicide:

**“Billy” Cothrell Deliberately Suicides In the Presence of his Wife and Mother**

William D. Cothrell committed suicide last Saturday evening by cutting his throat, and severing the jugular vein with a razor.

Cothrell had of late been employed as a switchman in the yards of the Wabash railroad in this city. Some years ago he was divorced from his wife, but married soon after the lady who now mourns his death. At that time he reformed and joined the Baptist church to redeem the recklessness of his early manhood and he was much respected and had many friends. Quite recently he was promoted from his old position because of his earnest manhood and faithfulness.

Last Friday he drew his monthly pay. On Saturday an evil tempter attracted him to a gambling house, his old haunt. He sat down and lost his entire earnings. As he laid down a ten-dollar bill, the last of all he had, he remarked in a calm, though desperate tone, “Win or die,” – and he lost.

As he arose from the table his face was haggard as death itself. He went directly to the Wabash freight office, thence to his home, no. 84 Brackenridge Street, where he pleasantly addressed Mrs. C. Boseker and another lady, with whom his wife was chatting in a neighborly way in front of the house.

As he passed around to the kitchen, Mrs. Cothrell remarked that she must get supper. “Never mind Belle,” said Cothrell to his wife, “I am going to kill myself now;” and as he entered the kitchen he unsheathed a razor and stepping before a mirror, he drew the instrument across the left side of his neck. With blood gushing from the wound made, he stepped to the middle of

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the room, and with remarkable coolness, the apparently crazed man severed the right jugular vein and fell dead in a pool of his own blood. Cothrell’s wife and aged mother were witnesses to the fearful deed. The funeral will occur tomorrow morning, at 10 o’clock, from the Baptist church. Friends of the family are invited to attend.¹⁹⁴

That same day there was another article about the evils of gambling and a remark on William’s suicide:

William Cothrell took his own life because the month’s wages which he had drawn but a few hours before had been lost at the gaming table. He had traits of character which had won him friends among those with whom he mingled and which, with his ability to earn a livelihood, might have made life a happy one to himself and his family, but he sacrificed all and became a suicide.¹⁹⁵

William is buried in the Fort Wayne Lindenwood Cemetery, Section B Lot 68.¹⁹⁶

Allen Buchanan Cothrell (Jun 12, 1856, Fort Wayne, IN to ?)¹⁹⁷ In 1878 Allen was a brakeman on the P & W railroad (Douglas 1879), presumably in Peoria, where his brother William was also working in 1878. The 1880 census shows him living in a hotel in Peoria, IL, along with his wife, Catherine, age 20. His occupation was again given as brakeman.

In 1884-85 there was an Albert B. Cothrell, (working on the railroad) living at 312 Persimmon in Peoria, IL according to Gould’s Peoria City Directory.¹⁹⁸ But it was Allen (and not his cousin Albert who was clearly living in Fort Wayne at the time) as Allen B. Cothrell was later listed in the 1892 City Directory for Peoria, living at 134 Irving, and working as a switchman on the C.R.I. & P. railroad.¹⁹⁹

Allen was mentioned in his father’s obit in 1887 as working in the Pittsburg yard in Chicago, IL. It was probably an error. In the 1900 census he was listed as a day laborer in Peoria, a job would have paid much less than switchman. His wife’s name this time was Clara, but since they indicated they had been married 20 years, I believe it is the same person as Catherine in 1880. The census location was Peoria City, which is probably the same as Peoria proper. Ruth was not with Allen’s family in 1900 (still in Peoria) and it is assumed she had married and left the household by then. They were living at 609 Lincoln Av.²⁰⁰

In the 1910 census, the family was living at 17B Garden St. in Peoria, but without Allen. No record has been found of what happened to him. The children of Allen and Clara were Clinton Allen (Nov 1891), Harry (Dec 1893), and Ruth E. (Oct 1895).²⁰¹ According to the Illinois death index on the state web site,²⁰² Clara died on Dec 27, 1942, Clinton Allen on Dec 25, 1949, and Harry W. on Feb 9, 1926 (Allen himself was not listed).

Jared Clinton Cothrell (Nov 22, 1858, Fort Wayne, IN to Mar 22, 1913, Fort Wayne, IN)²⁰³ was also known as J.C. Jared was living with his parents in 1880, working as a brakeman on the railroad. The following year he was working on a lathe for N. G. Olds &

¹⁹⁵ Ibid, p. 2
¹⁹⁶ Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
¹⁹⁷ Birth date and full name from Douglas (1879).
²⁰¹ Names and birth dates of children from the 1900 census.
²⁰² http://www.ilsos.gov/GenealogyMWeb/idphdeathsrch.html
²⁰³ Birth date and full name from Douglas (1879).
Son when the fingers of his right hand were crushed.204 At a time when there was no workman’s compensation, Jared left that job took a position as fireman on the Pittsburgh road right afterwards.205 In 1900 he was the head of the household with his mother, his brother Andrew, his sister Julia, and her two children. At some point he began traveling to visit in Michigan,206 where he met and married Della May Craig207 in 1900, according to the marriage record for his son and the 1910 census (listed as married for 10 years). He and his wife settled in Kalamazoo, MI where his occupation was railroad engineer. They had at least one son Harold D. who was born in Fort Wayne, 10 May 10, 1902 according to his Nov 20, 1928 marriage license to Dorothy Swift (b. 22 Nov 1901)208. Jared died in Kalamazoo and is buried in the Fort Wayne Lindenwood Cemetery in Section B Lot B.209 No death information was found on Della.

**Ruthette Annie Cothrell** (Oct 5, 1860 to June 7, 1941, Fort Wayne)210 Also known as Ruthetta or just Etta, she was still in school in the 1880 census (living with her parents) at the age of 19, probably getting additional education as she is listed as a primary school teacher at the Jefferson School in Fort Wayne in 1884,211 in a era where teachers didn’t have much education beyond high school and probably only had to pass a certification test. In 1890 Ruthette and her sister Edith were both mentioned as school teachers in a local newspaper article,212 as well as in their father’s obituary.

Ruthette had a close call with death at the age of 24 because of a serious illness:

*The Daily Gazette*213

Nov 13, 1884, p. 5

Miss Etta Cothrell, of Nelson Street, is seriously ill with typhoid fever at her home. Fears are entertained that she may not recover.

She did recover and twelve years later married Ira Herbert Shorey214 on Oct 17, 1896.215 In 1900 she was living with her husband in Fort Wayne, where they remained for the rest of their lives. Ira’s occupation was a clerk in the railroad office at that time. By 1910 he had obtained a job as a printer, no doubt with his brother-in-law Cyrus (see the next entry). Ira passed away on Dec 3, 1918216, so in 1920 Ruthette was a widow, listed as the head of household living with Roy, Edith, and Marshall Johns, who were her niece and her husband and son.217 By 1930 Ruthette was living with female lodger, for companionship and income. Ruthette died on June 7, 1941 and was buried with her husband in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Section R Lot 214. No children were ever mentioned.
Edith May Cothrell (Mar 31, 1863, Fort Wayne, IN to Jan 6, 1937, Fort Wayne, IN) As mentioned in her sister Ruthette’s section, Edith was a school teacher, probably only until she married Cyrus J. Lose\textsuperscript{218} on Sep 12, 1893\textsuperscript{219} in Fort Wayne. In 1900 Cyrus was a foreman in a printing house and by then they had a son Ralph whose birth was an announcement in the Fort Wayne Weekly Gazette on May 21, 1896\textsuperscript{220}. In the 1910 census Cyrus was still working as a printer and they had added a daughter, Kathryn, to their household in 1903. In both the 1920 and 1930 censuses, the family was living on Oakdale Dr. in Fort Wayne, with Cyrus still in the printing business, and was the proprietor in 1930. Edith died on Jan 6, 1937 and Cyrus four years later on Aug 31, 1941. Both are buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Section D, Lot 129.\textsuperscript{221}

Newell

Newell returned to Fort Wayne by 1852 as records indicate he married Julia Ann Geisler on Mar 21, 1852 in Fort Wayne, IN.\textsuperscript{222} The couple and their three sons (Charles, Erastus and Oliver) were living in Wayne Township in Fort Wayne in the 1860 census (their name is spelled Cotherdl in Ancestry.com search), with a personal estate value of $1500 – the most of any on the census page. Newell’s occupation was “Livery Stable” because he and his brother-in-law -- his sister Ellen’s husband William VanAlstine -- were in business together as proprietors of the VanAlstine and Cothrell livery stable, for which they ran ads every day in Dawson’s Fort Wayne Daily Times from Jan 6, 1860 to Jan 26, 1861\textsuperscript{223}:

**LIVERY STABLE.**
**VANALSTINE & COTHERrell,**
**PROPRIETORS.**

*STABLE on Barr Street, opposite the Hede kin House. Buggies, Horses and Carriages on hand at all times.*
*Fort Wayne, Jan. 6th ’60. dly*

Barr Street was downtown Fort Wayne, not too far from Jared’s Mad Anthony Saloon. Newell and William had lived in the same home in LaGrange and evidently formed a business partnership after they moved to Fort Wayne.

Either the business was struggling or they decided to expand because on Oct 28, 1862 they borrowed money as evidenced by the receipts found in the Allen County records for Newell’s estate:

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{receipt.png}
\caption{Receipt from Newell’s estate, Oct 28, 1862.}
\end{figure}

\begin{footnotes}
\item[218] Born Feb 1861, per 1900 census.
\item[221] Birth information for Edith from Douglas (1879). Death and burial info for both from Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
\item[222] Allen County Indiana Clerk of the Courts, 715 S. Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.
\item[223] Ancestry.com.
\end{footnotes}
They started making payments right away
1862 Nov 3 rd $65
1862 Dec 26 $16.58 B. D. Angell
1863 Jan 1 $3 B. D. Angell

They didn’t make any payments in February or March, then in April Newell died (Apr 1, 1863), leaving Julia a widow with three fatherless children:

_Dawson’s Daily Times_225
Fort Wayne, IN
2 Apr 1863

**COTHRELL**—In this city, April 1st, 1863, from affection of the liver and kidneys, NEWELL COTHRELL, aged 48 years.

Funeral from the late residence of the deceased, tomorrow (Friday) at two o’clock.

He was buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne on April 3 in Section F, Lot 69.226

Evidently William Van Alstine -- his partner -- attempted to keep the business (and loan payments) going as he made a payment on May 1st in the amount of $55.75, just one month after Newell’s death, as well in July, but no more the rest of 1863. As for 1864 things get more complicated as Mr. Owen Angell (the O in the first receipt) died in January, then William made a payment on each loan on April 11 that year in the amounts of $12.25 and $24.09.

Then no more payments were made and the loans remained outstanding. Newell had died intestate (without a will) and finally in April of 1866 Julia signed an affidavit with the Allen County Probate court stating as such. She estimated that he left her a personal estate of approximately three thousand dollars and assigned attorney Ira Rupert as administrator of his estate.

In April of 1869, B.D. Angell (the other partner in the loan) went to court, declaring that William had declared bankruptcy and that a total of $128.17 was still due on the loans. That June, Ira Rupert, the attorney for Julia, took an inventory of the furniture from Newell’s estate and estimated the value at $84.37, which was property of Julia’s as his widow. Mr. Rupert also stated the following:

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224 Index,Bk. 1 Pg. 492.
226 *Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
At the time of my appointment as administrator of the Estate of Newell Cothrell deceased, which was nearly three and a half years after said Cothrell’s death I found there had not been any letters of administration issued—I also found that before and after at the Time of decedents death he was a partner in the livery stable business with William Vanalstine who as the survivors of the firm have the Settling of the business of the firm And that the heirs at law of the decedent have agreed with said Wm Vanalstine soon after the decedents death that the firm and business of said firm should continue for their use and interest.

In the 1870 census, Julia (listed as Ann Cathrol) and her sons (where the name of the youngest son was given as Alvin) were living in Fort Wayne, with Charles working at age 16 in a spoke factory and with two boarders, William Shmith [sic] (worked in a carriage shop) and Ms Carry King (seamstress), evidently their only sources of income as Julia was a house keeper at the age of 37. Since there was no real estate value stated, it is assumed they were renting, but evidently in a nice neighborhood as two doors down, there was a Mr. Morgan French who owned a woolen mill and his home was worth $10,000, and he had a personal estate of $20,000 – a lot of money in 1870.

By 1880, Charles had left home and Julia (aka Anna in the census) was still the head of the household living with her two other sons, and a boarder, Monroe Johnson who worked on the railroad as a conductor.

In 1900 Julia was living with her son Erastus in Evansville (Adams Ave, block C) in southern Indiana. The census indicated that Julia was born in Germany in Feb 1832 and came to the US in 1834 at the age of two. This census was taken on June 2-4. However, by June 5, Erastus, along with his wife and children, had moved to Indianapolis and was (temporarily) living in Hotel Charlemont, but without Julia.

By 1910 Julia had followed the family to Indianapolis (North Meridian St.), IN where she died on Aug 19, 1915 at the age of 83. She was buried in Section F Lot 69 in the Lindenwood Cemetery with her husband Newell and sons Charles and Alvin.**

**Former Fort Wayne Lady Passes Away**

**Mrs. Julia Ann Cothrell Dies at Indianapolis at Age of 83**

Mrs. Julia Ann Cothrell, formerly of Fort Wayne and widow of Newell Cothrell, who was a business man of this city for many years, died Wednesday afternoon at her home in Indianapolis at the advanced age of 83 years. Mrs. Cothrell was born in Germany, May 18, 1832, but came to this country and settled with her parents in Allen County when she was very young.

Shortly after her marriage to Mr. Cothrell she moved to this city, where she resided until 1880, when her son, E. L. Cothrell, who at that time was circulation manager for the Fort Wayne Sentinel, accepted a position with the Kansas City Star and moved to that city, and took his mother with him.

Mrs. Cothrell was very well known and her many friends and acquaintances will be grieved to learn of her death. She was a devoted member of the First Presbyterian church and attended services very regularly.

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227 Death and burial info from *Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.

The remains will be brought to this city Friday morning at 11:15 o’clock via the L. E. & W. Railway and will be taken to the Peltier parlors. Funeral services Friday afternoon at 2 o’clock at the chapel at Lindenwood.

The children of Newell Cothrell and Julia Geisler were:

**Charles Cothrell** (1854, Fort Wayne, IN to April 5, 1901 Fort Wayne, IN)\(^{229}\) According to the records,\(^{230}\) Charles married Reid Swain (b. Feb 1856 per 1900 census) on Jan 28, 1875 in Allen County, IN.\(^{231}\) Five years later in 1880 he was living on Lafayette St. in Fort Wayne with a wife named Emma, age 23, a daughter also named Emma, age 4, and son Ally who had been born in January (possibly named after Charles’ brother). Living just around the corner on Berry St. was his cousin Seth Dix. Charles’ occupation was switchman on the railroad.

In the 1881-82 Fort Wayne City Directory\(^{232}\) Charles was living at 132 Lafayette, Fort Wayne, working as a switchman on the P,F W & C railroad. He was still in the same location, working as a switchman for the Pennsylvania railroad company per the 1885-1886 and 1887-1888 directories.\(^{233}\)

Then he moved: in 1889 Charles was at 32 Charles Street, same occupation.\(^{234}\) However, it seems there was a problem in his marriage as in the same directory it also lists Ready Cothrell (wid Charles) at their old address on 132 Lafayette. Evidently they had separated/divorced and either she considered him dead or someone misunderstood the reason she was living alone. Although she was listed as Reid on her marriage record and Emma in the census 5 years later, this was the same woman, as in 1900 she had married a Henry Stentz, and her given name was “Raidy”, with her son (his step-son) Allie living in the household on Washington Street in Fort Wayne.

Divorced and alone, Charles may have decided to make a go of it in Chicago with his brother,\(^{235}\) as there is a Charles Cothrell in the All Chicago Voter Registration, 1892,\(^{236}\) indicating he was born in Indiana and had lived in the state for two years. But by 1898 he was once again living in Fort Wayne, boarding at Monroe Johnston’s home on the corner of Sherman and W. 4th Street.\(^{237}\) Back in 1880 Mr. Monroe lived as a boarder with the family and evidently remained a family friend. Charles was not listed in the 1900 census.

Charles was another Cothrell who had a run-in with the law as shown by this newspaper article which mentioned him in July of 1900:

> This morning shortly before noon ... and Charles Cothrell were arraigned on a charge of policy playing.... The court held that the evidence showed that the men under arrest had not been guilty of playing policy between June 26 and July 12. They were fined late in June and were arrested on a second charge July 12. The police officers were very much vexed over the acquittal.\(^{238}\)

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\(^{229}\) Ancestry.com.  
\(^{231}\) Familysearch.com; Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959 Record Number 1539; GSU Film Number 2111269; Digital GS Number 4168619; Digital Image Number 00725  
\(^{235}\) This assertion is backed up by the fact that his brother, Alvin Cothrell, died in Chicago in October 1892. See *Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.  
\(^{236}\) Ancestry.com.  
\(^{238}\) *The Fort Wayne News Friday Jul 20, 1900, col. 4, p. 3. Ancestry.com.*
At some point his health started to deteriorate according to this article on the society page the following year:

*The Fort Wayne Sentinel*\(^{239}\)  
March 28, 1901  
p. 8

Charles Cothrell is seriously ill in his room on Columbia St.

Charles died a week later on Apr 5, 1901 at the age of 47 and is buried with his parents and brother at Lindenwood Cemetery, Section F Lot 69.\(^{240}\)

**Erastus L. Cothrell** (Jan 23 1857, Fort Wayne, IN to 28 Sep 1934)\(^{241}\) The birth year for Erastus is from the 1870 and 1880 censuses (as his age varied during other dates) which indicated a date of 1857 for his birth year, the same as given on his marriage record. The 1900 census established his birth month as January and the day as the 23\(^{rd}\) according his obituary (see below). Census records are secondary, and as such, sometimes reflect a lot of confusion about a person. According to the 1880 to 1920 censuses, Newell’s father was either born in Indiana, Germany, New York, Connecticut, or Pennsylvania (Erastus was listed twice in 1900).

As Newell’s middle son, Erastus became a successful businessman, starting out working at a newsstand, according to the 1880 census. Soon after he moved to Kansas City, MO, where he married Mary E. McDouglas (born 1864 per 1900 census) on Apr 25, 1882.\(^{242}\) Erastus and Mary had three daughters: Florence (Feb 1883), Helen (Aug 1888), and Margaret (Dec 1899).

He continued to work for the *Kansas City Evening Star* until at least 1888 as a circulator, going into real estate capital investments by that year with a J.S. Whitney.\(^{243}\) From 1897 to 1900 he was living in Evansville, IN, in the real estate business.\(^{244}\)

In June of 1900 Erastus and his family were living in Evansville (with a servant), according to the census. Then the whole family (except his mother) moved to Indianapolis, where the census taker again listed them as living in the Charlemont Hotel, which were obviously temporary quarters until they could get settled. Erastus and Mary remained in Indianapolis for the remainder of their lives (with a servant), according to the 1910-1930 census records (in 1930 he is listed as Catherall).

Erastus’ real estate investments made him a prosperous man and in 1912 sold a tract of 27 acres of land on Pleasant Run Blvd for a subdivision for the amount of $21,000,\(^{245}\) no small amount in those days:

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\(^{239}\) Ancestry.com.  
\(^{240}\) Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.  
\(^{241}\) His obituary was printed Sept 29 and stated he died “yesterday morning.” Cemetery records state Sep 29. See below for both.  
\(^{244}\) *Bennett and Co’s Evansville Directories*, Ancestry.com.  
He and his family were often mentioned the society page of the local newspaper for various social events. Erastus and his wife Mary sailed abroad at least twice, leaving the first time from Havana, Cuba and arriving in New York in February 1911, then arriving in New York on the ship Victoria Luise in March 1913\(^{246}\) (same port of departure).

Erastus died on Sep 29, 1934 and Mary on Apr 2, 1946 and both are buried in the Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis Section 51, Lot 411.\(^{247}\)

His obituary indicated he had reached quite a stature in the city of Indianapolis, taking up two columns in *The Indianapolis Star* on 29 Sep 1934:\(^{248}\)

**E. L. Cothrell, 74,**
**City Builder, Dies**

E. L. Cothrell, 74 years old realtor and builder of hundreds of homes in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Tennessee, died yesterday morning at 10 o’clock in his home, 125 East Fall Creek Boulevard, following an illness of a few days.

Funeral services will be held at 3 o’clock this afternoon in the residence and burial will be in Crown Hill cemetery. Dr. Lewis Brown, rector of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, will officiate. Friends are invited to attend the services at the home, but the burial will be private.

Pall bearers will be Harry Dillehay, Thomas F. Carson, president of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board, Kenneth E. Grinslade, president of the Indianapolis Home Builders’ Association; Jesse A. Shearer, John Powell and Edward A. Kahn.

Mr. Cothrell was allied closely with the growth and development of many sections of Indianapolis since he made his home here in 1900. He was born in Fort Wayne Jan. 23, 1860. His parents were Newell and Julia Cothrell, his mother being a native of Germany. His father died when he was 3 years old.

**Worked on Newspapers**

As a young man, Mr. Cothrell worked in the circulation departments of the *Fort Wayne Gazette and Sentinel*. In 1880, he went to Kansas City, MO, with William R. Nelson and Samuel E. Morse, where they established the *Kansas City Star*. Mr. Cothrell worked on the newspaper as circulation manager and remained in that capacity seven years. He then resigned because of failing health and entered the real estate business.


\(^{247}\) Per ask@library.in.gov – Indiana State Library. See also www.crownhill.org.

\(^{248}\) p. 10. Obit from Indiana State Library, 140 N. Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46204.
While residing in Kansas City, Mr. Cothrell was married to Miss Mary Ellen McDougall, who survives. Other survivors are three daughters, Mrs. Roy H. Coles of Washington, wife of Lieut. Col. Roy H. Coles of the United States Army; Mrs. Charles Mayer, wife of Charles Mayer, manager of Charles Mayer & Co., of Indianapolis, and Mrs. Thomas A. Hendricks of Indianapolis, wife of Thomas A. Hendricks, executive secretary of the Indiana State Medical Association.

**Active Board Member**

Mr. Cothrell joined the Indianapolis Real Estate Board in 1914 and served as its president during 1922. He was an active member of the board many years and was one of the leaders in the founding of the Home Complete Exposition, which was first held in Indianapolis in 1922. He also was a member of the Indianapolis Home Builders Association and served on the realtor board of directors and on important committees of both organizations.

He had been serving for some time as president of the Fall Creek Civic League of Indianapolis and always took a keen interest in civic affairs.

More than two hundred residences were constructed by Mr. Cothrell in Evansville. He also built a number of homes in Nashville, Tenn. He built more than four hundred and fifty houses in Indianapolis in his various developments. He erected more than fifty homes in South Ben.

**Alvin Cothrell** (Jan 1860, Fort Wayne, IN to Oct 9, 1892, Chicago, IL)

In the first mention of Alvin in public records, when he was six months old in the 1860 census, his name was misspelled as Oliva. In 1870, he was Alvin; in 1880 his name was given as All. All records thereafter give his name as Alvin. He, too, was a railroad man, working as either a brakeman or a switchman on the railroad. Another commonality about Alvin is that he always lived with his mother (or one, next door). The following records were found in *Fort Wayne City Directory*:

- 1883-84 116 Madison St. p. 130
- 1885 43 Wells St. p. 134
- 1887 43 Wells St. p. 130. Also listed as boarding at 33 Monroe with his mother

In 1888 Alvin moved with his brother and mother to Kansas City, but at some point moved on to Chicago where he died in 1892. He is buried with his parents and brother Charles in Section F, Lot 69 in Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, IN. No record of Alvin being married was found.

**Moses**

It is unknown when Moses moved to Fort Wayne, except that it was sometime after the 1860 census when he was still located in LaGrange. In 1863 the name of Moses Cottrell is given on the U.S. IRS Tax Assessment List, living in Harrison Twp. Allen County, IN. He had an income of $163.40, and tax of $4.89 under Class A-Ad Valorem Duty, which is a duty based on the value of a product or service. It is unknown what the source of his income was, maybe farmer. But he possibly came to Fort Wayne to work for his brother Newell and brother-in-law William VanAlstine. Moses' (Cathrell/Cuthrell) occupation in 1870 census was "works a team." It is assumed that this means a team of horses associated with the livery stable business Newell and William owned. He was living in Fort Wayne with four of his

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249 Birth date from 1860 census; death info from Lindenwood Cemetery Records and on-line Cook county records.


251 *List of Persons residing in Division No. 6 of Collection District No.5 of the State of Indiana, liable to a tax under the laws of the United States, and the account thereof, as assessed by Brandon Swain, Assistant Assessor.* p. 109, Image 104. Ancestry.com.

252 Definition from dictionary.bnet.com.
children (Albert, Ida, Clara, and Edward), and two boarders (Edward Cavannah and Louis Kohl) at the time.

In 1874 Moses’ name and address was mentioned in a local news item:

*Fort Wayne Weekly Sentinel*<sup>253</sup>
Aug 2, 1876

Monday evening Mrs. Elizabeth Beman, a widow who has lodgings in the second story of the brick building at the northwest corner of Barr and East Berry streets had a FEARFUL ENCOUNTER with two savage dogs.

As was her custom she took a pitcher and went to the residence of Moses Cothrell, No. 94 East Bery [sic] street, to fill it with water. While at the well drawing the water, a large white bull dog sprang at her, and fastened his teeth in the calf of her leg. She struggled to free herself from the vicious brute, but without avail....

There was no mention if Moses owned the dog.

In 1880 the census gave Moses’ address on Barr Street in Fort Wayne. However other records (see above and below) indicate he lived on Berry St. It is not clear why his residence is listed in two different places. Moses’ occupation was given as “keeps boarding house” and he and Angenette had a house full of children, one daughter-in-law, two sons-in-law, a grandson and two boarders, keeping his tendency to take in family and boarders: Albert was married to Harriet and living with his parents, along with his brother, Edward, and both their sisters – who were now married: Ida and her husband Lemuel Starr and their son Edward; Clara and her husband Thomas Bushore (although listed as Clara and Thomas Cothrell) – and probable brothers Esra and William Gifford as boarders, both working on the railroad.

In the *Fort Wayne City Directory 1883-1884*,<sup>254</sup> Angenette was the registered owner of a boarding house on 77 E. Berry St. Neither he nor Angenette are listed in the Fort Wayne City Directory from 1885-1886 and later, so around that time they may have moved to Chicago (per 1900 census) to be with their daughters and their families, who had moved at the same time or before. However, his death certificate (see below) indicated he had been living in Cook County for 19 years in 1910, so the date of moving to Chicago appears to be 1891.

In 1900, Moses and Angenette were living on Wentworth Ave. in Chicago, Ward 30, Cook County. Three years later, Angenette passed away at the age of 70 (or 73) on Mar 16, 1903 and was buried in the Maplewood Cemetery in Valparaiso, IN<sup>255</sup>:

Mrs. Moses Cothrell

Mrs. Angenette Cothrell, wife of Moses Cothrell, who formerly resided in this city, living in Lakeside, died yesterday at Chicago, where the family has been living for the last few years. Her death was sudden and unexpected. She was well known here and had a large circle of friends. She was 73 years of age.

The remains were taken to Valparaiso, her former home, and the funeral will be held there tomorrow morning. 256

COTHRELL—Angenette, wife of Moses Cothrell, aged 70 years. Funeral from 5636 Wentworth Ave. March 18 to Valparaiso, Ind.<sup>257</sup>

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<sup>253</sup> Ancestry.com.
<sup>255</sup> Maplewood Cemetery Records, Porter County, IN Library, Valparaiso, IN.
<sup>257</sup> Chicago Tribune, Mar 18, 1903. Chicago Public Library.
Moses survived her by seven years according to his death certificate:

Registered No. 2333
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CITY OF CHICAGO

CERTIFICATE AND RECORD OF DEATH
Of

1. FULL NAME Moses Cothrell
2. (a) SEX M (b) COLOR White (c) Widowed
3. (a) BIRTHPLACE New York (b) DATE OF BIRTH Oct 8 1822
4. AGE 87 YEARS 3 MONTHS 18 DAYS
5. DIED ON THE 26 DAY OF JANUARY 1910 AT ABOUT 4 PM
6. LAST OCCUPATION Clerk FROM January 1862 TO Jan 26, 1910
7. FORMER OCCUPATION ---
8. (a) PLACE OF DEATH 5630 Emerald (b) HOW LONG AT PLACE OF DEATH 10 years
9. (a) FORMER OR USUAL RESIDENCE 5630 Emerald Ave. (b) WARD 31st.
10. HOW LONG RESIDENT IN CITY 19 years
11. HOW LONG IN STATE 19 years
12. HOW LONG IN U.S. Life
13. (a) NAME OF FATHER Seth Cothrell (b) BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER Don’t know
14. (a) NAME OF MOTHER Don’t know (b) BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER Don’t know

INFORMANT E.C. Starr
Address 5718 Green St.

UNDERTAKER Kenny & Co.
ADDRESS 5438 Halsted

PHYSICIAN’S CERTIFICATE OF CAUSE OF DEATH

I Hereby Certify THAT I ATTENDED DECEASED FROM ____________ 1907 TO Jan 25, 1910 THAT I LAST SAW Him ALIVE ON THE 25TH day of January 1910, THAT He DIED ON THE 26 DAY OF JANUARY 1910 AT ABOUT 4 O’CLOCK PM, AND THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THE CAUSE OF His DEATH WAS AS HEREBY WRITTEN

(A) CAUSE OF DEATH Senile Dementia Diagnosed in years, months, days... 2 years

He was living on Emerald St. at the time of his death, the same street as his daughter Ida in the 1910 census, so presumably he was living with her and her family. If his death certificate is correct, Moses worked as a clerk right up until his death at 87 -- quite possible in the pre-Social Security days. But the diagnosis of Senile Dementia casts doubts on the possibility, unless he was given token duties in a family business. His obituary appeared in the two local papers:258

The Daily Vidette
Valparaiso, Indiana, Friday Evening, January 28, 1910

Mortuary Record
Moses Cothrell died Wednesday at his home in Chicago, following an extended illness, aged 87 years. He leaves one son, Edward Cothrell of Ft. Wayne, and one daughter, Mrs. Platt Starr of Chicago. Thomas Bushore of this city is a son-in-law of the deceased. The remains were brought to this city this morning at 9:30, over the Pennsylvania, and taken to Stinchfield & Fehrman’s undertaking parlors. Funeral

258 Porter County Public Library System, 103 Jefferson Street Valparaiso, IN 46383
services were held there this afternoon at 1:30 o’clock, Rev. J.M. Gelston, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiating. Internment took place in Graceland cemetery.

The Evening Messenger
Valparaiso, Indiana, Friday Evening, January 28, 1910

Mortuary Record
Moses Cothrell, father of the late Mrs. Thomas Bushore, died in Chicago Wednesday. He was 87 years old and leaves two children, Mrs Platt Starr, of Chicago, and Ed Cothrell, of Fort Wayne. The remains were brought here this morning and taken to Stinchfield-Fehrman Co. undertaking parlors from where the funeral was held this afternoon, conducted by Rev. J.M. Gelston. The interment was at Graceland.

Both Moses and Angenette are buried in Maplewood Cemetery (section EC14)\(^{259}\) in Valparaiso, IN. Since the Maplewood Cemetery burial records were originally obtained from the Porter County Library, I called their genealogical reference department and found that the discrepancy between the obits and cemetery records is that the two cemeteries Maplewood and Graceland are located next to each other, only separated by a small lane. Evidently the error was made by the person giving the information to the newspaper.

Their five children were George, Albert, Ida, Clara and Edward:

**George Cothrell** (1849 Lima, IN to before 1860 census, Lima, IN) Died either in infancy or childhood as he was only mentioned in the 1850 census as a one-year old.

**Albert Cothrell** (1851 Lima, IN to Jan 23, 1888, Valparaiso, IN)\(^{260}\) As stated earlier, Albert was probably adopted by Moses and Angenette very early in his life. He married Harriett Bitzell Aug 29, 1880\(^{261}\) who was listed as his wife (born 1860 IN) in the June 1880 census, both living in his parents’ household. His occupation was “drives hack”. An Albert Cothrill was also listed living with four other men in the 1880 census in Fort Wayne, but without a month date on the census (occupation “baggage wagon”). This name was never found again, so it is assumed it is the same Albert, having been listed twice for whatever reason. His occupation was listed as a driver for the Adams Express Co in 1883\(^{262}\) and 1885\(^{263}\) presumably driving a “baggage wagon.”

Albert was living in Valparaiso, IN (presumably with his sister Clara) when he passed away on Jan 23, 1888 and is buried in the family plot in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne.\(^{264}\) There is no record of any children born to Albert and Harriet. A Harriet Cothrell was married to John McCullough at the age of 33 in the 1895 Chicago, IL Marriage Licenses issued by the County Clerk.\(^{265}\)

**Ida Cothrell** (Sep 1855\(^{266}\), Lima/LaGrange, IN to Nov 27, 1930, Chicago, IL?) Ida and Lemuel Starr (b. 1855 MI) were married Mar 27, 1879 in Fort Wayne,\(^{267}\) and were living with her parents in the 1880 census in Fort Wayne. By 1900 they were living in the Town of Lake, City of Chicago, IL with the following children: Edward (1880), Hughie (1888), Harold (1888), Walter (1890), Ralph (1892), Etta (1894) and Freddie (1896). They were still living in Chicago in 1930 with their son Ralph and daughter Etta. There is

\(^{259}\) **Maplewood Cemetery : Valparaiso, Indiana (Porter County, Center Township. Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society. Valparaiso, IN., NWIGS (Porter County Public Library) 1993.**

\(^{260}\) **Indiana Marriage Collection, 1824-1920, Allen County, IN, Book 14, page 20. Ancestry.com.**

\(^{261}\) **R. L. Polk & Co’s Fort Wayne City Directory 1883-1884 p. 130. Ancestry.com.**


\(^{263}\) **Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975 via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library website.**

\(^{264}\) **Historical Newspapers, Birth, Marriage, & Death Announcements, 1851-2003. Ancestry.com.**

\(^{265}\) **Indiana Marriage Collection, 1824-1920, Allen County, IN, Book 13, page 172. Ancestry.com.**
only one Ida Starr in the City of Chicago online death records\footnote{http://www.ilsos.gov/GenealogyMWeb/IDPHDeathSearchServlet} which gives a date of death as Nov 27, 1930. Further research (obtaining the death certificate) would have to be done to confirm this is the same Ida. No record of her burial site, nor of Lemuel’s death, was found.

**Clara Etta Cothrell** (July 23, 1858, LaGrange, IN to May 15, 1891, Valparaiso, IN)

Clara married\footnote{Indiana Marriage Collection, 1824-1920, Allen County, IN, Book 13, page 190. Ancestry.com.} Thomas D. Bushore (Feb 19, 1848 to Dec 19, 1934) on Apr 24, 1879 in Allen County, IN and they were included in the 1880 census with her parents. At some point they moved to Valparaiso, IN where Thomas’ parents lived.\footnote{http://www.inportercounty.org/Data/Obits/Bushore955.html} Clara evidently passed away tragically on May 15, 1891, and is buried in the Maplewood Cemetery in Valparaiso near her parents:

*The Tribune*

May 22, 1891

Page: 1 Column: 3

Mrs. Clara Bushore who died Friday evening, May 15, at her home four miles northwest of this city, was buried from Cherry Glenn and interment took place at the new cemetery whither an unusually large number of friends followed her remains, passing through the city at four o’clock Sunday afternoon. Deceased was born at LaGrange, Ind., July 23, 1858, and died under very touching circumstances, leaving three little ones motherless and alone.\footnote{http://www.inportercounty.org/Data/Obits/Bushore953.html}

The children were sons Arthur (Jan 30 1884 to Nov 29, 1927) who was the only child listed with his father in the 1900 census and Frank (Feb 20, 1886 to Oct 17, 1924) and daughter Clara (May 24, 1889 to Aug 20, 1981).\footnote{Clara’s info from Maplewood Cemetery: Valparaiso, Indiana (Porter County, Center Township. Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society. Valparaiso, IN., NWIGS (Porter County Public Library) 1993.} The husband of Thomas was not listed in Porter County deaths or obits.

**Edward Cothrell** (Oct 8, 1860, LaGrange, IN to April 29, 1939, Fort Wayne, IN)\footnote{Birth and death information from death certificate, Fort Wayne-Allen County Dept of Health, 46802.}

Edward married Sarah Ellen Myers (who was two years older than Edward) on Jan 10, 1882 in Allen County.\footnote{Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800-1941 Index to Marriage Record 1824 – 1920 Book 14, OS Page 444. Ancestry.com.} The following year they were living at 77 E. Berry in Fort Wayne\footnote{R. L. Polk & Co’s Fort Wayne City Directory 1883-1884 p. 130. Ancestry.com.} where Edward’s occupation was listed as teamster. By 1900, Edward and Ellen had six children: Edna (1887), George C. (1889)\footnote{George C. born Aug 22, 1888 in Chicago, IL according to his marriage license on 18 Feb 1914 to Roxella Savage (b. 16 Nov 1892) Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959 Record Number 323; GSU Film Number 2111593; Digital GS Number 4168613; Digital Image Number 00182. Familysearch.com.} , Alice (1891), Albert (1893)\footnote{Albert, born Nov 27, 1892, in Illinois (presumably Chicago) according to his marriage license on Oct 16, 1919 to Ethel Kern (b. Jan 18, 1888). Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959 Record Number 888; GSU Film Number 2130029; Digital GS Number 4168616; Digital Image Number 00483. Familysearch.com} , Ida M. (1895), and Emmet (1896 to Jul 19, 1943).\footnote{Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975 via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library website.} According to the marriage licenses of George and Albert, they were living in Chicago, IL when they were born. Since there is no 1890 census, it presumed the family may have lived there for a while.

In 1901, tragedy struck. The family was living in the countryside in Wallen (originally just west of Fort Wayne, now a part of the city), when little Alice, age 9 disappeared on Tuesday, Jul 2, 1901 and everyone started looking for her:
Day after day the anxious father, with the assistance of parties of friends and neighbors, have scoured every portion of the country in the vicinity of Wallen in the hope of finding some trace of the missing little one. Night after night has closed down upon them, only to bring bitter disappointment and to add to their anguish. She seems to have completely disappeared as though the earth had opened up and swallowed her. Yesterday four parties were engaged in the search.

Then, the next day, her lifeless body was found:

NEW MYSTERY IN GIRL'S DEATH

Body of Little Alice Cothrell Found In Cistern at Wallen, But Manner of Death is Unknown---Coroner Investigating.

The Fort Wayne Sentinel Fort Wayne, IN, Monday Jul 8, 1901

The dead body of little Alice Cothrell, who disappeared from her home in Wallen Tuesday afternoon, was found at 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, drowned in a cistern upon the premises of Charles Dunn, the well known saw mill owner at Wallen. One phase of the mystery is thus cleared up, only to give way to another...

From the day of the disappearance of the little girl, who was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cothrell, and about ten and one-half years of age, there has been the wildest excitement in and about Wallen. The girl was well known and appears to have been a general favorite with the people of the village.

Shortly after noon on Tuesday, after engaging in play with a smaller brother and sister, Alice left the house and was last seen near the residence of Mr. Dunn, where she went almost daily, but the anxiety of the parents was not aroused until her failure to return at the supper hour. Mr. Cothrell, who is in the employ of Mr. Dunn, returned from his work, and both he and his wife made inquiry all over the village. No one had seen the child and the neighborhood was soon aroused.

The father, with some of the neighbors, continued the search during the entire night. The day following others took up the work and from that time until the body was recovered Sunday evening there was hardly an hour when searching parties were not out covering every foot of territory in the vicinity of the village.

The newspaper clearly gives a glimpse into the pain the whole Cothrell family felt at the loss of little Alice.

The next day, the newspaper reported an arrest:

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Seventeen witnesses testified at the inquiry, much of it which was damning for Mr. Dunn. However, the officers stated that his own testimony “did him most harm.” Eventually he was tried and found guilty and sentenced to prison at Michigan City, IN and served time. However, Mr. Dunn had money for attorneys and filed an appeal, but was found guilty again in another trial. Evidently with determination and the money to file another appeal, once again he took the case to trial again. He was finally found innocent after eight years of appeals, and the prosecuting attorney decided he hadn’t committed the crime and dropped the charges, rather than pursuing it further.282

In 1910 the family had moved back into Fort Wayne and was living on Wabash Ave. Apparently Edna had married, but the others were still at home. As with some other members of the Cothrells, Albert had problems with the law in 1915:

FRANKLIN TRIES TO SPARE ASSAILANT
Never Saw Man Who Admits He Hit Him on Head with Brick

With his head swathed in bandages that concealed a long scalp wound in which a surgeon had taken half a dozen stitches, Spencer Franklin sat in the city court and testified that he never had seen the man who hit him on the head with a brick because the brick was thrown from a distance of thirty feet when he wasn’t looking. It was magnanimous, but it wasn’t the truth, as was shown when Franklin’s divorced wife, Ann Franklin, took the stand. She said she and Albert Cothrell, on trial for assault and battery on Franklin, were walking on the street Saturday night and that her former husband and another man followed them to Clinton and Dock streets, where Franklin made a rush for her escort and when within three feet of him was beaned with a brick that Cothrell had seized from a pile nearby. Cothrell took the stand and testified to the same facts. Judge Kerr took the circumstances under consideration for thirty days, continued the case against Cothrell for the assault and the case against Franklin for being drunk, in order to see if the trouble is at an end.283

Ellen, the wife of Edward, passed away on Aug 30, 1919 while they were living on Anna Street in Fort Wayne.284

In 1920, Edward, now a widow, was living with his daughter, Edna (wife of Edward C. Murray285) on Parnell Ave. in Fort Wayne, along with their son, Harold Murray 286 and

285 They married Aug 12, 1903 in Indiana: Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959; Record Number 268; GSU Film Number 2111525; Digital GS Number 4168624; Digital Image Number 00094. Familysearch.org
286 Harold C. Murray was born 10 May 1908 in Fort Wayne and married Grace E Bangert (b. 28 Oct 1912) on 28 Oct 1933. Indiana, Marriages, 1811-1959; Record Number 1436; GSU Film Number 2130285; Digital GS Number 4204535; Digital Image Number 00771. Familysearch.org
Edward’s son Emmet. Then in 1930 he was living with his son George and his wife (Roxella M.) and their seven children (Virginia 1917, Eva L. 1919, George E. 1920, Betty J. 1921, Jack C. 1925 and Kenneth, 1929), still in Fort Wayne.

Edward passed away of bladder cancer on Apr 29, 1939 while he was living at 226 ½ E. Columbia.287 Both he and Ellen are buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne.288

Ellen

Ellen and her husband William were listed in the 1860 census living in Wayne Twp, Fort Wayne, Allen County, with their two children, Frank and Ellen, and nephews Seth Dix (son of Jane) and William Carpenter (son of Elizabeth).

Two years later (1862) IRS records show that “Vanalstine & Cothrell” paid $10 in taxes for their livery stable.289 It has been mentioned earlier under Newell’s section about the livery stable William and Newell owned together. Evidently they were successful as good things were said about it in 1860 (whether this was a paid advertisement is unknown):

We had lots to say about the horses and carriages of Vanalstine and Cothrell, but our space is too limited and our time too short. As we patronize that institution, and as we are supposed to be judges is it not enough; or shall we say that they keep all the two forty hags in town? We won’t say that, but we will say that you can not, in Northern Indiana, get a better turn out than at Vanalstine & Cothrell’s.290

It seems that the Vanalstine & Cothrell Livery Stable was still in business in 1870 in Fort Wayne since the census shows William’s occupation as “Keeping livery stable” and his home had a value of $2,000. At that time, Ellen and William’s family was complete with four children: Frank 16, Ella 12, Harry 9, Lettie 7, and Perry 5.

According to the census and the estate papers of Newell Cothrell, William continued in the livery stable business he and Newell had started. But he didn’t pay off the loan. The last record in the estate was a summons:

To the Sheriff of Allen County

It is unclear what the outcome was of this summons. William died on Sep 10, 1873 at the young age of 49. He was buried in Lindenwood Cemetery on Sep 11, which recorded that he was born in Allegany Co. NY.291 No obituary was found.

By the 1880 census, Ellen and daughter Letta had moved in with Ellen’s daughter, Ella, who had married John Schroeder. Frank, Perry and Harry had moved on.

287 Fort Wayne-Allen County Dept of Health, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.
288 Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
291 Lindenwood Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975 via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library website.
The Fort Wayne City Directory (R.L. Polk)\textsuperscript{292} gives us an insight of Ellen and her children’s whereabouts in Fort Wayne. One thing for sure, they moved around a lot, an indication that they only rented and didn’t own a home.

1883-84, Ellen and her daughter Lettie were living at 186 Griffith. Lettie was a teacher by then, at the age of 20. She was listed as a teacher every year she was mentioned. Frank (occupation hack owner) was living at 320 E. Jefferson (p. 401).

1885-86, the two had moved to 62 Wall St. Frank lived at 339 W. Washington. Frank (now a horse trainer) was living at 339 W. Washington (p. 406).

1887, Perry moved back in with his mother and sister, still on 62 Wall St. Perry was working as a fireman on the Penn Co. Frank was living on 339 W. Washington (p. 410).

1890-91, Ellen and Miss Lettie (still teaching at Washington Schools), were living at 17 Jones. Perry, now listed as a brakeman, was living on 241 Barr (p. 531).

1891-92, Perry had moved out again to 54 Chicago, and Harry moved in with his mom and sister where they all lived on 17 Jones St. Frank lived on Columbia St. (p. 512).

1893-94, Ellen was living with her son Frank (whose occupation was still horse trainer) on "s s Columbia av 2 e of Old Fort." Evidently Lettie had married as she no longer appeared in the same household as her mother. Perry the fireman was living on 92 Baker (p. 584). There was no mention of Harry, but there was a Henry S. Van Alstine living on Ruth St. 1 block west of Spy Run. His occupation was hostler,\textsuperscript{293} probably working with Frank.

1894-95, Ellen was still living with Frank, but they had moved to 36 Columbia. Perry was still on 92 Baker.

1895-96, Ellen was living by herself at 43 W. DeWald -- at least not with any of her children. Frank – still a horse trainer – lived on 48 Columbia and Perry had moved to 58 Baker (p. 663).

1896, Frank lived on 130 Erie and Perry was still on 58 Baker (p. 650). There was no mention of the others.

In the 1900 census, Ellen (or Eleanor as she was listed) was living with her daughter Letta (now Barnett) and her family on W. Berry St. in Fort Wayne. Ellen died on July 23, 1907 while living on 715 Broadway.\textsuperscript{294} According to the funeral home records Ellen was born January 17, 1827.\textsuperscript{295} She is buried in Lindenwood Cemetery, Section S Lot 115 with her husband, William VanAlstine.\textsuperscript{296}

Her obituary read as follows:

**VanAlstine**

At 3:50 o’clock this morning at the home of her daughter, Mrs. W.W. Barnett, 715 Broadway, occurred the death of Mrs. Eleanor VanAlstine, the widow of William VanAlstine, who was one of the pioneer liverymen of this city. Mrs. VanAlstine was eighty years old and her death followed an illness of eight months with rheumatism. About two months ago the deceased began to fail more rapidly and due to her advanced years was unable to survive the effects of her malady.

Mrs. VanAlstine was born in Mount Morris, N. Y., in 1827. She came to Fort Wayne in 1844 and was married to William VanAlstine, of this city. The death of the latter occurred thirty-four years ago. For some years Mrs. VanAlstine had been living with her daughter, Mrs. Barnett. She was well known among the older residents of Fort Wayne. Besides Mrs. Barnett, the following children survive: Mrs. John Schroeder, Frank, Harry and Perry VanAlstine, of this city.

The funeral services will be held at 2630 Thursday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. Barnett. Friends will omit flowers by request of deceased.

\textsuperscript{292} R. L. Polk & Co’s Fort Wayne City and Allen County Directory.

\textsuperscript{293} Hostler is the occupation of someone employed in a stable to take care of horses. Wikipedia.com

\textsuperscript{294} Fort Wayne-Allen County Dept of Health, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

\textsuperscript{295} Scheumann Funeral Home, Mortuary Records 1899-1951 via http://www.acgsi.org/genweb/lookups.asp

\textsuperscript{296} Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
All the census records, except for the last one, listed her name as Ellen. Only in 1900 was her name given as Eleanor, as well as her death certificate. Why the change, no one knows.

The records presented here are the ones I have researched and found. However, the Dugan Family Tree 2008 as found on Ancestry.com shows an Eleanor Cottrell who was born on Jan 27, 1827, and her parents were Levi Cottrell and Alida Seward. The only source for this information I could find was the Lester Van Alstine Book, pg 53 (although I found elsewhere that the information came from a Van Alstyn-Van Alstine Family History book), but this is definitely the same family. And it confirms the research I did: that Ellen’s parents were Levi Cottrell (not Cottrell) and Lettie (not Alida) Seward. This same source gave Eleanor’s husband as William B. Van Alstyn, a variation on Van Alstine or Vanalstine, which was on all the records I cited. William was born Jan 22, 1825, which fits in with the census records, and died on Sep 10, 1873, which coordinates with the cemetery records. They were married on Aug 11, 1847, a record I was not able to find – it does not exist in Allen County, IN records.

The children of Eleanor/Ellen and William Van Alstine in this family tree were

* George B Van Alstyn (1848)
* Frank Sylvester Van Alstyn (1854)
* William Van Alstyn (1857)
* Ella Elizabeth Van Alstyn (1858)
* Harry Seward Van Alstyn (1860)
* Lettie Ann Van Alstyn (1863)
* Perry Seth Van Alstyn (1865)

My research came up with five children for Ellen:
* Frank Van Alstine (1854)
* Ella Van Alstine (1858)
* Harry Van Alstine (1861)
* Lettie Van Alstine (1863)
* Perry Van Alstine (1865)

dates all according to the 1870 census. The only ones I didn’t have were George (which was also the name Ellen’s brother Moses gave their first child) and William, both who died in infancy.

The information from Dugan Family Tree (which gives Lester Van Alstine Book, pg 53 for all) for William and Ellen’s children are as follows:

George B. Van Alstyn b. Jun 10, 1848 d. Aug 11, 1848

Frank Sylvester Van Alstyn b. Feb 26, 1854
   Spouse: Mary Alice Kirkland b. Jan 9, 1853 d. Sep 20, 1892
   Married: Nov 1, 1876
   Children:
   George S Van Alstyn b. Aug 12, 1877 d. Dec 22, 1877
   John W Van Alstyn b. Oct 4, 1878 d. Apr 19, 1879
   Frank Kirkland Van Alstyn b. Feb 6, 1882
   Robert Emmett Van Alstyn b. May 11, 1889

Ella Elizabeth Van Alstyn b. Feb 20, 1858
   Spouse: John Schroeder b. Nov 6, 1852
   Married: Jul 17, 1879


Harry Seward Van Alstyn b. Mar 3, 1860
Spouse: Jane Dahman
Married: Oct 25, 1879
Children:
William Van Alstyne  b. Mar 17, 1880
Hazel Van Alstyne  b. Aug 28, 1889
Esther Van Alstyne  b. Sep 25, 1892
Harold Van Alstyne  b. Dec 24, 1894

Lettie Ann Van Alstyne b. Feb 17, 1863
Spouse: Walter Wynn Barnett b. Jul 18, 1857
Married: Jul 19, 1892
Children:
William Van Alstyne Barnett b. May 30, 1893
Baby Barnett b. Nov 26, 1895 d. Nov 29, 1895

Perry Seth Ann Van Alstyne b. Mar 2, 1865
Spouse: Anna Miller b. Sep 5, 1869
Married: Sep 19, 1888

I found the following information on the children I researched:

**Frank Sylvester Van Alstine** (Feb 26, 1854 Fort Wayne to Dec 6, 1928 Fort Wayne) According to the Dugan Family tree (see above), Frank married Mary Alice Kirkland (b. Jan 9, 1853) and they had two sons who died in infancy: George who died Dec 22, 1877 at the age of 4m 10d and John W. who died Apr 18, 1879 at the age of 6m 15d. They are buried in Lindenwood Cemetery in the same lot with their grandmother, Ellen.298

In the 1880 census Frank (who made his living as a horseman) was living in Fort Wayne with his wife Alice, and a boarder, J.A. Donelson.

Mary Alice died Sep 20, 1892 at the age of 39 and is buried in the same lot with their two sons and mother-in-law in Lindenwood Cemetery.299 The following year Frank married Ida Belle Rousseau on Dec 7, 1893.300 In 1896 Frank joined the West Creighton Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Fort Wayne301 and was listed as a deacon in the church records, a position which he held until his death.

The Fort Wayne City records (see Ellen’ information) show Frank in Fort Wayne in the 1890’s, yet the 1890 Allen County, Indiana Directory302 gives his address in Aboite Township, which is about 12 miles outside of Fort Wayne (I have visited the area and have relatives there). Aboite is the same address given in the 1900 census. Possibly he bought the farm there so he was listed as living there but actually lived in the city. In addition, the previous paragraph indicated he was a member of a church in Fort Wayne, so either he lived in the city or he drove every Sunday from Aboite to Fort Wayne (as a responsible deacon would do).

In 1900 Frank and Ida (1863) had three children, Frank Jr. (1882), Robert (1889) and Arthur (1889), all living in Aboite Township, according to the census. By the

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299Ibid.
300West Creighton Avenue Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Fort Wayne Extract of Membership Records 1896-1997 – Database by Adam Barrone.
301Ibid.
following census (1910) they had added Grace (1901) and Willis (1905) to the household, but had lost Robert in 1908.\textsuperscript{303}

In 1920 only Willis (still a minor) and Grace were living at home in Aboite. Frank, a farmer at his death, died of acute bronchitis with chronic asthma as an underlying cause on Dec 6, 1928.\textsuperscript{304} He is buried with his son Robert in Oak Grove Cemetery in Aboite Twp.\textsuperscript{305} Ida Belle died Feb 5, 1951 at the age of 88 and is buried in Lindenwood Cemetery.\textsuperscript{306}

\textbf{Ella Elizabeth Van Alstine} (Feb 20, 1858\textsuperscript{307} Fort Wayne, IN to Mar 4, 1934\textsuperscript{308} Fort Wayne, IN) married John Schroeder (b. Nov 6, 1852) on Jul 17, 1879.\textsuperscript{309} In 1880 they were living on Bessie Street in Fort Wayne with Ellen and Letta, Ella's mother and sister. John was an engineer for the city fire department. By 1900 they had moved to Edgewater Ave. They had no children and never did have any as indicated by the census.

John Schroeder died Mar 5, 1910 and is buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery.\textsuperscript{310} No doubt John's death left Ella short on money so by the 1910 census, still on Edgewater, she had taken in boarder Clyde Wiggins. Evidently Ella didn't like being alone (and possibly still struggling financially) as in 1920, Van Barnett, son of her sister Letta, was living with her, and in 1930 Rachael Barnett, Van's sister was living with her, both times still on Edgewater. Ella passed away Mar 4, 1934 and is buried with her husband in the Lindenwood Cemetery.\textsuperscript{311}

\textbf{Harry Seward Van Alstine} (Mar 3, 1860,\textsuperscript{312} Fort Wayne to May 24, 1940, Fort Wayne\textsuperscript{313}) married Jennie Dalmon (b. Sep 1869 IN) on Oct 26, 1879 in Allen County.\textsuperscript{314} Like some of his cousins, Harry also had at least one run-in with the law\textsuperscript{315}:

\begin{itemize}
\item \textsuperscript{303} http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inallcem/aboite/bullard.html
\item \textsuperscript{304} http://www.acgsi.org/death/1560.jpg death record #260
\item \textsuperscript{305} http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~inallcem/aboite/bullard.html
\item \textsuperscript{306} Oak Grove Bullard Family Cemetery, Aboite Township, Allen County, Indiana.
\item \textsuperscript{307} Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1875, via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
\item \textsuperscript{308} Dugan Family Tree 2008, Ancestry.com.
\item \textsuperscript{309} Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1875, via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
\item \textsuperscript{310} Dugan Family Tree 2008, Ancestry.com.
\item \textsuperscript{311} Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1875, via the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
\item \textsuperscript{312} Dugan Family Tree 2008. Ancestry.com.
\item \textsuperscript{313} Lindenwood Cemetery Records.
\item \textsuperscript{314} Indiana Marriage Collection 1800-1941, WPA Index to Marriage Record, Indiana 1824 – 1920, Bk 13, pg 326, Ancestry.com.
\item \textsuperscript{315} The Fort Wayne Sentinel, Jan 12, 1898. Ancestry.com.
\end{itemize}
Maybe he stayed out of trouble after that as he was home the following year for the 1900 census, where he was listed in his household with Jennie and their four children: William (1880), Hazel (1890), Esther (1893) and Harold (1895). Harry took up with horses (probably with his brother Frank) as he was mentioned at least twice in *The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* in connection with horses: the first time as the owner of a race horse named *Swordsman* and the second time as a horse trainer.

By 1910 Harry and his family (William had left the household, with Hazel, Esther and Harold remaining) were living in St. Joseph, Allen County, IN. A census record for 1920 wasn’t found, but in 1930, Hazel and Esther, now "old maids" of 40 and 37 were still living at home with their parents.

Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne gives the following death dates for four members of the family: Harry died May 24, 1940 aged 81y 6m 12d – which would make his birth date Nov 12, 1859. Dugan Family Tree gives his birth date as Mar 3, 1860, but either way, Harry was not listed in the 1860 census which was taken in June of 1860; either they missed Harry—which is quite possible—or the dates are wrong. Jennie died Dec 15, 1940; Hazel L. died Jan 29, 1962 and Harold G. on Nov 3, 1935.

**Letta (Lettie) Ann Van Alstine** (Feb 17, 1863–Oct 18, 1912, Fort Wayne) As noted above under her mother's section, Letta (or Lettie) was listed as a teacher, an occupation which ended upon her marriage in 1892 -- a tradition of society at the time. Letta married Walter W. Barnett on Jul 19, 1892 in Allen County, probably Fort Wayne. Walter was a physician associated with the Fort Wayne College of Medicine. His practice was on 94 Calhoun and their residence was 43 W. DeWald.

The 1900 census shows that Lettie had already lost two children (living children: 2 total children: 4). The Dugan Family tree indicates that she gave birth to two children early in her marriage: William Van Alstyn Barnett (b. May 30, 1893) and a female Baby Barnett (b. Nov 26, 1895 d. Nov 29, 1895), the latter who did not survive to adulthood. The Dugan information seems to be incorrect in that the 1900 census gives the name of the son born in 1893 as Walter. But since his father was Walter W. (according to the census), possibly his middle name was William, the

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319 *Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
321 *Fort Wayne City and Allen County Directory 1895-96*, p. 117, R. L. Polk, Ancestry.com
name which the census gave. By then, Letta had given birth to a son, Otto in August of 1897.

The family lived on W. Berry St. that year (1900), and the household included Walter’s brother, Charles E., who was also a physician\(^{322}\) as well as a maid (servant), Hazel Rutan who was only 14. Possibly she was a distant family member since she was so young. Letta’s mother Ellen also lived in the household.

By 1910, now living on Broadway, two more children had been born to Letta: Van in 1901 and Rachael in 1904 for a total of four children in the household – no other persons besides Letta and her husband.

Letta died Oct 18, 1912 in Fort Wayne and is buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery, along with her son Otto, who died Sep 14, 1959.\(^{323}\) William/Walter Jr. died Apr 22, 1961 in Los Angeles, CA.\(^{324}\) I found no information on when Letta’s husband Walter died. He is not buried with her in Lindenwood.

**Perry Seth Van Alstine** (Mar 2, 1865, Fort Wayne to Oct 21, 1920, Fort Wayne)\(^{326}\) Perry had moved out of the house by the age of 18 and in 1880 was living (still in Fort Wayne) with a couple of other guys -- Charles Sellers and John Clark -- and working at a livery stable. On Sep 19, 1887 he married Anna C. Miller.\(^{327}\) On Aug 18, 1897 Perry’s name was mentioned in the *Fort Wayne Sentinel*:\(^{328}\)

> Charles Lehr and John Grable, Pittsburg Yard engineers, and Fireman Perry VanAlstine, of the same road, will attend the races at Huntington tomorrow Mr. Lehr’s flyer, "Helen K.,” will go in one of the trotting matches, driven by Fireman VanAlstine, and she is expected to come out [a] winner. This will be "Helen K’s" first race and the public knows nothing of her ability in that line, but it is said to be great.

Evidently Perry worked at the firehouse with Mr. Lehr, who owned the horse, and Perry drove the cart.

By the 1900 census, Perry and Anna had no children (nor did they ever), but had a niece Hazel Rutan, age 14, living with them on Baker Street. There was also a Hazel Rutan, age 14, living with Perry’s sister Lettie at the same time, probably the same girl even though one census listed the birth of one girl as Nov 1885 and the other in Jan of 1886. Since Hazel was a niece in Perry’s household and a servant at Lettie’s, it is assumed she was a niece of Perry’s wife Anna, spending time at both homes, working in one, and as a family member in the other.

In 1910 Perry and Anna were living on St. Joe Blvd. where they also lived in 1920. Perry died on the 21st of October in 1920.\(^{329}\) In 1930 Anna was living as a boarder on Oakley St. She died on Oct 10, 1941. Both Perry and Anna are buried in the Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne.\(^{330}\)

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\(^{322}\) Ibid.

\(^{323}\) *Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.


\(^{328}\) Ancestry.com.


\(^{330}\) *Lindenwood Cemetery Records, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1860 to 1975*, via The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library web site.
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