

Chapter 4. The Hewitt Family of Minnesota

OUR ANCESTOR: JOHN HEWITT

John Hewitt was born ~1814 in the Chard District of Somerset, England, the son of William. Somerset is in southwestern England, west of London and south of Bristol. He is listed in the 1841 England census living in Chard, a lace hand. The Ruth Borgendale Beecher narrative says he was a timekeeper in a large factory.¹ In 1842 in Lyme-Regis, Dorset County, he married



Tombstone of John Hewitt, Granite Falls cemetery, Yellow Medicine County, Minnesota

Elizabeth Bond Nias. Chard is very near the border of Dorset County. Elizabeth was born in 1810 in Stockland, Dorset.² Elizabeth was a little woman with red hair, very precise and quick, liked her clothes just so, and wore lace ribbons and caps. John Hewitt had no family; he had beautiful flowers and loved to garden.³

John and Elizabeth Hewitt had two sons born and christened in Chard, Arthur in 1844 and Frank in 1846. In 1848 the family emigrated to America, landing in New York City, then traveling by the Erie Canal, and ending up in Indiana. In 1850 the family is listed in the US Census, living in Vernon Township, Washington, Indiana. George was born later that year in Indiana. Elizabeth



Tombstone of Elizabeth Bond Nias Hewitt, Granite Falls cemetery

developed malaria because of mosquitoes in the relatively warm climate of Indiana, so in 1855 the family moved west to San Francisco Township, Carver, Minnesota. In the 1857 Minnesota census John is listed as a farmer. That township is just north of the Minnesota River and southwest of Shakopee, Scott County. Next-door were John Dunn and his wife Maria Cole Dunn and Maria's brother William "Old Uncle" Cole and his wife Elizabeth Dunn Cole. The Dunns and Coles

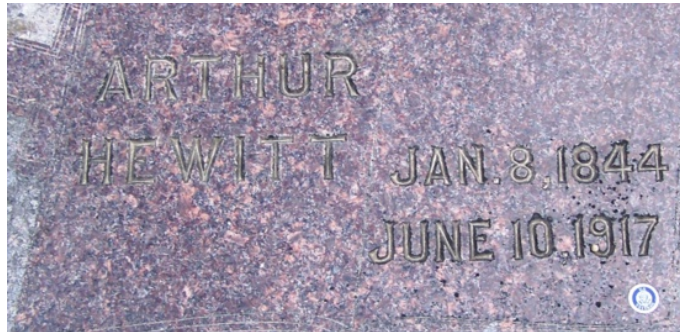
were from South Molton, Devon, England. South Molton is 40 miles west of Chard, so the Coles and Dunns may or may not have known the Hewitts in England, but their stories in Minnesota interweave for a number of years, as we shall see.

The Hewitt family continued to live in San Francisco in 1860 but by 1865 had moved across the Minnesota River to the St. Lawrence community near Jordan, Scott County. John Hewitt was postmaster of the St. Lawrence post office from 1868 until 1879, when it was discontinued.

St. Lawrence in fact became a ghost town because the railroad supplanted the Minnesota River as the mode of transportation⁴. John died in 1880 in St. Lawrence Township about a mile from Jordan. His wife then went to live with the Arthur Hewitts in Yellow Medicine County.⁵ John's tombstone is in the cemetery at Granite Falls, Yellow Medicine, as is that of his wife Elizabeth, who died in 1892 in Granite Falls.

ARTHUR HEWITT

Arthur Hewitt enlisted in 1863 in Company I, Second Minnesota Cavalry and served until November 1865. In 1874, in St. Lawrence Township, he married **Mary Maria Cole**. Mary was born in 1850 in Troy, Madison, Illinois, the daughter of Peter Cummins Cole and Eleanor Laramy. The Laramys, like the Coles and Dunns, were from Devon County, England. Peter Cummins Cole was the brother of the aforementioned William "Old Uncle" Cole and Maria Cole Dunn and was a partner with Eleanor's brother William



Tombstone of Arthur Hewitt, Granite Falls cemetery, Minnesota



*Eleanor Hewitt Borgendale,
Mary Cole Hewitt, Ada Hewitt*

as harness makers in Troy. Mary Cole's father died when she was seven and the oldest child. Her mother Eleanor took the family to St. Paul, in part to find a climate providing relief from malaria attacks.¹ Mary Cole Hewitt recounted herding cattle along narrow streets in St. Anthony Village as a girl.¹ The 1865 census finds Ellen (Eleanor) Cole Laramy, along with William Frankland, living in the household of her brother John Laramy in St. Paul. Two years later her mother married that William Frankland in St. Paul. Frankland established a farm near Belle Plaine, Scott County, between that town and Jordan. In the 1870 census Mary and her sister Esther Ann lived with William and Eleanor Frankland in Belle Plaine.⁶ Mary attended the

Moravian Academy in Chaska and then taught school for a couple of years in and near Jordan before marriage to Arthur Hewitt.⁵

Ruth Borgendale Beecher wrote that her grandfather Arthur "**as an adult had a medium build, was blue eyed and brown haired and wore a moustache. As I remember him now I think of a Southern gentleman with his white hair and shoe-string tie.**"

In 1878 Arthur Hewitt moved northwest to Yellow Medicine County to homestead land in Wergeland Township, along with his brother Frank and William Henry Cole. White settlement of that area had begun in 1865 after the Sioux Uprising of 1862, and the county had been established in 1871. As I recount in Chapter 1, the Upper Sioux Agency, where Henry David Jones Koons died in 1862, is just south of Granite Falls in Yellow Medicine County. From 1891 to 1897 Arthur Hewitt was county treasurer of Yellow Medicine County, during which time the family lived in Granite Falls, but otherwise the family lived in Wergeland Township, near Canby, where their neighbors included Thomas J and Trudella Peabody Dunn and Mary Cole Hewitt’s brother William Henry “Billy” Cole [email from Carl Dunn]. Arthur Hewitt died in 1917 and his wife Mary in 1932, both in Canby; both are buried in the cemetery in Granite Falls.



Four children of Arthur and Mary Hewitt: George W, Eleanor. Frank E. and Ada

Arthur and Mary Hewitt had five children – **Elizabeth, Frank Ernest, Eleanor M, Ada, and George Woodrow**. Elizabeth was hospitalized in a state mental institution for a number of years. Frank married **Lena Herrick** and ran the family farm near Canby after his father died and his mother and sister Ada moved to Canby. But the farm was lost during the depression, so Frank and Lena moved to a farm near Hazel Run and eventually lived in a small house in Granite Falls.¹ Frank died in 1948.

Eleanor spent her adolescent years in Granite Falls. She taught country school after the family returned to the farm near Canby in 1897. She then studied at the Mankato Teachers' College, where she became a primary instructor. She taught at Waterville, Dawson, and Madison.



In 1909 she married **Hans Lokken Borgendale**; they lived for many years in Madison, Lac Qui Parle County, where he was an attorney, Clerk of District Court, and Municipal Judge.



In 1918 Eleanor became librarian of the Carnegie Public Library in Madison, where she served for 30 years. Eleanor’s daughter **Ruth Borgendale** attended elementary and high school in Madison

and then graduated in 1933 from Carleton College in Northfield with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Theater Arts. She taught in the Canby Consolidated High School until 1936, when she married **James Beecher**. He was a fellow Carleton graduate with whom she reconnected while teaching. They lived in Minneapolis until 1947, when they moved to New Ulm. They had two boys, both of whom became physicians.

George Woodrow Hewitt, a farmer and later a city patrolman and street commissioner, married **Anna Koch** and lived in Canby. Ruth Borgendale Beecher said he was “a tall, black haired, blue eyed individual who loved a good time and driving some of the first motor cars¹.” Their children were **Roy Marion Hewitt** and **Barbara Ann Hewitt Keller**. George and Anna both died in 1932, at which time the children went to live with the Borgendales, assisted by Ada Hewitt. When Roy graduated from high school in 1941, he enlisted in the Air Force and trained



Mary Cole Hewitt (center) and her grandchildren Roy M Hewitt and Barbara Ann Hewitt

Army mechanics. He later lived in Rock Springs, Wyoming, where he died in 1989. Barbara trained as a nurse in St. Paul and also served in the Army during WWII. She died in 2004 in Ogden, Utah.

Ada Hewitt was born in 1884 in Canby, temporarily moving with her family in 1891-1897 to Granite Falls. My mother called her Aunt Ada, but she actually was my mother’s first cousin once removed, and therefore my first cousin twice removed. Her life spanned 99 years and a period of Minnesota history from its frontier days to modern times. Ada never married, although she had several proposals.¹ She was for a time a Latin teacher, then cared for her parents in Canby until her mother’s death in 1932, then for her aunt Esther Cole in Belle Plaine until Esther’s death in 1936. Subsequently she helped her sister Ruth in Madison caring for Roy and Barbara Hewitt after their parents died. In 1962 she lived in Granite Falls when she wrote me a letter, and in her final years in a nursing home in Minneapolis, alert to the last at age 99.



Ada Hewitt

FRANK HEWITT



Frank and Rebecca Smith Hewitt
1881, and Verna Letitia in 1891.

Frank Hewitt moved with his brother Arthur in 1878 from St. Lawrence Township to Wergeland Township, Yellow Medicine County, where he farmed on homesteaded land. But by 1895 Frank had given up farming and moved to Minneapolis and became a stationary engineer. He had married **Rebecca “Becky” Smith** in 1877 in her hometown, Belle Plaine, Scott County⁷. Frank and Becky had three children – Frank Warren in 1879, Sara Elizabeth “Sadie” in

Frank Warren Hewitt married **Edna Hart Pettit** in 1904 and managed a lumber yard in Minneapolis. In 1913 two lumber companies in Idaho joined to form the Boise Payette Lumber Company. Much of the management, as well as many of the lumberjacks, came from the Northland Pine Company, which was approaching the end of its operations in Minnesota. Among those migrating to Boise, Idaho, was Warren Hewitt, sales manager. Frank Warren and Edna Hewitt had four children – Evelyn Bernice Hewitt Shipman, Jeanette Marian Hewitt Platt, Eunice Elizabeth Hewitt Pessemier, and Warren Erle Hewitt. Warren retired in 1950 as district sales manager for the Weyerhaeuser Co.



Top to bottom: Frank Warren Hewitt, Sadie Hewitt Wise, Becky Smith Hewitt, Frank Hewitt, Verna Hewitt Booth

Sadie Hewitt married **Philip Wise**, a Jewish men’s clothing salesman, in 1903 in Minneapolis. They had two children, **Maurice Hewitt Wise** and **Alice Lucille Wise**, born in 1904 and 1908 respectively. Maurice, who was a 33rd degree Mason, had a child in an early marriage, Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Mae (William Allen) and then five children with Natalie Jean Burt Hewitt Passineau – Calvin P, Richard Hewitt (Sandra Lee Fae Parks), Gerald Stephen (Virginia Sturm), Janice Celeste (Kenneth Schneider), and Cynthia (Roger Huchthausen). Sadie’s sister Verna Letitia married George Albert Booth, a wholesale grocery salesman, in 1912 in Minneapolis. The Booths had three children – Warren Richard (Alice Ruth Thompson),



Philip Wise and Sadie Hewitt wedding portrait

George Fletcher (Marjorie Mae Havier), and June Marcine (Robert Morris Rittenhouse).

GEORGE HEWITT

The third of the Hewitt brothers, George Hewitt, married **Martha Mae “Dolly” Koons**. She was the daughter of Henrietta Allen and Henry David Jones Koons, the subject of Chapter 1.



George Hewitt and Martha Mae ‘Dolly’ Koons Hewitt

Briefly, H D J Koons was born near Philadelphia. About 1830 his parents, his father’s brothers, and his grandparents moved to Marion County, Ohio. After his father died, his mother remarried, and the family ended up in Shakopee, Minnesota, where Dolly’s parents had located. Dolly and George fell in love and, although she was only

16, married on 1 July 1875 in Shakopee. The marriage was performed at the John B Allen residence by Rev. Samuel William Pond, who with his brother Gideon Hollister Pond had been an early missionary to the Sioux Indians and alphabetized their language. Samuel William Pond had married Dolly’s parents.

Ada Hewitt⁵ states that “**After mortgages were foreclosed on the George Hewitt farm and the farm of his father in 1881, George and Martha went to Clear Lake, South Dakota Territory, to live on a farm that came up to the limits of that town. It had a very good house and other buildings. Dolly's sister with husband and little daughter Jennie Green also lived there. The Allens (Dolly's mother's family) owned the land; at the time the Allens lived in Shakopee. When George and Dolly lived in South Dakota, George's brothers Arthur and Frank lived at Canby, Yellow Medicine County. Mary Cole Hewitt went to Altamont, South Dakota on the train sometimes, and George drove the seven miles to meet them.**”

AMPLIFICATIONS ON AUNT ADA'S QUOTE

As I explain in Chapter 2, John Boswell Allen and Jane Dillard Allen, my third great-



grandparents, came from Spencer County, Kentucky to Boone County, Indiana, and in 1853 to the young town of Shakopee, Scott, Minnesota. John's parents were from Maryland and Jane's from Virginia; she had a Dillard ancestor who died in the American Revolution. From *The History of the Minnesota Valley* (1882): "John Allen kept a boarding-house [in



Shakopee] in what was called the Pennsylvania House. L M Brown describes this house as having two rooms, one above and one below. The lower room had a log fire-place, while the upper one had only the rafters above and one window with five lights of glass. Nevertheless this hotel could accommodate as it appears fifteen or more persons, regardless of sex." Later John was a farmer and built the first house in the adjoining Town of Jackson. Also following the same path from Spencer County to Indiana to Shakopee were John's nephews Spier Spencer and Andrew Dooley and his brother-in-law Samuel Dooley.

John and Jane Allen had nine children, who were born either in Kentucky or Indiana. They were Mary Elizabeth, the first wife of William F Weiser; Henrietta, the wife of Henry David Jones Koons⁸; James Peter, captain of the Co. L 1st Minnesota heavy artillery in the Civil War and afterward a well-known manufacturing pharmacist in St. Paul, who married Florence Whitney⁹; Harrison, lieutenant in his brother's regiment, who had a farm in South Dakota near that of Dolly's sister, but later was institutionalized because of issues resulting from the war; Ann Eliza, the wife of Abner Riggs of Shakopee, whose mother was Ruth



Pond, sister of the aforementioned Pond brothers; John Alfred, a Philadelphia optician; and Marcena, who married Paleman Linus Uttley.

Dolly's sister, Frances Isabell Koons, married Howard William Green in 1874 in Shakopee; they subsequently moved near Dolly in South Dakota Territory, where he was a locomotive engineer for the developing rail system in that new territory. Frances died in 1880, just six years after her marriage, and is buried along with two infant sons in Valley Cemetery in Shakopee. Howard Green then returned to his home in Easton, Pennsylvania, and remarried. The daughter of Howard and Frances, Jennie, died at age 5 in Easton.

RETURNING TO GEORGE HEWITT

Dolly Hewitt died in 1886 on the South Dakota frontier. The five young children, aged 2 to 9, were motherless. Ironically, Dolly herself had been an orphan at age 5. George was devastated. He died soon afterward from a bad bout of typhoid fever and a broken heart.³ His obituary in the Jordan Independent, October 26, 1887 reads: "**From a long and painful illness Mr. George Hewitt died in St. Paul on Saturday, October 15, 1887, aged 37 years and 18 days. Funeral services were held on the Tuesday following at the Presbyterian Church in Shakopee, the Rev. Mr. Pond officiating, from thence the remains were conducted by mourning friends to their last resting place, where Mr. Hewitt's wife was buried a little more than a year ago [plot 171 in Valley Cemetery in Shakopee, although neither grave is marked].**

Mr. Hewitt was well and favorably known in Jordan and vicinity, where he had passed his early days and young manhood in the neighboring township of St. Lawrence, where he operated a farm, married, and served as chairman of the board of supervisors of the town until the time of his removal to Dakota in 1881. Mr. Hewitt was a member of King Hiram Lodge of Jordan. To say that Mr. Hewitt was a high-minded, honorable man, a good husband and father, and an obliging neighbor is only a repetition of what is well known to his friends; in fact no eulogy of ours could add anything to the estimation and respect that he was held by his friends."



Esther Tanner with Verna
and Maude Hewitt Photograph

The five living children of George and Dolly were parceled out to various relatives. The most fortunate were the twins **Maude** and **Verna**, who were adopted and raised by Herbert and Esther Dunn Tanner in Middleville, Wright County, Minnesota. Esther Dunn was first cousin of Mary Cole, the wife of Arthur Hewitt, George's brother. My mother wrote that "**Mrs. Tanner was the only grandmother that my brother [Hewitt A 'Buzz' Smith] and I knew. She came to Washburn [Wisconsin] to stay for long periods when we were young, helping our overwhelmed mother [Florence Hewitt Smith] with mending etc. She wrote letters and sent books. The rest of each year she lived with the Nortons [George and Maude Hewitt Norton, first in Frederick, Wisconsin, and then in Minneapolis].**"

Arthur and **Cora** Hewitt went to live with Arthur and Mary Cole Hewitt. My grandmother, **Florence**, went to live with Frank and Rebecca Hewitt and their two daughters, where she was treated more like a servant than a member of the family.



Maude married George Norton in 1906 in Frederick, Wisconsin. He was an engineer on the Soo Line railroad. After leaving Frederick, they lived in Minneapolis. They had two sons, **George Herbert “Sonny”** and **Raymond Lester**. Sonny died in 1921 and Ray in 2012 at age 93, a model railroad enthusiast. After Maude died in 1940, George married her sister Cora Isabel, whose husband **Walter Verion Cummins** had died in

1938. I remember visiting Uncle George and Aunt Cora in Minneapolis. Cora and Walter Cummins had three children – **Esther**, who lived only one year, **Hazel**, who married Southwell Edgell, and **Gordon Arthur**, who married Bessie Warming. The children of Gordon and Bessie were Martha Mae Cummins Button, named after her great-grandmother, Arthur Benjamin Cummins, Audrey Jean Cummins Means, and Gordon Hewitt Cummins. Hazel had one daughter, Imo Cora Edgell Feller.



Maude’s twin, Verna May Hewitt, married **Alva Cruzen** in 1903, but died five years later. She is buried with the Tanners in Frederick, Wisconsin.

Arthur Allen Hewitt married **Josephine Russell** and had two sons, **Olcott Russell Hewitt** (1908-1963) and **Arthur Allen “Mutt” Hewitt, Jr.** (1913-1975, Dorothy Hamilton Tanner and Frances Rankin). The family moved from Minnesota to California around 1911, eventually settling in Colton. Josephine died during childbirth of Mutt in 1913. Arthur then married **Elda Pixley**, and they had two more children, **Virginia Barbara** (1918-1999, Robert Paul Swartz) and **James Allen** (1920-1995). Arthur was a pharmacist.

Mutt was a Navy veteran of World War II and had a career in civil service. In poor health, he died by jumping 100 feet from connector IS10 to IS15 southbound in Loma Linda.

After leaving the house of Frank and Rebecca Hewitt, **Florence Lenore Hewitt** appears in the 1900 census as a school teacher, living with her sister Cora Hewitt Cummins and Cora's husband Gordon Cummins in Norden, Duell, South Dakota. After teaching, she married Howard Allison Smith. From the Scott County, Argus for November 25, 1904: "A marriage of interest to many in this city [Shakopee], because of the bride's large acquaintance here, was that of Miss Florence Hewitt to Howard A. Smith of Wood Lake, Minn., on Thanksgiving afternoon, at the home of the bride's



George and Cora Hewitt Norton

brother, A. A. Hewitt of St. Paul. In attendance from this city were Mrs. Ruth [Riggs] Plumstead and son Abner, Misses Edna Pond and Eva Riggs. The groom until recently was a merchant of Wood Lake where Miss Hewitt has been a teacher in the schools, but has purchased an interest in a

grocery business at Red Oak, Iowa, and they have gone to that place to make their home." He and his brother Clifford had a grocery store in Wood Lake, Yellow Medicine County. That partnership ended in 1902 when Clifford moved to Faribault in 1902 and bought a farm.



Four cousins: Mutt, Dorothy, Hazel, Buzz Minneapolis 1928

Howard A. Smith, born 8 Oct

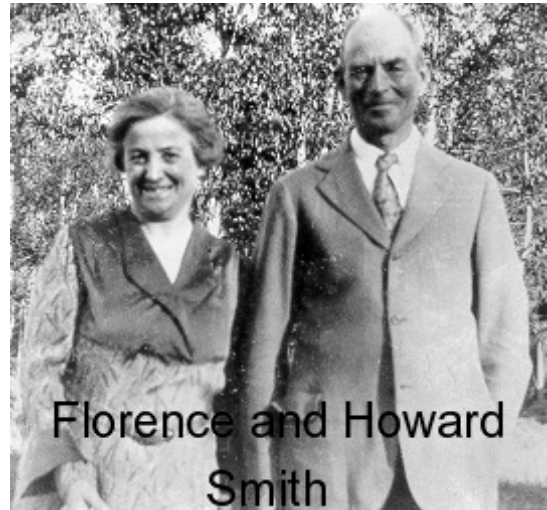
1871 in Yorkville, Racine, Wisconsin, was the son of John Dawson Smith, born in Boughten Parish, Kent, England, near Canterbury, and Lucy Backhus. Grandpa Smith said that he had heard that on good days "they could hear the bells of Canterbury Cathedral." Lucy was born in Racine County, Wisconsin, but her parents were English.¹⁰

The grocery business in Red Oak was short-lived, for by 1905 Howard and Florence lived in St. Paul, where he had a grocery store. They at first lived over the store but then moved to a separate house. Their children **Dorothy Maybelle** and **Hewitt Allison "Buzz"** were born in St. Paul. The family then moved to a farm in northern Wisconsin when Buzz was eight months old (1912). The obituary of Howard A. Smith (Washburn Times 23 Feb 1960) says he "had lived in the area almost 40 years. He specialized in raising chickens, eggs, and



Dorothy Smith, St. Paul, age 3

vegetables for delivery to customers in Washburn and Ashland.” The Smiths had several different farms, all in the Town of Barksdale, west of Washburn. Around 1930 they briefly farmed in Colton Township, San Bernardino, California, but then returned to Wisconsin. Buzz remained in Colton, eventually owning a garage that repaired Cummins diesel engines. After retiring from active farming, Howard and Florence moved to Washburn, buying the Lowry house on East Sixth St. He continued to raise vegetables and "had one of the finest gardens in town." When I was 11, I spent the summer in Washburn, helping to deliver vegetables in Grandpa's Model A.



Hewitt Allison “Buzz” Smith married Ysabel Frances Schain in 1939 in Corona del Mar, California. They had two children. See Chapter 3 for more on that family. Dorothy Maybelle Smith married Willis Egger in 1929 in Two Harbors, Minnesota. They both had graduated from Northland College in Ashland, Wisconsin. He went on to MS and PhD degrees from the University of Minnesota and was for many years a botany professor at Tulane University. They had two children. See Chapter 5 for more Egger history.

FOOTNOTES

¹Memoir on Cole-Hewitt family history written by Ruth Borgendale Beecher, 1979, and kindly provided by Lee Hewitt Beecher.

²Although her Yellow Medicine County Death Record lists Elizabeth's parents as James and Mary Woodrow, Carl Dunn has pointed out to me that Mary Nies did marry James Woodrow, but in 1819, and in 1810, when Elizabeth was born, James Woodrow would have been 14. The International Genealogical record of her christening on 18 Feb 1810 in Stockland lists her mother as Mary Nias, with no father listed. Mary Nias was born in 1790 in Stockland. Just as the father of Elizabeth is not known, neither is the father of Mary. Mary's mother was Jane Nyas, born 1766 in in Stockland. The end of the Nyas line, as presently known, is Henry Nyas born in 1742 in Farway, Devon County, married to Mary Turner.

James Woodrow and Mary Nias, once married, had three daughters and two sons in Lyme Regis, which is a port in Dorset County. One of those sons, John, was a mariner with his own ship that went to New Zealand and Australia.⁵ Another half-brother to Elizabeth, George, was also a mariner but more local to Lyme Regis. There are records of his employment as a mate and shipmaster on ships sailing out of Lyme Regis.

³LDS Family Group Sheets compiled by Ada Hewitt and Roxie Smith Hubbs.

⁴Scott County History Blog 6 October 2017.

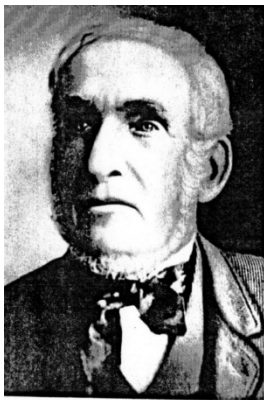
⁵A 1966 letter from “Aunt” Ada Hewitt to Dorothy Smith Egger concerning Hewitt history in Minnesota.

⁶Mary also was enumerated in 1870 in Cottage Grove, Washington, MN living with her uncle William Laramy and his family, a school teacher.

William Henry Cole, brother of Mary and Esther, did not live in the Frankland household. In about 1860 he went to San Francisco Township, Carver County, to live with his mother’s brother-in-law William “Old Uncle” Cole and his wife Elizabeth “Lizzie” Dunn Cole. In the 1865 census Esther Ann also appears, perhaps temporarily, in the “Old Uncle” family. In 1862, “Old Uncle” and his family had to flee Carver County for St. Paul until the Dakota Indian uprising was over. As told in *An Illustrated History of Yellow Medicine County* by Arthur Rose (1914), “William H. received a country school education (one room school, grades 1-8). In 1877 he left home and came to Yellow Medicine County, filing a homestead claim to land on section 8, Wergeland Township.” That was about the same time that Arthur Hewitt moved north to Wergeland Township. William H. married Alice Dunn, sister of Thomas J Dunn. Esther never married; she cared for her parents in their later years. Esther prized her English ancestry; she visited England by ship and attended Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee.¹

William Frankland did not want to leave his property to the Cole children, so he adopted a five-year old boy neighbor boy, Joseph Zdhahol, who was raised as a Frankland. Joe and his wife provided a home for Eleanor and Esther Ann until their deaths. In addition, the will of William Frankland left \$2,000 for Esther. Ada Hewitt went to Belle Plaine to care for Esther until Esther’s death in 1936.

⁷Rebecca’s parents were Stephen Fletcher Smith (1823-1903), born in Dale Abbey, Derbyshire,



STEPHEN FLETCHER SMITH

England and Sarah Ann Handley (1834-1903), born in nearby Lincoln, Lincolnshire, England. (That Smith line is unrelated to the Smith line of my grandfather, Howard A. Smith.) Stephen and Sarah were married in 1852 in Saint Nicholas Church in Lincoln and shortly thereafter emigrated to America, arriving in Philadelphia and then ending up in Faxon Township, Sibley, Minnesota, across the Minnesota River from Belle Plaine in Scott County. They had children Eliza (Frank D Dougherty), William Handley, Becky, Frances E ‘Fannie’ (Jackson Dunn), Estella Augusta (Frank Henry Warner), Sarah Ann, Stephen S (Edith Monson and Cora Jane



SARAH ANN HANDLEY SMITH

Cole), Benjamin Franklin (Genevieve ‘Jennifer’ Strait), Louise Mary, Ellen Letitia (John Cornelius Roise), and John Thomas (Nellie Morris).

The husband of Fannie, Jackson Dunn, was the relative of several Dunsns talked about above – he was the nephew of John Dunn and of John’s sister Elizabeth ‘Lizzie’ Dunn Cole, and the half-nephew of Thomas Jones Dunn and of Thomas’ sister Alice Mary Dunn Cole.

⁸See Chapter 1 of this book.

⁹Florence Whitney Allen (1851-1941) was from the well-known Whitney family of New England and was herself born in Maine. My mother wrote that “Aunt Florence Allen was a



Sara Beatrice Kintner Allen

Grand Dame type of lady. She wore beautiful long gowns of lovely silks and other fine fabrics.” She and James P Allen had two children – Lillian Maud Allen (1873-1909), who married Henry White Williams, and Charles Whitney Allen (1876-1940), who married Sara Beatrice Kintner (1886-1919). Sara’s parents were Jerome Kintner and Flora Weiser. Sara’s grandparents were William F Weiser and Mary Elizabeth Allen, the sister of Charles’ father James P Allen. So Sara was actually the first cousin once removed of Charles.

After a life as a hotelkeeper, Jerome Kintner, invented a Doctor title and a European education and opened the Hebron Sanatorium in Bethany, Missouri. It offered “hydropathy in healing waters” and “thermo-electric treatment.” More details on p. 17.

Sara Kintner Allen had “melancholia,” leading to a suicide. After that event, my mother wrote, “Aunt Florence, widowed, moved into Charlie's lakefront home in White Bear Lake and raised the children.” White Bear Lake was a wealthy suburb of Saint Paul. My mother continued “Charlie and Aunt Florence came to Washburn often, Charlie having trouble with his heavy car on dirt roads. Charlie always drove Cadillacs. They did leave the children with my parents a good deal. I don’t know why. A rest for Aunt Florence, perhaps. While in high school, I spent one summer in White Bear Lake with them ‘tutoring’ the girls and giving them piano lessons! Good gracious, what nerve I had. It wasn’t my idea and I was thrilled to get home despite a pleasant summer. Aunt Florence was a lovely, gracious lady, often tired by two lively young girls.” Those girls were Martha Lillian Allen Challoner and Sally Kintner Allen Emery.

¹⁰Howard’s English ancestry is detailed in Chapter 3 of this book.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This narrative was derived in part from my own research into United States and England censuses, birth, marriage, and death records, and newspaper articles. But it leaned heavily on LDS Family Group Sheets compiled by Ada Hewitt and Roxie Smith Hubbs, subsequent letters from Roxie and the Henrietta Koons bible in her possession, a letter and photo from Ilene Norton, and emails from Carl Dunn.

I did not extensively footnote sources in the text, but sources can be found in my genealogy files on ancestry.com and, especially, on Rootsweb WorldConnect, where my complete notes appear.

I am indebted to Lee Hewitt Beecher for the Ruth Borgendale Beecher memoir and for photos in the Arthur Hewitt section, to Victoria Wise for photos in the Frank Hewitt section and for sending me the Smith History by Lee Smith, to Jim Button for photos in the George Hewitt section, and to Lois Pearson for the Esther Tanner photo.