

# *Descendants of John Chambers*

## *Generation No. 1*

1. JOHN<sup>2</sup> CHAMBERS (*JACOB*<sup>1</sup>)<sup>J</sup> was born Abt. 1776 in New Jersey, and died 18 Feb 1864 in Ohio. He married (1) MARY MCKEAN Abt. 1800 in Bound Brook, Sommerset County, NJ. She was born 12 Mar 1784 in County Antrim, North Ireland, and died 19 Nov 1845 in Montgomery County Ohio. He married (2) MARY WIDOW MORRIS 22 Jul 1847 in Warren county Ohio. She was born 22 Apr 1796 in Virginia, and died 26 Oct 1873 in Shelby county Ohio.

### Notes for JOHN CHAMBERS:

This data is from James Chambers, my Indiana Jim. On June 26, 2003, Jim says, "the last find I have on the Chambers family is that John Chamber of New Jersey was born there for certain, not in Northern Ireland as was thought might be possible." Sommerset County and Middlesex county, NJ. Jim indicates that John's mother was foreign born, father born in U.S.

The will of John Chambers, written March 1855, found in Ohio. "In the name of the Benevolent father of all I, John Chambers, of lawful age and sound mind do make and publish this my last will and testament. I will and bequesth and devise to my beloved wife after paying my funeral expenses and all my just debts. All the remainder of my property both real and personal so long as she lives and remains my widow.

If my beloved wife Mary Chambers should marry again then she shall forfeit all her claim to my property both real and personal. If she should not marry at her death I will all my property both real and personal after paying her funeral expenses and just debts be equally dividd between my children to wit Jacob Chambers, Rachel Penrod, Jane Horner, John Chambers, Maria Hedrick, Will Chambers, Francis M. Chambers, James Chambers, Matthew Chambers. I will and devise that they shall be provided both for me and my beloved wife out my property aforesaid suitable Grave Stones to be placed at our Graves.

I will that my wife be and is hereby appointed sole executrix of this my last will and testament.

i DO HEREBY REVOKE ALL FORMER WILLS BY ME MADE. iN TESTIMONY WHEREOF i HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 30THE DAY OF MARCH 1855.

Signed and acknowledged by John Chambers as  
His last will and testament in the presence of us  
at his request in his presence

Wm. Murphey  
Wm. Skillen

The order of the children is approximated, based on this will. At first it was not known that John married twice, first to Mary McKean, who was mother of the children, then next to widow Mary Morris. This gives the dilemma of first Mary being dead before him, and his own new wife, Mary, who died after him and is buried near him in Oran Cemetery.

### More About JOHN CHAMBERS:

Burial: Oran Church Cemetery, Oran, Shelby County Ohio

### More About MARY MCKEAN:

Burial: Prymont Cemetery, Perry Twp, Montgomery County Ohio

### More About MARY WIDOW MORRIS:

Burial: Oran Church Cemetery, Oran, Shelby County Ohio

### Children of JOHN CHAMBERS and MARY MCKEAN are:

- i. JACOB<sup>3</sup> CHAMBERS.
2. ii. RACHEL CHAMBERS, b. 14 Mar 1805, New Jersey; d. 22 Jun 1868, Shelby Co Ohio.
- iii. JANE CHAMBERS, b. 1806.
- iv. JOHN CHAMBERS, b. 1808, Montgomery Co Ohio.
- v. MARIA CHAMBERS, b. 1810, Montgomery Ohio.
- vi. WILLIAM CHAMBERS, b. 1812, ohio.
- vii. FRANCIS M. CHAMBERS, b. 1814, Ohio.

- viii. JAMES CHAMBERS, b. 03 Jun 1819, Ohio; d. 30 Dec 1887, Shelby Co Ohio.
- 3. ix. MATTHEW CHAMBERS, b. 1825, Ohio; d. Abt. 1888, Douglas County, Dakota Terr..

### *Generation No. 2*

2. RACHEL<sup>3</sup> CHAMBERS (*JOHN*<sup>2</sup>, *JACOB*<sup>1</sup>)<sup>2,3,4,5</sup> was born 14 Mar 1805 in New Jersey, and died 22 Jun 1868 in Shelby Co Ohio. She married SAMUEL PENROD<sup>6,7</sup> 11 Sep 1822 in Montgomery County Ohio<sup>8</sup>. He was born 1794 in Pennsylvania.

#### Notes for RACHEL CHAMBERS:

Married Samuel Penrod in Shelby Co. Ohio, born in Pennsylvania. He and Rachel had 6 children, of whom one, William, is said to have died of inhumane treatment by the Confederates at Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

The history of Miami County Ohio says Rachel was born in New Jersey. Her obituary from the newspaper of July 2, 1868 says she was born in New Jersey, Sept 14th 1804, and when she was two years old her father with his family moved to Montgomery County Ohio where she lived about thirty years. (This indicates she came to Ohio about 1806.) She married Samuel Penrod Sept. 12th 1822 who moved the family to Shelby County Ohio in 1832. For the last 30 years of her life she was in ill health, and her last illness was short yet very severe and painful. She left a husband and six children to mourn her loss.

#### Notes for SAMUEL PENROD:

Samuel Penrod was a pioneer settler and preacher in Shelby County Ohio. He was born in Pennsylvania of German ancestry, and during the whole of his mature life he engaged in farming and in serving as a minister in the Christian church. He was instrumental in building the old church at Newport. His wife Rachel was a native of New Jersey.

They had six children, Jacob and Mary Jane, deceased, Phebe Ann, Levi, and William. William served in the Union army. He died from starvation and inhumane treatment while held a prisoner of war at Andersonville Prison Camp in Georgia during the Civil War.

#### Children of RACHEL CHAMBERS and SAMUEL PENROD are:

- i. MARY JANE<sup>4</sup> PENROD.
- ii. UNNAMED PENROD.
- 4. iii. PHEBE ANN PENROD, b. 1828, Shelby County Ohio.
- iv. JACOB PENROD<sup>9</sup>, b. 1831, Shelby County Ohio; m. SARAH BLANCHARD<sup>10</sup>, 18 Feb 1847, Shelby County Ohio.
- 5. v. LEVI H. PENROD, b. 1834, Shelby County Ohio.
- vi. WILLIAM PENROD<sup>11,12</sup>, b. 1843, Shelby County Ohio; d. Abt. 1864, Andersonville Prison, Georgia.

3. MATTHEW<sup>3</sup> CHAMBERS (*JOHN*<sup>2</sup>, *JACOB*<sup>1</sup>) was born 1825 in Ohio, and died Abt. 1888 in Douglas County, Dakota Terr.. He married ELIZABETH ANN HAVENS 09 Nov 1841 in Montgomery Co Ohio, daughter of SAMUEL HAVENS and ELIZABETH UNKNOWN. She was born 1825 in Montgomery County, Ohio, and died Unknown in Unknown.

#### Notes for MATTHEW CHAMBERS:

Matthew was the youngest son of John Chambers, born in Ohio. Though data is thin, it is believed he worked around as a farm laborer, and met Elizabeth Ann Havens when both were young teenagers. Elizabeth bore their first child before their marriage when both were only fifteen. This put great pressure on Matthew to constantly find a home for his family and to work hard as a hired farm laborer, often a tenant farmer. The couple moved often about Ohio and into Fulton county Illinois with family as Matthew earned the family living. Perhaps they did not stay in Illinois until about 1860. They also moved back and forth to Holland Michigan where the men of the family worked in the very busy timber industry.

He is listed as illiterate in the 1870 US census of Fulton county Illinois. He worked hard to support his family of wife and ten children. He was lucky to maintain his health, and to have a strong, healthy wife who did not die under the strain of bearing so many children and the stress of tending such a large family. Many men of this era "wore out" wives by excessive child bearing, often having to marry two of three more women to tend their large families, but Matthew was blessed with the strong and healthy Elizabeth.

Old Matthew travelled to Dakota Territory and took up a homestead. It was across the road from widow Sarah Pierce and her three little daughters. There is no evidence of exactly when Matthew actually worked on his acreage, but his oldest son William and family were with him as were others including Levi and Francis

Marion, as well as daughters Marilla with husband Gilbert Mack, Sarah and husband Perry Landis, and youngest daughter Augusta. Matthew died there and has recently been found buried in an unmarked grave in Delmont Cemetery.

The Receiver's Receipt No. 2891 from the Receiver's Office at Yankton was issued November 20th, 1883. "Received from Mathew Chambers of Douglas County Dak. the sum of two hundred dollars and --- cents being in full for the South West quarter of Section No 28 in Township No. 99 north of Range No 62 W, containing 160 acres and --- hundredths, at \$1.25 per acre, Jos G Chandler, Receiver" The separate Patent Record is issued 5th December 1898 sealed by C.E.Huston, Register of Deeds, signed by Grover Cleveland, President, 2 April 1887.

The homestead of Mathew Chambers was diagonally across from that of Sarah Pierce. When viewed by author on the site, there was no sign of any buildings and the place at the corner was in tall slough grass. The main working county road ran across in front of the site, the cross road did not run on the line past the Chambers place. A good branch of Choteau Creek flowed through Sarah's site, and over across into the place across the road, beside Mathew's. It was a wet year and the site was a wetland, a pond, a slough, with trees and high wetland reed grass. Sarah's place showed an overgrown shelterbelt between the creek proper and the house site. The house was gone, but there were at least three wood buildings, one a very large two-story barn.

More About MATTHEW CHAMBERS:

Burial: Probably Delmont Cemetery, Delmont, Douglas Co. SD

Notes for ELIZABETH ANN HAVENS:

Though Elizabeth Ann Havens is listed as having been born in Montgomery County, Ohio, and her marriage to Mathew Chambers is in the marriage lists, her exact parentage has not been fully verified. There are a number of Havens families in early Ohio, some with older women named Elizabeth, so that she might have been named for a grandmother. The date and place of her death is also not proven, though there are several theoretical times and places proposed.

Hilda Manbeck Vandervelde showed a letter, now lost, which came from Illinois, in which Eliza herself illiterate, sent a proposal at the death of daughter-in-law Percy Hoadley Chambers, wife of F.M Chambers, who died in Douglas County South Dakota about July 1885, and was buried in Grand View cemetery. She left behind a large family with her husband. In this letter, Eliza proposed through the writer that if Marion would "get rid" of the two oldest girls, Lillie Ann and Etta Belle, a woman living near her in Illinois would marry him. No answer to this proposal is known. I did not copy or memorize this letter, nor do I recall now, about 45 years later, exactly who wrote the letter or where they lived.

Some family members believe that Elizabeth accompanied the family to Dakota Territory, but this has not been proven. She might have done so, and died there. Someday this data will be found.

Children of MATTHEW CHAMBERS and ELIZABETH HAVENS are:

6. i. WILLIAM H.<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 06 Sep 1841, Montgomery Co Ohio; d. 05 Oct 1913, Ipava, Fulton Co Illinois.
7. ii. SAMUEL MILLS CHAMBERS, b. 29 Nov 1843, Shelby Co Ohio; d. 06 Jan 1904, Fulton Co Illinois.
8. iii. FRANCIS MARION CHAMBERS, b. 22 May 1846, Marion County Ohio; d. 22 Aug 1916, Bernadotte Fulton County IL.
9. iv. JAMES FRANKLIN CHAMBERS, b. 04 Sep 1848, Ohio; d. 10 Mar 1916, Fulton Co Illinois.
10. v. MARILLA E. (SIS) CHAMBERS, b. 1852, Ohio; d. 09 Mar 1886, Armour Douglas Co DT.
11. vi. LEVI PENROD CHAMBERS, b. 15 Sep 1854, Fulton Co Illinois; d. 30 Nov 1918, Skiatook Oklahoma.
12. vii. JOHN ELISHA CHAMBERS, b. 27 Aug 1857, Ohio; d. 06 Jan 1902, Peoria Hospital Illinois.
13. viii. SARAH (SALLIE) CHAMBERS, b. Abt. 1859, Green Twp Shelby County, Ohio; d. Nov 1890, Lewistown, Fulton Co. Illinois.
- ix. AUGUSTA (GUSSIE) CHAMBERS, b. 1863, Fulton County Illinois; d. 1900, Douglas Co SD; m. MR. BLANK MCGILL.

Notes for AUGUSTA (GUSSIE) CHAMBERS:

Her records are vague. She moved to Dakota with her older brothers and father. On 6 August 1894 she was witness to the marriage of Frances Marion chambers and Danae Pierce Chambers in Grand View. The other witness was Henry Millay. It is likely but not yet proven that she died in Douglas County about 1900 leaving at least 2 children, and might have borne a third baby, the "Florence" mentioned in some records. There are 2 children living with Henry Millay and wife Etta Belle Chambers Millay, but are only found in one census and that census is very difficult to read. They do not appear in that household again. Her husband migrated away from the area.

*Generation No. 3*

4. PHEBE ANN<sup>4</sup> PENROD (*RACHEL<sup>3</sup> CHAMBERS, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*)<sup>13,14</sup> was born 1828 in Shelby County Ohio. She married ROBERT F. LOVE<sup>15,16</sup> 09 Jan 1848 in Shelby County Ohio, son of WILLIAM LOVE. He was born 1825 in Ohio.

Children of PHEBE PENROD and ROBERT LOVE are:

- i. ILLEGIBLE<sup>5</sup> LOVE, b. 1848, Shelby County Ohio.
- ii. ALICE LOVE, b. 1852, Shelby County Ohio.
- iii. SAMUEL LOVE, b. 1855, Shelby County Ohio.
- iv. JAMES LOVE, b. 1857, Shelby County Ohio.
- v. WILLIAM LOVE, b. 1859, Shelby County Ohio.

5. LEVI H.<sup>4</sup> PENROD (*RACHEL<sup>3</sup> CHAMBERS, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*)<sup>17,18</sup> was born 1834 in Shelby County Ohio. He married MARTHA L. ERVIN<sup>19</sup> 30 Sep 1855 in Shelby County Ohio<sup>20</sup>. She was born 1838 in Ohio.

Children of LEVI PENROD and MARTHA ERVIN are:

- i. ELIZABETH<sup>5</sup> PENROD<sup>21</sup>, b. 1857, Shelby County Ohio.
- ii. SYLVESTER PENROD<sup>22</sup>, b. 1859, Shelby County Ohio.

6. WILLIAM H.<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born 06 Sep 1841 in Montgomery Co Ohio, and died 05 Oct 1913 in Ipava, Fulton Co Illinois. He married (1) HELEN AUGUSTA BULLOCK 27 Jan 1865 in Tonica, LaSalle county, Illinois, daughter of JOB BULLOCK and ANNE CROSSMAN. She was born 1843 in Tonica, LaSalle County Illinois, and died 09 Mar 1886 in Douglas Co SD. He married (2) SARAH SOPHIA NEWBERRY PIERCE 17 Apr 1887 in Grand View, Douglas County, South Dakota, daughter of ANSEL NEWBERRY and SARAH TOBIN. She was born 08 Jun 1843 in Jackson Co Iowa, and died 09 Jun 1917 in Sioux Falls SD.

Notes for WILLIAM H. CHAMBERS:

William, known as Uncle Billie by his nieces and nephews, was oldest Chambers brother and a Union Army veteran, was often the main support of his slow brother, Francis Marion. His middle initial H is sometimes said to stand for Harrison, sometimes for Havens, the maiden name of his mother. William enlisted August 8, 1862 at Tonica, Illinois for a term of 3 years for service in the civil War. He was mustered into service August 27, 1862 at Ottawa, Illinois. He was assigned to duty as a Private in Company B., 104th Illinois Infantry. His description at the time of his enlistment was : age 20 years almost 21, height 5 feet 8 iunches, Hair light, Eyes blue, Complexion light. Occupation, farmer. Nativity, Ohio, Residence Tonica, Illinois, according to his enlistment notes in his official pension file from the National Archives.

He and several brothers had been working in Michigan in the timber industry, and he returned there to Holland, Michigan after his discharge from the army in 1863 on Disability. His pension papers state that he had been captured by the Confederate Army in Tennessee along with four others of his unit, and remained in enemy hands for ten days. Parolled back to their own army at the end of that time, all five were sent for physicals as was usual upon return from the Rebels because they were often exposed to disease, and not properly fed. The other four men were quickly returned to duty, but William was discharged because of an existing condition, a collapsed lung from tuberculosis, which had obviously been present when he enlisted, but no real physical exam had been given upon enlistment.

Back home, he soon returned to Holland, Michigan, after marrying Helen Bulloch in LaSalle county Illinois, near Tonica. Their first baby, a little girl named Laura Mable was born in 1866 and died that same year. Their first son, Archie, was born Michigan in 1867. Other members of the family were there too. Brother Francis Marion married teenager Percy Hoadly there in 1865 with his parents Matthew and Eliza Chambers as witnesses to the marriage according to the certificate from the County Courthouse. The families moved back to Fulton County where Hellen bore two sets of twin boys, of which three died and are buried in Fulton County. She bore two more children, girls who died shortly. She then bore daughter Nettie, who survived to adulthood. About 1884 or 85 the family moved to Dakota Territory where old Matthew homesteaded a claim, though William did not. Several of his brothers and sisters with wives and husbands also came to live nearby. A clan of family members was always helpful in those harsh times. William was particularly close to brother Levi and wife Lena Landis.

Dakota Territory was not kind to Chambers women. Helen died 9 March 1886. Francis Marion's wife, Percy, died there in 1885, sister Marilla Chambers Mack died in 1887. Helen's children were raised by Sarah Pierce. For several years, Sarah also cared for F.M., and his boys. He had left his two teenage girls with L.J. Manbeck, but still had James Hurshel age 17, Matt age 9, Vadie age 7, and Jesse, age 4. Matt was supposed to

help herd the cattle at L.J.'s house where the 2 older girls worked. Vadie was sent back to Illinois to live with relatives there. James Hurshel also went back to Illinois. Grandfather Matthew Chambers died there too, before proving up his homestead. William bought up the homestead, It was across the road from Sarah's place.

William married Sarah Newberry Pierce in 1887. She was 43 and he was 47. I have stood at the location of Sarah's homestead in Lincoln Township. In 1995, during a period of heavy rain and a long cycle of wet years, there were several large sloughs and low wet places on both sides of the road. There were plenty of big strong trees iat the waterline of the branch of Choteau Creek which ran in the cow pasture of Sarah's place. The farmhouse was gone, but there were a number of still-sturdy old outbuildings including a large barn. A shelter-belt ran along the back of the yard. Across the road, where the Chambers homestead was located, there were no signs it had ever been inhabited, no ruins of old buildings or fallen fences, just a wide wetland with tall grass and cattails. Probably the Chambers family lived in a soddie or a claim shack, and kept their livestock up next to the house.

When he and his first wife, with 2 small children moved to Dakota Territory, F.M. went too, depending on William to help support him and his own wife and family. William's wife died, leaving him with three children and his aged father to care for. His three children were raised by Sarah Newberry Pierce, his second wife.

When William died back on a visit to Illinois, the death certificate states he died of myocarditis, with chronic malaria as a contributing factor. His obituary from the Sioux Falls Daily Press reads "Born in 1842, in Ohio, and entered the Army Service Aug 8, 1862, at Tonica, Illinois at the age of 20. He served in the Civil War in Co. B 104th Illinois Infantry, and was discharged in 1863. William Chambers was a member of the G.A.R. His death occurred Oct. 5, 1913 at Ipava, Illinois, at the age of 73. His remains were sent to Sioux Falls, S.D., where he was buried in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Plot 6, block 32, Lot 5, Grave #1st NE 1/2."

His grave in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Sioux Falls, SD is marked with a Civil War, Union army grave stone reading "Wm. H. Chambers, Co B 104 Ills. Inf." He always belonged to the veterans organization, the G.A.R. His portrait in his full uniform has been shared by Nettie's family.

#### More About WILLIAM H. CHAMBERS:

Burial: 1913, Mt. Pleasant Cem.,Sioux Fall, Minnehaha County, South Dakota

Description: 27 Aug 1862, At enlistment in Union Army, IL

#### Notes for HELEN AUGUSTA BULLOCK:

Helen was one of the Chambers women who succumbed to the Dakota Territory weather and hard work. Probably she suffered from the family affliction, tuberculosis. She produced very many children, perhaps eleven, of which only three survived. She was probably not in the best of health from these efforts aggravated by the consumption. She bore a daughter which died, then her first son, Archie W. Chambers, born in Michigan in 1867, where the Chambers family had moved to seek employment in the thriving timber industry. Her exact burial site is not known, but she died in Douglas County South Dakota and might have been buried and reburied into the Delmont Cemetery.

Thanks to Nettie's family, we now have a lovely portrait of Helen taken about 1865. She wears a nice gown of the era and exhibits her wedding ring. At her throat she wears a locket/pin with a picture of William, which is still in the family. This is the only existing picture of her to date.

Helen is found in the 1850 census of Illinois, LaSalle County, Salisbury TWp. as follows:

719/718 Tisdale Bullock age 42 m. Farmer born Massachusetts

Ann F.	"	25	f.	born	"
Helen	"	6	f.	"	III
Marietta	"	2	f.	"	III

Helen is found in the 1860 Census of Michigan, Monroe Co., Summerfield TWp.

103/103 Wilson Freeland age 29 m Farmer value 175 born NY

Matilda L.	"	30	f	"	NY
Elia J.	"	2	f	"	Mich.
Morgan xxxxx ?	"	20	m	laborer	" "
Helen Bullock	"	13	f	"	"

It is not known who the family is with whom she is living. She is not listed as a servant so perhaps she is a relative of either Wilson or Matilda or even the laborer Morgan. The age is off, but then it is a census record. But it is known in family circles that she was acquainted with William Chambers from Illinois who was at this time living in Michigan and working in the timber industry. She and her siblings might have been orphaned and adopted by relatives. This is being researched by direct descendants. Extensive written notes and letters have been preserved by the family of Nettie Gurtrude Chambers Willi, youngest surviving daughter of Helen and

William Chambers.

More About HELEN AUGUSTA BULLOCK:

Burial: unknown

Notes for SARAH SOPHIA NEWBERRY PIERCE:

Family legends say that widow Sarah Pierce walked across the prairie from the railhead, pushing her few possessions in a handcart. It is not known if she had her three little daughters with her at that time. She had been living with her mother, siblings, mother's second husband (father's brother) and a second batch of half siblings. In the 1880 U.S. Census back in Iowa, her mother, Sarah Tobin Newberry, widowed and remarried, lived with her oldest daughter widowed Sarah Pierce with three small daughters, Constant Newberry second husband of Sarah Tobin, and children Laura, Mary, Lucy, Claricia from the first marriage with Emma, May, Rosell, and Hazel from the second. Rosell and Hazell, the only sons, also homesteaded into Dakota Territory, settling near Sioux Falls.

The house must have been very crowded. Very much wanting a home of her own, she filed on a quarter section in Lincoln Township in 1883. One corner was drained by a strong branch of Choteau Creek near which she built her first house, a soddie, because she had little money or means to transport building material. Even a nine x twelve wood shanty was beyond her reach. But anyone with determination and good neighbors could put together a soddie.

Certainly her tool kit held a good shovel. She could dig out a rectangle of the prescribed size, saving the sod from the top layer. With the hole about three feet deep, she could stamp down the floor, then cut some large branches or small trees from the nearby creek bank, drag them to the homesite, to build upright corner poles with a top beam. Then she could interweave branches for the roof and walls. The sod could be cut into squares and laid up for walls, all reinforced with branches. More branches were interlaced for the roof, then covered with layers of long cut reeds and swale grass. Later it might be covered with more sod squares, and even lumber, or canvas. Certainly Sarah could not have afforded windows, so she might have left a couple of openings outlined with wood and dropcloths for keeping out the wind. The door was first a heavy hide fastened to a crossbar, and steps made of precious boards or even stones down to floor level. The packed dirt floor was hard and covered with dry grass. The grass could be hauled out when it became infested with fleas and soiled by food or trash, but great care had to be taken so that the little home did not catch fire.

She probably brought a small iron cook stove, some utensils, and a few gardening tools. The first year she must have planted sod corn and potatoes, first crops of most homesteaders. These were planted by punching a hole into the unplowed ground and dropping in seed. Because the black topsoil was so fertile this was often the best crop ever produced on the place. She had the pittance of her Union Army Widow's pension so she could buy staples like salt, sugar, and dried beans. She made trips on foot to the nearest store, walking and pushing her handcart. Later perhaps she rode with neighbors, trading that favor for homebaked pies made with dried apples or homebaked bread.

When the Chambers family came into the area, their lives became intertwined. Old Mathew Chambers applied for homestead rights to the quarter diagonally across from Sarah's place in Lincoln Township the same year she did, 1883. He died sometime before it was proved up, but his oldest son, William with ailing wife Helen and their two surviving children who came in two years later, kept house for him. Helen soon died, leaving William with a family to raise. William did not take up his own homestead, but when his father died he took over that claim. In family legend he had a reputation as a carpenter.

The marriage certificate for her union with William states that William Chambers, resident of Lincoln Township, age 46, occupation farmer, and Sarah S. Pierce, Lincoln Township, age 43, Housekeeper, were duly married on the 17th of April 1887, at 3 P.M. in the presence of Mrs. Lany Chambers (sister-in-law of William) and Mrs. Flora K. Callahan, at home of the Justice of the Peace Callahan in Grand View, Dakota Territory.

A real farmhouse was built on Sarah's place, and in the 1905 S.D. school census, when she was 60 and husband William 63, F.M., Danae, their four young children and Jesse all are listed as living in Sarah's house, because L.J. had sold off his homestead, using the cash in town for his many business deals in real estate, and in running his new livery stable built for him by his father. There was no room in L.J.'s town home for his father-in-law.

As drought and grasshoppers attacked, William lost his father's homestead and another he had bought on a mortgage from a Landis brother-in-law, but Sarah wisely hung onto her own place. In 1906, crowded and stressed, she sold off her successful farm for \$6,400 and retired with William to Sioux Falls.

There they did well, buying several city lots and on which they built rental property. It is said he acted as a building contractor to put up these buildings. From family tales, F.M. had insisted that he was going to turn Democrat, which insulted Union Army Veteran, faithful G.A.R. member William, who had enough of supporting

his constantly dependent brother. F.M. took Danae and the children back to Fulton County Illinois where they were assisted by F.M.'s grown sons as well as his new sons. Later William went back there to visit, probably to reconcile, and died there of a heart attack. But he was buried in Sioux Falls with Sarah. The pictures from Nettie's family include one of the old couple by there pretty new little house on Minnesota Avenue.

His estate was handled by Sarah, and the real property was divided between her and the surviving children of William--Archie W. Chamber age 46 of Lansford N.D., Netti G. Willi, 31 years of age, in Armour, SD, and Albert L. Chambers age 38, at Sheridan Wyoming who are carefully listed in the documents of his estate from Minnehaha County, South Dakota.

Sarah appears in the 1915 SD census, as Sarah Chambers 71, widow, lived in U.S. 71 years, in S.D. 33 years. Owns home. Birthplace Iowa, ancestry French. Her death certificate , from June 9, 1917, was filled in by her brother R.S.Newberry. She died of Bronchial Pneumonia after a Mitral Regurgitation. She was buried in Mt. Pleasant cemetery at Sioux Falls, beside husband William Chambers.

Beautiful pictures have been shared by the descendants of Nettie Chambers, William's youngest child, who was raised by William and Sarah. there is a wonderful group pictures of all the guests at Nettie's wedding, with some 50 or more guests, all posed beside Sarah's charming farmhouse at Lincoln Township near Delmont.

#### More About SARAH SOPHIA NEWBERRY PIERCE:

Burial: 1917, Mt. Pleasant Cem., Sioux Fall, Minnehaha County, South Dakota

#### Children of WILLIAM CHAMBERS and HELEN BULLOCK are:

- i. LAURA MABLE<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 08 Jan 1866; d. 25 Aug 1866.

##### Notes for LAURA MABLE CHAMBERS:

From the family research lists of Nettie Chamber Willi. Also other family traditions. She was the oldest grandchild, but she did not survive.

- ii. ARCHIE WILBUR CHAMBERS, b. 29 Mar 1867, Holland City MI; d. 24 Nov 1940, Minot, Ward county North Dakota; m. CORA HALL, 12 Dec 1900, Armour Douglas County SD; b. 22 Nov 1878, Marshalltown, Iowa; d. 26 Feb 1962, North Dakota.

##### Notes for ARCHIE WILBUR CHAMBERS:

Archie, a farmer like most of the Chambers men, moved from Douglas County up to Lansford Bottineau County North Dakota, near the Canadian border, where he bought a farm on the edge of town according to deeds from County records. Two young children were born there, have birth certificates in the County records. He was the oldest surviving grandchild born to a Chambers.

Archie, the second child of William and Helen, was born in Holland, Michigan in 1867 as recorded in his father's, William's civil war pension file. His baby sister had been born and died before him. Archie married Cora May Hall, born in 1878 in Marshalltown, Iowa, on 10 December 1900 in Armour, SD according to their marriage license and wedding certificates from Douglas County.

Their oldest son, Herbert Archie, was issued a delayed birth certificate by Douglas County, certificate no. 877. According to that document, with Archie signing as the sworn informant 20 February 1937. According to his statement, he delivered the baby himself at 2 a.m. 5 November 1902. And he also says again he was born in Holland City, Michigan, and worked as a farmer on a rented farm at the time of the birth. Up in North Dakota he farmed, but he also built a garage in Lansford where he repaired autos, and other machinery. He also ran a dray service. Nettie's family shared a picture of this business, as well as fine portraits of Archie. He and wife Cora are on the Delmont group Wedding photo.

Archie's sister, Nettie Chambers Willi, was always interested in keeping track of her family, and began enquiries about them among her relatives. She carefully kept these letters and made lists of the births, dates, and other information she gathered. Data from these letters, diaries, and notes will be referred to as Nettie's Research. For most of the children listed on her notes there is only the birth information, with no listing of deaths, burial, or other family data. These may list the birthdays of Archie's children both live and dead, as well as the wives and children of Archie's children.

- iii. ALBERT EDWARD (TWIN) CHAMBERS, b. 29 Aug 1869, Fulton Co Illinois; d. 19 Sep 1871, Fulton Co Illinois.

##### Notes for ALBERT EDWARD (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Data from the Fulton county courthouse at Lewistown, Illinois, which provided a birth listing and a burial listing from their cemetery/burial records.

##### More About ALBERT EDWARD (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Burial: Sep 1871, Cuba Cemetery Fulton Co IL

- iv. EDMOND A. (TWIN) CHAMBERS, b. 29 Aug 1869, Fulton Co IL; d. 19 Sep 1871, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for EDMOND A. (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Records from Fulton county courthouse, Lewistown, Illinois, with birth lists and burial lists from their cemetery/burial records.

More About EDMOND A. (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Burial: Sep 1871, Cuba Cemetery Fulton CoIL

- v. WILLIAM M. (TWIN) CHAMBERS, b. 24 Aug 1872, Fulton Co IL; d. 28 Aug 1874, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for WILLIAM M. (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

This is one boy from the second set of twins born to Helen and William. Records are from the Fulton county courthouse birth lists and cemetery/burial records.

More About WILLIAM M. (TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Burial: 28 Aug 1874, Cuba Cemetery Fulton Co IL

- vi. ALBERT TISDALE(TWIN) CHAMBERS, b. 28 Aug 1872, Fulton Co IL; d. 02 Nov 1921, Sheridan Wyoming;  
m. MABEL HITCHCOCK, 1893, Unknown; b. 1877, Iowa; d. Unknown.

Notes for ALBERT TISDALE(TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Record from the Fulton county courthouse birth lists and cemetery/burial records. The second boy of the second set of twins born to Helen, has been assigned a different birth date from that given the first twin. It is possible this boy, the only one of the 4 twin boys to survive to adulthood, was indeed born two days later than his twin sibling. This boy was one of William's children raised in the household of Sarah Pierce. Fine portraits of Albert come from the collection of Nettie shared by his grandson, Roland Fisher.

Albert Chambers is found in the 1900 Census of Sheridan Co, City, Wyoming Occupation Barber  
53/53 Albert Chambers head born Aug 1872, age 27, married 7 years born Ill fa. Ill mo. Ill.  
Mabel " wife " Mar 1877 " 23 " " " born Iowa fa. Vt. mo. Iowa  
Gracie " dau " Nov 1893 " 6

A photo of Albert with his fellow barbers in front of the Sheridan, Wyoming barbershop in which he worked has been shared by Roland Fisher.

Albert Chambers is found in the 1910 census same place, occupation Real Estate Agent

Albert T. Chambers head 37 married 15 years  
Mabel " wife 33 " " " 3 borne, 1 live  
Helen " dau 8 born 1902

He and wife Mabel are in the big group photo of Nettie's wedding at Delmont.

Albert and family are found in the 1920 Census of Johnson Co. Buffalo, Wyoming

Albert Chambers head age 47 rents second hand store  
Mabel " wife age 43 born Iowa  
Helen " dau age 18 born Wyoming  
unreadable " son age 7 born Wyoming

He is listed as buried in the Sheridan Wyoming Municipal Cemetery, in a plat owned by his wife. But she is not buried there nor are any of their several children who preceeded their father in death. Perhaps Mabel belonged to a church, and she as well as her children are buried there.

More About ALBERT TISDALE(TWIN) CHAMBERS:

Burial: 05 Nov 1921, Sheridan Mnicipal Cemetery, Sheridan Wyoming

Notes for MABEL HITCHCOCK:

Mabel's history is rather mixed up, but her father was a barber in Iowa. She stayed with Albert and cared for



him when he was ill. She is listed as the owner of his funeral plat in the Sheridan Municipal Cemetery. She is not buried there, nor are any of her several children who died before their father. She had two sons, one by Albert and one by her second husband, Mr. Harmon. Her history is oddly mixed up and has not yet been solved.

- vii. SYBIL GERTRUDE CHAMBERS, b. 06 Jun 1875; d. 1877.

Notes for SYBIL GERTRUDE CHAMBERS:

Nettie's Research. It is not noted where she was born or where buried.

- viii. BESSIE FRANCES CHAMBERS, b. 02 Jun 1877.

- ix. ESTELLA ELIZA CHAMBERS, b. 24 May 1879; d. 25 Jul 1879.

Notes for ESTELLA ELIZA CHAMBERS:

Nettie's Research. Place of birth and death/burial are not noted. She was probably born and died/buried in Fulton County Illinois.

- x. NETTIE GERTRUDE CHAMBERS, b. 14 Feb 1882, Cuba, Fulton Co IL; d. 31 Jan 1951, Clawson, MI; m. PETER WILLIAM WILLI, 29 Jul 1902, Delmont, Douglas County SD; b. 18 Oct 1870, Stipps Hill, Buena Vista Co. Indiana; d. 09 Dec 1937.

Notes for NETTIE GERTRUDE CHAMBERS:

Nettie was a young child about 4 when her mother died. She was the last of Helen's surviving children, born in Fulton County Illinois in 1882. The next year the family migrated to Dakota Territory.

She was raised by William and second wife Sarah Pierce. She married at age 19, to Peter Willi, son of a Swiss immigrant and 12 years her senior. He had been living among his relatives but took out his own homestead down in Charles Mix County in 1901.

Nettie was a sweet, family oriented woman who left many family photos, clippings, and even journals of her trips back to South Dakota. She also worked at gathering her family history by contacting aunts, cousins, and other Bullock family members. Her notes have been carefully preserved and are being verified and used for genealogical purposes. Her greatgrandson has generously shared both data and photos. He is also making a beautiful book of her diaries.

Raised with her two brothers by William and his second wife, the ambitious and hard-working Sarah Newberry Pierce Chambers, Nettie would have also been close to Sarah's daughters, Viola, Danae, and Minnie.

More About NETTIE GERTRUDE CHAMBERS:

Burial: 1951, White Chapel Cemetery, Troy MI

Notes for PETER WILLIAM WILLI:

Found in the 1900 census, Tyndall BonHomme County, SD, living as a boarder in the home of Elias Fisk. He was 29 years old, born in 1870, a day laborer. He was born in Indiana, his father was born in Switzerland, and his mother in Indiana. Relative says Elias is Peter's uncle though the census does not show that fact.

In April 1901 Peter homesteaded in Choteau Creek Township, in the northwest quarter of section 12.

Several of Peter's relatives also lived in this township of Charles Mix County, which butts up next to East Choteau Township of Douglas County in which Jeff Manbeck was one of the earliest homesteaders. The town of Delmont was in Belmont Township of Douglas County, just above East Choteau.

I have received a copy of the nice printed wedding invitation from William and Sarah, inviting people to the wedding at their home near Delmont. Delmont was about 10 miles north of Peter's homestead site. William and Sarah, with Nettie, lived in Lincoln Township the township above Belmont.

Peter is listed as born in Indiana, in the town now named Buena Vista, in Franklin County.

(Data provided by Roland Fisher.)

More About PETER WILLIAM WILLI:

Burial: 1937, White Chapel Cemetery, Troy MI

- xi. UNNAMED CHAMBERS, b. 08 Mar 1884, South Dakota; d. 12 Mar 1884, South Dakota.

Notes for UNNAMED CHAMBERS:

Nettie's Research. The place of birth, death, and burial are not noted. This child was probably born in Douglas County, South Dakota.

7. SAMUEL MILLS<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS (*MATTHEW*<sup>3</sup>, *JOHN*<sup>2</sup>, *JACOB*<sup>1</sup>) was born 29 Nov 1843 in Shelby Co Ohio, and died 06 Jan 1904 in Fulton Co Illinois. He married SARAH HARRIS (WIDOW) DEFORD. She was born 29 Nov 1843 in Shelby Co Ohio, and died 06 Jan 1904 in Fulton Co IL.

Notes for SAMUEL MILLS CHAMBERS:

Some family members thought perhaps Samuel had joined the Union Army with older brother William, but no records of this have been found. According to the 1880 Census of Fulton County, Putman township, Samuel was born in Ohio in 1845, could not read or write. He and wife Sarah Harris Deford lived in dwelling number 347, a rented farm as family #365. They were surrounded by family, being the next-door neighbors of young brother James Franklin as well as David Landis and Harry Landis whose brother Levi married their sister. David and Levi homesteaded to Dakota, to Douglas County with other Chambers families, and older Grandpa Matthew.

Samuel and his wife, widow Sarah Harris Deford, who brought her daughter Marian Deford to the family, now had six children in their own marriage, Laney 13, Rosa 11, Oscar 9, Samuel Bert 7, Perry 2, and Lizzie 7 months. Samuel did not follow the migration of many relatives to Dakota.

Notes for SARAH HARRIS (WIDOW) DEFORD:

According to the 1880 U.S. Census Samuel could not read or write. He and wife Sarah lived in #347, a rented farm, neighbors to his brother James Franklin plus 2 Landis boys who moved to Douglas Co. SD, though Samuel did not. Sarah brought a daughter Marion Deford to their family and they had 6 more Chambers children

Children of SAMUEL CHAMBERS and SARAH DEFORD are:

- i. MARION<sup>5</sup> DEFORD, b. 1864, Illinois.

Notes for MARION DEFORD:

She was the daughter of Sarah Harris Deford, widow.

- ii. DAISY E. CHAMBERS, b. 1866, Illinois; d. Illinois; m. LEWIS BEHYMER, 06 Sep 1906, Fulton County Illinois.

Notes for DAISY E. CHAMBERS:

Died at birth.

- iii. LENA A. CHAMBERS, b. 10 Jan 1867, Fulton Co. IL.
- iv. ROSE CHAMBERS, b. 1869, Fulton Co IL; m. THOMAS MARION BRADEN.
- v. OSCAR SIDNEY CHAMBERS, b. 1871, Fulton Co. IL; m. FANNY C. MILLER, 1896, Fulton County Illinois.
- vi. SAMUEL BERT CHAMBERS, b. Jun 1873, Fulton Co IL; m. ADDIE UNKNOWN, 1885, Fulton County Illinois; b. 1875, Illinois.

Notes for SAMUEL BERT CHAMBERS:

In the 1900 census he and Addie live next door to Perry in a rented house in Cass township. He is a day laborer, married 5 year, with 2 living children of 3 borne by Addie, a daughter Garnett age 2, and a son Marion, age 1 Month.

Notes for ADDIE UNKNOWN:

- vii. MARY ELIZABETH (LIZZIE) CHAMBERS, b. 21 Nov 1879, Fulton Co IL; d. 19 Feb 1948, Fulton Co IL; m. EDWARD RALPH KIEME, 02 Sep 1896, Fulton County Illinois.
- viii. PERRY CHAMBERS, b. Oct 1878, Fulton Co IL; m. FLORENCE MAY SMITH, 1896; b. Abt. 1876.

Notes for PERRY CHAMBERS:

In the 1900 Census of Cass Township he lives in a rented house next door to brother Samuel Bert. He is not married and lists his occupation as a day-laborer.

In the 1910 Census of Osage County, Black Dog Twp, roll 1268, book 2, page 143

Chambers, Perry Head age 32 b. Il fa. Oh mo. Il

Florence wife " 33 b. Il mo. Ia fa. Il

Oscar son " 12 b. Il

Gladys dau " 10 b. Il

Frances dau " 8 b. Il

In the 1920 Census, Osage County, Big Heart Twp, Ed 75, Sheet 2B

Chambers, Perry Head age 42 b. Il fa Oh mo Il

Florence wife " 43 b/Il Fa Ia mo Il

McGrew, Calvin son in law " 23 b Ar fa Il mo Ar

Gladys dau " 20 b Il

Okerson, Frances dau " 18 b Il

Robinson, Perry adopted " 1 b Okfa Ar Mo Ar

McGrew, Calvin gson " 6mo b Ok

In the 1930 Census of Osage County, Avant twp, district 2 Sheet 1A  
Chambers, Perry T. Head age 52 b Il fa Ia Mo Il  
Florence M. wife " 53 b Il fa Ia Mo Il  
Perry P. Son " 11 bOk

Notes for FLORENCE MAY SMITH:

Florence, mother of Leila before her marriage to Perry Chambers, is found in the following obituary from the Newspaper in Oklahoma:

Mrs. Florence Dies After Long Illness

Mrs. Florence May Chambers, 88, died in Tahlequah Nursing Homes Sunday after an extended illness. Her body was taken to Okmulgee by Reed-Culver funeral home for services and burial. Mrs. Chambers had spent the past three years in Tahlequah. She was born July 29, 1876 in Smithfield, Ill. She was a Baptist. Survivors are three daughters, Miss (?Mrs.) Lelia Chambers of Stillwell, Mrs. Gladys McGrew, and Miss (Mrs.) Frances Chambers of Okmulgee; 39 grandchildren, and 22 great grandchildren; a brother, Leonard Smith of Kuna, Idaho, and two sisters, Mrs. Hazel Kerr of Skiatook and Mrs. Frances Newton of Wichita, Kansas.

**8.** FRANCIS MARION<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS (*MATTHEW*<sup>3</sup>, *JOHN*<sup>2</sup>, *JACOB*<sup>1</sup>) was born 22 May 1846 in Marion County Ohio, and died 22 Aug 1916 in Bernadotte Fulton County IL. He married (1) PERCY LOVINA HOADLEY, daughter of JAMES HOADLEY and SARAH HOUGHTON. She was born 13 Oct 1850 in New York, and died 1885 in Grand View Dakota Terr.. He married (2) DANA E SARAH PIERCE, daughter of SIMON PIERCE and SARAH PIERCE. She was born 17 Mar 1875 in Jackson County Iowa, and died 16 Jan 1962 in McDonough IL.

Notes for FRANCIS MARION CHAMBERS:

Francis Marion was born in Ohio, named for an uncle of the same name. In many places he is referred to as Marion or F.M. or M.F.

His death certificate from Bernadotte Twp in Fulton Co. Illinois states he died July 24, 1916. The doctor said he had treated this patient from April 7 1915 till his death on the above date. The cause of death was Arterio Sclerosis, aggravated by Interstitial Nephritis. The information was given by his and Danae's son, Lewis Chambers. He was buried in Randall Cemetery beside second wife, Danae.

More About FRANCIS MARION CHAMBERS:

Burial: Aug 1916, Pickering Cemetery, Bernadotte Twp., Fulton County Illinois

More About PERCY LOVINA HOADLEY:

Burial: Reburied to Delmont Cemetery, Delmont SD

Notes for DANA E SARAH PIERCE:

Danae was the second child of the valiant widow, Sarah Pierce. As a teenager she lived in the crowded house on Sarah's homestead where Sarah cared for all the Chambers men and their motherless children.

Some family members like to pass the rumor that F.M. could not possibly have fathered her first son, and that the boy must have come from one of F.M.'s teenage sons, who also lived in the crowded household. This is possible. But whatever the truth it matters very little because son Lewis Chambers' birth certificate names Francis Marion Chambers as his father.

The Marriage License Application for Marion chamber of Delmont and Danae Pierce of Delmont was filled out by L.J.Manbeck and taken to the circuit court in Armour. He applied for the license answering the following sworn questions: " What is the age of said Marion Chambers? Ans. 48

What is the age of said Danae Pierce? Ans. 20. Are the parties for whom application is made for Marriage License in any way related? Ans. None whatever." And signed by L. J. Manbeck. This application was attached to the license and certificate of marriage, granted on the 6th of August, 1894 at Grand View. The wedding took place August 8th at the home of her parents, and was witnessed by Augusta McGill (F.M.'s youngest sister, and Henry H. Millay, neighbor and friend of L.J. It is said by some handed down tales that Lillie had been angry and insistent that her father marry Danae. She must have raised such a ruckus that L.J., a licensed notary, rode into

town and got the necessary license for his semi-literate father-in-law. Danae was pregnant with her second child Francis Lee who was born the following March.

The family is found in the 1900 Census as follows:

East Choteau Township (they are living in L.J.'s old sod house, and L.J. with family is now living in the town of Armour, just a block down from the courthouse.)

M. Chambers 54 married 6 years

D.S. " 25" " " has borne 4 children 4 living

J. (Jesse) 9 (son of first wife, Percy Hoadley, deceased 1885. Jesse had been four years old at the death of his mother.)

L. (Lewis) 7

F.L. (Francis Lee) 5

O. (Oma) 3

B. (Bernice) 9/12

L.J. sold off the old place and F.M. and Danae with children moved back in with her mother, where they are all found crowded together in the 1905 SD school census. After that, Sarah and William sold off their place at a very good price and moved to Sioux Falls. F.M. took his new family back to Illinois to live near his other grown sons with their families, and his other brothers.

Danae was a beloved grandmother to both Gladys and Hilda Manbeck. Gladys in particular spoke of her with great love and affection. She cared for F.M. in his old age. After he died she made her own living taking in laundry and doing housekeeping till she remarried.

Her death certificate is from McDonough County Illinois because she died in the nursing home there. She was 86 years old at death, died of Arteriosclerosis. Her certificate was signed by her son, Oma Chambers. She was buried in Pickering Cemetery Section 18, Beernadotte Township, in a section containing many Chambers relatives including husband F.M. and her sister Viola Campbell.

More About DANAE SARAH PIERCE:

Burial: Jan 1962, Pickering Cemetery, Bernadotte Twp., Fulton County Illinois

Children of FRANCIS CHAMBERS and PERCY HOADLEY are:

- i. LYDIA ELINORE<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. Jun 1866, Fulton Co IL; d. 24 Aug 1866, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for LYDIA ELINORE CHAMBERS:

This first child was smothered to death when father threw his arm across her in his sleep. She was sleeping between father and mother.

- ii. JAMES HURSHEL CHAMBERS, b. 14 Aug 1868, Fulton Co IL; d. Aug 1941, Fulton Co IL; m. (1) SARAH LOVELAND; b. Sep 1876, Fulton Co IL; m. (2) ETTA BEADLES; b. 1894, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for SARAH LOVELAND:

It is possible Sarah died in Dakota Territory, sometime before the 1910 Census when Hurshel is living in Fulton Co. with second wife, Etta, but Sarah appears still living in the 1900 census of Fulton Co IL, has three living children Orbi t (Aurbie) Etta, and anewborn infant, born May, 1900 and still unnamed.

Notes for ETTA BEADLES:

Hurshel and Etta are found as a family in the 1910 Census of Fulton Co IL, he i s 41 married a second time, a farm laborer living in a rented house, this secon d marriage took place in 1905, wife Etta age 26, has born 2 children both alive

- iii. LILLIE ANN CHAMBERS, b. 05 Sep 1870, Cuba Fulton Co IL; d. 04 Jul 1950, Brookings SD; m. LAWRENCE JEFFERSON MANBECK, Abt. 01 Nov 1887, Douglas county South Dakota; b. 27 Jun 1857, Allan Twp Polk Co Iowa; d. 19 Oct 1942, State Hospital Yankton SD.

Notes for LILLIE ANN CHAMBERS:

Lillie was left as a teenager girl with her sister to keep house for L.J. and h is friend, Henry Millay. Lillie married L.J. and later sister married Henry. Lillie, a redhead, was noted for her temper and feisty character. She had thou ght she was marrying a rich young man, because it was obvious his parents and s iblings who moved in nearby to homestead were well-to-do, and her mother-in-law was an educated, sophisticated woman who took great pride in her learning, and her family. Lillie's objections to living in the soddie, stating that it had sickened her child, Wade, may not have been too far-fetched. It can be noted t hat none of the children born in the soddie produced healthy families, though D el had one daughter, herself sterile, and Leora Ruth had one son in her older y ears, he being retarded. Nellie died of a debilitating, crippling disease with no children, and of course poor Charly died without marrying or having childre n, though his condition certainly could not be attributed to the soddie! Only H ilda and Gladys married and had children in a normal family

situation.

More About LILLIE ANN CHAMBERS:

Burial: Armour City Cemetery, Armour, Douglas County, SD

Notes for LAWRENCE JEFFERSON MANBECK:

He was noted as a great handler of horses and dogs. He scouted for the U.S. Army at old Fort Randall, became a horseback mail carrier, and then a real estate agent licensed by the U.S. Government to locate homestead claims in the Douglas County area. He was said to have been a regular at local saloons, gambling and drinking. His wife became the support of the family, and most of his children worked as teenagers. In the Court House Dec. 1894 there is noted a suit against his father, David Manbeck, by Fullerton Lumber Co. He owed the money for the lumber used to build a livery stable for his son, L.J. David had signed a note at the Armour State Bank, but had not paid the money. In May 1895, a suit was filed by the Tripp State Bank against L.J., for \$200 plus interest owed the bank. Perhaps this was part of the same expense entailing the construction of the large livery stable shown in photos of Armour's main street, on the corner lot next door to the Lumber yard.

There are at least a dozen suits in the court records against various real estate customers for whom he sold farms in hard times. They owed him a contracted fee for this, but many refused to pay and tried to move out of state before he could collect, but he usually collected.

More About LAWRENCE JEFFERSON MANBECK:

Burial: Armour City Cemetery, Armour, Douglas County, SD

- iv. ETTA BELLE CHAMBERS, b. 15 Aug 1872, Ipava, Fulton County, Illinois; d. 29 May 1948, Delmont, Douglas County, SD; m. HENRY HARRISON MILLAY., 1888, Douglas County SD; b. 23 Dec 1856, LaSalle Illinois; d. 11 Feb 1926, Delmont, Douglas County, SD.

Notes for ETTA BELLE CHAMBERS:

Etta Belle was given away by her father after her mother died, and lived in the sod hut owned by L.J. Manbeck, with her older sister, Lillie Ann. L.J. Manbeck was an ambitious and busy man, always riding off to escort new real estate clients into the county. People stayed overnight at his place, and the two girls were there to serve as cooks and housekeepers for everyone. In the old picture of the place there does not seem to be enough room for many people. Probably there was a barn nearby where folks bedded down in the straw overnight. Probably there was a bunkhouse where the two girls and their younger brothers who stayed to help with L.J.'s cattle, also slept.

According to Douglas County History there was a calf-barn attached to the soddie. It was in this calf-barn that L.J. and his older brother B.F. installed an itinerant pressman and his valuable press, printing up the first newspaper in the area. It was that newspaper which wrote about the criminal activities of the Brown Gang who activated a fake County government to make money for themselves and their cronies, embezzling funds and cheating local citizens. Distributing that newspaper into cities all over the more civilized states brought action from the law and Jeff was one of those credited with throwing out the crooks.

L.J. was a dynamic and attractive man, so it is no surprise that family legends say that both girls fell in love with him. The same legends also relate that Etta was jealous when L.J. married Lillie. She married L.J.'s best friend, Henry Millay.

While L.J. may have been more attractive and exciting, Henry was certainly the better home provider and always gave Etta a good house with plenty of food and probably household goods of her own. When they separated because of Henry's affair with his brother's wife, Minnie, Henry turned over all his property to her so that she was assured a financially secure life. Luckily she had a strong, personable, and very hard-working nephew, Aurbie Chambers, to take over the man's place around the farm. She signed the whole place over to Aurbie and he lived with her till she died there.

Sadly, Etta never had children of her own, but she always valued her many nieces and nephews both in South Dakota and back in Illinois. Vance and Alice Vandervelde, children of Etta's niece, Hilda Manbeck Vandervelde, remember her fondly.

More About ETTA BELLE CHAMBERS:

Burial: Jun 1948, Delmont cemetery, Douglas County, SD

Notes for HENRY HARRISON MILLAY.:

The three Millay boys were raised for the most part by their mother, having been deserted by their father. Many years later their father appeared at Henry's place, old and ill, and died there. He is buried in the Delmont Cemetery. No one has found any recorded details of his life away from his wife and children. Henry settled on a homestead in East Choteau Township near L.J. Manbeck and they became very close friends. When L.J. took the two teenage Chambers girls, Lillie Ann and Etta Belle, into his sod house to be cooks and housekeepers for his real estate customers, L.J. and Lillie married, and then when Etta Belle was old enough Henry married her.

Henry was an ambitious and hard-working farmer who bought out his brother LeRoy and acquired a large,

prosperous farm at the edge of Delmont. He built a nice house for Etta. Perhaps he knew that busy Etta who loved her older sister, Lillie, and children very much, wanted children of her own.

In the 1900 Census of East Choteau Township, when he still lived near L.J.'s old place, the family is shown as follows:

H.H. Millay 41 married 12 years owns farm  
E.B. " 27 " " "  
L. M. McKee son 15 both parents born Illinois  
L. " dau 12 " " " "

( In the census record the name is clearly written as McKee.)

It

is not known who the two children in this census might be. A boy of that age appears in candid photos of Etta, but no pictures of a girl that age have been seen. The children are not with the family in the next census. There is no official adoption record in the Douglas County Courthouse, and it is not known who their parents might have been, but perhaps these were the children of a family member of Etta, whose young Chambers aunts lived in the state, and died nearby.

Later when his younger brother Dan was serving time in prison, Henry reportedly had an affair with Dan's attractive young wife, Minnie Pierce Millay, who lived nearby. Certainly as a good farmer, he would have helped her keep up the hard work around his brother's place. But poor Etta could not forgive him and "kicked him out of the house." Ownership of everything was then made over to her, and she took over running the farm, with help of her handsome young nephew, James Aurbet Chambers, who moved there at the end of his Navy service during World War I.

In the History of Delmont, Henry is mentioned twice as one of the prominent persons nearby in early days in reminiscences of elderly settlers. The newspaper of July, 1905 reports a Dance was held at Henry Millay's, with sale of 27 tickets!

After some time Henry became very ill and Etta took him back into her home to be nursed there until his death of "pernicious anemia" in 1926. Details are from his death certificate from Douglas County.

More About HENRY HARRISON MILLAY.:

Burial: Feb 1926, Delmont cemetery, Douglas County, SD

- v. LOREN MATTHEW CHAMBERS, b. 21 Jul 1876, Fulton Co IL; d. 30 Mar 1951, Fulton Co IL; m. MYRTLE E. HARWICK MUSGROVE, 1900; b. Unknown; d. Unknown.

Notes for LOREN MATTHEW CHAMBERS:

Known as "Matt", Loren Matthew was a youth when his mother died and he was kept to serve as a farm laborer for his father. He was one of the family of F.M. Chambers who moved into the home of Sarah Pierce. Many members of the family have spread the tale that he was the father of Danae Pierce's first son, Lewis Chambers. On Lewis's birth certificate, Francis Marion Chambers is named officially as the baby's father. It is not really possible to determine if F.M. was making this gesture to help both his older son, and Danae, his own wife, who subsequently bore him three more children, but Lewis was raised as a child of F.M. and Danae.

He is said to have married Nellie Littlejohn in Fulton County Il 1 August 1895, but apparently no children were born to this marriage and the marriage ended, just how it is not known from records.

- vi. INEZ LAVADA (VADIE) CHAMBERS, b. 24 Oct 1878, Fulton Co IL; d. 12 Dec 1939, Fulton Co IL; m. FRANK CRUSER (CRUZER, CRUISER), 16 Oct 1895, Fulton County Illinois; b. 16 Oct 1868, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 24 Dec 1947, Fulton Co. Illinois.

Notes for INEZ LAVADA (VADIE) CHAMBERS:

This youngest daughter of Francis Marion and Percy Hoadley Chambers has not been found in many records. Apparently when her mother died she was taken back to Illinois and raised by relatives there. The first census in which she has been found is in the 1900 Census with her husband and first 2 children.

Notes for FRANK CRUSER (CRUZER, CRUISER):

The son of Francis Cruzer and first wife.

- vii. JESSE ALLAMAN CHAMBERS, b. 05 Jan 1881, Illiopolis Sangamon Co IL; d. 16 Mar 1958, Fulton Co IL; m. BERTHA M. WHITE, 24 Mar 1910, Fulton County Illinois; b. 13 Apr 1893, Marietta, Illinois; d. 04 Mar 1975, Fulton Co. Illinois.

Notes for JESSE ALLAMAN CHAMBERS:

Jesse was the youngest child of Percy Hoadley and F.M. Chambers. He lived in Dakota Territory only a few years. He was about four years old when she died. His father took him to live in Sarah Pierce's house, leaving the two older girls, Lillie and Ette Belle, to "keep house" for L.J. Manbeck in the Soddy where L. J. brought real estate customers. The other boys stayed there for awhile, caring for the livestock for L.J. because he was not a farmer at heart. Evidently Jesse remained in SD till 1905 when F.M. and Danae moved to Fulton Co. Illinois. He and his family lived in Cass Twp of Fulton County. In 1926 he and his family went to Delmont where they lived for a year with Etta Belle Millay and Aurbie. In 1928 he returned to Smithfield, Cass Twp., Fulton Co. where he remained for the rest of his life.

Notes for BERTHA M. WHITE:

Bertha bore five children between 1911 and 1927

Children of FRANCIS CHAMBERS and DANAE PIERCE are:

- viii. LEWIS<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 07 Mar 1893, Delmont SD; d. Jan 1984, Iowa; m. AMANDA HOKE, 31 Oct 1915, Fulton County Illinois.
- ix. FRANCIS LEE CHAMBERS, b. 29 Mar 1895, Douglas Co SD; d. 30 Nov 1969, Car Accident, Washington, Iowa; m. ADORA KOEHLER, Unknown; b. Unknown, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 30 Nov 1969, Car Accident, Washington, Iowa.
- x. OMA CHAMBERS, b. 05 Feb 1897, Douglas Co SD; d. 03 Aug 1988, Illinois; m. ESSIE IRENE FRANCE, 08 Jan 1917; b. Unknown.
- xi. BERNICE CHAMBERS, b. 15 Dec 1899, Douglas Co SD; d. 24 Jan 1970, Fulton County Illinois; m. FRANK J. HUGHES, Abt. 1920, Fulton County Illinois; b. 04 Nov 1888, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 04 Feb 1977, Fulton Co. Illinois.

**9. JAMES FRANKLIN<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS** (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born 04 Sep 1848 in Ohio, and died 10 Mar 1916 in Fulton Co Illinois. He married (1) NANCY ELLEN HARWICK. She died in Fulton Co IL. He married (2) IDA (ONEIDA) WHITE.

Notes for NANCY ELLEN HARWICK:

Nancy died after she bore their second child, a baby which died at birth with her.

Notes for IDA (ONEIDA) WHITE:

In the 1900 Census of Fulton Co, Frankie has died. They have 3 younger children, she had born 5, 3 living. James now owns this farm, both parents can read and write and the 2 older children are attending school

Child of JAMES CHAMBERS and NANCY HARWICK is:

- i. FRANKLIN (FRANKIE)<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 07 Sep 1872, Fulton Co IL; d. 20 Mar 1939, Ipava, Fulton Co IL.

Children of JAMES CHAMBERS and IDA WHITE are:

- ii. ALFRED<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 1880, Fulton Co IL; d. 17 May 1900, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for ALFRED CHAMBERS:

He is one of their children who died before the 1900 census.

- iii. DELLA CHAMBERS, b. Jun 1885, Fulton Co IL.
- iv. NETTIE MAY CHAMBERS, b. 11 Mar 1888, Fulton Co IL.
- v. JOHN LEE CHAMBERS, b. Jun 1895, Fulton Co IL; d. 1918, Fulton Co IL.

Notes for JOHN LEE CHAMBERS:

Notice that son John Lee died at age 25.

**10. MARILLA E. (SIS)<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS** (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born 1852 in Ohio, and died 09 Mar 1886 in Armour Douglas Co DT. She married GILBERT LAFAYETTE MACK 26 Mar 1868 in Fulton County, Illinois, son of HENRY MACK and REBECCA SCOTT. He was born 14 May 1850 in Vermillion Co. Indiana, and died 15 Aug 1905 in Shelby, Missouri.

Notes for MARILLA E. (SIS) CHAMBERS:

Marilla was married in Fulton Co. Illinois, to Gilbert L. Mack of that county. She and her husband moved to Dakota Territory with the Chambers/Landis group. She became one of the Chambers women who could not

survive the harsh prairie life. But very little verifying data has been found, and it is hoped that more can be discovered because the Wenzel families descended from her daughter have contacted us.

Jim Chambers, descendant of James Hurshel, has done extensive "cemetery hunting" on site in Douglas County. He has evidence that Marilla was first buried in the same Grand View Cemetery as was Percy Hoadley Chambers. According to Jim, he found evidence that she might have remained there, although Etta Chambers Millay arranged to remove Percy from the defunct and deserted Grand View area, putting her mother into her own plot where Percy lies to day beside Etta. Jim found evidence that William Chambers bought a plot in Delmont Cemetery. He believes that Wm. bought this plot in which to inter his old father, Matthew. This is now marked with a stone bought by the family when Jim verified this data. Jim says that he studied the original cemetery listing book of the caretaker and found that the "Mrs. Chambers" had been originally labelled "Hur Chambers" which Jim believes stands for Hurshel Chambers. Jim believes that Hurshel's first wife, mother of Aurbie and Etta, died in childbirth at Delmont while visiting from Illinois, and was buried there near Matthew. However, the travel diary kept by Nettie Chambers Willi, daughter of William, states clearly "We went out to the cemetery where Mama (Helen Bulloch Chambers) is buried. Her grave is fine, but Grandfather's grave is all sunk in at the foot. Aunt Sis' grave is in fine shape...." By other names she gives, this is the Protestant Cemetery at Parkston, Hutchinson County, SD. But there is no marker for her.

A different clue comes from looking at the WPA list for the Evangelic Cemetery, which lists the marked graves for that cemetery, which include Mack Plot, on which is buried Perry S. Mack, mal, died 1896, age 16, lot 2, grave 2. Jim chambers says there is an unmarked grave beside the boy. This is at the church which Marilla and Gilbert attended, located in Douglas County, up near the Hutchinson Co. line. There are graves of three members of the Parfitt family, John G. age 50, Millies age 27, and Pearly age 13. Marilla's oldest child, Henry, married Ada Nevada Parfit.

More About MARILLA E. (SIS) CHAMBERS:

Burial: South Dakota

Notes for GILBERT LAFAYETTE MACK:

His parents were Henry Mack and Rebecca Ann Scott Mack. New information comes from Art and Bernadine Wenzel.

More About GILBERT LAFAYETTE MACK:

Burial: Missouri

Children of MARILLA CHAMBERS and GILBERT MACK are:

- i. HENRY ADDISON<sup>5</sup> MACK, b. 18 Aug 1869, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 12 Aug 1939, Burlington Junction, Missouri; m. ADA NEVADA PARFIT, Unknown, Douglas county South Dakota; b. 28 Sep 1874, Belleville, Illinois; d. 13 Jun 1967, Seattle King County Washington.

Notes for HENRY ADDISON MACK:

Henry became a Doctor of Osteopathy, degree at Des Moines College. There he met and married Ada Nevada Parfit, also a Doctor of Osteopathy. After graduation, they moved to Seattle, WA in 1922, where they were both on staff at Waldo and Madison St. Hospitals. They did not have children.

More About HENRY ADDISON MACK:

Burial: 1939, IOOF Cem., Shelbina, Missouri

- ii. ELZA NIRON MACK, b. 29 Aug 1872, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 15 Feb 1950, Chamberlain, Brule County SD; m. ROSELLA (ELLA) TWIN MANWARING, 1892; b. 28 Jul 1873; d. 25 Jun 1945, Chamberlain, Brule County SD.

Notes for ELZA NIRON MACK:

Elza married Rosella Manwaring. They had two children, both girls born in South Dakota. He appears in the 1920 US Census of Brule County, Chamberlain Ward 1, South Dakota.

#7/7 Elza M. Mack head owns farm age 48 works for Railroad

Ella R. Mack wife " 47

Many good pictures have been shared by two descendants, one from the Wenzel line, and the other from the family of Nettie Chambers Willi. The pictures show Ella, as she was always known by her family, as a slight woman, and probably short. Elza was a big, strong-looking man. Their professional family portrait with their two pretty little daughters shows a clean, well-groomed, neatly dressed family. The little girls have wonderfully curled blond hair, and matching plaid dresses. They look like sweet, dimpled predecessors of



Shirley Temple. The non-professional snapshots of Elza and Ella are always near their home, a tidy, well-cared for homestead shack, with many flowers and vines growing around.

More About ELZA NIRON MACK:

Burial: Riverview Cemetery, Chamberlain, Brule Co. SD

Notes for ROSELLA (ELLA) TWIN MANWARING:

Sometimes called "Ella" this twin of the Manwaring family married Elza Niron Mack. a son of Gilbert Mack and Marilla Chambers Mack.

More About ROSELLA (ELLA) TWIN MANWARING:

Burial: Riverview Cemetery, Chamberlain, Brule Co. SD

- iii. FLORENCE MARILLA MACK, b. 10 Apr 1876, Cuba, Putnam Co. Illinois; d. 13 May 1947, Wessington Springs Jerauld Co. S.D.; m. JOHN HENRY WILLIAM WENZEL, 12 Dec 1893, East Choteau TWP, Douglas County, SD; b. 30 Sep 1873, Upton NJ; d. 16 Mar 1938, Wessington Springs Jerauld Co. SD.

Notes for FLORENCE MARILLA MACK:

This Mack daughter had ten children, first 5 born in Armour Douglas Co SD, second 5 born in Wessington Springs, Jerauld Co SD. All lived to adulthood, and married.

More About FLORENCE MARILLA MACK:

Burial: May 1947, Prospect Hills Cemetery, Wessington Springs, SD

Notes for JOHN HENRY WILLIAM WENZEL:

The Wenzel family was one of the original homestead families, taking up land ne ar the Chambers/Landis clan. This son is generally referred to as Henry.

More About JOHN HENRY WILLIAM WENZEL:

Burial: Mar 1938, Prospect Hills Cemetery, Wessington Springs, SD

- iv. PERRY SNYDER MACK, b. 16 Sep 1879, Fulton Co Illinois; d. 27 Dec 1896, Douglas County SD.

Notes for PERRY SNYDER MACK:

Note on the page from the SD Pioneer Project family pages states "Fell from a horse." He is buried in the Evangelic Cemetery in Hutchinson Co. grave #2, lot #2. Family note from Art and Bernadine Wenzel says he fell from a horse and was dragged to death.

More About PERRY SNYDER MACK:

Burial: Evangelic Cemetery, Parkston, SD

- v. OLA BELLE MACK, b. Jan 1882, Fulton Co Illinois; d. 1909, Atchinson Co MO; m. JOHN MAGEE, 12 Dec 1899, Armour Douglas County SD; b. 08 Mar 1875, Old Mines Washington, Missouri.

Notes for OLA BELLE MACK:

Ola Belle is said by family tales to have married, had either 2 or 3 children, and died somewhere in South Dakota. Hilda Manbeck Vandervelde said that she had met at least one of these Magee children in Chamberlain, Brule County, SD.

There are three McGee burials in Riverview Cemetery, Chamberlain, SD:

Jean Marie McGee female born 1962, died 1962

Merle Florence McGee born 09 August 1903, died 14 March 1979

Roy O. McGee born May 25, 1895, died 22 December 1966.

Bernadine Wenzel says she thinks these are not relatives of Ola Belle, because the name is spelled Magee, and never McGee.

Bernadine gives the following information: Ola Belle Mack was married December 12 , 1899, at Armour, SD. She married John Magee, they had 4 children, 3 living, and she died in 1909.

**11. LEVI PENROD<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS** (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born 15 Sep 1854 in Fulton Co Illinois, and died 30 Nov 1918 in Skiatook Oklahoma. He married LENA (LANEY) LANDIS<sup>23</sup> 18 Feb 1874 in Fulton County Illinois, daughter of JOHN LANDIS and PHOEBE LITTLEJOHN. She was born 13 Jan 1855 in Fulton Co IL, and died 02 Mar 1921 in Skiatook, OK.

Notes for LEVI PENROD CHAMBERS:

The second name "Penrod" connects him to the family of his aunt, Rachel Chambers Penrod, wife of Samuel Penrod. Levi homesteaded in Douglas County, sold out their Dakota homestead in Lincoln Twp of Douglas Co. to brother William Chambers, moved to homestead in Oklahoma.

The family is found in the 1880 Census of Sangamon Co. Illinois, twp Illiopolis, D-209 page 347D

Chambers Levi M age 25 head b Oh, fa Oh, mo Oh

" Lena F age 25 wife b Il, fa Pa, mo Oh

Rosanna F age 5 dau b Il

Edgar M age 3 son b Il

Phoebe F age 2 dau b Il

The family of Levi Chambers and Lena "Laney" Landis Chambers is found in two Oklahoma censuses:  
1900 Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation roll 1843 bk1 page 46 (now Washington County)

4/4 Levi Chambers Head Sept 1854, age 45, M1, 26 years, b. Ohio, fa Oh, mo Ohio farmer, owns

Laney " wife Jan 1855 " " " bor 6 chi. 5 live b. Il faPa " "

Edgar " son Aug 1876 age 23 S born Il

William E " " Jan 1886 " 14 S born SD

Roy H. " " Jan 1890 " 10 S born Il

1910 Oklahoma, Osage County, Black Dog Township, roll 1268, bk 2, page 148

121 Levi Chambers head age 53 M1 35years born Ohio, fa ohio, mo Ohio, Farming

Laney " wife " 53 bor 6, 5 live born Il fa Pa mo Ohio

Henry " son age 19 S born Il

Previously, before July 2003, I had never seen any indication that this couple had children other than William E., whose delayed birth certificate with affidavits is in the courthouse records of Armour, Douglas County SD

When the weather turned sour and many Douglas County farmers fled, Levi sold his homestead claim to older brother William, but William was not able to make enough money to keep it and it was sold away from him at a sheriff's auction.

Pictures of Levi have been found, courtesy of descendants of William. The first we received is a group picture taken in Lewistown, Il in 1890 showing five of the sons of Matthew and Eliza Chambers. In this image, a strong and hearty looking Levi stands in the back row looking squarely into the camers. In the other, taken on one of the Delmont area farms, Levi and William are dwarfed by a corn stalk at least ten feet tall, leaning on a building between the two brothers. No date is found on this picture, but that year the corn was beautiful.

Levi died November 3, 1918 during the flue epidemic. His son Billey also had the flu at the same time, but he recovered.

Aflter Levi's death, Lena appears with the family of her son, William (Billey) E., in the 1920 census of Osage County, Bigheart, Oklahoma

Chambers, William E. head M age 34 b. SD fa b Oh, mo. b. Il.

Lela wife F age 26 b Il fa b Il mo b Il

Dudley son M age 11 b OK

Albert son M " 9 b "

Raymond son M " 7 b "

Henrietta dau F " 6 b "

Glen son M " 4 b "

Floyd son M " 6mo b "

Lena C Mother F " 65 b Il

Roy H. brother M " 30 b Il.

More About LEVI PENROD CHAMBERS:

Burial: Unknown, Oklahoma

Notes for LENA (LANEY) LANDIS:

Lena was one of the family of Pheobe A Littlejohn Landis who intermarried with the Chambers family and moved to homestead in Dakota Territory. She must have been a strong, healthy woman, for unlike several other Chambers women, she survived the harsh life in Douglas County and migrated to Oklahoma.

Laney was the official witness to the wedding of her brother-in-law William Chambers, and widow Sarah

Newberry Pierce on April 17, 1887. She signed the wedding papers and is listed as witness to the marriage.

In the autobiography of son Billy's wife Lelia the young woman writes, "Billy's mother lived with us until her death. March 2, 1921 Billy's mother died. She choled to death, no other explanation was given. Nine days later, March 11, I gave birth to twin girls eight minutes apart."

More About LENA (LANEY) LANDIS:

Burial: Unknown, Oklahoma

Children of LEVI CHAMBERS and LENA LANDIS are:

- i. ROZANNA<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. Abt. 1875.

Notes for ROZANNA CHAMBERS:

Must have died soon, the only record is her appearance in the 1880 census.

- ii. EDGAR CHAMBERS, b. Aug 1876, Illinois; m. LULU BELLE MCCARTY, Abt. 1901, Unknown; b. Abt. 1884, Iowa.

Notes for EDGAR CHAMBERS:

Found in the 1900 Oklahoma Census, see records of Levi Chambers.

On the 1920 Census of Osage County, Big Heart Twp, ED 75, Sheet 2b appears:

Chambers, Edgar head M age 43 b. Il Fa Oh Mo Il

Lula wife F " 35 b. Ia Fa Ia Mo Ia

Earnest son M " 16 b. Ks

Clarence son M " 14 b. Ok

Levi son M " 12 b. OK

MCCarty, Leo bro.in.law M " 27 b. Ks Fa Ia Mo Ia

Lawless, John Roomer M " 28 b. Ks Us Us

Also found in the 1930 census of Oklahoma, Osage Co., Big Heart Twp:

Edgar Chambershead age 53 m 24 yrs b. Ill fa.Ill Mo Ind. Laborer, city

Lulu B. " wife " 46 m 17 yrs b.Iowa fa.Ia mo Ia. housekeeper, home

(Apparently Lulu B. is a second wife.)

Chance C " son " 24 b. Okla fa.II mo. Ia. clerk, grocery

Levi P " " " 22 b. " " " laborer, oil

FlorenceE. " dau " 9 b. " " " none

Otis Choat boarder " 49 b. Ill Ill. Ill. laborer, oil

From this entry it appears that the Lulu B. listed here is the second wife of Edgar Chambers.

Notes for LULU BELLE MCCARTY:

Probably a second wife, and probably not the mother of the two sons, but the mother of the young girl Florence.

- iii. PHOEBE CHAMBERS<sup>24,25,26</sup>, b. Abt. 1878, Illinois; d. 1928, Avant, Osage Co., Oklahoma<sup>27</sup>; m. JAMES EDGAR (ED) HAVENS<sup>28</sup>, 1899, Unknown<sup>29</sup>; b. 1870, Missouri<sup>30</sup>; d. Mar 1952, Pawhuska, Oklahoma<sup>31</sup>.

Notes for PHOEBE CHAMBERS:

Must have died early, does not appear in any other record except the 1880 census.

More About JAMES EDGAR (ED) HAVENS:

Residence: 1920, Bigheart, Osage, Oklahoma<sup>32</sup>

- iv. BILLEY EDMRION CHAMBERS, b. 22 Jan 1886, Douglas Co Dakota Terr.; d. Oklahoma; m. LELIA FERN SMITH, 20 Jul 1907, Bartlesville, Washington County Oklahoma; b. 15 Nov 1893, Cuba, Fulton County, Illinois.

Notes for BILLEY EDMRION CHAMBERS:

Named for William H. Chambers, Billy's address in 1943 was Stilwell Oklahoma, Rt 4. His marriage license was issued at Bartlesville, Indian Territory (Oklahoma). On his delayed Birth Certificate, issued at Armour, Douglas County, His wife lived at a different address, at Pawhuska Oklahoma. This is explained in his wife's autobiography.

He is listed as "William E." on the 1900 census, given in his father Levi's records. But his name on the birth certificate is Billy Edmrion, a very interesting and rather exotic name.

His future wife, Lelia, moved to Oklahoma when she was thirteen years old. She worked as a house servant for his parents, Levi and Lena Chambers, to earn her way so she could go to school in town. Her family had

moved yet again, and lived several miles away. Billy was 19 years old when they married that summer. Soon they moved to Coffeyville, Kansas in a covered wagon. Her wonderful autobiography details her and her family will all births of children, grandchildren, and greatgrandchildren until her 88th birthday, but she lived to 102. The roving, tough life of the family as Billy moved from job to job in the oil fields is very interesting.

Notes for LELIA FERN SMITH:

Lelia writes, "Hazel (really her aunt) was three and one half months older than I. When we were about four years of age we could try and run off to the brick yard, which was about four blocks away. We never made it to the brick yard, because a neighbor, who never missed anything, would see us and I can still hear her yelling, "Amelia, your kids are running off again." Needless to say we were always brought back home." When Grandpa William lost his brickyard, he moved the family to Bred Station where he worked in a coal mine. "I started school while we lived at Breed Station. When I was a bout eight years old we moved back to Cuba. I got the mumps and since I didn't like Perry (Chambers, married to her blood mother, Florence) very much, I made a special effort to hug and kiss him, hoping he'd get the mumps and he did." "We moved on a farm when I was about nine. We had about two and a half miles to walk to school. From November until March the snow covered the ground. Sometimes it was so deep it covered the fence posts, and was so cold we could walk on top of the snow."

- v. ROY HENRY CHAMBERS, b. Jan 1890; m. FRANCES MARION CHAMBERS; b. 1901.

Notes for FRANCES MARION CHAMBERS:

Frances Marion was the daughter of Perry Chambers and wife Florence Smith Chambers (the mother of an illegitimate daughter, Leila, who married Billy E. Chambers.)

**12. JOHN ELISHA<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS** (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born 27 Aug 1857 in Ohio, and died 06 Jan 1902 in Peoria Hospital Illinois. He married MARY ELEANOR DEFORD, daughter of WILLIAM DEFORD and MARY HARRIS. She was born 19 Mar 1878 in Bernadotte Township Fulton Co. Illinois, and died Aft. 1902.

Notes for JOHN ELISHA CHAMBERS:

Data on John Elisha Chambers and his descendants comes from the research of Jim Chambers of Indiana, a very thorough and meticulous researcher and a descendant of James Hurshel Chambers.

He can be found in the 1870, 1880, and 1900 U.S. Censuses for Fulton County Illinois. He lived with his parents, attended school, birth place Ohio. In the 1880 Census he is married, has one child, lives on a tenant farm in Bernadotte Twp Fulton Co., is age 22 and cannot read or write. In the 1900 Census he rents and lived near nephew James Hurshel Chambers, is 42, has 6 children and claims he can read.

More About MARY ELEANOR DEFORD:

Burial: Fulton County Illinois

Children of JOHN CHAMBERS and MARY DEFORD are:

- i. TILLA FLORENCE (TILLIE)<sup>5</sup> CHAMBERS, b. 09 Mar 1879, Bernadotte, Illinois; d. 1950, Lewiston Illinois; m. JAMES W. WHITE, 19 Aug 1900, Fulton County Illinois; b. 23 Apr 1865, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 08 Oct 1932, Lewiston, Fulton Co. Illinois.
- ii. GEORGE CHAMBERS, b. 20 Mar 1882, Lewiston IL; d. 25 Oct 1932, Baughman IL; m. LILLIE MUNSON, Abt. 1912, Canton Illinois; b. 04 Dec 1892, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 28 Jan 1941, Fulton Co. Illinois.
- iii. JESSE CURTIS CHAMBERS, b. 14 Mar 1885, Lewiston, IL; d. Unknown; m. RACHEL JANE JOHNSON, 14 Dec 1911, Fulton County Illinois; b. 26 Apr 1895, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. Unknown.
- iv. HARVEY EVRETT CHAMBERS, b. 09 Aug 1887, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 12 Dec 1968, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois; m. MURTIE MABEL KRIDER, 15 Aug 1907, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois; b. 29 Nov 1887, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois; d. 28 Dec 1951, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois.
- v. ALTA MABEL CHAMBERS, b. 22 Mar 1891, Lewiston IL; d. Unknown; m. (1) HARRY SELAH FRANCE, 23 Dec 1908, Lewiston Fulton Co. Illinois; b. Unknown; d. Unknown; m. (2) FRANK DOWNS, Unknown; b. Unknown; d. Unknown.
- vi. MARY ETHEL CHAMBERS, b. 13 Jan 1893, Fulton Co IL; d. Unknown; m. JAY WINIFRED HAMMOND, Unknown; b. 1892, Fulton Co. Illinois; d. Unknown.

**13. SARAH (SALLIE)<sup>4</sup> CHAMBERS** (*MATTHEW<sup>3</sup>, JOHN<sup>2</sup>, JACOB<sup>1</sup>*) was born Abt. 1859 in Green Twp Shelby County, Ohio, and died Nov 1890 in Lewistown, Fulton Co. Illinois. She married ABRAM PERRY LANDIS<sup>33</sup> 31 Dec 1876 in Fulton County Illinois, son of JOHN LANDIS and PHOEBE LITTLEJOHN. He was born 04 Mar 1856 in Fulton Co

IL, and died 12 Apr 1930 in Bartlesville, OK.

#### Notes for SARAH (SALLIE) CHAMBERS:

Great difficulty has been encountered tracing the daughters of Matthew and Eliza. Sarah "Sallie" married Abram Perry Landis in Fulton County. Her brother Levi Penrod was married to his sister Lena. These two families tended to move together, supporting each other. Sarah bore seven children, the first three in Fulton County then two in Douglas County SD, and her last in November 1890 back in Illinois. She died shortly after that birth. From Dakota, the family had moved to Osage County Oklahoma, just as her brother Levi and husband's sister Lena had done at the same time, first selling off their homesteads.

August 8, 2003, received an updated genealogy of Sarah, which includes data about her children, giving the birth dates of all of them, and the death dates and places of some. She had her first three children in Fulton County, supported by her family. The first baby probably died near birth. Then she had two girls. One married and lived in Illinois. Then Sarah bore a boy in Douglas County. He died in Oklahoma much later. A second son born in SD lived and married in Fulton County Illinois Child 6 was also born in SD, died at age 13 in Oklahoma. The seventh and last child of Sarah, Perry, as born back in Fulton County in Nov. 1890. His mother died near the time of his birth. He lived in Illinois.

#### More About SARAH (SALLIE) CHAMBERS:

Burial: Fulton Co IL

#### Notes for ABRAM PERRY LANDIS:

Called Perry by most family members, he married the younger sister of his sister Lena's husband Levi Chambers. Their families lived next door to each other in Fulton county, and the children attended the same school. After marriage the two couples lived in Fulton Co. till about 1885 when they moved to Douglas County Dakota Territory along with Levi's older brothers, William and family, and Francis Marion and family, as well as old grandfather Matthew Chambers. There is no word of grandmother Elizabeth Ann who perhaps had died. Another Landis brother, David, also went along.

They all homesteaded near each other. A neighbor was Johann Wenzel, one of whose sons married Marilla Chambers Mack's daughter. Marilla, older sister of Sarah, had married Gilbert Mack, a neighbor in Illinois. So there were plenty of family members upon whom to rely for assistance.

Sarah died bearing their 7th child back in Fulton County. Perry married another young woman from Fulton County and began raising another family, moving down to Oklahoma near Levi and Lena. He and his new wife are found in the 1910 US Census of Oklahoma, Osage County, Black Dog Twp.

92/92	Perry Landis	head	age 54	2m	15 years,	born Illinois	Farmer
Fairy	"	wife	"	34	1m	15 years,	bore 5 child. 4 live born Illinois
John	"	son	"	27	single	born Illinois ?	Farm Laborer
Florence	"	dau	"	10	"	"	Oklahoma
Ida	"	"	"	6	"	"	"
Elva	"	"	"	4	"	"	"
Roy	"	"	"	1 2/12	"	"	"

#### More About ABRAM PERRY LANDIS:

Burial: Bartlesville, OK

#### Children of SARAH CHAMBERS and ABRAM LANDIS are:

- i. ELSIE<sup>5</sup> LANDIS, b. 1877, Fulton Co IL; d. 1877, Fulton Co IL.
- ii. MARILLA BELLE LANDIS, b. 14 Feb 1878, Fulton Co IL; d. 10 Sep 1956, Nevada, Vernon County, MO; m. (1) LOREN ALVIN SHAW, 27 Jan 1896, Fulton County Illinois; b. 26 Dec 1875, Fulton Co IL; d. 23 May 1931, Cuba, Putman TWP, Fulton Co IL; m. (2) CHARLES E. RANKIN, Aft. 1931, Fulton County Illinois; b. 08 Jan 1878, Fulton Co IL; d. 10 Jan 1965, Fulton Co IL.

#### More About MARILLA BELLE LANDIS:

Burial: Cuba Cemetery, Cuba Fulton Co. Illinois

#### More About CHARLES E. RANKIN:

Burial: Cuba Cemetery, Cuba Fulton Co. Illinois

- iii. ORFA (ORPHA) LANDIS, b. 28 Mar 1880, Fulton Co IL; d. 08 Jan 1908, Skiatook, Osage County Oklahoma.

#### More About ORFA (ORPHA) LANDIS:

Burial: Skiatook, Osage Co, Oklahoma

- iv. JOHNNY EDGAR LANDIS, b. 07 Nov 1882, Douglas County, South Dakota; d. 23 Apr 1937, Skiatook, Osage Co, Oklahoma.
- v. WALTER LANDIS, b. 02 Aug 1884.
- vi. NELLIE MAE LANDIS, b. 31 Jan 1888, Douglas County, South Dakota; d. 22 Mar 1901, Skiatook, Osage Co, Oklahoma.
- vii. PERRY L. LANDIS, b. 19 Nov 1890, Fulton Co IL; d. 04 Jul 1976, Cuba, Putman TWP, Fulton Co IL.

More About PERRY L. LANDIS:  
Burial: Canton cemetery, Fulton Co IL

### *Endnotes*

1. Will of John Chambers, March 1855, Ohio, In the name of the Benevolent father of all I, John Chambers, of lawful age and sound mind do make and publish this my last will and testament. I will and bequesth and devise to my beloved wife after paying my funeral expenses and all my just debts, all the remainder of my property both real and personal so long as she lives and remains my widow. If my beloved wife Mary Chambers should marry again then she shall foreit all her claim to my property both real and personal. If she should not marry at her death I will all my proerty both real and personal after paying her funeral expenses and just debts be equally divided between my children to wit Jacob Chambers, Rachel Penrod, Jane Horner, John Chambers, Maria Hedrick, Will Chambers, Francis M. Chambers, James Chambers, Matthew Chambers. I will and devise that they shall be provided both for me and my beloved wife out my property aforesaid suitable Grave Stones to be placed at our graves. I will that my wife be and is hereby appointed sole executrix of this my last will and testament. I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 30th day of March 1855. Signed and acknowledged by John Chambers as his last will and testament in our presence and signed by us at his request in his presence Wm. Murphey Wm. Skillen.
2. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, With husband Samuel and son William Rachel Penrod age 55 born NJ.
3. The "History of Miami County Ohio", Rachel was born in New Jersey.
4. Newspaper Obituary of July 2, 1868, from James Chambers, Indiana, Born New Jersey, on Sept 14th 1804. When she was two years old her father with his family moved to Montgomery County Ohio where she lived about thirty years. Married Samuel Penrod Sept 12th 1822, moved family to Shelby County Ohio 1832. She was in ill health the last 30 years of her life, her last illness being sort yet very severe and painful. She left her husband and six children to mourn her loss.
5. see Will of John Chambers for list of Rachel and Siblings..
6. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, Samuel Penrod, age 66, farmer, born Pennsylvania, farms 15,000 prop 17,000 with wife Rachel and son William On same page nearby is a "Levi Penrod with family."
7. Miami County History, (See Rachel notes) Samuel was a pioneer settler and a preacher in Shelby County Ohio. He was born in Pennsylvania of German ancestry, and during the whole of his mature life he engaged in farming, and in serving as a minister in the Christian Church. He was instrumental in building the old church at Newport. .... They had six children, Jacob and Mary Jane, deceased, Phebe Ann, Levi, and William. William died of starvation and inhumane treatment while held a prisoner of war at Andersonville Prison during the civil war. (This list is five children. Who is the sixth?)
8. see Miami County and obituary notes..
9. Christian Church History, Sidney P.O. Shelby County Ohio, Jacob baptised 1853, married Sarah Feb 18, 1847.
10. Christian Church History, Sidney P.O. Shelby County Ohio, Sarah married Jacob Penrod 1847, baptised 1853, probably same time as Jacob. Says she 1st married ----- Wehnmman.
11. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, With father Samuel and mother Rachel William Penrod age 17 born (1843) Ohio.
12. History as noted under Samuel and Rachel notes, "William, who died of starvation and inhumane treatment while held a prisoner of war at Andersonville, during the Civil War."
13. Ohio Marriage Index 1789-1850, married Robert Love, Shelby Co Ohio Jan 09, 1848.
14. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, Phebe Love, age 32, born Ohio with family, husband Robert Love, 4 children, and Robert's father William.
15. Ohio Marriage Index 1789-1850, film 0562857-8, Robert Love Married Phebe Ann Penrod Shelby County Ohio Jan. 09, 1848.
16. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, 821 Robt. F. Love age 35, born Ohio with family of wife and 4 children, also his father, William age 76.
17. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, M653 roll 1036 part 1 page 339B, 855 Levi H. Penrod age 26 born Ohio with wife and 2 children.
18. Ohio Mariage Index 1854-1900, Levi H. Penrod married Martha L. Ervin Sept 30, 1855, Shelby Co. Ohio.
19. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, Martha Penrod age 22 born Ohio with husband and 2 children.
20. Ohio Mariage Index 1854-1900, film 0562857-62, Levi H. Penrod married Martha L. Ervin Sept 30, 1855 at Shelby County Ohio.
21. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, Elizabeth Penrod age 3 born Ohio with father, mother, and brother.
22. 1860 Ohio Shelby County, Cynthian Twp, Sidney PO, Sylvester Penrod age 1 born Ohio with father, mother, and sister.

23. 1870 Ill. Fulton Co Bernadotte,, With widowed mother and siblings.
24. Death Date Descendant Ronald Havens, E-mail of Ronal Havens, August 29, 2004 states that "...myu grandmother, Phoebe who died in 1928."
25. 1900 US Census Illinois Logan County Laenna Twp.
26. US Census 1900 Labette County Howard Twp., age 22 born Feb. 1878, married 1 year 1 child, born Illinois.
27. e-mail from Ronald Havens Sept. 03, 2004OPhoebe (Chambers) died in 1928, and ..., Phoebe (Chambers) died in 1928...and...she is in the Avant, Osage, Oklahoma cemetery with Levi Penrod and Lena Landis Chambers, her parents.
28. US Census 1900 Labette County Howard Twp., James born Aug. 1869, age 30 married 1 year, farmer.
29. US Census 1900 Labette County Howard Twp., Married 1 year.
30. 1920 United States Federal Census.
31. e-mail from Ronald Havens, Sept. 03, 2004, James Edgar died in Maarch 1952 and is buried in Pawhuska, Oklahoma next to my father in the Pawhuska Cemetery.
32. 1920 United States Federal Census.
33. 1870 Ill. Fulton Co Bernadotte,, with widowed mother and siblings age 14.