

THE RAWSON FAMILY

MEMOIR

of

EDWARD RAWSON

Secretary of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay from 1651 to 1686

with

Genealogical Notices of Some Descendants



*Edward Rawson,*



## P R E F A C E

This booklet has been compiled in an effort to perpetuate the history of the Rawson family.

Interested descendants of that Edward Rawson who served as Secretary of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay are greatly indebted to those who have cherished records and compiled them at an earlier date.

Much of the information concerning the six generations after Secretary Rawson must be credited to the Rawson book compiled by Sullivan Rawson and published by the family in 1849. This book in turn gives credit to those whose interest and zeal were instrumental in furnishing him with valuable information.

Another source is the book entitled "New England Families" by Cutter, also "The Ancestry of William Howard Taft" which contains a chapter devoted to the former president's lineage as a descendant of that same Secretary Edward Rawson. These books, and other records of the Rawson family, are on file in the genealogical department of the St. Louis, Missouri, Public Library.

Credit must also be given to those of the present generation who contributed valuable information, also to those who furnished encouragement and inspiration, without which these records could not have been completed. Now, recalling the past, comes a realization of just how many have played a part - my grandfather, parents, sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and oh, especially, my children and grandchildren.

"Completed" is a word incorrectly used - new generations even now await their turn.

Although a formal printing and book-binding of these pages might appear more impressive, there are certain advantages to loose-leaf structure. How convenient it will be for each family to insert new pages concerning the history of its branch! No attempt has been made herein to record all branches. With each succeeding generation that task becomes monumental.

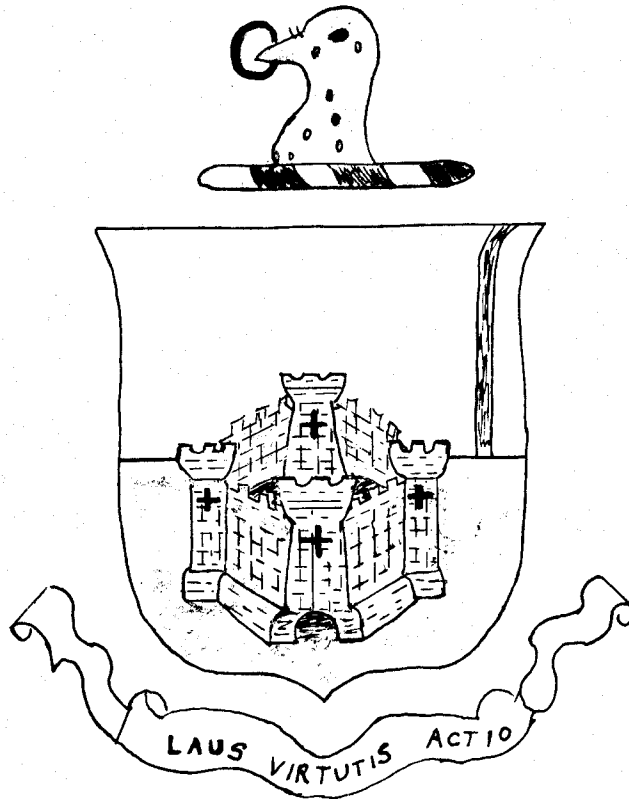
No claim is being made that all these records are absolutely correct. Errors may have been made in spite of the time and effort expended.

If it were possible to read between the lines, what tales would be revealed about the Rawson lineage! There would be not a few love stories. There would be revealed deeds of daring and adventure, evidences of skill, courage, sacrifice, perseverance, and faith in the Almighty Creator. Baser characteristics? Skeletons in closets? Oh, they are undoubtedly lurking between the lines too, in the guise of human frailty. It is hoped, however, that those descendants who inhabit this earth today shall find inspiration in the perusal of these pages, and a determination to bequeath to posterity only those qualities of character that can bring honor to the name of Rawson.

April, 1972

Ruth Rawson Meng

*Ruth Rawson Meng*



"THE DEED OF BRAVERY IS ITS OWN PRAISE"

The Rawson coat-of-arms gives another proof that the name is ancient and bears distinction. The origin of this emblem is accounted for by the following legend:

"Far back in the blood-stained history of England there was a strong fortress or castle in the possession of the enemy which it was desirable to capture. Some attempts had been made without success. There was a bold, patriotic, energetic young officer in the king's army by the name of Rawson who volunteered to organize an expedition for its reduction, if allowed a certain number of men. The proposition was accepted, the expedition successful, and to reward the young officer for his daring, skill, and bravery, he was presented with this coat-of-arms."

Whether the story be true or not is not known, but it is a fact that such a family blazon does exist and has been on record for several hundred years at the Herald's College or College of Arms. It is composed of an escutcheon, representing an old knightly shield, the lower half (sable) black; the upper half (azure) blue; in the center of the shield a castle with four towers in gold; the crest (placed over) a raven's head, black, bearing on the neck drops of gold, one or two erased on the wreath; in the beak a ring of gold. The motto underneath, "Laus Virtutis Actio," may be freely rendered, "The deed of bravery is its own praise." The sentiment of the device seems to be, "Strength, strategy and watchfulness." The raven obtained possession by force and holds the precious reward in its beak. The cut of the family coat of arms given here was made from the original obtained in England by a son, the Reverend Thomas Read Rawson of Albany, New York.

Rawson, pronounced Ralph in England, often Raf with a broad A., meaning famous wolf or hero, is the name from which ours came. It was very often written Relf and pronounced Rauf, with a very broad A. By adding the plural termination es as was done to King, Kinges, Servant, Servantes, the name became Ralpes or Relpes and it was pronounced Raufes or Rawes.

Many of the names were taken from the castle, village, or county seat in which the Normans lived on the other side of the channel. Some of these were used by prefixing the French preposition de. Another large class was formed by adding "son" to the Christian name of the father. Office, occupation, gave rise to Knight, Shepherd, Smith, Page, etc. Previous then to the Norman conquest, persons had commonly one name, a Christian name given on the ninth or tenth day after birth. Then "son" was appended in the place of es and the f dropped, making Rawson, meaning son of Rauf or Rawes. Thus from Ralph came Rawes, Rawson, Rawlins, Rawlinson, and Rason. (E. B. Crane, Worcester, Mass.)

In the fifteenth century Richard Rawson was a merchant in London. He was Alderman of Farringdon Extra in 1475, and in 1476 the Sheriff of London. He died in 1483, and was buried in the Church of Saint Mary Magdalene, Milk Street, London. His wife, Isabella Craford, died in 1497. They had nine children.

The best known of these was Sir John Rawson, Knight of Rhodes and of Saint John of Jerusalem. He was made Prior of Kilmainham, Ireland, in 1511, and in 1517 Henry VIII of England appointed him Privy Councillor and Lord Treasurer of Ireland. The Grand Master of his Order made him, in 1526, Turcopelier of the Knights of Saint John, and he later became Prior of Ireland. In 1542 the Royal Robber took from him Kilmainham Priory. It was claimed that charges of misconduct had been made against Sir John by his Superiors, but this appears to have been one of Henry's usual excuses when the possession of the lands of the Church was in question. The King, himself, perhaps wished to soften the effect on the public imagination of his seizure of the Priory, for he bestowed upon Sir John Rawson five hundred marks, and gave him the title of Viscount Clontarf. This title, since he was a priest, became extinct at his death in 1560.

Another son of Richard Rawson and Isabella Craford was Richard Rawson, a priest, who was Prebendary of Durnsford in Salisbury. In 1502 he was Archdeacon of Essex; in 1510 Rector of Saint Olave's Church, Hart Street, London; Canon of Windsor in 1521; and Vicar of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, 25 July, 1525. His arms remained in the Vicarage of Beaconsfield, which he rebuilt, until 1728. He died in 1543.

Other children were Avery Rawson, a London merchant; Nicholas Rawson; Christopher Rawson; Anne Rawson, who married Richard Cely; Elizabeth Rawson, who married John Foxe; and Alice Rawson.

Christopher Rawson, the son of Richard Rawson and Isabella Craford, is in the tradition of the Rawson family, believed to have been the great-great-great-grandfather of Edward Rawson, the Secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He was a merchant in London, owning Old Wool Quay, in

Petty Wales, now Lower Thomas Street, this being an inheritance from his mother, Isabella Craford. He died in 1518, and was buried in Allhallow's, Barking, Great Tower Street, London. His first wife was named Margaret, and he married, second, Agnes, the daughter of William Burke. His children were: John, Thomas, Richard, Margaret, and Catherine.

The established ancestry of the Rawson family in America begins with Edward Rawson, of Colnbrook, Langley Marsh, Buckinghamshire, a wealthy merchant, whose will was made 16 February 1603-4, and offered for probate 4 May 1604. He married Bridget, whose surname was, probably, Warde. Edward and Bridget had issue:

David Rawson (Edward), a merchant tailor in London. His will, dated 15 June 1616, shows him a man of charity to the poor, of family affection, and proves that he was, for the times, well-to-do. He married Margaret, the daughter of the Reverend William Wilson and Isabel Woodhal. A son of David Rawson and Margaret Wilson was Edward Rawson who was born in the village of Gillingham upon the River Stour in the county of Dorset, Old England, April 6, 1615. He was married in England to Rachel Perne, daughter of Thomas Perne and grand-daughter of that John Hooker whose wife was a Grindal, sister of Edmund Grindal, "the most worthily renowned Archbishop of Canterbury" in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. John Hooker, grandfather of Rachel Perne was uncle to the celebrated and able divine Reverend Thomas Hooker, who came to Boston in 1633, was for a time settled in Cambridge and removed thence to Hartford in Connecticut, where he settled in the ministry. Reverend John Wilson, first minister of Boston, was uncle to Edward Rawson, and Cotton Mather in his biography of Wilson, speaks of him as having for his mother a niece of Doctor Edmund Grindal and refers to Edward Rawson, the Honored Secretary of the Massachusetts Bay Colony from 1651 to 1686. By his marriage to Rachel Perne he became connected with two of England's greatest divines, Hooker and Wilson.

Secretary Rawson had by his wife Rachel twelve children, seven daughters, five sons. His eldest child, a daughter, was left in England where she was born and where she married (name unknown). His sons, Edward, David, and John, went to England and there settled. Two of his daughters died young. The remaining four were married in Boston to, respectively, William Aubrey, Reverend Samuel Torrye of Weymouth, Thomas Rumsey, and Thomas Broughton. His two sons, William and Grindal, settled in this country.

Secretary Rawson came to New England in 1637 and settled in Newbury, Mass., where he became one of the grantees and proprietors. He was the second town clerk of Newbury, notary public and registrar, serving from April 19, 1638 to 1647. He was also selectman of the town and commissioner to hear and determine small cases. He was deputy to the general court from Newbury in 1638 and nearly every year until 1650, and clerk of the house of deputies in 1645, 46, and 49. He had a special grant of fifteen hundred acres of land in the Narragansett county of account of his services to the general court. He and Joseph Hills revised the laws of the province. He succeeded Increase Nowell, who had been secretary of the colony from the beginning in 1636, being elected May 22, 1650, and afterwards resided in Boston being re-elected annually until Sir Edmund Andros came into power.

Edward Rawson's home in Boston was on Rawson Lane, now Bromfield Street, and he owned several acres bordering on the common. He and his wife were members of the church under Rev. John Wilson, after whose death Mr. Rawson became one of the twenty-eight disaffected persons who left the First Church to form the Third or Old South Church in May, 1669. He became the agent or steward of an English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel among the Indians in New England in 1631. He countersigned the warrant sent to Massachusetts for the arrest of the regicides Goffe, Whalley, and Dixwell, but they were never arrested. His salary as secretary was at first twenty pounds a year, later sixty pounds. He was subsequently elected recorder of Suffolk County. He was known as an efficient public officer, a useful and distinguished citizen. Secretary Rawson's second term of office was at the time of the persecution of the witches and Quakers, and death warrants of some of these unfortunates bore his name in his official capacity, the one blot on his record. The poet Whittier in one of his poems on the persecutions of the Quakers, speaks of "Rawson, the Clerk." (#1)

Edward Rawson, so far as he has been ascertained, was progenitor of all bearing the name of Rawson in the United States with these two exceptions: The First, James Rawson, A.M., M.P., a Methodist Episcopal clergyman, who came to the United States from England in 1832 and is supposed to have died in Virginia August 26, 1864. His ancestors fled from France to England in consequence of the revocation of the "Edict of Nantes" by Louis XIV. The second came to the United States about 1840 and settled in Utica, New York. His grandparents still reside in England and have no knowledge of being immediately connected with our honored Secretary Edward Rawson.

#### Edward Rawson's Children

1. A daughter left in England
2. Edward grad Harvard College 1653, settled in Horsmanden, Kent 1655
3. Rachel m William Aubray of Boston
4. David b May 6, 1644, went to England
5. Perne b May 14 or 16, 1646, a daughter, m Rev. Mr. Torrey or Mr. Broughton
6. Susan d in Roxbury 1654
- \* 7. William (third son) b May 21, 1651, m Ann Glover, daughter of Nathaniel Glover, July 31, 1673
8. Rebecca b Oct 19, 1654, d young
9. Rebecca b May 23, 1656, m Thos Ramsey July 1, 1679, d at Port Royal, 1692 (#2)
10. Elizabeth b Nov 2, 1657, m Rev Torrey or Mr. Broughton
11. John settled in England
12. Grindal b Jan 23, 1659, d Feb 6, 1715, m Susanna Wilson

#### SECOND GENERATION

William Rawson, third son of Edward, was married in 1673, as appears by the following certificate in the ancient family bible: "This may certify all whomsoever it may concern that on ye 11th day of July, 1673, on a certificate that I received that William Rawson and Ann Glover, ye daughter of ye late Mr. Nathaniel Glover, had been duly and legally published, I joined them in marriage at the house and in the presence of Mr. Habackuk Glover, his wife, Mr. Edward Rawson, and other friends, as witness my hand this 31st day of July, 1673. Edward Tyng, Asst." (#3) In the space of

twenty-five years, the couple had twenty living children, eleven sons and nine daughters.

He resided in Boston a number of years after his marriage. The births of ten of his children are recorded there. He removed to Dorchester, where, according to the records of that town, two of his children were born, and from thence to Braintree, now Quincy, to the ancient Rawson farm which he purchased of the immediate descendants of the Rev. John Wilson of Boston, his great-uncle. The farm is a part of a large tract of land granted by the General Court to the Rev. John Wilson, including a large portion of what is now called the North School District of Quincy. It is situated near Neponset Village and has descended to the fifth generation; from William to his son David, from David to his son Jonothan, from Jonothan to his son Jonothan, Jr., and from Jonothan, Jr., to his son Samuel, who now resides on a part of it. The other part is owned by Mrs. Lydia Billings, and a family by that name occupy it who are descendants of Jonothan Rawson. Their farm adjoins the homestead of the Hon. Josiah Quincy, late president of Harvard College. William and Ann Glover Rawson's children were: (#4)

1. Ann b April 11, 1674, d in infancy
2. Wilson b 1675, d in infancy
3. Margaret b Aug 1, 1676, d in infancy
4. Edward b Sep 6, 1677, d in infancy
5. Edward b Aug 29, 1678, d in infancy
6. Rachael b Oct 16, 1679, d in infancy
7. Dorothy b Aug 8, 1681, d in infancy
8. William b Dec 8, 1682, m Sarah Crosby, d Sep 20, 1726
- \* 9. David b Dec 13, 1683, m Mary Gulliver, d Apr 20, 1752
10. Dorothy b June 19, 1686, d young, 1691
11. Ebenezer b 1687, d Aug 28, 1691
12. Thankful b Aug 6, 1688, d Aug 21, 1688
13. Nathaniel b 1689, m Hannah Thompson, d 17-
14. Ebenezer b July 24, 1691, d young
15. Edward b Jan 27, 1692, m Preserved Bailey, d 1721 at 29
16. Ann b Aug 28, 1693, d in infancy
17. Patience b Nov 8, 1694, d Nov 14, 1694
18. Peletiah b July 2, 1696, m Hannah Hall, d 1769
19. Grindal b Aug 21, 1697, d in infancy
20. Mary b 1698, d in infancy

#### THIRD GENERATION

David Rawson, son of William Rawson, born Dec 13, 1683, died April 20, 1752, at age of 69, married Mary Gulliver, daughter of Captain John Gulliver of Milton and lived on his father's farm near Neponset Bridge in Quincy. He is said to have been a persevering business man and distinguished for energy of character. He left a valuable estate at his death. His wife survived him and her personal property at her decease is stated to have been valued at L 212-12-4. He was buried at Quincy and the following inscription may be found on his gravestone, a few yards away from the family tomb of the late ex-President, J. Q. Adams:

"Here lies y' body of Mr. David Rawson, who departed this life April y' 20, 1752, in the 69th year of his age."

Their children were as follows:

David b Sep 14, 1714, d June 7, 1790, m Mary Dyer  
Jonothan b Dec 26, 1715, d Nov 1782, m Susanna Stone  
\* Elijah b Feb 5, 1717, third son of David, m Mary Paddock  
Mary b May 20, 1718, m a Mr. Winchester, 2 ch  
Hannah b Apr 2, 1720, d July 24, 1726  
Silence b June 12, 1721, d Aug 17, 1721  
Ann b Jul 30, 1722, m Samuel Bass Oct 30, 1746  
Elizabeth b Nov 30, 1723, m Peter Adams, 1756  
Josiah b Jan 31, 1727, d 1811, m Hannah Bass  
Jerusha b Dec 21, 1729  
Lydia b Jan 17, 1731, m Samuel Baxter  
Ebenezer b May 31, 1734

#### FOURTH GENERATION

Elijah Rawson (who served in Revolution), third son of David Rawson, Sr. (#5) born Feb 5, 1717, married Mary Paddock of Swansey, lived a number of years in Warren, Rhode Island, and removed thence to Pittstown, New York, in 1789, where he died in 1798, having had eight children:

Jonothan, youngest son  
Ann m a Mr. Stone, 4 ch  
James  
\*Samuel, fourth child of Elijah  
Edward lived in Pittstown  
David  
Elijah  
Mary m a Mr. Smith, 4 ch, d at Lonsberg, N.Y. Mary's only record shows 1 son, Samuel, m in year 1793

#### FIFTH GENERATION

Samuel Rawson, son of Elijah Rawson. He married Lydia Thurston, May (or June) 20, 1781, and removed from Shrewsbury, Mass., 1793 to Pittstown, N.Y.

Eleanor lived at Pittstown  
Louise or Lois M. Henry Manderville. 9 ch; settled at Rochester, New York. One of her sons, James, m Miss Gallop; no ch. A daughter, Julia, m Lyons, 2 ch, Henry and Mary.  
Parmy m Mr. Stearns, no ch.  
Samuel m and settled in Adams, Jefferson County, NY, and had 12 children. His first wife, Margaret Manderville, 9 ch; second wife, Hanna Pinck, 3 ch.  
Sally m Phillip Mitchell, settled in Pittstown, 8 ch  
Mary m William Wellington, 2 ch, d in Pittstown  
Lydia b Dec 3, 1788, m Charles Harbach of Sutton, Mass. Settled at Pontiac, Mich, 8 ch



- \* James m and settled in Belfast, Irondequoit County of N.Y.  
 He was 8th child of Samuel Rawson. He m Polly Franklin; 7 ch  
 Alice m James Knapp, settled in Belfast NY; 6 ch

#### SIXTH GENERATION

James Rawson, son of Samuel and Lydia Thurston Rawson, born June 12, 1790, died Sep 27, 1866, married Polly Franklin (date unknown) who was born Dec 27, 1795, and died Nov 27, 1876. They had ten children: Sally, Ophelia, Cassandra, Emmer, Sardis, Ransom, Mandeville, Emmer Jane, Frank (or Franklin), George Wheeler.

- 1 - Sally Rawson m Ralph Bacon, 4 ch known, perhaps others  
 Sally died in Nebraska  
 Henry d in Army  
 McDonarck d in Nebraska  
 Mary m a Mr. Hootsell  
 Floyd
- 2 - Ophelia Rawson m Dan Howell, no ch., d in Rockville, NY
- 3 - Cassandra Rawson m John Merrifield at Caneadea, NY, Mar 1, 1835, d at Salem, Illinois, April 9, 1871. 5 ch  
 Helen and Henry, twins, d two years old  
 Omer  
 James  
 Helen m a Mr. Drake, 3 ch  
 Eugenia Drake m Charles McMackin (#6)  
 Omer  
 Helen (#7)
- 4 - Emmer - the first child named Emmer died young, was drowned in the Genessee River
- 5 - Julia Sardis Rawson, b in Caneadea, Allegany County, NY. Married May 27, 1856, to George Saunders, d Oct 1, 1900. 5 ch.  
 Frank B. Saunders  
 Emma L. Saunders  
 Maud Rawson Saunders  
 Helen (Mrs. W. P. Taylor)  
 Edith (Mrs. Thos D. Vandervoort)
- 6 - Ransom Rawson m. Alice Tryner, 5 ch. Died in Chicago, Ill.
- 7 - James Mandeville Rawson m Jessie Johnson; d in St. Louis, Mo.
- 8 - Emmer Jane Rawson, the second child to bear this name in this family, born Sep 2, 1833, at Belfast, NY.; d Jan 12, 1910, age 76 years, 4 mos, ten days. Funeral services at Methodist Episcopal Church, Salem, Ill., Friday, Jan 14, 1910. She m Russell Harvey Lyon, b Dec 1821 at Franklinville, N.Y., d Mar 1, 1901; 6 ch.  
Mary Harriet (Mamie) b July 9, 1869, d April 1960  
Eugene DeLoss

Sixth Generation - Continued

- (3) Florence Cecelia Lyon, dtr of Emmer Jane Rawson and Russell Harvey Lyon, m John H. Williamson of St. Louis, Missouri, 2 ch:  
    (a) Corinne Lyon Williamson, b Dec. 20, 1884  
    (b) Frank Everett Williamson d
- (4) Harry Hinckley Lyon b Dec. 18, 1870 at Salem, Illinois, d Aug 22, 1954 at Springfield, Illinois. m Della Jane Roberts b Feb. 10, 1877 at Coin, Iowa, d March 22, 1952 at Pana, Illinois. 2 ch:  
    (a) Wolcott Norbert Lyon d Feb 21, 1968 m Pauline Pundt. 1 ch:  
        1. Wolcott Norbert Lyon, Jr. m Marjorie Ingham, 3 ch:  
            Keith Geoffrey Lyon b Dec. 31, 1951  
            Meredith Christina Lyon b April 13, 1954  
            Kent Christopher Lyon b Oct. 16, 1955  
    (b) Glenn Russell Lyon, LtCdr USN (Ret.)
- (5) 2 girls, same name, Jessie, both d young.
- (6)
9. Frank, (or Franklin) Rawson, son of James and Polly Franklin Rawson, d at Caneadea, New York Dec. 18, 1892, at the age of 71. He m Harriet Mix, who d May 16, 1888. They had 6 ch, 2 history unknown.
- (1) Dora Rawson, m Card Dodge. Buried in Caneadea Cemetery.
- (2) Eugene Rawson, father of:  
    Isadore Rawson, b 1882, m Clarence Daley, living in Rochester, N.Y. 2 ch:  
        Samuel Decardis Daley, b 1902  
        Marie E. Daley, b 1903
- (3) Helen Rawson, dtr of Harriet Mix and Frank Rawson, d March, 1878, at age of 26. She m (first) Walter McKee. 1 ch:  
    Clara Belle McKee, b Jan. 29, 1868 (#9)

4.

Emily Rawson - dtr. of Frank Rawson and Harriet Mix Rawson, (and sister of Helen Rawson McKee Hallock,) m George Estabrook. Both died in 1902. They had two sons, both blacksmiths, Roy at Caneadea and Bruce at Houghton, New York.

Roy Estabrook, b Sept 25, 1873 d August 10, 1949.  
m Mertie Lowe. They had two dtrs., Hazel and Fern.

Fern m Earl Foreman, no ch.

Hazel m a Mr. Ames. They had one dtr, Violet.

Violet Ames m Charles Damon of Rushford, New York.  
Hazel m (second) Harlan Woods. They lived in Washington, D.C. and had one son.

Robert Bruce Estabrook b April 9, 1867, d Nov 23, 1955. m Florence Rebecca Weaver March 6, 1895 b April 2, 1869 d June 15, 1927. 1 son.

Harold Weaver Estabrook, only son of Florence and Robert Bruce Estabrook, b July 3, 1896 m Ethel Marie Arnold March 15, 1917, b July 1, 1896, 3 ch.

1. Lois Mildred Estabrook b March 5, 1920  
m Lindsley B. Crouch. 2 ch.

Raymond Lee Crouch b Apr 19, 1941  
m Rita Hale, born June 18, 1947.

Leroy Dean Crouch b July 12, 1942,  
m Lila Price

2. Dorothy Corrine Estabrook b Feb 11, 1925  
m Earl Clair Findlay 2 ch.

Marvin Clair Findlay b Feb 11, 1946

Roland Bruce Findlay b Oct. 17, 1949

3. Harold Wayne Estabrook b April 20, 1932,  
m June Alice Faeke, 2 ch.

Kenneth Wayne Estabrook, b Feb 19, 1955

Karen June Estabrook b Sept 17, 1957

## SEVENTH GENERATION

10. George Wheeler Rawson, son of James Rawson and Polly Franklin Rawson, b April 29, 1825 at Caneadea, New York d March 11, 1906, at the home of his son, Bruce Rawson, 416 Walnut Street, Belleville, Illinois. He was buried at Salem, Illinois. He was the first conductor of the old Pittsburgh Railroad, now the Southern Railroad. He married Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton, b April 8, 1834, in Cazenovia, Madison, County, New York. Their wedding certificate, dated Dec. 31, 1852, is still preserved and in the possession of their granddaughter, Ruth Rawson Meng. Caroline d April 11, 1895. They came to Belleville from Salem, Illinois in 1867 and for many years operated the Hinckley House, later known as the Lincoln Hotel. Caroline and George Rawson were the parents of six children:

1. James b April 27, 1854 at Kirkwood, Mo. d 4 days old
2. Kate b Nov. 15, 1855 in O'Fallon, Illinois. d Feb 13, first white child b in that town. She m James McClure, settled in Denver, Colorado. No ch.
3. Bruce b February 10, 1861 in O'Fallon, Illinois. d Feb 13, 1941 in Caneadea, New York at home of his dtr. Corinne Rawson Nicholson. He m Clara Belle McKee. 5 ch, Helen, Ruth, Fred, Ruben Charles, Corinne.
4. Charles b August 26, 1868 at Salem, Illinois, Marion County. d age 11 months, 20 days.
5. George b Jan 22, 1871, in Belleville, Illinois. m Marie (unknown). They had one son, George. This son married Stella (unknown) and they were parents of two sons. George Rawson, Sr. d Sept. 5, 1934. Buried at Salem, Illinois.
6. Erle, youngest ch of George Wheeler Rawson and Caroline E. Rawson, b May 29, 1873 in Belleville, Illinois. He m Agnes Hopfinger. They had one son, Ralph Rawson, MD. DDS, practices dentistry in Chicago, Illinois. He m Virginia Farrington. No ch.

Erle Rawson m (second) to Ottilia Gravlin Jan 14, 1918 at Waterloo, Illinois. They were parents of one son, Virgil Rawson b Feb 2, 1920. Virgil m Juanita Cumbus, Jan 27, 1941 at Prattville, Alabama. 2 ch. All living in Alabama.

1. Linda Erle Rawson b Jan 21, 1942 at Montgomery, Ala., m Billy Garner, May 28, 1960 2 ch.  
Sheila Sharon b March 6, 1962  
Christopher Shane February 8, 1971
2. Russell James Rawson b October 30, 1949 at LaGrange, Ga., m Nickie Joy Hagarthy from Cullman, Alabama, Feb 5, 1971.

## EIGHTH GENERATION

Bruce Rawson, son of George Wheeler Rawson and Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton Rawson, b February 10, 1861 in O'Fallon, Illinois, d Febr. 13, 1941 at the home of his daughter, Corinne Rawson Nicholson, in Caneadea, New York. He was a locomotive engineer, working for the L&N RR for about 52 years. His brother Erle was a fireman on the same engine. He m Clara Belle McKee on March 24, 1887 in a Methodist church in Belleville, Illinois. She was b January 29, 1868 in Caneadea. d May 6, 1953. Both buried at Caneadea. Five ch:

1. Helen Rawson, b June 26, 1888 in Belleville, Illinois, d Sept 10, 1965 at Newburgh, N.Y. m Raymond Campbell Burns b Dec. 26, 1885, d 1941. Both buried at Caneadea. Two ch:

(a) Grace Clare Burns, b Febr. 16, 1911, m Thomas Seymour Jessup of New York. Settled in Florida. P 17

June Suzanne Jessup m Jackson Linsey Mathis

Nancy Caroline Jessup, b Sept 7, 1938, m Edward Ramaden Perry, settled in New York. 3 ch:

Debra

Cheri

Kimberly

Thomas Seymour Jessup II, b Oct 10, 1944

Harriet Cherrell Jessup, b June 9, 1946, m Harry William Southwell. 2 ch:

William

Michael

Philip Wayne Jessup, b Dec. 15, 1948, m Mary Louise Moffitt

Helen Ray Jessup, b July 27, 1951. m Donald William Guynn. 1 ch:

Donald Chad Guynn

- (b) Dorothy Burns b March 5, 1917 in East St. Louis, Illinois. m Floyd Boemer Masterson of New York, settled in Newburgh, New York. 1 ch:

Karen Elizabeth Masterson b Oct 31, 1942, m John F. Ryan, Jr. (Jack) at Newburgh, N.Y. 3 ch:

Ann Elizabeth Ryan

Michael John Ryan

Kate Ryan

2. Ruth Rawson, second ch of Bruce and Clara McKee Rawson, b April 27, 1892 at Belleville, Illinois. m Louis William Meng at Corry Pennsylvania, Sept 28, 1910. He was b June 12, 1890 at O'Fallon, Illinois, d Sept. 24, 1968. He served in the US Navy in his youth, and in the US Army during WW 1. Three ch:

(a) Harold Louis Meng, b September 1, 1911, at East St. Louis, Illinois, d April 16, 1970. m Hazel E. Roberts Ferguson, April 14, 1941. He had one stepson:

Jerry E. Ferguson, now LtCdr. in US Navy, living in California.  
2 ch:

Jerry Jr. Ferguson  
Jeanelle Ferguson

(b) Lois Hope Meng, second ch of Louis and Ruth Rawson Meng, b August 30, 1916, at East St. Louis, Illinois. m Peter Clark Gent, Sept 4, 1938, at Belleville, Illinois. 3 ch:

Peter David Gent, b Dec. 3, 1941 in Belleville, Illinois.  
Served four years in US Coast Guards. m Vicki Rhine, June 23, 1963. 1 ch:

David Aaron Gent, b April 30, 1971, at Kansas City, Mo.

Donna Marie Gent, b March 1, 1945. m Herbert Carl Sieg, June 11, 1966.

Mary Elizabeth Gent, b Nov. 16, 1951

(c) Raymond Bruce Meng, youngest ch of Ruth Rawson Meng and Louis William Meng, b April 24, 1920. Served 4 years in US Navy in WW 2. m Dorothy Bryant, b February 12, 1922, 3 ch:

Betty Ann Meng, b Oct 7, 1942, m Fred Rogers of Louisville, Kentucky at Belleville, Illinois. Now residing at Endwell, N.Y. 1 ch:

Joseph Charles Rogers, b Sept. 23, 1966

Ruth Alice Meng, b Feb. 15, 1945, m Dr. Gene Yonuschot at Belleville, Illinois. Now residing at Fairfax, Virginia.  
1 ch:

Georgiana Yonuschot, b Nov. 1, 1970

Raymond Bruce Meng, Jr., b May 29, 1953

3. Frederick Bruce Rawson, third ch of Bruce and Clara McKee Rawson, b August 1, 1897, d May 27, 1948 at Inglewood, California. He m Neva Bugbee in Corry, Pa. They had 1 ch: He served in US Navy in WW 1.

Frederick Harrison Rawson, b Aug 9, 1916. He served in US Air Force in WW 2. His B 29 bomber was shot down over Germany and he was held in a German prison camp for 16 months. He m Arlene Whitney, is now a retired Major and they are living in Florida.

Frederick Bruce Rawson, m (second) to Beatrice  
They had 2 ch:

Billy Bruce Rawson, b Dec. 8, 1924. He served in US Navy on submarine in WW 2. He m 4 ch:

Billy Bruce, b July 4, 1946

Elizabeth

Frederick Dennis, b April 14, 1948

Carol, b Sept 19, 1952

Sherry Corinne, m a Mr. Vasquez. She was b 1923

Frederick Bruce Rawson, m (third) to Fay Bynum. They lived in Arizona and California.

4. Ruben Charles Rawson, twin, second son of Bruce and Clara McKee Rawson, b Oct 9, 1902, d February 12, 1938. m Ione Ramelot, b May 23, 1905, 1 ch:

Rubin Charles Rawson, Jr., b August 1, 1925, m (first) Marjorie Barnes, (second) Virginia Hirbe (now Cottom)

Rene Rawson

He m (third) Eiko Lee. Two step-children:

Betty Lee

John Lee

He served in the US Marines in WW 2 in China, the South Pacific, and in Korea during the Korean War, then Reserves and later enlisted in the Seabees.

5. Corinne Rawson, twin, b Oct 9, 1902, third dtr of Bruce and Clara McKee Rawson. m Clarence Nicholson of Canadea, N.Y., Nov. 24, 1924. He served in US Army during WW 1. 3 ch:

Dan Nicholson, b Nov. 20, 1925. m Ella Lamphier of Wellsville, New York. He served in US Army during WW 2.

Elizabeth Ann, b Dec. 6, 1957

Sue Carol, b April 17, 1959

Jane Eileen, b July 22, 1960

Roger Nicholson, b Feb. 23, 1930. m Ruth Young, b May 6, 1930. He served in US Army during WW 2. 3 ch:

David Bruce Nicholson, b Jan 1, 1951

Lori Ann Nicholson, b Dec. 12, 1958

Eva Lou Nicholson, b Jan 30, 1941. m Frank Windisch, October, 1970

## A P P E N D I X

### Footnotes

- #1 From Exerps of "Memoirs of Edward Rawson" by Sullivan Rawson: His family bible now in possession on R.R. Dodge of East Sutton, Mass., maintains the following certificate in the handwriting of Edward Rawson's son William, "This may certify to whom it may concern that Edward Rawson, (Secretary) was born in old England in the years of our Lord 1615 and departed this life August 27th in the year of our Lord 1693 in New England, aged 78 years."
- #2 John Greenleaf Whittier published in 1849 entitled, "Leaves from Margaret Smith's Journal in the Province of Massachusetts Bay," in which Rebecca and her father take prominent parts.
- #3 The mother of Ann Glover was "ye only child of Mr. Quartermaster Smith by his first wife, formerly of Lancashire in England and afterwards of Dorchester in New England. She married to Mr. Nathaniel Glover of sd Dorchester, by whom she had Nathaniel and Ann. Then this husband dying she remained a widow till she married ye Hon. Thomas Hinkley of Barnstable, who was the last governor of Plymouth Colony." (See N.E.H. Register, Vol. 1, p. 95) 5 of the children of William married and left posterity.
- #4 The names of William Rawson's twenty children were found recorded in the ancient family bible. The New England Historical & Genealogical Register and Antiquarian Journal published quarterly under the direction of the New England Historical Gen. Society at Boston, Mass., Samuel G. Drake, Publisher, #56 Cornhill, Edward Rawson from the July 1849 edition, the rest to James Rawson of Belfast, New York from the October 1849 edition.
- #5 Exerps from D.A.R. Nat'l. Soc. Lineage Book Vol. 19, Page 133, "Elijah Rawson served as a private in the Worcester County Militia. He was born in Quincy, Mass, and died in Shrewsbury, Mass. (Copied by Ruth Rawson Meng from her brother Fred's notes.) Note: Helen Rawson Burns, daughter of Bruce Rawson joined the D.A.R. (date unknown but prior to 1943.) Her D.A.R. No. 173487. Her record said, "Samuel Rawson also fought and you can get a bar, (DAR) for him." "You can also have a bar from Knowlton's side too. (Geo. W. Rawson m Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton.) Grant Knowlton b Sept. 17, 1753, Cumberland, R.I., d April 21 or 22, 1820, m 1789 to Francis Evans b July 15, 1759 d Jan. 14, 1844. James Knowlton, b Providence, R.I. 1809, d Carlisle, Ill., 1854, m 1832. Clarissa Borden b June 22, 1811 at Cazenovia, New York, d Feb. 16, 1893 at Salem, Illinois, Helen used Elijah to establish her eligibility. Clara Schwartz DAR No. 167285. Clara Schwartz of Salem, Ill. was dtr of Caroline Knowlton's Sister Helen.



## Appendix

- #6 From childhood memories of Ruth Rawson Meng, "My father used to speak so fondly of 'My dear cousins, Genie McMackin and Clara Schwartz, of Salem, Illinois,'. As a child of 11, my cousin Mamie Lyon took me home with her and I spent a happy week at the home of my aunt Em Rawson Lyon, getting acquainted with Helen McMackin and Helen Schwartz and enjoying their families' hospitality. Corinne Lyon Williamson, Aunt Em Lyon's granddaughter, also contributed to that week's pleasure. Our love for each other lasted until her death at 83 and we had many happy times together."
- #7 Helen McMackin was honorary vice president general of the National Society, of D.A.R.
- #8 Lucy Bailey McKee's sisters were: Mrs. Ida Hitchcock, (old Star Mother of Craig Hitchcock of Belfast, N.Y., Mrs. Hattie Klinger of Corry, Pa., Mrs. Fred Wilson, Mrs. Carl Ford. Fayette m Lucy Bailey, Febr. 20, 1881. They had 1 dtr Nina, who m George Robbins. They had 3 ch, Mildred, Lucy, George. Fayette d Dec. 28, 1916. John Wesley McKee b Feb. 4, 1848, m Sadie Dietrich of Titusville, Pa. She d 1922. 2 ch, Carl, (Sgt. Carl J. McKee, who fought in France in WW 1 and was recommended for D.S.M.) and Helen, wife of Roy Sammons of Bloomsburg, Pa. Carl and Helen both deceased.
- #9 Helen Rawson and Walter McKee eloped to Canada at a very early age. He was b in Caneadea, New York, April 8, 1846, d May 13, 1928. He was a son of Amanda Sweet McKee, b April 22, 1820, m July 13, 1842, to Johnson McKee, who d Sept. 15, 1890 age 71. They had 4 sons and 1 dtr Emma, who d in her teens. The sons, Walter F. McKee, who settled at Amarita, Oklahoma, Fayette McKee, of Caneadea, New York, John Wesley McKee of Titusville, Pennsylvania and Jack, who settled in Missouri. Clara Belle McKee, dtr of Helen Rawson and Walter McKee, was raised by her grandparents, Johnson and Amanda Sweet McKee. She m Bruce Rawson, son of George Wheeler Rawson and Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton Rawson, in Belleville, Illinois. Clara's mother, Helen Rawson McKee m, (second) a Mr. Hallock. They had 1 dtr., Minnie Hallock, who settled in Minnesota.

### Page 2 - (Preface)

William Howard Taft is descended, through the Rawsons, both from a son and a daughter of the Rev. Dr. William Wilson, who married Isabel Woodhal. Margaret Wilson married David Rawson. Their son was Secretary Edward Rawson, the first of that family in America. Susanna<sup>4</sup> Wilson, (Rev. John<sup>3</sup>, Rev. John<sup>2</sup>, Rev. William<sup>1</sup>) was born about 1655 and died 8 July, 1748. She married, in 1683, the Rev. Grindall Rawson. See "Ancestry of William Howard Taft," pages 28-42. Rhoda Rawson<sup>7</sup> (Abner<sup>6</sup>, Edmund<sup>5</sup>, Rev. Grindall<sup>4</sup>, Edward<sup>3</sup>, David<sup>2</sup>, Edward<sup>1</sup>) was born 4 Oct. 1749. She married Aaron Taft and died in Townshend, Vermont, 9 July, 1827.

Page 21 - Re Polly Franklin: It has always been a tradition in our family that Polly's father, Arad Franklin, was descended from one of the illustrious Benjamin Franklin's relatives. However, efforts to trace this lineage have failed to reveal the link. Perhaps some future zealous enthusiast of genealogy may be more successful.

Page 13 Thomas Seymour Jessup was Flight Commander - Civilian Flying Instructor for English and American boys in WW2 at Carlstrom Field, Arcadia, Florida. His son, Tom, was a SeaBee (S#7702435,) and a deep sea diver ass. with Sea Lab 3 and a member of Tektite 1 and 2 Deep Sea Research Project.



(3.) II. Rebecca Rawson, (10—9) was b. May 23, 1656. The said story of her marriage and death is related in a "Memorial of the Rawson Family," by Judge Joseph Rawson, of Rhode Island. "There was one Thomas Rumsey, who came from England to Boston, and pretended to be the son of Sir Thomas Hale, Jr., nephew to Lord Chief Justice Hale, and made a respectable appearance. He appeared to be well acquainted with Sir Thomas Hale's family, and, being a person of handsome address, paid his devoirs to Miss Rebecca Rawson, who was accounted one of the most beautiful, polite and agreeable young ladies then in Boston, as was related by many of her contemporaries, and particularly by Mr. Callendar, father of the Rev. Mr. Callendar, Anti-Pedo-Baptist Minister in Rhode Island. As she was descended from one of the first families in Boston, she thought herself good enough to make the young Lord a wife. They were married, and being handsomely furnished, embarked for England, where they safely arrived. Soon going on shore in a dishabille, leaving her trunks and other things on board the vessel, she went to a relation of hers, where they lodged the first night. In the morning he arose early, taking the keys of her trunks, and telling her that he would go and send her things on shore, that she might be dressed before dinner. He sent the trunks up, and she waited with impatience for him to bring her the keys until one or two o'clock in the afternoon, but he not coming, she broke open the trunks, and, to her inexpressible surprise, found herself plundered and stripped of every thing and her trunks filled with combustible matter, which put the whole family in great consternation; on which her kinsman ordered up his

carriage, and they went to the place where she stopped with her husband the night before, he having told her that he had some business there. She inquired for Sir Thomas Hale, Jr., and was told that he had not been there for some time past. She said she was sure he was there the night before, for she was there with him. They said it was a mistake, but that one Thomas Ramsey was there the night before, with a young lady, and that he had gone home to his wife and family at Canterbury, and she never saw the villain more. She had one child by him, which she left with her sister in England, that sister having no children. During her thirteen years' residence in England, she learned many curious works, such as painting on glass, &c. Her ingenuity, industry and pride, procured her a genteel living, and she was not dependent on her friends for support. On her return to her native place, Boston, by way of the Island of Jamaica, in one of her uncle's ships, the ship being about to sail thence for Boston, in the morning of the great earthquake at Port Royal, A. D. 1692, she was swallowed up, together with the whole ship's company, excepting her uncle, who, being on shore just completing the settlement of his accounts of his voyage." (See Coffin's Hist. of Newbury, pp 397, 398, for further particulars respecting this unfortunate lady.)

Rebecca Rawson and her father are prominent characters in "Stray Leaves from Margaret Smith's Diary, in the Colony of Massachusetts," recently published. The form of a diary is chosen for a very interesting story, illustrative of old times in the Colony. Rebecca had by Thomas Rumsey, as before remarked,

34—1 One child, left with her sister in England.

LEAVES FROM

# Margaret Smith's Journal

IN

THE PROVINCE

OF

Massachusetts Bay.

1678-9.

One Volume, 16mo. 224 Pages. Price, 50 cents in Paper Binding;  
75 cents in Cloth Binding.

BOSTON:

Published by TICKNOR, REED & FIELDS, 135 Washington Street. 1849.

THIS volume, edited by JOHN G. WHITTIER, the poet, has recently been published, and is having a very extensive circulation. No book has appeared for many years that has excited more attention. The charm is never broken in its perusal, and from the first to the last page the life-like picture is preserved.

Margaret Smith begins her Journal soon after her arrival in Boston, May 8th, 1678, and the last entry is on June 18th, 1679, the day before her embarkation for England. Her home during her stay in the Colonies is principally in the family of Mr. Secretary Rawson, of whom, and the members of whose household, she writes at great length. To every one interested in the events of that day the incidents described by Margaret Smith will be read with enthusiasm.

We have room but for a few extracts.

Boston, May ye 8th, 1678.

I remember I did promise my kind Cousin Oliver, (whom I pray God to have always in his keeping,) when I parted with him nigh unto three Months ago, at mine Uncle Grindal's, that on coming to this new COUNTRY I would, for his sake and perusal, keep a little Journal of whatsoever did happen both unto myself and unto those with whom I might sojourn; as also, some account of the COUNTRY and its Marvels, and mine own cogitations thereon. So I this day make a beginning of the same; albeit, as my Cousin well knoweth, not from any vanitie of authorship, or because of any undue confiding in my poor abilities to edify one justly held in repute among the Learned, but because my Hearte tells me that what I write, be it ever so faultie, will be read by the partial eye of my Kinsman, and not with the critical observance of the Scholar, &c. \* \* \* \*

Of my voyage out I need not write, as I have spoken of it in my Letters

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already, and it greatly irks me to think of it. Oh, a very long, dismal time of Sickness and great Discomforts, and many sad thoughts of all I had left behind, and fears of all I was going to meet in the New England. I can liken it only to an ugly dreame. When we got at last to Boston, the sight of the Land and Trees, albeit they were exceeding bleak and bare, (it being a late season, and nipping cold,) was like unto a vision of a better World. As we passed the small wooded Islands, which make the Bay very pleasant, and entered close upon the Town, and saw the Houses, and Orchards, and Meadows, and the Hills beyond covered with a great growth of Wood, my Brother, lifting up both of his hands, cried out, "*How goodlie are thy tents, Oh Jacob, and thy habitations, Oh Israel!*" and for my part I did weep for joy and thankfulness of Heart, that God had brought us safely to so fair a haven.

Uncle and Aunt Rawson met us on the wharf, and made us very comfortable at their House, which is about half a mile from the water side, at the foot of a Hill, with an oaken forest behind it, to shelter it from the north Wind, which is here very piercing.

Uncle is Secretary of the Massachusetts, and spends a great part of his time in Towne, and his Wife and Family are with him in the Winter season, but they spend their Summers at his Plantation on the Merrimack River, in Newbury. His daughter, Rebecca, is just about my age, very tall and lady-looking; she is like her brother John, who was at Uncle Hilton's last year. She hath moreover a pleasant Wit, and hath seen much goodlie Company, being greatly admired by the young Men of family and distinction in the Province. She hath been very kind to me, telling me that she looked upon me as a Sister, &c. \* \* \* \*

Ipswich, near Agawam, May ye 12th, 1678.

We set out day before yesterday on our Journey to Newbury. There were six of us—Rebecca Rawson and her Sister, Thomas Broughton, his Wife, and their man Servant, my brother Leonard and myself, and young Robert Pike, of Newbury, who had been to Boston on business, his Father having great Fisheries in the river as well as the sea. He is, I can perceive, a great admirer of my cousin Rebecca, and indeed not without reason; for she hath in Mind and Person, in her graceful Carriage and pleasant Discourse, and a certain not unpleasing waywardness, as of a merrie Child, that which makes her company sought of all. Our Route the first day lay through the Woods and along the borders of the great Marshes and Meadows on the Sea shore. We came to Linne at night, and stopped at the house of a Kinsman of Robert Pike's, a man of some substance and note in that Settlement. We were tired and hungry, and the Supper of warm Indian Bread and Sweet Milk relished quite as well as any I ever ate in the Old COUNTRY. The next day we went on over a rough road to Weaham, through Salem, which is quite a pleasant Town. Here we stopped until this morning, when we again mounted our Horses, and reached this place after a smart ride of three hours. The Weather in the morning was warm and soft as our summer days at home, and as we rode through the Woods, where the young leaves were fluttering, and the white blossoms of the wild Flowers, and the blue Violets, and the yellow blooming of the Cowslips in the low grounds were seen, on either hand, and the Birds all the time making a great and pleasing Melody in the branches, I was glad of Heart as a child, and thought if my beloved Friends and Cousin Oliver were only with us, I could never wish to leave so fair a COUNTRY.

the terme of Life, unless she have occasion to make use of them, and what of them shall remain at her Decease, to be disposed of between my foure Daughters at her discretion. I do hereby appoint my well beloved Wife. Mrs. Susanna Rawson, to be my sole Executrix of my last Will and Testament.

*In Token* Whereof, and of every article above-mentioned, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the Twenty-fourth day of January, in the yeare of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and fourteen.

GRINDAL RAWSON.

Signed, sealed and published and declared in the Presence of Samuel Read, Jr., Ebenezer Read, and Thomas Sanford.

#### DAVID RAWSON'S LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.

*In the Name of God, Amen.*

Twenty-first day of April, in the yeare of our Lord, A. D. 1752. I, David Rawson, of Braintree, in the County of Suffolk, in New England, Yeoman, being sick and weak of Body, but of Perfect mind, for which thanks be given to God, therefore calling to mind the mortality of my Body, and knowing that it is appointed to all men once to Die, Do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament. That is to say, Principally and first of all, I give and commend my Soul into the Hands of God, that gave it, hoping through the merits of my Saviour, Jesus Christ, to have full and free pardon of all my sins, and to inherit Everlasting Life. And my Body I commit to the Earth, to be decently buried, at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named. And as touching such Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give and dispose of the same in manner and form following: (viz:)

*Inprimis.* I Will that those just debts I do owe in right of conscience to any Person or Persons whatever, shall be well and truly paid, in convenient time, after my decease, by my Executrix hereafter named.

*Item.* I give to my son David Rawson, Jr., One Hundred Acres of Land, out of my Farm at Shrewsbury, for Quantity and Quality, which with what I have already given him, (viz:) two Yoke of Oxen, one Cow, one Horse, together with his Mother's Right in all the Buildings lately

belonging to Capt. Gulliver, deceased, besides the sale and improvement of all the Estate that came to her by her Father Gulliver; also, I give to my said son David Rawson, Twenty Acres of Wood Land in Milton, to him, his heirs and assigns forever.

*Item.* I give to my son Jonathan Rawson, all my Homestead, bounded Easterly by Gregory Baxter's land, Southerly on land formerly belonging to Dr. Williams, Northerly by Thomas Glover's land, Westerly on his own land; Also, I give all my Utensils for Husbandry or Farming Business; I give to him all my Wood Lot, in Milton, adjoining to the Adams land, and Twenty Acres of Wood Land lying over the Blue Hill River, the southerly part of my said Lot, also I give him all the remaining part of my stock of Creatures, which I have not given to my Wife. I give him all the aforesaid mentioned Premises, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

*Item.* I give to my son Elijah Rawson, Five Shillings, Lawful money, and the reason why I give him no more, in my Will is, because I have lately given him a Deed of Two Hundred Acres of Land at Shrewsbury, which is his part of my Estate.

*Item.* I give to my son Josiah Rawson, Two Hundred Acres of Land in Shrewsbury, for Quantity and Quality, which together with what I have already given him, is all his part of my Estate. I give the said Two Hundred Acres to him, his heirs or assigns, forever.

*Item.* I give to my son Ebenezer Rawson, all my Lands in New Braintree, (so called,) to him, his heirs and assigns forever. Also I give him Forty Pounds Lawful Money, to be paid him by my Executors, at his coming to the age of Twenty-one years.

*Item.* I give to my Well Beloved Wife, Mary Rawson, the improvement of one third part of all my Real Estate, during her natural Life. Also I give her one third part of all my living Stock of Creatures, of every kind whatsoever. Also all my Plate, Pewter, Brass and Iron Ware, together with all the Beds and Bedding, and other sorts of Household Stuff whatsoever, and also I give to her the use of one third part of my Dwelling-house, and Barn room sufficient for her Stock of Cattle, and also I give her the use of one of my Horses during her natural Life, or as long as she shall bear my name. I also give to her my Negro Girl named Flora, to be at her disposal as she shall think fitting at her decease.

*Item.* I give to my Daughter, Mary Rawson, Forty-three Pounds, to her and her heirs or Executors, to be paid by my Executors, within five years after my decease, or at her marriage day.

*Item.* I give to my Daughter, Ann Bass, Ten Pounds and Five Shillings, Lawful Money, to her and Heirs or Executors, to be paid within four years after my decease, with what I have already given her, makes her equal to the other Daughters.

*Item.* I give to my Daughter, Elizabeth Rawson, Forty Pounds Lawful Money, to be paid her within five years after my decease, to her and her heirs by my Executors, at her marriage day.

*Item.* I give to my Daughter, Jerusha Rawson, the sum of Forty Pounds in Lawful Money to her and her heirs or Executors, to be paid to her within five years after my decease or at her marriage day, by my Executors.

*Item.* I give to my daughter, Lydia Rawson, Forty Pounds in Lawful Money, to her and her heirs, to be paid within five years after my decease, or at her marriage day, by my Executors.

And my Will is, that all my Unmarried Daughters have liberty of living with their Mother, in the third part of the Dwelling-house, during their living in a single state, and also that my son, Jonathan Rawson, find all and each of my Daughters sufficient Bread and Meat, &c. while they remain in a single state. Further, my Will is, that my Son, Jonathan Rawson, pay all and each of the Legacies, given in my last Will, as they shall become due, out of their part of my Estate, which I have willed to him.

And I do hereby constitute and ordain my Well Beloved Wife, Mary Rawson, and my Son, Jonathan Rawson, to be Executors of this my last Will and Testament, and I hereby make void all former Wills, &c. by me made before this time, Granting, confirming this to be my last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and yeare above written.

Signed, Sealed and Published and Presented and declared by the said David Rawson, as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us, the Subscribers.

Moses Billings, Elisha Savel, Joseph Crosby.

DAVID RAWSON.

## APPENDIX

GEORGE WHEELER RAWSON'S FAMILY - copied from manuscript in his own handwriting to his son, Bruce Rawson.

My mother's mother was Sardis Hitchcock before she married Arad Franklin and had three children by him, Arad, Sally and Polly. My mother was Polly. She married James Rawson. Arad married Lorey Hammon. Sally married Wheaton.

Grandmother's second husband was Josiah Rice and had four children by him, Abil, Sally, Betsy, and Julia.

Uncle Arad Franklin had eight children, Lafayette, Maryette, Jerome, Marion, Hammon, Prudence, Dezang, Fred, and Ashley.

Sally Franklin Wheaton had two children, Nelson and Sally.

Uncle Abil Rice married Lucinda Tinsler first wife, had one child, Lucinda. (Lucinda m Frank Norton, 2 sons, lived at Friendship, NY, d Oct 26, 1920)

Aunt Betsy married Rubin Clark and had three children that I know of, Emogen, Decator, and Angela.

Aunt Julia married J.N. White, five children, Erwin, Bert, Devere, Florence and Eugene.

Aunt Sally married Grove, no children.

James Rawson, my father, I do not know where he was born. He had one brother and two sisters that I know of, Aunt Louise Manderville and Aunt Lidy Herback and Uncle Samuel Rawson. James Manderville, my cousin, had no children. His wife was a Miss Gallop. Julia Manderville married Lyon, and had two children, Henry and Mary. I never saw Aunt Lydy Herback. She lived in Pontiac, Mich.

Grandmother had three brothers, one sister, living in Caneadea, Allegany County, New York, Uncle Luke Hitchcock, Uncle Arad Hitchcock, Uncle Tim Hitchcock, and Aunt Ellen Rice.

Your Aunt Cassandry Merrifield had five children. The first were twins Helen and Henry, died when about two years old. Then came Helen who married Drake, Omer and James.

Your mother's father (George Wheeler Rawson's wife, Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton's father) had one sister that married Dugon. Emoline Orcutt is his child. He died and she married Sweet and had one child, Lisan Sweet, and she had one uncle by the name of Charles Amdin. I think his first wife was sister to your Grandpa Knowlton. Em Orcutt will know for they and Aunt Lisey Gunn raised Emoline Orcutt.

Sister Sally married Ralph Bacon. They had four children. Mary married Hootsel, Mcdonarck, Henry and Floyd. Henry died in the army. Emoline Orcutt will know about it and will have to write it down.

(Attached to this was his original marriage certificate showing that on December 30, 1852, George Wheeler Rawson married Caroline Elizabeth Knowlton of Belfast, N.Y., at the residence of Rev. I.T. Sharp, in Cuba, New York.)

## Appendix

Sardis Hitchcock, b June 1774, was the maternal grandmother of George Wheeler Rawson. Sardis d March 6, 1863, age 89. She had three brothers, Luke, Arad and Tim, and one sister, Ellen Rice, living in Caneadea, New York.

The first husband she married was Arad Franklin. They had three children:

1. Arad, b at Bainbridge, Chenango County, New York, May 11, 1798, d J 2, 1884. m Laura Hammond. Arad Franklin and wife, Laura Hammond Franklin came to Caneadea in 1824. Their children:

Lafayette	Prudence
Maryette	Dezang
Jerome	Fred
Marion	Ashley
Hammon	
2. Sally, (or Mary) b Oct. 8, 1793 m a Mr. Wheaton. They had two children:

Nelson d Nov 13, 1845, age 34 years, 2 months, deaf and dumb, shot by accident.
Sally
3. Polly b Dec 27, 1795, m James Rawson. Polly and James Rawson were parents of George Wheeler Rawson, also Sally, Ophelia, Cassandra, Emmer, Julia Sardis, Ransom, James Mandeville, Emmer, (second) and Frank.

Sardis Hitchcock Franklin m her second husband, Josiah Rice. They had four children. He d Nov 14, 1858 aged 82.

1. Elizabeth, or Betsy b June 22, 1814, d Nov 11, 1890. m Rubin Clark. 3 ch:

Emogin b 1841, d Jan 1921
Angela
Decatur
2. Abel b April 3, 1807 d April 29, 1889. m Lucinda Tinsley, (or Tinsler) his first wife, 1 child, Lucinda. Lucinda Rice m Frank Norton. They had 2 sons. She d Oct 26, 1920. They lived at Friendship, New York. (#9)
3. Sally, m a Mr. Grove, no ch. d Dec. 30, 1877, age 66 years, 4 months, 10 days.
4. Julia b March 1816, d 1897. m J. N. White, 5 ch:

Erwin
Bert
Devere
Florence
Eugene

The information on this page received from manuscript by George Wheeler Rawson written to his son Bruce and preserved by him for the benefit of posterity.

## Appendix

James Mandeville Rawson's letters to his sister, Emmer Rawson Lyon, copied from originals.

Albany, Febr. 10, 1862

Dear sister: Your letter came to hand one hour ago and I was glad to hear from you. I would like to be there to dinner to get some - well, I don't care what, but never mind, I have just had some pie but it wasn't very good. I could not drill today because I am not very well. I don't see how you write to me but you have and I was so glad to hear from you. Em, I would like to see that little girl. Now please send me their likeness, now will you, please do. I do not know if you can read this for my hands tremble so I can hardly write. I sit on my bunk, don't have anything to rest my arm on. There is nothing going on now in Albany, only hard times. I have been in service four months and have had no pay yet, but we do expect some any day. I cannot write any more as my head feels too bad. I will have to lie down for a spell, so goodbye for now...Well, Em, I got up and don't feel smart but will try and write a little more to you. I can hardly see to write, my head is so dizzy. Em, tell Helen to put it in care of Capt. T. J. McNett. Don't fail or I will not get it. Tell Helen to write just as soon as she sends the box so I will know when it comes. They have gone out on drill, -oh, hear those drums beat. Oh, who would not want to be a soldier. How are Mary and all the rest of them, well, I hope. You tell Mary I got her letter and was glad to hear from her. I don't know of anything else to write. I am as fat as a hog, only weigh 180 lbs. The captain thinks there is nobody like me, and I am his right-hand man. This is the first day I have been sick since I have been in service. Oh, now I begin to feel better. It is just as still here now, they have all gone out on drill except some sick ones. Do you want to know what I have to eat? Well, I will tell you, meat and potatoes and bread. We sometimes have meal pudding and molasses. When we get that, it is grand. What do you think of it. Last night they began to play cards and sing and fiddle and dance. Oh, what times we do have. Now Em, you must write just as soon as you get this, don't fail now, please don't. From your brother,

J.M. Rawson of the 93rd Reg. Co.E.  
Camp Rathborn, Albany  
Capt. T.J. McNett (put that in full.)

\* \* \* \*

New York, March 31st, 1862

Dear sister. Your letter came to hand and I was glad to hear from you. You can see that I was glad or else I would not have written you this evening. We left Albany on the 14th of February and got into New York on the 15th in the afternoon. We stayed at the Park Barracks till the 17th in the afternoon. We left then for Rickers Island. We got there at about nine o'clock in the evening and we did not get any supper until past twelve. I got up the next morning and oh how splendid it did look. You could see ships, sail ships and steam boats and the gun boats going along and oh how splendid they did look, grand, grand, grand. We have to drill all day, do not get any time to drill only evenings. I have not got my pay yet. I have been in service five months and not seen any pay yet. They say we will get it now in three or four days. You must excuse me for not doing better when I write you. This will not be a long letter for it is written in the night. I am as happy as a clown and we get all we want to eat here.

I got a letter from Rans the other day and they were well. I got a letter from Sard and they are good ones too. There is everything going on here, some a-fiddling, some a-dancing. You ought to see them, you would laugh I guess. I got a letter from mother the other day. They were all well. Oh how my back aches, leaning over to write to you. Give my respects to        and Mary and your old man. They all think I am writing to my girl. If I was, I would take more pains. Well, I must close now. Please write just as soon as you get this, please do. From your brother, James Mandeville Rawson. Direct to New York City, 93rd Regiment, Capt. T. J. McNett.



APPENDIX

Copy of letter written by Polly Franklin Rawson, wife of James Rawson, mother of Sally, Ophelia, Cassandra, Emmer, Sardis, Ransom, Mandeville, Emmer Jane, Frank, George Wheeler Rawson. She was b December 27, 1795, d Nov. 27, 1876.

Belfast, Dec. the 15th  
1871

Dear Little Grandson Bruce -

I received your letter and likeness yesterday and am glad to think I have a grandchild that thinks enough of me to write. I think your picture looks same as you did when I was there, only older.

I should like to see you and all the rest, but never expect to. I do not get any letters from anyone but Uncle Ransom, not often from him. I am staying with Aunt Sally Grow this winter. The friends here are all well, I think. I hope you will live to be a man and help to your folks and yourself.

I never expect to see any of you again, but hope to hear from you often while I live.

I think you write well for a new beginner. If you persevere, you will soon be as good as need be. You must go to school steady and it will not be long before you can write a good hand.

Goodbye, with much love, hoping you will write often to your old  
Grandmother Rawson.

P.S. I hope I shall have better ink next time.

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Copies of two letters written by Corinne Rawson Nicholson to cousin Harry Lyon and family, contributed by Glenn R. Lyon, of Pana, Illinois.  
February 14, 1945  
Caneadea, New York

Dear Cousins -

Mother received your welcome Christmas card. She has asked me to write to you as at present she does not feel too well. She fell two weeks ago and hurt her hip, and does not get around too well now. She tripped over a rug in the bedroom, otherwise she is pretty good. She did enjoy her visit to Illinois last Spring. I do hope you are not having any winter like we are. We have had snow and more snow. The schools are closed two and three days a week sometimes. Snow plows do go by two and three times a day sometimes and then those on the hills can't get out. Several times we have had a snow plow come into our yard and now it is piled nearly as high as your head in places and still we can't get the car near the house, have to keep it in the barn, and the roads are piled so high on the sides that at times we can't even see the large school bus when it drives past. It rained some and then all were afraid of floods and then it turned cold and snowed ten inches last night, so snow plows came down through before daylight this morning. We have had 26 degrees below zero here two or three mornings and eighteen and twenty below seem nothing. In fact, it was only 2 above this morning, so you can see we will enjoy Spring. It is a land of white here now. We have beautiful hills here and just below here the pine trees are loaded with snow. Our Spring doesn't even begin

here until late April or even late May. I wish you and your wife could visit us in the summertime. We know you would enjoy the scenery here. Mother would enjoy showing you the town where she was born and surrounding country. Near here is a large dam which was built to supply water for Rochester, New York, forming a large lake. Then seventeen miles from here is what is called Portage Falls. It is known as "The Grand Canyon of the East." It is in Letchworth Park and has three different falls and beautiful natural scenery surrounding them. Anyway, do try and come. My husband shot a deer this season and was he proud! I had a license but did not even see one. Our oldest boy was rejected for military service because he has asthma, - was 19 in November. Our second boy will be 15 the 23rd of this month. He is in the second year of high school, and our girl was 4 January 30th. Dad Rawson has been gone 4 years the 13th of this month. We hope this letter finds you and family all well, know you are busy, but when you can, please drop us a line. Mother wishes to be remembered to you both.

Sincerely, Corinne Nicholson.

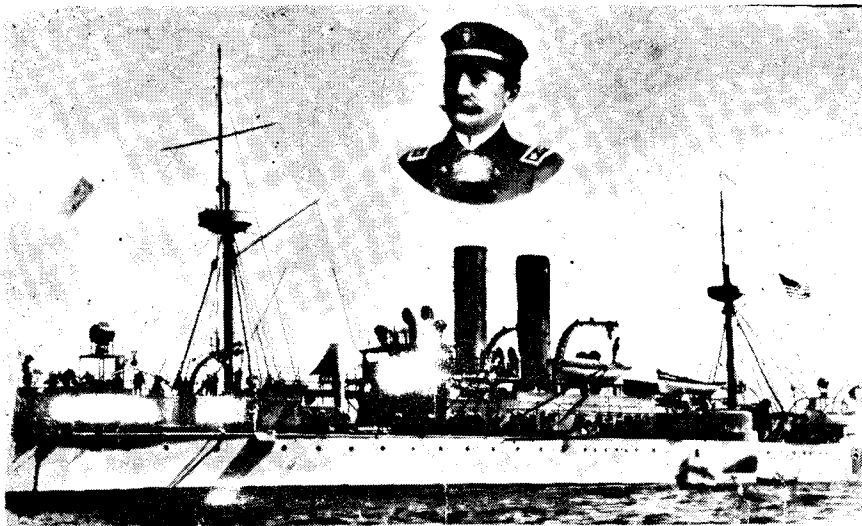
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Caneadea, New York, Nov. 12, 1955

Dear Cousin Harry - We were so sorry to learn from Mamie that you have been ill. We have just had a snow storm, 8 inches here and where our daughter-in-law lives at Wellsville, New York, they had 18 inches and beyond there, 28 inches, but has soaked up the dry earth so has not caused too much flood damage. Has been so dry here all summer it is a good thing to have the snow. Our eldest son Danny, who is 28 this month, has left for Korea. It made us all feel sad as he had wanted so much to go during the last war, and was 4 F four times on account of asthma, and now he has been married a year and they took him. Our other son wrote us today from Germany that he is returning to the States the last of this month. He will be 24 this February. His son will be 3 January 1st, so you can see that we will be glad when this war is stopped. He has been in Germany a year. My husband has been hunting a lot lately. He has shot 3 pheasants, 10 squirrels and 2 rabbits in the last month. He does a lot of carpenter work uptown and does not get to hunt every day. We have a good English shepherd dog and she is fairly good in flushing up birds. Deer hunting starts Thanksgiving Day. We hope to go to Buffalo that day to visit with his sister. Our daughter-in-law will go with us. There are only 3 of us here at home, our daughter who is 12, my husband and I. There used to be eight and nine of us at one time, so we have closed off two large rooms for the winter and remodeled some bedrooms to make them more comfortable. We have a twelve-room farmhouse and hope that some of your family can make a trip out here some day. Mother always spoke so highly of you and my Dad did too. Mamie and Corinne always came to see us after we returned to Illinois from Pennsylvania. Will close and hope that I have not tired you with this long letter, enjoyed your last one so much, so take it easy and stay well and maybe you can write us another one soon.

Sincerely, Corinne Nicholson.

P.S. When Caneadea was first discovered by white men, it was covered, (with the exception of occasional open flats along the river, such as the one opposite our home,) with prodigious growths of pine, oak, hemlock, elm, chestnut, maple, birch, cherry, ash, and along the river, butternut, hickory and wild plum trees. Caneadea is an Indian name meaning where the river rests or leans upon the earth. The Seneca Indians exercised undisputed sway over Caneadea reservation until 1826. I just thought this might interest you.



USS MAINE, NO. 1

## ★ ★ ★ ★ USS Maine (No. 2) Was Not Unlucky, NCUSA 'Mate Says

(Editor's Note: Louis W. Meng, author of this article, is a member of Ship 58, East St. Louis, Ill., and only recently moved from his Ship's community to adjoining Belleville. The article was withheld from printing to have it appear at a time when thoughts of NCUSA members could be shifted to the War with Spain in preparation for Maine day, Feb. 15, 1954).

The second USS Maine was not an unlucky ship—but lucky to have iron men aboard her. She was launched in 1903, a sister ship of the USS Missouri, and a madhouse if there ever was one. I went aboard her Dec. 9, 1907, at League Island Navy Yard. My first assignment was to sand and canvas the forward wooden mast and yardarm. Coming down the Jacob's ladder, my hands almost frozen, I dropped my bucket and splattered the contents on the big stacks—and I mean big—probably the largest in the Navy at that time.

In the six and a half months I served aboard her, I believe she burned more coal than all the rest of the fleet put together. In that time, I know I spent three months coaling her, cleaning the sides, bulkheads, holy-stoning her decks and washing clothes. I wore out enough squeegee handles, brick bats, sand, salt-water stone, holy-stoning her deck, to build a brick house in East St. Louis.

The Maine left Hampton Roads with the "Great White Fleet" on Dec. 16, 1907, with the USS Connecticut flagship under command of "Fighting Bob" Evans, Rear Adm. Robley D. Evans and also known as "Gimpy" Evans. As we left, President Theodore Roosevelt, sponsor of the trip, witnessed our departure from the decks of the USS Mayflower, his presidential yacht.

It is my opinion Teddy made a mistake when he ordered the Maine to join the fleet because she delayed the ships in every port while coaling ship.

Every ship in the fleet had 24 hours liberty before we had the Maine cleaned up.

Our trip to the Pacific coast was via the Straits of Magellan and we had gunnery practice off Magdalena Bay, Mexico. The gunners' marksmanship was nearly perfect.

From San Diego north to Frisco we stopped in every major port and inasmuch as the California law on Japanese purchasing additional land had only recently been approved, the fleet's visit created a great impression with 14,000 men on the 17 ships backing up Teddy's big stick.

After our Frisco Bay sojourn we steamed on the Honolulu where we had liberty first, then coaled ship leaving there June 2, 1908, for Apra, Guam. At Apra we met the USS Supply and within a few hours a no-

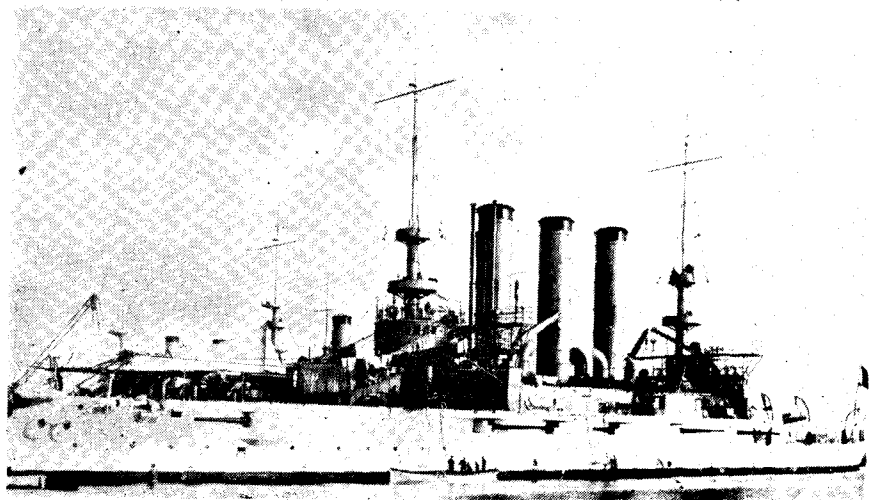


MENG ABOARD THE USS MAINE—The author, Louis W. Meng, Ship 58 East St. Louis, Ill., is shown with his shipmate, Frank Duerst, ready for liberty while serving aboard the Maine. The photograph was taken in 1908.

tice went up on the bulletin board noting that men with two or more year's service could request transfer to the USS Supply. Noting the coal lighters handy, I put in my application before the ink was dry on the notice—and four days later received the transfer.

Once aboard the Supply I started thumbing my nose at the Maine only to catch the jimmy legs eye who asked me why. I told him I hadn't missed a coal pile from Hampton Roads to Guam and was glad to be off her—yes, glad to have left the USS Maine.

The last I heard of the Second Maine she had been taken out of commission—probably her decks had been worn too thin from holystoning, her bulkheads too thin from excessive chipping and her bunkers battered by a continuous in and out flow of coal



USS MAINE, NO. 2