Biography of a Pulaski Co., Kentucky

RAINWATER by Frances Aderholt Smith

Josiah Wilson Rainwater was born and reared on a farm near Somerset, Pulaski County, Kentucky. Born 11 October 1843, he was the youngest of thirteen children born to Bartholomew Rainwater (1804-1899) and his wife, Nancy McLaughlin (1807-1883). He volunteered for service in the Union Army during the Civil War on 5 November 1861 at Camp Wolford, Kentucky. He enrolled in Co. D, 3rd regiment, Kentucky Volunteers, and was discharged at the rank of Captain on 10 January 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky. He was wounded at the Battle of Stone River, and again in battle near Marietta, Georgia.

Josiah Rainwater married Elizabeth Jane WEDDLE (1847-1943), daughter of Solomon WEDDLE (1822-1890) and his wife Martha TARTAR (1822-1896) on 11 January 1866. To this union were born two sons and seven daughters. Josiah engaged in farming and in the mercantile business in Waterloo, Pulaski County, Kentucky, where he served as Postmaster and County Tax Assessor for several years. Raised a Master Mason in Kentucky in 1867, he later served as Worshipful Master. He also was a census enumerator each listing from 1870 to 1910.

He joined the Baptist Church in March of 1871, and was active in church affairs, and was serving as a deacon in the First Baptist Church in Vernon, Texas, at the time of his death. In December of 1890 he sold his holdings in Kentucky and moved to Williamson County, Texas. There he settled on a farm outside Taylor, establishing a general store and post office in a little community he called Waterloo after his former Kentucky home. He took an active part in community and school affairs, as well as church and Masonry. He served on the local school board several years.

In 1907, Josiah Rainwater moved from Taylor to Wilbarger County, Texas where he resided on a farm northeast of Oklaunion. He was a director of the 1st State Bank there from 1914-1927. He left the farm and moved into the nearby city of Vernon, Texas in 1919. Here he made his home until his death on 16 March 1934. He is buried in the Eastview Cemetery, Vernon, Texas. His wife Elizabeth died on 25 June 1943 and is buried beside him.

Well, it seems like the best time and place to wish everyone a belated Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I am sorry for the delay. This process is new still to me and I have to allow enough time to get it done. I will endeavor to be on time for the following issues. Please continue to advertise the newsletter.

My New Year's resolution is to build this newsletter subscription membership to 200 by the end of next year. This should give us the depth and broad contact that we need to make this work for everyone. We are currently at 40.

Please feel free to pass along my address and let others know about this newsletter if you like. Thank You.
Rainwater: A "NOBEL" Name

When physicist James Rainwater was awakened by the telephone in the middle of an October night in 1975 and told he had won a Nobel Prize, he asked his caller, 'What for?' The caller, a journalist, didn't know. The second and third callers didn't know either. Not until someone mentioned the names of Aage Bohr and Ben Roy Mottleson did Rainwater understand that the prize was for his contribution, twenty-five years earlier, to the understanding of atomic nuclear structure.

The reason for Rainwater's uncertainty was that in 1953 he and Val Fitch, whose doctoral dissertation he was supervising, had made another major contribution to physics—their muonic atom X-ray studies. Years of experimenting had gone into his work with Fitch. 'This was the beginning of work on the X-ray transitions,' says Rainwater. 'I thought the Nobel Prize was more apt to be for that.' In contrast, Rainwater's contribution to the collective model of the nucleus, which the prize was for, had come about through a flash of theoretical insight at a time when he was not even directly engaged in nuclear model studies.

Rainwater, named the Pupin Professor of Physics in 1982, was a twenty-two year old graduate of Cal Tech in 1939, when he was lured to Columbia by a $1,000-a-year stipend. I.I. Rabi and others in the physics department at that time were determined to attract the best young minds to the University.

James Rainwater was born on December 9, 1917, in Council, ID, where his parents ran a general store. When his father died in the influenza pandemic of 1918, his mother moved to California, where she had lived before and where she now remarried. James grew up in the town of Hanford, halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, in the San Joaquin Valley.

From the beginning he was good at mathematics and science. He still remembers with pride a high school chemistry grade—'the only A-plus-plus they ever gave.' He did well in physics despite 'a relatively strange physics teacher' who talked more about his personal experiences than about physics. But, 'We had a good text, which I enjoyed.'

Certain that he wanted to be a chemist, Rainwater had entered Cal Tech on a partial scholarship. He continued to do well in chemistry, but he soon decided against a career in the field. 'You have to remember huge numbers of things,' he says. 'I thought, if you're going to be a good chemist you should probably have an encyclopedia memory, which I don't.' Physics was interesting and easy, so I switched to it.' At the same time, he studied engineering. 'I wanted to know some things the physics people weren't interested in—how electric power was handled, for example.'

Today, James Rainwater is concerned about the poor level of teaching in elementary and high schools throughout the country. 'Most high school teachers,' he says, 'haven't had much math or physics, and the good ones get gobbled up by industry, where the salaries are much higher. There is a terrible shortage of good teachers.'

In the classroom, he says, 'You talk about things you assume the students will know, and get blank looks. What teachers do is teach the glamorous points, saying students aren't interested in the dull things you have to learn to build on... I keep wondering if the time will come when you'll have to start teaching undergraduates about the number system.'
Will of John RAINWATER

Most of you by now should have seen the will of John Rainwater, husband of Mary Fussell. However, there are sure to be some who have not yet seen it and so I will print the transcription of the will in its entirety. One thing to remember after reading this will, is to note that there are no dates of birth nor ages listed for any of John’s children. This is important because in your research you will run across many “documents” that show ages for all of the children. Since we have no bible records (that I have seen) for this family, and they have not been found in any church records or any similar documents, one has to question the validity of any dates of birth for these children. I would be interested in listing any documentation that exists at present to prove the dates of birth for any of these children. I also greatly welcome anyone who is researching any of the daughters of this John and Mary RAINWATER. I have to date NEVER run across anyone who traces their line back to one of these daughters. It is highly unlikely that all of them died, so who did they marry and where did they go??????

Will of John RAINWATER
Filed in Surry County, NC - May 1777

I, John Rainwater of Surry County in North Carolina, being now in perfect sense and memory, Tanks be to GOD, but yet considering that life and sense is uncertain, do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament (Viz). My soul I recommend unto the Hands of God. My body I recommend to the earth to be buried in a Christian manner, and as to my worldly estate I give, demise, bequeath and dispose of the same in the following manner and form.

First, I give to my daughters Mary, Betty, Winney, Milley and Molley, to each Five Shillings Prov., money to them and raised out of my estate the same is in full, and bar from them obtaining any more.

Item __ I give to my son John Five Shillings Prov., money to be raised as aforesaid the same is in full and a bar from his obtaining any more unless he should succeed his brother James as trustee in the management of that part of my estate which I give for the support of my wife and son William.

Item __ I give my plantation and all my land my negro man Jack and all other my estate of what kind soever to the whole and sole use, support and maintenance of my wife and son William during their lives and do hereby will and subject the same into the hands, care and management of my son James whom I hereby constitute and make Trustee to appropriate the said estate to their sole use, support and maintenance as aforesaid, to them either jointly or single in such way and manner as the said James shall judge and think most to their profit and best for their support and comfort. And if any part of the said estate should remain after their decease my will and intent is that the said James, his heirs and assigns enjoy the same forever.

Item __ If my son James decease before my wife and son William, I will that my son John succeed my said son James in every point as Trustee.

Lastly __ I appoint my wife, Mary, Executrix and my son John and James, Executors of this my last will to see that all things be performed according to the true intent and meaning thereof. And do hereby disannul and revoke every former will and ratify and confirm this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness thereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this fourth day of November, 1771.

Signed, sealed, published
pronounced and declared in the
presence of us.

John X Rainwater (SEAL)

Jesse Brimp
John X Pain
RAINWATER RECORDS FROM ENGLAND

While it is almost certain that our Rainwater ancestry goes back to a family, Germanic in origin, there is a theory that our Rainwater ancestors lived for at least a short time in England. Many Germans emigrated to the relative safety of England during the period of the Reformation, especially during the 16th century. A letter from Jerry Rainwater of Norman, OK suggests that the Rainwaters in America may descend from the following: (Please keep in mind that this is pure conjecture and there are no documents yet to corroborate this theory!)

Abraham Raynewater married Mary Sandaville (or Saudairle) on 20 August, 1644 at St. Gregory's Parish, Norwich, England

The following records were copied directly from the microfilms of original church records by Ellen Beth Robison (nee Rainwater) during 1982-83 at the library in Norwich, England. Differences arise in spellings, arise due to either to faded material or the cursive style of writing typical of seventeenth century England. Thus, "Rainmortal" is more than likely "Rainwater".

CHRISTENINGS AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, GREAT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND

15 Aug 1613  Joane Raynemortal  Daughter of Abraha and Hester
2  Mar 1615  Lodowicke Raynemorter  Son of Abrah and Ester
26 Mar 1617  John Raymortal  Son of Abra and Ester (alien)
6  Feb 1619  Abraham Raynemortal  Son of Abra and Ester
1  Aug 1669  Elizabeth Raynemortal  Daughter of John and Eliz
16 Sep 1677  Lodarich Rainewater  Son of Low Rainwater and Frances
9  Jun 1680  Thomas Rainewater  Son of Eordorck Rainwater

MORE CHRISTENINGS AT GREAT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND (CHURCH UNKNOWN)

16 Nov 1701  Nath Rainemortal  Son of John and Rachel
24 Feb 1710  Rachel Rainmortal  Son of John and Rachel
10 Feb 1714  Loadwick Rainemortal  Son of John and Rachel

MARRIAGES AT GREAT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND

13 Nov 1670  William Mony of Yarmouth to Mary Raynemortal of Yarmouth
**BURIALS AT GREAT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name and Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Oct 1616</td>
<td>John Raynmorter (Alien Inf)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Oct 1652</td>
<td>Abraham Raynmorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Jun 1668</td>
<td>Lodowick Raynmorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Jul 1668</td>
<td>Abraham Raynmorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Aug 1672</td>
<td>John Raynmorter, Mariner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Jun 1673</td>
<td>Elizabeth Rainwater, wife of John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Jul 1674</td>
<td>Abram Rainmarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Aug 1679</td>
<td>Elizabeth Ranewater, Daughter of Lodinex and Fran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 Dec 1680</td>
<td>Lamar (?) Rainemorter, Daughter of Lodowick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

***So numerous were deaths from the plague in Nov and Dec 1665 that burials were not listed.***

**FREEMEN OF GREAT YARMOUTH, ENGLAND**

*from “A Calendar of Freemen of Yarmouth, 1429-1800”*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name and Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1676</td>
<td>Lodowick Raynmorter, Apprentice of Samuel Medow (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1687</td>
<td>John Spore, Apprentice of Lodowick Rainmorter (A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1701</td>
<td>John, son of Lodowick Rainmorter (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1721</td>
<td>Nathaniel, son of John Rainmorter (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1737</td>
<td>Lodovic, son of John Rainmorter (code not given)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1756</td>
<td>John, mariner, son of Nathaniel Rainmorter (B)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grounds of admission to freemanship status:

- A-Apprenticeship
- B-Birth
- G-Grant or Gratis
- P-Purchase

**MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS ON SANDEVILLE FAMILY**

St. Gregory’s Church: David Sandevill, born 12 Jul, 1625 in St. Gregory’s parish and baptized at a Dutch church.

Grand Ward of Wymer, St. Gregory’s, was Giles Sandeville, born beyond the seas, a hoyser (?)

The Sandevilles seem to have been a fairly prominent family as their names appear in various records. Perhaps they were dissenters from the Dutch or Walloon churches and so may have the Rainmorts (Raynewaters, Raineworters, etc.)
Rainwaters buried in Independence Co., AR

Blue Springs Cemetery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, W. Roy</td>
<td>27 Mar 1902</td>
<td>7 Nov 1973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, Blanch</td>
<td>20 Jul 1911</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Center Grove Cemetery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, Will M.</td>
<td>1 Nov 1866</td>
<td>26 Jan 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, Lizzie E.</td>
<td>28 Oct 1875</td>
<td>21 Mar 1952</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Walnut Grove Cemetery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>To Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, William M.</td>
<td>22 Mar 1827</td>
<td>22 Dec 1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainwater, Sarah B.</td>
<td>(wife)</td>
<td>13 Sep 1910 74y 9m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We presume that James' people were in the habit of coming to the French Broad and that he knew about the country and decided he would make his home here. They did not settle on any of the good, rich river land. Perhaps it had all been taken by then, but they did settle near it, about 4 or 5 miles from where they settled to the river.

It was mostly sandy land with lots of timber yet on it. There is a long ridge and pretty steep in places which was always called Sandy Ridge. The country is well watered with springs and creeks and the land is good. The Rainwater farm was at one time a very good sized one but has been cut into smaller places and changed hands so much. James and Katy built them a small log cabin, pioneer style.

The little old cabin is still standing. (As of this publication, I am not certain that this still remains true) Katy lived in it her whole life and after her death it was moved a little way to where it is now. The farm was divided up some way and her oldest son Eli moved it on to his land. I know where the house originally stood. It was in this little cabin she reared her family of 5 boys and one girl. Of course I never knew James and Katy or any of the children. I can barely remember the daughter Louisa. She didn't live so far from us but was real old when she died. I recall she was always sending word that she was going to come to see us but never got there, at least she never came after I was old enough to remember.

When Katy's first child Eli (my grandfather) was a small boy, James joined the Army during the War of 1812 and left that poor little girl, just a child herself with a little baby to fend for themselves. There was none of their folk near her. How she made out I don't know. Daddy said she was a full blooded Scotswoman, as independent as they came and not afraid of the devil himself. "Hoot mon" she didn't care if you paid her any mind or not. I have the greatest admiration for her. wish I could have known her. Guess I must have a lot of her in me. I am pretty independent myself. (As I am only related to them by their Rainwater heritage, I think she got a double dosage. Some of the Rainwaters were a bit self-determined as well!!!!!)

From some old records I have unearthed, I don't think that James was in the Army too long. Seems he took sick and was returned home. He was in long enough that years later he did get a pension. After he came back home there were 4 more boys and a girl added to the family.

Katy must have been a character, not a wild sort but just a real Scotch-Irish.
full of fun, a little close and thrifty type. Daddy told me lots of little things he thought were funny about her. She had her native brogue and a little different way of expressing herself. Seems she was very witty. If she liked you she did and if she didn’t you knew it! I don’t think my grandmother (Eli’s wife) like her mother-in-law Katy too well.

She was good to her and helped Eli to look after his mother, but they just didn’t see eye to eye exactly. She said Katy wasn’t as good to James as she ought to be. I don’t think he was as good to Katy as he ought to have been either. He was too much Cherokee to settle down in one place and be content.

Just before the Civil War, 2 of the boys (youngest I think) Sandford and Crawford took the notion they were going to Arkansas. They must have been yet single men as I can find no record of them having wives. The father James got the “fever” also. The Indian in them made them want to prouil about and no doubt they knew some of the Indians who had gone west before (not to mention some RAINWATERS either!!!)

Anyway, they all went.

Granny Katy would not budge one step, however. She stayed on in her little cabin all by herself from then on until she died. I never knew whether just these three went alone or if there were others going also. Don’t know how they went. None of them ever came back to Tennessee. I am sure Katy heard from them now and then. Letters were few and far between back in those days and if she had any letters they have all been destroyed by now. Some way, some how, which I never learned, she did know of the death of one of the boys. If I had been old enough to have asked questions, I am sure Daddy or his mother would have told me how they knew things.

I have in my possession one scrap of a letter from John Sanford Rainwater to his mother Katy. How it ever escaped fires, etc., I do not know. It was written on a piece of paper which looks like it was torn from a book. There is no Post Office mark, or date, or envelope. Starts out “Dear Mother” and is signed “John Sanford”. In this letter he says that

“father is in tolerably good health”. It speaks of his children, some in school, and a new baby. It talks of his cotton crop and how he had hoped to come to see her but due to his crops he couldn’t then. I don’t know if Katy could read or write. I doubt it. Daddy said she loved to sing and had a sweet voice and sang many religious songs. She was quite “able in prayer” and would get “happy” while praying and begin to shout.

She always wore bonnets and as she prayed she had a habit of pulling her bonnet string and the more she prayed and happier she got, the more and harder she would jerk her bonnet string. He said his youngest sister was more like her in looks and ways than any of them and could imitate her perfectly. As children, they would “play” church and this sister would always be Granny and do the praying like her. When Katy would catch them at it, service was dismissed at once. He got such a kick out of telling this and other things that happened about his Granny. His grandfather and uncles had gone to Arkansas before he was born and he never knew them and all his memories were after that.

Katy had a name she called her husband James. Where she got it and why she used it I do not know. It was “Jucker”. They said when James and the boys took off for Arkansas, she walked out into the yard and shading her eyes with her hand, peered after them and said, “I’ll take my last look at poor old Jucker”. To this day, when we great grandchildren are going to see something perhaps for the last time we take our last look at “poor old Jucker”.

Granny Katy had another expression she used a lot and we do too. When she started to make a statement or sentence she first said, “Hi my feller” and then would go on with whatever it was she had to say. Some time after they had all left her, she learned that a “tribe” (as she called them) were going to move into a little cabin pretty close to her and she didn’t want them. They were not desirable neighbors in her book. She got some other young neighbor’s boys to fix it so they couldn’t move. This was a lark for the boys and they gladly did what she told them to do. They knew Katy would never give them away.

It was just a little log shack like setting up off the ground on some rocks at each corner. She planned it all for them and had them go after dark and ease the end of the house off the stones. Some time next day she looked over to the old hut, acting as though she knew nothing about what had happened and said, “Hi my feller, looks like it had knelt to pray!” She knew she was rid of her would-be neighbors.

After she was left alone she never seemed to let it worry her one bit. Eli looked after the place and she kept her a cow, a few hens, and had her a garden and always fattened her a hog. She called it a “vig” instead of a pig. Got it when it was a tiny baby. One time she thought she was eating lettuce for supper and instead she had gathered mostly poppies. Her garden had lots of them and they did look lots like the type of lettuce that she grew. She went to sleep

the more she prayed and happier she got, the more and harder she would jerk her bonnet string.

and slept overly long. When she woke, she said “Hi my feller I had a long nap”. She had a trade she worked at. How and where she learned it I do not know. She was a tailor, cut and made men’s suits and all by hand.

I doubt that she ever saw a sewing machine. She knit men’s socks too. So she was always busy with her knitting and sewing. Dad said she would sit in her door on the coldest and snowiest days and sew. I guess she did this so she could see and then she had a lot of curiosity too and wanted to see everything that passed, which wasn’t much I am sure but her house was right on the road. During the war she sold all her socks to a merchant and bought her coffee which she was very fond of and was hard to come by.

(To be continued in a future issue)
## Rainwater Marriages in Tennessee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROOMS</th>
<th>BRIDES</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AARON RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARY E. ELLIOTT</td>
<td>24 APR 1832</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDERSON H. RAINWATER</td>
<td>ELIZABETH LEWIS</td>
<td>2 APR 1866</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ FRANCIS A. RAINWATER</td>
<td>SARAH MOORE</td>
<td>18 SEP 1845</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ GEORGE A. RAINWATER</td>
<td>ELIZABETH HILL</td>
<td>4 SEP 1866</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN B. RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARY KIFER</td>
<td>13 JAN 1846</td>
<td>KNOX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN E.S. RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARGARET RENEAU</td>
<td>11 AUG 1864</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ JOHN S. RAINWATER</td>
<td>LUCINDA SHAHAN</td>
<td>16 SEP 1841</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ JOHN W. RAINWATER</td>
<td>LOUISA H. HENRY</td>
<td>16 FEB 1867</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ MARTIN C. RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARTHA MCCARTER</td>
<td>20 JAN 1844</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>√ MILES RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARTHA PROFFITT</td>
<td>15 JAN 1842</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLOMON RAINSOWER?</td>
<td>NANCY ELLIS</td>
<td>14 NOV 1832</td>
<td>ROANE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WM. J. RAINWATER</td>
<td>MARY C. BLACKWELL</td>
<td>14 DEC 1852</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WM. S. RAINWATER</td>
<td>SARAH E. THORNTON</td>
<td>3 MAR 1852</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRIDES</th>
<th>GROOMS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIALTHA RAINWATER</td>
<td>JOHN JONES</td>
<td>17 AUG 1846</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LONIZA C. RAINWATER</td>
<td>JAMES BURCHFIELD</td>
<td>28 JUN 1847</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MARTHA RAINWATER</td>
<td>B.E. KIRKPATRICK</td>
<td>11 DEC 1864</td>
<td>BO??????</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CATHARINE RAINWATERS</td>
<td>ZACHARIAH SHIELDS</td>
<td>26 FEB 1827</td>
<td>JEFFERSON</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Humorous Glimpses

*Peanuts* by Charles M. Schulz

This is my report on... RAINWATER!
HUSBAND: GIDEON E. RAINWATER  
born: 6 Jul 1819  Pulaski Co., KY  
marr: 10 Feb 1839  Russell Co., KY  
died: 1 Aug 1865  Camden Co., MO

WIFE: MARY ANN HAMMONDS  
born: 11 Jul 1815  KY  
died: 26 Aug 1899  Camden Co., MO

THEIR CHILDREN

1- FRANCES MARION RAINWATER  
   B: 19 JUN 1840  KY  
   D: 25 DEC 1900  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: MARTHA ELLEN CONNOR  
   M: 3 NOV 1864

2- HULDA JANE RAINWATER  
   B: 1843  
   CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: GEORGE RUSSELL  
   M: 1896

3- ABRAHAM BUTLER RAINWATER  
   B: 16 MAY 1845  
   CAMDEN CO., MO  
   D: 1 NOV 1917  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: SARAH C. WATERS  
   M: 20 OCT 1870

4- MARY ANN RAINWATER  
   B: 1846  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: JAMES ARNOLD

5- GEORGE W. RAINWATER  
   B: 27 OCT 1849  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: MALISSA MC COLLUM  
   M: 1877

6- JOHN P. RAINWATER  
   B: 11 APR 1852  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   D: 30 APR 1912  MONTREAL, CAMDEN CO., MO  
   SPOUSE: LUCINDA _?  
   M: 1894

7- ELI S. RAINWATER  
   B: 27 JUL 1854  CAMDEN CO., MO  
   (Information supplied by Malynn Cox Moorhead of Citrus Heights, CA)  
   SPOUSE: MARY WOOLERLY
that spring for grass to grow for the cattle and ox teams and then moved from Round Grove on the 1st of May to Colorado — in the mountains, 30 miles from Canyon City. A Dr. Albertson went with us. Dad built a big one room cabin there in the spring of '74 or '75.

Then we started off again for Dayton, WA, where uncle John had moved from Oregon. Went by way of Colorado Springs, stopping at Denver for two days, and one day at Laramie. We ran into snow on the second day out. I drove the cattle on foot. Father and Uncle John Green stopped and sheared sheep for a rancher (no doubt the ready cash came in handy). Uncle John Green died on the trip, just a day's journey from Boise, and was buried by the Masons at Boise. Father and grandfather James are buried at Dayton.

Era writes, “Mother was a very small child, and her sister Susan a tiny baby when the family joined a wagon train bound for Oregon. Her mother, Catherine Lucinda Williamson Rainwater, drove one of the wagons with the baby cuddled in the crook of her arm. Grandfather (Jacob C. Rainwater) drove the other wagon just in back of her, and no doubt he kept a watchful eye on the movements of the wagon ahead. This was quite a large train, well equipped and supplied, and they had no trouble with Indians. However, they took no chances. Each night, the wagons were circled and a night guard posted. The trip took about three months and at long last, the aunts, uncles, and cousins settled on a farm near Albany. Uncle Press Rainwater was born there in 1866.”

The following is a story told by Mary Catherine Rainwater Pettijohn to her daughter, Era Jane Pettijohn Chamberlain on Mother's Day, 1940. Mary Catherine was 79 years old. She died a few weeks later.

I was born in Ray Co. MO on 26 Jul 1861 near Hamilton. Our family left there in 1863 (when I was about two years old) and got to Uncle John Rainwater's in Corvallis, Oregon. Uncle John had gone to Oregon from Fayetteville, AR. He was freighting from Boise, ID to Corvallis, OR.

We took boats at the Dalles, OR and went on to near Albany where we rented a farm. We lived there 5 years, until I was about 7. We took a trip by team to Sacramento, 1869 — first railroad to Sacramento. Mother's father, John Nelson Williamson, and family of eight had also come to Oregon with my father Jacob Rainwater, and they also lived near Albany. (Evidently Jacob was restless in Oregon and moved his family back to his old home country. Her story goes on...)

Uncle Wiley Holman went back to Missouri with our family. When we got to Uncle Wynn Rainwater's, near Hamilton, Missouri, grandpa James Rainwater came with his team and took us with the team back to Warsaw, near Sedalia, where he lived. We stayed in his big house on the Osage River. There was a fireplace in every room. It was an old olive plantation.

In the spring we all moved (grandfather James too) out of the timber up to the prairie country. Father rented land and built a house, and we lived there 3 years. My sister Eva, was born there 24 Dec 1870. Aunt Nan Green Williamson came back from Oregon and stayed with us — and it was a house full. So Susie and I went 1/4 mile away to grandfather James Rainwater's house to sleep. I was nine and a half and Susie was eight.

We then moved to Labette County, KS. Great Aunt Catherine Baker, (James' sister) was there. Then we went on to Lawrence Co., MO near Mt. Vernon. We lived there 4 years — P.O. Round Grove. Dad farmed and raised cattle. Lucy was born 6 Apr 1874, when I was thirteen. We waited
From the book
NORTH CAROLINA TAXPAYERS

I have attempted to list these in some order, putting them in what I believe to be their correct places. I would greatly appreciate anyone who can add to, modify or correct them. The actual names and dates come directly from the volumes entitled "North Carolina Taxpayers".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Tax Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Rainwater</td>
<td>1755</td>
<td>Granville Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Rainwater s. of John</td>
<td>1755</td>
<td>Granville Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Rainwater (s. of John)</td>
<td>1766</td>
<td>Bute Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rainwater</td>
<td>1766</td>
<td>Bute Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rainwater (s. of John)</td>
<td>1771</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Rainwater (s. of John)</td>
<td>1772</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rainwater (Sr.)</td>
<td>1772</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rainwater (s. of John)</td>
<td>1782</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Rainwater (s. of John)</td>
<td>1782</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rainwater (nee Fussell)</td>
<td>1782</td>
<td>Surry Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Rainwater (widow of Wm.)</td>
<td>1783</td>
<td>Halifax Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moses Rainwater (s. of Wm.)</td>
<td>1784</td>
<td>Warren Co., NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. Rainwater (s. of Wm.)</td>
<td>1784</td>
<td>Johnston Co., NC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The information in parenthesis is conjecture, speculation based on other evidence I have collected. PLEASE DO NOT blindly accept this information in parenthesis. It has been placed here to allow the reader to determine if it can be corroborated with other data and/or give the reader a hopefully logical progression of research data that makes sense. If you read the article in Vol 1 Iss 1, on a brother for John Rainwater (who married Mary Fussell), then you will see that there seems to be a definite separation of families based on these tax lists. I do not know at this time if the lack of tax lists for the latter Rainwaters (William, his wife Ann, and their children) is due to the lack of actual lists surviving to the present day. If anyone can answer this, please write in and we can let everyone know. I will also be looking into the availability of these tax lists for a future article. In the next issue, I will continue the aforementioned article with further documentation and supposition on these early Rainwaters that may be descendants of Wm. and Anne Rainwater.

If a picture paints a thousand words, then...

Where Are Everyone's Rainwater Photos???

Send me GOOD quality Xerox copies (Laser copier best) PLEASE!!!
SOME INTERESTING HISTORY ON
MATHEW RAINWATER AND MOSES
ALEXANDER LEWALLEN

This is part of a letter written by Raymond Harrison Bostick of San Antonio, TX, to Glendon W. Wood of Lubbock, TX back in 1982. If you have similar correspondence that you feel contains interesting family stories or important family folklore, please feel free to copy it and send it to me and I will incorporate all or parts of it into future issues of this publication.

Your John Rainwater (Glendon Wood's ancestor) moved to Bell County, TX in 1881, and lived on Moses Alexander Lewallen's place in the Bottoms Community near Temple, TX. Moses was John's first cousin, and Moses' wife, Margaret Elizabeth Rainwater, was his sister. John Rainwater lived on the Lewallen farm about four years before moving West.

Mathew Rainwater was in Sevier County, TN in 1840. His household is listed as follows: Mathew Rainwater - 1M (20-30); 1F (under 5), 1F (5-10), 1F (20-30). Margaret Elizabeth Rainwater was born in 1835 and would have been the female child under 5 in the 1840 census. The census was usually taken in the fall of the year and there were no males under 5 listed. This is the reason that I changed the birth of Benjamin F. Rainwater to 1841. You quoted as pension record as the authority for his date of birth. If it reads 1840, I believe the record is incorrect. Other census records list his year of birth as 1841 [It is important to state here that census records are not the most reliable of records and a pension record might carry more weight as to its believability than would a census record].

Moses Alexander Lewallen married his first cousin, Margaret Elizabeth Rainwater. In the same census for Sevier Co., TN, his father's household is listed as follows: (spelled Lewelling on record) 2M (under 5), 2M (5-10), 1M (20-30) etc. this household matches exactly that of 1850 U.S. Census for Washington Co. AR for John Lewallen's household where Moses Alexander is listed as the oldest child and is 16 years of age. John Lewallen married 1st the sister to Mathew Rainwater and 2nd Mary Ann Atkinson in Washington Co., AR, before the 1850 census was taken. Incidentally, John Lewallen's household in the 1840 census is only four doors away from Mathew Rainwater.

I have not found Mathew Rainwater in any 1850 U.S. Census Records [But we have!! See Vol 1 Iss 1, page 7]. His brother, Colin Rainwater, was in Lawrence Co., AR in 1850, and later moved to Washington Co., AR. The reason you didn't find Margaret Elizabeth Rainwater as a daughter is that you relied on later census reports. Moses Alexander Lewallen and Margaret Elizabeth Rainwater married in Washington Co., AR in 1856. Moses Alexander Lewallen was named (Family Tradition Says) for his two grandfathers, Moses RAINWATER and Alexander LEWALLEN. I have never been able to prove this tradition. However, there is a head of the household in the 1840 census for Sevier Co., TN, namely an Alexander LEWALLEN (spelled Lewelling on the record) and also a Moses RAINWATERS!!! I cannot make heads or tails of either household.

When I was in high school, Uncle Mart would visit my grandmother. Uncle Mart is Martin Van Buren Rainwater, brother of your John Rainwater. He was a blacksmith and an artisan with woodcarving. One of his prized possessions was a cedar casket that he made for himself. I can remember going to the woodshed at my grandmother's house to look at Uncle Mart's casket. I suppose he was buried in that cedar casket. At the time, Uncle Mart lived in Fort Worth, TX. Later, he moved to Dallas, where he lived about four or five years, and died in 1944. Here is his obit dated 28 Feb 1944:

Rainwater, Martin Van Buren, age 88, passed away at his home, 5015 Tremont, Sunday. Survived by two sons, George P. Rainwater, of Galveston; D. Frank Rainwater, of Fort Worth; six daughters, Mrs. Mattie Mitchell, Mrs. Florence Reynolds, Mrs. Alva Keene, Dallas; Mrs. Lilly McDaniel, Fort Worth; Mrs. Haley Toler, Longview; Mrs. Hattie McDonald, Fayette, AL; seventeen grandchildren; six great grandchildren. Remains forwarded to Longview, TX for services and interment. Willard's Service, 2909 Live Oak. T3-8141.
7625. DAVID C. BROWN and 1 child, Adairsville, GA

Rejected. It does not appear that applicant or ancestors were ever enrolled with the Cherokees or parties to the treaties of 1835-36 and 1846. (Misc. Test. P. 1308). 7625 - David C. Brown

"My name is David C. Brown; I was born in Spartanburg Dist. SC 1844; I claim Indian blood through my father. I make no claim through my mother; I do not know where my father was born; my father was born in 1801; my father got his Indian blood from his mother; my grandmother's name was Sallie RAINWATER (married name most likely); I do not know where or when Sallie Rainwater was born; She lived in SC;

I am unable to trace my Indian ancestry back farther than my grandmother; Sallie Rainwater, my grandmother, was a full blood Cherokee Indian; I never saw my grandfather, the husband of Sallie Rainwater; I have heard that he was part Cherokee, but do not know what part; I do not know who were the parents of Sallie Rainwater; In 1813 (or 1835, there is a typo) my father and grandmother, Sallie Rainwater, lived in Spartanburg Dist., SC;

I do not know whether my grandmother through whom I claim was ever enrolled or not; I have heard that my father was enrolled, but I do not know in what year; I do not know where he was living when he enrolled;

John Alexander Brown is my oldest brother; My mother's maiden name was Polly Ann Mar--?; My mother had some Indian blood, but I do not know what kind; I was not enrolled in 1882; None of my ancestors through whom I claim were ever held in bondage; I had an aunt by the name of Dicie Brown; I have been told by my father that my aunt, Dicie Brown, went West; I do not know whether she wen with the Indians or not, I never saw her; In 1895 I went to the Indian Territory, and met a man by the name of Reuben Rainwater, who told me that he was a brother of Sallie Rainwater, my grandmother; Reuben Rainwater was a full blooded Cherokee Indian and was a member of the Cherokee Nation at that time".

SIGNED: David C. Brown, Calhoun, GA Jul 9 1908.
James M. Gwinn...deposes and says:

My name is James M. Gwinn; I am sixty-six years old; I knew Sallie Rainwater; I first became acquainted with her in about 1855; she was recognized as a full blood Cherokee Indian woman in the community in which she lived."

SIGNED: J. M. Gwinn, Calhoun, GA Jul9 1908

EXCEPTION CASE. Rejected. Total number of exceptions filed in this group -- 12. Original recommendation renewed.
ELDER-RAINWATER: Seeking Bible records of Bartholomew RAINWATER and Nancy McLAUGHLIN to see if my great grandmother Scioa B. RAINWATER has a middle name listed. Is it Belle or Bethene? I have the Bible belonging to John Levi ELDER and Scioa B. RAINWATER but it doesn’t tell.
MARJORIE THOMAS, 618 NO. GRACE AVE., BATTLEGROUND, WA 98604-4587

DESERCEY-DORR-GREEN-MUNCY-RAINWATER-ROBINSON-ROBNETT-SPARKS-TURNER-WHITE: Looking for information concerning the children of John Kiefer RAINWATER and wife Mary Ellen SPARKS, dau of Soloman and Susan. Children are: Delilah b 10 Oct 1854 in AR, m George A. MUNCY on 10 Nov 1875; Susan Jane b 17 Feb 1856 in AR, m Oliver Cromwell WHITE on 5 May 1880; Lucinda Ellen b 13 Feb 1860 in AR, m William ROBINSON on 23 May 1882; Arthur L. b 28 Feb 1863 in OR, m Clarissa ROBNETT on 3 Oct 1883; Mary Elizabeth b 12 Jan 1866 in OR, m 1st A. H. TURNER, 2nd Frank DESERCEY. All marriages are believed to have been at Dayton, WA.
LYLE JAMES RAINWATER, 1215 ANCHORS WAY, VENTURA, CA 93001

CONNER-COX-DORSEY-RAINWATER: Looking for information of Abraham RAINWATER, b 1784 in Surry Co., NC. Son Gideon m Martha Ellen CONNOR. Dau Martha Ellen RAINWATER m Martin Van Buren COX. Son Oliver COX m Lena Lee DORSEY. Wish to exchange information with anyone researching this line.
MALYNN COX MOOREHEAD, 7449 MAR VISTA WAY, CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA 95621

ADCOCK-MATHIS/MATHEWS-POSEY-RAINWATER: Need information on Robert Rainbow, d circa 1820-1825 in Stewart County, TN. Married Morning/Mourning ______. Children: Sarah b circa 1808 in SC, m Warren Monroe POSEY; Wesley b circa 1809, m Mary “Polly” ADCOCK, lived in Bedford Co., TN and possibly John H. whose descendants lived in Stewart Co., TN. Morning.Mourning m 2nd Andrew MATHIS/MATHEWS circa 1840-50 possibly in Bedford Co., TN. She died between 1870-78.
LAUREL L. POSEY, 12709 DORINA PLACE, GRANADA HILLS, CA 91344-1418 ***Apologies go to Laurel for omitting out some important data in the first issue. Please refer to this query which is correct.

FALER-SCOTT-RAINWATER: Looking for information on Matilda RAINWATER b. 1850 in IL, m Jacob A. FALER on 2 Apr 1873 at Benton Co., MO, and her sister Charity RAINWATER b 1852 in IL. Both living with James RAINWATER (b 1811 in TN) and son Pressly RAINWATER and his wife Mary in Benton Co., MO in the 1870 census. Children of Jacob and Matilda are: Richard b 1873 in MO; Eliza b 1876 in MO; James b 1879 in MO; Charley b Sep 1884 in MO; Vallie b Oct 1889, m George C. SCOTT; Alexander b Feb 1892 in MO. Matilda was living with the SCOTT family in 1920 at Benton Co., MO. Cole Township. It is believed that these two might be daughters of Cessum Rainwater listed in the 1850 IL census in Johnson County.
ROBERT ALBERT JR., 24406 McBEAN PKY #111, VALENCIA, CA 91355-1974

McLAUGHLIN-RAINWATER: Seeking information on Daniel McLAUGHLIN b in Ireland in 1775-1827 and unknown wife. They are the parents of my great great grandmother, Nancy McLAUGHLIN b 2 aug 1807 at Surry Co., NC. D 20 Jan 1883 at Pulaski Co., KY. Married 24 Feb 1825 at Adair Co., KY to Bartholomew RAINWATER. Her sister Anna married Abraham RAINWATER, who was a brother of Bartholomew.
MARJORIE THOMAS, 618 NO. GRACE AVE., BATTLEGROUND, WA 98604-4587
NICK-NIX-PRISOCK-RAINWATER: Does anyone know of any connection of a NIX/NICK to a Rainwater? They can be found in the same counties throughout NC, SC, and GA. On the sale of personal property of the estate of Job RAINWATER, October 1863, Milton Co., GA, there is a Lucinda NICKS who purchased several items. For NIX information correspond with:
WANDA GREGORY, 1696 SE BANKROFT RD., MCDONALD, TN 37353
For RAINWATER information correspond with:
MARY ANN ANGELIN, 4020 ALABAMA RD., APISON, TN 37302

CARTLICH, LOVEALL, RAINWATER, ROBERTS, SEYMOUR, SMITH, WEST: Looking for information on the parents of Elizabeth RAINWATER, b. ca. 1808. Married first two Issac ROBERTS, m. 2ns to Zachariah LOVEALL, b. 1810 in KY. Had the following children: William Harrison ROBERTS b. 25 Nov 1844, m. Sarah Ann WEST?, Abraham Mitchell ROBERTS b. 1848; Drewry Woodrow ROBERTS b. 1850; Miles LOVEALL b. 18 Sep 1856, in Lawrence Co., IN, m. Hattie Holland CARTLICH; Kelsa LOVEALL b. 22 Apr 1858 in Lawrence Co., IN, m. 1st. Clara Mae SMITH, 2nd. Matilda Maria SEYMOUR; Zachariah LOVEALL b. 22 Nov 1859 in Lawrence Co., IN, m. Jessie Ann CARTLICH. Elizabeth probably died near Wells, in Faribault Co., MN. Just started researching this line. Any help appreciated.
CAROL NAUMAN, 1903 KATHLEEN DR., W. ST. PAUL, MN 77115-4543
(I think that any descendants of William and Patsy Hodge RAINWATER, might just have found a missing sibling!!! Of course, that is just a good guess based on her date of birth and her son's names. FYI)

RAINWATER, WRIGHT: Looking for the families/ancestors of my great-grandmother Ann RAINWATER b. 3 July 1824. Place of birth, parent's names UNKNOWN. Married Burel Henderson WRIGHT, b. 22 Oct 1829, about 1844. Date and place of marriage UNKNOWN. Children were: James K. Polk WRIGHT b. 20 Nov 1845 in Johnson Co., IL; George Washington WRIGHT b. 28 Feb 1850 in Johnson Co., IL; John Henry "Jeremiah" WRIGHT b. 28 Apr 1851 in IL; Mary Ann WRIGHT b. 7 Oct 1852 in AR; William Thomas WRIGHT b. 8 Feb 1854 in AR; Angeline WRIGHT b. 8 Dec 1855; Jacob Ashley WRIGHT b. 20 Jan 1858 in AR; Ozina WRIGHT b. 28 Feb 1860. Family lived in Johnson Co., IL in 1850, in Madison Co., AR in 1860, and in Washington Co., AR in 1870 and 1880 according to Census records. In 1900, Burel was in Benton Co., AR with a grandson, John L. CLEVELAND. Ann died 21 Jul 1899, and Burel on 10 Dec 1906. Both are buried in Bentonville, AR. Any help appreciated.
MADINE WILLIAMS, P.O. BOX 30853, MIDWEST CITY, OK 73140-3853

See the Editor about reserving this
Space for one of your queries.
Reasonable rates (FREE)

Write to him at:
Rainwater Researcher
c/o Robert O. Albert Jr.
24406 McBean Pkwy #111
Valencia, CA 91355-1974
Last Will and Testament of John Linn of Warren County... to my daughter Nancy RAINWATER, wife of Solomon RAINWATER, equal portion of my estate... 785 acres and about 13 negroes to wife Milly, then divided amongst my five children James S., Druvilla Ann, Lucretia, Joseph C., Sarah Ann, and Emily Gabriela... 26 Mar 1851... John Linn (LS), Wit: George W. Dickson, James A. Shivers, Edward W. Potts. Proved July Term 1851.

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Rainwater That Is On Television

This information was gleaned from an article that appeared in a fairly recent issue of "Sixteen" Magazine. Due to the teenage sappy editorial style of this journal, I am omitting the obvious "totally cute cowboy" references, so adjust the material to suit this newsletter.

ABC has recently come out with a new series, entitled, The Young Riders, about five guys you are young riders for the Pony Express. One of the actors, Gregg Rainwater, plays the part of Buck Cross, a character who's half Indian and half Caucasian. Gregg got the part quite by chance. His high school pal, actress Jamie Koss, was in ABC-TV's offices, and she happened to overhear casting people discussing the part. Jamie spoke up, saying she knew an actor that was part Cherokee Indian, who'd be perfect for the role. He was quickly auditioned and cast to play the role in just four days.

Gregg grew up in Sterling Heights, MI. He came out to CA after graduating high school when his drama coach gave him a one-way ticket to Los Angeles. He immediately got some small parts, and then got this lucky break when friend Jamie was in New York. The magazine lists an address where he can be contacted (obviously for fan mail) and so this Newsletter will send him a subscription form and find out if he is a real Rainwater, or if this is a nom-de-plume.