

The Stover Family Story



II.

The Life and Times of Grandma Sawyer:

Prepared by

Her Great Great Grandson,

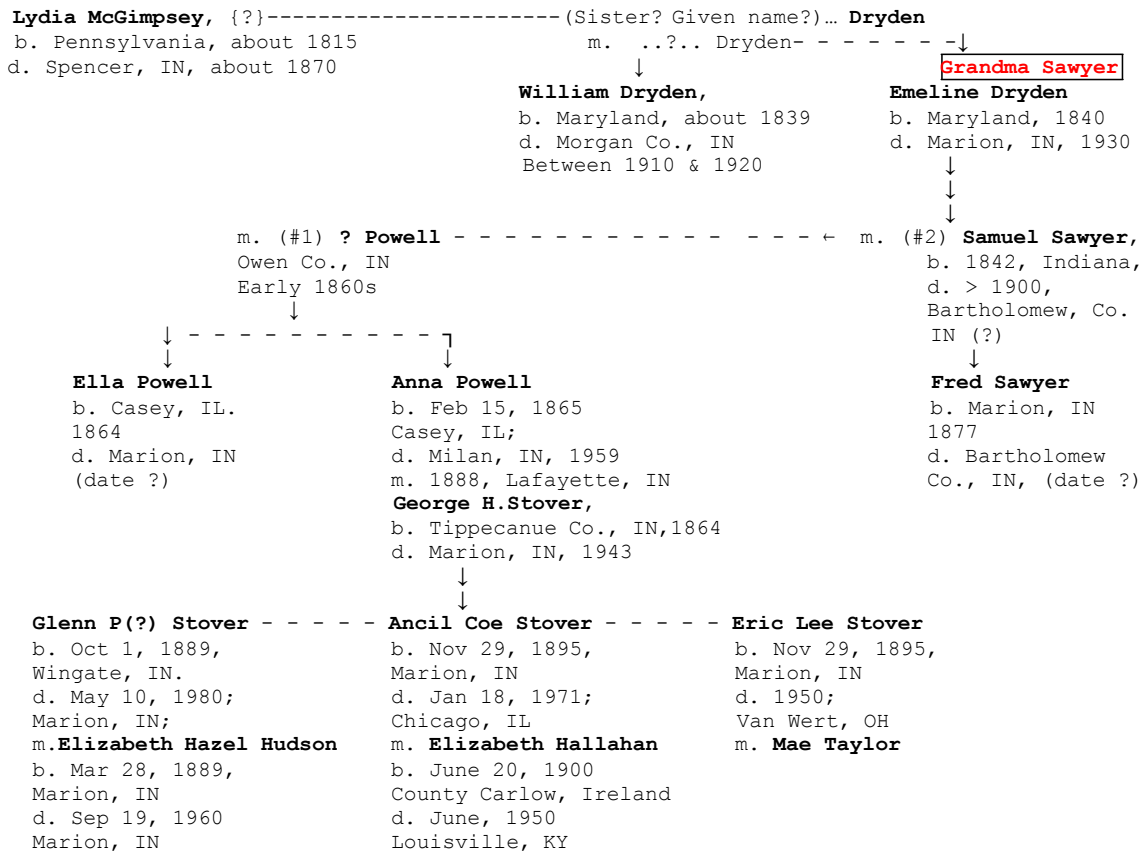
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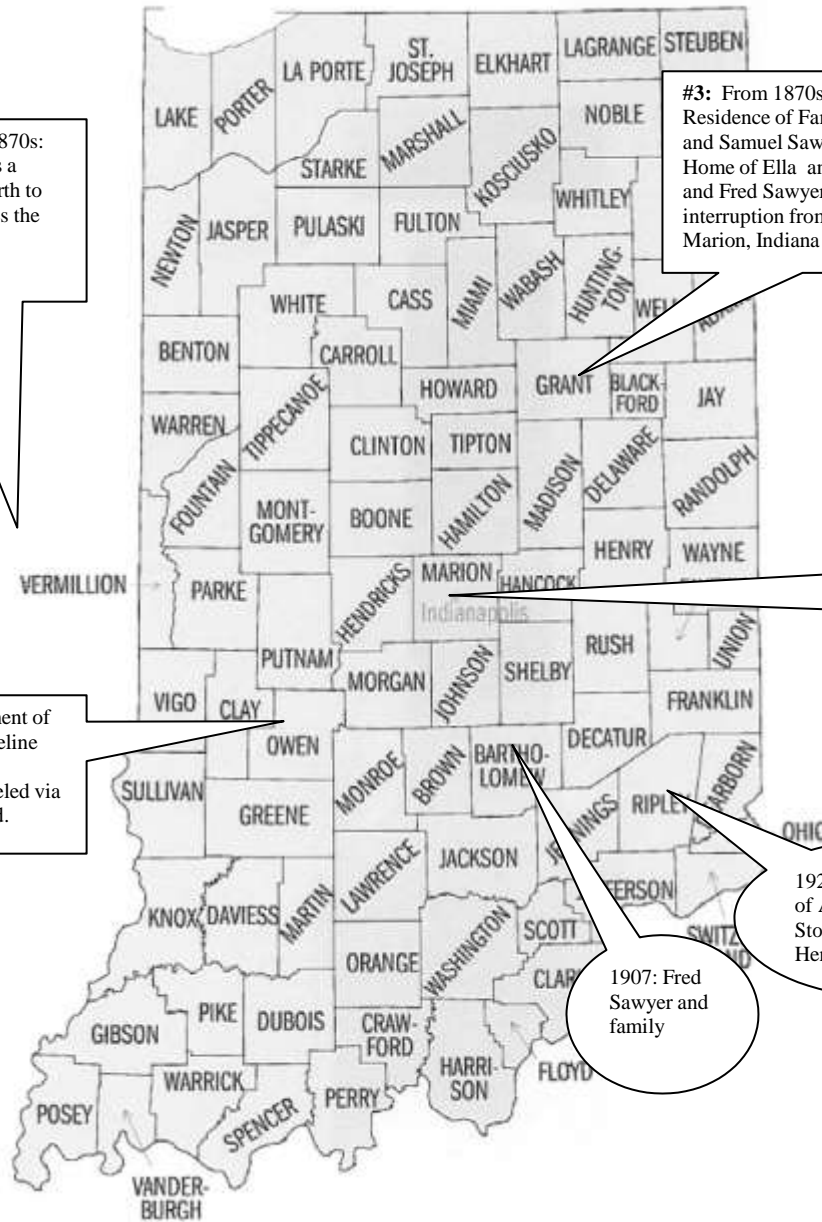
June, 2006



Emeline Dryden Powell Sawyer (1840 – 1930)

The Major Actors in This Bit of Family Drama





#2: Early 1860s through early 1870s: Emeline Dryden Powell operates a railroad restaurant. She gives birth to Ella and Anna. Mr. Powell leaves the scene. Samuel Sawyer Enters. Casey, Illinois

#3: From 1870s onward: Residence of Family of Emeline and Samuel Sawyer. Childhood Home of Ella and Anna Powell and Fred Sawyer. Brief residential interruption from 1906 – 1910. Marion, Indiana

#4: About 1906-1910: Residence of widowed Emeline "Grandma" Sawyer. Glenn Stover with Grandma, Indianapolis, IN

#1: Around 1843-45: Settlement of Lydia McGimpsey, niece Emeline Dryden, and nephew William Dryden. Owen County. Traveled via National Road from Maryland.

1907: Fred Sawyer and family

1920s – 1940s: Farm of Anna Powell Stover and George Henry Stover

The Life and Times of Grandma Sawyer

Emeline Dryden was born in April, 1840. She was my grandfather's grandmother and would, in her later years, be known by several generations as "Grandma Sawyer." She lived in quite good health to the age of 90. She participated in the transformation of the Hoosier state from a frontier to agricultural settlement and later to the Industrial Revolution. Emeline experienced directly the horrors of the Civil War, as well as the spread of such technical marvels as the telephone, the electric light, the automobile, and the airplane. She bore three children by two husbands.

"Grandma Sawyer," for certain generations in our family, was a lady of legendary proportions. Her legend was preserved and passed on in large part by my Grandfather, Glenn Stover, who lived with his widowed grandmother throughout his late teens. Here is how he remembered her and her story when he himself approached the end of his ninth decade:

Glenn Stover Narrative: (about 1980)

By the time he recorded these recollections, Grandpa's writing had become quite shaky, and the sequencing somewhat disjointed. But the key elements of his brief written recollections are enough to stimulate our own thoughts on our pioneer ancestor:

Grandma Sawyer – Dryden. (English) Emeline [several alternative spellings scratched out] Born 18?? Centno (?) Pennsylvania. Orphaned at early age. With Aunt Lydia McGimpsey (sp) came to Baltimore MD by boat (look up body of water) – migrated to Northern Ohio by ox cart. Lived there – visited poor relations for about a year – then settled in Spencer in Owen County. Married ? Powell Went to Casey, Ill. (south central) Operated a restaurant (railroad restaurant). Met and married Samuel (?) Sawyer (Civil War veteran). 1 Child – Frederick, married Maud Meyers....

My Aunt Eunice, probably the last person still around who remembers Grandma Sawyer personally, has recently written:

Eunice Stover Althouse Narrative (2003):

Emeline Dryden was my maternal great grandmother. My memories of her are slim as she died – age 90 – when I was six. She seemed to be active and healthy for her age. One spring morning she had washed the dishes. She took the towels out to the clothes line to dry, and dropped dead in the yard. I remember her as gentle and kind.

At a young age she had been orphaned and reared, with her sister(?) and brother, by an aunt. I was told that, when the four of them migrated from Maryland to western Illinois, they crossed a body of water on ice floes! It seems at one time she operated (possibly owned) a restaurant in Illinois.

These brief renditions are my starting point, from which I have tried to reassemble the story of Grandma Sawyer, my own great great grandmother. I also want to give some historical context to her story, for she did not live in a vacuum. Thus, it may help if we proceed with the tale decade by decade, beginning with the decade of her birth and the likely period of her migration to the Midwest.

1840-1850: Migration Westward

1840

**Emeline Dryden born in Baltimore, Md.
Soon orphaned**

Indiana has a population of 686,000. Owen County is officially 19 years old

Samuel F.B. Morse, a popular artist, patents his telegraph

1841

Horace Greeley founds the New York Tribune, through which he advocates westward expansion and the abolition of slavery

William Henry Harrison is inaugurated President at the age of 68. He dies 31 days later

First ongoing Senate filibuster begins on February 18 and lasts until March 11

1842

Samuel Sawyer, future husband of Emeline, born in Indiana, eldest son of a Presbyterian Pastor

Anesthesia is used for the first time in an operation (using ether)

Webster-Ashburton Treaty is signed, establishing the United States-Canada border east of the Rocky Mountains

1843

Lydia McGimpsey with her recently orphaned nephew and niece set out from Baltimore by ox cart, driving westward on the National Road

The Virginia Minstrels perform the first minstrel show (Bowery Amphitheater, New York City)

Francis Scott Key dies

1844

Lydia and the children settle in Spencer (Owen Co.), Indiana

University of Notre Dame receives its charter from the state of Indiana

First telegram sent by Samuel Morse from Baltimore to Washington, DC saying "What hath God wrought?"

Young Men's Christian Association is founded by George Williams in London

1845

"The Raven" by Edgar Allen Poe is first published

Florida is admitted as the 27th state

The rubber band is invented in England

1846

The "saxophone" is patented by Adolphe Sax

A large meteorite strikes just seven miles from Cape Girardeau, Mo. (most important event in Cape Girardeau until birth of Rush Limbaugh, over a century later)

Potato crop fails in Ireland

1847

Samuel Colt sells his first revolver pistol to the U.S. government

Faustin Soulouque declares himself Emperor of Haiti

Henry David Thoreau leaves Walden Pond and moves in with Ralph Waldo Emerson

1848

Mexican-American War secures Texas, and what is now New Mexico, Arizona and California to the territory of the United States

Gold discovered at Sutter's Mill in California, accelerating the rapid migration westward

First Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls, NY

1849

Elizabeth Blackwell receives M.D. from Medical Institute of Geneva, NY, thus becoming America's first woman doctor

Much of New Orleans is flooded after a break in the levee at Sauv 's Crevasse

Birth of Crazy Horse, Sioux Chief (d. 1877)

Lydia McGimpsey: Let's start with *Aunt Lydia McGimpsey*. When I found his notes after Grandpa Stover died, I was struck by this reference to Aunt Lydia. The structure of the story is such that she must have lived from the early to at least mid-1800s. In the many conversations I had had with Grandpa over the years, he had often talked of his Grandma Sawyer and even of her coming from Maryland as a child with her brother William Dryden by ox cart. But no one with whom I have consulted in the family ever heard of *Aunt Lydia McGimpsey*. She just seems to appear afresh in these notes of a very old man with a very good memory. I do not doubt Grandpa's recollection. I am confident from what else we know of Grandma Sawyer that she would have talked to him at length about her life's adventures.

I have searched widely, however, for any other reference to Aunt Lydia (actually, my 3rd great grandaunt). Neither she nor any appropriate Dryden's (Grandma Sawyer's maiden name) appear in the relevant censuses in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois. I have a fellow college professor friend who is known to ask a class, "So, who knows the answer to this question?" When no hands are raised, he then asserts, "Fine, then I can say anything I want." That is the tactic I propose to adopt for Aunt Lydia.

This much we can probably assume to be fact. A lady without male accompaniment, some time in the early 1840s, drove a cart from Maryland to Ohio, and then somehow made her way to Indiana and, maybe, Illinois. She was accompanied by at least two small children, not her own: Emeline and William Dryden, brother and sister. Contrary to Grandpa Stover's recollection, the children were almost certainly born in Maryland, not Pennsylvania. If Aunt Lydia took a boat (probably down the Susquahanna) from someplace in Pennsylvania to Baltimore, she probably did it before traveling with those two kids. There is, by the way, no record of anyplace called "Centno", Pennsylvania that I can find now or in the past.

Traveling the National Road: Let's roll our minds backward here into the often foggy memories of things we studied in grade school. It is sometime around 1843 or 1844. Traffic on the "National Road" is continuous. The road, which was authorized under President Jefferson in 1806, begun in 1811 in Cumberland, Maryland as an extension of the Baltimore-Cumberland Pike, had reached Vandalia, Illinois in 1838. The hopes for its ultimate reach to St. Louis would not be realized. In the '50s and '60s, it would be pretty well put out of business by competition from the railroads.¹

¹ It would later be revived and modernized during the automobile age as US 40. Readable essays about the National Road are contained in:

<http://www.nps.gov/fone/natlroad.htm>;

<http://www.history-magazine.com/natroad.html>

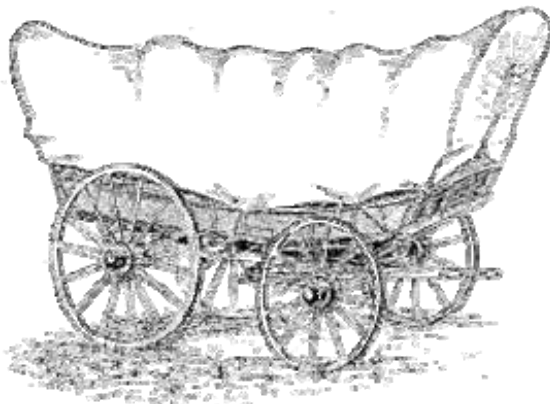
The National Road (and subsequent extensions as US 40)



In its time, however, the National Road fulfilled a dream of such early statesmen as George Washington, Albert Gallatin, Thomas Jefferson, and Henry Clay. They had dared to imagine a land transportation network that connected the waterways of the growing country. And, to be sure, in some cases they had backed up this dream by speculating in lands beyond the Appalachians. That those speculations paid off ought not necessarily detract from the foresightedness of the investors. Politically, they saw the National Road as a cable drawing together the diverse parts of the new nation.

And in its day – in the time when Aunt Lydia set out with her niece and nephew – that road met the highest expectations. Most of the way it was built of well-laid and well-drained layers of gravel, with a 20 foot wide gravel surface, traversing a 66 foot right-of-way. Some sections, to be sure, were not exactly up to par, with muddy tracks presenting substantial obstacles in the rainy parts of the year. But such inconveniences were seen as minor by the ambitious traveler.

Along the way were numerous inns, sometimes as often as one mile apart, never more than five. Accommodation varied from simple lofts above horse stalls, with sleeping space on the floor, to commodious rooms with dining halls serving tasty food. [Pictured here is the Mount Washington Tavern, one of the better inns along the National Road.]



Conestoga wagons – the 18-wheelers of the day – passed steadily in both directions, carrying manufactured goods westward and fresh grain and produce eastward. Cash crop farming was the payoff for those brave or foolhardy pioneers of the 1820s and 30's who had come mostly from the Appalachians, drawn by the enormous agricultural potential of the new states in the former

Northwest Territory.² Having started as subsistence farmers, scratching out a living in the woods and on the prairies of the Midwest, those folks close enough now exploited the economic opportunity offered by the National Road to begin the development that would give us today the seemingly endless fields of corn, soy beans, wheat, oats and the other riches of the nation's breadbasket.

There was more to travel on the National Road than heavily laden Conestoga wagons and comfortable inns. The road was shared with people on horseback, on other rude conveyances, including ox carts, and on foot. Many travelers rode in fancy stagecoaches. Most, however, were rough and ragtag.

So here we are. It is about spring of 1843. As if anybody then cared, John Tyler was sitting in the White House. Some folks didn't really consider him *President*, as such, since he had been elected only Vice-President alongside old Tippecanoe (William Henry) Harrison, the aged Indian-fighter and former Governor of the Indiana Territory who had survived just 31 days after his inauguration in March of '41. Tyler was the first vice-president to see his boss die in office. He seemed to act like he considered himself a real president, so most folks figured he'd do until another one could be put in place. But who was or was not President was not of much concern to those multitudes moving westward. They were living proof that most people didn't need any government at all.

What I have written above is pretty much factual. But, let's have some fun with this. Let's let our imaginations wander a bit and look at one little family of those migrants on the National Road. Picture a two-wheeled cart, drawn by a single dusty trudging ox. Driving the ox is a tall, raw-boned, weathered woman of young but indeterminate age. Maybe she's 25 or 30. She holds the reins with confidence, her jaw firmly set and her eyes unwaveringly focused on the westward winding road. A small boy and girl ride beside her on the bouncing, creaking, over-loaded, unsprung cart. They're all dusty and dirty, but they're used to it. The only clean spot on little Emy is her thumb, which is firmly planted in her mouth when she's not hanging on with both hands to the seat board. Big Brother Billy holds tightly around his little sister whenever it gets bumpy.

The sum of their possessions are piled and tied helter-skelter on the wagon. A couple of pots (including a prized, well-seasoned Dutch oven) clatter against the sideboards. Tied along with the pots are a broadax and a shovel. A muzzle-loading (and *loaded*) rifle is tucked at the ready beneath the seat, along with powder and a supply of lead balls. Adjacent to the rifle is a box with some deer jerky wrapped in oiled paper, the leavings of the previous day's open-fire cooked rabbit, a small sack of apples, and a burlap bag of about a peck of potatoes. Now and then Emy will take out her thumb to gnaw on a rabbit leg bone.

Lydia stopped from time to time, perhaps for a few days, maybe for a week or so, at one of the better-looking inns in order to cook for a bit of cash and eats for her and the kids. It is tough to work in the kitchen and still keep watch over the two orphans – Emy

² Including the territory north and west of the Ohio River, including the later states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota

and Billy. Emy is just past two. Billy is almost four. It's touching how he manages to look after his little sister. Lydia is not exactly sure of their birthdays. Her sister had not told her. The sister had more important things on her mind when she had written to Lydia pleading for her to come to Baltimore and help out.

Her sister's chronic cough had gotten worse. She was weak, thin and getting thinner. They both knew what was coming. What would happen to the babies when their mother was taken, just as her young husband had been the previous year? The consumption -- the scourge of so many folks in the crowded cities -- was no respecter of age or status. Lydia, the spinster sister in Pennsylvania, was the only hope. And, without showing any particular pleasure in the task, Lydia had come, of course. Emotional display was not her style. And she held no admiration for the streets or the air of Baltimore. After all, they had taken Mr. Dryden and his young wife, leaving two toddlers.

No, Lydia had more ambition than just to be somebody's servant in a crowded, unhealthy city. All those folks heading out onto the Pike had the right idea. And what was it that everybody quoted that Greeley fellow as writing in his paper? "Go West, Young Man! Go West!" "Well," thought Lydia, "If all the menfolk go west, maybe there's a chance for a young woman as well. I ain't needed nobody to fuss over me up til now. And I don't reckon to need it in the future."

She had saved some cash from her work as a cook those few months in Baltimore, while watching her sister waste away. The younguns had taken to her. She buried her sister, choked back the tears, took a hard look at her situation, and headed out. The word was that cooks were needed all along the Pike, clear out to *Indiandy*. She put most of her cash into buying the ox and cart, selected a few utensils and goods from the meager leavings of her sister and brother-in-law, packed up the kids and took off, probably in the spring of 1843. She joined the line of hopeful folks trudging or riding the road westward.

1850-1860: Growing Up in Tense Times

1850

Indiana has a population of 988,000, a 50 % increase over 1840

The Midwestern states from Ohio to Kansas have a total of 1,276 miles of railroad

American Express is founded by Henry Wells & William Fargo

1851

The New York Times is founded

Herman Melville's novel Moby Dick is published

The Library of Congress burns

1852

Franklin Pierce is elected President and serves without distinction as the slavery issue becomes more and more threatening.

General Land Office closes sales of frontier land in Indiana. The frontier has now moved westward

Devil's Island penal colony opens

1853

President-elect Franklin Pierce and his family are involved in a train wreck in Andover, MA in which his eleven-year-old son is killed

Vincent van Gogh is born (dies in 1890)

Stephan Foster writes "My Old Kentucky Home")

1854
The accordion is patented by Anthony Faas

The McDonald Islands are discovered by Captain William McDonald aboard the Samarang (It is nearly a century before the first golden arches are installed there)

The United States Republican Party is organized in Ripon, WI

1855
The first bridge over the Mississippi opens in what is now Minneapolis, MN

The Panama Railway provides first rail connection between Atlantic and Pacific

U.S. Congress appropriates \$30,000 to create the U.S. Camel Corps

1856
James Buchanan elected President, as the North-South controversy reaches toward boiling point

February – only month in recorded history not to have a full moon

Lawrence, Kansas is captured and burned by pro-slavery forces (the "Sacking of Lawrence")

1857

Rev. Samuel Sawyer (Sr) becomes pastor of the Marion, Indiana Presbyterian Church, 43 members

The Supreme Court decides the Dred Scott Case, driving the country further towards the Civil War

Calcutta University is established

1858
An obscure Illinois former congressman, Abraham Lincoln engages in debates with Stephan Douglas in the race for U.S. Senator from Illinois. Douglas wins the election

President James Buchanan exchanges greetings with Queen Victoria over the new trans-Atlantic telegraph cable

German inventor Rudolph Diesel is born (dies 1913)

1859
US Congressman Daniel Sickles shoots Philip Barton Key for having an affair with his wife

Ground is broken for the Suez Canal

Edwin Drake drills the first oil well in the U.S., near Titusville, PA

1850-1859
Emeline and Billy Dryden, presumed living with Aunt Lydia in Seymour, grow into young adulthood

We do not know nor is there any point to speculating as to how long this trio, in transit from Maryland, stayed with those whom Grandpa Glenn called the "poor relations" in Ohio. He suggested a year or so. We also do not know how long they stayed in Spencer, Indiana before Emeline went onward to Casey, Illinois.³ But it is reasonable to assume that Emeline and Billy grew up there and that, probably Aunt Lydia finished out her days in Owen County.

As we will see later, brother Billy Dryden eventually settled in Morgan County, Indiana, just one county east of Owen. That would suggest that the little family of Lydia and the two orphans probably sunk some roots in that part of southern Indiana. In the absence of contrary evidence, I am thus inclined to think that the two kids grew up in or

³ I do not wish to fuss posthumously with Grandpa Stover, but Casey is not in south central Illinois. Rather, it is right on US 40 about 30 miles west of Terre Haute, Indiana

around Spencer. Who knows? Perhaps Lydia operated some sort of eatery in Spencer during those years.

Emeline's and Billy's life was to be very much affected by distant events in Washington, D.C., in Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, and elsewhere across the Mississippi. The drums of war, during the 1850s, were but a distant rumble, but they were being beaten all the same.

The country was restive during the '50s. People kept moving further and further westward, bringing to a head the issue of creating new states beyond those of the Old Northwest Territory. Ever sharper divisions arose over whether or not the new states should be slave or free. It would come to a head early in the next decade. But that same Greeley fellow back in New York kept urging folks westward. The problem was that each new state got two U.S. Senators. If it was a free state, then the Senate balance would be shifted away from the South. If it was a slave state, then the Senate would go pro-South and, presumably, pro-slavery.

We cannot know whether Aunt Lydia went to Casey after a short time in Spencer, Indiana or if they all three stayed there while the kids grew up, with Emeline being the one who founded or somehow bought the Casey, Illinois railroad restaurant in the 1860s, probably early in the Civil War. I am pretty sure it was Emeline. And I think we can assume that Aunt Lydia McGimpsey probably lived out her days in or around Spencer in Owen County, Indiana.

I have already speculated that Aunt Lydia worked her way from Baltimore to Indiana cooking for inns along the National Road. Let's imagine that somewhere along there, someone impressed with her cooking suggested that, when she reached western Indiana, she turn a bit south to the little town of Spencer. The word was that a restaurant there needed help. Given her experience and perseverance, it is reasonable to assume that Aunt Lydia eventually acquired ownership of this small town establishment.

Emeline and Billy would, therefore, have grown up more or less in a restaurant, helping out as their age and energy allowed. In the course of time, Emeline would have learned of the opportunities for someone of her talents in the newly emerging business of "railroad restaurants." And sometime in her early twenties, either in the company of a new husband or alone, she took such a job about 75 miles westward in the little town of Casey, Illinois

So, in your mind, fill in the rest of the story of Aunt Lydia. She had to have been courageous, ambitious, independent, and perhaps not particularly patient or nice to be around. But she is an important part of our family's history.

1860-1870: The War and Its Aftermath



1860

Indiana has a population of 1,350,000, a 50 % increase over 1850

The Midwestern states from Ohio to Kansas have a total of 11,114 miles of railroad, nearly a tenfold increase over 1850

Pony Express begins its first run between St. Joseph, MO and Sacramento, Cal

1861

March - Abraham Lincoln inaugurated 16th President of the United States

April – Battle of Ft. Sumter; the War Begins

May – William Dryden (brother of Emeline) musters into the Indiana 15th Regiment at Lafayette

December – Rev. Samuel H. Sawyer (Emeline's future father-in-law) joins as Chaplain of the 47th Indiana Volunteers

1862

October – Samuel D. Sawyer (age 20, future husband of Emeline) musters into the Illinois 119th Infantry Regiment

About this time, Emeline Dryden moves from Spencer, Indiana to Casey, Illinois to work for and eventually manage (own?) a railroad restaurant

Emeline meets and marries Mr. Powell (Approx. date)

1863

President Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation

World famous midgets Tom Thumb and Lydia Warren married in New York City

51,000 American men killed over two days at the Battle of Gettysburg

1864

Ella Powell born to Emeline and Mr. Powell in Illinois - the railroad restaurant prospers

Abraham Lincoln re-elected President

July – The Indiana 15th Regiment's three-year enlistment completed, it is mustered out. Sgt. William Dryden leaves with a minie ball permanently lodged in his knee

1865

February - Anna Powell born to Emeline and Mr. Powell

Somewhere along in here, Mr. Powell disappears from the scene – death? divorce? desertion?

April 9 – Lee Surrenders at Appomatox Court House – The War Ends



April 14 – President Lincoln is assassinated in Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth

August – Lt. Samuel Sawyer mustered out with the rest of the Illinois 119th Regiment. Rev. Samuel Sawyer mustered out with Indiana 47th

1866

October – The Reno Gang commits the nation's biggest train robbery, in Jackson, County, Indiana

Jesse James and his gang commit their first robbery, in Liberty, MO

The U.S. Congress eliminates the half-dime and replaces it with the five-cent piece, or nickel

1867

Longest suspension bridge in the world erected between Cincinnati, OH and Covington, KY

Discovery of antiseptic surgery described by Joseph Lister in the Lancet

repeated until the second term of William Jefferson Clinton)

Alaska – “Seward’s Folly” -- is purchased for \$.02/acre by U.S. Secretary of State William Seward

1869

May 10 – The golden spike is driven into the rails at Promontory Summit in the Utah territory, linking the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific railroads, completing the transcontinental linkage

1868

Ulysses S. Grant is elected to the first of two terms as President of the United States

Purdue University is founded in West Lafayette, Indiana

In New York City the Jolly Corks organization is renamed the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks (BPOE)

Britain’s last public hanging

President Andrew Johnson impeached by the U.S. House of Representatives (a procedure not to be

The 1860s had a monumental impact on any American who was then alive. No other decade would ever have the effect on anyone that the ‘60s had on everyone. We often, justly, praise our Constitution and of the genius of our founding fathers. The blunt fact is, however, that our political system was not secured by that document or by those wise men. It was secured by blood and lead 76 years after the Constitution’s implementation. All that happened before was but prelude to the horror of the war between the states. Emeline Powell’s brother joined the Union Army as a private, to be mustered out three years later as a sergeant. Her future husband, Samuel D. Sawyer, joined the Union Army as a private and mustered out as a lieutenant three years later.. And Samuel D.’s father, Emeline’s future father-in-law, the Reverend Samuel H. Sawyer, joined and served as a Chaplain for nearly four years. They all saw the slaughter of some of the war’s worst – Vicksburg, Shiloh, Chickamauga and others, perhaps smaller, but equally bloody.

Some claim that the railroads were more important to the ultimate Union victory than were any of the battles. The railroad came through Casey, Illinois around that time just before or early in the War. And a pretty good guess would be that Emeline Dryden Powell founded the railroad restaurant there, perhaps with help from her first husband, Mr. Powell. If our guesses are right about Aunt Lydia, then Emeline was familiar with running a restaurant. She was close to her brother Billy, and no doubt worried incessantly for his survival.

All family members of my generation and the preceding two have heard of Billy Dryden.

William Dryden. I remember Grandpa mentioning his grand uncle *Captain Billy Dryden*. Records of the Indiana Adjutant General show that William Dryden enlisted as a private in the Union army in spring of 1861. He served in Company E, under Captain George W. Lamb, of the Indiana 15th Regiment. In that regiment, he fought at Green River, Shiloh, Perryville, Stone River, Chattanooga, and Missionary Ridge. The regiment lost 4 officers and 103 enlisted men to enemy fire. Seventy-six enlisted men

died of disease.⁴ In the box below is a description of just one of those battles, illustrating some of what the men had to endure.

Somehow Billy Dryden survived both the bullets and the germs of that awful conflict, returning home as a sergeant (alas, not a captain, as narrated by Grandpa Stover) in June of '64, with a "minie ball" in his knee -- a souvenir which he carried to his grave some time after 1910. [He appears in the 1910 census, but not 1920.] He married and raised a substantial family on a farm in Morgan County.

Honor at Missionary Ridge, 15th Indiana Regiment Infantry

The 15th Indiana Regiment Infantry was organized, at Lafayette, Indiana, for one year's service, May 1861 and was re-organized for three years' service and mustered in June 14, 1861.

On November 25, 1863, the 15th Indiana was under orders to capture the Confederate rifle pits at the foot of Missionary Ridge. Muskets cracked and gun smoke rose in choking clouds as the 15th Indiana rushed into the battle. The regiment went face down on a road, well up on the Ridge, in a storm of lead. Suddenly within the galling musket fire Major White of the 15th Indiana gave the command, "Men, for God's sake forward!"

Immediately, Color-Sergeant George L. Banks got to his feet waving the Regimental Standard and calling on his comrades to follow the Colors. The whole regiment surged forward to rally around the flag. Suddenly Banks, already wounded in the left thumb, was struck by a minie ball in the chest and was soundly knocked to the ground. While Banks was stunned and senseless, four fellow soldiers carried the Colors forward into a hail storm of bullets. Of the four gallant defenders of the flag: two were wounded, two were killed.

Coming to his senses, Banks realized he was not disabled. Luckily, the ball had struck a novel and two letters inside his shirt. He jumped to his feet running up the hill and seized the flag as it went down for the fifth time. Once more, Banks raised the Colors and called on his compatriots to follow the Colors!

As the 15th Indiana reached the Ridge, they saw the Confederates lower their guns. The men of the 15th dropped to the ground to avoid the volley and inescapable death. Before the rebels could reload the 15th Indiana stormed the Ridge. The chants of "Chickamauga! Chickamauga!" were heard from the Union soldiers. Banks scrambled up the earthworks waving the stars and stripes and calling to his fellow soldiers. As the regiment captured the works on the crest of the Ridge, Color-Sergeant Banks received a second wound. This second wound was to the side of his head. As Banks fell backwards off the earthworks, Second Lieutenant Thomas Graham, of Company G, seized the flag and moved forward. Finally, the day was won by the Union troops.

Color-Sergeant George L. Banks received three wounds during this charge on Missionary Ridge. He won the Medal of Honor while carrying this flag at Missionary Ridge. Over half of the Medals of Honor bestowed upon soldiers, during the Civil War, had to do with carrying the Colors or related incidents with the flag. The tattered, torn, bullet ridden flag gives a silent testimony to the heroic acts of the men of the 15th Indiana Regiment.

<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm>

Morgan County, of which the seat is Martinsville, is just north of Monroe (seat – Bloomington) and east of Owen County. Now recall that Lydia and the children stopped a time – probably for several years -- in Spencer, the Owen County seat. Grandpa Glenn suggested to me that his Grandma Emeline had been the one to take up the railroad restaurant in Casey, Illinois. If that was the case, then Billy and Emy spent their childhoods in Spencer and nearby farming communities. Billy did serve in an Indiana and not an Illinois regiment. Probably neither he nor Aunt Lydia ever moved to Illinois.

⁴ Janet B. Hewett, ed. *Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing Co., 1995. pp 273-275; 298. [Marion (IN) Public Library] In addition to the military record, we find our William Dryden in the 1870, 1900, and 1910 Census for Morgan County, Indiana.

There is, in the family collection someplace, a tintype photo of a young man holding a testament. I copied it a few years ago and returned the original to my parent's photo stash. From there, its destiny is uncertain. In any event, the family lore holds that it is a picture of the young Billy Dryden. But tintype technology did not appear until 1852, and did not become widely available until the end of the decade. This picture, as you can see, is of a boy about ten years old. Since we know that William Dryden was born about 1838 or 39, it is impossible for a tintype to have been taken of him when he was 10 or even 15. The technology had not been available until Billy was nearly 20, which is clearly not the case for the young man pictured here. He is, however, rather an attractive young fellow, is he not? I wonder who he was. Surely someone in the family.



Emeline and Husband #1. Did Emeline marry husband #1 – somebody *Powell* – in Indiana, and then migrate with him to Casey, Illinois? Was Powell perhaps a railroad man, who urged his fiancé / bride to set up a railroad restaurant in Illinois?⁵ It is only about 75 miles from Spencer, Indiana to Casey, Illinois. By the 1860s, when Emeline and Mr. Powell would have wed (she would be in her 20s), transportation that far would not be much of a barrier, especially for a young woman herself raised by one so footloose as Aunt Lydia McGimpsey.

Thus, Billy and his family remained not terribly far away, and formed a remaining connection between Emeline and the Hoosier state, to which she would later return. Beyond what I have recorded here, Billy has not played much of a part in the recollections of family members. But I'll bet there are Drydens still running around Martinsville and environs.

We know much more about Great Great Grandmother Emeline. Some time in the early '60s, she hitched up to Mr. Powell. He managed to bestow two children on Emeline – Ella in 1864 and Anna in 1865, both born in Illinois. And then, somehow he was gone; he left, disappeared, or died. I find no record of him serving in the Civil War, but without a sure first name, it is hard to be certain. One thing is clear: Mr. Powell is not remembered by any of the family I knew as a particularly nice guy. The somewhat gauzy memories of that fellow do not flatter him. Family members have variously called him a “scoundrel,” a “no-good,” and assorted approximations thereto. I hate to say such things about my great great grandfather, but that is the record given by oral history. The record, however, has been transmitted mostly by my Grandpa Glenn. And his view was most

⁵ As I mentioned in a previous chapter, in a shoe box of trinkets and miscellany that I received after Grandpa Glenn died, I found a “railroad standard” pocket watch. I had speculated that perhaps Grandpa got it through his cousin Louis, his father's nephew. But perhaps it came from Mr. Powell, Grandma Sawyer's first and seldom lamented husband. I spent a handsome sum to restore the watch, and it is indeed beautiful. It also keeps super time, but it must be wound every twelve hours.

likely formed entirely by Powell's ex-wife, Emeline. Ex's are not always reliable in such matters.

And by the time Glenn Stover came upon the scene in 1889, being the first of three sons born to George and Anna Powell Stover, Mr. Powell had long since been replaced by second husband Samuel Sawyer in the affections and the household of Anna's mother, Emeline."⁶ Mr. Powell was so little esteemed that no one seems to remember for sure even his first name. It was either "Henry" or "Lee," said Grandpa Glenn.

Now, I tilt toward the "Lee" option. And I also tilt a bit against the entirely negative reputation retrospectively grafted upon departed Mr. Powell. Why? A couple of slim threads, but threads all the same: Anna and George Stover had twin boys in 1895: Ancil Coe Stover and Eric **Lee** Stover. Now George's middle name was "Henry," after his father. And that might have led to some later confusion in efforts to recollect Mr. Powell's first name. But it is entirely possible that his daughter, my Great Grandmother Anna, may not have shared her mother's disdain for Anna's father. To be sure, Anna may not have remembered him well, as he left the scene in her early childhood, but it is also possible that her recollection was sufficiently affectionate to honor his memory by using his name in that of at least one, and maybe two, of her sons.

I say "maybe two" because of another snippet of data that may well indicate some need to refurbish Mr. Powell's reputation. The 1910 Census indicates that, as we know to be the case, my Grandfather was living in Indianapolis with his Grandmother, Emeline Sawyer. Now Grandpa Glenn always denied having a middle name. But that census document gives him a middle initial – "P". Others in the family have suggested to me that Grandpa did indeed have a middle name, and that it was "Powell," his mother's maiden name. Anna may have honored her father not only by bestowing his first name on one of the twins but also by giving his surname to her eldest. Grandma Sawyer, however, may well have discouraged him from using it.

The war years were a good time to be operating a railroad restaurant, even in a small Illinois town. Although there was rapid expansion of track mileage in the decade before the war, the existing lines were taxed to the limit moving soldiers and materiel about the country. All of those soldiers and railroad men needed services, including a place to eat. I have an image of a tall, pretty woman bustling about the restaurant, cooking, serving, and probably ordering about a couple of helpers, while herself in varying stages of pregnancy or with little Ella and Anna running / crawling about the dining room amidst the din of conversation among clientele and kitchen help. It probably did not lead to quiet children.

Emeline's personal comportment also imbued a certain dignity and independence in little Anna, which she would show in varying ways throughout her life.

⁶ I have searched widely and diligently in the censuses and other records, both for Indiana and Illinois, and cannot find anyone who could conceivably be our Mr. Powell.

In normal times, the clientele of a railroad restaurant would have been primarily passengers, including those waiting for or changing trains, because dining cars had not yet been developed. During the war, the transport trains probably were not equipped to feed all of the thousands of young soldiers being hauled on to battle. And they, along with the workmen – the engineers, the conductors, the firemen, the track men -- would all have probably looked forward to a really hearty meal off the wheels, even if some grub were provided in transit. They would not have been very refined or elegant customers. And they would have come at all hours of the day. Emeline's and her helpers' workday would not have been the usual breakfast, lunch and dinner, but rather a round-the-clock schedule dictated by the trains.

When she dumped or lost Mr. Powell we do not know. Husband #2, Samuel Sawyer, did not come on the scene until a few years after the war, some time after 1870. He had entered the 119th Illinois Illinois infantry as a private in October 1862.⁷ He mustered out as a lieutenant in August, 1865, having fought in seven major engagements. His unit fared a bit better than Billy Dryden's, losing in combat two officers and 22 enlisted men. Three officers and 130 enlisted men died of disease. Those ratios of losses to combat versus disease seem to have been normal – five or six times more dying of disease. And one of the most common was measles. We do not know that he came through unscathed, but it seems that Lt. Samuel Sawyer was in good shape when he finished his military service.

Samuel was to figure prominently in the post-war family history, but we can also trace some of his movements before that time. He shows up first in the 1860 Census, working as an 18 year old farm laborer in Scott County (southeast Indiana). He has left home and is on his own. His father, Reverend Samuel Sawyer, is living in Marion, with his wife Susan and four younger children, where he serves as pastor of the Presbyterian Church. Rev. Sawyer's family and church obligations, however, are overcome by his sense of obligation to the Union cause, as he enlists – at age 38 – in the 47th Indiana Volunteers, to serve as regimental chaplain for the duration of the war.

By the outbreak of the war, Samuel the younger is in western Illinois, and musters into an Illinois regiment (the 119th). Interestingly, in March of 1865, the units in which the Sawyer father and son served were both engaged in the siege and capture of Ft. Blakely, and were both stationed at New Orleans later in the spring. Did they meet? Did they know of each other's presence, or did they learn of it only when comparing experiences after the war?

⁷ [<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm>]

1870 – 1880: Emeline Reorganizes Her Life

1870

Population of Indiana is now 1,681,000, half as rapid an increase as in previous decades

Railroad mileage doubled since 1860

Samuel Sawyer, former lieutenant in the Union Army, is working as a farm laborer in Sangamon County, Illinois

Emeline supports herself and two children with the railroad restaurant in Casey, Ill.

1870-1875 (exact year unknown)

Samuel Sawyer and Emeline Dryden Powell meet, wed, and move to Marion, Indiana

1871

The North German Confederation is formed into the German Empire, with Wilhelm I declared Emperor

First major league baseball game played

The great Chicago fire leaves 100,000 homeless

1876

Disputed presidential election, with no majority in the Electoral College. Rutherford B. Hayes is selected by the House of Representatives after he agrees to end Reconstruction in the South

Alexander Graham Bell uses his recently patented telephone to call saying "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you."

Wyatt Earp begins job as Deputy Marshall in Dodge City, KA

1877

Fred Sawyer is born to Emeline and Samuel Sawyer, in Marion, Indiana

Arizona blacksmith F.P. Cahill is first person shot by Billy the Kid

General Custer loses the Battle of Little Big Horn

1878

The phonograph is patented by Thomas A. Edison

Tokyo Stock Exchange established

Yellow fever kills over 13,000 in Mississippi Valley

1879

America's first artificial ice rink opens in Madison Square Garden

Doc Holiday kills his first man, who had shot up Doc's saloon in New Mexico

First commercially viable incandescent light bulb invented by Thomas A. Edison

Indiana did not grow in the '60s as it had in previous decades. The war took its toll, directly and indirectly. Directly there were those who never came home from battle. Indirectly, the boys who were off making war were not home making babies. Furthermore, the frontier had been filled in Indiana and had moved on westward.

The nation's network of railroads, however, expanded at an accelerated rate in the 1860s and subsequent decades. The operators had responded to war needs. Then they were responding to the markets being created by newly planted fields in the Midwest and Prairie states. Eastern manufacturing, stimulated by wartime demands, used its expanded capacity to provide goods to be transported westward, to advance the rapid mechanization of agriculture, which would expand production of the grains shipped eastward. And the Midwest was rapidly developing its own industrial base.

There is not a lot of written record or family lore that will provide much insight into Emeline's and her family's life in the 1870s. But there are a few benchmarks. How and when she and Samuel met is not known. Was it before or after Mr. Powell's

departure from the scene? Tempting as it is to speculate on such a possibility, I shall resist.

The 119th Illinois Regiment, in which Samuel Sawyer served, had been organized in Quincy, Illinois in '62. Most recruits were drawn from near the point of muster. Quincy is in the extreme west central part of the state. Casey, as I have noted, is near the eastern border with Indiana. So Emeline and Samuel were certainly not neighbors. My guess is that at one or more times, he had been a customer in the Casey restaurant while traveling about during his service. Did he remember the tall, pretty lady and come back in search of her? Did he happen to pass through on his way back home? From what little we know of his earlier years, Samuel was a pretty footloose fellow. And even if he had not been before the war, he would probably have been much like a lot of the prematurely grown up lads who mustered out and proceeded to wander somewhat aimlessly for a few years before settling down.

We do know that Emeline Dryden Powell and Samuel Sawyer were married some time in the early or mid-1870s. She brought Ella and Anna into the marriage. The census records show the girls as having been born in Illinois. Emeline and Samuel then had a child of their own, a son – Fred – whom the later census records show as having been born in 1877 in Indiana.

I got a handle on Samuel after the war and before the marriage to Emeline. Searching the 1870 Illinois census, I find three Samuel Sawyers, of which two would be of the appropriate age. But one of those was already married and had a family with a lady named Clarissa. The third really stands out. In Sangamon County, working as a farm laborer, is a 28 year old, single Samuel Sawyer. But what is key here is that he was born in Indiana. We know that our Samuel and Emeline met and wed in Illinois. Some time later, they had a son in Indiana. Emeline is a former Hoosier, probably having grown into early adulthood in Spencer, Owen County. If Samuel was also a Hoosier, would not that make it much more plausible that they might return to the state of their roots?

Further, my digging into the 1860 census revealed the senior Samuel, the Presbyterian pastor, living with his family in Marion, to which Emeline and Samuel-the-younger moved after their Illinois wedding. To jump ahead a bit, the 1900 census shows Samuel and Emeline in Marion. It lists him as a teamster. Of course, the truck driving "teamsters" of today get their label from their horse driving counterparts of yesteryear. Let's assume that in connection with his farm work around 1870, Samuel took to driving a team, hauling grain to the rail head or elevators. That is a reasonable assumption, given the economy of central Illinois. It was not all that different from its current concentration on grain crops raised for market.

Let's not forget that Samuel had made his way from private to lieutenant in less than three years while in the infantry. He was no slouch. It is unlikely he would remain a hired hand for long. And, like many of the veterans of the war, he was no longer rooted to any particular community. Samuel may even have driven a team to Casey, where the

pretty restaurant lady with the two little kids lived. Of course, the only firm evidence we have of events along those lines is his being a farm laborer in central Illinois (Sangamon County) in 1870, and then having a son with Emeline in Marion, Indiana seven years later. But they had to have met somehow.

Why did Emeline abandon the restaurant? She had worked hard for about ten years in that business. It can't have been easy, especially with two little ones. Once she acquired a new husband, maybe becoming a stay-at-home-mom for her brood was very attractive. She had had a tough life up to that point, working very hard. And, if the reputation is at all accurate, Powell was not a lot of help. And the idea of a ready-made family of in-laws was a positive prospect. In any event, it was that move that located a major portion of our family in Marion, Indiana.

Samuel Sawyer did not live to an old age, certainly not by the standards of our family.⁸ So his memory tends to be entirely in the realm of family lore. He was not talked about much, the conversational agenda being focused mostly on his wife, Emeline – Grandma Sawyer. But the rather foggy references to Samuel were all positive. He seems to have accepted fully the responsibility of providing for his new bride, her two daughters, and his new son.

Samuel had family in Marion. And maybe after several years knocking about, he was ready to re-connect with his folks. We can assume that his work as a teamster provided them a decent living. We might even consider that Emeline sold the restaurant and acquired a bit of cash. The next time we pick them up, in the 1900 Census, they are in Marion, and they own their home.

They moved to Marion clearly before Fred's birth in '77. Work for an experienced teamster was probably not that hard to find. Those were years of rapid economic expansion and industrialization. Of course, the dominant economic activity was still farming. And cash-crop farming, while not quite as profitable in central Indiana as in central Illinois, was prospering and expanding. And those crops had to be hauled to market or to the rail head. Good work for a teamster.

Today, as you drive through those seemingly endless miles of corn and soybeans in Indiana and Illinois, and as you see the multitude of semi's hauling off the harvest each fall, try to imagine a four-horse team of great draft animals with a huge wagon behind. And there is Emeline's beloved Samuel, sitting up front, his hardened hands firmly yet deftly gripping the reins, moving, ever moving the riches of the soil from farm to market. Is not history made as much by such people as by generals, politicians, and captains of industry?

⁸ Emeline lived to be 90. Her daughter, Anna (my great-grandmother) lived to be 93. Her son, Glenn (my grandfather) lived to almost 91. The Reverend Samuel (father-in-law) lived to be at least 77, as he appears in the 1900 census, living with a second wife in Indianapolis.

1880-1890: Family Growth

1880

Population of Indiana growing, but at slower rate than in pre-War years – now nearly 2,000,000

Wabash, Indiana installs the nation's first electric street lights

First singing of "Oh Canada" as national anthem up north

1881

Phoenix, Arizona incorporated

Billy the Kid escapes from a New Mexico jail

American Red Cross established by Clara Barton

1882

U.S. Congress outlaws polygamy

Charles Guiteau, assassin of President Garfield, is hanged

Knights of Columbus established

1883

Brooklyn Bridge Opened

U.S. Civil Service established by the Pendleton Act

Krakatua erupts, destroying 163 villages

1884

First edition of the Oxford English Dictionary

Grover Cleveland defeats James G. Blaine for the presidency⁹,

Washington Monument completed

1885

First successful appendectomy performed by Dr. William Grant, on Mary Gartside

Roller coaster patented

Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn published

1886

Karl Benz patents first successful gasoline driven automobile

Folies Bergère stages its first revue

Al Jolson born (dies 1950)

1887

Largest snowflakes on record, 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick, fall during storm in Fort Keogh, Montana (and no two alike!)

Anne Sullivan begins teaching Helen Keller

Golden Jubilee of Queen Victoria

1888

The only Hoosier President, Benjamin Harrison elected to serve a single term without much consequence, and pretty much disappears from the record¹⁰

Serial murders in London attributed to "Jack the Ripper"

George Eastman receives patent for his "Kodak" camera, using roll film

1889

U.S. Constitution is one hundred years old

Three of my four grandparents are born: Bertha Florence Kelley (Hofferbert); Glenn Stover; and Elizabeth Hazel Hudson (Stover)

Adolph Hitler born

⁹ In spite of opposition poem, noting Cleveland's fathering illegitimate daughter:

*"Ma! Ma! Where's my Pa?
Gone to the White House
Ha! Ha! Ha!"*

Cleveland's campaign contributed its own poetic rejoinder:

*"Blaine, Blaine, James G. Blaine
Continental liar from the state of Maine"*

¹⁰ William Henry Harrison had been Governor of the Indiana Territory, in the early part of the century, but was a resident of Ohio when elected President in 1840.

These were not terribly exciting times, thank goodness. The country and our family generally prospered. An exception, for a time, was Emeline's eldest, Ella, who was married around 1882 to a gentleman named Wade. Ella was 18 at the time. Alas, Mr. Wade died soon thereafter, leaving Ella a widow at 19. Within a relatively short time, she re-married (and rather well, as is often noted in family discussion) to Simon "Bart" Kennedy. Later generations would thus remember Ella as "Auntie Kennedy."¹¹ Bart was operator, and perhaps part owner, of "Conners' Mill," located north of Marion, near Jalapa, on the Mississinewa River (just down the road from where I was born). Founded about 1830, Conner's Mill played an important part not only in everyday life but also in the commercialization of agriculture in early Grant County history.¹²

Emeline's second daughter, Anna, my great grandmother, completed an uncommon level of education for a girl in the 1880s. When she was about 16, after completing eight years of common school, some say she completed "normal school." Normal schools offered the brief course of study – six to eight weeks – that was the customary route to becoming a school teacher. Other lore has it she attended a "women's academy." Whichever route she took, this achievement was celebrated in Anna's case by the photograph of her presented here, when she was about 16.



I am reluctant to infer personality traits from photographs, but the impression given by this picture is of a stately, confident young woman. She certainly upheld the tradition of strong, independent women so clearly shown by her great Aunt Lydia and her mother Emeline. Some said she could also be stern. She read avidly. Anna would, later in her life, act on an element of the pioneer spirit that was so evident in the women of her family.

In 1888, at 23, she wedded a boy from Tippecanoe County, George Henry Stover. They settled in Marion, where Great Grandfather George worked at a succession of jobs in local industry. Their son, my grandfather Glenn Stover, made his earthly debut just over a year later. So Anna's mother, Emeline, could now officially

¹¹ However, my first cousin once removed, Jim Stover (son of Ancil) says he remembers, when he was a small boy, referring to her as "Entity Kennedy."

¹² For a brief history of Conner's Mill, see W. H. McGrew, *Interesting Episodes in the Early History of Marion and Grant County, Indiana* (Marion: Grant County Historical Society, 1966), pp 43ff.

wear the title “Grandma Sawyer”, by which she would be known to successive generations. Anna and George would further expand their brood with the birth of twin boys in 1895, Ancil and Eric.

This is a reasonable place in the story for Anna to receive some special attention. She was my great grandmother, and I remember her from when I was quite young (as I discussed in the chapter concerning George Stover and his siblings). Throughout the period of my childhood, she was the subject of a wide variety of assessments. My Mother was rather critical of Anna, seeing her as domineering and, perhaps, threatening. Others, however, remember her quite differently. Rather than “domineering,” they remember her as strong, intelligent, and independent. A reflection written recently by Aunt Eunice (Eunice Mae Stover Althouse, b. 1924):

[September, 2003: Reflections of Eunice Althouse:]

Anna Powell Stover was my paternal grandmother, daughter of Emeline Dryden Powell. She was better educated than most young women of that generation. Most working class girls received only basic, scanty education. Anna, however, was sent to a woman’s academy.

She was a small woman, hard working, who, when they lived on farms in southern Indiana, always planted a large garden, canned large quantities of fruits and vegetables (and made elderberry wine!). They also butchered their own cattle, and she canned melt-in-your-mouth beef and venison! She raised hens and loved the cute and colorful guinea hens. Her homemade bread was wonderful. She also had flower beds. She let us girls churn butter when we visited. She always had a quilt “in progress” and carefully supervised me stitching when we helped on the quilts. I still have a love of quilts.

Grandma had a “bad” ankle, the result of an inadequate setting for a break in her younger years. She wore high-top shoes, which fastened with a button hook (which I still have!).

In the first half of the 20th century, southern Indiana near the Ohio River was mainly still native forest, dotted with primitive gravel roads, tiny farms and villages – spectacularly beautiful fall foliage, lush green summer, and somber winters. It was a bleak “hard scrabble” existence – no electricity, water pumped into a bucket (often with small, wriggly worms!), and a pot-bellied heating stove. The stove which produced the luscious foods was fueled by the plentifully supplied wood, as was the heating stove. One problem – somebody had to cut the tree, chop the logs, and stack them to dry – with no chain saws!

Grandma and Grandpa (George Stover) were married in Lafayette on September 2, 1888. Their first son Glenn (my Dad) was born in Wingate, Indiana, October 1, 1889. By 1895 they had moved to Marion, IN. The twins – Eric and Ancil – were born that year. They remained in Marion, where Glenn graduated from elementary school, about 1904. (Possibly lived part of that time in Indianapolis) They moved to Ripley County area in the 1920s. Eric and Ancil served in World War I, enlisting or drafted in Marion around 1918(?).

In the early or mid ‘30s (Depression years) they returned to Marion, but after a few years again moved down south.

Grandma Sawyer’s firstborn, Ella, widowed at 19 and then remarried to Bart Kennedy, would not have any children of her own. But she and Bart adopted a 13-year old girl, Lola, who would be an important member of the family. Lola becomes Glenn’s

cousin by adoption. And Lola was a teenage friend of a lovely neighbor girl, Hazel Hudson. Glenn and Hazel would share a friendship that grew through their teenage years, culminating in their marriage in 1911.

1890 – 1900: The Family Grows

1890

Tornado in Louisville kills 76

Vincent van Gogh shoots himself in the chest and dies two days later

Convicted murderer, William Kemmler, becomes first person executed by electric chair, in Auburn prison, Auburn, NY

1891

Liliuokalani proclaimed Queen of Hawaii

Ground broken for Trans-Siberian Railway

The Wrigley Company is founded in Chicago

1892

Ellis Island begins accepting immigrants to U.S.

John Muir organizes the Sierra Club in San Francisco

Pledge of Allegiance first recited by American school children

1893

Rudolph Diesel receives patent for his engine

New Bedford, MA: Miss Elizabeth Borden acquitted of ax-murdering her parents¹³

Colorado grants vote to women

1894

First bottled Coca-Cola sold

“Coxey’s Army”, America’s first mass protest march, departs Massillon, OH for Washington, DC

Sanford Dole proclaims short-lived “Republic of Hawaii”

1895

Anna Powell Stover gives birth to twin boys, Ancil and Eric

First professional football game played in Latrobe, PA

William Röntgen discovers type of radiation later known as “X-Rays”

1896

Charles Dow publishes first edition of the Dow Jones Industrial Average

Tornado in St.Louis kills 255

Gold discovered in the Klondike – so much for “Seward’s Folly”!

1897

Writer Jack London sails for the Klondike

William Faulkner born (dies, 1962)

Fred Sawyer marries Maud Meyers

1898

Spanish-American War

Marie and Pierre Curie discover radium

U.S. annexes the Hawaiian Islands

1899

The rubber heel is patented by Henry O’Sullivan

Martha M. Price is first woman electrocuted, Sing Sing, NY

Al Capone born (dies 1947)

¹³ Thus legally denying the popular ditty:

*Lizzie Borden took an ax
And gave her mother forty whacks.
When she saw what she had done,
She gave her father forty-one.*

The 1890's, recalled in song and story as a sort of prelude to the roaring twenties, was a turbulent but exciting time for America and Americans. The first half was dismal, with a wrenching economic depression in 1893 and the few years thereafter. But the depression faded quickly in the memory of Hoosiers. Indiana was prospering as a center for the development of the new horseless carriage.

Industrialization overtook the Hoosier state much as it did the rest of the eastern half of the country. By the end of the decade, historians would declare the frontier "closed." More people would now be employed in manufacturing than in agriculture. Living "in town" was no longer the exception.

Emeline and Samuel lived in town, and seem to have enjoyed modest prosperity during the last decade of the 19th century. Their family grew. Anna and George produced twin boys in 1895, Ancil and Eric. Emeline and Samuel's son Fred would marry the neighbor girl, Maud Meyers, and begin building a family that would ultimately include nine children.

In 1898, the nation would go to war for the third time in Emeline's lifetime. But the Spanish-American War would not make much more than a ripple in the Sawyer's lives. It was brief

Elwood Haynes Haynes-Apperson Automobiles

Born Oct. 14, 1857, in Portland, Ind., Elwood Haynes was educated in the Jay County public schools. He obtained admission to the Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science in Worcester, Mass., in 1873 and graduated from that institution three years later. For his senior thesis he analyzed tungsten's effect upon iron and steel--an idea he used later in inventing Stellite, an extremely hard, heat-and-corrosion-resistant tool metal.

After graduation, Haynes returned to Portland to teach. He eventually became principal of Portland High School, but left to conduct postgraduate work in chemistry, biology and German at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

With the discovery of natural gas near Portland in 1886, Haynes left teaching and became superintendent for the Portland Natural Gas and Oil Company. In 1890 he was appointed field superintendent for the Indiana Natural Gas Company of Chicago, which had its headquarters in Greentown, Ind. While working for that firm, Haynes's inventive mind came up with a method to prevent pipelines from freezing by dehydrating the gas prior to its being pumped through the lines.

During a lull in his duties in 1891, Haynes began preparing plans and drawings for a new method of travel--a horseless carriage. Moving to Kokomo in 1892 as manager of the gas plant there, he continued to work on his idea. In November 1893 he purchased a one-cylinder, one-horsepower gasoline engine and, a few months later, hired Elmer and Edgar Apperson for 40 cents an hour to construct the vehicle.

The vehicle was ready for its first test run on July 4, 1894. The car was towed by a horse and buggy (to avoid frightening horses on the busy Kokomo streets) out into the countryside on the Pumpkinvine Pike. With Haynes at the controls, the car traveled about six miles at a speed approaching six or seven miles per hour--becoming one of the first cars in the country to achieve such a feat. With this success behind them, Haynes and the Apperson brothers formed a partnership to design and build the Haynes-Apperson automobiles. Both Haynes and Apperson Brothers automobiles were built in Kokomo until the 1920s.

In 1910 Haynes donated his Pioneer auto to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, where it is on permanent display. Haynes died on April 13, 1925. The Kokomo inventor, if not the first, was among the first Americans to build and drive a gasoline-powered, self-propelled vehicle. He is still remembered today as a brilliant metallurgist and a pioneer in Indiana's automobile industry.

Haynes is pictured here in 1894, driving his first automobile.



and decisive. It was simply not comparable by any measure to the conflagration she had experienced in the 1860s.

The 19th century came to an end with Emeline and Samuel enjoying their children and grandchildren in the growing economy of a middle-sized Indiana town. The insecurities of youth were behind them, and old age had not yet begun.

1900 – 1910: Turmoil and Dislocation

1900

Emaline and Samuel Sawyer (teamster) residing at 33rd and Home Corner in Marion, Indiana, along with son Fred, his wife Maud, and their first child, Rebecca

Rev. Samuel H. Sawyer (77) is living in Indianapolis with his second wife

William Harvey Carney, Civil War veteran, becomes first black Congressional Medal of Honor winner

1901

Albert Packer is released from Colorado prison after serving 18 years for cannibalism¹⁴

Theodore Roosevelt becomes President following assassination of William McKinley

Michigan school teacher Annie Taylor survives riding over Niagara Falls in a barrel

1902

New York Central inaugurates "20th Century Limited" passenger train between Chicago and New York City

Theodore Roosevelt became the first American President to ride in an automobile

Births: Charles Lindbergh (aviator), Meyer Lansky (mobster), John Steinbeck (author), Ansel Adams (photographer), Thomas Dewey (politician), Richard J. Daley (Chicago mayor), Strom Thurmond (U.S. Senator)

1903

First Powered Flight, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina

Iroquois Theater Fire in Chicago kills 600

First Tour de France, Maurice Garin wins

1904

Samuel D. Sawyer dies in Marion, Indiana (est. date)

First Rolls-Royce automobile manufactured

Trans-Siberian Railroad completed

1905

Revolution breaks out in Russia following massacre at Winter Palace, St Petersburg

Albert Einstein publishes article "On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies," where he discovers special relativity

Huckleberry Finn and Tom Sawyer banned from Brooklyn Public Library as "bad example"

1906

Emeline Sawyer, recently widowed, accompanies Son Fred and his family to Indianapolis, where the Dilling Candy Company, his employer, has moved operations

Mt. Vesuvius erupts, devastating Naples

The muffaletta sandwich is invented in New Orleans

1907

Fred Sawyer and family move to farm in Bartholomew County

Glenn Stover moves to Indianapolis to help his Grandma Sawyer; takes job as mail clerk

UPS is founded by Jim Casey in Seattle, WA

1908

Ball is dropped for first time to signify the New Year, in Times Square

Henry Ford produces his first Model T

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid killed in Bolivia (maybe!)

1909

Ernest Shackleton expedition finds magnetic South Pole; take the slow route home

¹⁴ He was later memorialized when students at the University of Colorado named a dining hall in his honor.

Alice Huyler Ramsey, 22 year old housewife from Hackensack, NJ, first woman to drive across the country, in a Maxwell – 59 days and 3800 miles from Manhattan to San Francisco

1901 – 1910

At some time in these years, Rev. Samuel D. Sawyer dies in Indianapolis

Louis Bleriot is first Magnificent Man to cross the English Channel in a Flying Machine

This was tough decade for Grandma Sawyer. She lost her dear husband, Sam. How close she was to his father, the Reverend Samuel Sawyer, we do not know, but he too died during this decade. But we should take note of something that is a theme throughout the family history in the 19th and well into the 20th centuries: Grown children and their families frequently lived with parents. And then later in life the parents lived with the middle aged children. And orphaned children were taken up by relatives. It was the exception rather than the norm when, around 1900, the then 18-year-old Samuel D. left on his own, striking out first to southern Indiana, then to Illinois, then into the army, before getting married and moving back to his parents' home town. (I have a sense that there may have been some tension between Rev. Samuel and his adventuresome son.)

More common was what we see in the 1900 Census, with Fred, his wife, and new baby Rachel living with his parents, Samuel and Emeline. Likewise, in the 1920 Census we find that Anna and George's 25 year-old twin sons and their brides would be spending the early part of their married lives with the husbands' parents. And next door were the aging Emeline and her daughter, Ella. And Anna would spend most of her last decade living with her son Ancil in Van Wert, Ohio. It was an implicit inter-generational pact. However strong they were in the prime of their lives, none of these women was ever left alone in the declining years.

While living with his parents in Marion, Fred is a candy maker, working for the Dilling's Candy Company. Aunt Eunice has explored the history of the company. It was founded in 1895 in Marion. In 1906, the company moved to Indianapolis. The reputed reason was so that the Dilling family daughters could get high quality musical training. And it seems to have worked. Daughter Mildred Dilling became a world famous harpist.¹⁵ With that kind of talent, it is credible that the family made the move primarily to enhance the musical chances of their daughters. Of course, it is also likely that they assessed the candy market in Indianapolis as much more profitable than that in Marion.

In any event, it seems that Fred Sawyer probably moved to Indianapolis in order to keep his job. If the move was in 1906, it was shortly after his father's death. Therefore, Emeline (by then 66 years old) would have accompanied Fred to Indianapolis.

¹⁵ Born 1894, she became the most renowned woman harpist in the world. "Harpo" Marx, Bob Hope, Deanna Durbin, and Sir Laurence Olivier were among the students of Mildred Dilling. During her career, she performed seven recitals at the White House.
http://www.jamesdeancountry.com/firedup/site/Famous_Natives.php

This is also about the time, however, when Glenn moved from Marion to Indianapolis and took up residence with his grandmother. Fred, in the meantime, acquired a farm in Bartholomew County, where he is recorded in the 1910 and 1920 censuses, with his growing family.

We know that in 1910, 20 year-old Glenn and Emeline are living alone in Indianapolis. Fred, by then, has the farm and a growing family in Bartholomew County, Indiana. A reasonable assumption is that, shortly after arriving in Indianapolis with his newly widowed mother, Fred moved to his farm, about sixty miles southeast; however, he did so only after being assured that his mother would have family living with her.

A reasonable case can be made that Glenn was invited to live with and help out his Grandma Sawyer at the time that Fred and Maud moved on. We know that Glenn stayed for about four years, as he is still there in the 1910 Census, working as a mail clerk. He and Hazel (Hudson) were married a year later, in October, 1911, and they took up residence in Marion. But that leaps ahead of the story format.

1910-1920: Years of Adjustment

1910

Emeline and grandson Glenn living in Indianapolis

Boutros Ghali, first native born prime minister of Egypt, assassinated

Earth passes through the tail of Halley's Comet

1911

Glenn Stover and Hazel Hudson are married

Emeline returns to Marion from Indianapolis

The first Indianapolis 500-mile auto race is run. The winner is Ray Harroun in the Marmon "Wasp"

Torbenson Gear and Axle Co. founded by J.O. Eaton (later the "Eaton Axle & Spring Co." and still later, the "Eaton Corporation" – Employer of James Robert Stover)

1912

Prizes are included in Crackerjack boxes for the first time

Iceberg wins conflict with RMS Titanic

Albert Berry makes the first parachute jump from a moving airplane

1913

New York's Grand Central Terminal opens as world's largest train station

16th Amendment to Constitution ratified to allow U.S. Gov't to collect income taxes

Ford's first assembly line opens, reducing assembly time for a chassis to one-fourth former time

1914

Marianna Stover, Glenn and Hazel Stover's first child and Grandma Sawyer's first great-grandchild, is born

The Great War breaks out in Europe

Ford Motor Company initiates 8-hour workday with \$5 minimum daily wage

1915

U.S House of Representatives rejects proposal to give women the right to vote

Armenian massacre begins in Ottoman Empire

Atlantic hurricane kills 215 in New Orleans and Galveston

1916

Margaret Elizabeth Stover, Glenn and Hazel's second child and Grandma Sawyer's second great-grandchild is born

Louis D. Brandeis becomes first Jewish Justice on the United States Supreme Court

Republican Jeanette Rankin becomes first woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives

1917

U.S. Enters war in Europe on the Allied side

Eric and Ancil Stover enter U.S. Army – stationed in Philadelphia

The Bolsheviks take over political power and transform the Russian Empire into the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

1918
Twin babies born to Hazel and Glenn Stover survive only one day after their birth (April 7)

Armistice in Europe ends “War to End All Wars”

1919
Ancil Coe Stover and Elizabeth Hallahan married in Philadelphia, PA

Edsel Ford succeeds his father as head of Ford Motor Co.

18th Amendment to the Constitution authorizes prohibition of sale of alcoholic beverages



← *Eric Lee Stover*

1918



Ancil Coe Stover →

The 1910 Census documents that Emeline Sawyer and her grandson, Glenn Stover, are still living in Indianapolis. However, they would shortly return to Marion. Emeline would return to the home that she and her departed Samuel had occupied at the corner of 33rd and Home Avenue in Marion.¹⁶ Daughter Ella, her husband Bart, and their adopted daughter Lola had stayed in Grant County, living near the mill in Pleasant Township. Her son Fred and his family had moved to a farm in the southern part of the state. So there was little reason for Emeline and Glenn to remain in Indianapolis.

The move must have taken place during 1910, as Glenn gets counted twice in the 1910 Census, once in Indianapolis with his Grandmother and once with his parents in Marion. Now this is the sort of thing that tempts the family historian (me) to pretend to unwarranted precision. The Census document from Indianapolis was filled out on April 21, 1910. The one in Marion was filled out on April 27. I would really like to assert that this proves that Glenn and (probably) Grandma Sawyer moved from Indianapolis to Marion between the 21st and the 27th of April, 1910. And if the reader really has a yearning for precision, then that is fine. But my suspicion is that whoever answered the knock on the door by the census-taker, in each city, listed the inhabitants. It is most

¹⁶ So named due to the presence of the U.S. Soldiers’ Home, founded shortly after the Civil War, and a long-standing institution in the Marion community.

likely that Anna, perhaps in anticipation of Glenn's return, simply listed herself, her husband George, and all three boys – Glenn, Ancil, and Eric. We are, however, entitled to assume that some time in the late spring or summer of 1910, Glenn and his Grandmother returned to Grant County. Emeline was then 70. She would stay in Marion for the remaining 20 years of her life.



The pain of Samuel's death and the subsequent dislocation was, no doubt, fading and compensated somewhat by the arrival of great grandchildren, the first of which was my Aunt Marianna Stover (1914 - 1980). Here is a picture typical of the time, with Grandma Sawyer holding Marianna, her first great grandchild. The baby is obviously no more than a few weeks old, so the picture was taken in 1914, when Emeline Sawyer was 74.

Grandma Sawyer here looks rather stiff and not all sure what to do with this tiny package. But my guess is that she was quite comfortable with babies, having had three of her own – the last born when she was well up in her thirties. Often people note how grim folks appear in the formal photographs taken in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Keep in mind that the film in those days was slow. The subjects of photos were instructed to hold very still for several seconds during the exposure. Thus, some grim determination in the visage is understandable. Note that the baby Marianna is not focused as well as Grandma. Clearly Marianna was fidgety then. She was pretty energetic in her later life, too, but I would not infer that from this photo.



A rather cheerier rendition of the family comes through this lovely four-generation picture (above), taken probably around 1916 (since Marianna now appears to be about two or three). At the top of this picture is my great grandmother Anna Powell Stover. Is she not lovely? (Looks like my Aunt Eunice.) Then the bottom row is Grandpa Glenn Stover, holding his firstborn, Marianna. At the right is Grandma Emeline Sawyer. She is here about 76.

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The only other picture I have that includes Great Grandma Sawyer is a Sawyer / Stover family reunion, almost certainly at the Marion home of Grandma Emeline and Samuel. I have dated this picture around 1901, given that my Grandpa Glenn (second from left, top row), who was born in 1889, appears to be about 12 or 13.



Top Row: Anna Powell Stover, Glenn Stover, George Henry Stover, Bertha Stover, Ella Powell Wade Kennedy, Lola Kennedy, Maud Myers Sawyer, (Infant) Charlotte or Margaret Sawyer, Fred Sawyer, (perhaps) Eunice Schocky, ? , ? , ?

Middle Row: Simon Bart Kennedy, ? , (infant) ? , Emeline Sawyer, ? , Samuel Sawyer

Bottom Row: Eric Stover, Rachel Sawyer , Ancil Stover

[Identifications by Margaret Stover Hofferbert]

The Twenties: Grandma Sawyer's Last Decade

I will skip any attempt at an amusing timeline here, and merely note important family milestones:

Children born in 1920s to Glenn and Hazel: 1922 - Carol Jane (d. 2006); 1924 - Eunice Mae; 1926 - (Infant boy, stillborn); 1928 Kathleen Rosalie (d. 1984)

Children of Ancil and Elizabeth: 1921- Thomas Joseph (infant death); 1923- William (d. 1975); 1927- James Robert

Children of Eric and Mae: (specific dates of birth and death not yet known) Dorothy Ruth; Ralph Lee; Robert; Mary Jane; Donald

May 12, 1930: Emeline Dryden Powell Sawyer Dies at age 90

There is little left from the known or knowable record to be written about Grandma Sawyer's latter days. Daughter Anna and her family moved to a house next door, but then later moved to Ripley County, in the southern part of the state (near her brother Fred and his family). Daughter Ella, now widowed for the second time, moved in with her mother before Grandma Sawyer's death in 1930. Great grandchildren continued to enter the world. And Emeline seems to have enjoyed pretty good health right up to the end.

But, although we lack some detail about her personal experiences during that decade, we can still conclude a good deal about Grandma Sawyer without too much speculation or rhetorical creativity. She is recalled by those who knew her as a tall, stately, kind woman. She would have qualified by her accomplishments, if not by any notable ideology, as a feminist for her time. That is, she knew what it was to support herself under primitive circumstances. She had relocated geographically and matrimonially. She probably loved rather than leaned on the men in her life. And she never seemed bowed by the weight of experience.

Grandpa recalled her as an articulate woman. The same is certainly true of her daughter Anna. And the trait was carried on in Anna's children and grandchildren. I doubt that Emeline's kitchen was quiet. She is remembered as a warm person. And I suspect she was a very loving wife to her husband Samuel. He had, after all, taken on the family of another man, with two lively little daughters. All the evidence indicates that he loved those step daughters as much as he did his natural son, Fred.

These folks knew what struggle was. And the family knew the tragedies and triumphs of war. After all, they lived through that worst of all American historical horrors, the civil war. Emeline's brother, husband, and father-in-law had been in the thick of it. Did those men ever get a solid night's sleep through the balance of their days? How many times did a loving wife have to comfort an otherwise strong man suffering terrible nightmares?

Emeline and her family had seen the frontier transformed. They had played a personal role in that transformation. We can be almost certain that the aunt and two

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orphans arriving in Spencer in the 1840s would have first lived in a log cabin. Did Lydia build it herself, with her own two hands? I suspect she did. The railroads came, and Emeline took entrepreneurial advantage of that development. Her life went from primitive to comfortable, thus paralleling the general pattern of successful pioneers throughout the Midwest.

She died while hanging up dish towels in the back yard. A humble but noble activity. Through studying and writing of Grandma Sawyer and her life, I have come to care for her very much. She was an admirable lady. We should be grateful to her. Our lives are richer because of hers.

Richard Ira Hofferbert
Vestal, NY
June, 2006

It would be a favor greatly appreciated if anyone who has additions or corrections would send them along to me. Thank you. RIH – rofferb@binghamton.edu

[Timeline information liberally borrowed from *Wikipedia*, the online encyclopedia.]