



## Sample Book Chapter

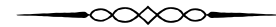
### Using the Hybrid Genealogy Format

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- Names in ALL CAPS are in the bloodline of the author
- A star icon next to a name denotes military service
- Uppercase letters in parenthesis are in-text source citations, i.e. (BAT). The full source would be listed in the Source Appendix at the end of the book

## SECTION SEVEN

# Lorain



## Chapter 24 Lorain

Now that we've covered LEE PENCE's maternal grandmother's paternal family, the Alford's, we'll backtrack and discuss LEE's maternal grandmother's maternal side, the Lorains.

Based on numerous accounts about his life, ancestor JOHN LORAIN seems to have reached "The Man. The Myth. The Legend." status. Revolutionary War soldier, narrow escapes from death, war injury... it appears he led a very adventurous life.

This section will start with the family lore involving the Lorain family. As with most family stories, they should be taken with a grain of salt (in some cases, MANY grains of salt). There are some exaggerations and conflicting facts, but there is definitely merit in keeping the family stories alive. The two main sources of this information are writings by descendants of JOHN.

1. **William Stewart Lorain**, grandson of JOHN, son of Parker, written in 1924. He told the stories his family passed down, recorded by Madjesia Ewing Rovensky.

2. **Inez Jones Dooley**, great-granddaughter of JOHN, granddaughter of Emily Lorain. She wrote a letter in 1956 detailing her version of the family history.

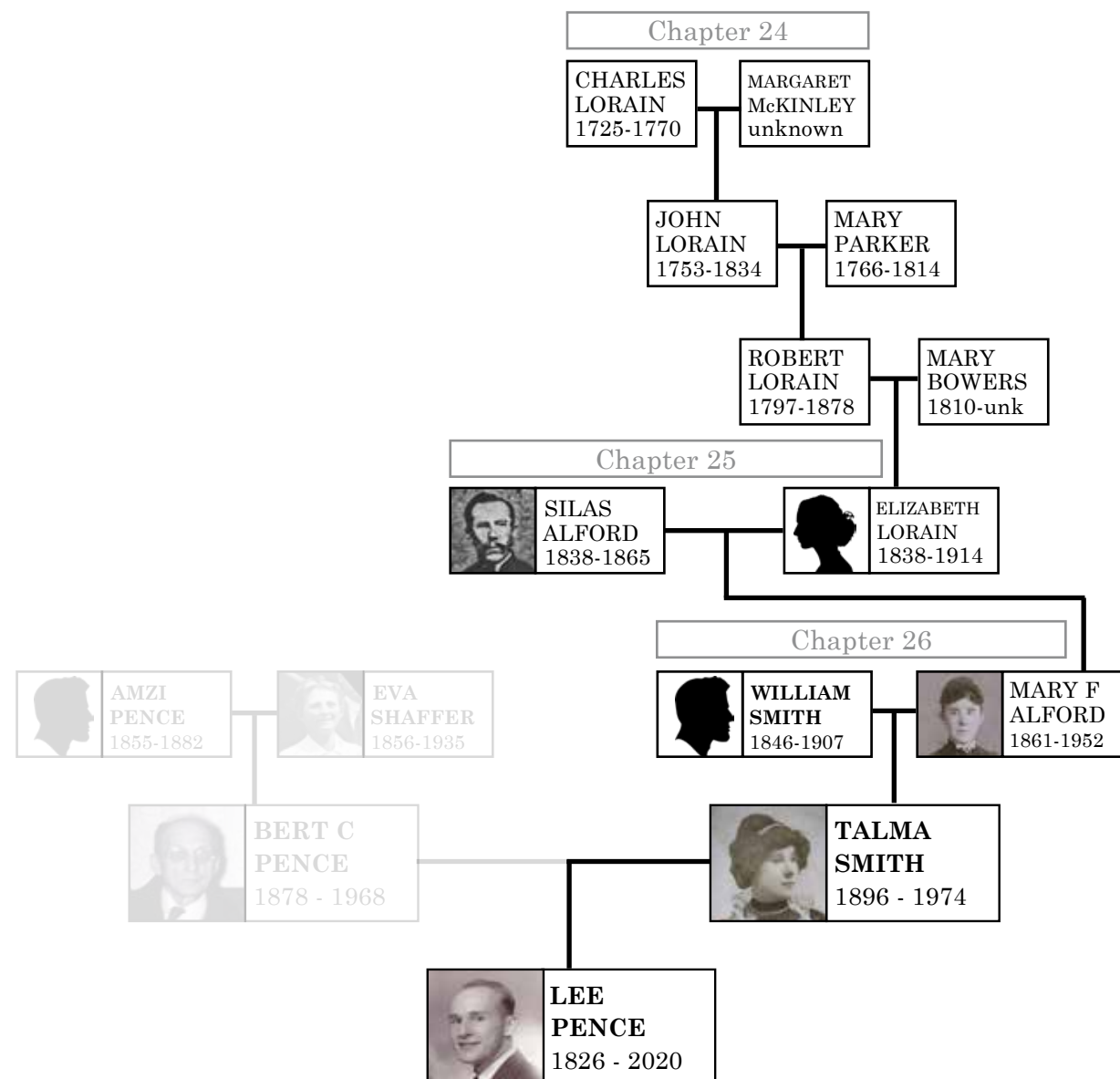
John C McMichael, a descendant of JOHN (Lorain descendant, connection unknown) compiled the information from the two previously mentioned sources in 2015. He also heard the tales from his Aunt Nellie Hays Schall (Lorain descendant, connection unknown). He used the stories as starting points and researched records and books in an attempt to separate fact from fiction. (LLJM) We will draw heavily on his research after this section. My personal observations are added in italics.

### Family origins:

The name Lorain, also spelled Lorrain and Lorraine, appears to have its origin in France. The family could have been in Scotland as early as the 11th century, but it's possible the early Lorains left France to escape religious persecution. In 1685 French king Louis XIV revoked the right of Protestants to practice their religion and there was a mass exodus of French Protestants, called Huguenots, to other countries.

**William Lorain's** version states that Charles Lorain Sr was married to Jane McCain, a Scottish Highlander. Both are buried in the Presbyterian Cemetery, Klecan, Ireland. When they died they left all their holdings to their son, Charles Jr, in Lothshoal, Donegal Co, Ireland. Charles Jr married Margaret McKinnley of Donegal, she was Scots-Irish. They had two children:

1. JOHN LORIAN
2. Charles Lorain III



They were a sea-faring family and owned two ships. JOHN accompanied his father on a trip to Norway when he was a young man. A storm sank the ship and all on board were lost but five people - JOHN survived but his father did not. JOHN was picked up on the coast of Norway, nearly frozen to death.

When he returned home his mother Margaret told him that false claims had been made against them and that all of their possessions, including the two ships, had been sold, leaving her with nothing. She said she was going to her two brothers, John and Abner McKinley, in Chester Co, PA. John replied, "If you go, I will go with you. But what about Charles?". She said that he was going to school in England and could come later if he wished.

The two traveled to the American Colonies and settled in Chester Co, PA, near her brothers, at the dawn of the Revolutionary War.

*Author's note -- no records could be found for Abner McKinley, but there was a John McKinley in West Fallowfield, Chester Co, PA in 1781.*

**Inez Jones Dooley's** version of the story says that JOHN was born in France. His family fled France due to religious persecution and took a ship bound for the colonies (America). The ship wrecked and only the two boys, JOHN and his brother Charles III, survived. JOHN was picked up and brought to the colonies, Charles was taken to England where he was raised in a well-to-do family and eventually became a Colonel in the British Army.

*Author's note -- It seems unlikely that two boys picked up from a shipwreck would have been seperated and families found for them in two different countries. However, it's an accepted fact that Charles did go to England and became a British soldier and JOHN ended up in America.*

### **Military Service:**

Most of the information about JOHN's military service was given by William Lorain. The man who collected these stories, John McMichael, said that they seemed to be the ramblings of an old man who was struggling to remember what he was told as a boy. He has a point since many of the dates given were wrong and the order of the battles was incorrect. However, it's still worth reading the stories a man remembers about his illustrious ancestor.

**William Lorain's** version of the story is that one morning in 1775, JOHN was on his return from West Chester, PA when he met a Sergeant Klann on Bond Bridge. Sgt Klann said "Good morning John, ain't you dry? Have a drink."

"Troth and I will," said JOHN, taking the jug. He took out the cork which was Continental money rolled up and used for a cork. The sergeant said, "Now you are enlisted. You took the bounty freely. You have it in your hand." JOHN went home, spoke to his uncles, and enlisted the next day.

*Author's note -- this is possibly a funny tale of how he decided to join the Pennsylvania militia as opposed to actually being tricked into service. In a book about COL Thompson's PA Riflemen (CWT), it says that when GEN George Washington called upon Pennsylvania to raise eight companies of Riflemen "The patriotism of Pennsylvania was evinced in the haste with which the companies of COL Thompson's battalion were filled to overflowing."*

*However, another source, "An Arduous Service" (AAS), claims that many backcountry Pennsylvanians were reluctant to join, some even coerced or tricked. Many cared more about the battles on the western front to protect their families from Native Amerian attacks.*

The rest of William's stories about JOHN's military engagements were a jumbled mess. He claimed JOHN's first engagement was at Paoli, but this isn't true as JOHN enlisted in the summer of 1775 and The Massacre of Paoli occurred in September of 1777. These stories can be read in John McMichael's writings (LLJM).

One interesting anecdote of which both **Inez Jones Dooley** and **William Lorain** recalled was the reunion of JOHN with his brother Charles III. Both assert that Charles III became a Colonel in the British army and came to the colonies to fight in the Revolutionary War.

**William Lorain** wrote "One battle JOHN was taken prisoner and put in an old log barracks with jumchings all out. He was looking out through the cracks one day and saw his Bro Charles who was a Colonel in the English army and called to him, but was not recognized until the evening when Charles came down inquiring who it was that hollered at him. 'It was me, Charley,' said JOHN, and ran at him as if to hit him. Charles replied for him to keep quiet and he would do something for him. The next day, he got him and four others out on a parole of honor – giving him a job cutting wood. They were to return in the evening, but we find that they escaped and got back to Washington's army." (sic)

**Inez Jones Dooley's** version is a bit different. She wrote that when Charles was near Philadelphia he learned of the young Ensign JOHN LORAIN. He secured safe conduct through the lines for a meeting and the two soldiers learned they were brothers.

A third account of this meeting was written by an unknown person at the time of the 2nd annual Lorain Family reunion on Jun 12, 1914. There were several newspaper articles that reported the reunion (*Pittsburgh Press and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, June 7, 1914*) but neither printed the long version that was found transcribed in ancestry.com. In this account it was claimed that JOHN was a prisoner of war and very ill/wounded and had his brother Charles not found him he would have died. The story also claimed JOHN crossed the Delaware river with Washington's troops at Trenton, saw Molly Pitcher take charge of a cannon after her husband died, took part in the Boston Tea Party (which was years prior to the war in Boston in 1773) and participated in the Whiskey Rebellion. These are undoubtedly embellished and, in the case of the Boston Tea Party, likely made up.

The stories cannot be confirmed, of course, but it's very interesting to see how the family lore changed and grew as they passed down through the generations.

### **Marriage:**

The last story that both Inez Jones Cooley and William Lorain wrote about was how JOHN and his wife Mary Parker came to be married.

**William Lorain** writes that after JOHN returned from the war in 1783 he met MARY PARKER, a Quaker lady, of Chester Co, PA. They got engaged but her father opposed the wedding because JOHN had been a soldier (those of the Quaker religion were extremely opposed to war). The story goes that JOHN took two horses from his uncle. Mary stole away from home and the couple rode to West Chester, PA where they married. They then lived with JOHN's mother MARGARET.

They soon went to Pittsburgh, PA, leaving his mother in Chester Co, but taking his wife's two uncles with them - John and Abram Parker. They were originally headed for Kentucky, but JOHN went out to Ten-Mile (a small village in present day Greene Co, near Pittsburgh) to see two old soldiers, Robert Boyd and Robin Tom. They were Brother Masons and JOHN was an Arch Mason (two separate Masonic groups). The two friends got him a school at Tom's Run where he taught for several years.

**Inez Jones Dooley's** version is that when JOHN came out of service he fell in love with a Quaker girl named MARY PARKER in Chester, PA. Her family was strictly religious and opposed to warring so forbade her to have anything to do with the young soldier. She loved him and wished to marry him so the story goes that in the dark of night she came down from her bedroom window and rode off with him on his horse, traveling from Chester to Chartiers Township, Allegheny Co, PA.

There are enough similarities between these two stories, as well as various other sources, to know that JOHN indeed married MARY PARKER, and thus begins the documented history of the Lorain line.

## JOHN LORAIN (1753 - Sep 11, 1834) ★ MARY PARKER (1766 - 1814)

JOHN LORAIN was most likely born in Ireland. If his grandson William's recollections are true, his parents are Charles Lorain Jr and Margaret McKinley. They had at least two sons - JOHN LORAIN and Charles Lorain III.

According to a few family histories, JOHN emigrated to the Colonies just prior to the start of the Revolutionary War, sometime before 1775, possibly with his mother Margaret. He lived in Chester Co, PA, just west of Philadelphia.

JOHN enlisted in the Pennsylvania militia in Little York (now York, PA) in August of 1775. He was in Captain Hendrick's company under the command of Colonel Thompson, the Pennsylvania Riflemen Regiment, organized by order of Congress as requested by General George Washington. The unit marched from Pennsylvania to Cambridge, outside of Boston, to join General Washington's troops then were sent with Colonel Benedict Arnold to attack Quebec. See the "*Colonel Thompson's Riflemen*" Snapshot for more details.

There are many contradicting accounts of JOHN's military career. In his pension application in 1820 there were two separate sworn court depositions, from Alexander Grey and Bartholomew Bratten, that state JOHN served as an Ensign in the 4th PA Regiment (Artillery) under COL John Johnson. Over those years he had four different company commanders: CPT James Brisbane, CPT Samuel Culbertson, CPT James Moore and CPT Smith. They also stated JOHN served for three years, though the cover of his pension application says seven years. No records could be found to corroborate any of this information.

Both depositions say that JOHN was present at the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth and that he received a leg injury at the latter. Alexander Grey's deposition states JOHN carried the colors (flag) at the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth. Bartholomew Bratten's deposition states he carried the colors at the battles of Valley Forge and Monmouth.

There are several sources that claim he was in many other battles such as Lundy's Lane, Ticonderoga, Concord Bridge, and Long Island, but there is no way to confirm those claims as detailed records from the war are scarce.

William Lorain (the author of many stories at the beginning of this section) wrote:

*"[JOHN] was one of the men Mad Anthony Wayne had chosen after he told [General] Washington that if could give him 150 good Irish he could take Stony Point"*

Brigadier General "Mad Anthony" Wayne did indeed take a highly trained, select group of Pennsylvania soldiers from General George Washington's Continental Army and quickly defeated the British troops at Stony Point, NY in 1779. However, no rosters could be found for the soldiers that participated.

JOHN served in the Continental Army until at least 1779. He was discharged having reached the rank of Ensign, a low level commissioned officer, and returned home to Chester Co, PA. Family lore says word was received from JOHN's brother Charles III that he had been discharged from the British Army and planned to settle on the Isle of Barbados.

JOHN married MARY PARKER, year unknown. One story that is the same across the board is that the couple eloped due to the fact she was Quaker and her family did not approve. They headed to western Pennsylvania where JOHN became a teacher and also performed some land surveying.

It appears that JOHN bought and sold land many times during his life. This makes it very difficult to figure out exactly where he lived and when. One story states:

*"[John] went out to Ten-Mile a short distance from Pittsburg to see two old soldiers, Robert Boyd and Robin Tom, who were also Bro. Masons as grandfather [JOHN] was an Arch Mason. These two friends got him a school at Toms Run where he taught several years". (LLJM)*

Tom's Run (creek) is located in southern Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. No documentation could be found to prove he lived there.

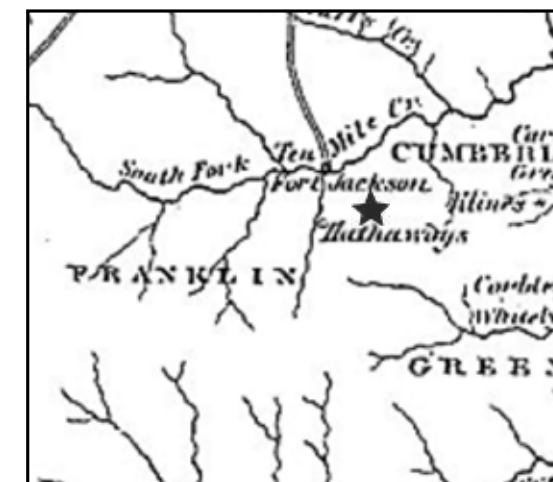
As for Ten-Mile, it's a large creek in what is now Greene County, PA which then was in Franklin Twp, Washington Co, PA. The area must have impressed JOHN because he bought property there in 1790 from Simmeon Hathaway. He purchased 200 acres on the south fork of Ten Mile Creek, which is today located near Jefferson, PA. (JLD90).

On the top map you can see South Fork Ten Mile Creek and just below Fort Jackson is the Hathaway property that JOHN purchased.

JOHN's next move is conjecture based on a few facts. He was taxed in 1798 in Moon Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. This was about 50 miles north of his property near Ten Mile Creek.

In 1809 he received the patent for two pieces of land in Moon Twp, on the waters of Montour's Run (creek) which was the border between Moon Twp and Robinson Twp, both Allegheny Co, PA. It's not clear where JOHN lived in 1798 in Moon Twp, but it's possible he was living on those pieces of property before he formally purchased them, not an uncommon practice in those days. He almost immediately sold the property to John Wilson on Dec 21, 1809 (JLD09). This fits with the family story that JOHN owned "*the Old Buchshire Wilson farm on Montours Run*".

The bottom graphic shows the properties JOHN purchased in 1809 and the dates the land was warranted, surveyed and patented (proof of ownership).



Top: Washington Co Map 1780s, now Greene Co (WCGW)  
Bottom: Moon Twp, Allegheny Co Survey Plots 1809 (PWT)





JOHN and MARY had a family, with at least eight children:

1. Jane Lorain (May 3, 1787 - Sep 9, 1869) married Jacob Thornburg
2. Parker Lorain (1789 - 1862) married Elizabeth Stewart
3. Charles John Lorain (1791 - Jan 20, 1858) married Nancy Graham
4. Mary J Lorain (Abt 1795 - unknown) married James Allen
5. ROBERT LORAIN (Jul 29, 1797 - Sep 30, 1878) married MARY BOWERS
6. Sarah C Lorain (Aug 1, 1803 - Oct 26, 1880) married Henry Brown
7. Margaret Lorain (Abt 1805 - unknown) married David Jamison
8. Emily Lorain (Abt 1806 - 1880) married John McClelland



1820 Cover of John Lorain's War Pension Application

MARY passed away in 1814 when she was 48 years old. In 1820, JOHN applied for his war service pension, which was granted, and on the application it indicates he was living in Allegheny Co, PA. He served in the war for 7 years and was entitled to 20 dollars per month starting on July 31, 1820.

JOHN passed away in 1834 at the age of 81. The couple are both buried at Union Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Carnegie, Allegheny Co, PA.

In 1810, JOHN was on the Federal Census for St Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. His exact location is unknown until Aug 21, 1813 when he purchased a piece of land in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA from William Richardson (JLD13). For some reason the same piece of property was also deeded on Dec 21, 1817.

The property was located on the eastern side of the waters of Cartiers Creek, which was the border between St. Clair and Robinson Twps, Allegheny Co, PA. JOHN and his family were also there in 1820, per the census.

In a 1914 newspaper article reporting on a Lorain family reunion, the author writes:

*"It is said that John Loraine at one time owned most of what is now the Third ward of Crafton and the land called Thornburg."* (The Pittsburgh Press, Jun 7, 1914, p11).

Crafton and Thornburg are about 5 miles west of downtown Pittsburgh and at that time were in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co. Crafton would have been the property he purchased in 1813. Thornburg was northwest of Crafton, on the other side of Chartiers Creek. That property eventually was owned by his son-in-law Jacob Thornburg who married his daughter Jane. In his grandson John Allen's obituary it states the Lorain homestead was in Idlewood, which is just south of Crafton.

## Summary of JOHN and MARY's children:

### 1. Jane Loraine (Abt 1787 - Bef 1870)

Jacob Thornburg (Abt 1782 - 1880)

Jane was born in either Washington Co, PA or Allegheny Co, PA. She was raised on the waters of the Chartiers Creek in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA.

She married Jacob on May 16, 1811. According to several family trees, the couple had over a dozen children but only two children could be confirmed:

1. Samuel Thornburg (1819 - 1886) married Sarah Obey
2. John Thornburg (1824 - 1878) married Eliza Kahler

The family lived in Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA, on the border of Robinson and St. Clair Twp, where Jacob was a farmer.

Jane passed away between 1860 and 1870. Jacob lived to the advanced age of 98. His obituary, in part, states:

*"Mr Thornburg was the oldest voter in Allegheny Co. He had voted for president nineteen times and always for the democratic candidate. His first vote was in 1804 for Thomas Jefferson and George Clinton, and his last vote in 1876 for Samuel J Tolden and Thomas A Hendricks."* (Pittsburgh Daily Post, Aug 26, 1880)

Jacob and Jane lived in Thornburg, Robinson Twp, PA their entire lives and are buried at Union Cemetery, Carnegie, Allegheny Co. PA.

### 2. Parker Lorain (Abt 1789 - 1864)

Elizabeth Stewart (Abt 1801 - 1887)

Parker was born either in Washington Co, PA or Allegheny Co, PA. He was raised on the waters of the Chartiers Creek in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. He married Elizabeth and the couple settled in St Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA.

In 1829 Parker's father JOHN sold him the St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA Chartiers Creek property he had purchased in 1813. Parker then sold this property to his brother ROBERT in 1836 (JLD17).

By 1830 Parker and his family were living in Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA, near his brother Charles. They lived in the southern part of the township near the border of North Fayette Twp so on some Federal Census he was recorded in Robinson Twp and on others in North Fayette Twp. The couple had five children:

1. Mary J Lorain (Abt 1819 - Apr 18, 1893) married Samuel Walker Ewing
2. Margaret Lorain (Jan 25, 1824 - Aug 18, 1885) married James Nelson Ewing
3. Martha Lorain (Abt 1825 - unknown) married Robert Boice
4. Emily Lorain (Abt 1832 - unknown)
5. William Lorain (Jun 25, 1838 - Sep 27, 1918) married Julia Ann Jamison, his first cousin. She was the daughter of Margaret Lorain-Jamison



Elizabeth Stewart-Lorain, wife of Parker. Late 1800s

Parker passed away at the age of 75. After his death, Elizabeth first lived with her daughter Margaret in Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. By 1880 she was living with her son William in Armstrong Co, PA. She passed away when she was 86 years old. The couple are buried at Union Cemetery, Carnegie, Allegheny Co, PA.

**3. Charles John Lorain** (Abt 1791 - Jan 20, 1858)  
Nancy Graham (Abt 1804 - Aft 1880)

Charles was born in either Washington Co, PA or Allegheny Co, PA. He was raised on the waters of the Chartiers Creek in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. In 1820, he was living at the St. Clair family homestead.

He married Nancy and they settled in Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA near his brother Parker. They lived in the southern part of the township near the border of North Fayette Twp so on some Federal Census he was recorded in Robinson Twp and on others in North Fayette Twp.

The couple had six children:

1. Sarah Jane Lorain (Feb 8, 1825 - Apr 7, 1919) married Thomas Dillon then Timothy McVay
2. Margaret Lorain (Abt 1830 - unk) married Smith
3. Charles Lorain (1837 - Jun 13, 1859)
4. Hariette Lorain (unknown) married Inman
5. John Lorain (unknown)
6. George Lorain (Abt 1852 - unk)

Charles passed away at the age of 67. His wife Nancy lived until at least 1880, exact date unknown. They are buried at Union Cemetery, Carnegie, Allegheny Co, PA.

**4. Mary J Lorain** (abt 1795 - 1879)  
James Allen (abt 1792 - unk)

Mary was born in either Washington Co, PA or Allegheny Co, PA. She was raised on the waters of Chartiers Creek in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. She married James Allen and the couple had at least four children:

1. John Allen (Aug 31, 1823 - Jun 24, 1910)
- ★ 2. Parker Allen (Aug 31, 1823 - Jan 31, 1908) Civil War 7th PA Calvary, Co E
3. Margaret Allen (abt 1831 - unknown)
- ★ 4. Silas Allen (1834 - Aug 1, 1904) married Mary Ferrell. Civil War 102nd PA Inf, Co M

The only record found for the family is the 1870 census which had them living in Chartiers, Allegheny Co, PA where James was a retired farmer.

Mary passed away at the age of about 84. It's unknown when James died or where they are buried.

**5. ROBERT LORAIN** (Jul 29, 1797 - Sep 30, 1878)  
MARY BOWERS (Abt 1810 - unk)

ROBERT was born in either Washington Co or Allegheny Co, PA. He was raised on the waters of Chartiers Creek, the border between Robinson and St. Clair townships, Allegheny Co, PA. He was still living at the homestead when he married MARY.

Bloodline ancestors, their story continues later in this chapter.

**6. Sarah C Lorain** (Aug 1, 1803 - Oct 26, 1880)  
Henry Brown (Aug 1, 1794 - Feb 7, 1871)

Sarah was likely born in Moon Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. She was raised on the waters of Chartiers Creek, the border between Robinson and St. Clair townships, Allegheny Co, PA. She married Henry and the couple had at least two children:

1. Elizabeth J Brown (Aug 5, 1843 - Dec 9, 1923) married Jacob M Drake
2. Sarah Brown (Apr 18, 1844 - Dec 13, 1925) married Samuel Eagleson

There were no records found until the 1870 Federal Census, which has them living in Chartiers, Allegheny Co, PA where Henry was a farmer. Henry passed away at the age of 76. After his death Sarah move in with her daughter Sarah, also in Chartiers.

Sarah passed away at the age of 77. The couple are buried at Chartiers Cemetery, Carnegie, Allegheny Co, PA.

**7. Margaret Lorain** (abt 1805 - between 1870-80)  
David Jamison (Abt 1805 - unk)

Sarah was likely born in Moon Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. She was raised on the waters of Chartiers Creek, the border between Robinson and St. Clair townships, Allegheny Co, PA. She married David and the couple had at least two children:

1. Frank Jamison (1842 - 1886)
2. Julia Ann Jamison (Jul 11, 1844 - Mar 3, 1923) married William Lorain, her first cousin. He was the son of Parker Lorain

In 1870 Margaret and David lived in Chartiers, Allegheny Co, PA where David was a farmer. Margaret passed away between 1870 and 1880. After his wife's death David moved to Kiskiminitas Twp, Armstrong Co, PA with his son Frank.

There are no further records.

**8. Emily Lorain** (1806 - 1880)

John McClelland (1810 - 1894)

Emily was likely born in Moon Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. She was raised on the waters of Chartiers Creek, the border between Robinson and St. Clair townships, Allegheny Co, PA. She married John in 1835 and the couple settled in Chartiers, Allegheny Co, PA where John was a farmer.

The couple had seven children:

1. Mary McClelland (Dec 1837 - abt 1904) married Charles Perkins
2. William McClelland (abt 1842 - unknown)
3. John McClelland (abt 1843 - unknown)
4. Robert T McClelland (1845 - 1900) married Ella McClinch
5. Amanda McClelland (Jan 31, 1847 - Oct 16, 1908) married John E Jones
6. Emily McClelland (abt 1849 - unknown)
7. Hannah E McClelland (abt 1851 - unknown)

By 1850 the family had moved to Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA, then by 1870 had moved back to Chartiers, same county. John was a farmer his whole life.

Emily passed away at the age of 74, John at the age of 84. The couple are buried at Union Cemetery, Carnegie, Allegheny Co, PA.

The bloodline continues later in this chapter with ancestor ROBERT LORAIN and his wife MARY BOWERS.

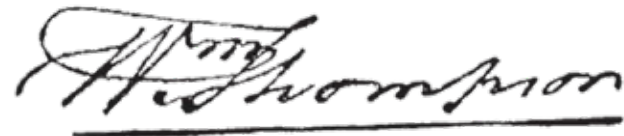


# COLONEL THOMPSON'S RIFLEMEN

*Revolutionary War: John Lorain and Arthur Eckles*

## Formation

At the request of General George Washington, Congress tasked Pennsylvania to raise six companies of expert Riflemen, then soon after requested two more. So many men enlisted that an extra company was added, for a total of nine. These companies formed a battalion that was to be commanded by Colonel William Thompson.



Ancestors ARTHUR ECKLES and JOHN LORAIN both enlisted in the Cumberland County PA militia in 1775 for a term of one year and were assigned to CPT Hendricks' company in Thompson's battalion.

Hendrick's company mustered in Carlisle, PA and marched north July 15, 1775. They arrived at GEN George Washington's headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, outside of Boston, on August 8. They arrived right after the Battle of Bunker Hill and joined the forces sieging Boston. COL Thompson's battalion joined the 2nd Regiment, at first under GEN Lee's immediate command, but were soon moved four and a half miles into GEN Putnam's area.

The riflemen were described as "...stout and hardy men, dressed in white frocks or rifle shirts and round hats. These men are remarkable for the accuracy of their aim."

While some sources spoke to the patriotism and motivation of the soldiers (CWT), other sources (AAS, THM) describe the battalion as an unruly lot, unorganized and undisciplined. The unit likely had little or no group training, as they were more concerned about Native American attacks on the western front of Pennsylvania than on the Revolution.

## Attack on Quebec

On Sep 5, 1775, two Pennsylvania companies, CPT William Hendricks' and CPT Matthew Smith's companies, were ordered to join a detachment of men aiming to take Quebec. The Pennsylvania frontiersmen were chosen not only for their expert skill with rifles, but also because they were more suited to wilderness combat than to a siege and were restless and causing trouble.

The commander of this expedition was COL Arnold, the infamous Benedict Arnold who would later become the most famous traitor in American history who defected to the side of the British in 1780.

The two Pennsylvania companies were grouped with a Virginia militia company and put under command of Daniel Morgan. Along with two other battalions of volunteers, the entire force numbered about 1,100. Among the volunteers was a young Aaron Burr, the man who later became the 3rd Vice President of the United States and killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel in 1804. (BAQ)



Path taken by the Quebec expedition led by Benedict Arnold 1775

The group departed on Sep 11, 1775 and headed north towards Quebec. They traveled on foot to Newburyport, sailed to Maine over the ocean, then up the Kennebec River to Fort Western. The full expedition set out from Fort Western on Sep 25, 1775 with Morgan's frontiersmen leading the way, blazing trails when necessary.

It was a dangerous and treacherous journey. Drenching rain, mud, freezing temperatures, leaking boats, spoiled food, and spreading illness weakened the force immensely. Almost a third of the men turned back part way through. By the time they reached Quebec, COL Arnold's force had been reduced to 600 starving men. They had traveled 350 miles through poorly charted territory, twice the distance they had expected to travel.

They reached the outskirts of Quebec Oct 30, 1775. The locals were sympathetic and provided provisions and cared for the sick. On Nov 9, 1775, the expedition finally reached the St. Lawrence River, across from Quebec. Having been alerted ahead of time of the incoming troops, the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec had ordered all boats on the southern bank of the St. Lawrence destroyed. Some of Arnold's men purchased canoes from local residents and Native Americans and they crossed the St. Lawrence on the night of Nov 7, 1775.

The city of Quebec was guarded by 150 British soldiers of the 84th Regiment, 500 poorly organized local militia and 400 marines on warships on the river. COL Arnold initially sent a negotiator to ask for their surrender, but they declined. The Americans had no artillery, the troops were barely fit for action, and they were facing a fortified city so Arnold retreated and decided to wait for backup.

GEN Montgomery arrived with reinforcements on Dec 3 and the combined forces attacked Quebec on Dec 31, 1775. It was a devastating loss for the Americans. GEN Montgomery was killed, as was our ancestors' company commander CPT Hendricks. COL Arnold was wounded and Daniel Morgan, the commander of the PA and VA riflemen, was captured along with 350 men.

JOHN LORAIN was captured and held prisoner for an indeterminate period of time, though it's likely he was held until August 1776. He was taken to New York and exchanged and he reenlisted into the Continental Army where he served until 1783.

ARTHUR ECKLES was one of the very few who escaped, almost the entire American force had been captured or killed. He made his way back to Pennsylvania where he reenlisted in Westmoreland Co, PA. He served another three years in the Continental Army, then went back to Pennsylvania and served three years as a Ranger on the western front of Pennsylvania.

Years later, John Lorain's granddaughter ELIZABETH LORAIN would marry Arthur Eckles' grandson SILAS ALFORD -- LEE PENCE'S great-grandparents.



**ROBERT LORAIN** (Jul 29, 1797 - Sep 30, 1878)  
**MARY BOWERS** (Abt 1810 - unknown)

ROBERT was likely born in Moon Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. He grew up just west of Pittsburgh in Allegheny Co, which was originally St. Clair Twp, near present day Thornburg and Crafton, PA.

ROBERT married MARY around 1830 and the couple had four known children:

- ★ 1. Mary Lorain (Mar 28, 1832 - Jun 1881) married Silas John Blair. Silas Civil War 101st PA Inf, Co C
2. John Lorain (Oct 17, 1835 - May 4, 1906) Married Mary E then Mary Whetzel
- ★ 3. ELIZABETH LORAIN (Aug 28, 1838 - Nov 14, 1914) married SILAS ALFORD then Oscar O Warner. SILAS Civil War 100th PA Inf, Co F
- ★ 4. Robert Lorain, Jr (Apr 24, 1840 - Aug 17, 1916) married Rachel Stickle. Civil War 55th PA Inf, Co E

On Mar 22, 1836, ROBERT's brother Parker sold him 44.5 acres of the homestead property in St. Clair Twp, Allegheny Co, PA, for \$500. ROBERT turned around and sold the property to Thomas Dougherty on Aug 2, 1836 for \$2700 (JLD17).

It's possible that ROBERT was living at the homestead until 1836 but there's no documentation.

By 1840 the family had moved to a farm on the border of Franklin Twp and North Sewickley Twp in Beaver Co, PA. In the 1840 Federal Census he was counted in North Sewickley Twp, in 1860 in Franklin Twp, then in 1869 was taxed in North Sewickley.

There were six children in the home in the 1840 census, but only four could eventually be named. In 1860, his son Robert Jr was living on his land with his new wife, Rachel.

ROBERT was taxed in North Sewickley in 1869. His only taxable item was one horse so it appears he had sold his land by then, perhaps to his son Robert Jr. who was still in the same place in 1870.

A thorough search of the 1870 census found no trace of ROBERT and MARY. Some in the family say he moved to Lawrence County, PA towards the end of his life, but no records were found. ROBERT passed away when he was 81 years old, MARY at an unknown age. Burial place unknown.



1860 map of Beaver Co, PA  
Franklin Twp on the right side, North Sewickly Twp on the left  
(LOCM) Full map in MAPS section

**Summary of ROBERT and MARY's children:**

**1. Mary Lorain** (Mar 28, 1832 - Jun 1881)

Silas John Blair (Apr 30, 1830 - Jul 12, 1862) ★

Mary was likely born in Beaver Co, PA. She married Silas Blair and the couple had four children:

1. Albertine Blair (1853 - 1873) married Michael Wilson
2. Josephine Blair (1856 - 1876) unmarried
3. Jessie Isabel Blair (Jul 12, 1859 - Jun 10, 1946) married Joseph Emery Crawford
4. Silas J Blair Jr (Aug 1861 - 1926) married Mary Savard

Silas was a farmer before he went off to war. In the Civil War he was a Sergeant in Co C, 101 Reg Inf PA. He served from Nov 6, 1861 until his untimely death on Jul 12, 1862. He suffered a severe wound to the shoulder on May 31, 1861 at Fair Oaks, VA and passed away July 12 in Annapolis, MD.

Mary raised her children alone in Big Beaver Twp. Tragically, Mary's two eldest daughters both died when they were about 20 years old, three years apart.

Mary passed away at the age of 49 and is buried with her husband and two eldest daughters at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Big Beaver Co, PA.

**2. John Lorain** (Oct 17, 1835 - May 4, 1906)

Mary E (Abt 1839 - Jun 8, 1900)

Mary A Whetzel (Abt 1838 - unknown)

John was likely born in Beaver Co, PA. In 1860 he was living in Robinson Twp, Allegheny Co, PA. He was married twice, both wives were named Mary. With his first wife he had three children, a son George and two unknown daughters. The only thing known about them is that they were still living at the time of John's death. After his first wife passed away, he remarried at the age of 65.

Apparently John was quite a character. Per his obituary:

*"Loraine, for years, was one of the most prominent police characters in the city. He had been arrested many times, had served in both workhouse and the penitentiary, and was generally feared because of a propensity he had of doing things wrong. In recent months there was a great change in his life and his approaching death saw a penitent."*

One of his exploits included his sister ELIZABETH's second husband, Oscar Warner. The two were arrested in Pittsburgh for robbing a dry goods house for \$900 worth of silks and other items.

Sometime before his death he suffered a paralytic stroke. He was hospitalized and received treatment at the Shenango Valley Hospital for a time and then was moved to the "City Poor Farm" (a home for those who cannot take care of themselves). John passed away when he was 70 years old. He is buried at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Princeton, Lawrence Co, PA.

**3. ELIZABETH LORAIN** (Aug 28, 1838 - Nov 14, 1914)  
SILAS W ALFORD (Jan 13, 1838 - Mar 25, 1865) ★  
Oscar O Warner (Nov 19, 1844 - Mar 11, 1916)

ELIZABETH was likely born in Beaver Co, PA. Bloodline ancestors, their story continues in Chapter 25.

**4. Robert Lorain Jr** (Apr 24, 1840 - Aug 17, 1916) ★  
Rachel Stickle (Dec 22, 1839 - Feb 5, 1931)

Robert Jr was likely born in Beaver Co, PA. He married Rachel when he was 20 years old and she was 21. In 1860, the couple lived on his father's land in North Sewickley Twp or Franklin Twp, Beaver Co, The property was on the township border. Like his father, he was a farmer.

Robert Jr was a soldier in the Civil War, 55th PA Vol Inf, Co E, for only two months, Jun 27, 1863 - Aug 28, 1863. It's unclear why his enlistment was so short.

The couple had six children:

1. Mary Belle Lorain (Jul 5, 1860 - Jan 14, 1942) married Charles S Massey
2. William C Lorain (Oct 31, 1863 - Aug 27, 1942) unmarried
3. Samantha Lorain (Feb 9, 1869 - Oct 7, 1953) married Scott Kildoo
4. Tacy Jane Lorain (Jan 31, 1870 - Mar 28, 1956) married Charles H Bauder
5. Tina Alberta Lorain (Jan 15, 1875 - Dec 6, 1945) married James T Grove
6. Edna Lorain (Apr 27, 1878 - Apr 20, 1957) married Grover Cleveland Savers

The family remained in North Sewickley/Franklin Twp, Beaver Co until the 1870s, when they moved to Princeton, Lawrence Co, PA. In 1880 they were in Slippery Rock Twp, Lawrence Co and Robert was a Teamster, a driver of horse drawn wagons. In 1900 and 1910 he listed his profession as "Own Income", same location.

Robert passed away when he was 76 years of age. His wife lived quite a few years longer, to the amazing age of 91. In her waning years she lived with her daughter Mary Massey and her husband Charles. The couple are buried at Pleasant Valley Cemetery, Princeton, Lawrence Co, PA.