

Dear Mrs. Cox,

Herewith an attempt to retrieve what I had written to you before that did not fit in with what you wanted--what I had written was too long.

I have attempted to narrate what I remember from what I have been told. I was very close to my Grandfather Franklin--we fought the Civil War many a hot summer afternoon when he would take me walking in Clinton, Indiana to the hills West of town where we would sit on a hill by a shady tree and he would reminisce.

I was the only one of his grandchildren who corresponded with him over the years--I still have some of his letters in my genealogy books. He died in 1929 at the age of 93 and is buried in Brownsburg North of town.

Hazel Lewis

Hazel D. Lewis
July 28
1976

Grandma Larsh Franklin had a daughter born in Brownsburg. She was about 6 or 7 years old when my father was born. My cousin in Douglas Wyoming had a picture of her mother Orra Josephine Franklin Larsh in front of a millinery store she operated when she lived in Brownsburg, Ind. I asked Cousin Mamie for that picture in 1961 when I visited her--she wanted to give it to one of Aunt Orra's grandchildren--but when Cousin Mamie died her third husband would let none of her relatives have anything--I do not know what happened to the old picture.

I HAVE BEEN TOLD

January 25th, 1875 was as balmy as spring--the settlers called such a day "a breeder." Grandma Franklin had her quilting frames outside the dugout, and she with other relatives were working on a quilt while they chit-chatted as they stitched. No doubt they were reminiscing about "back-home-in-Indiana" long before that popular tune was ever written. Four of the last children of Jonathan Larsh had gone to Nebraska to homestead, Benjamin Franklin Larsh and his wife Millie Anne Gamble; Rachel Rebecca Larsh, who was first married to A John Decker who died in Andersonville Prison, and her second husband, Robert V. Franklin; Minerva Larsh and her husband Samuel Kuser or Kuser; and William Paul Larsh who married Elizabeth Grim in Nebraska. They all settled in the vicinity of what was to be known as Hickman, Nebraska-- a hamlet about seventeen miles south by a trifle east of Lincoln, Nebraska.

In January, dusk comes early. Before they realized, it was time to end the quilting. Grandpa Franklin had just joined the baskers--in-the-sun with a bag of "buffalo chips" he had been gathering on the prairie. Buffalo chips and twisted prairie grass was all the settlers had to dull the numbing cold. He greeted the folks with: "I saw the "sun dogs"--large and bright--good thing I found a bag full of chips!" On the Western Plains the indians had told the settlers what they had learned over the years--the "sun dogs" mean bitter cold is approaching. Sun dogs are very bright rainbow colored blobs on each side of the sun--a short distance on each side of an imaginary line through the center of the sun horizontally.

They are usually seen in the Western sky in late afternoon. The gathering broke up and the sister and sister-in-law left for their own abode.

No one suspected Rachel Rebecca was pregnant. Time was, a pregnancy was a private secret until nature spoke more loudly than corset strings could pull tight. Grandpa Franklin did not go to Nebraska until he finished a house he was building in Brownsburg, Indiana in the early spring of 1874. In the peace and absolute calm of the night that followed the quilting bee, Grandma Franklin realized she was in labor. Complications developed, I suspect largely because of probable scurvy for 1874 was one of the summers the grasshoppers devoured EVERYTHING, leaves on the trees, the bark, and the water of Salt Creek that ran through the land on which the Larshes settled was deep brown. The men folk decided to undertake a trip to Lincoln for a doctor--a trip of seventeen miles with a team of oxen. They reached Lincoln shortly before a blizzard broke with such intensity, fulfilling the prophesy of the "sun dogs"--that it was three days before they could undertake the trip back to the dug out over a land with every landmark buried beneath deeply drifted snow, packed so hard, and crusted over, that it upheld the team of oxen given free rein to find the way back to the dug out. Grandma Franklin was dead when they arrived, hemorrhaged to her death and was frozen solid. A terrible price to pay for 160 acres of homestead land! I have read in weather reports that blizzard was the most severe in recorded weather history--1875 was a record for Cold on January 26th, 1875.

The folks would tell Rachel's baby was so small when he was born that he was first placed in a tin, quart-size milk measuring container. He was premature. For reasons known only to destiny--- the Fates---this baby lived. Aunt Millie Ann, at the time of Rachel's baby's birth, had a son of her own, Homer Larsh then 6 months old. She took Rachel's baby, and my father, and nursed him along with her own son. Under such circumstances, IT WAS A MIRACLE. But had this baby not been born and lived, I would not be here and other relatives would not have been known. Rachel's baby, named Orien Oliver Franklin, learned telegraphy under an agent named Silver, working for the Burlington in Hickman, Nebraska. Back then "when-the-train-came-to-town" was about the only diversion to break the monotony. The depot was my father's hangout, and for helping with the baggage and other odd chores he learned his trade. About 1906 he made a trip to Indianapolis, Ind. where Aaron Homer Larsh was then living and working on the police force/. After a while my father secured a job on the CH&D R. R. and we moved to Montezuma, Indiana. A few years later my father went to work for the C&EI R. R. at Clinton, Indiana, and in 1910 we moved from Clinton to Danville, Ills.

In 1938, in the fall at the start of school, I was in Wodbury's Book Store in Danville, Illinois, securing school supplies for my three children, John O. Lewis, Mary Ellen Lewis and Para Ann Lewis. While I filled the book orders for their grades, my daughter Mary Ellen who came to town with me went "poking" around the store. She came up to the counter where I was trading holding a magazine, it was either LOOK or LIKE, and on the front there was a man, he was named PAUL V. MC NUTT. Mary Ellen remarked: "Mother this man looks

just like Pop! Pop was her name for my father--that is what I called my father and his grandchildren spoke to him likewise.

The resemblance was amazing. But I had never so much as heard the name Mc Nutt before and nothing more was said.

Sometime later the incident surfaced again when I was at the folk's home and I asked my father: "Who were your mother's parents?"

Pop did not know, but he went into the bedroom where grandpa Franklin lived until he died, and got an old album out of Grandpa's trunk.

We had not turned many pages until we came to a dignified old lady and beneath her picture someone had written: "Grandma LARSH, she

was a Mc Nutt. That aroused my curiosity and I started trying to find out the relationship--there HAD TO BE ONE. It took some

twenty years. I had corresponded with Paul V's father, a Doctor Terhune of Martinsville, Ind, and a Doctor Mc Nutt In Bloomington

Illinois, he related to Paul V. Much later Hulda Johnson of

Ohio who was doing some searching for me found an administration

of ^{an} the estate and in it all the children of this Doctor Mc Nutt in Bloomington were named, along with other heirs, including Paul V.'s family--the deceased of the administration was a Sarah Mc Nutt

and later a stone was found in BROWN County, Ohio that linked her to Alexander Mc Nutt of early Adams County, Ohio, and that Alexander was

a brother to the Joseph Mc Nutt who was the father of the Elizabeth Mc Nutt Larsh in the OLD ALBUM from my grandfather's trunk. At one

time Alexander had lived in Mason/Lewis County, Ky., where my Joseph lived until he vanished after enlisting in the War of 1812. The

father of Alexander and Joseph was one William Mc Nutt of Pennsylvania.

I have not been able to pick up a further record of this William.

Grandma Rachel Rebecca Larsh-Franklin died begging for some Indiana blackberries. Who knows? I herewith preserve her memory in Indiana.

February 28, 1976

Hazel J. Lewis

Hazel Franklin Lewis

1322 Franklin Street
Danville, Illinois
March 27, 1974

Dear Ms. Grace Cox
Danville, Indiana

Just Monday I returned home from a trip to Duluth, Minn. where I visited at my granddaughter's home--her husband is assistant coach at Minnesota Univ. at Duluth. My son John came over from England for two weeks of his vacation and spent five days in Duluth, then on to Lincoln, Nebr. where his oldest daughter lives and teaches French & Spanish in the schools there. She had her first child last October and the baby was to be christened Sunday the 23rd and he wanted to be at the ceremony. Today I received my held mail and found your letter dated February 22.

About the date Jonathan Larsh arrived in Hendricks County. I am not sure I can fix a definite time. What information I sent you derives from verifiable data I have found.

I have corresponded with Charles Newton Larsh back in the 1940's and he could give me no exact date. He sent me the information of Jonathan acquiring a parcel of land from a copy of a deed he had and since that was the first verifiable date I came across I used it in my article on Jonathan Larsh.

I gave the date of the last legal record of Jonathan in Kentucky, and used the birth dates I have plus the statement in the 1850 census telling where the children of Jonathan still at home were born.

I have an old letter written to me by my Grandfather Franklin back in the 1920's when I inquired about where my ancestors came from and in it he stated the Larshes came to Indiana from Kentucky in 1837. I have been told of the 1835 arrival in Indiana of Jonathan but could not verify it and since inclusion in the Hendricks County History turned on an arrival before 1850 I used the census record, and the birth dates of Ben. Franklin Larsh, the child just ahead of my grandmother Rachel Rebecca Larsh. In my data somewhere I have a statement that Jonathan sojourned in Marion County before establishing in Hendricks County--but I do not have verifiable dates. There were Mc Nutts in lower Marion County--they could have been related to Jonathan's wife Elizabeth and they could have stayed with them for a time--I have no proof.

I have corresponded with Millie Ann Reed and what she had was quite garbled from what I had verified through research. I visited with her one afternoon in the early 1960's.

about 1961 - on my way to Maurice 2nd where I had a daughter living then I stopped by Chas. Newton's home - he was then dead and had a long talk with his wife - that is where I got Millie Reed's address. M. is Larsh could add nothing to what I already had on Larshes.

I shall contact the State Library about the letter supposedly written on the JONATHAN LARSH FAMILY and ask them if they have such a letter. Katherine has been to the Library numerous times and I think I was with her three times--maybe just two and it is queer the librarian did not know of that information as we were searching.

I know in the early 1960's I attended a LARSH reunion in Ohio and at that meeting we were presented with a family history I asked for three copies--and I gave one to the Library in Indianapolis.

Millie Reed is related to the Charles Newton Larsh to whom I wrote about Larsh history--Millie's mother was Charles Newton Larsh's sister.

So far I have no letter from Beulah Muston, but I shall send her a copy of this letter to you.

When I visited Millie Reed she made no mention of a bible and I specifically asked her for a chance to see any pictures or data she had. She had the family coming from Scotland and seemingly had no knowledge whatsoever the LARSH part of the family was of French origin. I have all the letters Millie Reed wrote to me saved and the above statement made by her is in her own handwriting.

I am looking at a letter Mrs. Harvey Dakin Trimble, Sr., of Indianapolis--she descends from the oldest child, Charles thru his first child and ONLY child by his first wife, Marquessas Larsh--she gives the information in this letter that the family came to Indiana about 1837--the date my grandfather Franklin also gave me.

My record of the children in the family of which Jonathan was one states Ben. Franklin Larsh was born August 24, 1838, and this same source states my Grandmother Rachel Rebecca was born March 29, 1841. The 1850 census states Ben Franklin was born in Kentucky, and Rachel was born in Indiana. Then I have the legal record from Kentucky that states Jonathan Larsh was not a resident of Kentucky in 1839. I have numerous legal records of his activities in Kentucky--his land, etc. But there are no deeds to any land owned in Kentucky by Larshes to be found by the man who searched for me--AND HE WAS A GOOD SEARCHER from the mass of data I have.

About the first letter I sent you. Since you stated you wanted it for a permanent record, I'd like to re-write it--which I shall do--on cotton content paper and take some pains in the composition and writing--I wrote the other one hurriedly.

The record of the family of Charles and Sarah Van Swearingen Larsh in Ohio makes no mention of my JONATHAN as a child in the family.

The first record written is that ^{made by} of a grandchild of Charles & Sarah Van S. above and the statement is made there were eleven children in the family and the males are named. Jonathan remained in Kentucky where he married Elizabeth Mc Nutt and presumably was not known to this granddaughter of Charles & Sarah. *He was not named in the record*

But Jonathan's last son William Paul took a small album to Nebraska with him and it contains a picture identified as Mary Jane Larsh, and contact with a Stubbnis family in Crawfordsville identified her as a child of Tolliver Larsh and Tolliver is named in the eleven children mentioned above. Mary Jane is identified in the album as "cousin Mary Jane."

Which is amply evidence to fix Jonathan in Tolliver's family

Also back then children were usually named--the first son after the paternal grandfather---and Jonathan's first son WAS NAMED CHARLES. The first daughter born is named after the maternal grandmother---Elizabeth McNutt Larsh's mother was named Sarah--as was Charles' wife who was Sarah Van S. The next son of Jonathan was named Joseph after his grandfather Mc Nutt--etc.

The last son was named William Paul and those would be the names of his great-grandfathers.

When I found the grave stone of Jonathan that placed him in a verified sequence of birth that would obtain in the family of Charles & Sarah Van. S. And Jonathan was found where the Charles & Sarah Van. S. family had been in their sojourn in Kentucky from numerous records I have. There is no record of any other LARSH family in the whole of old Kentucky records. William Paul's biography in the Lancaster book conforms to records held by the OHIO LARSSES.

I shall send all this data in a later letter for the records.

I just now turned some pages and the letter I first mentioned from Charles Newton Larsh, relative of Millie Reed, and I presume Mrs. Muston--it is dated April 22, 1943--that is the date of my mother's death--he asked me to drive over but that was World War 11 times--gas was rationed, etc. and I never got to see him--I wish I could have driven over to talk to him. He made NO statement that the family arrived in Indiana in 1835.

I have a traced copy of Jonathan Larsh's signature made in Kentucky.

Sincerely yours

Hazel Franklin Lewis
Hazel Franklin Lewis (Mrs. C. E.)

LARCHEVEQUE & LARCHE

Marriage, 1645 (6 Fevrier) QUEBECXXI (8)

X LARCHEVEQUE, Claude, fils de Guillaume et de Jeanne
ALERE, de Caux

SIMON, Marie, fille es Francois et de Louise LEMOINE
du Nauleon, en Poitou

JEAN, b (8) 14 Janv. 1646
m " 7 Sept 1665, a Marie-Anne Poussin
s " 6 April 1699

HENRY, b(8) 17 Aout 1650
m " 8 Fev. 1678, a Marie De Trepagny
s " 19 Sept. 1687

X JACQUES, B (8) 16 Fev. 1648
m " 3 Juin 1699, a Madeline LE GUAY

Anne-Mari**e** b(8) 4 Feb. 1653
s " 1er Mars 1653 (died) "eE means died

Jacqueline, b (8) 22 Nov. 1654
s " 10 Dec. 1654 (died)

Francois, b (8) 25 Fev. 1656

Pierre, b 1er Nov 1657
s (8) 13 Nov. 1657 (died)

Jeanne (posthume) b (8) 13 Aout 1659
m " 7 Janv. 1683, a Catherine DeLaunay
s " 19 Avril 1745

Note: I have heard the mother of President Roosevelt as she was a
Delano (Americanization of De Launay) was related to Catherine
DeLaunay above

Louise Lemoin above was related to the Le Moyne brothers Sieur De Beinville,
etc., who founded Natches, New Orleans & Mobile

The marriage record in Quesbec takes into account the descent from
French Nobility, and it is noted that Louise Lemoine is from the
lower "bourgeois

The province de Caux in France is on the coast in Northwest of Rouen
and the record of Guillaume L'archeveque, father of Claude is at
a town called d'Yvetot France

NOTES ON THE L'ARCHES IN ILLINOIS

Paul L'Arche was a master shoe-maker at Fort de Chartres in 1748. Houck, History of Missouri, II, 21n.

The only Paul L'Archeveque in Tanguay, Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles Canadiennes is Paul, the son of Paul Philippe and Angelique LeBoeuf, baptized at Montreal January 12, 1735.

The family of L'Archeveque et L'Arche (they used both names, sometimes separately, sometimes together) was a numerous one in Illinois and Canada. Augustin, Charles, Louis, and Francois, all sons of Jean L'Archeveque and Catherine DeLaunay, were Illinois merchants in the middle of the 18th century.

Tanguay, I, 349

Augustin, baptized at Quebec March 18, 1702.

Louis Alexandre, baptized at Quebec May 8, 1706.

married Marie Anne Joliet May 26, 1732 at Quebec.

Charles Louis, baptized August 11, 1708.

Charles, baptized July 16, 1690. Married Nov. 25, 1722 to Elizabeth Cartier; died Nov. 1, 1727.

Francois, baptized July 22, 1692.

Augustin married Marie Catherine Reaume at Mackinac September 13, 1731. His children were:

Marie Catherine, married at Mackinac July 7, 1748 to Jean Baptiste Jutras.

Tanguay, V, 165-6 Marie Anne, baptized 1733; married Augustin Gibaut; buried September 19, 1763 at Detroit.

Marie Joseph Esther, baptized at Mackinac January 1, 1734; married there August 2, 1748 to Jacques Baritau.

Augustin, born January 9, 1746, baptized at Mackinac July 7, 1748.

Marie Charlotte, married October 17, 1780 to Gabriel Metode at St. Louis, Mo.

It is quite possible that Paul L'Arche may have been a brother of Augustin--a son of Jean and Catherine--even though he is not listed among their children in Tanguay.

As to their arrival in Canada, the grandfather of Augustin was married in Quebec in 1645, so that it is very likely that your family tradition about Paul's arrival in Canada in 1745 or so is entirely unfounded. It certainly is if he was at all related to the L'Arches of Kaskaskia and the Illinois.

MONTREAL, April 13th

19 43

Mrs. C.E. Lewis
1322 Franklin Street
Danville, Ill.,
U.S.A.

Madam:

I am directed by the Chief Archivist, Dr.E.-Z. Massicotte, Litt.D. to reply to yours of the 25th of March ult., concerning Paul Larche.

We regret it will not be easy for us to direct you in your searches at a so far place where the said Paul Larche has settled.

However
Although we find the deed ^{under} of engagement, dated May 29, 1752, drawn by notary A. Foucher ~~on the~~ number 507 of a Paul Larche, voyageur, residing at Verchères-a neighbouring village of Montreal-to Simblin et Des Rivières Company, to go to the trade post of Nipigon.

There is no age nor affiliation mentioned about the said Paul Larche in order to state that he might have been the son of Paul and Angeliqne Leboeuf.

Certified copy of the said deed would cost \$1.50. If you request it, kindly use a postal note.

Yours truly,

Jean-Jacques Lebœuf
Jean-Jacques LEBŒUVRE

JJL:LC

May 29 1752

*my Paul Larche born
Jan 12 1735 would be
17 years old
so this is a
probable record
before he
established his
post near Zeno
Ohio around
1754*

Maybe he got supplies here and took them into the location in what is now Ohio where he had his own trading post--- the date 1752 coincides with material printed in Ohio by descendants of Paul Larcheveque in the 1870's see printed material

see record in French of 2 Box + Paul Phillips + 1 sister

You will note from reading the article is wrong about the arrival of of the line of Larshes--unless the three children in the family of Paul Larsh who ransomed the woman had been in France to attend school--it does not fit in with verified records available. You will note it mentions Col. Larsh the eldest in a family of 11 children, when in fact there were 12--for some reason my Jonathan is not included--he remained in Ky. after he was married while the others moved into Ohio, and I suspect one removed from Col. Paul Larsh never heard of Jonathan. But the fact remains William Paul the son of Jonathan & Elizabeth Mc Nutt Larsh did take a family album to Nebraska with him and his Daughter Mary Larsh Brownfield (she my 1st school teacher) gave me the album and the mug-book of Lancaster Nebr. in 1939 when I and my two girls went to Denver, Col. where Mary was then teaching--she and another teacher had authored a whole set fo math books for all the grades published by Chase & Sandborn of that time. In the album there was a picture of a young woman and identified in handwriting as "Cousin Mary Jane"--it turned out Mary Jane was a daughter of Tolliver Larsh who had settled in Montgomery Co. Ind. early It was identified as Tolliver's child by a descendant of Tolliver and copies of Mary Jane were made for two daughters in this family descended from Tolliver. Tolliver is a brother of Jonathan. Too, Jonathan's last son named William Paul--that name William Paul no doubt is derived from Willaim Mc Nutt a great-grandfather, and Paul from the paternal great-grandfather Paul Larsh who ransomed them woman from the indians. It took a lot of searching to find one child who had gone to Minnesota and when we got her birth and death date--it fixed Johanthan in the family as being born in 1794, and the sister in Minn. in 1796. Thus the sketch I send today tells of the Larshes along the river and derives from the oldest child of Charles & Sarah Van Swearingen Larsh, the item I sent before is about the youngest son of Jonathan a brother of Paul grandson of the Paul who ransomed the white woman. You will note on the item SOME INTERESING RACTS ABOUT A NOTED INDIAN CHIEF--BLUEJACKET names the sons but it DOES NOT NAME JONATHAN--it is staed this article was written in 1877--several years after Jonathan died in 1854--I think whoever wrote these items just decided there was not a "John" and a "Jonathan" and just named the "John". I do know that relatives in Indianapolis in 1934 when I took my folks to Indianapolis to visit my father's cousin, a policeman in Indianapolis, disputed the name JONATHAN--and maintained the name was "John"--none of them seemed to know much about anything--none of them could name all the children in Jonathan's family--I got that from a descendant of Minerva Larsh who took all the names and birth dates to Nebraska with her.

thus

About the will of PAUL LARSH--he is shown in the Penn. records as PAUL LASH (I can just hear a Frenchman pronouncing his name with the short nasal "A" as in LASH. I got the correct identification and spelling from the records after Paul LASH's death when she the american woman ransomed frm the indians spelled her name "Larsh". Correct that--it was not the ransomed woman--it was his second wife who is shown in the legal transfer as Elizabeth Willard then married a 2nd time to a man named WILLARD.

On this searching I have 3 large brief cases full, 4 cartons like canned fruit come to the grocery in full, and 5 note books--I lose the stuff from time to time wwitching it about--but what I have IS AUTHENTIC and verifiable by records in various archives.

more to come

Sincerely Hazel Lewis