

GENEALOGIES

— OF —

JOHN J. YEATER

AND

SARAH JEANETTE (ELLIS) YEATER

HIS WIFE



WRITTEN IN 1912, BY

SARAH J. YEATER

FOR
HER GRANDSON

LAURENCE K. YEATER



SEDALIA, MISSOURI

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To My Grandson, Laurence K. Yeater:

These genealogies of your father's parents have been written by me for you in my eightieth year, as a remembrance from your grandmother. In reading them you will see that those from whom you have descended were what are commonly known as good people. Your male forebears did their duty well in their times and their share in the activities of their respective communities. You may read in these pages brief accounts of some of those from whom you have sprung for nearly three centuries, and of your own direct family line in this state for almost a hundred years. Thus to you in your work and in your life conduct the old device *noblesse oblige* may well apply, and may you never forget the obligations which an honorable ancestry imposes upon you.

SARAH JEANETTE YEATER.

GENEALOGIES

—of—

John J. Yeater and Sarah Jeanette (Ellis) Yeater, His Wife

In compiling this genealogy I have drawn freely from "Thornton's Landing at Cape Anne, and a History of the Colony 1624-1628, Roger Conant, Governor," by John Wingate Thornton, 1854. I have also been aided by Hubbard's History of New England and "Felt's History of Salem."

I have received great assistance from the notes of Miss Emma Woodbury, who during her residence of fifteen years in Washington, D. C., was a zealous student of genealogy and took extensive notes from the different books on genealogy in the National Library.

I have also had recourse to Town Records and Town and County Histories of the different places where my ancestors have resided and to these helps I wish to give due credit.

Roger Conant.

In September, 1621, Capt. Miles Standish built a house at Nantasket, and to this place several of those who had begun a settlement at Plymouth came on account of their more liberal religious views. Mr. Roger Conant, the principal person of Nantasket, was a sober, pious and prudent gentleman, who had come to New England in the year 1622. These few pioneers were joined by others and after two years Edward Winslow was sent to procure supplies and to report the condition and prospects of the colony to the merchant adventurers of England.

Through the agency of Mr. Winslow, and the correspondence of Roger Conant, the fame of the successful plantation of Plymouth was spread through the western part of England. The Rev. John White, of Dorchester, loyal to the Church of England, yet distinguished as a Puritan, took a

zealous interest in the enterprise, and afterward exerted an important influence in the colonizing of New England. Supplies were soon provided for the colony and preparations were made to extend their fisheries, and to transport more persons to Plymouth and other places, especially Cape Anne.

A company of husbandmen was sent to Cape Anne well furnished with implements and supplies for the new settlement. The plantation was stocked with cattle, a house was built and saltworks, stagings and other structures pertaining to fisheries were erected.

Mr. Thomas Gardener was appointed overseer of the plantation. Mr. John Tully, manager of the fisheries, and Mr. John Woodbury, of Summersetshire, England, were the principal men of the settlement.

About the first year Mr. Roger Conant had established so good a reputation that the merchant adventurers, who had furnished the means for these improvements, decided to employ him for managing and governing all their affairs at Cape Anne. The first colonial agents from New England to Old England were Robert Cushman and Edward Winslow, and they succeeded in gaining the interest of Edward, Lord Sheffield, then one of the leading statesmen of England, and a prominent member of the council for New England, and through Lord Sheffield was obtained the charter for the Cape Anne colony.

Mr. Winslow returned to the colony after six months, and on the ship were brought several Devonshire cattle, the first introduced into the New England colonies. Several Plymouth planters were taken in the ship to Cape Anne to aid in building fishing stages, and a great frame house. From this acquisition so full of promise Plymouth reaped only bitter disappointment. Their agent proved inefficient, the saltworks were injured, the house burned, and a series of difficulties embarrassed the enterprise. This loss of property sundered the only bond of interest between the Pilgrims and the merchant adventurers who dissolved their association and withdrew their assistance to the Plymouth colony.

The adventurers in England honorably paid the wages of

the planters they had employed at Cape Anne and offered a passage home to any who desired to return, and this was accepted by the trifling and weakminded members. A brave and resolute few remained and with these faithful companions, Gov. Conant, an ancestor of the writer, frustrated the order for dissolving the company on land and secured to it the honor of being the first permanent colony on the soil of Massachusetts. Cape Anne had been chosen as the seat of the colony on account of its supposed advantages for fishing and planting, but after a trial and an investigation Gov. Conant decided on a place four or five leagues distant on the other side of the creek called Naumkeag, better adapted to the purpose. "Hubbard" says that Conant, thinking this place might in future be a receptacle for those who on account of religion would be willing to begin a foreign plantation in this part of the world, gave some intimation of it to his friends in England. Therefore Rev. Mr. White, grieved that so good a work should be broken off by the adventurers abandoning it, wrote to Mr. Conant not to give up the work and faithfully promised that if he himself with three others whom he knew to be honest and prudent men, viz.: John Woodbury, direct ancestor of the writer, John Balch and Peter Talfrey, would stay at Naumkeag and give timely notice thereof, he would provide a patent for the land and send them whatever they asked for, either men, provisions or goods to trade with the Indians. They accepted his offer, and on their faith in this engagement Gov. Conant and his associates in the fall of 1626 removed to Naumkeag and there erected houses and cleared the forest and prepared the ground for cultivation. At this time the Indians never molested them but seemed very glad to have their company and came and planted by them, and often came to them for protection, saying they were afraid of their enemy Indians. Before they received supplies, the three allies of Conant became discouraged, repented their promise to stay at Naumkeag and determined to go to Virginia, especially as their minister, Mr. Lyford, was going there. Mr. Conant, though urged to go with them, declared his firm determination to wait the

providence of God in that place saying if they deserted him he should soon see more company. The others seeing his confident resolution finally agreed with him. Thus when the colony was about to be abandoned Mr. Conant was the means of stopping the flight of those few who were with him and by doing this really became the one person on whom the first permanent settlement in the Massachusetts colony depended.

Soon after this decision was reached Mr. Woodbury was sent to England to procure necessities for the plantation and about three years after his return he was again sent to England to perfect the arrangements on condition of which the colony was removed to Naumkeag in the winter of 1627-1628. He left England with his son, Humphrey, then a lad of twenty years, and arrived at Naumkeag in June bringing the cheering intelligence of the new company and preparations in England.

It was found that some members of the Dorchester company desired to put forward the plantation of a colony there. During Mr. Woodbury's absence of six months the colonists, who still called themselves the servants of the Dorchester company, had made improvements at Naumkeag and prepared the way for those who might follow them.

The company in England included men of rank and wealth and its affairs were conducted with energy, strength and harmony in marked contrast to the council of Plymouth whose leaders were disheartened and their authority weakened by the difficulties they had experienced. Hubbard, pages 109, 110.

They commissioned Capt. John Endicot to carry on the plantation at Naumkeag. He arrived with his family September 6, 1628, and reported that the rights of the Dorchester Company had been purchased and that Mr. Endicot had power to take possession of their rights in New England, which he did, and Mr. Conant retired to private life.

Thornton in his History of Cape Anne says, "Let us do honor to this noble band of patriots. Verily they were the

fathers of Massachusetts and their names deserve an honorable place in our chronicles, viz.:

	Roger Conant, Governor.
William Allen.	John Balch.
Thomas Gray.	Walter Knight.
Richard Norman.	Richard Norton.
Peter Talfrey.	John Tully.
	John Woodbury."

Of these, as stated above, Governor Conant and John Woodbury, were ancestors of the writer, and of her children by John J. Yeater.

Roger Conant was not only first in time of the Massachusetts colony governors, but was the only governor under the first or Cape Anne charter. Felt's History of Salem.

The name Naumkeag was changed to Salem July, 1629. (Felt's Salem.)

Roger Conant was born in England 1591, died at Salem, November 19, 1679. (New England Historic Genealogical Register, page 333.)

When the general court or house of representation was organized in Massachusetts in 1639 Roger Conant was one of its first members. (Felt's History of Salem.) Roger Conant came to New England in 1622. His wife was Susan Horton. (See American Archives, Vol. 7.) Their son, Lot, was born at Cape Anne, 1624, he moved to Salem and Beverly with his father and was selectman of Beverly in 1662. His son, Lot Conant, 2nd, born February 26, 1657, was admitted to the church at Beverly, 1692, and moved to Ipswich, 1718; he married first Abigail, second wife Elizabeth Walton, born in England, October 27, 1629, their daughter, Ruth, born in 1702, at Beverly, married Benjamin Woodbury December 14, 1721.

(From Benedict's History of Sutton, Mass.)

John Woodbury.

John Woodbury and wife, Agnes, emigrated from Somersetshire, England, and landed at Gloucester, Cape Cod, in 1624, went to Salem in 1626, and settled at Beverly 1630. He was associated with Roger Conant and others on whom the first permanent settlement in the Massachusetts colony depended. He helped to survey one thousand acres of land on the Bass

river in the northern part of the town and afterward obtained from the general court one-fifth of the survey, two hundred acres, on which he settled and in the vicinity of which many of his descendants reside at the present time.

John Woodbury was a member of the general court in 1635 and in 1639. He left several sons and one daughter. He was born in England in 1577 and died in Salem in 1642, his wife survived him about thirty years.

John Woodbury and his brother, William, the latter having come from England in 1628, each had a son who were pilots in the expedition against Port Royal in 1654. John had a grandson killed at Bloody Brook, in Captain Lathrop's Co. in 1675. Several of the descendants of the two brothers were at Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill.

Peter Woodbury, son of John and Agnes Woodbury, was born in England in 1623. He married Abigail Bachelor, first wife, 1665, and Sarah, daughter of Reuben Dodge, second wife, who was born 1644, married July, 1667, and died September, 1726.

Peter Woodbury was representative to the general court 1689-1691. He was deacon of the Beverly church at the time of the Salem Witchcraft persecution. He took an active stand against it; kept his horses harnessed and when one was accused and he could do so, he would run them into New Hampshire out of the jurisdiction of the court. He died July 5, 1704.

Peter Woodbury, son of Peter Woodbury and Abigail Bachelor, was born December 12, 1666; he was married to Mary Dodge March 18, 1692. She was born in 1674 and died September 11, 1726. He was deacon of the Beverly church at the time of his death January 8, 1707.

Benjamin Woodbury, son of Peter Woodbury and Mary Dodge, his wife, was born May 29, 1698. He married Ruth Conant, a descendant of Roger Conant, daughter of Lot Conant and Elizabeth Watson, his wife. She was born December 14, 1702, and died December 10, 1786. Married December 14, 1721. Benjamin Woodbury was deacon of the Beverly church, but moved from Beverly to Sutton in 1739 and was received from the Beverly church into that at Sutton in 1735.

Approved sixth deacon 1772. He died at Sutton August 22, 1781.

Peter Woodbury, son of Benjamin Woodbury and Ruth Conant, his wife, was born at Sutton, Mass., May 20, 1735, and moved to Royalston, Mass., in 1765. He was town clerk of Royalston and representative in the general court, and was captain of militia in the Revolutionary War and served in the campaign against Burgoyne.

On December 1, 1754, he married Ruth, daughter of Daniel Moody, born June 4, 1734, died March 23, 1755. He married Zerviah Greenwood, second wife, born 1743; died June 21, 1787.

Peter Woodbury died at Sutton, Mass., February 24, 1806.

Peter Woodbury appears on a list of officers dated Peter-sham, March 24, 1776, as selected by the several companies belonging to Col. Nathan Sparhawk's (7 Worcester Co.) regiment of militia, as returned by Col. Sparhawk and others, field officers of said regiment. Said Woodbury chosen captain 9th Co. Residence Royalston. Ordered in council April 6th, 1776, that officers be commissioned. Vol. 43, 223.

Captain Peter Woodbury appears with rank of captain on muster roll and pay roll of Captain Peter Woodbury's Co. Col. Job Cushing's regiment. Company marched July 25, 1777, to Burlington to re-inforce Gen. Stark. Vol. 24, p. 102.

Peter Woodbury appears among the list of men in Col. Nathan Tyler's detachment of guards. Rank captain. Reported discharged, date not given. Vol. 55, page 131.

The foregoing certified to be true abstracts from the Record Index to the Revolutionary Archives deposited in the office of secretary of state of Massachusetts.

From the Town Records of Royalston, Mass., it appears that Jonathan Woodbury, son of Peter Woodbury and Zerviah Greenwood, his wife, was born at Royalston, Mass., in 1767. On June 20, 1793, he married Sally Davis, of the same place, who was born at Templeton, Mass., in 1774; their children were:

John, born 1794, died 1811.

Jonathan, born 1776, died 1877.

Esther, born November, 1800, died April, 1843.

Sally, born 1802, died October, 1877.

Daniel, born 1804.

George, born December, 1806, died October 19, 1872.

Silas, born 1809, died 1884.

Joanna, born 1812.

Joel, born November 15, 1815, died 1909.

Mary May, born 1818.

Jonathan Woodbury first came to Vermont in 1790, and purchased land in the town of Baltimore which was then an unbroken forest; he went to Massachusetts for the winter, and returned in the spring and began clearing up his land and sowing wheat, then returned to Massachusetts for the winter. In 1792, he returned cleared more land, built a log house, harvested his wheat and then went to Massachusetts for the winter. On the 20th of June, 1793, with his newly wedded wife, he returned to Vermont. They made the journey on horseback, a distance of sixty-five miles, and a man followed with the household goods drawn by a yoke of oxen.

In the first years of their married life they endured the usual hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. Among the most serious inconveniences was the lack of grist mills. The first milling was done in what is now called Whitesville in the town of Cavendish. Mr. Woodbury was obliged to carry the grain on his back over Hawk mountain to the mill.

The purchase of goods was usually made at Charleston, N. H. These trips were usually made and the goods brought home on horseback. Mr. Woodbury was a man of large business energy and enterprise. He purchased more land in Baltimore and in Springfield, and erected substantial and commodious buildings. By his own industry and the aid of his sons he cleared up the original farm and the other lands and was able to keep a large stock of cattle and carry on a large and profitable business at farming.

In the spring of 1822 he sold the original farm at Baltimore and purchased one at Springfield where he resided with his family. He died in 1842 at the age of seventy-five years. He commenced his business life soon after the close of the Revolutionary War when the country was poor, and money was

scarce and very hard to get. His first earnings were \$3.50 per month in payment for services on a farm. Starting in the times he did, making a home in a new country and rearing a large family, he encouraged habits of industry and economy which he retained through life, and by the exercise of these habits he acquired an amount of property which was unusual for a farmer to possess in those days. (History of Springfield, Vt., 1895.)

Esther Woodbury, daughter of Jonathan Woodbury and his wife, Sally Davis, was born in the town of Baltimore, state of Vermont, November 29, 1800. She attended the public school of the neighborhood which lasted but a few months in the year. At that time it was not thought necessary that girls have much schooling. If they could read the Bible and Prayer Book and write a letter that was thought to be sufficient. But Esther Woodbury was ambitious and wanted more than this, and she succeeded in getting more. She gained some distinction in that community by being among the first, if not the very first woman school teacher in that part of New England.

At that time the women in the family were expected to card the wool and spin and weave the cloth and make the clothing for the family except in case of the wealthy when it was imported from England.

On March 7, 1830, Esther Woodbury and Joel Ellis were married at the home of Jonathan Woodbury at Springfield, Vermont, and among their children, as stated above, was the writer.

Alexander Parkman Davis.

Alexander Parkman Davis was born near Templeton, Mass., in 1750.

In the Town Records of Templeton, Mass., is found the following record of birth of the children of Alexander Parkman Davis and his wife, Abigail:

Sallie, born June 17, 1773.

Parkman, born June 27, 1775.

William, baptized May 30, 1779. Church record.

Anna, baptized October 7, 1781. Church record.

Alexander Parkman Davis enlisted in Col. Nathan Spar-

hawk's Regiment, September 29, 1777. Congressional Library, Washington, D. C.

In 1785 Alexander Parkman Davis and Mrs. Martha Walk were married at Royalston, Mass.

Sallie Davis was married to Jonathan Woodbury June, 1792.

Alexander Parkman Davis died at Royalston, Mass., August 5, 1831.

Martha, widow of Alexander P. Davis, died May 15, 1832. (Town Records of Royalston, Mass.)

Edmond Freeman.

Edmond Freeman is first mentioned as living in Saugus, now Lynn, Mass., in 1632. In 1637 the Old Colony of Plymouth gave a grant for the town of Sandwich in these words: "It is ordered that ten men of Saugus, namely, Edmond Freeman (and others) shall have liberty to view a place to sit down on, and sufficient land for three score families upon the conditions propounded to them by the Governor and Mr. Winslow."

Edmond Freeman (and the others) accepted the conditions and selected the site for the town which they named Sandwich, and here Edmond Freeman resided during his life and he was buried here in 1682. From Norton's Memorials.

Edmond Freeman's name first appears on the records as Governor's assistant in 1643. Homer Prince was also assistant although he had been Governor before at different times. William Bradford was Governor in 1640. In 1641 Bradford was Governor, Freeman and Prince assistants, and also Miles Standish both years. In 1643 these three held the same positions, 1644 Edward Winslow was Governor, William Bradford, Edmond Freeman and Homer Prince assistants. In 1645 William Bradford, Edmond Freeman and Homer Prince, assistants. In 1646 Governor Bradford re-elected Edmond Freeman, of Sandwich for the seventh time as Assistant Governor. (From Freeman's History of Cape Cod, page 192.) (Same, page 204.) In 1651 Edmond Freeman and wife were fined for not frequenting the public worship of God. In 1659 the Marshal of

Sandwich called on Edmond Freeman to assist him in collecting the church levy for support of the ministry. Mr. Freeman refused and was fined 10 shillings.

(From History of Cape Cod.) Edmond Freeman purchased land from the Indians near Saconset (Barnstable) in 1665. He was elected Judge of Select Court in Sandwich in 1679. According to the Freeman Genealogy, 1875, part first, page 9, Edmond Freeman was born in 1590. Family tradition has it that he came from Devonshire, but there are circumstances indicating he came from Oxford. He died in 1682 in Sandwich, the town he founded. His descendants have recently erected a tablet to his memory. Many of his descendants are prominent citizens of Sandwich at the present time.

The Ellis Family.

John Ellis, Jr., direct ancestor of the writer, (Sarah J. Ellis (Yeater), came to Plymouth on the Mayflower. (See Town Records of Sandwich, Mass., Vol. I.) He was an officer on the vessel. He was a surveyor, and helped to lay off the town of Sandwich, Mass., and settled there, and he surveyed much of the land in that vicinity.

In 1644 he married Elizabeth Freeman, second daughter of Edmond Freeman, born in England in 1625. (See Davis' Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth.) (New England Genealogical Register, Vol. 5, page 85. Art. First Settlers of Rochester, Mass.) Their sons were:

Bennet, born 1649.

Mordicai, born 1651.

Joel, born 1655.

Nathaniel, born 1657.

Mathias.

John.

Samuel.

Freeman.

In 1653 during King Philips war John Ellis, from Sandwich, was commissioned lieutenant at Chelmsford garrison, November 20, 1675.

William Masterson, of Sandwich, Eng., married Mary Goodall, of Hiester, Eng. His brother-in-law, John Ellis, witnessed the ceremony. From Records of J. Wingate, Antiquarian, page 56.

In "Founders of New England" by Drode, John Ellis is mentioned as found in the Leyden Records.

John Ellis died at Sandwich in 1677.

Freeman Ellis, son of John Ellis, Jr., born in 1662, settled in Rochester, Mass., and by wife, Mary, had sons named Joel, Ebenezer, Mordicai and Gideon. (Davis' Ancient Landmarks of Rochester, Mass.)

Joel Ellis, son of Freeman Ellis, married Mary Getchell May 5, 1716. (Old records of Taunton, Mass.) In the same records is recorded a deed of land made by Joel Ellis and wife, Mary Getchell, which land had been deeded to Mrs. Ellis, then Mary Getchell, by Thomas Getchell and wife, Mary, in 1715. Their children were:

William, born December 4, 1717.

Elizabeth, born December 14, 1719.

Dorib, born September 2, 1722.

Joel, born November 14, 1724.

Mary, born March 7, 1726.

Peace, born February 5, 1729.

(Town Records of Rochester, Mass.) (New England Historical Genealogical Register, Art. First Settlers of Rochester, Mass.)

Joel Ellis, son of Joel Ellis and Mary Getchell, his wife, was born November 14, 1724. Early in life he went to sea and followed the calling of whaler most of his life. On May 2, 1754, he married Elizabeth Clap. Their children were:

George, born June 13, 1755.

Ebenezer, born February 4, 1757; died 1759.

Mary, born April 26, 1760.

Ebenezer, born June 26, 1762.

Thankful, born March 4, 1764.

Susanna, born September 3, 1769.

Benjamin, born June 9, 1772.

(Town Records of Rochester, Mass.)

“On April 19, 1775, Joel Ellis responded to the Lexington alarm and joined the Rochester second foot company of militia.” In the History of Plymouth Co., Mass., with biographical sketches of many of its pioneers and prominent men, page 331, is found “Rochester second foot company of militia that responded to the Lexington alarm April 19, 1775, Corporal Joel Ellis.”

In Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War (Boston 1899) Vol. 5, page 305, “Joel Ellis, private, Capt. Nathaniel Hammond’s (2nd Rochester) Co. which marched April 20, 1775. Discharged September 11, 1778.”

After his discharge Joel Ellis returned to his former occupation as a whaler which he followed for some years. He never returned from his last voyage, but died on shipboard and was buried at sea, 1785.

Ebenezer Ellis, son of Joel Ellis, was born on a farm near Rochester, Mass., in 1762. He followed the occupation of farming and having acquired a farm of his own near the one where he was born, on November 26, 1787, he married Pricilla White and took her to the home he had prepared for her. Here their ten children were born:

Benjamin, 1789.

Ebenezer, 1791.

Elizabeth, 1792.

Susanna, 1794.

Deborah, 1796.

George, 1799.

Pricilla, 1801.

Joel, 1803.

Isaiah, 1806.

Lorraine, 1808.

In 1835 Pricilla Ellis, wife of Ebenezer Ellis, died from smallpox and so much was the disease dreaded at that time that her remains were not allowed to be buried in the church burying ground, but were laid to rest under a large chestnut tree on the farm. Ebenezer Ellis possessed a very vigorous constitu-

tion and at the age of seventy-nine years traveled by stage over the rough New England roads from his home in Rochester, Mass., to the home of his son, Joel Ellis, in Hardwick, Vermont, and after a visit with his son's family returned in the same way. This was before the time of railroads and most of the travel was done either on horseback, in private carriages or by stage coach.

Ebenezer Ellis died November 10, 1845, at Rochester, Mass. He left a large estate which was divided among his children.

Joel Ellis, son of Ebenezer Ellis, was born March 29, 1803, at Rochester, Mass. As a young man he went to sea. He made two voyages on a whale ship with his two older brothers as captain and mate respectively. After the second voyage he quit the sea and began farming in Barnard, Vermont.

On March 7, 1830, he married Esther Woodbury and took his bride to his farm, where they lived two years, and where their first child, Joel Addison Hartley, was born, but not being satisfied there, they sold that farm and secured another in Washington Co., near Montpelier, Vt. Here Sarah Janette, the writer, George and Harriet were born. They lived on this farm seven years when the spirit of unrest again seized them and they sold this farm and bought another larger one in the northern part of the state where land was cheaper. Only a small part of the land was cleared of timber but the timber land was suited for grazing sheep. This farm was located in Hardwick township, Caledonia county, Vermont.

On the cleared land on this farm were two immense granite boulders nearly thirty feet in diameter. They were shaped like cubes with the edges and corners worn off and were supposed to have been brought there during the glacial period. These boulders were too valuable to be preserved as curiosities and in 1842 Mr. Ellis sold them to be used as building material in the town of Hardwick.

Esther Woodbury Ellis died April 11, 1843, and was buried in the cemetery at Hardwick, Vermont.

Joel Ellis remained a few years in Hardwick where he married his second wife, then went to Wisconsin, but after the

death of his second wife went to the home of his son, J. A. H. Ellis, in Springfield, Vt., where he died September 10, 1881. His children by his first wife were:

Joel Addison Hartly, born at Barnard, Vt., Nov. 24, 1830.

Sarah Janette, born at Montpelier, March 31, 1832.

George Woodbury, born at Montpelier, Jan. 10, 1834.

Harriet Joan, born at Montpelier, May 28, 1835.

Charles Davis, born at Hardwick, April 22, 1839.

John Quincy, born at Hardwick, August 26, 1841.

Sarah Janette Ellis, the writer of this sketch, daughter of Joel Ellis and Esther Woodbury, his wife, was born near Montpelier, Vermont, March 31, 1832. She attended the public school at Hardwick and at Springfield, Vt., and was graduated from the Springfield Wesleyan Seminary in June, 1850. She taught school for a few years in Vermont and in 1855, went to Missouri where she accepted the position of principal of Osage Academy at Osceola, St. Clair county, Mo., which position she held till 1858.

On July 22, 1858, Sarah Janette Ellis was married to John Jameson Yeater, a merchant of Osceola, and continued to reside there till the fall of 1861, when the town was burned by the command of Gen. Lane, of Kansas.

Gen. Lane having learned that Mrs. Yeater was a northern woman sent for her and proposed that she influence her husband to take the side of the north and the government would make good their loss in the burning of the town.

Mrs. Yeater was one of the few inhabitants of Osceola who remained in the town when it was burned. All the men left the place and as many of the women as could get away went to the country for refuge.

Mr. Yeater was born in the South and his sympathies were with that side, and Mrs. Yeater remained in the South during the Civil War and passed through many thrilling experiences. In the spring of 1863, while Fayetteville, Ark., was a federal post, a band of rebels made an attack on the post just at daylight. Mrs. Yeater was sick in bed with her two-year-old son by her side. From her window she could see the soldiers just from their beds and with part of their clothing in their hands

running to their places in their companies. She was helped to partly dress and taken across the yard to the basement of a larger house and a pallet made on the floor for her. Not much time was wasted and the fighting soon began. Two houses almost alike stood on opposite sides of the street, one of them being the headquarters of the post, and the rebels mistook the house where the women and children had taken refuge for the headquarters. They had planted their cannon on a hill about a mile away and trained it on the wrong house. Their aim was good and at the beginning of the fight a ball hit the jamb of the basement door, splintered it, tore the bricks from the chimney, broke a kettle containing lye and rolled away, and when the bedding on which Mrs. Yeater and her son had been lying was taken up, the ball rolled out of the bedding. In the room she had left the glass and china were broken, several balls had passed through the room and two had gone through the bed which Mrs. Yeater had left just as the fight began.

The post was abandoned soon after this fight, but bands from both sides often came to the town and in August, 1863, scouts from the opposing armies happened to meet at Fayetteville at about four o'clock p. m. They hastily formed in line of battle, the Federals across the garden of the house where Mrs. Yeater was confined to her bed with a babe less than two weeks old. She was lifted from the bed to a rocking chair, dragged across two rooms and got into the cellar where she rested on a pallet for several hours, but night coming on both parties retreated under cover of darkness.

In the spring of 1864 Mrs. Yeater with her children, went from Fayetteville, Ark., to Callaway county, Mo., where her husband's relatives, who sympathized with the Confederate side, were willing to furnish a place of refuge for her and her children for a time, and she spent the summer of 1864 there, but in October started to go to her husband, supposed to be in Texas.

It so happened that Price's raid came through Missouri just about the time she started, and this complicated matters very much, as no possible public conveyances were permitted to leave the towns where there were army posts, and she found

great difficulty in getting to Fayetteville, Ark., being compelled to go part of the way in an ox wagon driven by a woman. She was attacked by bushwhackers, near Bentonville, Ark., and robbed of most of her own and children's clothing, but reached Fayetteville soon after Price's command had passed.

Here Mrs. Yeater remained a few days to rest, and her husband being a Royal Arch Mason the Masons in the town assisted her in getting horses and a vehicle with which to continue her journey south.

Three women with a ten-year-old boy, all riding horseback, started south with Mrs. Yeater, who with her two children, aged three years and eighteen months respectively, and a woman who drove for her, started together. The trip from Fayetteville, Ark., to Ft. Smith was made under the protection of a scout carrying the U. S. mail and was without incident.

With some difficulty the party found a house where they secured lodging for the night and breakfast the next morning. Mrs. Yeater put up a lunch for the children that day but expected to get lodging and meals at the houses along the road. She, however, took the precaution to provide some corn for the horses as she knew that in following an army the supply of horse feed would be very scarce. It was now December, and while the days were pleasant the nights were chilly.

The party started off in good spirits and traveled on through the day, not stopping for lunch, perhaps, because they saw no suitable place to get a lunch, but as the sun began to sink in the west their thoughts were directed toward a lodging place for the night, and it then occurred to them that they had seen no one, and passed no house since 11 o'clock. Still they felt no alarm and when at about sunset they came to a place where the house had been burned but the granary left standing Mrs. Yeater proposed camping there for the night. The others objected, saying it was a moonlight night and they might go on for some hours yet. But Mrs. Yeater, thinking of her horses, declined to go farther, and fed and watered her horses. She gave her children part of the remains of the lunch, and using the wraps for bedding laid down to rest, and slept without any disturbance. They started early in the morning still

hoping to find people living by the roadside, but they traveled on for eight days and nights without meeting a human being. They stopped to rest and graze their horses in the middle of the day and occupied a vacant cabin at night. For food they used the corn intended for the horses. Fortunately one of the women was a smoker and had provided herself with matches to light her pipe, else they would have been without any fire. On the fifth day they came across a herd of cattle grazing on the prairie and succeeded in enticing a cow and her calf away from the others with a cup of salt they had taken for the horses. They caught the calf, tied it and butchered it with a pocket knife, then roasted the meat by the fire and ate it without bread or salt.

On the ninth day they met an Indian going back along the road hunting his horses, and he directed them where to turn off the main road and they would find people living in their houses who would provide food for them, and after that they fared better. They reached Clarksville, Texas, December 20, about three weeks from the time of starting.

Fortunately there was no rain while they were out, for they traveled along the old government road from Ft. Smith to Texas and the bridges were impassable and had the streams been full, the fords would have been dangerous for women with horses in the improvised condition theirs were in. It began to rain when they were within two or three miles of Clarksville and continued to rain for several days.

A messenger was dispatched for Mr. Yeater, whose regiment was about forty miles away, and he soon covered that distance when he learned his family, that he had not seen in nearly two years, was so near. He found a boarding place for his family near the camp and they spent the winter in Texas and Louisiana, and in June they returned to Missouri together by steamboat down the Red river and up the Mississippi, the division of the army to which Mr. Yeater belonged having been disbanded at Shreveport, Louisiana.

(A full account of the foregoing was composed by the writer and printed in 1910, entitled "Civil War Experiences of Sarah J. Yeater.")

A History of the Ball and Jameson Families.

From Hayden's Virginia Genealogies we learn that the earliest known ancestor of John Jameson Yeater was Col. Wm. Ball, 1615-1689, who as cavalier served King Charles I during the civil war. The King was beheaded in 1649 and Col. William Ball came with other Royalists to America in 1650 and was a planter at Millenbeck on the Rappahannock river in Lancaster county, Virginia. His wife was Hannah Athesold, 1610-1669, daughter of Thomas Athesold, of Balugh, and Mary Vessey Herbert, of Baugh, Suffolk county, England.

Their children were Richard, William, Joseph and Hannah.

Their son, Col. Joseph Ball, 1649-1715, of Epping Forest, Essex county, England, and Epping Forest, Lancaster county, Virginia, married Mrs. Mary Montague Johnson, 1721, descended from the extinct Earls of Saulsbury.

Mary Ball, 1716-1787, daughter of Joseph Ball, and Mrs. Mary Montague Johnson Ball married Augustine Washington March 6, 1730, and became the mother of George Washington February 22, 1732, and thus the children of the writer through John J. Yeater, their father, are relatives of the Father of his Country.

William Ball was an older brother of Joseph Ball, the father of Mary Ball, who was the mother of Washington. William Ball married Margaret Downman, of Virginia, and their son, Samuel Ball, was one of the vestry of St. Marks church, elected January 1, 1730, and remained an officer in that parish till his death in 1751.

Samuel Ball, their son, married Ann Catherine Taylor in Lancaster county, Va., November 25, 1717.

Judith Ball, daughter of Samuel Ball and Ann Catherine Taylor married John Hackley, also a vestryman, in 1742.

Judith Ball Hackley, daughter of John Hackley and Judith Ball married Thomas Jameson, of Virginia, who was an elder brother of Col. John Jameson, to whom Maj. Andre was delivered by his captors, he being commander of the nearest post.

Thomas Jameson and wife, Judith Ball Hackley Jameson,

moved from Virginia to Fayette county, now Montgomery county, Kentucky, in 1782, and settled on twenty-five hundred acres of land that he had entered May 9, 1780. Tombstones now mark the graves of Thomas Jameson and Judith Ball Hackley Jameson, his wife, in the garden near the brick house he built in 1800.

John Jameson, son of Thomas Jameson and Judith Ball Hackley Jameson, was born in Virginia in 1769; he married Jaley Reede, born in Virginia 1770.

Their children were James, Samuel, Lucy, Thomas, Sarah, John, Judith, Isaac, Newton, Amanda and Betsey.

They moved to Callaway county, Missouri, in 1824, and settled on a farm near Fulton.

John Jameson died September 11, 1834, and Jaley Reede Jameson died April 15, 1835. They were buried in a private burying ground near Fulton, Missouri.

Judith Jameson, daughter of John Jameson and Jaley Reede, born at Mount Stirling, Ky., January 5, 1805, married Charles Honeyman Yeater September 2, 1830, at Fulton, Mo.

Charles Honeyman Yeater was born in Bourbon county, Kentucky, January 25, 1808. He came with his parents to Missouri in 1818 and was married in Callaway county September 2, 1830. He died in Charlestown, Ark., May 6, 1862. His wife, Judith Jameson Yeater, died at Fayetteville, Ark., October 14, 1866.

Their children were John Jameson, born December 1, 1831, died March 25, 1909; Jaley, born December 26, 1833, died December 22, 1834; Joseph K., born December 21, 1838, died April 16, 1897; married Mary Dean October 31, 1871; Sarah J., born March 12, 1845, married E. B. Harrison, December 8, 1864, at Fulton, Mo.

John Jameson Yeater, son of Charles Honeyman Yeater and Judith Jameson his wife, married Sarah Janette Ellis, of Montpelier, Vermont, at Osceola, Missouri, July 22, 1858. Their children were:

Charles Emmett, born April 24, 1861.

Laura Jameson, born October 1, 1865.

Merritt West, born March 1, 1868.

Stella Woodbury, born March 3, 1874.

John Jameson Yeater died March 25, 1909, at Sedalia, Missouri.

(Joseph K. Yeater and his wife, Mary Dean, had one daughter, Cora, born September 14, 1872, who married W. H. Schnare, of Sedalia, Mo., and have one son, Dean, born September 20, 1903. E. B. Harrison and Sarah Yeater Harrison have three children—Joseph C., born September., 1866; Lida, born November 30, 1868, and Ralph, born February 8, 1883, all residing in Fayetteville, Ark., and these memoranda are inserted so as to furnish to them that part of this genealogy which includes a part of their ancestry.)

From the "Jamesons in America."

James Jameson, the first one of the Jameson family known, resided with his wife, Margaret, in the Parish of St. Anne, in Essex county, Virginia. They gave a deed conveying fifty acres of land to Thomas Short, which was recorded May 11, 1720.

Margaret Jameson probably died before her husband as no mention of her is made in the will which was dated April 19, 1736, and probated November 17, 1736.

James Jameson qualified as constable December 17, 1719. The family were of Scottish descent and were engaged in trade with the colonies.

Thomas Jameson, son of James Jameson and Margaret, his wife, was born in St. Anne's Parish, Essex county, Va., and in 1768 he resided in Orange county, Va., and is mentioned in Thomas Walker's Journal of 1750 as Capt. Jameson near Panther's Gap, Rockbridge county, Va. Socially he is styled "gentleman," and he held the office of justice of the peace. His son, Thomas Jameson, born May, 1743, in Culpepper county, Va., married Judith Ball Hackley, daughter of John Hackley and Judith Ball. They resided in Culpepper county, Va., till 1782, when they removed to Mt. Sterling, Montgomery county, Ky., where he died August 14, 1827.

Thomas Jameson was commissioned Ensign of Militia February 25, 1773, and was one of the two hundred and sixty-eight

persons of the most respectable families who subscribed to an oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia renouncing allegiance to King George III, early in the history of the determined resistance of the American Colonists to British oppression.

The first day the treasury warrants were for sale, he purchased twenty-five hundred (2500) acres of land which he located May 9, 1780, a little north of Mt. Sterling, Montgomery county, Kentucky.

In this vicinity at the same time his uncle, David Jameson, purchased thirty-five hundred acres of land. In 1802 Mr. Jameson erected a substantial brick dwelling which remained in the family till 1894. He was buried near Mt. Sterling and his tombstone which was standing in 1900 read:

“Thomas Jameson, Sen., emigrated from Culpepper C. H. Va., 1782. Died August 14, 1827, aged 84 years.”

(Jamesons in America, page 136, and William and Mary College Quarterly, Vol. 3, page 199.)

A History of the Yeater Family.

According to tradition the Yeaters first came from Germany and settled in Pennsylvania. The grandfather of John J. Yeater, the husband of the writer, was Conrad Yeater, a farmer and miller, who was born in Pennsylvania April 1, 1769, and died in Fulton, Mo., August 15, 1834. Conrad Yeater married Sarah Honeyman in Virginia in 1789. She was born in New Jersey September 2, 1768, her mother being Elizabeth Boardman, of Connecticut, and died in Fulton, Missouri, July 4, 1834. They were both buried in the private burying ground of their son, Peter Yeater, near Warrenton, Mo. In the “History of the Honeyman Family,” covering the period from 1548 to 1908, written by A. Van Doren Honeyman, and published by Honeyman’s Publishing House at Plainfield, N. J., 1909, the probable ancestry of Sarah Honeyman is set forth at page 259 and at page 199 and subsequent pages. From this it appears that Sarah Honeyman was the daughter of Samuel Honeyman, of Philadelphia, who was born April 15,

1743. Dr. Charles H. Yeater, of Frankfort, Mo., learned from his father, Henry Yeater, son of Conrad Yeater, that his grandmother, Sarah Honeyman, was a daughter of Samuel Honeyman, of Philadelphia. Samuel Honeyman was a house carpenter, and was living in 1782; the tax lists of Philadelphia show that he was taxed from 1769 to 1782. Apparently he resided in Mulberry Ward from 1769 to 1780. In 1780 he was taxed 6 pounds and 12 shillings on 2,400 pounds of real estate. Samuel Honeyman was the son of William Honeyman who was born in England December 2, 1711, and died in Philadelphia March 14, 1774. William Honeyman seems to have been quite a property owner in Philadelphia. In 1769 his property tax in High Street Ward was 30 pounds; in 1774, 3 pounds, 6 shillings, 6 pence. After his death his estate was taxed as follows: in 1779 in North Ward, 30 pounds; in 1780, in Mulberry West Ward, 16 pounds, the latter being on a valuation of 6,000 pounds. The father of William was Samuel Honeyman of the northern part of England, and of him no other information is available.

In the "Honeyman Family," beginning at page 259, is found a detailed account of all the Yeater family descended from Sarah Honeyman and her husband, Conrad Yeater. The following statement appears on page 260 of that book:

"There were Yeaters in Pennsylvania during and after the revolution. Among them were John Yeater, of Springfield township, Bucks county, taxed on 100 acres of land in 1770 and 1784, Andrew Yeater, who served as private in the Tenth Penna Regiment in 1780; Martin Yeater, resident of Manheim township, Lancaster township, Lancaster Co., in 1782; Samuel Yeater, resident in New London township, Chester Co., in 1785; and Lodiwick Yeater, taxed on 45 acres of land in Cumberland Co., in 1778." Either of these persons would have been of a suitable age to have been the father of Conrad Yeater, but no record has as yet been found by which the relationship can be established. That there is no tradition in the family that he was descended from Andrew Yeater, the revolutionary soldier, would almost conclusively exclude him as an ancestor.

References to Andrew Yeater are found in the Pennsylvania Archives, Second Series, Vol. X, as follows: On the roll of the Tenth Regiment, known as the Colonel's Company Andrew Yeater is listed as a private, one of 33 privates, on page 734, and on page 739 the date of his enlistment is given as December 1, 1776, but the name is mis-spelled "Yetter." Again it appears correctly on page 758 as "Yeater, Andrew (e) Colonel's Company, August, 1778." In foot note on page 743 appears the following: "Those marked (e) are taken from a list in the Secretary's office of soldiers whose depreciated pay escheated to the state."

From a letter to the writer, dated November 10, 1905, from Mrs. J. Y. Spragg, then of Ridgeway, Mo., the following is quoted:

"My father is dead but his grandfather's name was Andrew Yeater, a revolutionary soldier and he entered the revolutionary army from somewhere in Eastern Pennsylvania, and after the war settled on a claim in Green Co., Pa. In the year 1811 he had assessed to him 400 acres of land, but when he went into the war of 1812, some one moved on it and he lost it. My grandfather, John Yeater, was with him. Both died while my father, Joseph Yeater, was less than 9 years old."

A letter from Dr. C. M. Yater, of Roswell, New Mexico, written in September, 1905, to Charles E. Yeater, of Sedalia, Mo., suggests that Connad Yeater, who married Sarah Honeyman, might be a brother to his great-grandfather, Henry Yater, notwithstanding the difference in the spelling of the family name by dropping the letter e. As some of the Yeater family have dropped this letter that difference is not significant. Dr. Yater's grandfather, Henry, was the son of a German revolutionary soldier, also Henry Yeater, according to the traditions of his family, and was born in 1783 on the ocean on the return of his parents from a visit to the old country. In a letter of September 9, 1905, F. B. Yater, mother of Dr. Yater, informed her son that his great grand father, Henry, could not have been born earlier than 1783, and that the elder Henry, the

revolutionary soldier, came to this country during the war of the revolution. Dr. Yater thinks that Conrad Yeater was the son of the elder Henry, but this seems to me impossible, because Conrad Yeater, according to the family records, was born in Pennsylvania April 1, 1769, before the elder Henry Yater came to this country during the revolutionary war.

The following Yeaters are grand children of Benjamin Yeater, born June 20, 1803, and came from Green Co., Pennsylvania: Henry Yeater, Ashley, W. Va. D. F. Yeater, Center Point, W. Va. Mathias Yeater, King, Wetzel Co., W. Va. Zadock Yeater, Ashley, W. Va. In letters received from them, they state that they are unable to give any information of their ancestry back of their grandfather.

A letter dated September 30, 1906, to Charles E. Yeater, from J. G. Yeater, of Paola, Kansas, then 81 years of age, is interesting, in that it indicates that the family name, Yeater, is spelled as it was originally in Germany, except the substitution of the English letter y for the German j having the same sound. This letter is as follows:

"Yours of the 26th inst. received and contents noted. Well, in the first place, I am a German by birth, born in Stuttgart, Kingdom of Wurtemberg, in 1825. My parents came to this country in 1828 and landed at Philadelphia, Pa. Father was a shoemaker and never worked at anything else all his life. I have no relatives in this country that I know of except an uncle, a brother of father, but we got lost from each other and I have never heard of him, think he was killed by Indians—went west. My father was George Yeater. My kin folks all live in Pennsylvania, except a sister living in White county, Indiana—never had any brother—had three sisters, all dead but the one in Indiana. There were nine boys in father's family. I would be very much pleased if I could find some near relatives in this country, but I have long since given it up. This is all the information I can give."

Returning to Conrad Yeater, it appears from the "History of the Honeyman Family," that in 1908 there had been 483 descendants, from him and his wife, Sarah Honeyman, all of

whom are set forth in complete detail. In that book, on page 260, the following appears:

“After marriage, and probably the same year, Conrad Yeater and wife went to near Mt. Sterling, Bourbon Co., Kentucky, where their first child, Joseph B. Yeater, was born. All the children, in fact, of Conrad Yeater were born there, and such grandchildren as were born prior to the fall of 1817. In 1817 they went to what was then St. Charles county, Mo., and in 1818 settled on Camp Branch. In December, 1818, Montgomery county was established and included their home. In January, 1833, Warren county was cut off from Montgomery, so that thereafter that county, with Warrenton as the county seat, became their residence, and Warrenton their postoffice.”

From the “History of Lincoln County, Missouri”, (published 1888, Godspeed Pub. Co., Chicago,) it appears at page 388, that Conrad Yeater, and one of his sons, Peter Yeater, were taxpayers on lands in that county in 1821. Also from this history it appears that Peter, his family name spelled Yates incorrectly, as in the History of Pioneer Families of Missouri, gave bond to the county court in the sum of \$1,000 as paymaster of the 11th regiment, 1st Div., Missouri militia. The reference to Peter Yeater in the Pioneer Families of Missouri just referred to, is found at page 227 and there it is further stated that Conrad “Yates,” came from Germany and first settled in Virginia and in 1818 came to Missouri. The family Bible records show that Conrad Yeater was born as above stated in Pennsylvania on April 1, 1769, and he came to Missouri in the fall of 1817 from Kentucky, having married in 1789 in Virginia.

It also appears from the History of Pioneer Families of Missouri that Conrad Yeater built a dwelling house in Warrenton and four mills. One mill was run by water, two by horses, and one by oxen.

The children of Conrad Yeater and his wife, Sarah Honeyman were:

Joseph Boardman, born January 18, 1790.

Peter S., born November 14, 1792.

Mary, born January 23, 1794.

Elizabeth, born February 27, 1796.

Henry, born April 1, 1797.

Ann, born September 27, 1800.

Sarah, born November 27, 1802.

Catherine, born March 18, 1805.

Charles Honeyman, born January 23, 1808.

George Washington, born April 19, 1810.

Conrad Yeater died August 15, 1834, and his wife, Sarah Honeyman, July 4, 1834. They were buried in the private burying ground of their son, Peter S., in Warren county, Mo.

Peter Yeater married Dorcas D. Sconce November 19, 1819, and settled in Warren county. He first built a stone chimney 8x9 feet in size and afterward built his cabin to the chimney. He obtained assistance from St. Charles county to raise the house and as he furnished plenty of good whiskey it took a week to finish the house. When the house was completed he gave a dance and while the dancing was at its best the floor gave way and the company followed the floor to the cellar. Thomas Howell played the fiddle and Bro. Thomas Bowen, who was a young minister then, danced as vigorously as any of the guests. (History of Pioneer Families in Missouri, by Wm. S. Bryant and Robert Ross. Bryant, Ross & Co., St. Louis, Mo.)

Charles Honeyman Yeater and his brother, George Washington, formed a partnership and opened a general merchandise store in Gasconade county, which they conducted together for a time, but eventually failed in business. In order to pay their creditors each gave a negro girl, who was to be delivered the next day, but in the night the girl who had belonged to George Yeater, or his wife, was spirited away and was never recovered. This ended the ownership of slaves in the family of George Yeater. Charles H. Yeater delivered his servant according to contract, but this did not release him from his creditors and this indebtedness was a drawback to him in business for several years.

After this failure Charles H. Yeater began to look around for a locality where he might start business anew, and finally

chose Osceola, St. Clair county, Mo., and in 1841 opened a grocery store on a small scale. His business grew slowly from this small beginning and he remained in Osceola twenty years till the civil war began. He was a very outspoken secessionist and was always ready to do all he could for the Southern cause. He was a courageous man and when the first federal troops came to Osceola in the fall of 1861 the men of the town in their enthusiasm, banded themselves together and with what arms they could find prepared to fire on the federals from the brush on each side of the road as they came into town. Mr. Yeater had an old flint lock gun and as he saw the troops coming in the bright moonlight, he took a stand in the middle of the road and when he thought the company were within reach of his gun, he tried his best to fire into them, but the gun was old and rusty and would not respond to his efforts. After one or two attempts to shoot, he walked leisurely into the brush where his companions were concealed.

After Osceola was burned and his store and warehouse were destroyed, Mr. Yeater and the other stockholders met and drew their money from the bank, and with his family and servants, Mr. Yeater went farther south. His first stopping place was Fayetteville, Ark., and so confident was he of the success of the confederacy that he did not hesitate to invest his good gold and silver and begin business in Fayetteville. He even exchanged gold and silver for confederate money, at a premium of course. When he knew the Northern army was on its way to Fayetteville, he again retreated in good order and went as far as Little Rock, Ark., but finding no good opportunity to go into business again he started to return north, but was taken sick at Charleston, Ark., where he died and was buried in the cemetery there. Charles Honeyman Yeater was born January 23, 1808. He was married to Judith Jameson September 2, 1830. Their children were:

John Jameson, born December 1, 1831.

Jaly, born December 26, 1833; died September 22, 1834.

Joseph K., born December 21, 1838; died April 16, 1897.

Sarah, born March 12, 1845.

Charles H. Yeater died May 6, 1862, and his remains still rest in the cemetery at Charleston, Ark.

His wife died in Fayetteville, Ark., October 14, 1866, and her remains were taken to Fulton, Mo., and buried in the Jameson family burial ground, by her request.

John Jameson Yeater, born in Troy, Mo., in 1831, went with his parents to Osceola, Mo., in 1841. He there attended what schools there were in the neighborhood and to complete his education in school, went to Highland academy at Independence for one year.

After leaving school he tried several different occupations, the first being the tanners trade; then he worked in the store with his father for a time, and in 1856 he gathered a drove of cattle which he fed through the winter and in the spring of 1857 he drove the cattle part of the way while the grass was good, then shipped them first to Chicago, where he sold part of the drove, and took the remainder to Albany, N. Y., where he disposed of most of them; then went with the milk cows to Massachusetts, realizing a good price for them there, and returned to Osceola about Christmas of that year.

In the spring of 1858 he opened a general merchandise store in Osceola which was the point where merchants from Southwest Missouri came to lay in their stock of goods, this being the head of steamboat navigation on the Osage river.

On July 22, 1858, John J. Yeater and Sarah Janette Ellis were married at Osceola, Mo. Their children were:

Charles Emmett, born April 24, 1861, at Osceola, Mo.

Ellis Woods, born July 26, 1863, at Fayetteville, Ark.; died September 25, 1865.

Laura Jameson, born October 1, 1865, at Georgetown, Pettis county, Mo.

Merritt West, born March 1, 1868, at Georgetown, Pettis county, Mo.

Ida Maude, born July 10, 1872, at Sedalia, Mo.; died November 15, 1873.

Stella Woodbury, born March 3, 1874, at Sedalia, Mo.

When the Civil War began in 1861 John Jameson Yeater, who had been a Douglas democrat, cast in his lot with the South and in 1862 joined the Confederate army. He belonged

to the Tenth Missouri Cavalry, Marmaduke's Brigade, Price's Division. He was Quartermaster and Commissary with the rank of Captain. He served in the army, till the close of the war, and then took the following oath of allegiance:

Shreveport, La., June 9, 1865.

Oath of allegiance administered to this officer in accordance with special order No. 215, Hd. Qrs. of the army, Shreveport, La. Alva D. Bishop, Captain and Provost Marshal No. 248.

I, the undersigned, prisoner of war, belonging to the army of the Trans-Mississippi Department, having been surrendered by General Herley Smith, commanding army division of West Mississippi, do hereby give my solemn parole of honor that I will not hereafter serve in the army of the Confederate States in any military capacity whatever, against the United States of America, or render aid to the latter until properly exchanged in such manner as shall be mutually approved by the respective authorities.

Residence, St. Clair county, Mo.

J. J. YEATER,

Captain, 10th Regt. Mo. Cavalry.

Done at Shreveport, La., this 8th day of June, 1865.

Approved: W. R. Beggs, Brig. Gen. C. S. A.; G. L. Andrews, Brig. Gen. U. S. A., Commissioners.

The above officer will not be disturbed by the United States authorities as long as he obeys his parole and the laws in force where he resides.

GEO. H. ANDERSON,

Brig. Gen. U. S. A. and Provost Marshal General.

After the close of the war Mr. Yeater went first to Callaway county and began to make some effort to straighten out his business so suddenly broken up by the burning of Osceola by Gen. Lane and his Kansas men, when his dwelling and all its contents together with two large warehouses, well filled, were destroyed.

His creditors were easily found, but his debtors were scat-

tered or ruined financially. He was able to collect very little from his business in Osceola, and he came to Sedalia in the fall of 1865, with very little capital with which to begin business, but he, with his brother, Joseph K. Yeater, and W. S. Baker, opened a wholesale and retail grocery store, and met with success from the first.

He took an active part in the organization of the Citizens National bank in 1872 and was chosen vice president and served in that capacity till the death of Clifton Wood, the president, in 1877, when he was chosen to fill his place. After severing his connection with the Citizens National bank he was instrumental in organizing the Bank of Commerce and served as its president until it was sold and absorbed by the Citizens National bank in 1901.

About the year 1883 Mr. Yeater, with several friends, organized the Missouri-Florida Cattle Co., of which he was chosen president. The company was to do business in New Mexico in raising and marketing cattle. The company pre-empted a track of land about 8x20 miles in extent, extending to the boundary line of Old Mexico, for a cattle ranch. This land was well set in prairie grass but almost destitute of water. Water was piped from a spring on the mountain to troughs in the valley and wells were bored till a sufficient supply of water was secured to begin, then the ranch was stocked with long horned cattle and as the cattle increased more wells were bored and pumps installed and everything seemed to prosper for a time. But at the time of the Indian raid in 1885, led by Heronimo, the Indians visited the ranch, burned their cabins and murdered the superintendent and his wife, and drove off their horses. This crippled the company to some extent and two dry seasons having followed, when the spring rains were almost an entire failure, and what little grass there was dried up so early in the season that it was impossible to save hay for winter feeding. Also the fall rains were much below the average so that the Missouri-Florida Cattle company found itself with several hundred cattle to feed and very little provided for them. The cactus is a plant indigions to the arid regions of New Mexico and Arizona and is always looked upon as a great

nuisance, being so armed with thorns that all animals avoid it, but when other food gave out they had recourse to the cactus beds which were plentiful in some parts of the ranch. Each morning the cattle were rounded up and driven to the cactus beds and with axes the men split open sufficient cactus for the animals for that day, they ate out the substance of the plant, leaving only the thorny skin with its thorns concealed. The herds never learned to like the cactus and never went to it of their own accord. With the spring rains the grass revived and everything looked prosperous again. After this experience, having an opportunity to sell, the price of cattle having declined in the meantime, they decided to sell out and wind up the business, which was done at some loss.

Mr Yeater was a well known business man in Central Missouri and possessed the highest regard of all who knew him. His life was flawless, he always having the fullest confidence of all who knew him and associated with him in business and financial circles. He died at his home in Sedalia, March 25, 1909, after a short illness from praralysis

Charles Emmett Yeater, eldest son of John J. Yeater, was born April 24, 1861. He was educated in the public schools of Sedalia and was afterward graduated from the State University at Columbia in the class of 1880. He was admitted to the bar September 22, 1880, and was appointed city attorney of Sedalia in 1882, and special attorney for the government in the Court of Claims in 1888, and was elected to the State Senate in 1892. On October 19, 1887, he was married to Anna Richardson, in Sedalia. She was born January 22, 1866. Their children are:

Laurence Kenneth, born December 19, 1888.

Frances, born January 17, 1894.

Christine, born August 2, 1895.

Mr. Yeater is now, 1911, a practicing lawyer in Sedalia.

Laura J. Yeater, eldest daughter of John J. Yeater, was born October 1, 1865. After graduating in Sedalia she attended Christian college in Columbia, Mo., and was the valedictorian of her class. After teaching in Sedalia two terms she went to Saltillo, Mexico, for a year and then to Rapid City, South

Dakota, where she was teacher of Latin. She then decided to make teaching her life work and entered Wellesley college for a four years course, which she completed in due time, taking both the A. B. and A. M. degrees at the same time, having accomplished five years of work in four years time. After being graduated from Wellesley college in June, 1900, she was elected to the chair of Latin and Greek at the Missouri State Normal school at Warrensburg, which position she still holds.

Merritt West Yeater, second son of John J. Yeater, after being graduated from the Sedalia public school entered the State University, and from there he went to the Missouri School of Mines and Metalurgy and was graduated from that school taking the degrees of C. E. and M. E. He was assayer at the Gold King mine at Teluride, Colo., in 1887 and was appointed city engineer of Sedalia in April, 1888, and held the position for seven years. He was city engineer of Belmont, Texas, two years and has since followed contracting.

Stella Woodbury Yeater was born in 1874. After being graduated from the Sedalia high school and the Baptist college at Lexington, Mo., she took a two years course in the architectural department at the Art Institute in Chicago. She was married to John H. Brockmeyer, of Boonville, September 20, 1897, and is now living at Eldon, Mo. Their children are:

Jeanette, born April 25, 1903.

John Yeater, born January 13, 1906.

Laurence K. Yeater, son of Charles Emmett Yeater, after being graduated from the Sedalia high school in 1905, attended Colorado college at Colorado Springs, Colo., one year and afterward Stanford University.

He began work in a wholesale paper house in San Francisco and followed the business about two years, but becoming dissatisfied with this kind of work he accepted a position in the freight department of the Denver and Rio Grande railroad at Denver, Colo., which he still holds, and to him, Laurence Kenneth Yeater, the last male representative of this branch of the Yeater family this history is dedicated.

SARAH JEANETTE YEATER, 1912.

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