

EASTWIND WESTWIND  
THE LEGACY OF JOHN POORE [1635]

The Family Poore, Prehistory to the Present  
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PART SIX:

GREEN FIELDS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

71.	The Great Census of 1790	Page 190
72.	Go West, Young Man	Page 191
73.	Green Corn and Hominy Soup	Page 193
74.	The Patchwork Quilt	Page 198
75.	Meet Me in St. Louis	Page 199
78.	Pumpkins on the Piscataquas	Page 201
79.	The Year Without a Summer	Page 206
80.	The Ironing Board	Page 210
81.	The Smell of War	Page 215

THE GREAT CENSUS OF 1790

155 years after John Poore made New England his adopted home, the United States counted its people for the first time. For many of us today, the 1790 census is our first official record of family offshoots. In some cases, the records give us much needed information. In other cases, the census merely offers hints at otherwise unknown people, far from suspected points of origin. Many times, important leads are overlooked because we are searching with blinders on. If anyone utilizes the old census records (and county records predating 1790), look beyond your personal family name for all possibilities.

Cousin Janet Powers Maune has done much research on her Powers surname, especially in Virginia. She has uncovered many documents from this time period (late 1700s) relevant to our ancestors; through wills, land titles, tax records, etc. Her Powers clan hailed from the exact same region of central and southwestern Virginia, around the cities of Goochland and Roanoke that many Poors and Poores came from. By 1790 they were so numerous and inter-connected that the offspring migrated to the same areas of northeastern Tennessee and Kentucky. There are indications that the Powers and Poors (at least these) were the same family. There are documents of record that show men with matching names altering the surname back and forth in their lifetimes. Added to this confusion is a local (and German) trait to record the name(s) as

BOWER instead of Power(s), Poor(e), or Poer. As mentioned in a previous chapter, this was a mispronunciation from the German ear to an English document. Poor and Poer; Pore, Pouer and Poe; Bower, Bowers, Power and Powers. Not all were interchangeable, but many were. I am sure the same thing happened when the families lived in the United Kingdom. The only surname that seems to have become 'extinct' is the original family name Poher, although it survives to this day in Brittany, France.

The Joseph Poore Clan of New Rowley MA offers some insight into how flawed the first national census was for researchers. Historically, the children were the last generation, in this branch, that married entirely local English-descended spouses. In 1790, Jesse, Job, Joseph Jr. and John were still unmarried and living at home in New Rowley. John was only 15 years old.

Under the old British system, the local census had been common on the county levels, but each colony had its own regulations. Some counties kept very precise and detailed records where others were lax and poorly done. Heavily populated and older counties, such as Essex County, Massachusetts, left accurate family breakdowns in make up and gender, with names, trades and ages. In the Maine interior, which was also part of Massachusetts, it was almost impossible to trace families at all, much less record who they were as individuals. When it got to the vast Ohio River Basin, the task became even more difficult. Virginia, New Hampshire, Connecticut and Massachusetts jointly claimed overlapping regions south of the Great Lakes.

Following the war, the United States concentrated on forming a lasting constitution. George Washington was sworn in as the first President at New York in 1789. One of his first constitutional responsibilities was to organize a National Census, to be held every 10 years. Possibly to get away from 'British' forms of paperwork, the format was oversimplified to the point of absurdity.

The primary purpose was to compose a listing, by state and county, establishing state apportionment to Congress and to levy taxes accordingly. Since 16 was the age of accountability for taxation and militia duty, the census dealt primarily with free white males above, or below the age of 16. For this category, only the male head of the household was listed by name. Women (again, free white female) had no political or military power or responsibility; so all females were combined into one general listing, all ages, including female head of household. Names were omitted entirely. "All others" listed any unrelated free white males living under the same roof (extended family, indentured servant, boarder, etc). Last were slaves. For the 1790 census, it pertained exclusively to African-Americans, but probably included many mixed bloods and Indians as well. For apportionment purposes, blacks equaled only three fifths of a person, but some Georgia and South Carolina counties were overwhelmingly (78%) black.

If you have ever seen or used the 1790 census, it is very simple to read. It records the census year, page number, state, county and town or city. The Head of Household is the only male listed by name. Following the name are 3 to 5 numbers, referring to the categories listed above. For governmental purposes, it was all that was needed to show whose household contained free white males above (#1) or below (#2) the age of 16, how many women and girls he supported (#3), how many 'other' free white males were under his roof (#4) and how many slaves he cared for (#5). Although I have not seen the Essex County 1790 census, a hypothetical listing for Joseph Poore of New Rowley would look something like this:

United States of America

1790 Census

Essex County

State of Massachusetts

Town of New Rowley

Page no. 72, Joseph Poor, Sr., 4, 1, 1, 3, 5

In this case, I have listed four free white males above the age of 16 (Joseph Sr. 53, Jesse Poor 25, Job Poor 23 and Joseph Poor 20). The second number shows one free white male under the age of 16, John Poor, age 15. The third number is for Margaret, age 52, wife of Joseph Sr. The fourth number, 'Others in the Household' is for a resident farmhand and two underage foster children under the care of Joseph. One is a 14-year-old apprentice cordwainer serving a 3-year indenture. The last number shows that Joseph owned, or boarded, 5 black slaves. We know that one of his slaves, Sameul Poor, died at Breed's Hill in 1775. These would have been cooks and farm workers. This census would not have shown the married children, Samuel, George and Ruth who had already left home for New Hampshire and Haverhill.

When the census was counted, the government found almost 4,000,000 people living in the 13 states and their territories. From it, many things were made known. The age and sex ratio of male and female 'free whites,' racial divisions per region (French, English, Scotch-Irish, Irish, German, etc) by surname tracking, numbers of eligible militia-age recruits if needed for a draft and the percentage of blacks per county, per state. It even showed prevailing social changes as more and more men ventured into the northern and western wilderness regions. Interior New England and western New York, for instance, had 59% adult males over the age of 16. Eastern New England, on the other hand, showed a larger than normal proportion of women per county. The men had left to seek fortunes in the west.

## GO WEST, YOUNG MAN

It is hard for us to believe today, especially for those of us who grew up there, that Central New Hampshire was once the 'West.' In many ways, it was as distant and hostile as the Ohio Valley. It contained scattered settlements along major rivers, but for the most part, the state was covered in unexplored forest and mountains, known only to trappers, militia brigades and lumbermen. It held the largest lake (excluding the Great lakes) east of the Mississippi. The top of Mount Washington was (and is) the coldest and windiest place in North America. Gangs of highwaymen hid out in the deep forests to sweep down on unsuspecting travelers. Indians, as well, still roamed the backcountry in small bands. Since they had fared the worst during the long years of war, the potential for renewed fighting was ripe. Canadian bands from the St. Lawrence, especially the Western Abenaki and Penacook, seethed at the loss of their homeland. Luckily, there were men of power who counseled them into remaining at peace. There was retired General John Stark, who was adopted Abenaki, Sagamore Paul Higgins, the leader of the Androscoggin Abenaki and Pierre Paul, also Androscoggin or Penacook, of the Sandy River near Farmington, Maine. All shared a common past with the northern bands from Odanak and Missiquois. All were powerful pro-American leaders. On the Ohio, general George Rogers Clark did much the same with the Indians of that region.

The wilderness zone began north of Casco Bay and stretched across Maine, central and northern New Hampshire, to the still disputed Vermont lands (It became the 14th State March 4, 1791). Once beyond Lake Champlain, the great North Woods of New York opened up and swept across the deserted Iroquois homeland. Thousands rushed into that region, with many New Englanders settling around Ft. Niagara. This westernmost area of New York had been claimed by Massachusetts until 1786.

The Ohio region remained much as it had been before the war. North of the river was Indian lands by treaty, but now falling under increased white settlement. The 1763 Proclamation to keep settlers east of the Allegheny Divide failed to keep squatters out. Thousands entered present Ohio during and after the war, causing the new government to formulize the 'Northwest Ordinance.' In treaty after treaty, the Greenville Line, designating the Indian frontier, shifted deeper into Indiana Territory. The Indians gave George Rogers Clark thousands of acres of land. It originally was intended for war veterans to settle there and was located on the Indiana side of the Ohio upriver from Louisburg, Kentucky. The Ohio Land Company reigned south of the river with men like Nathaniel Little and Nicholas Power as Company men. Power was a stockholder for the Ohio Company, while Little was a grantee of land near the Muskingum River at Wolf Creek, north of the Ohio. He was perhaps related to Pvt. James Little who fought in the Battle of Sandusky (Ohio) in 1782.

As the region west of the Blue Wall increased in population during the war, new states were attempted. In 1775 General Clark and other Virginians attempted to form the Colony (or State) of Transylvania between the Cumberland and Kentucky rivers. This was much of present day Kentucky. In 1776 others attempted a similar State called West Sylvania, which went from Ft. Pitt south along the mountains to North Carolina. In 1785 the State of Franklin almost succeeded in becoming a reality. It would have encompassed a vast tract extending from Roanoke, Virginia south to the union of the Coosa and Tombigbee Rivers west of South Carolina. In 1790, North Carolina relinquished claim to their Tennessee Territory. On June 1, 1792, Kentucky, which had been a western district of Virginia, became the 15th State.

We are lucky to have had Alfred Poore chronicle our family history up to his time of the late 19th century. We are also grateful that our family originated in Essex County, Massachusetts. Those county records are perhaps the most extensive and detailed in the United States. For the Southern Poores, no such family history exists. The majority of records that once were on file have been destroyed. Lord Dunmore burned Norfolk, Virginia, destroying all pre-1775 documents for 17th and 18th century locals. During the Civil War, dozens of county courthouses were destroyed, along with their files. Only scattered accounts survive, birth, marriage and death records from the 1740s to 1790. So far, only two branches have been traced to a true point of origin, both English. One is the Thomas Poore line of Goochland County, Virginia. The three brothers, James, Edward and Jeremiah Poore of 1779 Guilford County, North Carolina present the second branch.

As we approach the 19th century, those of the South began a great migration to the Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky wilderness while their northern cousins did the same in the Ohio region. The story will become unwieldy if I attempt to follow all known branches beyond 1790. As much as possible, I will try and record the major southern lines as they grow and relocate, but without verifiable records, it is difficult. As for the northerners, I will concentrate on my own ancestral John Poore line. These 'Sons of Henry' (great-grandsons), the various children of Joseph and his siblings, were numerous enough to accurately show how the family expanded logistically. In two more generations they went far beyond the old Essex County bounds to encompass much of the continental United States, intermingling with the southern Poores along the way.

## GREEN CORN AND HOMINY SOUP

Beginning at the Florida Keys and going north, the region of present Florida was still a Spanish possession. It actually covered all land along the Gulf of Mexico south of the 31st Parallel, with the zone reaching to the 33rd claimed by both Spain and Georgia. In time, this region south of Tennessee to the Mississippi River would become the enormous Territory of Mississippi and then Alabama and Mississippi. That great region had remained hotly contested during the war. The British had operated throughout its interior with agents and traders plying the various Indian tribes. They had set up a disturbing precedence in which the Indians were extended credit for trade items. The Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek and Chickasaw found themselves burdened by enormous debts, which carried over to the post-war years with the Americans. For decades, their only outlet to lessen the debt had been battering captives that were sold into slavery by the English, and then the Americans at Charleston. By 1790, the tribes, disgusted with either ruling body, retired to ever shrinking enclaves deep within the southern swamps. The great Creek Nation that had given up much land in Georgia and South Carolina led a growing faction that opposed continued encroachment. Many of the Indian leaders were half-breed Highland Scots, who had been integrating with the tribes since the 1750s. Only in Spanish Florida did the Indians find safety. Hundreds of mostly Creek lineage migrated there, joined over the years by remnants of other tribal groups, runaway slaves and white loyalists. These refugees from American encroachment became the Seminole. They became so powerful as a unified people that they joined their Creek cousins and the Choctaw, Chickasaw and Cherokee to become the Five Civilized Tribes.

The new nation was at odds with itself. How we ever got beyond the established British form of government is still a mystery to me. During the ratification of the Federal Constitution (1787-1790), the states were anything but united. In some part New York, but mostly Pennsylvania south to Georgia, found opposing East-West political divisions. George Washington almost became King George I, instead of our first president. The old and wealthy Tidewater Planter families, if they had their way, would have maintained supreme power over the country. They did control the large eastern cities where politics originated, but the general population had shifted westward to the wilderness zones. By 1790, the 'Westerners' formed a sizable political faction out of sheer overpopulation. Many wilderness families boasted of having 20 children under one roof. The majority of them was of Scotch-Irish descent and long used to fighting for their rights. Long before the formation of our modern Republican and Democratic Parties, the country was divided into Tidewater Federalists and Western 'Localists.' Within a decade of winning the war, the country almost regressed into a new war for liberty, over the frailties of our own government.

As happens today, the root problem was financial. The Tidewater planters enjoyed their vast plantations and high property values. The westerners of the Appalachian Region, from Georgia to Pennsylvania, found themselves still fighting Indians. They had little, or no support from the government. Their demands for military aid, improved roads, schools and representation in Congress fell on deaf ears. Being the majority, as far as population, they were expected to pay taxes to fund the new government. Without representation, the frontiersmen felt trodden upon by the very government that they gave their lives to help develop in the first place. 'Taxation without Representation' was their old battle cry.

The first 'insurrection' was again in Massachusetts, in 1786. A Berkshire Mountain farmer, Daniel Shay, led an army to protest unfair debts. His 'army' was routed by Federal troops and Shay fled to the Green Mountains of Vermont. His actions, although short lived, became a rallying point for westerners all across the frontier. They collectively held little financial clout, but because of their numbers, they held the upper hand. In incident after incident, the Tidewater planters lost their hold on the government because of the democratic vote. South Carolina tried to raise the Governors salary to 1,000 Pounds. The westerners voted down the bill. Eastern Tidewater Maryland tried to legalize paper 'bills of credit' to help the rich property owners. The western counties voted down that bill.

For fifty years, the southern Poores (and Powers) had grown in number all along the Blue Wall. Rooted in the wilds of the Monongahela, Greenbrier and Cumberland Rivers, they had become hardened frontiersmen. Their children had been raised to watch for Shawnee war bands as their fathers rode out on militia patrols.

West of Roanoke, Virginia was the family of David Powers and his sons, George, Peter and Valentine. David's family was one of the first from the extended family to enter this mountain vastness, which was then Montgomery and Fincastle Counties. His was a large and important family closely aligned with George, Peter and William Poor(e). David's family may have, in fact, been Poores. Many offspring migrated to Sullivan and Claiborne Counties TN, settling in and around Tazewell. There were many alternate spellings of the family name. This family will be reviewed in the following chapter.

Another Montgomery County Powers was Jonas, descended from Walter Power. This most likely was the same Walter Power who settled Salem, Massachusetts in 1654 and whose descendants lived primarily in southern New Hampshire. This link is very vague, but it offers a probable and continued tie with the Virginia and New England families.

Jeremiah Poore (later Powers) of Frederick County was 26 years old in 1790. He may have been related to the John Powers who lived on Simpson's Creek on the West Fork of the Monongahela since 1771.

These Powers of the Ohio frontier haunt me. They may have been isolated settlers, who came separately with the Scotch-Irish migrations. On the other hand, they may have all been of the John Powers line that seems to have settled first in the Wyoming and Cherry Valley regions of the Pennsylvania-New York border. John Powers and his wife Evelyn had lived in Cherry Valley at present Springfield, NY. He would have undoubtedly had brothers in the same vicinity, again possibly coming from the Walter Power line. John and Evelyn also would have had children; we know nothing more of them except that they left with

the Mohawk, Joseph Brant, possibly to Upper Canada (Ontario). Were the Frederick County, VA, Poore-Powers and the Simpson Creek (West Virginia) John Powers of the same family as John and Evelyn?

What this does show is an early and continuing relationship between the Indians and the Poore-Powers family of the western frontier. For almost 40 years the extended family had either fought against, or had been allied with, Indian tribes. By 1790, 80% of the combined Poore-Powers, of whatever origin, found the mountains west of Roanoke to be home. The entire southwestern section of Virginia had become a 'Poore Zone,' much the same as in Wiltshire-Hampshire, England. It actually extended south through the west-central counties of North Carolina to northwestern South Carolina. Most of the men of these families had been active throughout the years of war as frontier militiamen. Although they all had home farms, they had seen service from the Great Lakes to the Mississippi, ranging down through the Kentucky and Tennessee wilderness to Mississippi Territory. From Virginia's vast Montgomery County the Poores shared their rivers and highlands with Cherokee neighbors, who had become refugees in their own land. From the Radford region of present Wythe County families of David, George, Valentine and Peter Powers, Jonas Powers, John Powers and George, Peter, John and William Poor finally befriended their old enemies. Their children were probably frequent visitors in the Cherokee camps, eating hominy stew and watching the Green Corn Dance by firelight.

Old warriors, red and white, retired after the war to their home farms. At Goochland County, Virginia, Abraham Poore died in 1886 at age 65. His 10 children would all migrate westward to new regions. His brother, Thomas Poore, died two years later in 1788 at age 67. His 7 children also moved west. Witnessing his will at Goochland were Thomas Poor and David Powers. The middle brother, Robert Poore, born in 1723, lived the longest. He lived in Goochland County and was married to Judith Walker. He died in 1797 at the age of 74; as for children, I assume that there were many, but I do not know who they were. We should keep his children in mind, for the name of another Robert Poore springs up later on. It would be a supposition that he had a son named Robert. His brother Abraham also had a son with that name and all seem to have migrated to Woodford County, Kentucky.

Perhaps one of Robert Poore's sons became the father of Solomon Poore (1797-), born in Botetourt County. Solomon married Elizabeth Wood in 1833 when he was 35 years old. Perhaps she was his second wife. They had 5 known children: Sarah Ann Virginia Poore (1834-1909), James Poore (1839-), George Poore (1841-), Russia Poore (1847-) and Sally Poore (1848-). Our cousin Mary Genotti-Collins descends from Solomon Poore.

South of Goochland the families of old William Poore (1720-1795) and George Poore Sr. (1723-1810) of Pittsylvania and Henry Counties also had fled the ancestral nest. The old men were brothers. They were also the same two mentioned above, who, with John Powers, rode with the Augusta Militia in the French and Indian War. In their long lifetimes they had ample opportunities to have acquired land throughout the mountain region in which they had fought. In 1783 George Sr. and his brother William took George Jr. to claim a grant on the North Carolina line in Henry County on the south side of the Mayo River. George's son Hugh Poore (1775-1829) married Martha Hutchins in 1798 and moved to present Jackson County, Ohio. Another and older son was Peter Poore (1750-1783). He and his wife Margaret took land near Rugby, Montgomery County, VA after sharing his father's Mayo River lands. He had rode for years with the Mounted Militia with James McCorkle. After his death, his wife and sons migrated to Sullivan and Claiborne Counties, Tennessee. This man I believe to have possibly been the father of Jesse Poore (1770-1843), ancestor of Dr. Ross Poore of Utah. Records show Jesse being born in North Carolina, but the family traveled constantly and the old Mayo River homestead was on a river that straddles the state line.

William Poore's eldest son John Poore Sr. (1744-1847) lived to the ripe age of 97. His son John Jr. (1774-1841) married Rhoda Clements about 1792. They had two sons (and probably many more), John (born about 1793) and Hugh (1807-1839). These two brothers would begin a multi-state odyssey that would take them to Tennessee, Alabama and finally to Belton, Anderson County, South Carolina. When Hugh died in 1739, his brother John would marry his widowed wife, Anna Holland (1775-1880).

Moses Poore Sr. (1750-1820) was another Virginia-born inter-state traveler. I suspect that he was another brother of George Sr. and William Poore. He originated from the same Pittsylvania-Henry County region near the Carolina border, as did William and George. Although some think Moses was born in Ireland, I tend to think that he, William and George descended from the old Thomas Poore line of England, Andover

MA and the Chowan River Poores. Moses migrated first to Knox Co., TN, where his children were born. He died in Madison Co., Alabama, perhaps living for a time in Kentucky. His wife's name remains a mystery, but his children hold firm to northern names. Benjamin Poore, born 1773; Joseph Poore b. 1774; Mary Poore b. 1799 who married Isaac Van Hooser and Moses B. Poore Jr., born in 1783 and married Poly Miller of Pittsylvania Co., VA. Moses Jr. and Poly settled at Byrdstown, Tennessee, where their daughter Luvina Poore was born in 1812. William Poore may also have been a son, marrying Nancy Young and settling in Jamestown, Russell Co., Kentucky.

There were many other Virginia Poore families with children going far afield. There was Michael Poore of Bedford County and his son David Poore of Augusta County, who married a Cherokee. David had been an active militiaman during the war, as was his son Peter. Receiving a veteran's grant, David and Peter moved to Anderson County, Tennessee. Peter's son Christopher Poore married Sarah Snodderly, perhaps also part Cherokee and relocated to Drake County, Ohio. This line would in turn move from Ohio to Indiana, Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri. Two more members of Patrick County, which dead end around 1831, are Stephen and Levi Poore.

The last Virginia Poore of note was Robert Poore of Goochland County. He was undoubtedly one of the Thomas or Abraham Poore line, either a nephew or cousin. Robert was a common name throughout this family. He would have been born around 1765, marrying a woman named Elizabeth. In 1790 a daughter was born in Goochland Co. by the name of Mary Poly Poor(e). Mary had a cousin named Mary G. Poor, who was born about 1796. Their destinies were to meet, and marry, two brothers, John and Richard James. John married Mary Poly Poor March 26, 1807 and Mary G. Poor married Richard James December 18, 1813. There is a possibility that the entire Poor-James clan, including Robert and Elizabeth, migrated to Kentucky about this time. John James and Mary Poly Poor had a son Robert James, who married his cousin Zerelda Cole in Kentucky. Their sons were Jesse and Frank James, with the family finally settling in Kearney, Missouri.

Across the Virginia border were the large North Carolina Piedmont counties of Guilford and Montgomery. An equally large consolidation of Poores and Poers had collected there since the French and Indian War. When last visited, young David Poer of the Rowan River vicinity had watched Daniel Boone and Christopher Gist recruit soldiers to fight for General Braddock. Although that was a fictional account, David was very much a real person and ancestor to an important branch of the family. The following account is rough and sometimes speculative on my part. Frances Poer Fox, who continues to trace this family's history, remains the ultimate authority for her Poer line.

In 1764, at the age of 20, David married Sallie Sanders Jordan. He was of an age and location to have ridden with the Rowan Co. Militia with Captains William and Daniel Little in 1766. In 1767 David and Sallie claimed a land grant of 200-acres, on the Little River near Big Creek, just northeast of the town of Troy, Montgomery County.

This is the old family written about in a previous chapter as possibly coming from Ned Poor, who had a farm, or was of taxable age, in Edgecombe County in 1732. David was undoubtedly one of many sons and daughters of Ned, dispersing as they grew to new locations as the family moved to the Piedmont uplands. There is an outside possibility that Ned descended from the Tidewater Chowan River Poores. If so, he may have been related to William, George and Moses Poore of southern Virginia. Many Poores and Poers must have originated from Ned's line. The old man, perhaps born in northeastern NC or southern Virginia around 1716 was of an age to have been one of those roughneck-mounted militiamen who protected the backcountry. As his children, like David Poer on Little River progressed, Ned may have remained in Edgecomb County, or traveled on as the frontier advanced.

David and Sallie forged a dynasty on the Little River. Firmly placed on the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road, it appears that their farm also operated a profitable tanning business. The family owned 5 slaves, who were farmhands or tannery workers. Making harnesses and saddles became part of the overall concern, which at least two of the sons took up in later life.

· A note on slavery: North Carolina was one of the few colonies and states that officially shunned the ownership of slaves, where Charleston, SC remained the 'capitol' of slavery. Virginia had slaves historically in the Tidewater region, working the tobacco fields. South Carolina, Georgia and later Alabama

and Mississippi held the bulk of the African slaves, where cotton reigned supreme. For David Poer and other Piedmont farmers (who were mostly of Scotch-Irish and German descent), slaves were purchased, but on a limited degree. Even the Cherokee owned slaves, but these were usually taken into the Indian families as adoptees.

All told, David and Sallie had 10 children who were raised through the years of war and early nationhood. They were born with a love for greener pastures, traveling to new ancestral seats in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Indiana, Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. Frances Poer Fox of New Boston, TX and Gary Poore of Florida descend from these children of David Poer. They were:

1. David Poer Jr. (1765-1825) David was a hat maker by trade, settling in Pickens District, SC, on the Tugaloo River. He had 7 children: James Madison, Rebecca, Emila, Jane, Frances, Nancy and Polly Ann Poer. Daughter Jane (1789-1818) married Jacob Latimer at Green County, Kentucky in 1809. Before she died, she had a son Thomas, who was raised by his father in Missouri. He returned to Kentucky at age 21, took over the old farm and died near Campbellville, Taylor Co., Ky.
2. Samuel Poer (1768-) Very little information survives as to his history.
3. John Poer (1770-1803) married and moved to Union Co., SC, dying in Franklin Co., TN. His children moved to Arkansas.
4. James Poer (1773-) married Sally Cockram, and moved to Bowie Co. (Red River Co), Texas in 1837. This was the very early years of Texas being a Republic, newly independent from Mexico. They had 17 children, some relocating to California during the 1849 Gold Rush. Sons Daniel Poer (1833-) and Robert (Bob) Poer (1835-) died in California.
5. Elizabeth Poer (unsure of her birth date-either 1775 or the last child, born 1794) married Solomon Carpenter, who took her through Tennessee and Kentucky to Indiana. She separated from Solomon and remarried, to Andrew Perkins. It is reported that, in later life, she owned a store in New Orleans LA.
6. Aaron Poer (1776-1846) married Nancy Spencer in 1802 and moved to Harris Co. Georgia. This couple had 9 children, many of whom moved back to South Carolina: Palestine (Poly), Barbary, Mahala, Casan Daney, Sarah, Augustus Johnson, William Spencer, Rev. Duncan McLauren and David R. Poer.
7. Solomon Poer (1780-1844) Like his brother James, Solomon eventually migrated to Bowie Co. Texas after raising a family in South Carolina. He was a tanner and saddle maker, having a son Martin A. Poer. Martin was an adult with slaves when the family moved to Texas in 1837.
8. Sarah Poer (1784-) No History
9. Salvadore Poer (1788-) migrated to Buncombe Co., SC. He was a storeowner.
10. Green Poer (1794-) Green, was a saddle-maker, married and migrated to Mitchell Co., Georgia. One of his sons was Montford Poer, born in 1831, Gary Poore's ancestor. Montford was a court clerk in 1860 and was a veteran of the Civil War. Montford had four sons: John, Henry, Jack and Green Poer. Green changed the name back to Poore, settling in Florida.

About the time that Aaron Poer was born in Montgomery County, three British Poore brothers emigrated to nearby Guilford County. Sons of Edward Poore and Rebeka (Rebecca) Thompson, they arrived young and ready to work. All three seem to have been brick makers, perhaps to work on the civic buildings for the county. Jeremiah Poore was the elder brother (1756-) and during the war remained a loyalist. He and his brothers Edward and James Poore were on the county rolls by 1778.

When Cornwallis was routed at Guilford Courthouse late in the war, Jeremiah must have given verbal support to the British. His brother Edward was also involved to some degree, for they were asked to justify their political stance or forfeit their lands. Jeremiah already owned much property, over 200 acres. He and Edward talked, or bought their way out of it, for all remained in Guilford County once the war was over.

In 1790 Jeremiah married Elizabeth Hester, who descended from a very old Virginia Planter family. My gut feeling is that these sons of Edward Poore were of the same direct line as our Wiltshire/Hampshire Poores. I also believe that they had a close relationship (cousins?) of the David Poer Sr. branch of Montgomery County. From their home near Jamestown, Guilford Co., Jeremiah and Elizabeth raised 12 children:

1. Unknown baby
2. Unknown baby
3. Unknown baby
4. Unknown baby
5. Robert Poore (1793-1850) Moved to Mercer Co., KY, and Shelby Co. Missouri, 9 children
6. Edward Poore 1794-) moved to Sullivan County, TN where he married Sarah Morris in 1818. A note of interest: the Morris family was part Cherokee. Dr. Ross Poore's ancestor, Jesse Poore (1790-1860), married Mary Morris from the same vicinity in 1814. Edward and Sarah migrated from Tennessee to present Crown Point, Indiana. Their children were Anderson, Robert, Elizabeth and Frances Poore. Anderson Poore (1819-) moved to Miller, Hand Co., South Dakota.
7. Jeremiah Poore (1800-1837) married Rebekah Poer in 1825, perhaps a granddaughter of David Poer Sr.
8. Jesse Poore (1803-) was a deaf shoemaker who remained unmarried and lived with his brother Samuel Poore.
9. James Poore (1805-1889) migrated to Monroe Co., Missouri.
10. Samuel Poore (1809-) married Benitha Swiggart in 1835 and remained in North Carolina.
11. Thomas Poore (1812-) no history
12. John Poore (1814-) married Ellen Shaw in 1834. They evidently remained in North Carolina, where his father-in-law killed John. No other history is of record for this couple.

Edward Poore (1757-) was Jeremiah's brother and settled in Guilford County. His wife's name was Sarah, who bore him 6 sons and 6 daughters.

Jeremiah and Edward's younger brother was James Poore (1758-). No solid records of his life have been found. A possible son, Benjamin Poer (Poore) 1799-1890 was located in Estill County, Kentucky in 1799. This is the area east and south of Lexington and Boonsboro. Another possible son was Jeremiah Poore, also listed as Powers (1794-) who married Eleanor Dedman in Bath Co., KY in 1823.

From the three brothers, Jeremiah, Edward and James who arrived in America at the height of the War of Independence, their children and grandchildren would settle in North Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, South Dakota and Utah. It is evident that they were a well to do family and known to David Poer's family. Descended from this interesting group of brothers is cousin Sandra Corcoran.

There must have been hundreds of other southern Poores all across the frontier and Tidewater regions. By the beginning of the 19th century, they were well on their way to becoming virtually uncountable as they sought their own greener pastures.

## THE PATCHWORK QUILT

This time period between 1790 and 1820 remains critical to so many cousins who have roots in especially western Virginia and Carolina. Because it was a time of national expansion, during a population boom, it is hard enough to trace anybody. In our case, we have to deal with old families that constantly switched their surnames: Poor, Poore, Poer, Power, Powers, Pore, Poure and Pouer. Intermingled with these are the mistranslations to the German Bauer and Bauers. While we are at it, it would be good to remember the Poe family, placing them in the same kettle of Hominy Soup. Add to this the intermarriages with the Cherokee and throw in the black slaves (many of whom carried on the Poore name to the present) who followed the wandering families, and you have a Poor patchwork quilt.

The quilt was assembled in the region of what is today that 14-county chisel-shaped portion of far western Virginia. Terminating at the Appalachian Crest, the wedge drives to a point along the North Carolina border, slides along northeastern Tennessee and collides head-on with Kentucky. West Virginia was still a separate zone controlled by the Ohio Land Company.

This was old Montgomery County, with present Montgomery, Wythe, Russell and Grason Counties being the home seat for the older Poor relations. Some had been there, in one capacity or another, since Col. Patton settled the region in 1750. Along with William, George, John and Peter Poor were also David Powers and his sons. David (1740-) came from the 17th century Powers line that had been in Virginia since early colonial times. He came from an established estate on the North Anna River near Goochland. This was the same area in which Thomas and Abraham Poore had large grants, as did David Poore. A close neighbor of the Powers had been a man named Chiswell, who took a group of local men to start a mine in the mountains. In the vicinity of present Wythe-Grayson Counties, Ft. Chiswell was built. By 1782, David Powers had 200 acres of land in the Rugby area near Grayson City (Peter Poor also lived in the same area at Dunkards Bottom, Pulaski Co.). He rode with the Elk Creek Militia out of Montgomery City in 1782-83. His son George Powers Sr. (1760-1819) had land at Wythe City on Cripple Creek. In 1810 his son George Powers Jr. married Anna Lozier at Wythe City. The marriage records list them as George Bower and Anna Lootzer. After his father died, he, Anna and his widowed mother moved to Tazewell, Claiborne Co. Tennessee around 1820-26. Tazewell records show him as George Poor.

In an earlier chapter, I described this mountain region as flowing downhill in all directions. It was still east of the Appalachian crest, but rivers all seemed to begin here. The Roanoke flowed down to the Atlantic. The New and Greenbrier flowed north to the Ohio through West Virginia. The Cumberland (old Shawnee River) flowed into Tennessee to the west, while the Holston and Clinch Rivers flowed south and west to Sullivan and Claiborne Counties, TN. It is beginning to appear that almost all branches of the Poore family assembled here to enter either Tennessee or Kentucky. It leads to the Cumberland Trail. South in Carolina much the same happened as families headed toward the same region. Daniel Boone's Cumberland Road had become a major highway.

This brings us finally to Jesse Poore, son of Peter, who was born in North Carolina (or on the NC/VA line) in 1770. Dr. Ross Poore has done much research on his ancestral line, but it still is unclear who Peter was and if he were, in fact, Jesse's father. Family tradition has him being of Irish or Scotch-Irish descent, but I strongly suspect that he was of the older lines of William Poore and his brothers George and Moses. These brothers may have been aligned with the yet older Thomas Poore lines (English) of Goochland County and Old Albemarle County (Chowan River) Poores of North Carolina, which could have branched off to include the Ned Poor line through David Poer Sr. Sewing up the quilt; it is the only thing that makes sense. The Jesse Poore patches round out the southern Poore history, for most of them were now 'Westerners.'

Jesse Poore was one of many cousins to enter Tennessee. He may have gone early, in the 1790s with a previous wife, for he did not get married to Mary Morris until 1814 when he was 44 years old. Jesse and Mary settled first in Sullivan County, where her family was from. Part or full-blood Cherokee, she was probably related to Sarah Morris of Sullivan Co. who married Edward Poore (son of Edward of Guilford Co., NC) in 1818. While Edward and Sarah migrated from Sullivan Co. north to Indiana, Jesse and Mary moved west, to Tazewell, Claiborne Co., TN. Their descendants still live in that region. Their children were:

1. Baxter Borstein Poore (1816-) married Matilda Herrell 1845

2. Mason Greenleaf Poore (1830-)
3. Sarah Ann Poore (1832-)
4. Henry Poore (1834-)
5. Edward Poore (1836-1826)
6. Mary Poore (1839-1876)
7. Elizabeth Jean Poore (1841-1893)
8. Robert T. Poore (1843-)

## MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS

The reign of Thomas Jefferson as President was momentous for our country. He symbolized the changes that had come about through his own personality. Where George Washington had been a dynamic figure, he was of the old, established 'English School.' Jefferson, on the other hand, came from more humble Scotch-Irish roots. His father had been a surveyor, taking young Thomas with him to set the bounds of the Virginia-Carolina border. The boy helping his father remembered the vastness of the yet unsettled Tennessee wilderness, which spread beyond the Great Divide on the Cumberland Road. By the time he had reached maturity, his family had become as wealthy and established as the Old Planters, but Jefferson retained his Scotch-Irish individualism and love for the unknown.

These 'New Rich' of the Virginia interior bred many famous figures. Along with Jefferson were the neighboring families and compatriots---Lewis, Clark, Rogers and many others. When he became president, he chose these people to help him in his administration. One was young Meriwether Lewis, a junior officer in the army who was his secretary. Lewis was kin to the Andrew and John Lewis clans who had led the Poore cousins through so many frontier campaigns. He had most recently been stationed in the Ohio Country, where he had become friends with Lt. William Clark, youngest brother of George Rogers Clark. In a bold stroke, Jefferson bought the Spanish Louisiana Territory from Napoleon, who had won it from the Spanish in his European wars. The President chose the two young officers, Lewis and Clark, to explore the new region late in 1803. Lewis was commissioned a captain; Clark's commission did not go through as promised. He co-captained the expedition, called 'The Corps of Discovery' as Second Lieutenant. Congress finally approved his commission in 2000.

Most of us know the story of this first (official) trans-continental journey to find the headwaters of the Missouri and cross to the Pacific Ocean. They hoped to find a water route to the sea for commerce. The United States operated on a shoestring. Spain still controlled the entire southwest from Texas to California and tried to hold on to their Indian trade relations on the Missouri River. The British, from Canada, did the same. They sent their agents like Alexander MacKay down across the Red River of the North to ply the Northern Plains tribes. They also held the Oregon Territory in the Northwest in a firm grasp, attempting to colonize it and attach it to Canada. Expansion beyond the Mississippi was critical for the nation. Thousands had already flooded across the Cumberland Gap to all regions south of the Ohio River. In the south, cotton planters found that they had to constantly relocate as soil depleted. By 1803, the Cotton Belt had reached French Louisiana and Arkansas to the border of Spanish Texas. From Kentucky, settlers had begun to cross to Missouri, Daniel Boone again leading the way. From St. Louis north, the Missouri watershed offered untold riches in 'Soft Gold,' beaver pelts. Many frontiersmen from Ohio and Kentucky, working for French fur companies, had found their way to the Rocky Mountain foothills even before the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Connecting the frontier settlements along the Ohio River was the Natchez Trail, following the eastern shore of the Mississippi to Louisiana. It (an old Indian war trail) became a major link filled with travelers who were beset by bandits and outlaws, using the Arkansas wilderness as their hideout.

I have never seen a Poore listed in the rolls of the expedition, but there may have been residual cousins with the party. The plan, formed by the two officers after consulting brother George Rogers Clark at Clarksville (across from Louisburg, KY), called for a general assembly near St. Louis in the autumn of 1803. The men were handpicked and the entire operation unfolded as a military campaign. All told, including Lewis and Clark, there were 45 men between the ages of 18 (Pvt. George Shannon) and 35 (John Shields, of Augusta Co., VA). There were Creole (French-Arcadian) river pilots, regular army personnel, civilian hunters and specialists, surveyors, horsemen, Indian interpreters, Clark's slave York and Lewis' Labrador retriever, named Seaman (for years it was thought that the dog's name was 'Shannon,' because of Clark's often illegible handwriting).

They trained at Camp Wood, outside St. Charles, MO, through the winter and spring. Daniel Boone and his son Nathan, who had owned land under Spanish rule since 1799, helped them as much as possible. In May 1804, they set out upriver aboard the *Discovery*, a flatboat specially designed by Capt. Lewis. Of the seven men who kept a daily journal, Master Sergeant John Ordway's was the most detailed. He alone stands out as being a possible cousin, one of 10 children born in Hebron, New Hampshire. Sergeants Charles Floyd and his cousin, Nathaniel Hale, also stand out because of Hale's name, as New Englanders. Floyd was first to die, near present South Sioux City, Nebraska, of appendicitis. After fighting their way through Sioux country, they wintered at Ft. Mandan (Bismarck, ND). They found blue-eyed Mandan with light hair who told of ancient times when white men (Prince Orwain of Wales) lived with them on the Ohio River. Their only river vessel was identical to the old Celtic coracles, bullboats. Signing on as guide was the French trapper Charbonneau and his wife, the Snake (Shoshone) woman Sacajawea. She wished to return home to her western Wyoming family after years of captivity. She carried her son on her back, 55-day-old Pierre Charbonneau.

With the incentive of \$10 per-day, clothing and governmental land grants in Missouri upon their return, most of the men completed the 2-year round trip. Some chose to remain in the mountains. John Colter and others became famous Mountain Men. Others went to work for Manuel Lisa as trappers out of St. Louis. William Clark, who became Governor of Missouri and Indian agent for the Missouri River tribes, raised the baby, Pierre Charbonneau. He, in turn, finished his schooling in Europe and then returned to his mother's people. He became a noted trapper and Mountain Man, scouting for Kit Carson and John Fremont.

Sergeant Ordway returned to New Hampshire long enough to settle his affairs. He sold his journal to William Clark for \$300 and then retired to his land grant in Missouri, living off his pension.

This newly acquired territory became the Mecca for western-bound adventures from all over the eastern United States, especially war veterans. With William Clark in power at St. Louis as governor (1813-1820), Americans began arriving by the boatload. As eastern Missouri began to receive these pensioners, the native Osage, Oto and Missouia migrated west and south. The dominant Osage sought out the Ozarks as their haven. Their cousins moved further up the Missouri to be near their other relations, the Kansa, Omaha and Ponca. The opening of the Louisiana Purchase caused all tribes to shift locations from Minnesota to Arkansas with the influx of new, Anglo arrivals.

## PUMPKINS ON THE PISCATAQUAS

The juncture of the Piscataquas River with the mighty Merrimack today is within the city of Manchester, NH. Looking at a modern map, Manchester, the largest city in the state, shoots north in a narrow finger west of the Merrimack, encompassing the mouth of the Piscataquas and abutting West Hooksett, about 10 miles north. Across the river, it does the same, cutting into the underbelly of Hooksett. It looks like this rectangle of the city was added in later years to include the Merrimack corridor. Just to the west of the Manchester line is the large township of Goffstown, NH. To the north of Goffstown is the township of Dunbarton, which in Samuel Poore's time was called Starktown, for General John Stark who settled there. Goffstown, Bedford, Manchester and New Boston are in Hillsborough County. Dunbarton, Bow and Hooksett are in Merrimack County.

In 1790 the towns were more ill defined. Manchester was smaller, although a thriving community. To the east of Manchester and the Merrimack, the old town of Chester, which was the remnants of the

original Colchester Plantation, included the growing towns of Hampstead, Atkinson, Chester, Salem, Hudson and Plaistow, in Rockingham County. Goffstown, New Boston and Dunbarton dominated the western side of the river centered on the Piscataquas main and south branch. The Littles, with George Jr. and Elizabeth Searle Poore at New Boston as early as the 1750s, were 'first families' of the region. Elizabeth's grandchildren followed over 30 years later.

First to leave New Rowley, Essex County, MA was the elder grandson, Samuel Poore. He and Anna Bridges may have gone soon after their 1784 marriage to settle the land bought by his father in 1782. I am sure that they were there before Joseph died in 1795. Using Alfred Poore's book as a guide, it is still unclear just where the original 140-acre Poore Lot was located. Alfred placed the farm, "in what was originally Goffstown NH...in the southwesterly portion of that town made in 1822 from a portion of Dunbarton, Goffstown and ancient Chester, and called by the name of Hooksett."

The modern boundaries have West Hooksett abutting the Dunbarton and Bow lines and very little touches Goffstown. Below it is that finger of North Manchester running up the western side of the Merrimack. I suspect that in the 1780s, Goffstown and Dunbarton went to the Merrimack. The Poore Lot #3 would have been mostly in present Manchester. Alfred gives a hint when describing the lot as being north of the Piscataquas, between Lot #2 to the north and #4 to the south. Lot #4 must have abutted, or straddled the river. At the point of the river where the town of Grasmere stands today, the Piscataquas swings sharply southeast to the bigger river. Assuming Lot #1 was most northerly and began at the old Dunbarton line, the distance can be divided in 4 equal portions to roughly locate the Joseph Poore property. Once this is done, it becomes clear that Lot #1 was within present West Hooksett. Lot #2 spanned from Black Brook to the Merrimack in present Manchester starting at the West Hooksett line. Lot #3, owned by the Poore family, touched the Piscataquas at its southwest point and went to the Merrimack, with Black Brook running through its center parallel with the Piscataquas and Lot #4 encompassed both sides of the Piscataquas to the Goffstown-Bedford line.

Sam and Anna built their farm somewhere along Black Brook. Joseph's original intent was that the 140 acres would be an inheritance for as many of the children that wanted to relocate there. It is evident that they chose the northeast section of the property, with Black Brook as their southwest boundary. The farm was a mixture of fertile bottomland that was rich in clay deposits, sought after by brick makers. It also included high ground that rose to the west to Pattee Hill, home of Thomas Saltmarsh.

The closest community was just west of the property at what was then called East Goffstown, present Grasmere NH. Northwest was Page's Corner and the Saltmarsh Farm was due west from it at Pattee Hill. The hill was north of Goffstown Center (Centre), which was the main town, as it is today. Upriver from Goffstown Center the South Branch of the Piscataquas snaked southwest into New Boston at present Parker, while the main river abruptly swung north at Riverdale, which was then called West Goffstown Village. At that point, the river rose into the mountainous region to the town of Weare, with beautiful Mt. Kearsarge in the distance. From its granite summit (it is just beyond the tree line), the red-tail hawks keep silent watch over the old Poore lands.

Sam's brother, George, was next to arrive, bringing his young family to locate southwest of Sam and Anna's farm. George Poore and Mary Little had been married since 1783. By 1796 they were well settled, he sent a letter to his brother, Joseph, in New Rowley (later Georgetown) that year. The original George Poore (both he and Sam spelled it Poor, as did all of the brothers) farm was probably south of Black Brook and close to the Piscataquas, near East Goffstown (Grasmere).

Their uncle Eliphalet Poore (1746-1827) had taken his own advice and sold his Hampstead farm. In 1786 he took his wife, Elizabeth Little and their children to live at Hopkinton NH. He operated a gristmill at Contoocook Village. That immediate branch of the family began a long occupation of the uplands west of Concord, in the valleys of the Contoocook and Blackwater Rivers. Only brother, Joseph Jr. (1770-1843), with his wife, Hannah Wood, remained in Massachusetts to run the old homestead after 1795. Brother, Jesse (1765-1845), lived until 1790 in Boxford MA with his wife, Phebe Hedges, before relocating to Berlin, Washington Co., Vermont. His brother, Job (1767-1851), and first wife, Sally Cummings Hobart, followed him to the same town.

Last to leave, and perhaps the most adventurous, was the youngest brother, John Poore (1775-1819). His 1797 marriage to 17-year-old Hannah Chute ended the century with a classic union with three of the original Newbury 'First Families.' Hannah's mother was Mehitable Thurston, descended from Daniel Thurston of Thornbury, Gloucestershire and Newbury Neck. Her father was Deacon James Chute, descended from Lionel Chute and Rose Baker of Dedham and Ipswich. Lionel (1580-1645), born in England, was the first schoolteacher of Ipswich. Hannah's sister, Eunice Chute, married Joseph Hale Jr., also of the Newbury Neck first families. Her great-grandfather's brother, Thomas Chute (1692-1763), led the first settlers to Windham, Maine.

All in all, the Poore-Chute union was a momentous one for their future descendants. The Chute Dynasty was as old as the Poores. Hannah's direct line had come in an unbroken chain from Kent, through Philip (Chute) of Appledor, Standard Bearer to King Henry VIII. This famous personage had accumulated hundreds of acres of land in Northwest Hampshire and eastern Wiltshire in his lifetime, just east of the Amesbury Poore estates.

John and Hannah at first resided near her relatives in Reading MA, but in the spring of 1798, John chose to join his brothers in New Hampshire. The old property at Goffstown was pretty well taken by Sam and George, so he went north to old Stevensville, present Salisbury NH. The 'frontier' life, weather and isolation must have played a roll, for they only stayed in Salisbury from March 1798 to August 1799, just under one year and a half. They returned to Reading, where they lived from 1799-1801, then returned to New Rowley. John bought over 6 acres in Byfield Village, living on the Newbury side of the town that had been part of the old Richard Dummer estate. They lived on their small farm for 15 years, raising a family. Brother, Joseph, lived only a short distance away on the old Henry Poore Homestead.

Letters floated back and forth between the scattered brothers as each set their individual course. Jesse wrote his father in 1793 shortly after arriving in Berlin VT. Samuel wrote to brother Joseph in 1796 telling him of his Goffstown farm. John, being the youngest, emulated his brother's love for far away places. He felt disappointment for his failure to carve out a new life in Salisbury, often thinking about the beautiful mountain called Kearsarge, which beckoned him back to the wilds.

By 1806, everyone had heard of the exploits of the Lewis and Clark Expedition to Oregon and back. With John Ordway's participation and his many letters home to his parents, the entire countryside was abuzz with the news, long before the word spread to the rest of the nation. All at once the new country had more than doubled in size. Ordway left New Hampshire for Missouri; many local men followed him west. By 1807, Manuel Lisa had formed the Missouri Fur Company and began building trading posts as far up the Missouri as the mouth of the Platte River across from Council Bluffs, Iowa. In 1811, John Jacob Astor founded the American Fur Company and established a post at Astoria, Oregon.

The War of 1812 began, in part, because of Astor's bold attempt to lay claim to British territory in the Northwest. The British were extremely threatened by American expansion. They depended on the Indian Fur Trade, prices for beaver felt (for hats) were at an all time high in Europe. At odds with France once more, the British had forbid the Americans from trading with Napoleon's government. The American Navy had become a nuisance as well, stopping British warships at sea to search for American conscripts taken illegally, often by force. This time, it was the United States that declared war, to safeguard their trade relations with the entire world.

It was a short, but bloody war. On land the American Army was sent into the Ohio Country to put down a British attempt to rally the Indian tribes under leaders such as the Shawnee, Tecumseh. The fighting in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois was brutal to the extreme as local militia mingled with army troops to defeat the tribes once and for all. It was a repeat of what had happened in New England 137 years before.

From Detroit to Lake Champlain the war raged. The Americans tried three unsuccessful invasions of Canada, losing many of their key forts to the British along the Great Lakes. Cousin, Nehemiah Saltmarsh, died at Plattsburg NY. Only after Capt. Oliver Hazard Perry defeated the British fleet on Lake Erie, did the tide begin to turn in the north. The British, who fled back to Upper Canada, abandoned Detroit. General William Henry Harrison followed them and beat their combined British and Indian army at the Battle of the Thames, Ontario. Tecumseh died there.

Washington, DC, fell to a British naval bombardment. It was burned and President Madison fled the city. At Baltimore the British fleet was repulsed due to heavy fortification of Ft. McHenry, flying "The Star Spangled Banner." They retreated to Jamaica to regroup, before sending an all-out force against General Andrew Jackson at New Orleans.

Jackson had been busy in Alabama and Florida putting down a British-backed Creek Indian uprising, "The Redstick War." He arrived in New Orleans, recruited the Arcadian pirate Jean Lafitte and waited. Sir Edward Pakenham arrived with 11,000 men aboard 60 ships and on January 8, 1815, the Americans beat him back into the sea. The war was over.

For the old men, it was the Last Hurrah. Thomas Saltmarsh outlived many of his own sons. The youngest, Hazen Saltmarsh, had died at 24 in 1805. Surprisingly, Thomas' uncle, Moses Hazen, died the following year at Troy, New York. In 1812, at the age of 77, the old warrior took his sons downriver to Boston to outfit the family ships for war duty. This Goffstown farmer, and veteran of two previous wars, went to sea one last time to command his own privateer. He died in 1826 at the age of 91.

Pattee Hill had become a Saltmarsh stronghold over the years as the children grew to maturity. Because Thomas was my Great-great-great-great-grandfather, I will list his many children. He himself had been the fourth son of 10 children born to Thomas Sr. and Mary Hazen. Thomas Jr. and Elizabeth Abbott, from their Goffstown farm, had 10 more offspring:

1. Mehitable Saltmarsh (1762-) married James Hoit
2. John Saltmarsh (1764-) married Susanna Burnham
3. Polly Saltmarsh (1766-) married Samuel Voss of Antrim NH
4. Edward Abbott Saltmarsh (1768-1854) married Sally Story
5. Thomas III Saltmarsh (1771-1804) married Betsey Evens
6. Sally Saltmarsh (1773-)
7. Samuel Saltmarsh (1775-1844) married Elizabeth Burnham, sister of Susanna
8. Catherine Saltmarsh (1777-) married Thomas Saltmarsh of Guilford NH
9. Isaac Saltmarsh (1779-1823) married Phoebe Stratton, lived at Antrim NH
10. Hazen Saltmarsh (1781-1805) died at age 24 unmarried.

My ancestor Edward Abbott Saltmarsh was 44 when the war began. He had married Sally Story (daughter of Nehemiah Story and Lucy Sally Allen Goldsmith of Essex Co., MA) in 1791.

Their 13 children were:

1. Nehemiah Saltmarsh (1772-1813) died at the Battle of Plattsburg NY.
2. Aaron Saltmarsh (1773-1842) married Joan George and lived in Hooksett NH.
3. Abbott Saltmarsh (1795-1876) married sisters, Lois(1) and Polly(2) Steven of Bow NH.
4. Lucy Saltmarsh (1798-) married John Pope
5. Betsey Saltmarsh (1800-1883) married James Putnam

6. Thomas Saltmarsh (1802-1885) married Sophia Muzzy, lived at Weare NH.
7. Henry Saltmarsh (1804-1888) married Kesiah Batchelder
8. Hazen Saltmarsh (1806-) married Sally Bachelder, sister of Kesiah
9. Susan Saltmarsh (1808-1884) m. Erie Poore in 1825 settled in West Hooksett NH.
10. Gilman Saltmarsh (1810-1843) married Lydia Clough
11. Franklin Saltmarsh (1812-) married Betsy Ring and moved to New York
12. Sally Saltmarsh (1814-1834) married David Page, died in childbirth at age 20.
13. Abigail Saltmarsh (1817-) married Cyrus Sargent of Goffstown.

The harvest that autumn of 1815 was notable in the Goffstown area. Pumpkins especially were both plentiful and large. There were so many that men had to be called in from downriver to help take in the giant lumbering vegetables. Indian laborers warned of an early and sever winter. Brother John came up from Byfield with two of his sons (16-year-old Wendell and Alvan, age 12) to help Sam and George. Hannah stayed behind, for she had just given birth to their 9th child, Harriet, born in August. George and Mary now had 12 children and had relocated finally to Goffstown Center, but he still farmed much of the old property with Sam. Combined with Sam and Anna's 10 children, the Poore 'Cousin Ring' had grown considerably. To finish out the lists, I will record them all.

Children of Samuel Poore (1758-1841 at 83) and Anna Bridges (1762-1853 at 91):

1. John Poore (1785- 1865) m. Elizabeth McEntire moved to Berlin, Washington Co., VT
2. Samuel Poore (1787-1882) married Jane Wells
3. Job Poore (1789-1871) married Rebecca Knapp
4. Benjamin Poore (1791-1874) married Martha McCurdy
5. Peggy Poore (1794-1795) one month old
6. Jesse Poore (1796-1836) married Jane Hall
7. Ira Poore (1798-1852) married (1) Sally Upham. Abandoned family, moved to Texas in 1842 from Providence RI; married (2) Ellen Dyer
8. Erie Poore (1800-1874) married Susan Saltmarsh (1808-1884)
9. Asa Poore (1803-1806)
10. Joseph Poore (1805-) married Arria Mitchell

Children of Lt. George Poore (1761-1833) and Mary Little (1764-1849) of Goffstown NH

1. Moses Poore (1785-1841) married Sarah Little, daughter of Joseph of Hampstead

2. Joseph Poore (1787-1863) m. Betsey Whitney and Lydia Hobson
3. George Poore Jr. (1789-1870) married Phebe R. Richards
4. Thomas Poore (1791-1879) married Harriet Sargent
5. Stephen Poore (1793-1893) 3 months old
6. Noyes Poore (1795-1855) married Nancy Chamberlain. State Senator 1847-48
7. Lydia Poore (1797-) m. (1) Governor David Lawrence Morrill (2) Nathaniel Goodhue
8. Polly Poore (1799-) married David Worthley
9. David Morrill Poore (1803-1803)
10. Jane Wallace Poore (1803-1869) twin of David; married Isaac Parker
11. Ebenezer Parsons Poore (1805-1833) married Bethiah Hackett, moved to Westville, Franklin Co., NY
12. Betsey Poore (1808-1828) died unmarried at age 20.

Children of Jesse Poore (1765-1845) and Phebe Hedges, of Berlin, Washington Co. VT:

1. Ezoa Poore (1797-1868) married Theodore Strong
2. Jesse Poore Jr. (1799-) There is little history on Jesse. He left Vermont in 1825 "for parts unknown."
3. Elijah Poore (1805-) married Sophia Bailey. In 1844, relocated from Vermont to the Racket River, Parishville, St. Lawrence Co., NY.
4. Almon Poore (1808-) married Susan Bailey

Children of Job Poore (1767-1851) and (1) Sally Hobart (1773-1811) and (2) Patty Davenport (1773-1845) of Berlin VT:

1. John Poore (1796-1843) m. his stepsister, Fanny Davenport (1) and Susan Clark (2)
2. David Poore (1798-) m. Abigail Hill (1) and Clarissa Carpenter (2)
3. Betsey Poore (1800-1879) never married.
4. James Hobart Poore (1802-1849) married Adeline Whitney
5. Sarah Poore (1804-) married Elijah H. Covell
6. Cynthia Poore (1805-) married Julius Phelps
7. Moses Poore (1808-) married Eunice Gerley, had no children
8. Unnamed daughter, died young, perhaps resulting in the death of mother Sally Hobart Poore at 38 in 1811. Jesse Sr. remarried in 1812 to Fanny Davenport, who had one son by him:
9. Gardner Davenport Poore (1813-1879) married Bethia Willey.

Children of Joseph Poore (1770-1843) and Hannah Wood (1774-1843) of Georgetown MA:

1. Joseph Poore ((1793-) married Lucinda Reed
2. Myra Poore (1800-1866) married Samuel Thurlow
3. Sophia Poore (1803-1866) never married.

Children of John Poore (1775-1819) and Hannah Chute (1780-1872), of Reading MA, Salisbury NH Byfield MA, and Washington Co., Indiana:

1. Amanda Poore (1798-1799)
2. Wendell Poore (1799-) married sisters: Elizabeth Weddell (1) and Thirza Weddell Guthrie, possibly of Tennessee Cherokee descent.
3. Amanda Poore (1798-1862) married Moses B. Pearson
4. Alvan Poore (1803-1862) married Julia A. Zaring
5. Hannah A. Poore (1804-) married Jonathan Prosser
6. Betsey Poore (1807-1828) married Walter Wright
7. Mehitable Thurston Poore (1809-) married William Merrill
8. Susannah Poore (1811-1874) married Thomas J. Brooks
9. Harriet Poore (1815-) married William H. Houghton
10. John Poore (1818-) became California farmer, Oregon gold miner.
11. Amelia P. Poore (1820-) married John De Witt.

Ruth Poore was the only surviving daughter of Joseph Poore Sr. Like he brother, Joseph Jr., she remained in Essex County married to her cousin, Benjamin Poore, (both spelled the name Poor). From 1884-1793 they lived in Haverhill, then returned to New Rowley, settling in Georgetown. After Ruth's death in 1828, Benjamin remarried to yet another cousin, Ann Swett of Pembroke, who died in 1857. Children of Ruth Poore (1762-1828) and Benjamin Poore (1760-1839):

1. Betsey Poore (1786-1861) married Aaron Shute of Concord NH, shoemaker.
2. Ora Poore (1787-1834) married John Thompson, shoe manufacturer, soldier.
3. Benjamin Poore (1794-1864) married Aroline Emily Peabody. Benjamin was a prominent dry goods merchant in Boston, ancestor to cousin Travis Miscia of New Jersey.
4. Erie Poore (1798-1854) married Susan Markham, was street commissioner at Oswego NY.
5. Mary Ann Poore (1805-) married Seth Jewett Dole of Newbury, moved to Lowell MA and Concord NH. Seth was a railroad machinist.

John's reunion with his older brothers gave him new life. They worked together with the many other cousins from Dunbarton, Pembroke, Suncook and Bow; many descended from Samuel Poore of West Newbury. As one farm was tackled, they would go on to the next, trying to beat Old Man Winter. Some pumpkins weighed over 200 pounds and were 5 feet tall. These had to be hauled on logging sledges by oxen to the river landings. A series of barges shuttled the vegetables to Manchester, where they were prepared for inter-state shipments.

When the harvest was finally taken in, John prepared for his return journey home. He carried a bag of seed corn and other crop-starters, two carrot puddings and more Silvernail letters, to go to brother Joseph. The night before he and Sam had gone over the bits and pieces of paperwork collected by Sam and George since their father had died. The Christmas letters had stopped for a time, but Joseph had all of the old ones in a box at his farm. Two were a few years old, written to Tom Saltmarsh by old Andreas Silbernagel. The last one was sent to Sam the previous year by the grandson Adam (1775-1852), who had Americanized the family name to Silvernail. John was the same age as Adam and decided, on the way home, to begin a correspondence with the German farmer.

He read the letter over and over as he rode. Adam was of the generation that found new freedom as the old leaseholds at Livingston Manor expired. Many of his cousins and brothers had already left the homesteads for more fertile fields, mostly to Stone Arabia in the Mohawk Valley. Adam, who was married to Marjorie Rea remained in Columbia County, but told of travels to the Ohio River during the late war. He had gone as far as Ft. Dearborn at the southern tip of Lake Michigan to roust the British out of the stronghold. The letter gave vivid descriptions of how beautiful the western country was, sparking a new interest in young John Poore.

## THE YEAR WITHOUT A SUMMER

John settled back into the routine of the New England farmer as the spring of 1816 tried to arrive. The Indians had been correct in their predictions. The winter had been especially severe, beginning much earlier than normal. By May, the ground was still partially frozen and frosts continued into June. What was even more amazing was the snow; it still stood 3 feet deep in the woods.

The old men didn't know what to make of it. A brooding feeling of helplessness overshadowed what was normally a busy time. Fields were plowed, but plowshares broke in the frozen ground. Thousands of migrating geese littered the Rowley marshes, unsure of what to do. Out of hibernation, angry bears roamed the towns and villages in search of food. Even the fish were uncertain. The great shad and salmon runs up the Parker and Merrimack were weaker than anyone had ever seen. What crops that did make it into the ground rotted, or failed to grow at all. For families like John and Hannah's, with 9 growing children, it was a devastating time of need. It snowed on and off with continuing frosts for the duration of the summer and fall of 1816.

John, it appears, had been unhappy with the home environment for some time leading up to the endless winter. Byfield Village was a close-knit community and his farm was right in the middle of it. His older brothers all had thriving farms in New Hampshire and Vermont, where his 6-acres barely met the family needs. Brother Joseph was close by, but could offer little help because he had his own family, plus their elderly mother to watch over. In 1805 John sold some of his farmland to Benjamin Colman. This, I believe, is when he and Hannah first thought of moving to the Ohio River country. Her two brothers, Daniel and James, went about that time to claim land near present Cincinnati, Ohio. They may have been war veteran's enticed there by George Rogers Clark, whose estate started just west of Cincinnati and went into present southeast Indiana. The Chute brothers probably sent home glowing reviews of the Indiana wilderness as the Indians were pushed further north during the War of 1812. In 1813, after the Indians were defeated, John and Hannah sold their Byfield house to her father, indicating that a decision had been made to join her brothers.

In September 1816, the final plans were made. Wendell, age 17, would remain with family in Reading and complete his schooling. John, a cordwainer like his grandfather, had at least a trade to carry to the wilderness. There were tearful goodbyes. Deacon James Chute had already sold their house to Joseph Hale Jr., who was married to Hannah's sister Eunice. There was no turning back.

They planned to journey cross-country to Albany with the other seven children; the baby Harriet was only a year old. Much of the route across Massachusetts and New York paralleled what is today Interstate 90, but in 1816 it was but a series of rapidly growing roads formed on old Iroquois war trails. The military had used the trails for decades. Well planned in advance, they would begin at Boston and go to Springfield, then on to Pittsfield in the Berkshires. Stopping at relative's farms along the route, the roads led over the Taconic Mountains to the Hudson River Valley at Albany.

The journey was long and hard under normal times, but in the 'Year Without a Summer,' it must have been even more grueling. John hoped to reach Pittsburgh by spring thaw (if there was one). If they got an early enough start down the Ohio, they could reach Indiana Territory in time to prepare for the next winter, in the wilderness. Only at Albany did they tarry, accepting Adam and Marjorie Silvernail's invitation to join them at their Ancram farm for a November visit. It had been 61 years since Andreas Silbernagel and Joseph Poore had fought together at Lake George. Now, if for only a short time, the two families were together again.

The visit was a rewarding one for John and Hannah, who were amazed at the beautiful countryside and well-kept German homes. Their children got along well with the Silvernail brood and spent hours on the mill pond with their skates. They were given the Grand Tour of the old Livingston Manor, its stately farms which included the old homestead of Johannes Adam Silbernagel (1701-1760). They visited old Andreas Silbernagel's grave (he had passed on in 1812) and shared memories of the many Christmas letters sent over the years.

Dozens of Silvernail relations gathered at Adam's farm on their final day to wish the Poore Clan farewell. Hannah and Marjorie had exchanged receipts. The children promised to carry on the family correspondence. Most were of the same ages and there was a general excitement all around that the Poores were going west. The 8 Silvernail children were:

1. Gertrude, age 21, born 1795
2. Maria, age 20, born 1796
3. Gretchen, age 19, born 1797
4. Hugh, age 16, born 1800
5. Philip Adam Silvernail age 10, born 1806
6. Marie Diane, age 9, born 1807
7. James Henry, age 6, born 1810
8. Hannah Elizabeth, age 3, born 1813.

Adam advised John to go back to Albany, and then follow the new Cherry Valley Turnpike (begun in 1799) to the Susquehanna Valley. From Cherry Valley the road went back to the Mohawk Valley, which offered a good road all the way to present Rochester NY. In 1825 the route would be streamlined with the building of the Erie Canal. The road would be refined to become US Route 20. From Rochester and Buffalo the road followed the south shore of the lake to present Erie PA, then went south to the headwaters of the Monongahela to Pittsburgh. John and Hannah probably followed the more direct Genesee Road, which split off near Rochester and went south along the Genesee River to Orleans NY on the headwaters of the Allegheny River. From there it was a river route to Pittsburgh.

Setting out with evergreen wreaths (for the coming Christmas) tied to their sleigh and wagon and burdened with gifts and food, the Poores left the Hudson Valley and entered the vast and snow filled expanse of western New York. Hannah kept baby Harriet warm, wrapped in sheep fleece and nestled under a thick bear robe. John and 13 year-old Alvan took turns riding the horses to help the cows through the snow. 15 year-old Amanda drove the sleigh while 12 year-old Hannah helped her mother with the large canvas-covered wagon, pulled by oxen. The three younger sisters (Betsey 9, Mehitable 7 and Susanna 5) switched back and forth, trying to keep warm wherever they could. As they approached Lake Ontario, the snow was deeper than any of them had ever seen. A constant wind swept off the lake. The deeper they went into unknown lands, the more they all thought of 17 year-old Wendell, warm in his bed in Reading. He would follow two years later to found his own destiny in the west.

The Poore family was not alone. Many others traveled the same route through the ancient Iroquois homeland. The Year Without a Summer had taken a great toll all across the east and hundreds upon hundreds were migrating westward. John and his family finally arrived at Pittsburgh sometime in late December 1816. The 850-mile journey from Byfield to Pittsburgh had taken just under 4 months to complete.

We tend to think of this region as being untamed wilderness in 1816, but so many had preceded them to Pittsburgh that 'road services' had become a lucrative business. The post-war migrations were so vast that men of money jumped to make profits from the westward movement. In Massachusetts, the 27-mile Middlesex Canal connecting Boston with Lowell was built in 1785. It was so profitable that George Washington formed a company in Virginia to construct a canal on the Potomac River from Cumberland MD to Wheeling West Virginia. This would have given the investors, which included Thomas Jefferson, great profits in immigrant travel to the Ohio River. At the same time, Mayor De Witt Clinton of New York proposed a similar canal along the Mohawk River to Buffalo. Jefferson shot the plan down as a waste of government money, angry that Washington's Potowmack Company had gone bust. In 1817, while John and Hannah waited at Pittsburgh for the ice breakup, Clinton ran for governor on his 'Build-the-Canal-Platform'. At the completion of "Clinton's Ditch" in 1825, it was 363 miles long, 4 feet deep, 40 feet wide and contained 83 locks that raised boats 688 feet in elevation from Albany to Buffalo. Nine years before their departure from Byfield, the State of New York alone boasted of 67 separate toll-road companies controlling over 900 miles of pay-as-you-go highways. Although the Potomac Canal went belly-up, the government did improve the old Nemeocolin Trail and completed the ancestor of I-40, the Cumberland, or National Turnpike to Wheeling by 1811. By 1840 the 'National Road' would reach Vandalia, Illinois. The conveyance of choice for emigrants was the German-American invention, the Conestoga wagon.

Thousands had settled around old Ft. Pitt, with Pittsburgh in 1817 being the "Gateway to the West." Perhaps Dan and Jim Chute met them there in December 1816 (hopefully for Christmas), arranging accommodations for what would luckily be a 4-month stay, awaiting the ice melt. It apparently was much later in coming, due to the severe, yearlong winter of 1816. By May, when the river did finally give way to flatboat travel, Hannah found herself pregnant once more. They remained in Pittsburgh through 1817 and into another winter. John Poore Jr. was born February 1, 1718 and on April 1st the family finally set off down the Ohio to Indiana Territory.

If John had only known, his cousin William Poor, son of Paul of Rowley, had moved from New Haven CT to Pennsylvania during 1816-1817. William had dropped from sight at the start of the War of 1812, leaving his wife and children in Massachusetts. In 1816 he had gone with the Dart family to the west, marrying Ritty Dart. William owned 106 acres near Titusville on Oil Creek, in Venango County. He was probably establishing his farm while John and Hannah sat idle in Pittsburgh, which was 95 miles downstream on the Allegheny River.

Alfred Poore recovered a letter written by John to his brother Joseph soon after their arrival in Pittsburgh. It was dated February 12, 1717 and cost \$.25 to send it to Byfield, Massachusetts, via the Newburyport Post Office. It offers a rare glimpse into this strange, cold, endless winter:

"Possibly you may think it strange that I have not written you before this—but the sequel of my letter will furnish you with an explanation—on the whole we had a prosperous journey and have enjoyed our usual health since we have been hence—on our arrival however we found the City full of Yankee Horses and Chariots selling at auction through the streets—as my wagon would live without Eating I thought I had

better let it stand by awhile than to give it to the Crier for selling. But to my astonishment the emigrants continued to flock in from the northward in troops till about the first of January and kept the City glutted with Horses and Carriages so you see I have been completely frustrated in my expectation of raising money from my team—this is the fifth week since the rivers have been passable on the ice, a thing scarcely known in the annals of this Country—Many of my friends and acquaintances thought me giddy by mounting on the airy Castles of my own building—or intoxicated with visionary scenes of Grandeur—but their conceptions of the Country-- of me-- And of my designs and expectations were alike puerile for---surely no undertaking of my life was ever more premeditated or more evidently a point of duty otherwise I should never have done violence to the finest feelings of human nature in breaking away from my old connections—but we thought it best nor have we seen cause to repent of it—but on the contrary much cause of gratitude to the great disposer of all events who has preserved us thus far.

I often think of our Mother in her forlorn situation and of the care which devolves upon you in consequence of it—and in particular upon my beloved sister—but I am satisfied that all is done for her which can be done—and have only to hope and pray that you both may be rewarded for your care, in those durable riches that will never fade—Tell father Chute I shall write him in a few days.

With High consideration I remain as ever

Your affectionate brother

John Poor

This letter clearly shows John's zeal for the undertaking as a western emigrant. At age 42, he writes with the hope and enthusiasm of a much younger man. His main concern is the lack of money to feed his livestock. Since his Conestoga wagon does not require food like his horses, he has chosen to hold on to it until he needs to sell it for river passage. His frustration comes across loud and clear concerning the hundreds of other emigrants, also trying to sell their equipment. He and his family found themselves often at the mercy of street-wise hustlers, innkeepers and liverymen. Pittsburgh harbored the low rungs of society that bred off the unsuspecting New Englanders. It is a wonder that they all survived a year there. With the river frozen solid well into the season, I am surprised that he did not think about using Indian dog sleds to make the continued journey.

They left the docks of Pittsburgh in a flotilla of emigrant flat boats, especially suited for large families and their livestock. Piloted by French river men, this bulky craft plied the rivers from Pittsburgh to New Orleans. During their year of waiting for John to be born, they had watched the building of the "Washington," the first shallow-hulled steamboat that was a prototype to the classic Mississippi side and stern-wheelers of later years. It was designed and built by Captain Henry M. Shreve, who took it downriver to New Orleans before the Poores left Pittsburgh.

The route was well defined, the wide river opened up before them once past the forks of the Ohio. The emigrant caravan followed the twisting river south and west, past Wheeling, on into the Kentucky lands on the left and Ohio Territory on the right. There were overnight stops established all along the way, from well-kept taverns and inns to isolated campsites operated by private farmers. In many locations river pirates lured single flat boats into what seemed to be legitimate river stops, only to be set upon, robbed and sometimes killed.

The average homesteaders, on both sides of the river, were predominantly of Scotch-Irish descent. The wilderness home was most often a log cabin. Its dimensions were roughly 14 x 20 feet and consisted of one 'family' room, much like the original Poore homestead of 1642 Newbury Neck. With a great fireplace at one end, the entire family, sometimes husband, wife, 12-15 children and grandparents shared the main floor with their livestock, which slept inside the house. Beds were everywhere and children and the occasional traveler slept in a makeshift loft accessed by a ladder.

From Daniel and James Chute's homesteads near Cincinnati, John and Hannah stopped long enough to survey their surroundings. The small town was near the border with Indiana Territory. Under the Northwest Ordinance, United States Territories like Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan were forced to import enough people to become stable enough to apply for statehood. Ohio was already well on its way to

achieving this goal, but John Poore chose to go further into Indiana, which was still largely unsettled. The Clark Grants may have been an enticement; the old general (1752-1818) had lived near Clarksville until 1809, when he burned his leg in a fire. With the leg amputated, George went to live with his sister Lucy Clark Crogan near Louisburg KY. There, on the Locust Grove farm in the city that he had founded, he died on Feb. 13, 1818. Squire Daniel Boone had also built a home in Indiana before moving to Missouri.

The town of Madison in present Jefferson County lured the Poore family, possibly by other, unknown relations already located there. Primarily war veterans from Kentucky, Virginia, New England and New York had settled the region, thanks to General Clark's persistence. Taking up temporary residence at Madison, John went further west in search of a permanent homestead in the spring of 1819. Son Wendell left Massachusetts in September 1818, he may have arrived home by this time to help, but it is unclear when he finally did make it home to Indiana.

John chose a location 40 miles west of Madison in what is today Washington County. It would have been on the Muscatatuck River near the East Fork of the White River, 35 miles north of Clarksville/Louisburg. Today, the Jackson-Washington State Forest dominates the area of the home site.

With help from local frontier communities of Millport and Medora, John and his young sons began building the Poore Homestead. It probably followed local tradition and was a "rough log" affair according to Alfred Poore, although many homes were being built of sawed lumber from nearby mills by this time. It had more to do with money than anything else. I doubt if John was rich, especially after a 3-year journey, but home support was available for him to build just about any structure he desired. Alfred's research was probably correct though, making the homestead a typical frontier cabin, 3 miles from the nearest neighbor.

On October 2, 1819 John brought his family to the new cabin. In November, Hannah became pregnant for the last time, bearing the 11th child, Amelia Poore. On December 5th John became sick and died unexpectedly 4 days later, on December 9, 1819. Amelia was born 8 months later on August 21, 1820.

Back in Georgetown, Byfield, Goffstown and Berlin, Ruth, Joseph, Samuel, Jesse and Job all witnessed a multi-colored bird at their windows that December. A cold tingling at the base of the neck told them that someone close had died. It had been a matter of fact since the days of their great-grandfather; it would always be so with this family. In Newburyport, Hannah's sister Mary told her husband of the news of John's passing. Colonel Jeremiah Collman was an official of the Eastern Stage Company and he wrote Hannah offering to bring she and her 11 children home. She declined the gracious offer, but did accept \$100 from her brother-in-law to purchase the Indiana property. The well-bred descendant of Philip of Appledore voluntarily became a frontier woman. The strength of Hannah Chute Poore, who lived to be 92 years old, remains with her many descendants, many of whom helped with the research for this book.

## THE IRONING BOARD

To the generation born at the beginning of the 19th century, America was a wide-open land of opportunity. By 1820 the north had developed into an industrial giant. Rivers were harnessed with canals that bore produce to market and emigrants to the west. The steamboat was in use on the Hudson, Ohio and Mississippi rivers, railroads were being developed as small private companies, harnessing steam locomotion. Stage lines were carrying people from the eastern ports to wilderness regions. The textile industry, with rapid inventions from the cotton gin to mechanized looms brought new wealth to locations such as Haverhill, Lowell and Manchester.

In the southern Cotton Belt, the new technology allowed for far greater plantations. No longer limited by hand-carding raw cotton, vast tracts of land could be planted. Machines in the north would then process the increased cotton yield. To accommodate the larger cotton plantations, more slaves were required to plant and harvest the crops. A strong anti-slavery movement began to protest the old practice.

In the west, Stephen Long was sent into the Missouri River country to make a military survey of its native people and appraise the land to the Rocky Mountains for possible national expansion. His expedition traveled much of present Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas to Colorado and his report was not

favorable for future settlement. He classified the entire Great Plains region as “The Great American Desert,” establishing an official governmental feeling that the region was uninhabitable. It was decided that its best, and only use, was as a giant repository for all remaining Indians east of the Mississippi River.

As early as 1804, tribes such as the Sauk and Mesquaki (Fox) of the Green Bay region were called to St. Louis to negotiate ceding their old homelands. The great council included all tribes of the Old Northwest, opening the door to decades of land claim negotiations. The tool of choice used by government land agents was alcohol; thousands of acres were ceded to the United States in exchange for shiny trinkets and a barrel of rum. In 1829 the Sauk and Fox were forced across the Mississippi with other woodland tribes to fend for themselves in Iowa and Missouri. After three years of starvation, Black Hawk tried to return with 1,000 of his people, but was stopped on the Illinois side of the river by local militia, including young Abraham Lincoln. The “Black Hawk War” ended with the old chief caught in a retreat at the Mississippi while trying to flee back into Iowa. He tried to surrender, but most of his people were killed as they tried to swim across the great river. This was the last ‘hostile’ Indian action east of the Mississippi.

Old Ft. Dearborn was rapidly evolving into the sprawling trading center of Chicago. Government land agents and military personnel promised new settlement in this region as the Indians were forced west. I believe that one of the early speculators was my great-great-grandfather, Philip Adam Silvernail. In 1830 the lands north of Ft. Dearborn to Green Bay became an attraction for German-Americans from New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Philip probably went there about 1830 to scout out the opportunities on the Rock River for the Columbia Co., NY investors. Formal settlement did not take place along the Green Bay Road until the 1840s, but Philip supposedly died near Milwaukee in 1835. His cousin Conrad Silvernail would move to the area permanently in 1844.

My great-grandmother, Margaret Catherine Silvernail, was born at Ancram, NY, April 15, 1836, supposedly after her father’s death in Wisconsin in 1835. She had a sister Frances Silvernail that was not born until 1848, so I doubt Philip died in 1835. I believe that Philip remained active as a land speculator and property owner of Rock River lands, traveling back and forth between Milwaukee and Ancram into the 1850s. The Silvernail records, although very well researched have many conflicting dates for many members of the family. Margaret is recorded as dying in 1851, but she was very much alive in Hooksett, NH, well after 1879.

Born in 1806, Philip Silvernail married Catherine Hoystradt at Ancram in 1825. Their children were:

1. Henry A. Silvernail (1826-1867) married Susanna Bryne and Louise Groom
2. Mary Silvernail (1828-) married Otto D. Gabrielson
3. Anna Victoria Silvernail (1833-)
4. Julius Silvernail (1834-1855)
5. Margaret Catherine Silvernail (1835-) married Erie Poore, Jr.
6. Frances Silvernail (1848-) married Lee Packard and Curtis McCullum

The stage was set. The extended Poore Cousin Ring from North to South collectively began another generation, but this one would mature into troubled times. Unknowingly, sides shifted as offspring relocated north to south and south to north. The children grew up hearing their parents favor or condemn the slavery issue and the right of Southern Secession.

The period from 1820 to 1861 is far too involved to go into here. There were uncounted events, which affected the Poores from all locations. The next two generations, whether from Virginia, Ohio, or the Northeast all found routes to Missouri and points further west. It becomes impossible to trace them all. The Indian relocations continued into the 1830s, present Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma took the bulk

of the displaced tribal groups. The Five Civilized Tribes of the Southeast were forcibly removed to Eastern Oklahoma in the "Trail of Tears."

Stephen Austin's colonization of Mexican-owned Texas brought many Poores and Poers to that region. First as a Mexican province, then as a state of free Mexico, the family was there from the onset. Austin's father, Moses, began in 1821 to recruit 300 families to settle there at the request of the Mexican government. He died before the move, but Stephen followed through with the family enterprise. From 1822-1834, more speculators brought settlers to Texas, who clashed with the Mexican authorities. Under Sam Houston, the Texans revolted and fought from 1835-1836 against Santa Anna. They lost the Alamo, but won their independence at the Battle of San Jacinto and became a Republic. In 1845 they won American statehood, leading to the Mexican War. The cream of the American Army, mostly West Point graduates, led the troops into this war. They were schoolmates and brothers-in-arms. Fighting together, they led their troops deep into Mexico. The result was the addition of New Mexico (which included Arizona), Utah and California. United under a common cause, the young heroes returned in glory. Among them were Robert E. Lee, Joseph Hooker, James Longstreet and George B. McClellan. These men would soon find themselves pairing off against one another in another war.

Throughout the 1850s the saber rattling went on in the halls of Congress concerning the slavery issue. Underneath it was a deeper battle, of States Rights versus Federal control. When the Constitution was ratified in the 1780s, it formulated the body of a new central government, but the infant states thought of themselves as individual, self-governed colonies. The slavery arguments had many adherents. Moralists and Abolitionists looked at it as inhumane treatment to fellow human beings. Cotton-Belt plantation owners looked at it as a financial reality. Without slaves to work their crops, they would go bankrupt. Beginning in 1820, a pattern evolved where new states were admitted on compromise. Missouri was added as a free state, Maine as free. In the western states and territories, open warfare occurred, especially in Kansas. Slaves began looking towards the 'free states' for safety, but the Supreme Court checked them before a mass exodus began. Dred Scott, a Missouri slave, had lived for a time in free Wisconsin with his master. He sued, stating that because slavery was illegal there, he should be set free. The courts controversial decision was that first, he was, or never could be, a United States citizen. Secondly, he was the lawful property of his owner, who had the right to take him anywhere he pleased. If he chose to take him to a free state, he was still a slave.

This single court case did more to bring a public outcry than anything else, galvanizing the entire country for some kind of action. President after President had tactfully sidestepped the issue, including Millard Fillmore, who was married to Abigail Powers of New Hampshire. As many southern states increasingly threatened to secede from the Union, the nation prepared for war.

I will try and highlight the preceding years leading up to the Civil War through the lives of Joseph Poore's grandchildren and their sons and daughters. Each individual Poore branch had similar stories. Whether your family calls it the War of Northern Aggression, or the War of Southern Rebellion makes little difference now, we descend from the survivors, who somehow put it behind them.

It was the changing of the guard in all regions. Old and patriarchal, the generation of Samuel Poore's age passed the wand to their sons. John was the youngest to die, at 44, in 1819. Following him was Thomas Saltmarsh, dying at Goffstown at 91 in 1826. Then came:

Ruth, at Georgetown in 1828 at age 66, George of Goffstown in 1833 at 72, Samuel of Hooksett in 1841 at 83, Joseph of Georgetown in 1843 at 73 (Hannah died the same year), Jesse of Berlin VT in 1845 at 80, Mary Little, wife of George of Goffstown in 1849 at 85, Job of Berlin in 1851 at 84 (his second wife Patty Davenport died in 1845), Adam Silvernail of Ancram NY in 1852 at 77 and Anna Bridges, wife of Samuel of Hooksett in 1853 at 91. By 1855, the lines of Sam, George, Job and Ruth (and Benjamin) had also lost 10 of the first cousins: Asa, Jesse, Ira (Sam's line), Moses, Noyes, Ebenezer, Betsey (George's line), John, James (Job's line), Erie and Ora Poore (Ruth's line).

In 1822, Sam Poore was 64 and his children were grown to adulthood. His large family included 8 living sons. One month old Peggy had died in 1797 and three-year-old Asa in 1806.

The region had developed rapidly in the preceding years. The farm, which had been in northeast Goffstown, was now mostly part of the new township of Hooksett. It had been formed from portions of Goffstown, Dunbarton and Chester. Upriver from the farm was Hooksett Village, on the east side of the Merrimack. Most of Hooksett Township was on the east side of the river. Sam may have increased the size of his father's original property, buying additional lots within South Hooksett. In 1853 the City of Manchester, one of the leading industrial cities in the north, annexed the river zone as part of North Manchester. It took the southern tip of West Hooksett, near Sam's land, as well as a portion of South Hooksett across the river into its city limits. It appears that the original homestead was about 2-1/2 miles north of the present Manchester line.

The elder son John (37) and his wife Mary lived near his uncles, Jesse and Job Poore in Berlin, Vermont. Samuel Jr. (35) and Jane had their farm 3 miles south of the homestead in what would become Manchester. Job (33) and Rebecca lived in the White Mountain town of Franconia, NH. Benjamin (31) and Martha had a farm in West Goffstown, near the New Boston line. After moving again to Derry, NH, they would return to settle at Goffstown Center. Jesse (26) and his wife Jane lived in Manchester near the Goffstown line. Jesse died in 1836. Ira Poore, at 24, was still at home but would marry Sally Upham and move first to Hooksett Village, then to Providence RI around 1839. He had a good job there, but the Texas war of 1835-36 must have exhibited a pull, for in 1844, he abandoned Sally and the children and left for San Antonio prior to the outbreak of the Mexican War. My great-great-grandfather, Erie Poore was 22 years old, 3 years away from marrying Susan Saltmarsh, daughter of Edward Abbott Saltmarsh of Goffstown. They would settle on a farm just west of the homestead in West Hooksett. Sam and Anna's youngest son, Joseph was 17. He and his future wife, Arria Mitchell, would take over the homestead, before moving into Manchester in 1853.

Brother George and wife Mary's children were of the same number and ages as Sam and Anna's. They, too, had lost two young ones, Stephen in 1793 and David M. (twin of Jane W.) in 1803. The surviving children were grown by 1822 and all were married except two. For the most part, the George Poore Clan settled very close to home base near Goffstown Center, with one exception.

The oldest son was Moses (37), who lived with his wife Mary in Goffstown Center. Joseph (35) and Betsey lived one mile east of the Center. George Jr. (33) and wife Phebe lived in Goffstown Center. Thomas (31) and Harriet lived one mile north of the Center. Noyes Poore (27) became a well known civic leader and captain of the militia. He and his wife Nancy Chamberlain lived close to George's homestead south of Goffstown Center, adding more property over the years. Over 300 acres were finally sold when Noyes and Nancy moved to Bedford. He rose to become a state senator by 1847. Lydia Poore (25) was still at home, but in 1825 she would marry Dr. David Morrill, Governor of New Hampshire. They would reside in Goffstown and later in Concord, NH. Polly Poore (23) had married David Worthley in 1821 and they lived in southeast Goffstown. Her sister, Jane Wallace Poore (twin of David, deceased), 19 years old, had also married the previous year, to Isaac Parker. They lived on the New Boston line in West Goffstown. George's youngest son was Ebenezer Pearson Poore (17). He would marry Bethia Hackett in 1831. Three days after the wedding, they would move to northeastern New York. Their farm would be located in Westville, Franklin County, where Ebenezer would die in 1833 at age 27.

Erie Poore Sr., the 53-year-old Merrimack County Commissioner, had been in Concord when he received the telegram to come home immediately, his mother was gravely ill. His 27-year-old son Erie Jr. sent the telegram from Hooksett, saying only that Anna was not expected to last much longer.

Next to the youngest, Erie Sr. had spent years as a representative in the State Legislature before becoming County Commissioner. As he rode south along the Merrimack on that April day in 1853, he reflected on not only his family, but on his own mortality.

Erie was lucky to be born into a relatively healthy family. There had been the usual childhood illnesses, but all in all, his family had fared well. Of course there had been the babies, Peggy and Asa, but that was long before Erie was old enough to comprehend death.

In 1825 Erie had married Susan Saltmarsh and he left home to build his own farm, just to the west of Sam and Anna's. Soon, he began receiving invitations to run for one town board or another. He became a respected town leader before going into state politics. When his own son, Erie Jr. was born in 1826, he was content and happy with life in general.

It had been a joy growing up with his 7 brothers, in that sometimes hard-scrapple life of a farm in Central New Hampshire. It wasn't until brother Jesse died in 1836 at age 40 that death began to become a tangible thing, actually beginning with the deaths of cousins Betsey and Ebenezer in 1828 and 1833. Jesse's death was hard on the entire family, but Erie remembered that his father took it harder than anyone else. Sam seemed to retreat into himself after that, becoming silent and reclusive. The old war veteran died in 1841 at the age of 83.

After Sam died, Anna asked Joseph (the youngest son) and his wife Arria to take over the main house at the homestead, while she retired to a back room in her grief. For 12 years she quietly waited, sitting in her rocking chair and remembering the times of another century. It was hard for her to survive her husband, son Joseph was a reluctant farmer and brooded at failed opportunities to follow his older brother west to new lands and riches. Hundreds of local people had left abruptly during the 1849 California gold rush.

One day in 1852 Anna stood at her old ironing board, which Sam had made for her in 1784. As she ironed lace tablecloths for Arria, a bird landed on the windowsill. It was a yellowhammer woodpecker, very rare in New England. She was immediately aware of what it meant; as the speckled bird stared into her eyes—Ira, her wayward son, was dead in Texas at age 49.

How she knew is a question that will never be answered. It is not uncommon for a mother to share the feelings of her children, but in this case, Ira had been away from home for 20 years; the last 9 in far away Texas. Anna had known such things for some time and it was a gift that was not taken lightly. Although her Bridges ancestors had similar 'superstitions' (they were of Flemish origin and had once been West Country wool merchants), the 'Bird at the Window' was purely a Poore thing, leading directly back to a very ancient past.

For uncountable generations, the 'Gift' had been handed down from mother to daughter among a select few in the family line. How it began, or how it survived the Puritan Era is a miracle in itself, most would have taken it as witchcraft. Transferable, it had been passed on to whoever was best suited and that was agreeable, not always within the same household. Henry Poore's sister Mary (1654-1728) had received it from her aunt Alice Poore Little in 1679, passing it on, in turn, to Rebecca Poore Moody (1705-1755) of Newbury, daughter of Jonathan of Newbury Neck. None of Rebecca's three daughters would have anything to do with the Gift. Looking at her options, Rebecca transferred it, before she died, to her 13-year-old cousin Mary Poore (1742-1784), daughter of Jeremiah of Rowley. Mary lived her life in Byfield, married to Jon Wheeler and her only daughter preceded her in death. In 1784 she passed the Gift to her second cousin Ruth Poore (1762-1828), who had married Mary's brother Ben and was the only daughter of Joseph Poore of New Rowley. Ruth's daughters, Betsey and Mary Ann, shunned the Gift all their lives. They called it a 'Tool of the Devil' and denounced their mother for toying with it. She finally transferred it to the only receptive person she could find, Anna Bridges Poore of Hooksett NH, in 1828.

The family as a whole spoke little of the Gift unless there was a cause to put it into effect. In 1829 cousin Jonathan of Newburyport came up to Hooksett to talk with Anna, his son William, age 22, was missing at sea and presumed drowned. Anna withdrew to the parlor and sat down in her easy chair. Soon she was asleep, in a self-imposed trance. She sat that way for over 30 minutes, often mumbling to herself and looking perplexed. When she awoke, she was physically and mentally exhausted, but reported seeing William fall overboard in a storm. He froze in the frigid waters off the coast of Newfoundland.

After Ira died, Anna 'closed shop,' so to speak. She rarely left her room or took food in any quantities, which concerned her children and grandchildren greatly. Joseph and Arria did all that they could, but Anna continued to decline in strength. Over the Christmas holidays, most of the family came home to visit, but it was young Erie Jr. and his wife, Margaret Silvernail Poore (they lived on the adjoining farm across the river) who seemed to perk her up the most. Some inner being had told Anna long ago that the Gift would be passed to Margaret, who, like her, was a Poore-by-marriage.

On April 18, 1854, Anna called her 20-year-old granddaughter Silena to go across the river to ask Erie and Margaret to come over. When they arrived, she took them into her room, away from Joe and his wife, who she noticed had become distant and sullen of late. Anna talked long about the Gift. She told them both that she felt near death and was compelled to pass it on. Margaret seemed to know exactly what Anna was leading to and taking the old woman's hands in her own, the German farm woman solemnly accepted the ancient Power.

As if a great weight had been lifted from her shoulders, Anna gave Erie and Margaret a box of old Continental Currency, which Sam had kept tucked away ever since moving from Rowley. To Erie, she gave Sam's grandfather's tomahawk, carried in every war from King Philip's through the American Revolution. Last, Anna presented Margaret with the old pumpkin-pine ironing board and instructed Erie to go to Hooksett and wire his father in Concord to come home, for she was feeling poorly.

The Commissioner arrived that evening, after stopping at his own farm and collecting Susan and their 21-year-old son Gilman and 25-year-old daughter Margaret. With Joseph, Arria and their two surviving children (they had also lost two babies in 1841 and 1848) Silena and Joseph Jr., the family stood vigil at Anna's bedside. Three days later she was dead, on April 21, 1854. She was 91 years old.

Joseph and Arria gave up the farm shortly after the funeral and moved to Manchester, taking 14-year-old Joseph Augustus and his sister Silena with them. They lived for a time on Orange and Bridge Streets and then began another farm in South Manchester.

Silena and Joseph Jr. maintained the old farm by themselves whenever possible for 8 years. She must have been attracted to a Hooksett man, Samuel Alexander Haskett. In February 1859 she gave birth to her only child, Lenna Frances. In 1860, she and Samuel were married. Together with brother Joseph, they tried to keep the old homestead alive, but Samuel soon took off for Washington Territory and was killed in a sawmill accident at Nesqually in October 1864. Joseph gave up in 1866 and returned home to live on his father's farm in South Manchester, finally marrying in 1871 to Mary Vianna Poor, daughter of Samuel Poor Jr. of Boston. Silena remained on the homestead with her daughter until she died there in 1772, whereupon Joseph Sr. and Arria took their 12-year-old granddaughter to raise. She never married. After 1772, the old farm of Sam and Anna fell away to disrepair, absorbed by Erie Sr.'s farm to the west.

On Erie's farm, son Gilman left soon after his grandmother died and went to work for the Eastern Railroad Company, moving away to Somersworth NH, near Dover on the Maine border. In 1864 he left the railroad and moved to Revere MA, where he became a dealer in dairy products. He married three times but had only three sons, Frank Gilman, Sammie and Bennie Perry Poore. His wives were Almira Whitehouse, Susan Ann Prescott and Mary Ann Priest.

## THE SMELL OF WAR

My great-grandfather's generation carried us into the horrible years of the American Civil War, which lasted from 1861-1865. Many of that generation lived long into the 20th Century, I used to sit and listen to one old veteran, well past his century mark, relate his experiences of that war. By 1965, only 10 were left alive from both North and South. Each individual Poore, Poor, Poer and Power deserves his own recognition in this book, but to do so would distract from the overall goal. It would take a separate volume in itself to properly address the Civil War, its aftermath and our family's participation throughout. The remainder of Eastwind Westwind will follow Erie Poore Jr. and his siblings alone. Their role was similar to any member of the extended family, for the war was, in truth, a national family matter. For any of you who had ancestors in the war, you need only change the regimental name and color of the soldiers uniform to see how the war affected us all. From Alfred Poore's 1881 book on the descendants of John Poore, there are direct cousins that fought in 95 Union regiments alone, from 16 separate states. Far too many never returned and those that did were never the same after the war.

Erie Poore Jr. was one of roughly 53 first cousins born to the 8 surviving offspring of Samuel Poore and Anna Bridges. The names of the children had become very inventive. Middle names were fashionable, often those of ancestors or mother's maiden names. The group included farmers, grocers, shoe sales clerks,

lawyers, judges, artists, railroad men and western miners. Many fought in the Civil War and returned home, while others died on battlefields or as prisoners of war.

#### The Samuel Poore Cousins

John and Elizabeth McIntire Poore of Berlin & Moretown, VT, had 4 children:

1. Mary Ann Poore (1815-1839) died unmarried at 23.
2. Bushrod Washington Poore (1818-) lawyer and judge, married Joanna Phillipa Walker and moved to Dubuque, Iowa in 1853 and had 4 children:

Willard Ashley Poore (1848-) m. Martha Ella Scott

Alvin Brainard Poore (1852-) Unmarried physician in Iowa in 1879

Clara Elizabeth Poore (1855-) Unmarried school teacher in 1878

John Chandler Poore (1862-)

3. Chandler Poore (1820-) unmarried dentist. 1856, followed brother to Dubuque, Iowa.
4. Maria Poore (1822-) never married, lived in Moretown, VT.

Samuel Jr. and Jane Wells Poore of East Goffstown NH, had 7 children:

6. Samuel Poore (1817-) married Olive Linfield White, moved to Boston and East Somerville MA, had 5 children:

Mary Vianna Poore (1844-) married her cousin Joseph Augustus Poore.

John Samuel Poore (1846-) a miner in California, Arizona, New and Old Mexico. Unmarried in 1879

Olive Ann Augusta Poore (1849-)

Daniel Louis Poore (1851-)

Ruth Linfield Poore (1855-1855) Infant Death

6. Asa Poore (1818-) married Lydia Eaton Kimball, resided at Thetford, VT, 2 daughters:

Anna Bridges Poore (1842-) Unmarried in 1978

Jane Wells Poore (1844-) married Henry Albert Sloan, moved to Chicago; Henry was a war veteran with an Illinois regiment. No children.

7. Julia Ann Poore (1820-1851) married Alvah Russell, who abandoned family and went west. Julia died in the Insane Asylum at Concord NH. They had two daughters:

Julia Ann Russell Adams, raised by Adams family, married George Washington Sweat and moved to Toledo, Tama County, Iowa.

Mary Jane Russell (1843-1849).

8. Irad Poore (1822-) married Fanny Woodbury George, lived in Manchester NH.

They had 7 children:

Fanny Maria Poore (1850-)

Emma Jane Poore (1852-)

Tilon Mitchell Poore (1856-) Unmarried farmer in 1877

Flora May Poore (1858-) Unmarried school teacher in 1878

Ella Augusta Poore (1861-) Unmarried in 1878

Frank Irad Poore (1864-)

Cora Etta Poore (1867-)

9. Jane Poore (1825-) married John Dole Pike, lived in Haverhill NH, had 9 children:

Ida Ann Pike (1849-) married George E. Hatch, 1st. Sgt., Co 'K', 2nd California Cavalry.

John Dole Pike (1850-1872) Killed in accident

Samuel Poore Pike (1852-) Dealer of provisions, Lowell, MA in 1879

Louisa Jane Pike (1854-)

Ethan Brock Pike (1855-1875)

Irena Dole Pike (1858-) Unmarried in 1878

Julian Adams Pike (1860-)

Mary Emma Pike (1862-)

Ephraim Barnabas Pike (1864) Clerk for his brother, Samuel in 1879

10. Daniel Little Poore (1827-1853) unmarried schoolteacher.

11. Louisa Harvell Poore (1834-) married Henry Blaisdell Gould, lived in Manchester and later bought a farm in Candia, NH, had two children:

Elmer Arthur Gould (1862-)

Alice Eveline Gould (1867-)

Job and Rebecca Knapp Poore of Franconia and Stewartstown NH had 7 children:

12. Anna Bridges Poore (1813-1845) married James Harvey Oakes, had 9 children:

Simon Oakes (Infant Death)

Isaac Poore Knapp

Edgar Augustus Knapp

John Norris Knapp

James Augustus Knapp, fought with New York regiment in war.

George A. Knapp

Calvin Knapp, fought with 1st. NH Regiment of Volunteers, Co 'E'

Ira Knapp (1845-1862) Co 'H' 8th NH Regiment of Infantry, died of wounds from Battle of Labadieville, LA.

Erie Knapp (1845-) twin of Ira and was in same regiment and company as him, received wounds at Battle of Port Hudson.

13. Asa Poore (1815-1815, Infant Death)

14. Harriet Poore (1817-) married Abel Childs Cushman, moved to Bath, NY.

15. Isaac Cole Poore (1817-1823)

16. Maria Smith Poore (1823-) married Edwin Wallace Gaskill, resided in Simsbury, CT in 1879. They had 5 children:

Eugene Cushman Gaskill (1842-1848)

Rebecca Ann Gaskill (1846-) New York dressmaker

Frederick Eugene Gaskill (1849-1852)

Ada Estell Gaskill (1850-)

Charles Bailey Gaskill (1853-1855)

17. Lucy Rebecca Poore (1827-1831)

18. John Calvin Poore (1835-) married Emma Jane Corser. John fought in both the 2nd NY Regiment, Co 'I' and with Co 'I', 1st. NH Heavy Artillery. They lived in Stewartstown NH and had 2 children:

Ormand Job Poore (1866-)

Hattie Maria Poore (1871-)

Benjamin and Martha McCurdy Poore of Manchester and Derry, NH, had 6 children:

19. Emeline Poore (1824-) married 1847 to Robert Clark Dow, Captain of Co 'H', 3rd NH Regiment of Volunteers. They had 7 children:

Elizabeth Emeline Dow (1848-)

Frank Johnson Dow (1850-1878) worked as conductor on railroad, went to Kansas in April 1878 and was killed by Cheyenne Indians near the Oklahoma line in Comanche County, Kansas Sept 15, 1878.

Martha Ida Dow (1852-1876)

Mary Ella Dow (1854-1876)

Hattie Eva Dow (1857-1857 Infant Death)

Nettie Eva Dow (1859-)

Harry Robert Dow (1863-)

20. John McCurdy Poore (1826-) married Elizabeth Perley, his cousin. John was attached to Co 'F' 50th MA Regiment of Volunteers and was wounded at the battle of Port Hudson. John and Elizabeth lived at Haverhill MA and had one son:

John Freddie Poore (1857-1857 Infant Death).

21. Matthew Poore (1828-1869) married Almira M. Pearl, no children

22. Elizabeth Poore (1831-1879) never married

23. Mark Poore (1835-) married Abigail Emerson Davis and moved to Ceredo, Wayne County WVA. He was Captain of Co 'A', 5th and 1st Veterans Regiment of West Virginia and was on General Milroys staff, Army of the Shenandoah. There was one daughter:

Lillia Carter Poore (1867-1868)

24. Luke Poore (1843-) never married. He was in Captain Noyes' Company of the 28th Massachusetts Heavy Artillery Regiment.

Jesse and Jane Hall Poore of Berlin, VT had 2 children:

25. Charles Hall Poore (1833-1858)

26. Harris Jesse Poore (1836-)

Ira and Sally Upham Poore Hooksett NH 1826-1830, Providence RI 1830-1842. Ira, who was superintendent of the Blackstone Canal in Providence, had 5 children by Sally. He left his wife and children around 1840. About 1842, he had relocated to San Antonio, Texas. He owned a large plantation with 9 slaves, married Ellen Dyer, a Texas woman and had as many as 8 more children, only two of who are known. He died in 1852. Children by Sally Upham Poore:

27. Benning Noyes Poore (1827-) married Maria Elizabeth Roberts and had 2 children:

John Oscar Poore (1854-) carriage painter

Sarah Lizzie Poore (1856-)

28. John Rider Poore (1829-) went with 1849 Gold Rush, settled in California at Kelsey, El Dorado County, where he married and had 6 children:

Unknown baby, Infant Death

Unknown baby, Infant Death

Unknown son, survived

Unknown son, survived

Unknown son, survived

Unknown son, survived

29. Sullivan Knox Poore (1831-) went to California in 1852-53, returned east and worked as a laundry man in six towns before marrying Alicia Melvine Fox in 1857, settling in Boston and had 5 children:

Clara Bell Poore (1859-)

Albert Lorenzo Poore (1862-1865)

Nellie (1866-)

Maud Alecia Poore (1872-)

Ralph Everett Poore (1876-)

30. Caroline Noyes Poore (1833-) Raised by Benjamin Noyes. Married Byron Marvin Cunningham, had 4 children:

Fred Alexander Cunningham (1866-)

Grace Fenno Cunningham (1867-)

Blanche Marvin Cunningham (1870-)

Caroline Gertrude Cunningham (1872-)

31. George McGilvery Poore (1838-) George was in Co 'C', 5th NH Regiment of Volunteers and married Martha Wood, lived in Henniker NH and had 2 children:

Cora Bell Poore (1871-)

Alma Lenora Poore (1876-)

George was born a year or more after Ira left his first wife, Sally and moved to Texas.

There is a good chance that Ira Poore was not the father of George McGilvery. There were many hidden conflicts with this family.

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8 additional children were born to Ellen Dyer, in Texas 1842-1852, some died in infancy, only 2 are of record, born at San Antonio:

32-36 Unknown children

37. David L. Morrill Poore

38. Fred B. Stark Poore, died young.

Erie and Susan Saltmarsh Poore of West Hooksett NH, 11 children:

39. Erie Pore Jr. (1826-about 1920) married Margaret Catherine Silvernail at Hyde Park (Scranton) PA Nov. 6, 1851, settled at East Hooksett NH. He was 1st Sgt. of Co 'A', 7th NH Regiment of Volunteers and had 9 children:

Erie Adam Poore (1852-) married Alice May Brown. Railroad worker in 1878

Alonzo Gilman Poore (1854-) married a cousin, Maria Josephine Poore

Charles Fremont Poore (1856-) married Jane Sanborn. A quarryman in 1879

James Buchanan Poore (1858-) unmarried clerk in railroad office in Chicago in 1879

Elsworth Henry Poore (1861-)

Sarah Frances Poore (1866-1867)

George Frances Poore (1868-)

Cassie Viola Poore (1871-)

Ira Herbert Adams Poore (1875-1936) m. Susan Elizabeth Mackenzie

40. Perry Poore (1828-) married Caroline M. Chipman and had 2 children:

Emma Caroline Poore (1853-), was unmarried in 1878

Addie May Poore (1857-) unmarried in 1878

41. Margaret Poore (1829-) married Alonzo Melvin Caswell, veteran of the 1st NH Flying Artillery 1859-1863, had 5 children:

Imogene Melissa Caswell (1854-) married Charles Elwyn Atkins

Irvin Eugene Caswell (1856-)

Anna Celestia Caswell (1860-)

Alonzo Edwin Caswell (1861-)

Fred Melvin Caswell (1872-)

42. Alonzo Poore (1831-1864) married Julia Ann Morgan, had 2 children before he died in train wreck at Rochester NH:

Charles Loren Poore (1858-) painter

Irvine Alonzo Poore (1860-)

43. Gilman Poore (1833-) married (1856) Almira Whitehouse (1838-1867) who died eight days after the birth of her second child, Sammie

Frank Gilman Poore (1857-), worked for Eastern Railroad Company

Sammie Poore (1867-1867) (lived almost 3 months)

He married Susan Ann Prescott (1835-1872) who died 34 days after the birth of Bennie

Bennie Perry Poore (1872-)

He married (1878) Mary Ann Priest (1839-). No children

44. Anna Poore (1839-1842)

45. Samuel Poore (June 7, 1837-April 30, 1864) left farm in 1857 for Somersworth NH, enlisted 1861 into Co 'H' 2nd NH Regiment of Volunteers, was in Battle of Bull Run, captured at Gettysburg PA 1863, sent to Belle Isle VA and then to Andersonville Prison in Georgia in Feb. 1864. Died of dysentery.

46. Susan Frances Poore (1841-) married Augustus Frank Garvin, lived in Charlestown and Revere MA, had one child:

Georgietta Poore Garvin (1865-)

47. Lucy Poore (1843-) married Moses Norris Colby of Manchester, had 3 children:

Norris Poor Colby (1871-)

Edward Henry Colby (1875-)

Unknown son Colby (1878-)

48. Lydia Ann Poore (1846-) married, Henry Irwin Caswell brother of Alonzo Caswell, had 2 children:

Arthur Henry Caswell (1869-)

Edith Blanche Caswell (1876-)

49. Frank Pierce Poore (1849-) lived with parents on family farm, married three times and had one child by each wife. He married Sarah Betsey Hardy (1850-1874) in 1870 and had:

Cora may Poore (1872-)

He married Sarah's sister, Arvilla A. Hardy (1854-1876) in 1875 and had:

Hattie Bell Poore (1875-)

He married Hattie Estelle Stark (1852) of Milwaukee WI in 1877 and had:

Thomas Floyd Poore (1877-)

His father, Erie Poore Sr. died on the farm in 1874 at age 74, leaving Frank to take care of his invalid mother. Susan Saltmarsh Poore, who after 3 strokes, died in 1884 at age 79.

Joseph and Arria Mitchell Poore of W. Hooksett and S. Hampstead NH had 4 children:

50. Silena Winter Poore (1834-1872) married in 1860 Samuel Alexander Haskett, who died in an accident at Nesqually Washington Territory in 1864. They had one child, raised by her grandparents after Silena died:

Lenna Frances Poore (1859-)

51. Juliette S. Poore (1838-1841)

52. Joseph Augustus Poore (1840-) m. 1871 his cousin, Mary Vianna Poor, had 3 children:

Charles Marshall Poore (1872-)

Joseph Lewis Poore (1874-)

Unnammed son, Infant Death 1878

53. Frank Pierce Poore (1848-1848) lived 3 months

When Erie Poore Jr. was born in 1826, the country was still very new. Beyond the Mississippi, St. Louis, Missouri and Santa Fee, New Mexico was the two trading capitols of the west, dealing primarily in Indian trade goods and beaver pelts. The beaver market collapsed in the 1830s when silk hats came in vogue in London and Paris, sending the Rocky Mountain fur traders scrambling back to the High Plains to shoot buffalo. With the discovery of gold near Sacramento, California in 1849, thousands left the cities and

farms and struck out for the gold fields. Horace Greeley, the newspaper man born in Amherst NH, coined the phrase 'Go West Young Man, Go West.' Some left so fast that entire farms were left abandoned, like the Whipple Farm on Pattee Hill near Goffstown. After the family left for the west, a giant thorn thicket all but obliterated the house and barns. When men looking for stray cattle finally visited it years later, the dinner plates still stood on the table.

Erie Jr. was born into an established family. His cousins Samuel and William Henry Morrill (sons of Lydia Poore of Goffstown) both graduated as MDs from Harvard and both practiced medicine in Pitt County, North Carolina. Their father, David Morrill had been Governor of New Hampshire. While he grew to manhood, Erie watched his father rise in political favor through Hooksett town positions, to the State Legislature and finally to County Commissioner. Erie's friend (and two years his junior) was Nat Head (1828-1883), whose father ran a farm as well as the local lumberyard. The Head family was one of the most prominent in the area. Nat attended Pembroke Academy and went on to receive many titles in the community.

Nat took over his father's lumber mill around 1850, hiring Erie to work for him. He wanted to expand the business and attract outside investments, especially in the railroad services arena. It was probably Head who sent Erie to the Hudson Valley to promote business, where he met Margaret Silvernail. They were married in Hyde Park, Pennsylvania in 1851.

In 1852, Nat took on his brother William as partner in the family lumber business, forming the Head & Dowst Constructing and Building Company of Manchester. At the Hooksett lumber yard, Nat and William added brick making to the business, Erie became their master-brick-maker. With the Manchester factory making railroad equipment and building materials for public buildings, Nat Head became a rich man.

While Erie and Margaret set up their East Hooksett farm, Head became directors of the Suncook Valley Railroad, The First National Bank of Manchester and the New Hampshire Fire Insurance Company. He was made president of the China Savings Bank of Suncook, NH and the New Hampshire State Agricultural Society. He also became vice president of the New Hampshire Historical Society. Entering state politics in 1861, Nat eventually became State Adjutant General and then Governor of New Hampshire in 1879.

Erie was well set by 1861, with 4 healthy sons age 3 to 9 and an ever-expanding farm. With the help of his father and his friend and employer, Nat Head, he had purchased additional lands east of Hooksett to the Candia line. He thought, like Joseph Poore of Rowley once did, that land offered security for a growing family of boys. Just as the 35-year-old farmer-brick-burner felt that his life was secure, the war began.

Abraham Lincoln had won the election of 1860 with only 40% of the popular vote. The Southern States had long threatened to secede. South Carolina took action against the Republican Administration and on December 20, voted to secede from the Union. With a 4:1 vote, Mississippi, Florida and Alabama soon followed. On February 1, 1861, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas also seceded, causing an outcry in the north. On Feb. 8, at Montgomery, AL, a constitutional committee established the provisional government of The Confederate States of America.

Few people, even then, did not expect anything beyond that point. It was looked at, more than anything, like a slam against the Republicans Party, which opposed States Rights in general. Then, on April 12-13, General Pierre Beauregard had the Charleston, SC, batteries open fire on Ft. Sumter in the harbor. Major Robert Anderson of Kentucky commanded the fort and although no one was killed (there was one accidental death within the fort), Anderson surrendered to Beauregard. Allowed to march to the landings, the troops were placed on ships to leave for Washington DC. While sailing past the shore, cadets from a nearby military school raced to the beach and fired on the ship, becoming the first 'battle' of the war.

The news reached Hooksett like a thunderbolt. Erie Sr., Jr. and Nat Head met at the sawmill, shocked at what had happened in Charleston. President Lincoln had issued a call to arms on April 15th, asking for 75,000 men to serve a 3-month enlistment. Jefferson Davis was doing the same in the south.

The Poores and Nat Head were well aware of the impractical and sudden attack on the Federal fort. The north had a population of 21 million, where the southern cotton belt had only 9 million, plus 3.5 million slaves. Almost all industry, from shoes to weapons was in the north. From correspondence with Sam and William Morrill, it was evident that the main southern goal was exporting their cotton to a European market. They were also relying heavily on the neutral Border States to fall into the Confederate camp—Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky and Missouri were slave states, but were still undecided which way to go if fighting occurred. Those states held enough industry to support the south. Their joining the Confederacy was crucial to the Cause.

After Lincoln's call to arms, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas seceded, angered at Washington's immediate show of force. These were not historically large slave states, but they felt an obligation to stand with their brothers, especially if troops were sent south. Only in the western districts of Carolina, Virginia and in eastern Tennessee was there a strong anti-slavery, pro-northern coalition. Kentucky was also split, families chose sides over the dinner tables. With Federal agents working the backcountry, the Border States were enticed to stand with the Union. In Missouri, guerilla forces took to the field to harass federal troops. These irregular southern sympathizers included Jesse and Frank James of Kearney.

Erie's brother Samuel arrived from Somersworth within days, headed for the mustering point at Camp Hale in Manchester. The headstrong 21-year-old could not wait to see action, even after his father and brother coaxed him into waiting. Erie was uncertain; Margaret was pregnant with their sixth child, due in December. Word was spreading that Lincoln's enlistment program was for 3 months only, hinting that the war could be over by July, at the latest. Sam and many others did not wait. He continued on to the camp, where he enlisted on May 27, as a Private. He was assigned to Co. 'H,' 2nd. NH Regt. of Infantry, which after brief training, set out for Washington DC. In the Capitol, 30,000 troops gathered from 8 Union Regiments, to wait for the Confederate Army to respond.

Everywhere it was the same. The Confederates mustered into regiments, choosing their leaders carefully. General Beauregard gathered an ever-growing army to march north toward Washington. Surprisingly, Dr. William Henry Morrill of Marlboro, NC, who was married to Emma Osgood Fiske of Concord NH, was offered a captains commission in Cooke's Brigade of the 27th NC Regiment and became a staff member to Col. John R. Cooke, under the command of Col. George B. Singletary. This cousin of Erie Poore and son of a past governor of New Hampshire fought for the C.S.A.

In Greensburg, Green County, Kentucky, three brothers joined the Union, ancestors of Walter McLendon. They were Joseph C. Poor of Co 'C', Union 1st KY Cavalry, Dandridge Poor Jr. and Charles Walker Poor of Co 'E', Union 27th KY Regiment. Charles would reenlist as corporal into the Union 6th KY Cavalry, Co 'L'.

In Vermont, Capt James Powers of North Stratford NH joined the 3rd VT Regt. of Infantry, while William Powers of Nashua NH joined Troop 'M', 1st NH Cavalry and in far off Ponca, Nebraska, Isaac Powers joined Co 'I', 13th Kansas Infantry as company fifer. Also from Nebraska and joining the 5th (Co 'B') and 46th (Co 'A') Iowa Regiments were Thomas Poor of Norman and Daniel W. Poore of Grand Island NE. In Co 'G', 11th Iowa Regt, PVT Henry Poor enlisted, was captured and died while returning home from Andersonville Prison in 1865. On the same note, Erie's cousin Elijah Poore Jr. (Grandson of Jesse of Berlin VT) enlisted in Co 'G', NY 92nd Regiment of Volunteers. He was wounded and captured at the Battle of Fair Oaks and taken to Belle Isle Prison, near Richmond, VA. He was never heard from again after that.

In July 1861, the Confederate force of 25,000 men was in place at Manassas VA, on Bull Run Creek, only 25 miles from Washington DC. Samuel Poore of the 2nd NH was with the 30,000 Union troops who had been training at the Capitol, waiting for orders. Lincoln chose to attack first and sent the new recruits into Virginia. They met on July 16 in the First Battle of Bull Run, with half of Washington society following the army to the battlefield as if it were a grand holiday. The Southern resistance and complete carnage of this first engagement, thought to have been won so easily, resulted in a general retreat all the way back to the

Potomac. Left on the field were 2,900 Union and 1,900 Rebel dead. Sam Poore had seen and smelled war for the first time.

Lincoln saw that if the North were to achieve a rapid end to the fighting, he would need competent field commanders and a standing army. He ended the short-term 3-month enlistments and called for minimum 3-year sign-ups, effective immediately. Hundreds of thousands rallied to his call.

Erie Poore Jr. enlisted on October 29th at Camp Hale. For two months he trained, luckily being in Manchester when Margaret gave birth to Ellsworth Henry Poore on December 23rd. He was assigned to the 101-man Co 'A', 7th NH Regt. of Volunteers, which numbered 10 companies and 1100 men. They left Manchester on Jan 14, 1862.

They were first transported to White Street Barracks, New York City, for continued training. On February 13th they received orders to ship to Fort Jefferson, Florida. They went by ship and smallpox broke out while at sea, but only one man died.

Finally at Ft Jefferson, all that there was to do was train. There were no new orders to move out. By May, 128 had died from disease. They waited in the hot Florida humidity for 5 months and by July; typhoid and other diseases had killed a total of 400 men of the original 1100. Erie had ample time to write letters home and receive ones written to him. A fictional letter sent by his cousin Wendell Poore of Iowa (now 62) shows how the war affected even those of the west, far from the front lines:

Poore Farm

Mormontown, Iowa

April 5, 1862

My dear Cousin Erie:

I have been in contact recently with your father in hopes that together we can keep track of our warriors so far afield. If you have not yet heard, your brother Samuel was promoted to Corporal in January. He has seen continued action since he enlisted.

My worries are great for our sons and grandsons (Wendell had 13 children living and 80 grandchildren, plus 39 great-grandchildren). Many are with the Union Army; I know not where some have gone. It is my hope that you might look for their regiments during your tour. My brothers and sisters all share the same worry. Mother (who is 81 and still living on the White River in Indiana) intends to write to your wife if the need arises to find missing family members. Margaret's Gift is appreciated, even among your prairie cousins...

This is but a partial listing, but includes my sons, nephews, grandsons, sons-in-law and husbands of granddaughters. Please keep them in your prayers:

Israel Siemiller Co 'B' 4th Iowa Regt., grandson

Socrates Williams Co 'B' 9th Iowa Regt., son-in-law

Capt. Daniel Wendell Poore Co 'C' 29th Iowa Regt., son

Thomas Brooks Poore Co 'C' 29th Iowa Regt., son

Alvin Mansfield Poore Co 'C' 29th Iowa Regt., nephew

Daniel Webster Poore Co 'A' 46th Iowa Regt., nephew

SGT William Henry Morgan Co 'C' 51st Missouri, grandson

James Harrison Poore 120th Indiana, grandson

William Zike 120th Indiana, grandson-in-law

Wendell Poore 120th Indiana, grandson

David Thompson 145th Indiana, grandson-in-law

Samuel Miller Poore 145th Indiana, son

Your Aging Cousin,

Wendell Poore

Wendell was only one of the many children of John Poore and Hannah Chute. He was schooled in Massachusetts before going west in 1818, but became the classic frontier woodsman-farmer-scholar-civic leader. His many children came from two Cherokee Indian sisters, Elizabeth Weddel, who he married in 1820 and Thirza Weddel Guthrie, a widow with four daughters who he married after Elizabeth died in 1840. After spending much of his life near his mother's farm in Jackson County, Indiana, he moved, in 1854, to Ringgold County, Iowa, where he lived out his long life.

The war records for Erie and Sam are very long and detailed; I will show only the highlights. They fought in different campaigns, Erie's 7th NH was with the coastal regiments (which included the famous 54th MA Black Regiment under Robert Gould Shaw) which saw action from Florida to Richmond VA. Sam's 2nd NH operated in the northern Theater, in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Erie served his 3-year enlistment and reenlisted in 1864, Sam did not live long enough to reenlist. The actual regimental war records follow the units battle by battle and we must thank Nat Head of Hooksett for their completeness. As Adjutant General of New Hampshire, he made it his special project to follow each and every Union regiment throughout the war.

The war raged all through 1861 and 1862, bringing enormous losses to both sides. In April 1862, 23,000 died at Shiloh TN alone—13,000 Union and 10,000 Confederate troops dead in one battle. Jefferson Davis ordered the first Draft in US history, followed a year later (March 3 1863) by Lincoln's Draft Policy. The Northern Draft and food shortages in the South were met with riots in Richmond and New York City, it was called "The Rich Mans War, Poor Mans Fight." Lincoln offered a way out of service by paying \$300 and choosing a substitute to fight for him. Just prior to ordering the Union Draft he had announced his Emancipation Proclamation. As a result, poor Irish immigrants singled Blacks out in the riots as a symbol for their being conscripted for war—they could not buy their way out.

In August 1862, Corporal Samuel Poor was wounded in the 2nd Battle of Bull Run, with most of the bullets passing harmlessly through his open coat. The battles raged through that winter and into the spring of 1864, bringing Sam and the 2nd NH to Gettysburg, PA, in June. On July 2nd he was taken captive in this decisive battle, transferred with hundreds more to Belle Isle Prison, near Richmond, VA. Left on the field in Pennsylvania were 37,500 dead.

Four months later his brother Erie was promoted to Corporal and distraught over the news of his brother, was given a 30-day leave to go home. It was his only one during his 4 years of service. His homecoming brought added worries though, for along with his own lists of missing comrades, Margaret had collected a box-full of similar telegrams sent by friends and relatives. When she went into a trance specifically to find Sam, she saw the overcrowded malaria-ridden Belle Isle Prison as a Hell Hole. Men were starving and had no shelter. Sam was seen frail and beaten, but very much alive. This gave Erie renewed energy to return and carry on for his brother's sake. He went back to his unit, reenlisting February 27, 1864 with Veterans status.

By that time, Sam and thousands of other Union prisoners had already been transported by rail to a new prison near Anderson Station, Georgia. It was built as a massive open stockade in the rural southwestern part of the state. There were no barracks, just a vast open field with a small brook running through its center. As they arrived, the troops were sectioned off into groups of 100 and turned loose like cattle to seek their own means of providing shelter. The brook served both as a source of drinking water and the camp latrine.

The Confederacy had taken such a toll in lives that adequate prison commanders and guards were in short supply. Sam, his cousin Levi Morse Poor of the 19th Maine Regiment, cousin Henry Poor of the 11th Iowa, Joseph C. Poore of the 1st Kentucky Union Cavalry and 28 separate Powers cousins found the new prison intolerable. Henry Wirtz, commander, was mentally unbalanced. The majority of the guards were either boys or old men of the Georgia Reserve. Food, when it was given, was coarsely ground corn pone. Cobs and husks were ground into the cornmeal, causing sickness and perpetual diarrhea for all inmates. The only authority within the prison was a group of New York street thugs called "The Raiders," who lived off of the misery of their fellow soldiers. As new inmates arrived, they were set upon and beaten, loosing valuables, clothes, blankets, cooking utensils and sometimes their lives.

By April, the interior of the stockade resembled a refugee camp from Dante's Inferno. Men, divided into groups called 'Messes,' constructed 'Shebangs' out of anything that they could buy or steal. The Raiders lived in 'Castles' along the stockade wall on the high ground, bartering with prison guards for luxuries denied the general population. The poor and ill were relegated to the swampy lowland, some living in mud holes along the brook-latrines.

The ungodly smell of Andersonville drifted across the farmlands, causing citizens up to 3 miles away to keep their windows closed. Inside the stockade, Sam became sicker. He thought of his cousin Isaiah Poore, seen briefly at Belle Isle, wounded and never seen again. He thought of his home and wondered how Erie was faring. On April 30, 1864, Corporal Samuel Poore died of "Diarrhea C." He is interred in grave #819, one of the unfortunate inmates of this prison that eventually held over 45,000 inmates. In 1914, cousin Levi M. Poor of Maine returned with a delegation to erect a monument, commemorating the Maine men who died there.

Of course, Erie lived through the war. He was appointed sergeant January 16 1865, commissioned 1st Lt. March 1, 1865 (which he declined for a lesser rank of First Sergeant September 1, 1865) and was mustered out of service on July 20, 1865 at Goldsboro, North Carolina. He was in all of the major battles of the 7th NH: Morris Island, SC July '63; Ft. Wagner SC (first assault) July 11, (second assault) July 18; Siege of Ft. Wagner and Morris Island; Siege of Ft. Sumter SC, Dec '63; Olustee, FL Feb 20 '64; Chester Station VA May '64; Lempster Hill VA; Drewry Bluff May 13-16 '64; Bermuda Hundred VA August '64; Petersburg VA June '64; Ware Bottom Church June '64; Deep Bottom VA August '64; Siege of Petersburg Aug 24-28 '64; New Market Heights Sept '64; Five separate engagements around Richmond, VA October 1-28; Ft. Fisher NC Jan '65; Half Moon Battery, Sugar Loaf Hill, near Federal Point NC Jan 18-19 '65; Sugar Loaf Battery Feb '65; and Wilmington (Northeast Ferry) NC February 22 1865. Erie captured the Rebel Flag at Fort Fisher, North Carolina. As First Sergeant of Company 'A', his return was bitter sweet. Of the original 101 who left Manchester with the company, he was one of five original members that remained. Only one field staff officer survived from the original group. Regiment-wide, from the first 7th NH enlistees of 1100 men, 758 were dead or missing. Only 320 troops and 22 officers came home from the 'First Wave' contingent.

On April 2, 1865, President Davis abandoned Richmond and set it afire. On April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Grant at Appomattox Court House in Virginia. Present at the surrender was Confederate Captain William Morrill, grandson of George Poore of Goffstown NH.

On April 14 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and killed at Ford's Theater in Washington DC.

In far away Nebraska, the Omaha and Winnebago tribes resumed their annual war dance celebrations, postponed through the duration of the war so that their warriors could work as Indian scouts for the western regiments.