

## **Lucy Welch Rodger Journal, Wills & Scrapbook 1918-1959**

The actual journal was given to Hammond Historical Museum archives by Kristan Rodger Rutherford in February 2022.

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### **Journal 1910, pg 1-21:**

(1) In the year 1910, almost 100 years after William Smith wrote his journal, I, Lucy Welch Rodger, copied the book for my own use. The old journal is now in the hands of John Taylor and sisters and is getting quite faded and hard to read. I spent many days in studying it out and copying it.

I wish now to write what I have heard and know of the family, especially the More family of which my grandmother Welch was the oldest. Mary More was born April 3, 1821 and married Robert Welch March 18, 1840 and is recorded on page 230. Her parents, Kirstan and David More lived on the farm known as Morefield where they settled in coming to America during the remainder (2) of their lives. Their married life was nearly 62 years together. He died January 30, 1881 and she Dec 28, 1886.

Their youngest son David and his wife lived with them, and gave them the best of care in their old age. They (Kirstan & David) were the parents of 8 children who were all married and lived with their families in the town of Hammond and at their deaths.

On New Year's Day of each year, the eight families would go to Grandfather More's to spend the day. At the last they numbered to about 60. Now, at my writing, they are all dead but one Margaret Leadingham but their grandchildren and great grandchildren are marrying and the More family gathering now number about 80 in town and 20 or more out of town which seldom if ever meet with us. The meetings are now held at (3) the different homes of the descendants of David & Kirstan More. I also wish to relate that they both died of old age. He, at the age of 87 and she, 92 years.

Mary More, my grandmother, married Robert Welch March 18, 1840 and went to live on his farm in Macomb as stated in the old journal. But as she was so far from home became homesick and after two or three years living in Macomb they moved back to Hammond and bought 40 acres of Elisha Homes on the Oak Point Road where they lived the remainder of their life. He later bought his (4) father's farm which lay across the creek and in the year 1859 built the bridge which now connects the two places.

Grandfather Welch came to this country from England when 11 months old and I believe his parents settled on this land just mentioned. Grandfather had 5 brothers and 2 sisters. One sister, Jane Young of North Hammond and one brother, John Welch, are living.

Grandfather and Grandmother lived together (40) years. He died Sept 18, 1890, age 74 and 6 months. He was troubled with Bright's disease two years before he died but had always enjoyed good health during life. My grandmother had all the characteristics of a Scotch woman, clannish toward her own family and the Scotch. She was possessed with unusual constitution and good health (5) with an abundance of ambition. This combined with her good common sense helped them to prosper along the highway to success.

I shall always remember the many hours I have seen her either at her knitting or at the sewing of blocks for quilts. I think one of these quilts will be found in every home of her children, grandchild and nieces. About two years before her death her health began to break, but even then she was

always able to be around the house until two weeks before her death. She fell from a chair and was scarcely able after to move from her bed. She died April 4, 1908, age 87 years.

Eight children were born to them, only three were alive at the time of their death. 2nd William Ambrose born Aug. 10, 1842 and died of inflammation of the bowels Dec. 2, 1865. (6) 1st Christian born Jan. 15, 1841 who died of scarlet fever Feb. 14, 1847. David More, my father, born Nov. 1, 1844. Robert Smith born Jan 28, 1847 who lives on the home place. James George born May 12, 1849 and died of typhoid fever Oct. 14, 1865. Emma Elizabeth born Jan 17, 1853 and now lives in Chicago, Ill. John Albert born July 14, 1857 and died of the croup May 7, 1865. Franklin Eddy born Jan 17, 1862 and died in infancy.

(7) Robert Welch's father's only living brother married Louisa Zellar of Pamelia, Jeff. Co., NY, a cousin of my mother. They were the parents of two sons, Frank Robert born Nov. 0, 1874 and died Sept. 18, 1881 of diphtheria. Henry David born April 30, 1885.

My father's sister Emma married Orville Daniels, a native of town. At their marriage they went to Elgin, Ill, and lived on a farm, later they moved to Chicago and he was in the meat market a number of years. In the year 1890 they had the misfortune of losing all their children. Elma, the oldest girl, then about 14 years, died of consumption and Dec 1st and 2nd, Robert and Edna died of diphtheria. They have since had two children, Florence and Ralph.

(8) My father and mother were married Jan. 17, 1872 at her home 1 ½ miles from Hammond toward Brier Hill. Her name was Alice Eugene Zellar, born Sept. 5, 1853. Her only sister Emma died when 8 months old, before mother was born. Her mother and father were married Sept. 12, 1849 and he died Nov. 14, 1863 of heart disease. They bought a portion of his father's farm of 120 acres. The farm (is) where my brother Newell now lives.

In the year 1851, they built the large house which is still standing and in good repair. The carpenters who built the house and repaired the barns were Rutherford Rodger, my husband's father and David Rodger.

Mother was left fatherless at the (10) age of ten years, her uncle Abram Zellar and family lived with them until grandmother's second marriage to Anthony Sigourney when mother was 14. At the age of 16 years she started a course in the Potsdam Normal School, which was the opening year of that institution. When living there only two years, her stepfather died and she came home. She taught in the fall term in their district school, closing her school on Friday and was married the following week. Her age at the time being 18 years and father's 27.

My father, David More Welch was born November 12, 1844 and I believe was always a strong and healthy boy. He attended the country school until about 14 or 15 years old and then helped his father on the farm or in the woods. At the age of 20 my father enlisted in the Civil War as a private soldier in the 20th NY Cavalry Company M and the 142nd Regiment on the 27th day of Aug. 1864.

Within 2 or 3 days after enlisting he went to Malone to be mustered in and then to join his regiment at Deep Creek, VA. His work was raiding and picket duty. Some time was spent at Bumeda Hundred and then sent to Derbytown Road which was 10 miles from Richmond. On April 3, 1865 Richmond was evacuated and he saw the white flag raised over the capitol. At that time he was detailed as a mail carrier from Richmond to City Point, a daily trip. About the middle of May he was taken with the measles and went to the hospital at Petersburg and there received his discharge June 8, 1865. He left for home the next day and was in Fort Monroe a week in getting his pay and arrived home the 18th day of June. For enlisting for one year or during the war he received \$1000 Town bounty, \$100 State bounty and \$6 per month clothed and boarded.

Father and Mother were married in the evening on Jan. 11, 1872 at her home by their pastor, Rev. D. L. R. Libby of the Universalist Church at Hammond, NY in the presence of about 20 of their nearest relatives and friends. The next evening a large reception was held at his father's and the third day they took dinner with his Grandfather and Grandmother More. A terrible snow storm came at that time which filled the roads and they were unable to take their wedding trip for two weeks, which was to her mother's relatives at Pamela and Watertown, NY. Grandmother's Sigourney farm was rented at the time to Thomas Rutherford but father and mother took possession March 1, 1872.

There have been many wonderful inventions in the last 100 years since Grandfather Smith's time and quite a goodly number in the last forty years. I will mention some of those since my remembrance.

- The threshing of grain (40 years ago) was done with two horses on a tread and then for more power three were used.
- I can well remember the first steam engine we had at our place which was drawn from place to place by horses, then the attraction came in use and now gasoline is taking the place of wood and coal.
- The cleaners, at first, simply dropped the straw behind the machine, then the carrier attachment was added and now the blower which blows the straw to any part of the barn.
- Covered carriages and light wagons began to take the place of the heavier wagons for pleasure trips about 1880.
- The first automobile in town was owned by \_\_\_\_\_.
- One of our greatest pleasures throughout the town is our telephone system which is now completed and nearly every house in the town can have the privilege of a telephone with but little cost. The Bay Road and village were the first to get the use of phones in 1904. In August 1907 one was placed in my home.

Five children were born to my parents.

1. I, being the oldest, was born January 25, 1873 named Lucy Baum, after mother's aunt living in Potsdam.
2. Bertha More born March 31, 1874
3. Ruby Ardelle born Feb. 17. 1876
4. Gerdie Ludentia born May 4, 1879 & died June 25, 1879 with whooping cough. We four children were all having it at that time.
5. On the 22nd of July 1880 a son was born to them called Newell Eugene.

Mother had her little brood close together and worked hard in her young days while she still ought to be enjoying her youth but with her mother always with her as counsel and help we soon grew up to manhood and womanhood. Mother had a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism when Ruby was a baby and it has always troubled her more or less since.

When Newell was six years old he had a hard and long run of typhoid fever before he was able to walk. I was stricken with the same disease, but with the experience mother had just had, they broke the fever from going so high and running so long. In the winter 1889 Ruby had pneumonia and for days her life hung on the balance but with constant care on mother's part as nurse saved her life. Dr. H. K. Kerr was physician during these sicknesses.

About this time Grandmother Sigourney's health began to fail and for three years she was quite feeble. She found small tumor-like bunches coming on her neck and breast which were very alarming to her. Her sister Lucy Countryman Baum was twice operated on for removal of cancers and died from the effects of them. She was with her sister much of the time during her sickness and knew what suffering and what little hope one could have. Grandmother began faithfully doctoring but said little to any of us. In the summer of 1894 she had 2 attacks of the heart and about the middle of July began to fail very fast. On Saturday July 21 at 11 AM she passed away. I was spending the week with Aunt Louisa Welch who was sick at the time and did not know she was not in her usual health until they came and told me she was dead.

In the year 1882 father bought the Wilson farm of 52 acres at \$50 per acre. In the year 1905 father bought the Morse lot on Main St. from George Wyllie for \$700 and the next year built a barn. In the summer of 1907 the house was built and they moved to the village on Nov. 1 of that year. Father spends much of his time on the farm and seems to be in the best of health.

June 25, 1896 Ruby was married to Dr. S. P. Brown of Potsdam. She graduated from the Potsdam Normal two days before her marriage. They have a very pleasant home on the corner of Market and Pleasant St. One daughter was born to them on March 28, 1898, named Alice Welch Brown.

Oct. 4, 1898, Bertha was married to Dr. Frank Smith, son of Robert Smith, mentioned on page 228. Frank had graduated as a dentist from a dental college in Phila., PA, two years before and had been in Clayton, NY but located in Rome, NY, on Nov. 1 of that year. They have 2 sons, Maurice Frank born Aug. 19, 1899 and Newell Welch born April 5, 1908.

My brother, Newell Eugene Welch was married to Grace Cuthbert June 20, 1906. They have one daughter Barbara Cuthbert born Aug. 23, 1909.

**Recollections, Sept 1, 1931, pg. 22-32:** Since Jan. 1, 1925 I have been keeping a diary which will register dates from that time on. Rutherford Rodger and Helen Taylor were married Feb. 2, 1853. A

history of the Rodger family will be found in the *Rodger, Hill, Brodie Book* which gives all and more than I know of the family.

Helen Taylor's birth cannot be found in the Smith Journal but she was a granddaughter of Grandfather Smith. We think it must have been recorded on one of the pages taken from the book. She is mentioned on page 210 as coming with grandfather and grandmother Smith from Montreal to Hammond. Her mother, Helen Smith Taylor's death is recorded on page 235 when Helen Taylor was 11 or 12 years of age. I understand she was taken in the family of her Uncle Peter Taylor where she lived until her marriage. Her father, John Taylor, again married to Mary Wilson, an own cousin to his children, which was displeasing to his family.

Two years before Rutherford Rodger was married he bought a farm on the Oak Point Road where he took his wife and always after made it their home. Five children were born to them & their births can be found in the Rodger, Hill, Brodie book. Amos died Apr. 13, 1930, Helen still living, Nancy Rodger More died Apr. 4, 1926, John died May 21, 1923, and David living.

Helen Taylor Rodger died with pneumonia Nov. 12, 1899 and her husband Rutherford Rodger on Dec. 18, 1899 with the same disease. Amos, Nancy and John were married and had homes of their own which left Helen and David at home. Their father had saved quite a little property as a farmer and carpenter and at his death David bought the farm and Helen lived with him.

On March 25, 1902 David Rodger married Lucy Baum Welch, he being 35 and I, 29 years of age. We went to the Washington excursion and visited Taylor Smith and Helen Smith Beekman. On Apr. 2 he took me to his home on the farm in North Hammond. Helen continued to make her home with us until May 1907. (Then) she went to Waddington to care for her aunt, Christie Taylor Waddell, mentioned on page 232 who was the youngest sister of her mother.

Oct. 31, 1904, we became parents to a boy we named after his grandfather Rutherford David. He was a finely built little fellow and soon made the home know he had arrived. When about 10 weeks old, we noticed a rash on his face which spread to every part of his body and we soon came to know he had one of the most irritative skin diseases, eczema. It became very serious until about three years of age when it began to show a backward movement. Now at the age of 26 he has but little.

What has proven more serious when 10 months old he had his first attack of asthma which continued to get worse. The winter after his 6th birthday we spent in Florida in hopes a change would be a benefit but it was not. The following 3 years he made many calls on Dr. Cornell of Brockville and took much medicine. In winter of 1914 & 1915 he became very bad and treatments were started in Jan. with Dr. Craig, Ogdensburg, NY. Two treatments a week were given. He had whooping cough when 3 ½ years old, chicken pox at 11 years, measles, June 1918 and mumps June 1919.

In the year of 1914 we repaired the barns on (the) farm. In 1915 as Rutherford was very bad with asthma and help was scarce on account of the war, we decided to rent the farm. On Oct. 30, 1915,

we bought a house in the village of Hammond from D. D. Evans for \$4000 and took possession Jan 1, 1916.

Rutherford was able to attend school most of the time and seemed to be better. He entered high school at the age of 14 years with Miss Jessie Wallace as principal of the school for the 4 years. In Sept. 1923 Rutherford entered St. Lawrence University at Canton, NY and took his two years of premedic. In 1925, he entered McGill University at Montreal, Canada and spent the required 5 years getting his degree in medicine & surgery.

On July 1, 1930, he entered Hepburn Hospital to serve as intern in that hospital with Dr. Grant Madill as surgeon-in-chief and Dr. John Free as Asst. who had just served 10 years at that time. He has put in one of the happiest years of his life. Health has been the best ever.

Oct. 31, 1915. The Presbyterian Church, manse and sheds were completely destroyed by fire. Plans were immediately started for rebuilding. The manse was built the following summer but it was two years before the church was completed. In the meantime, services were held in the town hall. Dr. Daniel Ferguson was pastor at this time. He served 48 years, resigning in Sept. 1923.

On Jan 25, 1923 (my 50th birthday) my father was taken to the Hepburn Hospital in Ogd. and the following day had an operation. A week later he had a second operation in which a large gravel stone was removed. He was in his 78th year. Everything was done but he continued to fail and died Feb. 24, 1923.

April 19, 1924. We all attended the marriage of Alice Welch Brown to Clement Coleman, both of Potsdam. The next day occurred the death of Aunt Louisa Welch.

Aug. 17, 1924. Maurice Smith was united in marriage to Alice Dawley of Northeast PA.

March 22, 1931. My mother, Alice Zellar Welch, died at my home where she had lived nearly three years. She lived alone in her home on Main St., Hammond, NY, after father's death for 5 years. She usually spent 10 weeks spring and fall with Bertha in Rome, NY, and shorter times in Potsdam with her daughter Ruby. She always had a large goiter and the poison from that is supposed to have affected her heart. She came to my home Apr. 1928 and a daily record can be had from my diaries.

Sister Ruby, wife of Dr. S. P. Brown, died with a cancer Sept 1, 1927. Her husband married a second time 14 months later to Pauline Forrester, Hammond, NY.

We have had in our family since living in the village, two teachers, sisters Bertha McClelland with us 11 years and Ethel 10 years.

I have made note of the age of certain pieces of furniture.

- Oil paintings Mother made-1878 & 1879

- Clock bought about 1855 by Grandfather Jerry Zellar
- Old sofa made by Henry Butterick of Hammond-1854
- Piano bought 1874
- China tea set-in 1880 at \$33, Mother's and Grandmother's gold watches and chains-1883
- Candle sticks-1855
- Cherry dresser was Grandmother Countryman's-1837
- Brown dresser-1857
- Hair cloth furniture bought 1855-price \$200
- Rose quilt-pieced 1847 by Grandmother Sigourney, given to Barbara Welch
- Mother's bedroom furniture-made by Joe Hazen, Hammond in 1872. I have the dresser and little round bedside stand.
- Paisley shawl bought 1850 by Mrs. Ludentia Countryman Zellar (Jerry)

**1939, pg. 33:** A wooden drinking cup was given Ruddy March 26, 1939, by Julie Sharp Rodger. The cup was given (to) John Sharp (father of Julie) by Dr. Robert Burns of Brier Hill, NY, who died in 1862. The material is "Beecher wood."

**David Welch Last Will & Testament pg. 34-35:** I David M. Welch of Town of Hammond, County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, being of sound mind and memory do hereby publish and declare this to be my last will and testament. That is to say:

1. I direct the payment of all my just debts and funeral expenses.
2. I give and bequeath to my beloved wife Alice E. Welch all my real and personal estate of whatever kind so ever for and during her natural life to use and occupy for comfort and happiness.
3. At the decease of my wife Alice E Welch, I give and devise and bequeath to my son Newell E. Welch the farm and lot known as the Wilson lot, also the Gallagher lot, also my interest in the personal property now on the farm where Newell resides.
4. At the decease of my wife Alice E. Welch I give and bequeath to my three daughters or their heirs, viz. Lucy R, Bertha M and Ruby A, all the remainder of my real and personal estate of what kind so ever share and share alike as tenants in common.
5. I likewise nominate and appoint my own son Newell E. Welch and my son-in-law David G. Rodger executors of this my last will and testament-hereby revoking all however wills by me made.

Dated: Hammond, NY Nov. 7, 1919

**Alice Welch Last Will & Testament, pg. 36-37:** I Alice E. Welch of the Town of Hammond in the County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, being of sound mind and memory do make publish and declare this my last will and testament in manner following, that is to say:

1. I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid.
2. I give, devise and bequeath to my son Newell E. Welch or his heirs, my farm known as the Old Homestead Farm together with my personal property on said farm. This devise is subject, however, to a request that he pay his sisters Lucy B. Rodger and Bertha M. Smith and my granddaughter, Alice Welch Coleman, or the heirs of each of them, if they be dead, the sum of \$500 each.
3. I give, devise and bequeath all the remainder of my said real and personal property wheresoever situated to my two daughters, Lucy B. Rodger and Bertha M. Smith, and my granddaughter, Alice Welch Coleman, share and share alike as tenants in common.
4. I hereby appoint Newell E. Welch and David G. Rodger executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

In witness thereof I have hereto subscribed my name the 7th day of September, 1927. Alice E. Welch  
Witness Marial E. Randles & Edmund Fitzgerald, Ogd., NY.

**Welch Requests, Oct. 1, 1928, pg. 38-40:** This is my request that Lucy is to have feather bed and pillows, embroidered sheets and pillow cases in front chamber, china dishes, best knives and forks, oil painting hanging against my bedroom. Bertha-my bedroom suite, feather bed and pillows, everyday dishes, long tablecloth, oil painting between dining room and hall door. Lucy-bedroom furniture in room over the sitting room. Alice-feather bed & pillows. Grace-, furniture & bed in little room, picture with cows on and Alice, the other large one in parlor. Maurice-the painting in dining room next pantry, Newell Smith-one next to hall, Rutherford-the one by sitting room door, Barbara-the one in sitting room by outside door and the furniture in front chamber and long tablecloth.

My watch to Alice, the two chains to be divided between Lucy, Bertha, Grace and Alice for next chains. My silver spoon to Alice, Dave's to Rutherford, Mother's to Bertha and the plain on to Barbara. The dresser in the room over kitchen to Newell Welch. All pieces of embroidery that each one gave to themselves, also dishes. Bertha-my gold thimble, Barbara-my nice quilt. Barbara & Alice-each a slide

from the gold chains, Lucy-the electric lamp, Bertha-fan, Grace-cleaner, Newell Welch-my father's shawl.

**The Will of Ruby Welch Brown, pg 41-44:** to Alice Brown Coleman & Sidney Pope Brown, dated Oct. 14, 1924, proved Dec. 1, 1927, recorded Mar. 13, 1928, 2 PM. Liber 26 of wills, page 86:

1. I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid.
2. I give, devise and bequeath unto Gerry Massey Brown, my son by adoption, \$2000.
3. I bequeath the balance of my property, both real and personal of each and every kind to be divided equally to each unto my daughter Alice Brown Coleman and my husband Dr. Sidney Pope Brown. If either should die before me all property is left to survivor. In case both die before me, I leave the property to Gary Massey Brown, my son by adoption and Lizzie Henderson, my niece, to be divided equally by each and hereby name my niece Lizzie Henderson to be legal guardian over Gary Massey Brown until he becomes of age.
4. I hereby appoint Sidney Pope Brown executor of this my last will and testament,, hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

Codicil dated March 24, 1927. Proved & recorded with the will.

**Scrapbook Contents:**

- 1832, Pg. A: Kristan Smith More & David More came in 1832 (photo much later)
- 1923, Pg. 113: David Welch obituary  
 “ “ J. T. Rodger, Postmaster, obituary
- 1925, Pg. 114: Rev. Dr. Ferguson obituary
- 1927, Pg. 112: Ruby Brown obituary
- 1931, Pg. 113: Alice Welch obituary
- 1937, Pg. 110, 111: Henry Countryman: Biographical Sketch  
 “ Pg. 109: Hepburn Operating Room
- 1938, Pg. C: Dr. Rutherford Rodger-new car trouble
- 1939, Pg. 111: Helen Rodger obituary
- 1941, Pg. C: Dr. & Mrs. Rodger wedding, '42 birth of dau. Kristan
- 1942: Pg. 47: Dr. Rutherford removes 5 ¾ in. hatpin from girl's stomach  
 “ Pg. 108: Red Cross-surgical Dressings Institute
- 1943, Pg. 107: Dr. Rodger may succeed Madill
- 1944, Pg. 106&7: Tombstone of soldier on Rodger property
- 1946, Pg. B: Dr. R Rodger opens office on NY Ave, Ogd.  
 “ Pg. 104 & 115: Presb. Church at Hammond Observes 125th Anniv.
- 1948, Pg. 78: Photo of dance party w/ Dr. & Mrs. R  
 “ Pg. 79: Photo of Orange Game (Mr. & Mrs. Club) w/ Dr. R
- 1949, Pg. 76: Photo w/ Dr. Rodger-blood drive plea  
 “ Pg. 77: Photo of Ogd. Exchange Club w/ Dr. R
- 1950: Photo of Kristan's 8th birthday w/ friends  
 Cruise of Dr. & Mrs. R left to Lima, Peru, for surgeon conference
- 1951, Pg. 70: Photo of Ogden Home Bureau picnic w/ David & Kristan  
 “ Pg. 71: Photo of Brownie troop w/ Kristan  
 “ Pg. 74: Photo w/ David going for train ride for VBS  
 “ Pg. 75: Photo of costumes w/ Kristan
- 1952, Pg. 72: Photo w/ Dr. Rodger as new elder at 1st Presb, Church, Ogd.  
 “ Pg. 62: Westside PTA play cast w/ Mrs. Rodger  
 “ Pg. 63: Photo of costume winners w/ Kristan  
 “ Pg. 64: Hepburn Alumni Banquet  
 “ Pg. 65: Photo of Brownies fixing overseas boxes  
 “ Pg. 66: 4 new members at OFA board (Dr. Rodger)  
 “ Pg. 68, 69: 50th anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. David Roger  
 “ Pg. 69: Lucy Rodger obituary  
 “ Pg. 67: Photo of Hammond streets lose poplar trees (near David R)  
 Hammond man bowls 1st game at 85 (David R)
- 1953, Pg. 60: Photo of piano students w/ Kristan R  
 “ Pg. 61: Photo of tap dancers w/ David  
 “ Pg. 61: Photo of boat race (shows boat that became K & D's)
- 1954, Pg. 57: Photo of Hepburn medical staff (Dr. Rodger +)
- 1954, Pg. 59: Photo & article of US Power Squadron (w/ Dr. R)
- 1957, Pg. 51: Piano winners-Kristan & David R  
 “ Pg. 55: Photo with Dr. & Mrs. Rodger & Hepburn nursing students

“ Pg. 56: Photo & article of US Power Squadron (Dr. Rodger, commander, w/ others)  
1958, Pg. 50: Photo of baseball team w/ David Rodger  
“ Pg. 52: Photo of new operating room at Hepburn  
“ Pg. 53: Photo of boys' baseball, Kiwanis Club-David R  
“ Pg. 58: Photo of US Power Squadron  
1959, Pg. 48: Photos of open house at Mother's Day, Hepburn Hosp.  
1959, Pg. 49: Photo of OFA Latin Club w/ Kristan  
1962, Pg. 115: 60 Years Married (Mr. & Mrs. David Rodger)  
1963, Pg. 104: David Rodger (96) obituary  
1989, Pg. 114: Helen Cuthbert obituary  
2001, Pg. 104: Newell W Smith obituary

**DAR (Daughters of American Revolution) Info & Letters, Pg. 80-104**

## Letter to Mrs. Smith, Feb. 18, 1930, Alex Bay

Dear Mrs. Smith,

You will probably think it has taken us some time to answer your letter of the 11th, but it has been purely negligence. Now, I don't think that I have further information than that which I gave you and I have not the exact copy here at home, but if you desire it I will get a copy from our chapter. We didn't give the name of Jacob Zoller's wife, nor the dates when they were married or died. I gave the following note on their marriage. "I have no knowledge concerning the wife of Jacob Zoller. However we conclude that he was married as the farm belonging to Jacob Zoller in the town of Minden Mont Co, NY, under the old English law became the possession of Henry \_ Zoller, the oldest son who inherited the property."

Then also I went before a notary public and swore to an affidavit that the information which I had was to the best of my ability correct and I mailed the affidavit with my application. Then after 18 months it was accepted. Mother's national number is 255302 and mine 255303. I think if you make out your application and give these numbers as references for the Jacob and Henry part of the family and then pick up your line of the family with proper references you will be accepted.

Hopefully, you may be successful.

Yours truly, Lydia J Avery

This is also from Mrs. Wm. Avery, Alex Bay, NY

The names of the ancestors who fought were Henry Walwrath and Jacob Zoller. Jacob lived in the town of Minden. Birth, marriage and wife unknown. Served as a private in the Tryon County Militia and lost his life in action at the Battle of Oriskany, Aug. 6, 1777.

References: NY in the Revolution-pg. 213, State archives V. 1 (documents relating to the Colonial History of the State of NY, v 15)-pg. 549, audited accounts (manuscript record) VB pg 251. Mrs. Katherine Zoller Miller, DAR member national number 41475.

We know he had children and was married, because Henry, the eldest son, inherited the farm and under the old English law property always fell to the oldest son. (This information came from the life of my grandmother, the late Margaret Zoller Overacker.) Our ancestor, Jacob Zoller, had four children: Henry, Jacob, Elizabeth & Anna.

Ref: audited accounts (manuscript record VB), pg. 251 (from NY State Library at Albany I got these references) Henry J. was born Nov. 13, 1769 & died Dec. 19, 1863. Henry married Catherine Walwrath (date unknown). Catherine Walwrath Zoller was born Nov. 1, 1767 and died Mar. 9, 1844. From here you would pick up your great-grandfather Henry.

## Lucy's Application to DAR

I Lucy Welch Rodger, being of the age of 18 years and upwards, hereby apply for membership in the Society by right of lineal descent in the following line from:

George Conderman who was born in Tryon Co., NY about 1740, died 1809. His place of residence during the Rev. War was Tryon Co.

I was born in Hammond, St. Law., NY 1-25-1873.

- I. I am the daughter of David More Welch born Nov. 12, 1844, died Feb. 24, 1923 and his wife Alice E. Zellar, born Sept. 5, 1853, died Mar. 22, 1931, married Jan. 17, 1872 by Rev. D L R Libby at hammond, NY.
- II. The said Alice Zellar was the child of Jerry Zellar, born July 27, 1825, died Nov. 14, 1863 Hammond, NY & Ludentia Contryman born Sept 22, 1831, died at Hammond July 21, 1894. Married Sept. 12, 1849 at Pamelaia, Jeff. Co., NY.
- III. The said Ludentia Contryman was the child of Henry Contryman, born in Montgomery Co., NY Mar. 7. 1797, died June 16, 1875 at Pamelaia and Betsy Walrath born Montgomery Co., NY Apr. 16, 1800, died Dec. 25, 1873 at Pamelaia. Married Oct. 19, 1819 at Montgomery Co., NY.
- IV. The said Henry Contryman was child of (John) George Contryman, born Apr. 1, 1773, died Aug. 3, 1851 and Ragina Spracher born Jan. 10, 1775, died Oct. 13, 1858. Date of marriage not given. Buried at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Fords Bush, Muiden, NY. Look in my diary Oct. 16, 1932, LRR.
- V. The said (John) George Contryman was child of Lieut. George Contryman born in Tryon Co., NY about 1740, died 1809 and Christina Diefendorf born 1748, died 1811.
- VI. The said Lieut. Geo. Contryman was son of Conradt 1st and Margaret born in Lower Palitinate, Germany. These are buried in Geisenburg Cemetery-no markers. (Look in my diary Oct. 16, 1932) Turn leaf.
- VII. Conradt Contryman 1st was son of Frederck Contryman.

#### **Lucy Welch Rodger**

- I. I am the daughter of David Welch, Hammond, NY, born Nov. 12, 1844, died 2-24-1923 and Alice Zellar born 9-5-1853, died 8-22-1931, married 1-17-1872, Hammond, NY, by Rev. D. L. R. Libby.
- II. Alice Zellar is daughter of Jerry Zellar, vorn 9-27-1825, died 9-12-1863 and Ludentia Contryman, Pamellia, NY. born 9-22-1831, died 7-21-1894, married 9-12-1849 by Rev. John Stewart.
- III. Jerry Zellar son of Henry Zellar born 10-11-1798, died 5-19-1879 and Nancy Frielick born 6-19-1793, died 7-1-1854, married -
- IV. Henry Zellar is son of Henry J. Zellar born 11-13-1769, died 12-19-1863 and Catherine Walrath born 11-1-1767, died 3-9-1844.
- V. Henry Zellar is son of Jacob Zollar. Killed in Battle of Orickanie. Name of wife unknown.

#### **Copied from 1932 diary**

Oct. 16, 1932: On a visit in Rome, NY, Dave & I went with Frank & Bertha (my sister) to hunt up graves. We started 9:30 and drove east of Utica to Fords Bush where we found the graves of Geo Countryman, died Oct. 13, 1853 and his wife Regina Spraker died Aug. 3, 1851. They were parents of Henry Countryman, mother's grandfather.

We found the Guisenburg Cemetery near Hallsville where is suppose Conrad Countryman is buried, altho there was no marker and could not find the grave. This cemetery is now in an old apple orchard by the side of Harold Cronkrite farm home and there used to be a church in this cemetery. Some foundation is there but covered with dirt. About 2 miles from Hallsville we called on Mrs. Cronkrite's parent, Mrs. Ralph Pickard, but gained no more knowledge but enjoyed the call.

**Letter to my sister, Mrs. F. R. Smith from Rochelle, Ill, July 14/27**

Dear Mrs. Smith,

I hasten to reply to yours of the 11th. I know of no direct line between Conradt M.C. and yourself. I have from his will the names of his six children. Viz Marcus, Adam, Peter, Catherine, Margaretta & Elizabeth. You should get your papers through George, youngest son of Conradt 1st for you say you are his great, great granddaughter.

My great grandfather (John) was a brother of George. I have the will of George where he signed it-George Contryman. His descendants all write it-Countryman. Geo. Countryman, son of Conrad 1st was born about 1740 & wed Chistina Diefendorf who was born 1748. They were born in Tryon, now Montgomery Co, NY. Do not know date of marriage. George C.-died in 1809 and his wife 1811. George was an ensign in Capt. Henry Diefendorf's Co. of Col. Clydes, Canajoharie Reg. of Tryon Co., NY and was promoted to Liety. And served to end of war.

John George, son of Lieut-George was born Apr. 1, 1773 and died Aug. 3, 1851. He wed Regina Sprecher (date not known) who died Apr. 19, 1852. Both are buried in Fords Bush (Mr. Hope Cemetery), Minden, Montgomery Co., NY.

Henry, son of John George, was born in Montgomery Co., NY March 7, 1797, died June 16, 1875. He wed Betsy Walwrath Oct. 19, 1819. She died Dec. 25, 1873.

I judge you are a daughter, either Louisa or Alice Welch, daughters of Henry Contryman. I got out a Contryman genealogy book in 1925 and had much correspondence with Geo. H Contryman of Dexter, also with Mrs. Gersham Contryman of Pamela 4 Corners, Jeff. Co., NY.

I was born in Herk. Cp., NY Dec 14, 1844 & came to Ill. in 1867. Six brothers of us settled in Ogle Co. I also had an aunt that came here in 1850 and an uncle in 1855, so there is quite a settlement of Countrymans in northern Ill.

Glad to know you have a son (Maurice Smith) in Freeport, Ill. May chance to meet him some time. Am sure you are eligible to the DAR. We have a reunion almost every year.

John Contryman

**Title to land owned by Conradt Contreman (records in Albany, NY)**

April 20, 1752: Conradt Contreman of Canajoherie, Albany Co, NY paid forty Spanish dollars and one pound of Stronds to Paules, Turich, Joris, Joseph, Turichoorus and Adam, native Indians of the Province of NY sole and absolute proprietors of a tract of land containing 950 dcrees situate, Lying and being in the county of Albany on the south side of the Mohawk River and upon the south side of a creek called by the Indians, "Otsquago."

The survey began on the south side of creek called by the Indians, "Oekstungo" where it falls in the creek "Otsquago." The deed is signed by Joseph, Turick, Joris, Paules and Adam. The signing was witnessed by Jacob Zimmerman and Henry Mattes. Cardwallader Coldon Jr., Deputy Surveyor, certified to the making of the survey and the payment to the Indians.

Hendrick Frey, "one of his majesties," Justice of the Peace of Albany Co., certified to the inserting of boundaries in the deed and to the actual payment of monies to the Indians as well as to the signing of the deed in his presence. The deed also carries the following notation: John Pickard having been sworn into the service an interpreter. The deed conveyed the title to the British Crown and on the 13th day of Oct. 1752, a patent granted to Conradt Contreman recites that whereas, loving subject Conradt Cuntreman by his humble petition to our trusty and well beloved Geo. Clinton, Esq, Captain General and

Governor in chief of our Province of NY and territories there on depending in America. Vice Admiral of the same and Admiral of the White Squadron of our fleet, read in Council on the 3rd day of July last, did pray our letters patent for a certain tract of land by him purchased in our name of the native Indians proprietors thereof etc.

The patent contains the usual reservation and was signed, "At our fort in the city of NY the 13th day of Oct. in the 26th year of our reign AD, 1752 by Clark Jr.

Corrections, acknowledgements, and accuracy attested by G. W. Banyer, Deputy Sec. & Lewis A Scott. Sec. note of this last record.

This land in my younger days was known as farms owned by the following named persons: Cary, Snyder, Walrath, Dillenbeck, Bookman and Pickard. See map on page 308 in Countryman Genealogy Book.

J. E. Countryman

Some interesting records pertaining to John Frederick Countryman and his wife's (Maria Barbara) family. The following records were found at the Genealogical & Biographical Society at 226 Fifty-Seventh St., New York City. They emigrated from Wiertumberg, Germany to America in 1710 with then 3 lads, 15, 11, & 9 years of age. The names of these sons were Andraus, Franz, Conrad & John Fred.

The records of Rev. Joshua Kocherthal the first-Lutheran Dominie at West Camp, Ulster Co., NY show that there was a daughter born to the couple Apr. 12, 1714, named Anna Eve and later a son Jacob, born Aug. 12, 1716.

John Fred Cunterman was a Pontificus Communicant (probably a high official in the church).

Andraus was a communicant at New Town and that he was married to Sibyllia Scharman Sept 19, 1715 and that they had a daughter born later named Elizabeth.

These church records show, too, that John Frederick Conterman died at West Camp Sept. 16, 1717. He is buried at West Camp, Ulster Co., New York.

## **June 1927**

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W 16920, it appears that Conrad Countryman (son of Marcus Countryman) was born July 18, 1749, place not stated. He served in the NY troops as follows-from April 1779 to Dec. 1, 1779 under Capt. Samuel Gray in the batteau service and from April 1780 seven months under Capt. Samuel Gray in the same service. He was also drafted once or twice and served as a sergeant-dates & officers not stated. He was in the attles of Fort Stanwix, Oriskany, Dorlack, Johnstown and West Canada Creek.

Soldier married Apr. 30, 1780 Margaretha or Margret (daughter of John Adam Baker) born June 1760 in Germany. She is also referred to as Catherine Margrate Baker. Soldier died Mar. 31, 1817 and she was allowed pension on her application executed Feb. 15, 1839 while a resident of Orleans, Jeff. Co., NY. Son, Marks was living in Jeff. Co., NY in 1839. There is no other data on file as to children.

## **Zoller Family from State Historian Feb. 7/27**

My sister Mrs. Frank Smith made the effort and received this information.  
Zoller Family, The:-

The first of this family to come to this country settled in the Mohawk Valley during the Rev. War. They were from Switzerland.

Jacob and Andrew were in the battle of Oriskany, one was killed and the other died soon after.

Henry and Casper Zollar who were brothers came and located in the now town of Minden. One sister married and located in NY. All trace of relationship lost. Henry married Nancy Youngs & had the following children: Abraham, John, Gertrude who married Chas. Garlock and died in Herkimer Co. Elizabeth married Henry Miller and died in Minden. Kate married Geo. Fake and died in Herkimer Co. Mary married Martin Duesler and died in Root and Nancy married John Miller and died in Jeff. Co., NY. Henry died Dec. 12, 1831, age 80 yrs. & 6 mos & 4 days. Abraham, the first one mentioned above, was born in Minden Aug. 1782 and married Mary, daughter of Jacob Moyer.

Catherine Walrath, the mother of great grandfather Zollar and Henry Walrath Jr., the father of great grandmother Contryman, were brother and sister. Great grandmother Contryman's mother was Nancy Bowman, the daughter of Jacob Bowman. She was born June 14, 1770 and at the age of 7 years entered Fort Herkimer and lived there for 7 years. (Could she have meant to write the age of 17?)

### **The following came from the Bureau of Pensions, Washington, DC, March/27**

I have to advise you that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim S28937, it appears that Henry I or J. Sallradt, Walrath or Walrad was born Apr. 3, 1760 at Canajoharie, NY. While a resident of Canajoharie (which was late Palatine), Tryon (now Montgomery Co.), NY, he enlisted in May 1776 and served at various times until sometime in 1782 as a private in the NY troops, under Capt. John Hess and Colonels Jacob Klock and Willett. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Oriskany, returned home on a parole Jan. 1, 1778, and again took up arms and was in the battle of West Canada Creek.

He was allowed pension on his application executed Feb. 11, 1833, at which time he was a resident of Little Falls, Herkimer Co., NY. He died there Sept. 19, 1841. He did not leave a widow, but the following children survived him: George Henry Walrad who was a resident of Danube, Herkimer Co., NY in 1845, Nancy Caster who was resident of Little Falls, NY, and Catherine Post, who resided in Oswego, Tioga Co., NY.

This is the only soldier by the name of Henry Wallradt (searched under all spellings of the name) that is found in the Rev. War records of this bureau and there is no record of a soldier named Henry Zuller or Zullur.

Winfield Scott, Commissioner

I have to advise you from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim W 16995, it appears that Valentine Freligh, Fetter Fraligh, or Volten Frelighen (notice the different ways of spelling) while a resident of Tryon (which was later Montgomery) Co., NY, served at various times from 1776 until sometime in 1782 as a private in the NY troops under Pastains Christian Getman, John Hess, Severinus Klock, Peter Suts and Col. Jacob Klock: he was in the battles of Oriskany, Oswegatchie & Johnstown.

He married Mar. 27, 1764, at Athens, Greene Co., NY (to) Marie Hallenbeck. He died Mar. 10, 1810. His widow Marie died Dec. 12, 1836, in Glen, Montgomery Co., NY.

On an application executed Apr. 5, 1841 by John Fraeligh, pension that was due the soldier and his widow, Maria, was allowed the two surviving children, said John Freligh of Glen, NY and Margret Van Etten and at that time they were aged 70 years. 6 mos. and 73 yrs. respectively.

This is the only soldier by the name of Valentine Fraligh, searched under all spellings of the name, that is found in the Revolutionary War records of the bureau.

Winfield Scott, Commissioner

Henry Countryman was born in Montgomery Co., NY Mar. 7, 1797. He was the son of George C 2nd, who was the son of Geo 1st, who was the son of Conradt 1st. So, Conradt 1st is our (my) great great great, great grandfather (Lucy Welch Rodger). Conradt 1st was born in Lower Palatine, Germany in the 18th century, date of birth unknown. He died some time prior to 1819. He came to America when about 12 years of age, lived with his parents for a time on the west bank of the Hudson. Then later in the Mohawk Valley, in the Canajoharie district in what was then Albany Co., from that to Tryon Co. and then Montgomery Co. where Henry (great grandfather Countryman) was born. Conradt drew a pension from the Revolutionary War.

Henry's father, George 2nd, married Regina Spraker and their children were Henry, George, Joseph, David (grandfather of Cora Countryman) Mary Catherine, Margaret, Christina Nancy and Lucy.