

LEWIS LETTER.

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THE * LEWIS * LETTER,

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FRANK P. LEWIS, Manager.

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THE LEWIS LEAGUE

Organized August 31, 1887, Lisle, N. Y.

SETH LEWIS, Esq., President,
Ulysses, Pa.

HON. T. H. B. LEWIS, Vice-Pres.,
WilkesBarre, Pa.

F. P. LEWIS, Sec'y and Treasurer,
Lisle, N. Y.

THE LEWIS ASSOCIATION

No. one, organized August 28, 1886,
Lisle, N. Y.

ALONZO LEWIS, President,
Lisle, N. Y.

MRS. ZARAH TAYLOR, Vice-Pres.,
Maine, N. Y.

FRANK P. LEWIS, Sec. and Treas.,
Lisle, N. Y.

THE LEWIS ASSOCIATION

No. two, organized December 6, 1886,
Ulysses, Potter Co., Pa.

MRS. M. LAVINIA LEWIS, President,
Coudersport, Pa.

JOHN LEWIS, Vice-President,
Lewisville, Pa.

SETH LEWIS, Esq., Secretary,
Ulysses, Pa.

List of Subscribers Added During September.

Mrs. Charles Cook, Fort Plain, N. Y.

Mrs. Emily O. Sheldon, East Granby, Conn.

James L. Easton, Oneonta, N. Y.

George F. Lewis, Maine, N. Y.

Jasper Smith, Upper Lisle, N. Y.

Hon. Harris Lewis, Frankfort, N. Y.

Lucy Briggs Hughes, 220 Eighth-st Troy, N. Y.

Ladd J. Lewis, Box 53, Nashville, Tenn.

Ceylon H. Lewis, Syracuse, N. Y.

W. F. Lewis, Marysville, Cal.

NOTES.

TEN subscriptions received in September.

CONTENTS: Notes; List of Subscribers; 2nd reunion of No. 1; Book 1, ch. 6; Book 14, ch. 7; Book 20, ch. 1.

A. D. LEWIS, Lisle, N. Y., Book 2, is the Republican candidate for the Assembly.

It is proposed to enlarge Vol. 2 of LEWIS LETTER to 16 pages. The first and last two pages to be devoted to advertisements. Sealed bids for printing the same are solicited during October.

FRANK LEWIS, dealer in Diamonds Gold and Silver Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Solid Silver, Plated Ware, Etc., Norwich, N. Y.

Lewis Association No 1.

Second Reunion of the Lewis Family.

(Continued from last issue.)

On Wednesday, August 31, 1887, 10 A. M., the persons attending the reunion began to arrive on the grounds and put up hammocks in the woods and otherwise make ready for the festivities of the day.

The register soon contained 107 names of persons who had come with full baskets, glad hearts and bright faces, to create, partake and share the good cheer.

The weather was perfect, the skies were clear and the air bracing but not sharp.

At one o'clock dinner was served after which the assembly was called to order by Vice-President, Alonzo Lewis in the chair. The Secretary and Treasurer made his reports which were adopted. (See September paper for the reports and speech of Seth Lewis, Esq.)

The following officers were unanimously elected by acclamation:

President—Alonzo Lewis, Lisle, N. Y.

Vice-Pres.—Mrs. Sarah Taylor, Maine, N. Y.

Sec'y and Treas.—F. P. Lewis, Lisle, N. Y.

The agricultural society and Mr. Alonzo Collins were tendered a vote of thanks for the free use of the grounds.

On report and motion of Seth Lewis, Esq., the Lewis League was organized and the following by-laws adopted:

LEWIS LEAGUE.

We, the Lewis Race and their kindred do hereby associate ourselves together under the following Constitution and By-laws:

Art. I.—NAME.

This association shall be known as the Lewis League of the United States of America.

Art. II.—MEMBERSHIP.

All persons by the name of Lewis and all persons of the Lewis blood, together with their wives and husbands may become members, but as a condition of membership every one shall first become a member of some Lewis Association.

Art. III.—OBJECTS.

The objects of this League are to assist all Lewis Associations as well as their individual members, in carrying out the purpose for which they are associated, and in rendering their efforts more effective and the results more enduring.

Art. IV.—GENERAL POWERS.

That the work of collecting, preserving and disseminating the facts in the early as well as the current history of the Lewis Race, may be carried on in wider fields and by more uniform methods, this League shall take control of the LEWIS LETTER and all other similar publications which may be established by the Lewises. That the reunions and other gatherings of the Lewis Race may become more effective in promoting fraternal feeling among kindred and interest in the welfare and good name of the Race, the League shall originate and propose for adoption general rules and regulations for the management of all Lewis Associations and general plans for carrying out their work, and shall have advisory but not compulsory supervision over their affairs.

Art. V.—OFFICERS.

The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Librarian, who shall be elected at the first meeting of the League and at the annual meeting thereafter, to serve for one year and till their successors are elected. They shall perform the duties usually performed by such officers and shall serve without compensation.

Art. VI.—MEETINGS.

The League shall hold one annual meeting and such other meetings as may be necessary for the transaction of its business. The annual meeting shall be held with some Association upon an invitation to do so, otherwise at Lisle, N. Y., on the last Wednesday in September in each year, which shall be the present headquarters of the League.

Art. VII.—REPRESENTATION.

Each Lewis Association shall be entitled to one vote in the League for each twenty members and each fraction of twenty exceeding one-half and may send to the meeting one delegate for each vote to which it is entitled, or one delegate who shall be entitled to cast all its votes. Any member of the League may be present at the meetings and participate in its deliberations, but shall not be entitled to vote on any question except as a representative of some Association.

Art. VIII.—LIBRARY.

The League may solicit contributors from members for the purpose of procuring a library of books on biography and genealogy, but no dues shall be exacted for this purpose. The library shall be for the use of the several Associations and

on application by the Secretary of any Association, any book in the library may be sent by express at his expense and risk, to be returned within one month in the same manner to be used in completing the records of such Association in regard to the genealogy of the Lewises, such applications to be filled in the order of their reception.

Art. IX.—LEWIS GENEALOGY.

The League shall proceed at once to devise measures for the publication of a genealogy of the entire Lewis Race in the United States, and for this purpose may solicit pecuniary aid as well as copies of registers, records and papers, from all Lewis Associations and from all of the Lewis blood not connected with any association.

The following officers of the League were elected unanimously by acclamation:

President—Seth Lewis, Ulysses, Pa.

Vice-Pres.—Hon. T. H. B. Lewis, Kingston, Pa.

Sec'y and Treas.—F. P. Lewis, Lisle, N. Y.

SPEECH OF JUDGE LORAN L. LEWIS.

He said: Your President requests me to say a word to you.

I did not come here to talk, but at the request of your very efficient and agreeable Secretary and Treasurer, I came, and for the purpose of joining in your festivities and becoming acquainted with you in this part of our state, who bearing the name of Lewis, or if not having that name, have some of their blood in your veins, including also those of you present who not possessing

any of the royal blood had the good sense and fortune to marry into the family.

And allow me first to acknowledge my personal obligations to your very able and painstaking Secretary and Treasurer. He has done and is performing a large amount of labor and spending much of his valuable time in informing and making us acquainted with our ancestry. I assume you all gladly join me in thanking him.

Learning about our forefathers is a duty which we in the hurry and bustle of business are quite likely to forget to do.

It is an important part of our education and the education of our children.

There being nothing in the history of the Lewis family, which any of us would wish to obliterate, it especially behooves us to make ourselves familiar with our ancestry.

I confess to being very largely indebted to your friend and my friend, F. P. Lewis, for an increasing interest in the subject on my part.

It is important in an educational point, when our children come to know that they are members of a family, having such an honorable and respectable record, they will appreciate that they are expected not to do anything to lower the standard, and it will do much to stimulate them to lead useful and honorable lives. For knowing their valuable inheritance in this respect they will not be likely to do anything to dishonor the memory of their forefathers or discredit the members of the family now living.

I was much gratified to learn

from one of the LEWIS LETTERS a fact which I had heard a rumor of, but was not quite certain about, and that is, that my early ancestry in this country were exceedingly pious people. A few of the first generations the LETTER tells me, were orthodox baptist ministers and hence the best of men. Their descendants have not held the standard quite so high perhaps; there being amongst them farmers, business men and lawyers.

We have a large number of Lewises in Buffalo. I think our directory makes the number between sixty and seventy. I am acquainted with many of them. They are a bright, intelligent, prosperous good looking people. I was anxious to meet you here in Central New York and learn how you compare with the Buffalo representatives of the family, and am happy to find you such a good looking, intelligent people. I assure you, you compare well with the Buffalo Lewises.

I hope you will continue in these gatherings; they do you good; they stimulate you to live honorable useful lives.

I shall try and form a Lewis Association in Buffalo and if successful, we will have gatherings like this in Buffalo or perhaps at Niagara Falls, and then we shall expect you to join us in fortifying and keeping alive an interest in our forefathers.

SPEECH OF EDNA LEWIS BRIGGS.

She said: I have not been able to hear a word, that any of you have said. But one who is deaf, is supposed to make good use of their eyes; and I have used mine suffi-

ently, to discover that you are a very *good looking* lot of people, and if I cannot hear what you say, you are *good to look at*.

I wish to make it known in some way, how much I think of the Lewises. This might seem selfish, but if every family, and the different branches of every family each loved their own the *whole world* would be loved.

In speaking of those who are related to the Lewises—here is brother Satterlee, who has long been so nearly allied to a Lewis, that he is just the same as one, and I like him as well, although I must say that I like the Lewis name, the best.

One's affections may take a wide range sometimes; our likes and dislikes too I suppose. As an example I will mention the case of a young man—I am not sure that he was young—he might have been a widower for aught I know. At any rate he had been reproved and pleads to the charge lawyer fashion in this wise:

You write me verses,
And you call me every kind of name,
As if I could not, loving Ann,
Love Julia all the same.

The fact is, I admire the sex,
I love them, one and all.
I love them washing at a tub,
Or dancing at a ball.

I love them in their morning caps,
Or in their evening curls.
Bells, maids and matrons, love I well;
I love the little girls.

Some mighty conqueror wished,
That all his foes might be combined in one,
That with one flourish of his sword,
Their business might be done.

I wish that all the lovely dears
Were bound in one great tether,
And that my arms were long enough,
To hug them all together.

Now as to the practical part, I think I should wish to discriminate, even if my arms were long enough but as *God is love*, we need be in no fear of loving too much. We

are told in his word, even to *love our enemies*, and to do good to them that hate us, if there be any such, and I hardly see how there can be, when we are such a *well disposed set*.

Now I hope you will not think I am wholly given up to nonsense and frivolity. I believe a good deal more perhaps, than one would think, *just to look at me*. I believe in the resurrection. Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead? I believe that He who made heaven and earth, and the sea and the foundations of water, and brought again our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, *will be capable* of raising the rest of the dead, when the time comes. And then the reunion of all the Lewises, the dear loved and lost ones who have gone before, and not only of them, but of all the loved and lost of all nations. A reunion of such blessedness, that we may well rejoice in the anticipation of the glad day.

SPEECH OF GEO. HYDE.

He said: I am glad to be here at this time, and I desire to communicate the fact to you, that my grandmother was a Lewis.

I am therefore greatly interested in you and your work. I have made some effort to trace out my Lewis ancestry, and will continue my investigations and report results.

I am proud of my connection with the Lewis family, and that we can meet in this way to express our appreciation of each other. We need not fear that we will be too cordial or too loving in this life. As time passes and age comes upon

us, we feel in greater need, and more keenly appreciate kind words and good deeds; and I believe the Lewis family possess these virtues in an eminent degree.

The Treasurer received \$7.24 from voluntary contributions.

FOOT NOTES.

MR. LEMUEL LEWIS, of Coventry, N. Y., aged 83 years was the oldest person attending the picnic. He said he should be present next year if alive and well.

MRS. EDNA LEWIS BRIGGS, aged 77 years, of Waterford, N. Y., was the oldest lady present. Her speech abounded in wit and wisdom and received the applause it richly merited.

SETH LEWIS, Esq., of Ulysses, Pa., Secretary of Association No. 2 and President of the League made a happy inaugural address.

HON. T. H. B. LEWIS, of Kingston, Pa., Edwin Stebbins, of Moutrose, Pa., Mr. and Mrs. Moody, Mansfield, Pa., G. H. Stillwell and O. H. Lewis, of Syracuse, N. Y., and P. O. Lewis, Wichita, Kansas, were unable to attend our reunion and sent their regrets.

LEWIS FAMILY REUNION.

Register of attendance at the second reunion and basket picnic on the Broome County Fair grounds at Whitney's Point, N. Y., Wednesday, August 31st, 1887.

LISLE, N. Y.

Jno. O. Lewis,
Mary Stoddard Lewis,
Sadie S. Lewis,
Mary B. Lewis,
Alonzo Lewis,
Mary Dayton Lewis,
Ida V. Lewis,
Hiram Smith,

Emma Smith,
Jirah W. Perce,
Hattie Lewis Perce,
Ella Perce,
Geo. W. Lewis,
Carrie Northrup Lewis,
Wm. M. Lewis,
Jas. R. Lewis,
Mary Leach Lewis,
Frank P. Lewis.
Eugene Cole Lewis,
Win. S. Personcus,
Lydia Scott Lewis,
Frank L. Perce,
Lawrence A. Perce.—23.

WHITNEY'S POINT, N. Y.

Laura A. Lewis, Cora D. Lewis,
Edwin S. Lewis, Hephzibah Lewis
Heath, George Hyde, S. L. Stanley,
Racine H. Bush, De Etta Lewis
Bush, Maggie Hawver May, Albert
C. Lewis, Lillie Lewis, Ella B.
Lewis, Vina M. Lewis, Edith Lewis,
Delia J. Stoughton, Fanny M.
Stoughton, Peter A. Hawver, Alice
Hawver.—18.

GLEN AUBREY, N. Y.

Henry Hodges, Caroline Lewis
Hodges, Arthur Merrill, John
Adriance, Samantha Adriance,
Laura Hodges.—6.

MAINE, N. Y.

A. U. Curtis, Mrs. B. L. Tay-
lor, Kittie Taylor, Jennie Taylor,
Dayton Lewis, O. Lewis Guy, M.
D., Louise Curtis, Mrs. Eugene
Lewis, Zarah Taylor, R. A. Taylor,
Earl Taylor, Geo. F. Lewis, R. D.
Taylor, Mrs. A. U. Curtis, Nell
Curtis, Ray R. Lewis.—16.

CASTLE CREEK, N. Y.

Jacob S. Hodges, Betsey Hodges,
Spencer Hicks, Merton Hodges,
Loran Hodges, S. Lucy Hicks.—6.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

Thomas S. Lewis, Mary E. Lewis,

Georgie E. Lewis, Albert J. Self,
Mary Self, Erwin R. Self.—6.

CENTRE LISLE, N. Y.

Marquis H. Lewis, Olive Atwater
Lewis.—2.

KILLAWOG, N. Y.

Charles G. Satterlee, Harriet
Lewis Satterlee.—2.

TRIANGLE, N. Y.

Joseph Self, Adelia Lewis Self.
—2.

Upper Lisle, N. Y.

Jasper Smith, A. H. Lewis, M.
D., Hattie Lewis Beach.—3.

CHENANGO FORKS, N. Y.

Elizabeth Lewis Palmer.—1.

HUNT'S CORNERS, N. Y.

Ira Lewis, Sallie Lewis.—2.

CORTLAND, N. Y.

Erwin B. Whitney, Luella Self
Whitney.—2.

TEXAS VALLEY, N. Y.

Eri Madison, Harriet Madison.—
2.

SMITHVILLE FLATS, N. Y.

Jerome B. Lewis,
Sybil Lewis Davis.—2.

GREENE, N. Y.

Clarence F. Peck, Josphine
Lewis Peck.—2.

COVENTRY, N. Y.

Lemuel Lewis.—1.

NORWICH, N. Y.

Frank Lewis, Lucy A. Lewis,
Julia Lewis.—3.

ONEONTA, N. Y.

James L. Easton, Mary Lewis
Easton.—2.

Ithaca, N. Y.

Minnie Personens.—1.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

Hon. Loran L. Lewis, Charlotte
P. Lewis.—2.

WATERFORD, N. Y.

Edna Lewis Briggs, Edna Lewis
Palnateer.—2.

ULYSSES, Penn.

Seth Lewis, Esq., Secy. and
Representative of Lewis Associa-
tion No. 2.—1.

GENEALOGICAL RECORDS.

BOOK I.

RANDALL LEWIS, Exeter, R. I.

CHAPTER VI.

BY FRANK P. LEWIS, LISLE, N. Y.

It has been ascertained that the census taken in R. I. in 1774, shows that Randall Lewis, of Exeter, had two children, a son and a daughter, over 16, and four children, two sons and two daughters under 16 years of age at that time.

It is presumed that soon after the marriage of Randall Lewis to Alse (probably Alice) Rathbun in 1765, he moved from his home in Hopkinton to Exeter and purchased land of his wife's father (or possibly brother); as one John Rathbun 3d and Olive, his wife executed a warranty deed, April 15, 1767, to Randall Lewis, of Exeter, husbandman, conveying 50 acres on Wood river in west part of Exeter; consideration £40 lawful money. Randall probably did not find farming on that land sufficiently remunerative; and while the records do not show that he gave back a mortgage it is probable that he did, because the record shows that on July 10, 1771, Randall Lewis and Alse, his wife, and John Rathbun ye 3d and Olive his wife, conveyed by warranty deed the same 50 acres to John Wilcox, of Exeter; consideration £48.150.

Randall's name does not again appear on the Exeter land records. The records do not show who

were the parents of his wife, but at the first town meeting held March 22d, 1742, in Exeter John Rathbun was elected sealer of leather, an important office as there were probably a dozen small tanneries in that town. The records also contain the names of John, John Jr., John, 2nd, and John 3d, the latter of whom was elected surveyor of highways at a town meeting held Jan. 3, 1746. Mr. N. B. Lewis, of Pine Hill, R. I., clerk of Exeter and Justice of the 2d Judicial District court of his state, kindly furnished the facts in this chapter, and says that the magistrate Stephen Richmond who officiated at Randall's marriage was his paternal grandmother's father.

BOOK XIV.

JOHN LEWIS, Westerly, R. I.

CHAPTER VII.

By Mrs. ZARAH TAYLOR, MAINE, N. Y.

Eugene Lewis, 6th son and 7th child of Charles (p. 28) b. Maine, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1851; m. Lavantia L. dau. of Calvin R. and Laura Bunn Briggs, Maine, Jan. 21, 1876 by Rev. W. E. Bogart, a Baptist clergyman. He d. Maine, July 2d, 1887 of billious fever, leaving him surviving his widow and son Clarence Earl, b. M. Jan. 4, 1877.

He was a Republican, a farmer, and a member of the Knights of Honor and Baptist church.

Baker Lewis Taylor, of firm of Taylor Bros., Maine, N. Y., has just returned from a two months' stay on their Colorado ranch where they have 2,800 head of cattle and 18,000 sheep. They have shipped this season six carloads of wool to

Philadelphia, Pa.

BOOK XX.

FATHER — LEWIS, N. J.

CHAPTER I.

By J. W. LEWIS, BUFFALO, N. Y.

The following is a copy taken from a bible now owned by G. F. Lewis, Winona, Ont., Canada:

1. Levi Lewis, b. Oct. 30, 1762, d. Oct. 18th, 1828. Married Mary Beamer, June 25th, 1763, d. Aug. 5th, 1850.

Children of above:

2. I. Anna Lewis, b. May 18, 1784; d. Sept. 29, 1865.

3. II. Mercy Lewis, b. Dec. 18, 1785; d. Aug. 2, 1818.

4. II. Daniel Lewis, b. Jan. 17, 1790; d. Feb. 18, 1864.

5. IV. James Lewis, b. Jan. 24, 1792; d. Jan. 14, 1872.

6. V. Mary Lewis, b. Feb. 11, 1800, still living.

7. VI. Levi Lewis, b. Jan. 26, 1808; d. May 28, 1879.

Copy of a scrap of paper in same bible:

Father Lewis departed this life in Oct. 1799 in the 64 year of his age.

Mother Lewis departed this life 30th March, 1786, in the 44 year of her age.

Mother Beamer departed this life 7th Oct., 1811, in the 64 year of her age.

Father Beamer departed this life 8th Dec., 1811, in the 72 year of his age.

I came to this place the 13th day of June, 1787.

The editor of this book desires any information which will enable him to continue and complete the records of his branch.