

# LEWIS LETTER.

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## THE \* LEWIS \* LETTER, AN INTER-FAMILY PAPER.

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FRANK P. LEWIS, Manager.

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## THE LEWIS ASSOCIATION

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

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WilkesBarre, Pa.

ALONZO LEWIS, *Vice-President*,  
Lisle, N. Y.

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

## THE LEWIS ASSOCIATION

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## NOTES.

Four subscriptions received in May and four in June.

This paper is read by subscribers in the States of New York, Penn., Ind., Conn., Cal., Mass., Ills., Kansas, R. I., Mo., Iowa, Vt., Miss., Ohio, and Dominion of Canada.

THE LEWIS LETTER for the rest of the year for only forty cents.

READER, have you subscribed for the LEWIS paper, and will you bring this publication to the attention of your friends?

It is believed that the LEWIS LETTER is the pioneer genealogical family paper.

WHAT is the coat of arms of the Lewis family?

SOMETHING concerning the Lewises may be found in the "Books of Reference" heretofore published. Transcripts therefrom are solicited.

EIGHTEEN Books of Records so far have been opened in this paper under the supposition that these represented as many distinct branches of the Lewis race, but it is already demonstrated that the lines run together in Books 12 and 15; and in Books 2 and 17, which so far as known, leave us with 16 Books and branches.



### The Lewis Letter,

With this number, enters the second half of the first year of its existence with a feeling of confidence for the future. It has found and made many new friends since the first number was issued in January. It has been the means of bringing together families and their isolated members, which were unknown to each other, or between whom all communication had been suspended and a knowledge of their whereabouts entirely lost. It has awakened an interest in family traditions, history and pedigree. It is received and read by subscribers in *fourteen* states, and in Canada. It is what it claims to be, the organ of the Lewises, their kindred and friends. It claims, among others, the merit of adaptation and growth commensurate with the requirements, necessities and efforts of its patrons.

ANY one and every one may contribute to the accomplishment of all the possibilities within its scope.

HE does well, who after years of careful inquiry, patient study, and unremitting labor, puts forth a book of the genealogical records of his, or any other family; and it may be safely assumed that but few of the many who possess the work, ever take the time to familiarize themselves with it, so as to understand or appreciate it.

It is not thus with the Lewis family paper. We are all interested and willing workers gathering material each according to his ability, circumstances or pleasure, with which to build this monument — a fitting memorial — to the virtues and blood of our progenitors, and thus express and perpetuate our estimate and appreciation of them. We will do well thus to honor our fathers and our mothers.

Now as to the future of our paper. It is proposed to ask our friends if they desire it to continue another year, and if the subscription list can be increased to five hundred copies? We believe it can be done. If the replies are favorable we shall endeavor to make Vol. 2 of the LETTER a sixteen page monthly for only fifty cents a year. If we double the number of pages and reduce the price as proposed, we must be assured of the required number of subscribers or copies. If our friends will call the attention of those whom they think may be interested in our enterprise and give us the results of their inquiries and their own views, during July and August, we will tabulate and publish the returns and make the proper announcement in the September number of the paper.

THE article upon the naming of girls in this issue is worthy of the serious attention and consideration of all. If one name only should be given to each girl, then upon marriage she would very naturally and properly retain her full maiden name and identity.



### Lewis Associations.

We cannot too strongly urge upon the brethren, the desirability and also the necessity of forming Lewis Associations. There should be at least one, and there may be more than one Association in every state. A notice similar to the one to be found in another column, but signed "Committee" should be published a few weeks in the local papers in the vicinity where it is proposed to meet. The programme should be carried out as advertised. The by-laws printed on page 10 are recommended for adoption with a further article in relation to its membership in the League.

### The Lewis League.

The Associations now existing desire to organize a League which shall have supervisory jurisdiction over the Associations now or hereafter to be formed, and also to have charge of the publication of the LEWIS LETTER. It is proposed that each Association shall be represented in the League by its officers present and past. The Lewis League will be organized and hold its first meeting with the second reunion of Association No. one.

Two hundred and fifty copies of the LEWIS LETTER are printed for July.

### Genealogical Records.

#### BOOK I.

#### RANDALL LEWIS.

#### CHAPTER V.

By F. P. LEWIS LISLE, N. Y.

The following is a correct copy of the record of the marriage of Randall Lewis as found in the Exeter, R. I., clerk's office, kindly furnished by N. B. Lewis, clerk, who suggests that the schoolmaster must have been abroad in those early days:

Exeter, November the Twenty-first Day A. D. 1765 then Ware Joined to Gather in marriage Randal Lewis of hopkinton and Alse Rathbune of Exeter both in Kings County and in the Colony of Rodeisland

by me, STEPHEN RICHMOND, Justice of ye peace.

Myron S. Lewis, 82 Parade-st, Providence, R. I. is authority for the statement that *Alse* is the same as Alice, and sometimes called Elsie. It will be noticed on page 13 that Elsie was the daughter of Rowland who was a son of Randall.

WE clip the following from the *Scioto (O.) Gazette*, published by R. G. Lewis, and we would be pleased if other papers in the states named would copy:

Mr. Frank P. Lewis, of Lisle, N. Y., wishes any one having information or related to John Lewis who moved to Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois from New York to communicate with him.



MISS NENO MOODY, a niece of President, T. H. B. Lewis, graduated in June from the Mansfield (Pa.) Normal school.

MRS. CAROLINE LEWIS HODGES, of Glen Aubrey, N. Y., is ill with erysipelas.

JAMES R. LEWIS and F. P. Lewis expect to spend the month of July in the West.

### BOOK II.

JUDSON LEWIS, Stratford, Ct.

#### CHAPTER III.

Judson W. (2) and Anna (McCune) Lewis had five children :

15 I Henry, m. Susan Root, Madison, N. Y.

16 II Sarah, m. Zebrina Mowry, M. D.

17 III Judson, m. Ann Tyler, Madison, N. Y.

18 IV Stiles, m. Melinda Marble, Madison, N. Y.

19 V Ann Jennette, m. Dwight Williams.

Charles (3) and Sally (Morton) Lewis had eight children :

20 I George, b. Madison, N. Y., m. Cornelia Curtis.

21 II Melinda, b. M. m. — Barber, d. Bloomington, Ills.

22 III William, b. M., m. Mary White, Bloomington, Ills.

23 IV Eliza, b. M., b. Bloomington, Ill.

24 V Maria, b. M., m. Alanson B. Coe, d. Omaha, Neb.

25 VI Frank, b. M.

26 VII Abner, b. M., Chicago, Ill.

27 VIII Seymour, b. M.

Betsey (4) and Thompson-Curtis had three children :

28 I Eliza Ann, b. in Morrisville, N. Y., m. Pardon Barnard, lives Howel, Mich.

29 II Burr, b. in Morrisville, N. Y.

30 III Aristeen P., b. in Morrisville, N. Y., m. Ely T. Barnard, Register of Livingston co, Mich., d. Howel.

William (5) and Atlanta (Curtis) Lewis had six children :

31 I Alonzo, b. M. April 29, 1815, m. Mary B. Dayton, (Fair) now New Haven, Ct., Nov. 3, 1839; moved back to Madison, N. Y.; thence to Smithville Flats, Chenango co., N. Y., in 1848, and to Lisle, N. Y., in 1862, where he has since resided. Mr. Lewis has been, in business a hardware merchant, in religion an Universalist and in politics a Republican. In Lisle, he has been a member of the Board of Education, President of the village and enumerator of the last U. S. census. He is Vice President of Lewis Association No. one, an upright man and a gentleman, respected by all who know him.

32 II Alfred Curtis, b. M. Dec. 16, 1816; m. Eusebia W. Curtis, Dec. 1846; d. Mich. 6, 1871, in Madison, N. Y.

33 III John Homer, b. M. April 1, 1819, m. Sarah Washburn, of Augusta, N. Y., Oct. 1847.

34 IV Amanda Jane, b. M. Mich. 19, 1821; m. Sanford Peckham, Dec. 1846; Madison, N. Y.

35 V Jerome Bonapart, b. M. July 5, 1825; m. Sept. 6, 1852, Mary Tarbell, b. Oct. 6, 1821,



- Smithville Flats, N. Y.  
 36 VI Imogene Amelia, b M.  
 Nov. 4, 1827, m Jason Peck-  
 ham, Hamilton, N. Y., d.  
 Mch. 1870.

## BOOK VIII.

## JOHN LEWIS:

## CHAPTER IV.

BY REV. WELCOME LEWIS, COVEN-  
 TRY, N. Y.

Bell Lewis, 5th son and 11th  
 child of Captain James and Phebe  
 (York) Lewis, (thus named for his  
 maternal uncle Bell York of Ston-  
 ington, Conn.) b Mch. 24, 1798,  
 Petersburg, Rensselaer co, N. Y.;  
 m January 26, 1820, Brookfield,  
 N. Y., Melinda, dau of Phineas and  
 Sarah (Feun) Babcock, b January  
 18, 1802, B; d there September  
 28, 1865, of scrofulous consump-  
 tion, b at B. In 1821 he moved to  
 Ellisburgh, Jefferson co, N. Y.  
 In 1832 he returned to B. where he  
 d Dec. 25, 1864, from injuries  
 received from the falling of a tree.  
 He was a deacon in 1st Bap. church  
 in B., in business a painter, in poli-  
 tics a republican. Their children  
 were:

- 50 I Welcome, b Dec. 12, 1820,  
 B: m Sept. 22, 1861, by Hon.  
 Wm. Robinson (whom he had  
 previously married to his wife's  
 sister at Mansfield,) Hannah  
 W.; dau of Marshall and Han-  
 nah (White) Shaw, b. in Fox-  
 borough, Mass. May 11, 1827,  
 she d Oct. 19, 1878, in M. of  
 gastritis. He prepared for  
 college at Whitestown Semina-  
 ry, graduated at Hamilton Col-  
 lege, Clinton, N. Y. in 1849  
 and at Newton (Mass.) Theo-  
 logical Institution. in 1852,

ordained pastor of the Bap.  
 ch, Mansfield, Mass. Sept. 30,  
 1852, was a member of Mass.  
 Legislature in 1871, during  
 which time he continued his  
 clerical labors without inter-  
 ruption. He went to Coven-  
 try, N. Y. in 1881, an invalid  
 to live in the family of his  
 sister, Mrs. Rease.

- 51 II Mary Ann, b Nov. 21, 1822,  
 Ellisburgh, N. Y., m Brook-  
 field, Oct. 25, 1848, by Rev.  
 S. C. Ainsworth, George T.  
 Bramer, a machinist who lived  
 successively at Fabius, Arca-  
 dia and Little Falls, N. Y.,  
 where he d March 10, 1880.  
 52 III Harriet Melissa, b. May 18,  
 1824, d in July following.  
 53 IV Harriet Maria, b June 15,  
 1829, Ellisburg, m Mch 10,  
 1873, at Sandy Creek, N. Y.  
 by Rev. Joseph H. Lamb, Rev.  
 Daniel Rease, a Bap clergy-  
 man.  
 54 V Infant son, b and d Sept.,  
 1838.

## CHAPTER V.

BY EDNA LEWIS BRIGGS, WATER-  
 FORD, N. Y.

## OUR GIRLS' NAMES AND IDENTITY.

I have been thinking a good deal  
 of late, as to the propriety, or rath-  
 er impropriety of girls losing their  
 identity on becoming married, in oth-  
 er words losing their family names.  
 If it were something to benefit  
 their husbands it would seem more  
 excusable, but to use an allusion  
 from Shakespeare they appropriate  
 what does them no good, and leaves  
 the wife "poor indeed" even without  
 a name, except a borrowed or  
 adopted one.



In order to make the case plain as may be, allow me to mention that cousin of ours, who writes her name Fannie M. Marshall. Now to see the name or hear it, one might suppose her innocent of ever thinking of a Lewis, to say nothing of having been one. As to M. in her name, few know little, and care less as to what it stands for. It might stand for Mith or Mythology. Now if she would just drop that, and write Fannie Lewis Marshall all would seem appropriate and lovely, and all could understand where her distinguishing traits of good nature and mirthfulness sprung from, and it might now be appropriately said of her, as of the Prodigal, "Lost but is found."

It is said to be never too late to mend. It is only about two years since I began to write my name in full, before that it was Edna L. I began to think L. was too "loose." It might mean Labrador, Lumbago, Lozenges, or even *Lucifer*. So to end all doubt, or guess work I now write it Lewis, wishing it to be understood that I am just as much a Lewis now, as before the name of Briggs was grafted on, and also that one's maiden name should never be considered a thing of the past, but continue right on through our natural life, and then be perpetuated on our tomb-stones, that future generations may know the stock from which we sprang.

#### BOOK XIV

JOHN LEWIS, of Westerly, R. I.

#### CHAPTER IV

By MYRON S. LEWIS, PROVIDENCE,  
R. I.

John Lewis was one of the original settlers of Westerly, R. I. According to tradition, the first settlers were John Babcock and his lover, Mary Lawton, who eloped from Newport. They landed on the east side of the Pawcatuck river, and built themselves a wigwam. Their first child, James Babcock, was the first male white child born in the Narragansett territory.

The place of their retreat having been ascertained by the people of Newport, they deputized five men, viz: William Vaughan, Robert Stanton, John Fairchild, Hugh Mosher and James Longbottom to purchase a title of the land from the Indians. They purchased of one Sosa his title to the land and the deed was dated June 29, 1660.

It was not long before settlers began to arrive, and among them were John Lewis and his family. It is supposed that he came from Newport, but nothing definite can be ascertained, as the records of Newport were captured by the British during the Revolutionary War and carried to New York. When they were returned they were in such a condition (having been in the water) that they were worthless.

The records of the R. I. colony, Vol. II, page 238, state that "John Lewis of Misquamocott was admitted a freeman Oct. 28, 1668. The records of Westerly were not kept in any regular form until 1683, when the town obtained 'A Book' and the 'list of free inhabitants' were entered. Under the date of May 18, 1669, the name of John Lewis appears; Sept. 1679, that of John Lewis, Jun. 9, lot; and



March 3, 1680, 'James Lewes, 1 lot, David Lewes, 5 lot, Izreall Lews, 16 lot and Samuel Lews, 38 lot."

John Lewis was in Westerly in 1661, as he signed articles of agreement March 22nd of that year.

On May 16, 1671, a warrant was issued requiring the inhabitants of Westerly to appear "to-morrow at Tobias Saunders house, to see how they stand as to their fidelity to His Majesty and this colony." Twenty-two persons, including John Lewis, appeared and took the oath of allegiance to the government of Rhode Island.

John Lewis had seven sons, viz: Jonathan, who was married twice, first to Jemima Whitehead and second to Deliverance <sup>Towns</sup> <sup>and</sup> who died about 1708; John, who in Ann —; Daniel, m Mary Maxon, dau of John and Mary (Mosh-er) Maxon; James, m Sarah Babcock, dau of James and Jane (Brown) Babcock; David, m Elizabeth Babcock; Israel, m Jane Babcock; and Samuel, who married Joanna —.

John Lewis died before 1690 and was buried just below the village of Westerly, near the road leading to Watch Hill, on the east side of the highway. The place where he was buried is a large unfenced spot, in the southeast corner of a field in front of the house owned by Thomas E. Saunders. The land once belonged to the Lewises and afterwards to Arnold Kenyon. It is said that seven generations of the Lewises are buried here, but there is no lettering on the stones to designate to whom they belong. There is also another Lewis burying

ground in Westerly situated on the crest of a gravel hill, south of the house of Pardon Lewis. It is also like the other ground, in a neglected condition, having no fence to inclose it and no headstones to mark the resting place of some of the earliest members of this family. There are about a dozen graves in this ground.

## CHAPTER V

BY MRS. ZARAH TAYLOR, MAINE,  
N. Y.

Mrs. Stanton, widow of the late Cap. R. A. Stanton, died at her home in Norwich, N. Y., June 9, 1887, after a long and painful illness, leaving two sons and two daughters, orphans. She was the daughter of Mr. Nathan Pendleton, of Oxford, N. Y., and was an amiable and highly cultured lady. Her husband was the grandson of Beriah and Lois (Wells) Lewis.

Lucy Rogers, wife of George F. Lewis, died at her home in Maine, N. Y., March 22, 1887. George F. is the great grandson of Beriah above named.

## BOOK XVIII

## NATHANIEL LEWIS

## CHAPTER III

BY S. D. LEWIS, WARSAW, N. Y.

- Children of Eliza (18) and Harvey Stone, of Varysburg, N. Y.:
- 36 I Almira, m GEORGE PARKER, reside in Buffalo, N. Y.
- 37 II Morris L. m Fannie Stanley, reside Wamego, Kansas.
- 38 III Truman L. m Helen Lewis, reside, Varysburg, N. Y.
- Children of Corina (19) and E. T. Cleveland:
- 39 I Almon, m resides — Iowa.



- 40 II Truman, m Ida Nichols,  
resides, Rockford Ills.
- 41 III Lucy, m — VANALSTINE,  
reside — — Iowa.
- 42 IV Laura, m WILLIAM GREGO-  
RY, reside, Rockford, Ills.  
Children of Pamela (20) and  
George C. Cleveland, all of  
Rockford, Ills. :
- 43 I Frank, m Etta Stambro.
- 44 II Edward.
- 45 III William.
- 46 IV Carrie.  
Children of Jane (21) and M. T.  
Shoomaker, of Rural, Wis. :
- 47 I Lewis.
- 48 II Lucy, m — — Potts.
- 49 III Truman.
- 50 IV Laura.  
Children of Simeon D. (23) and  
Sarah (Canfield) Lewis, Warsaw,  
N. Y. :
- 51 I George A., m Frances East-  
man.
- 52 II Edward T., d aged 7 years.  
Children of Frank (24) and Julia  
Bristol, Norwich, N. Y.
- 53 I Mary E.

#### Lewis, Attention !

The second annual re-union and basket picnic of Lewis Association No. one, will be held on the Broome County Fair grounds between Whitney's Point and Lisle on Wednesday, August 31st, 1887, at 10 A. M.

All persons attending the re-union, upon their arrival, will please report to the Secretary and register their names.

Introductions and visiting will be enjoyed until dinner, after which reports and speeches will be made

and officers elected for the ensuing year.

A small collection will then be in order, to defray expenses.

Lisle is a station on the D. L. & W. R. R., 23 miles north of Binghamton and 57 miles south of Syracuse, N. Y.

Special rates have been secured at the Dudley House for persons from abroad and carriages will run to and from the grounds.

All Lewises, their kindred and friends are cordially invited to attend.

No postponement on account of weather.

Papers please mention.

July 1, 1887.

FRANK P. LEWIS, Secretary.

#### List of Subscribers Added During May and June.

If any subscriber fails to receive his or her paper, please report at once. Back numbers cannot be supplied, therefore forty cents will pay for a copy of this paper for the rest of this year.

#### MAY :

T. W. Lewis, Akron, Iowa.  
Nathan B. Lewis, Pine Hill, R. I.  
Wm. M. Lewis, Attica, N. Y.  
Helen A. Lewis, Milford, Dela-  
ware.

#### JUNE :

Mary Lewis Munon, Newport News,  
Va.  
Myron S. Lewis, 82 Parade-st,  
Providence, R. I.  
Sarah Lewis McIntosh, Almond,  
N. Y.  
Miss L. A. Lewis, Norwich, N. Y.