

THE FULTON FAMILY LETTER

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Founded 1986 by

Robert D. Fulton (1928-1992)

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

Happy Birthday William Harvey Fulton!

William Harvey Fulton, a descendant of the Widow Agnes Fulton, celebrated his 100th birthday this past July. Known as "Steamboat" to his friends, Harvey chatted with me on the telephone and shared some information on his family and his travels.

William Harvey Fulton, born 13 July 1892, is the second son, fourth of ten children, born to Homer Lowry and Mary Berthinda (Cussins) Fulton of Strattanville, Clarion Co, PA.

In 1887, Elliot and Rosie Stoughton, relatives of the family, moved to Chehalis, Lewis Co, Washington, and wrote glowing letters to the family in Pennsylvania. In 1890, Homer and Mary Fulton, along with their three children, James Edward, Hattie, and Lenora, rode the train west to join the Stoughtons.

The Fulton family traveled for five days before arriving in Chehalis. William Harvey recalls hearing that his great-uncle Elliott met the family at the train station and took them to his home by horse and wagon, some fifty miles away. They arrived in the wee hours of the morning and aunt Rosie was waiting for them with a tasty breakfast, a kindness modern travelers can appreciate; a kindness lovingly remembered by the family for over 100 years.



William Harvey Fulton, ca 1930-35

Homer L. Fulton took a claim along the Cowlitz River, roughly one mile from the Stoughtons. He built and operated a ferry while Mary served as postmistress of the newly established Fulton Post Office. When funds ran short, Homer worked at a lumber company at Winlock. The young couple raised vegetables and children and enjoyed Washington state.

Rosalie Stoughton's step-daughter, Louella, came to live with the family and help Mary with the children. In 1892, young Louella delivered William Harvey Fulton, the first white baby born in that part of Lewis County, Washington. In April 1895, a daughter was born, and named Anna Rosalie in honor of aunt Stoughton. It is remembered that Indian Tumwater who lived down the river a couple of miles, brought his children to see the white babies.

In 1894, Louella served as school teacher for Edward and Hattie and two other neighbor children. An abandoned trapper's cabin two miles up the river was used as the school. Within a year, Lenora was old enough for school and several Indian children joined the class as well.

William Harvey recalls that his father and the neighboring Indians were friends. "I can remember going to their wigwam with Dad when I was very small. They were all seated on the ground around a fire in the center eating smoked salmon. We were invited to sit and eat with them, but if we did, I don't remember what the salmon tasted like."

Fulton's ferry across the Cowlitz River was always busy with travelers, hunters and fishermen, going up and down the river from Mary's Corners to Packwood and Mt. Rainier. "Dad installed a loud cowbell on the opposite side of the house for persons who wanted to be ferried across. Indians seldom used the ferry but were always ready to help Dad so he never charged them to be taken across. Most of the Indians swam their horses across with several children on the horses' back."

After only five years, 25 acres had been cleared and Homer Fulton proved up on their land and received title to 160 acres. But the spring thaw of 1897 brought disaster. Indian Tumwater warned Fulton that the river would be wild due to heavy snow in the mountains and the unusually warm weather. The Indians moved their wigwams and families back from the river. Homer added anchors to the ferry and allowed the family to pack some things and move to higher ground.

I will never forget the big tears that were in my Father's eyes when he said, 'let's go back and report the news to Mother and the girls.'

"Dad and Ed stayed with the house to look after the stock. A warm rain started to fall that night. The ferry tore loose from its anchors and was gone the next morning. Dad and Ed moved all the things from the house to a knoll some distance from the house. They slept turn-about by the possessions, with a gun by their bed to see that cougars did not get any of the calves or pigs. Water was up to the front of the house at daylight that morning.

Tired and worried about the house, Dad decided to go to Aunt Rosie's for the night. He and Ed had done everything that could be done to save the house.... At daybreak next morning, Dad took me with him on one of the ponies and Ed rode the other. When we got over the knoll in sight of our place, nothing could be seen but water. The house and barn had both gone down the river. I will never forget the big tears that were in my Father's eyes when he said, 'let's go back and report the news to Mother and the girls.'"

When the waters receded, a new channel had been cut where the ferry and the house had once stood. "Dad was so discouraged that he had no heart to start over again." In April, they sold everything that was left and Uncle Elliot drove them back to Chehalis to catch the train to Pennsylvania.

"We arrived in Vowinkle, Pennsylvania, with the three children that had made the trip to Washington, plus two more that were born while we were there; my sister, Anna, and me. Grandad Cussins, mother's father, met us at the station and took us by horse and wagon six miles to his home. After a few weeks, my folks set up housekeeping on a four-acre lot in a two-story, six room house, near Redcliff, where Dad went to work for the W. A. Crossman Lumber Company."

Homer Lowry and Mary Berthinda (Cussins) Fulton remained near Redcliff, Pennsylvania, until about 1906 when they bought a farm at Hottelville, Forest Co, PA.

There's a lot more to the story of this Fulton family, but it will have to wait for the January issue. Our late editor and dear friend, Robert DeWard Fulton, would be thrilled about Harvey's 100th birthday. You see, this Fulton family is one of the branches of Robert's tree. In fact, several current subscribers are descendants of the Widow Agnes Fulton.

Thank you, Patricia Canary, who sent a newspaper clipping of William Harvey Fulton's 100th birthday. Special thanks to Lucy Jane (Fulton) Oliver, daughter of William Harvey Fulton. Lucy graciously sent the wonderful photo of her father featured on Page 92-63. She also shared copies of memoirs written by William Harvey in 1980 and wrote a supplemental history in honor of her father's 100th birthday. *The Fulton Family Letter* welcomes all the cousins who will be reading reprints of this issue.

Some descendants of
Widow Agnes Fulton
who came to America in 1792

This abbreviated version of the known descendants of Widow Agnes Fulton is intended to show the known ancestry of William Harvey Fulton. This is not the complete record of Widow Agnes Fulton.

[Note: Ancestors born before the family came to North America are represented as Generations B and A, in reverse order. The first generation born in North America is referred to as Generation One. This follows conventions used by the National Genealogical Society. Readers are encouraged to challenge and correct all information presented. -Ed.]

Generation B

1. **Agnes (----) Fulton**, born in Ireland; died ca 1826 at Clarion Co, PA. Her husband died after 1781 and before the family arrived in PA. The four known sons came to America with their mother and were allegedly born in County Derry, Ireland.

Four known children of Agnes (----) and Unknown Fulton were as follows

- 2. i. Henry Fulton, born est 1776, d. unm.
- 3. ii. Robert Fulton, born est 1778, d. unm.
- + 4. iii. James [Jackson?] Fulton, born 1780.
- + 5. iv. Miles Cochran Fulton, born 1782.

Generation A

4. **James^a [Jackson?] Fulton** (Agnes^b), was born in County Derry, Ireland. He m1 **Jane Templeton Reid**; m2 **Elizabeth English**.

Twelve known children of James Jackson and Jane Templeton (Reid) Fulton were as follows:

- 6. i. Mary Fulton, born 1806.
- 7. ii. Cochran Miles Fulton, born 1808.
- + 8. iii. Joseph Reid Fulton, born 1810.¹
- 9. iv. Henry E. Fulton, born 1811.²
- 10. v. Robert R. Fulton, born 1813.
- 11. vi. Agnes Fulton, born 1815.
- 12. vii. William Frampton Fulton, born 1817.
- 13. viii. David Fulton, born 1820.
- 14. ix. Jane H. Fulton, born 1822.
- 15. x. Elizabeth W. Fulton, born 1824.
- 16. xi. Salina Margaret Fulton, born 1827.
- 17. xii. James Jackson Fulton, [Jr?], born 1829.³

Two known children of James [Jackson?] and Elizabeth (English) Fulton were as follows:

- 18. i. John McCauley Fulton, born 1840.
- 19. ii. Sarah Emiline Fulton, born 1843.

¹ William Harvey Fulton, featured on the cover of this issue, is a descendant of this man.

² Robert DeWard Fulton, founder and first editor of *The Fulton Family Letter* was a descendant of this man.

³ James Jackson Fulton, [Jr?], wrote a memoir regarding his father and the Fulton family. The manuscript was copied in 1896 by H. H. Fulton and transcribed in 1986 by editor Robert DeWard Fulton. A photocopy of R. D. Fulton's transcript is available to all interested family members.

5. **Miles^a Cochran Fulton** (Agnes^b), was born in County Derry, Ireland. He married **Nancy Roll**.

Twelve known children of Miles Cochran and Nancy (Roll) Fulton were as follows:

20. i. Henry Fulton, born 1810.
21. ii. David R. Fulton, born 1812.
22. iii. Elizabeth Fulton, born 1814.
23. iv. Mary Ann Fulton, born 1815.
24. v. John Roll Fulton, born 1817.
25. vi. Lucinda Fulton, born 1819.
26. vii. James Fulton, born 1822.
27. viii. George Washington Fulton, born 1823.
28. ix. Sarah Jane Fulton, born 1826.
29. x. William Bloom Fulton, born 1828.
30. xi. Joseph Miles Fulton, born 1831.⁴
31. xii. Cynthia Ellen Fulton, born 1834.

Generation One

8. **Joseph¹ Reid Fulton** (James^a, Agnes^b), was born 20 January 1810, at Clarion Co, PA; died 16 September 1891. He married three times. He married (1), in 1838, **Jane Dunlap**. She died 28 November 1844. He married (2), in 1845, Miss **Anna Dale**, daughter of Levi Dale. She died in 1902. He married (3), **Nancy Ann Falks**, b 1825, d 1905.

Three known children of Joseph Reid and Jane (Dunlap) Fulton were as follows:

32. i. Levi Fulton, born ca 1841.
33. ii. Stewart W. Fulton, born 1843.
34. iii. William Fulton, born 1844.

Nine known children of Joseph Reid and Anna (Dale) Fulton were as follows:

35. i. Reed W. Fulton, born 1847.
36. ii. Sarah J. Fulton, born 1850.
37. iii. Mary E. Fulton, born 1852.
- + 38. iv. Homer Lowry Fulton, born 1852.⁵
39. v. Charles Fulton, born 1855.
40. vi. Emma Fulton, born 1859.
41. vii. Elmer Fulton, born 1861.
42. viii. Harry Fulton, born 1864.
43. ix. Elnora Fulton, born 1866.

Generation Two

38. **Homer² Lowry Fulton** (Joseph¹, James^a, Agnes^b), was born 9 September 1854 at Strattanville, Clarion Co, PA; died 27 December 1938 at Marienville, PA. He married on 4 July 1882 at Clarion Co, PA, **Mary Berthinda Cussins**, daughter of James Riley and Priscilla Ann (Coleman) Cussins of Redcliff, PA. Mary was born 23 March 1867 at Redcliff, PA; died 2 June 1943 at Kinzue, PA. Both Homer and Mary are buried at the cemetery at Marienville, PA.⁶

⁴ Subscriber Ralph J. Fulton of Venice FL is a descendant of this man.

⁵ Father of William Harvey Fulton featured on cover.

⁶ Research of William E. Fulton, Lantana, FL, 1991.

Ten known children of Homer Lowry and Mary Berthinda (Cussins) Fulton were as follows:⁷

- 44. i. James Edward Fulton, b 6 June 1883, d 8 May 1979. (Age 95)
- 45. ii. Hattie May (Fulton) Jackson, b 8 August 1886, 6 November 1975. (Age 89)
- 46. iii. Lenora Blanche Fulton, b 25 June 1889, d 29 August 1991. (Age 102)
- + 47. iv. **William Harvey Fulton, b 13 July 1892. 100 years young!**
- 48. v. Anna Rosalie (Fulton) Linneman, b 23 April 1895. (Age 97!)
- 49. vi. Homer Riley Fulton, b 19 November 1897.⁸ 8 December 1967. (Age 70)
- 50. vii. Clarence Orrin Fulton, b 20 September 1901, d 21 September 1986. (Age 85)
- 51. viii. Gertrude Viola (Fulton) Smith, b 22 August 1904. (Age 88!)
- 52. ix. Arthur Leroy Fulton, b 24 June 1909, d 23 December 1987. (Age 78)
- 53. x. Charles Jackson Fulton, b 15 June 1913. (Age 78!)

Generation Three

47. William³ Harvey Fulton (Homer², Joseph¹, James^a, Agnes^b), was born 13 July 1892 near Chehalis, Fulton P.O., Lewis Co, WA; currently resides in Phoenix, AZ. He married twice. He married (1), 9 December 1912, at Clarion Co, PA, **Genevieve DeVilder**. He married (2), 14 March 1931, Dover, OH, **Alta Buskist**.

Two children of William Harvey and Genevieve (DeVilder) Fulton are as follows:

- 54. i. William Arthur Fulton.
- 55. ii. Betty Mae Fulton.

Two children of William Harvey and Alta (Buskist) Fulton are as follows:

- 56. i. Lucy Jane Fulton, twin.
- 57. ii. Thomas Harvey Fulton, twin.

[END, partial presentation]

Are you a descendant of Widow Agnes Fulton?

The Widow Agnes Fulton file here at Fulton headquarters is bursting at the seams. Editor Robert DeWard Fulton prepared a summary of known descendants along with Ralph J. Fulton of Venice, FL, Bob's close friend and research companion. Ralph Lester Fulton and his son William E. Fulton of Lantana, FL, have prepared a comprehensive summary of the descendants of Homer Lowry Fulton.

Subscriber Homer J. Fulton, of Canton, OH, promises to check everyone's work for accuracy. (Just kidding, Homer. I wanted to make sure I had your attention. *Ed.*) And, yes, there's more! Subscriber Willis Knox of Kelso, WA, is also related! He has new information on another descendant of Widow Agnes and has offered to oversee the merging of all this family research into another volume of our *Fulton Compendium*.

If you are willing to assist, please contact Willis Knox, 2409 Burcham Street, Kelso, WA 98626.

Robert DeWard Fulton suspected that Widow Agnes Fulton came to America to join relatives. Is it a coincidence that Agnes and sons settled near so many other Fulton families? For those of you experienced in searching County Derry, Ireland, records, can anyone locate references to a Fulton marriage (ca 1770-1775); birth records of Henry, Robert, James, or Miles Fulton; death or estate records of a Fulton (1780-1800); or references to the family's departure and/or arrival from Ireland to America? If so, please share your findings with the Widow Agnes Fulton research team.

⁷ Birthdates from Lucy Jane (Fulton) Oliver, who researched the dates for father's birthday party.

⁸ Subscriber Homer J. Fulton of Canton, OH, is a descendant of this man.



Editor Stark

From the Editor...

The content of this issue of *The Fulton Family Letter* has undergone some last minute rearranging to feature our honored Fulton, William Harvey Fulton. Although our founder, Robert DeWard Fulton, rarely featured contemporary Fultons, this Fulton Centenarian is just too newsworthy to ignore. And, of course, that explains the inclusion of "Some of the Descendants of Widow Agnes Fulton."

This was not an easy task. Our late editor, Bob, lovingly researched and wrote an extensive outline of the descendants of Widow Agnes known to him. He shared a copy of his manuscript with me several years ago. Corrections sent by relatives after Bob's death, were forwarded to me earlier this year. Ralph J. Fulton of Venice, FL, met Bob Fulton through their joint research interest. Ralph has forwarded his own two-volume summary of the descendants of Widow Agnes. Three more independent genealogies of the descendants of Widow Agnes have now come to light. As you might expect, there are slight variations in the five versions used to prepare the summary of Widow Agnes' descendants. Happily, a new research team has been formed and a collective work is now in progress.

The planned continuation of the family of David Fulton of Kingstree, Craven Co, NC, will be postponed until the January 1993 issue. Sincere apologies to our southern Fulton clans who were waiting in eager anticipation for more news on this family.

Research on THE Robert Fulton is progressing at a healthy [runaway?] pace. (You know, THE Robert Fulton, 1765-1815, artist, inventor, submarines and steamboats.) This issue continues with additional information regarding his siblings and children and presents, for the first time, original documents relating to his father, Robert Fulton, tailor, of Lancaster Borough, Lancaster Co, PA.

This will be the last issue featuring THE Robert Fulton and his kinsmen until July 1993. Why? Come to our **Fulton Reunion** to be held June 9 and 10, 1993, at the Willow Valley Family Resort at Lancaster Co, PA, and find out! [See back cover for details.] Hear all about "Robert Fulton, from whom all Fultons flow" at this fun gathering and find out how your Fulton clan might be related.

The July issue hinted at exciting news regarding a James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia. Our roving Fulton scout, James L. "Jim" Fulton, Jr., has been unable to prepare the report. That's good and bad. It's good news, because the delay is due to the fact that Jim and wife Carolyn were out on the road another five weeks dredging up even more Fulton information! It's bad news, because this first report on merchant James Fullton is prepared by Editor Stark.

[It's bad enough that all of our southern Fultons are holding their collective breaths for news on the Kingstree, South Carolina families. I simply couldn't sleep with the thought that all of our northern Fultons would be holding their collective breaths. A collective phenomenon such as this could surely affect global warming and ozone depletion. So, I share what I know about merchant James Fullton, which is not nearly as significant as that which Jim Fulton currently knows. -Ed.]

And just to round things out, this issue includes additional Fulton information sent by our readers in response to questions and queries posed in earlier issues. By the time you waded through the queries and the 1992 index, it will be time for the January issue!

So, brew yourself a nice pot of tea and settle down for "something entirely different." Enjoy this issue, there's so much more to come. Don't let your subscription lapse and please, keep sending those cards and letters!

Pat

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THE Robert Fulton, review

"Am I correct in saying Robert & Mary (Smith) Fulton had two sons, Robert and Abraham Smith Fulton, and three daughters Margaret Elizabeth m Abraham Scott, Isabella m Peyton Cook & Mary m David Morris? If so, I'm sure now we aren't closely related to THE Robert Fulton, as our grandchildren had hoped for..."

Sincerely, Vivian Edwards, Bismarck, IL

Yes, Vivian, that's what the Fulton Research Project has determined based on selected letters and the Will of THE Robert Fulton. You are not alone if you feel confused. There are so many erroneous references to THE Robert Fulton in assorted biographies and genealogies that it is easy to be misled. And that's exactly why the Fulton Research Project was launched back in 1989.

Some background information for our new readers.

If your surname is FULTON, you are probably **NOT** a descendant of inventor Robert Fulton. However, it is possible that you are a descendant of a common Fulton ancestor of the inventor. In an effort to identify the Fulton ancestors of inventor Robert Fulton, the readers of *The Fulton Family Letter* have been searching for all sources of information regarding inventor Robert Fulton, "THE Robert Fulton."

Many published Fulton genealogies claim a direct kinship to THE Robert Fulton. However, upon closer inspection, some are simply incorrect. One explanation for the proliferation of Fulton genealogies may be explained by the appearance of estate frauds perpetrated around 1850-1890 (and still evident today.) Unscrupulous con-artists advertised "unclaimed money" due to heirs of wealthy estates. Robert Fulton's estate would be a natural drawing card for such a scheme. "Prove your connection to the family and you could be heir to an unclaimed estate in Ireland."

A true genealogy of THE Robert Fulton is yet to be found. In 1817, two years after the inventor's death, Cadwallader D. Colden delivered the first address and published the first manuscript regarding Fulton. Later biographers accepted Colden's work as fact. Therefore, little true research into the family has ever been undertaken. Until now.

Using primary documents and records of the period, the true genealogy of THE Robert Fulton is now in preparation. Some letters of Robert Fulton appeared in the July issue of *The Fulton Family Letter*. From this first source of information, two questions have developed.

1. Why did Robert Fulton address his mother as Ms. Mary Smith?
2. How come Robert refers to families of his sisters but not of his brother, Abraham?

This issue adds additional information gathered by Eleanor Jane Fulton between 1925 and 1950. Eleanor was the daughter of Hugh Ramsey Fulton, author of *Genealogy of the Fulton Family*, published in Lancaster, PA, 1900. Apparently intrigued by her father's interest, Miss Fulton, devoted a great deal of energy to extracting and publishing a wealth of material regarding Lancaster County. Her work, "Robert Fulton As An Artist" was published in the *Papers of the Lancaster County Historical Society*, Vol. XLII, No. 3, 1938. Her research notes, owned by the Lancaster County Historical Society, were photocopied and used in the preparation of this issue.

An even richer source of information was found at the Lancaster County Historical Society, the letters and ledgers of merchant James Fullton of Philadelphia. A first look at the content of these papers is presented in this issue.

There is much more information to share. Sadly, space does not permit a full presentation of recent findings. Suffice it to say, 1993 will be a very good year for Fulton genealogists!

Subscriber Richard E. Willis has submitted a photocopy of a Programme Souvenir entitled, "Commemoration of the Nativity of Robert Fulton, born November 14, A.D. 1765" which was held at the Fulton House in Fulton (then Little Britain) Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. [Undated, probably part of the Hudson-Fulton celebration of November 1909]. On page III appears a listing of the known descendants of inventor Robert Fulton, including mentions of those present at the festivities. From this source, the first draft of the...

Known family of
THE Robert Fulton
(by P. Fulton Stark, - September 1992)

Generation One

1. **Robert¹ Fulton**, a tailor in Lancaster Co, PA. He married Mary Smith, daughter of Joseph Smith. Five known children of tailor Robert and Mary (Smith) Fulton were as follows:

2. i. Margaret "Peggy" Elizabeth Fulton, m Abraham Scott.
3. ii. Isabella "Bell" Fulton, m Peyton Cook [Pedan Cooke].
4. iii. Robert Fulton [artist/inventor] m Harriet Livingston.
5. iv. Abraham Smith Fulton.
6. v. Mary "Polly" Fulton m David Morris.

Generation Two

2. **Margaret² "Peggy" Elizabeth Fulton** (Robert¹) born ca 1760, married 5 September 1780 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lancaster, Lancaster Co, PA, **Abraham Scott**. Mrs. Scott and her two daughters, Mary (Scott) Grimes and Elizabeth (Scott) Moore, have been identified through a unique 84-3/4 acre parcel of land inherited from estate of inventor Robert Fulton.

7. i. Mary Scott, born ca 1784, m William Grimes.
8. ii. Elizabeth Scott, born ca 1788, m John Moore.

3. **Isabella² Fulton** (Robert¹) married **Peyton Cook**, circa 1789.⁹

The only known child of Isabella (Fulton) and Peyton Cook was as follows [there may be more]:

9. i. Eliza Cook, born 1 April 1790 m George Wyeth

4. **Robert² Fulton** (Robert¹) [THE Robert Fulton], born 14 November 1765 at Little Britain Twp, Lancaster Co, PA; died 24 February 1815 in New York. He married, Thursday, 8 January 1808, **Harriet Livingston**.

Known children of THE Robert and Harriet (Livingston) Fulton were as follows:

10. i. Robert Barlow Fulton, died unmarried at an early age.
11. ii. Julia Fulton m Charles Blight.
12. iii. Cornelia Livingston Fulton m Edward Charles Crary.
13. v. Mary Livingston Fulton m Robert Ludlow.

⁹ Notes of Eleanore Jane Fulton. Information on the family of Isabella (Fulton) and Peyton Cook was attributed to "their descendants Wilfred Peyton Bryson, 15 South Franklin St., Washington, PA, and Mrs. Mary W. Hawkins, P.O. Box 42, Midlothian, Ellis Co., TX, (18 mi. w of Fort Worth)."

5. Abraham² Smith Fulton (Robert¹), "younger" brother of THE Robert Fulton, born after 1765. Although a genealogy has been received purporting to be that of a descendant of this man,¹⁰ no evidence has been found suggesting that Abraham Smith Fulton ever married and had children.

Abraham Smith Fulton and his mother may have lived on the 84-3/4 acre farm in Hopewell township, about a mile northwest of Buffalo village, for many years. "After the death of Mrs. Fulton, Abraham Fulton removed to Washington [Town] and opened a school in the rear of the old Baptist church on West Wheeling street."¹¹

Dr. Alfred Creigh of Washington, PA, claimed to own a paper of Abraham Fulton dated 26 July 1793 assigning all right and claim that he may have in the estate of his brother, Robert, then living in England, should he die without issue.¹²

WARNING! There is another Abraham Fulton with a brother named Robert living nearby. Abraham & Margaret (Guthrie) Fulton came to North America ca 1772 and settled at Derry, Westmoreland Co, PA. They attended the Sewickley Presbyterian Church and two of their sons were Robert, b 1751, and Abraham, b 1753. Both men served as "Rangers of the Frontier" ca 1778. Some researchers have confused deeds and family information of Abraham, son of Abraham, as referring to Abraham Smith Fulton, son of tailor Robert Fulton. -Ed.

Abraham [Smith] Fulton's name appears on at least two separate parcels of land warranted in Washington Co. One for 400 acres, the second for 300 acres, both rights granted 6 August 1784. As Abraham was probably under 20 years of age in 1784, and both parcels involve his brother-in-law, Peyton Cook, it is possible that Abraham's name was merely used to reserve the land by Cook. [Such a practice was not entirely uncommon. Ed.]

The first parcel of 400 acres, located on "the waters of Potato Gardain and Montours Run" was legally named "Carthage." The land appears to be located within Hanover Township close to the West Virginia state line. On 28 January 1786, Abraham sold his right to the 400 acres to Peyton Cook for £400.¹³ An early warrant map lists "Isabella Cook" as the owner of "403 acres 10 perches & allowances" with patent granted 3 November 1787 to John and Francis West. John and Francis West used this parcel to satisfy a debt to THE Robert Fulton, who in turn made a gift of the land to his sister, Isabella (Fulton) Cook's son-in-law, George Wyeth. (See map 1 and letter dated 1814 on following page.)¹⁴

The 300 acres, warranted 6 August 1784, surveyed 21 December 1786, contained 296 acres & allowances, was named "Hillside," and was patented 24 May 1788 to William Wiley. This land was on the east side of Chartiers Creek, north of Washington Town. Peyton Cook obtained 378 acres & allowances, "Sugar Tree Flat," adjacent to Abraham on both sides of Chartiers Creek. [Warranted 29 March 1786, surveyed 22 April 1786, patented to Peyton Cook, waranteee, 27 June 1786. See map 2]

¹⁰ *The Sanner Family in America* by Wilmer Mackey Sanner, unknown publication date, claims that a Margaret S. Fulton, b ca 1792, was the daughter of Abraham Smith Fulton. More information on the Fulton-Sanner connection in the January issue.

¹¹ *The Washington Observer*, 17 September 1909, unknown page. (as transcribed by Eleanore Jane Fulton.)

¹² Notes of Eleanore Jane Fulton. [Does this suggest that Abraham Smith Fulton had no children in 1793?] E. J. Fulton cites *PA MAG. HIST.* 3:357, "Dr. Alfred Creigh of Washington, Pa. states that Robert Fulton purchased three lots - #4, #218, and #125 - in the borough of Washington, from John and Wm. Hoge on May 20, 1793. He wrote to his sisters: 'I have sent Mr. Hoge a Power of Attorney to transfer the lots as they may be settled by mutual consent among you, that each person may have rights drawn so as to secure them to their heirs,' etc... Mrs. David Morris chose #4, Mrs. Isabella Cook, #218, and Mrs. Peggy Scott, #125."

¹³ Washington County Deed Book 1-C, page 58. (see FFL 92-74)

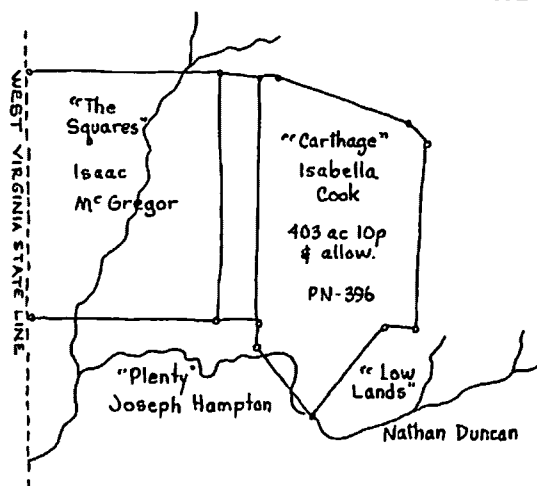
¹⁴ In 1909, this letter was owned by W. P. Bryson, resident of Washington, Washington Co, PA. It was reprinted with permission in *The Washington Observer*, on 17 September 1909. The letter was addressed to Mr. Bryson's great-great-grandmother, Isabella (Fulton) Cook, and was copied "verbatim et literatum et punctuatum." [From notes of Eleanore Jane Fulton.]

New York, March 20, 1814

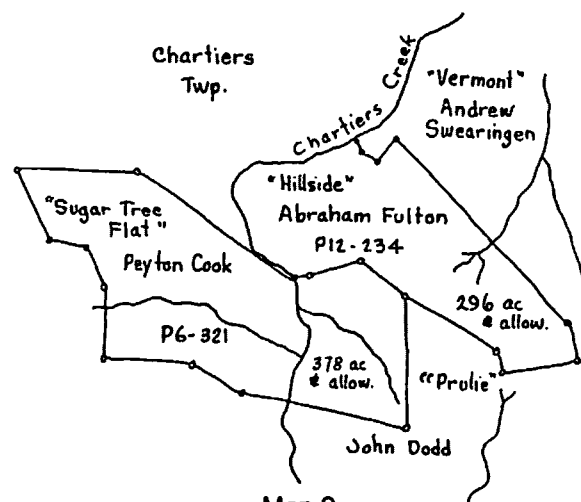
Dear Sister

I have your letter by Mr. Wyeth I have been much pleased with him and I have made him a present of all my right and title to certain lands at potatoe garden - Located by your Husband, which lands were secured to me for a debt to Francis and John West of Phila now amounting to \$1250. The lands I hope will be of use to Mr. Wyeth and his family and through him of some use to you in the evening of life, and while I make this gift to one of the family I hope it will not excite any ungenerous feelings in any of your other children for whom it is my intention to do what will be at least an equivalent, as to my respect and affection for you and other branches of my family they have never abated, my acts are the best proof of this fact but mere letters of ceremony cannot be frequent because I really have not time, I hope to be with you in the course of the Summer and am Affectionately your Brother

Robt Fulton



Map 1
Hanover Township
Washington Co, PA
the "Potatoe Garden"



Map 2
South Strabane Township
Washington Co, PA
"Hillside"

Abraham Smith Fulton died tragically near Troy, Perry Co, Indiana, sometime after the death of his brother in 1815. According to early accounts, Robert Fulton persuaded his brother to "leave his teaching profession and establish a woodyard at Troy and manage the coal mine five miles above Troy."¹⁵

Robert Fulton and Robert Livingston formed a partnership with Nicholas J. Roosevelt to develop steamboat navigation between Pittsburgh and New Orleans. Roosevelt acquired land near Troy, Perry Co, IN, along the Ohio river as a source of fuel for his steamboat enterprise.

The story goes that Abraham Smith Fulton left Washington Co, PA, and moved to Troy. He acquired land for a log home and was killed during the log rolling prior to construction. The place is still referred to as "Fulton Hill." Abraham Smith Fulton is believed to be buried at Troy, IN, in an unmarked grave.¹⁶

¹⁵ "Steamboat Maker Had Faith in Troy," *The Sunday Courier and Press*, Evansville, Indiana, 26 February 1939 (unknown page), extract taken from photocopy. The newspaper used information presented in the *History of Perry County [Indiana]* by Thomas J. De La Hunt, 1916.

¹⁶ No further information regarding the death of Abraham Smith Fulton. No reference to a widow or children yet found.

Generation Three

9. **Eliza³ Cook**, born 1 April 1790. She married 9 October 1785, **George Wyeth**, nephew of George Wythe, signer of the Declaration of Independence.¹⁷ Six known children of Eliza (Cook) and George Wyeth were as follows:

- + 14. i. Alexander Reed Wyeth
- + 15. ii. Peyton Cook Wyeth
- 16. iii. Anne Wyeth m Mr. Pennoyer of IL.
- 17. iv. Isabella Wyeth m Mr. Metcalf of IL.
- 18. v. George Wyeth lived in St. Louis, MO.
- 19. vi. Hallie Wyeth.

11. **Julia³ Fulton** married **Charles Blight**, Esq. She died ca 1848. Three known children of Julia (Fulton) and Charles Blight were as follows:

- 20. i. Charles Blight, died without issue.
- 21. ii. Robert Fulton Blight, married, died without issue.
- 22. iii. Mary Blight, died without issue.

12. **Cornelia³ Livingston Fulton** married 20 June 1831 **Edward Charles Crary**, Esq. of New York City.¹⁸ Four known children of Cornelia Livingston (Fulton) and Edward Charles Crary were as follows:

- 23. i. Reverend Robert Fulton Crary, D.D.
- 24. ii. Edward Charles Crary, died unmarried.
- 25. iii. Ella Cornelia Crary m Herman H. Cammann, Esq.
- 26. iv. Charles Franklin Crary, unmarried.

13. **Mary³ Livingston Fulton** married **Robert Ludlow**, Esq. Only known child of Mary Livingston (Fulton) and Robert Ludlow was as follows:

- 27. i. Robert Fulton Ludlow, resident [1909] of Claverack, NY.

Generation Four

14. **Alexander⁴ Reed Wyeth**, born 8 January 1813; died 25 March 1876 at Independence, Washington Co, TX. He married (1) Harriette Pamela Beebee, born 22 May 1815; died ca 1841. He married (2) Elizabeth M. (-----).

A. R. Wyeth served as a surgeon in the Ringgold Battalion organized at West Middletown, Washington Co, PA under Capt. McNulty & Major George T. Work.

Known children, three girls and one boy, of Alexander Reed and Harriette Pamela (Beebee) Wyeth were as follows:

- 28. i. Peyton Beebee Wyeth, born 14 April 1838, died in infancy.
- 29. ii. Harriet Louisa Maria Wyeth, born 20 May 1840.
- 30. iii. Unknown Daughter #2 Wyeth.
- 31. iv. Unknown Daughter #3 Wyeth.

¹⁷ George Wyeth appears to be "Mr. Wyeth" referenced in letter of 1814 from Robert Fulton. -Ed.

¹⁸ "They were married at the residence of Mortimer Livingston, Esq, New York City, by Rev. Gardiner Spring, D.D." From the Commemorative Program, 1909.

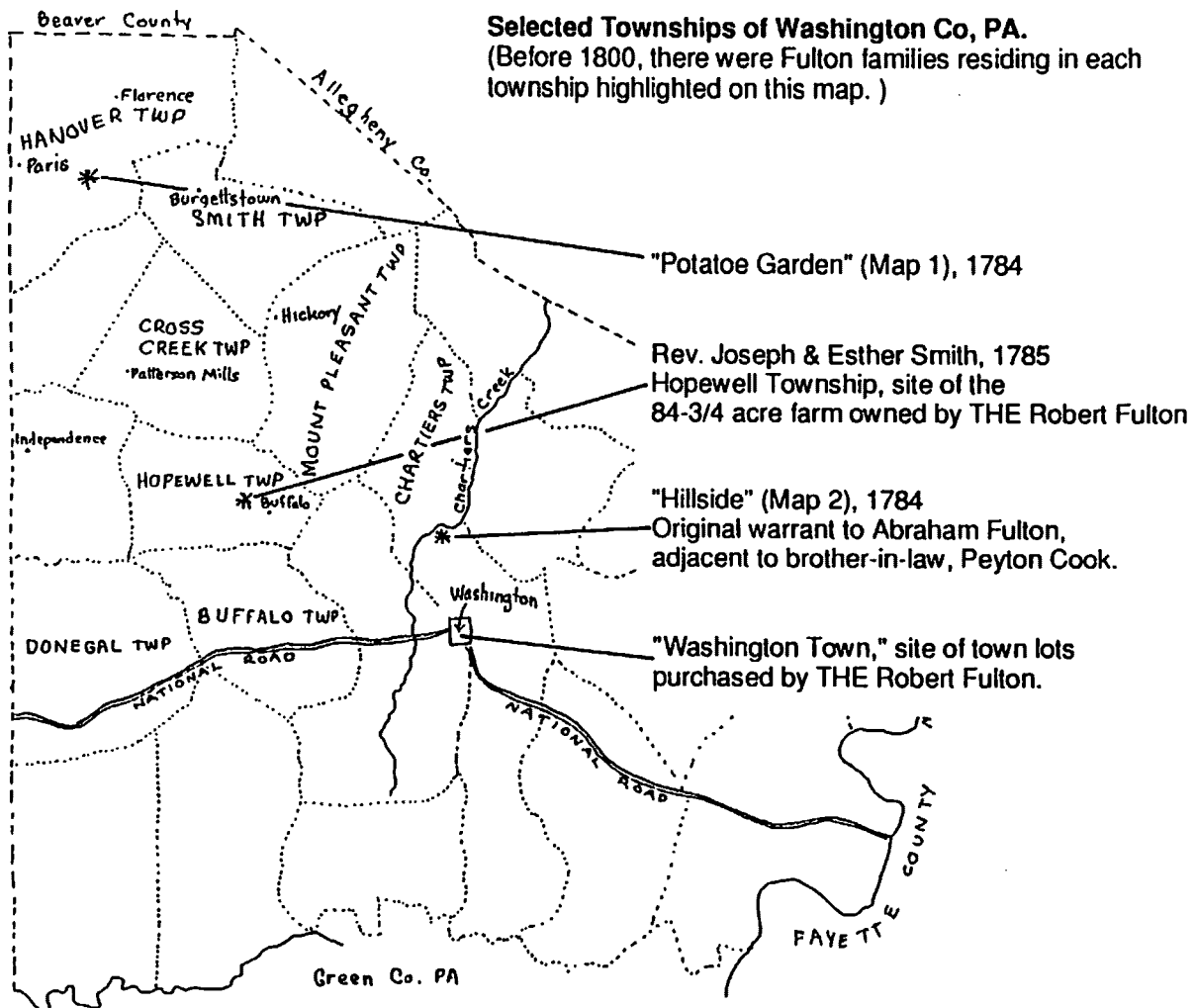
15. **Peyton⁴ Cook Wyeth**, born in Washington Co, PA; died in Havana, Cuba. A portrait painter, he lived in New York and died of yellow fever during an epidemic in Havana, Cuba. He and his younger brother, Hallie Wyeth, were in Cuba at the time of his death. No further information.¹⁹

Generation Five

29. **Harriet⁵ Louisa Maria Wyeth**, born 20 May 1840; died January 1885 at Midlothian, Ellis Co, TX. She married **William Bryson**, born ca 1821; died ca 1877. "She was an artist and painted one or two portraits, but mostly landscapes. Her husband, William Bryson was Postmaster at Dunsfort, Washington Co, PA, and was also connected to a grocery store in that area. She married young and was mother to six children."²⁰

One known child of six born to Harriet Louisa Maria (Wyeth) and William Bryson was as follows:

32. ii. **Willfred Peyton Bryson**, "second son," born 17 February 1862.



¹⁹ Notes of Eleanore J. Fulton, unknown date. Eleanore typed a summary of information and someone (probably W. P. Bryson) edited the document. Comments are taken from photocopy of edited original. -Ed.

²⁰ Willfred Peyton Bryson comments from "Notes" of Eleanor Jane Fulton.

Robert Fulton, tailor, father of the inventor

The earliest known reference to the father of the inventor was published in 1817, two years after inventor Fulton's death.

"The Life of Robert Fulton by his friend Cadwallader D. Colden," was read before the Literary and Philosophical Society of New York in 1817, reprinted in the *Analectic Magazine*, September, 1817, pages 177-194, and formally published in 1817 by Kirk & Mercein of N. 22 Wall-Street, New York.

Subscriber Robert W. Evans of Waco, TX, submitted a photocopy of *The Life of Robert Fulton, by his friend Cadwallader D. Colden*. The bulk of the manuscript deals with the inventor and his professional accomplishments. However, pages 6 and 7 describe the inventor's family background:

"Robert Fulton was born in the town of Little Britain, in the county of Lancaster, and state of Pennsylvania, in the year seventeen hundred and sixty-five; he was of a respectable though not opulent family. His father, Robert Fulton, was a native of Kilkenny, in Ireland. His mother was also of a respectable Irish family, by the name of Smith, established in Pennsylvania.

Robert Fulton, the father, died in seventeen hundred and sixty-eight, and was buried in the cemetery of the first Presbyterian church erected in Lancaster, of which he was one of the founders.

The mother died in seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, on a small farm in Washington County, Pennsylvania, which had been purchased for her by her son Robert, in the year seventeen hundred and eighty-six. This farm he owned at the time of his death, and left it by his will to one of his sisters.

Robert Fulton, the father, and Mary his wife, had five children, three daughters and two sons. Robert was their third child and oldest son.

His patrimony was very small; 'he was fond,' says one of his intimate friends, 'of letting this be known, and was desirous of being considered, as he really was, the maker of his own fortune.'"

Discussion: Colden's work makes the following claims:

1. **The father of Inventor Robert Fulton was a man named Robert Fulton.**
To date, no document has been found proving this relationship though it is generally accepted.
2. **"His father, Robert Fulton, was a native of Kilkenny, in Ireland."**
Questionable. No document yet found to support this statement. In fact, research of the Smith genealogy of Chester Co, PA, strongly suggests that the father, Robert Fulton, was most likely born in Pennsylvania. Inventor Robert allegedly married his first cousin, Mary Smith. Inventor Robert's grandmother is thought to be one Mary Smith who arrived in America ca 1720 and married a Fulton after her arrival. No documentation yet found.
3. **His mother, Mary, was of an Irish family named Smith, "established in Pennsylvania."**
Likely. No marriage record found for Robert Fulton and Mary Smith, however the will of Joseph Smith, 1760, states that his daughter, Mary, is the wife of a Robert Fulton. Joseph Smith, along with his older brother, John, and a sister Mary, allegedly came to America ca 1720.
4. **"Robert Fulton, the father, died in" 1768.**
Contrary to evidence. Henry Helm, administrator of estate of tailor Robert Fulton, asked the court to release him from an indenture signed by the tailor on 6 July 1772. Therefore, the tailor Robert Fulton of Lancaster, Lancaster Co, PA, was alive as late as July of 1772.

5. **Robert Fulton, the father, was a founder of the Presbyterian Church erected in Lancaster.**
Appears to be true. A Robert Fulton is found among the signatories of the original founders.
6. **Robert Fulton, the father, is buried in the Presbyterian Church cemetery in Lancaster.**
Unknown. The Presbyterian Church at Lancaster has no record to support this statement.
7. **His mother, Mary (Smith) Fulton, died in 1799.**
Widely reprinted, no document or burial record yet found to support this statement.
8. **His mother died in Washington County, PA.**
Probably true, letters signed by the inventor addressed to Ms. Mary Smith with the salutation, "My Dear Mother" show that the woman was a resident of Washington Co, PA, as late as 1793.
9. **His mother died on the small farm purchased in 1786.**
Unknown. No evidence yet found suggesting her place of residence at time of death.
10. **The small farm purchased in 1786 was willed to a sister of the inventor.**
True. The farm was willed to Margaret Elizabeth (Fulton) Scott and after her death the farm was sold and the proceeds distributed to her two daughters.
11. **Robert Fulton was one of five children, three daughters and two sons.**
The will of Robert Fulton, 1814, names three sisters (one deceased) and a brother. However, new evidence suggests that there was an older brother who died young.
12. **Robert Fulton was the third child, oldest son.**
Unable to verify. No christening records or family Bible yet found.
13. **Robert Fulton inherited little from his father and made his own fortune.**
Probably true if tailor Robert Fulton of Lancaster was the father of inventor Robert. The tailor certainly died "deeply in debt."

Cadwallader Colden, "a personal friend," according to the title, was the first to suggest that the inventor's father was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, died in 1768 and that the inventor's mother died in 1799.

It appears that all writings published after 1817 suggesting that inventor Robert Fulton's father was born in Kilkenny, Ireland, and died in 1768, or suggesting that inventor Robert Fulton's mother died in 1799, are based on Cadwallader D. Colden and no other source.

Colden was familiar with the inventor's accomplishments in Europe and in America, but he failed to mention the name of any one of Robert's known siblings. Although he says he was a "close personal friend," it is unclear if Colden knew the inventor in his youth. The reference to the farm in Washington Co, PA, and the sister would be known through the will. Please bear in mind that "The Life of Robert Fulton" was published two years after the inventor's death and clearly 50 years after the death of the inventor's father.

From a genealogical and historical standpoint, records created closer in time to an event are considered more reliable. So what information can be found regarding the father of the inventor that predates 1817? Is it possible to reconstruct the parents and siblings of tailor Robert Fulton? Read on...

References to tailor Robert Fulton, (before 1817)

- 23 March 1759 Peter Worrall and wife, Susannah, sold a town lot on King Street to Robert Fulton, tailor. (Lancaster Co. Deed Book F-30.)
- 17 May 1760 Will of Joseph Smith references daughter Mary, wife of Robert Fulton. (See summary, FFL 92-112)
- 23 July 1761 Merchant James Fullton of Philadelphia loans £60 to Robert Fulton, tailor.
- 7 April 1763 Robert Fulton of Lancaster, yeoman, and William Crawford of Drumore in Lancaster County, serve as sureties for marriage of William Crawford and Margaret Henderson, "spinster, daughter of John Henderson of New London in Chester Co. PA, yeoman."
- 6 April 1764 Robert Fulton letter to executors of the estate of Capt. William Way. (See below)
- 8 November 1764 Sells town lot in Lancaster to Edward Shippen.
- 8 February 1765 Purchases portion of land of James Gillespie at Little Britain Twp, sold by sheriff. Remainder of land sold to George Ross and James Bickham.
- 29 November 1766 Signs mortgage - West, Purviance, et al. (See box)
- 5 February 1772 West, Purviance, et al, foreclose on debt.
- 6 July 1772 Robert Fulton, tailor, at Lancaster, signs apprentice indenture of Samuel Chapman, age 9.
- 16 September 1774 Mary Fulton, widow and relict of Robert Fulton, yeoman, renounces right and title of Letters of Administration unto Henry Helm. Test Peter Hoofnagle, William Feltman. Bond of £500 by Henry Helm, Charles Hall, and Samuel Boyd.
- 10 February 1775 Administrator Henry Helm files papers stating that Robert Fulton, tailor, is deceased, died "greatly in debt."
- 10 February 1789 Joseph Swift records deed for Little Britain tract formerly owned by tailor Robert Fulton. Swift paid £805 for the land.

Letter of tailor Robert Fulton, 1764

On 6 April 1764, Robert Fulton presented a bill for £16.19.6 due from sea captain, William Way, deceased, the step-son of John Clemson of Lancaster co, PA. Fulton filed a claim for payment with the executors of the estate, Way's uncle, John Buffington²¹, and sister, Phebe (Way) Hubbill [also written Huber/Hoover?], widow of Eleazer Hubbill.

Fulton researcher Eleanor Jane Fulton read through the estate papers of Capt. Way, and found a most interesting letter written by Robert Fulton of Lancaster Co. From Eleanor's notes.²²

²¹ Buffington is a name found among the descendants of Richard Fulton of Harrisburg, PA. Is this a coincidence? -Ed.

²² "Notes," Eleanore Jane Fulton, Lancaster County Historical Society.

"The executors' accounts, so far as preserved, make no mention of this bill, but among the papers is the following letter:"

Lancaster, august ye 15, 1764.

Mr. Bufenton & mrs. Febey Hober:

as you are to Settle the Esteat of Captain william Weay, Deses'd, the Last Chusday Instent, I did intend to Come Down, had my Family Not been in much Truble By the Death of my only son, But as Mr. John Clemston is to go Down I mack no Dout but you will Send me the Cash for the account I Proved and sent you against the Estet. As it is for wearing aperrel, it would be the highes Reflecton on the Deces'd, which I would be Sorey to heare others Cast on him, much more myself. Mrs. Hober, you well know with what modistey I Used him at your Father's, and even seemed to hide it frome Them. If others Shuld want I think you shuld Pay the Close that was on his Back for Honor's Saick. Therefore, Sencable of the Trust the Desesd has Reposd in you, I mack No Doute but you will Remet me the Cash in Cash; in Confidenc of it, I Remain With

Your most Humble Servent,
Robert Fulton

Discussion: Tailor Robert Fulton's plea for payment from the administrators of Capt. Way on April 1764 states "had my Family Not been in much Truble By the Death of my only son...." suggesting that tailor Fulton and wife experienced the death of a son shortly before the date of this letter. This rare letter of sheds some additional information about the family of tailor Robert Fulton.

Death of tailor Robert Fulton

Subscriber Richard Willis, descendant of inventor Robert Fulton's sister, Margaret Elizabeth "Peggy" (Fulton) Scott, [see FFL 92-71 thru -74] sends additional information regarding THE Robert Fulton.

On 10 February 1775, **Henry Helm**, administrator of the estate of tailor Robert Fulton, reported that Alexander Scott and Isaac Sidwell, Overseers of the Poor of Little Brittain Twp, on 6 July 1772, placed one Samuel Chapman, a poor boy age 9, as an apprentice to Robert Fulton, taylor. The report of 1775 states that Fulton is now deceased and died "greatly in debt" and administrator Helm asks that he be released from an Indenture of Apprenticeship signed by the deceased. Helm suggests that young Chapman seek a new Master.

This is an extremely important document! First, Robert Fulton, tailor, was alive on 6 July 1772 when he agreed to take poor boy Samuel Chapman as an apprentice. Therefore, **he did not die in 1768** as suggested by Cadwallader Colden and frequently cited in biographies written after 1817. It is clear that tailor Robert Fulton was alive on 6 July 1772 when he signed an Indenture of Apprenticeship and died prior to 16 September 1774 when his widow, Mary, renounced her right to administer the estate. These two documents place the death of the tailor between 6 July 1772 and 16 September 1774.

Who was administrator Henry Helm? Checking Lancaster Co, PA, land records, there are three entries for Henry Helm, shoemaker.

On 4 November 1760, David Worley and wife Anna of Martic Township, signed a mortgage to Henry Helm of Lancaster, shoemaker. Mortgage satisfied in 1767. (Deed Book F-214)

On 8 May 1762, John Foulk, sadler, conveyed to Henry Helm, shoemaker, 1/2 acre in Lancaster Borough. which John Foulk received by the will of John Foulk 8 May 1747. (Deed Book H-40)

On 28 June 1766, Henry Helm and wife Rebecca of Lancaster mortgaged 20 acres near Lancaster to John Staiman of Martic. (Deed Book H-349)

Henry Helm, shoemaker, and Robert Fulton, tailor, were contemporaries with connections to Lancaster and Martic Townships, Lancaster Co, PA. When Robert Fulton, tailor, died intestate, "deeply in debt," widow Mary Fulton, renounced her rights of administration and Helm stepped in to assist. Was this a friendly offer of help to the widow? Was Henry Helm related by blood or marriage to Robert Fulton, tailor, or to the widow Mary (Smith) Fulton? There's more...read on.

"Died deeply in debt"

There is no doubt that tailor Robert Fulton had financial woes. In 1767 he owed £1777.9.10! How did a tailor get so far in debt? The nature of the debts to the named creditors may shed additional light into the life of tailor Robert Fulton. The research will continue.

Lancaster County Deed Book M, p144

WEST William & AL

Declaration of Trust

...we William West Samuel Purviance Junior and Joseph Swift in the within written indenture of mortgage named do acknowledge and declare that the moneys to be paid in and upon the same indenture and obligation therein recited amounting in the whole to the sum of one thousand seven hundred seventy seven pounds nine shillings and ten pence farthing are due and do belong to ourselves and William Moore Isaac Wikoff Richard Parker George Fullerton and James Fulton creditors of the within named Robert Fulton in the following proportions to wit

three hundred eighty five pounds to the said **William West**

three hundred thirty four pounds eight shillings and two pence farthing to the said **Samuel Purviance the younger**

four hundred five pounds twelve shillings and nine pence farthing to the said **Joseph Swift**

one hundred forty three pounds thirteen shillings and seven pence to the said **Isaac Wikoff**

fifty four pounds twelve shillings and nine pence three farthings to the said **Richard Parker**

one hundred and seventeen pounds to the said **George Fullerton** and

one hundred and ninety five pounds to the said **James Fulton**

and on receipt of each payment with interest expressed in the same mortgage and obligation we promise to divide and pay the same unto and among ourselves and the rest of the said several creditors in proportion according to our and their said respective debts without fraud or delay all necessary charges being first deducted witness our hands and seals this twenty ninth day of November one thousand seven hundred and sixty six.

Wm West (Seal) Saml. Purviance Junr (Seal) Joseph Swift (Seal)

Sealed and delivered the words and and [sic] we promise being interviewed in the presence of us:

James Biddle Robert Galbraith

29 November 1766 William West, Samuel Purviance Jr. and Joseph Swift acknowledged the deed and delivered it to William Allen chief Justice of the province of Pennsylvania.

Recorded 27 April 1767

Robert Fulton owed Joseph Swift 400 pounds by this note dated 1767. On 10 February 1789, Joseph Swift received a patent to 363 acres 80 perches of land, believed to be the same parcel of land purchased by Robert Fulton in 1765.

The ledgers of merchant James Fulton of Philadelphia shed some additional light on tailor Robert Fulton. Sadly, merchant James never wrote a letter to tailor Robert and so we have no hint as to their possible relationship. Keep reading, there's much, much more...

The Inlaws -- Family of Mary (Smith) Fulton

Tailor Robert Fulton allegedly married Mary Smith, daughter of Joseph and Isabella (-----) Smith.

Joseph and Isabel (-----) Smith
of Oxford Twp, Chester Co, PA

1. **Joseph Smith**, died ca 1760, a resident of Oxford, Chester Co, PA. Joseph Smith "settled on the road between the Susquehanna River and Wilmington, Delaware, near a town called Rising Sun in Nottingham Township, MD," before 1736.²³ His will names a widow, Isabel, and appoints "her sons," Robert Smith and John Smith, as executors.²⁴

The will of Joseph Smith names the following nine children *in this order*.

2. i. Robert Smith, executor, alive in 1760.
3. ii. John Smith, executor, alive in 1760.
4. iii. Mary Smith, b bet 1734-1744, "wife of Robert Fulton" stated in will. [See Note 1]
5. iv. Elizabeth Smith, wife of "Ja^s Criswell." [See Note 2]
6. v. Isabel Smith, unmarried in 1760.
7. vi. Esther Smith, b after 1747, "under age 14" in 1760.
8. vii. Martha Smith, b after 1747, "under age 14" in 1760.
9. viii. Joseph Smith, b ca 1736. [See Note 3]
10. ix. Abram Smith, b after 1742, "under age 18" in 1760. [See Note 4]

[Note 1]: Mary Smith was allegedly Robert Fulton's first cousin. Smith family history claims that John Smith, b ca 1686, came to America ca 1720 with two siblings: Mary b ca 1702 and Joseph b ca 1704. Mary Smith married a Fulton²⁵ in PA and was mother to Robert Fulton.²⁶ Joseph Smith married Isabel (-----) and they were parents to Mary Smith, b bet 1734-1744.²⁷

[Note 2]: James and Elizabeth (Smith) Criswell may be an important connection to the Fultons of Hopewell, York Co, PA. (See FFL 92-58) Brothers John and Hugh Fulton, sons of David and Mary (--) Fulton of Hopewell Twp, York Co, PA, grandsons of James Fulton (d 1772) of Hopewell Twp, York Co, PA, m Elizabeth and Jane Criswell, respectively. Also, David Fulton, m2, Ann McIsaac (McKissack). Criswell/Creswell and McKissack/McIsaac are distinct names appearing in families of James Fulton (d 1772) Hopewell, York Co, PA, and Joseph and Isabel (--) Smith.

[Note 3]: Joseph Smith, brother to Mary (Smith) Fulton, is believed to be Rev. Joseph Smith who settled "at Hopewell Township, Washington Co, PA. ... Rev. Smith was born [at Oxford, PA, near Rising Sun, MD.,] in 1736 near Princeton, NJ. He m Esther Cummins, daughter of William Cummins of Cecil County. [MD] Rev. Smith served as pastor from 1769-1772 until the church was dissolved. In 1778 he removed to Wilmington, Delaware and then, in 1779 to Cross Creek. [Washington Co, PA.] On 2 May 1780, he purchased 376 acres of Joseph Wells. [Patent to Smith, 12 December 1785]. He sold 84-3/4 acres to Thomas Pollock/Polke who in turn sold the same to Robert Fulton, miniature painter of Philadelphia. 7 May 1786."²⁸

[Note 4]: Tailor Robert and Mary (Smith) Fulton named their youngest (3rd?) son, Abraham Smith Fulton. He may have been named for Mary's youngest brother, Abram Smith.

²³ *History of Washington County, PA*, Boyd Crumrine, (Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co., 1882) [Reproduced by J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1975] see pages 812-13.

²⁴ Will of Joseph Smith, signed 22 May 1760, proved 12 June 1760, Chester Co, PA, Book D, p. 222, #1859. Witnesses were Joseph Cowden, Robert Smith and Arthur McKisack.

²⁵ Confusion here. Mary Smith, b ca 1702, married a Fulton. Which one? Some say William Fulton, others say Alexander Fulton. No marriage record found. This is a big question. -Ed.

²⁶ What about the other children of Mary (Smith) Fulton? Was tailor Robert the only child? -Ed.

²⁷ "Fourth Annual Christmas Plea," by Scotland G. Highland, Clarksburg, West Virginia, (Reprinted from *The Clarksburg Exponent*, Clarksburg, West Virginia, Saturday Morning, December 25, 1926) Copyright, 1926. "Dedicated by the author to his maternal ancestor, John Smith, born 1655, Great Grandfather of ROBERT FULTON." [Mr. Highland's summary contains no source references. -Ed.]

²⁸ Op cit. *Hist. of Washington Co*.

James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia

An important turning point in our Fulton research was the discovery of James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia.²⁹ Merchant Fullton's ledgers record events from 1760 thru 1772. Family tradition states that his offices were burned during the Revolution.³⁰ He retired to a farm in Lower Chanceford Twp, York Co, PA, where he died in 1808.³¹

To date, the name of "James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia," has been found on two separate documents naming Fultons:

On 29 November 1766, a Declaration of Trust was signed naming Robert Fulton, tailor. Document was recorded 27 April 1767 and showed that the tailor was £1,777 in debt. [Lancaster Co. Deed Book M-144. See transcript, FFL 92-111]

On 2 May 1767, a mortgage was filed naming two James Fultons: James Fullton, son of Samuel Fulton who died 1760 at Donegal Twp, Lancaster Co, PA, and James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia. [Lancaster Co. Deed Book M-159, see discussion, FFL 91-37.]

As of 1950, the business ledgers of merchant James Fullton of Philadelphia were in the possession of Dr. John Farquhar Fulton, M.D., of Yale University Medical School, New Haven, CT. Herbert L. Leister of Detroit, Michigan, a professional accountant and fellow Fulton researcher, analyzed the ledgers and prepared a careful summary of his findings, entitled:

*"James Fullton (b ca 1730/35 - 1808) of Philadelphia and Chanceford Twp, York County, Pa. Being an account of his Business Ventures, Dangers and Risks Together with notes Respecting some of his Relations and Kinsmen As Revealed By An Examination of his Day-books, Journals and Ledgers Still extant, in part; and as gleaned From some 200 odd letters written by him to various business associates between 1760-1772."*³²

The "200 odd letters" of merchant James Fullton of Philadelphia, mentioned in the title of Leister's manuscript, were passed down to descendant, Dr. Harry Cuthbertson Fulton³³ of Lancaster Co, PA. Fulton researcher, Eleanore Jane Fulton, daughter of author Hugh Ramsey Fulton, (*Genealogy of the Fulton Family*, pub. 1900) was given access to the original letters [probably circa 1930-40], and she prepared a typed transcript consisting of 63 pages with 3 to 4 letters presented per page. Her transcript contains roughly 200 letters of the merchant written between 1761 and 1772.

A complete set of photocopies of Eleanore Jane Fulton's transcript has been donated to the Fulton archive. The "letters" transcribed were not originals, they were copies, hand-written by a clerk, for business records. Luckily, all copies included both the salutation and the closing used by merchant James Fullton. Most letters concern business matters and are signed variously "Your Humble Servant," "Your most Hum' Ser'," or simply "Hum' Ser'." However, many letters appear to be addressed to relatives and carry the closing, "your affectionate Bro'," or "your Kinsman."

Back before 1776, the office clerk was the photocopy machine; Paul Revere was the FAX.

²⁹ Subscriber James L. Fulton, Jr., traveled to Lancaster, PA, joined the Lancaster County Historical Society, and purchased photocopies of the entire collection entitled "Letters and Ledgers of James Fullton merchant of Philadelphia 1764-1771," which he has donated to our own Fulton archives for research purposes. Thank you, Jim, for this generous contribution.

³⁰ Letter of Harry C. Fulton to E. D. Moore, ca 1930. [FFL 87-65,-66]

³¹ Researcher Herbert Leister concluded that merchant James Fullton was James Fulton, yeoman, of Lower Chanceford Twp, who died in 1808. There were several men named James Fulton in York County between 1780-1810. I am trying to prove/disprove Leister's conclusion. -Ed.

³² Manuscript from the Lancaster Co. Historical Society. The current location of the original documents is unknown. -Ed.

³³ Probably the Harry C. Fulton who wrote to E. D. Moore circa 1930. -Ed.

Possible Ancestry of merchant James Fullton

Dr. John Farquhar Fulton (b 1896) submitted his genealogy, after 1932, to Sir Bernard Burke for publication.³⁴ Dr. Fulton implied that his ancestor, merchant James Fullton b ca 1700, was a brother of tailor Robert Fulton, father of the inventor b bef 1730. The lineage goes like this:

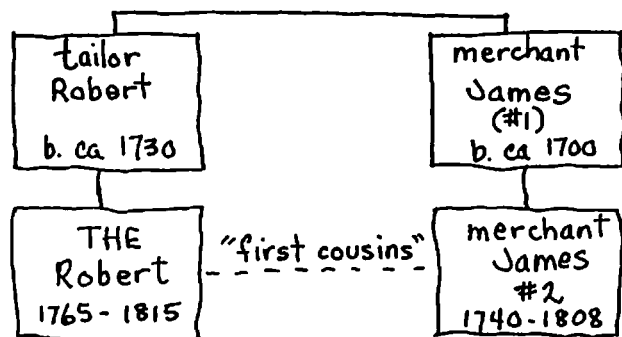
Some Descendants of
James Fulton, merchant

1. "James¹ Fulton, Merchant [#1], the Founder of this branch of the family in America, left Co. Donegal, Ireland, ca 1740, and settled in Philadelphia; b ca 1700 and left, at his decease, a son.
2. James² Fulton, of Philadelphia, Merchant [#2], *first cousin of Robert Fulton, Artist and Steamboat Inventor*, b ca 1740; m ca 1780 [sic], Mary Moore, by whom he left issue,
3. James³ Fulton, of Chanceford Township, Pennsylvania, Farmer, b 1775; m 19 Nov 1811, Jane [Sample], dau of John Sample, of York Co, PA and d 9 Oct 1812, leaving issue,
4. James⁴ Sample Fulton, of Chanceford, Township, Farmer, b 9 Oct 1812; m 12 April 1838, Eliza [Clarkson], dau of Andrew Clarkson, of York Co, and d 1897, having had issue:
5. John⁵ Farquhar Fulton, of St. Paul, Minnesota, Ophthalmologist, b 21 April 1857; m 11 April 1888, Edith [Wheaton] Stanley, dau of Charles Wheaton, of Northfield, Minnesota, and d 1 Feb 1932, leaving issue,
 - i. Robert⁶ Farquhar Fulton, b 12 Sept. 1896; d. 18 July, 1897.
 - ii. John⁶ Farquhar Fulton" [of Hamden, CT, Sterling Professor of Physiology, Yale Univ, ca 1930, who submitted the information.]

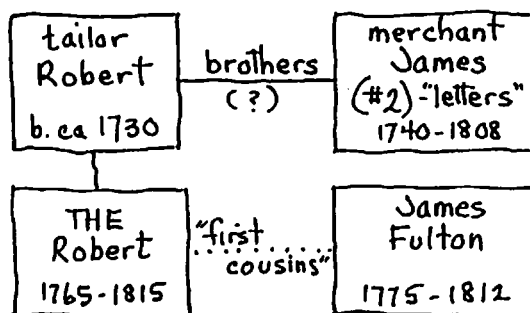
Note: The record states that James Sample Fulton was born the same day that his father, James Fulton, died: 9 October 1812.

[Merchant #2 appears to be merchant James Fullton, author of the letters and ledgers discussed in this issue. So...the gr-gr-gr grandson, Dr. John⁶ Farquhar Fulton, believed that Merchant #1 James Fulton and tailor Robert Fulton were brothers. Following this logic, James Fullton, merchant #2, was a nephew of tailor Robert Fulton. Hmmm.]

John Farquhar Fulton Theory...



Herbert L. Leister Theory...



³⁴ *American Families with British Ancestry*, by Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms. (No further publication information.)

At this point, it is my pleasure to add a "professional opinion." I am an admitted genealogy hobbyist, however speaking as a former professor of International Trade & Marketing at the University of Denver Graduate School of Business and an export assistance advisor to the United States Department of Commerce, I would like to add the following comment to the record:

"From an historical perspective, the import/export business described by the letters and ledgers of James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia, is a fascinating window to business principles and practices of America's colonial period. Merchant Fullton's concerns over fluctuating exchange rates, uncertain commodity prices, and maritime insurance continue as driving issues in 20th century trade.

A major difference between 18th century and 20th century business management practices concerns personnel. A uniquely 20th century practice, not fully accepted until the last half of the 20th century, is the utilization of non-family members in the operation of a family-owned business.

In merchant James Fullton's era, only a few people were to be trusted in business, and those people were usually relatives by blood or marriage. Therefore, it is not surprising to find that merchant James Fullton regularly traded with merchants, suppliers, and manufacturers with the surname Fullton. The inevitable conclusion: merchant James' ledgers name members of his extended family.

From a genealogical standpoint, our task is to determine the nature of the family relationships of the people named in these ledgers."

*Patrice Fulton Stark
October 1992*

Names Mentioned in the Letters & Ledgers of Merchant James Fullton

The letters and ledgers of James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia prior to the Revolution, cover the period 1760-1774. James' age and birthplace is currently unknown. His wife, Mary Moore, may be the daughter of Walter Moore. His business correspondence refers to the following people...

John Fullton of Rathmelton, Ireland (Brother)

John Fullton, merchant at Rathmelton (near Belfast), Ireland, and partner of Ephraim Campbell, was the brother of merchant James Fullton. All letters sent to this man were signed "your affectionate bro."

John Fullton was married to Elizabeth Harris and they resided in Rathmelton, Ireland. From the letters, it is apparent that John traveled between Ireland and Pennsylvania on several occasions. His wife, Elizabeth, and his children, settled at Lancaster Town, Lancaster Co, PA, where she ran a "select school" before John Fullton formally relocated to Lancaster, PA, in 1772. On several occasions, merchant James Fullton asks his brother John to send some of "Mr. Harris' whiskey."

John Fullton was in business in Rathmelton and Londonderry, Ireland, with Ephraim Campbell. Merchant James Fullton, factor on a 5% commission basis, regularly shipped flaxseed, flour, oil, barrel staves, pig iron and bar iron (from Martie Furnace³⁵) to brother John Fullton.

³⁵ The Martie Furnace of Lancaster Co, PA, was owned by partners James Fullton, merchant of Philadelphia, Thomas Smith and James Wallace.

In 1764, James and John Fullton, equal partners, built a freight and passenger boat named "The Hibernia" which sank in Bristol Channel in 1768. The letters indicate an uneasy business partnership. From Leister's summary:

"Apparently John had no easy business transactions; he evidently had considerable trouble collecting his accounts from his Irish customers; so much so that in various cases he was unable to meet drafts drawn on him in favor of William Alexander & Co., and David Harvey of London. James' letter [1 June 1767] complains bitterly for not meeting a draft for £500 and James threatens to dissolve the firm." In letters to Ninian Boggs in Londonderry, "kinsman," James questions brother John's honesty.

Thomas Fullton (brother)

A letter addressed to John Fullton of Rathmelton, dated Dec⁴ 4, 1766, reads:

"...all frends here is well Brother Thomas & famelie arived safe - please to acquent Mr. Best that his Son David Took a Voyage to Sea Last January from Pinatauney [Piscataway NJ?] and the Vessell and Crew is never herd of Since and must have ondoubtedly Perrished...I am with much Esteem your affectionate Br' James Fullton."

On 20 December 1768, the ledgers record that Thomas repaid James £9 which was secured on 16 June 1767. Where Thomas settled is unknown. No further information.

David Fullton, miller, Manor of Mooreland, Philadelphia Co, PA

H. Leister's research: David of Mooreland, witnessed the will of **William Murray** on 29 February 1760.

David Fulton married **Helen Wyncoop** 30 March 1762 at Abington Presbyterian Church. In 1774, David Fulton was taxed on a mill, 20 acres, 2 horses and 2 cows.

"I believe [David of Mooreland] must have been the same David who sold considerable flour to [merchant] James, as indicated by the daybooks and ledgers during 1764/5 and later. It will be observed that [merchant] James was purchasing flour from David as early as 27 August 1764 (Ledger B, page 245), yet he apparently did not purchase the Mill (if he did) until 16 November 1765, at which time [James] paid 15s for recording the deed, and also paid Thomas Miner £14 for a mill stone.

"...it is evident that David was supervisor of this operation during construction or alterations and entered into a lease of said mill from [merchant] James for one year at a yearly rental of £50 per annum, starting 28 October 1765. [Merchant] James slightly complicates this picture, when on 28 September 1768, he charges Mill & Plantation and credits Walter Moore for three year's rent or annuity, due him (Moore) 1 October 1765 at £35 per annum, or £105. If James owned the Mill and David was acting as manager; then the flour produced belonged to James, and he would not have paid David for same as he did.

"All in all, I am inclined to think [merchant] James leased or bought the property from Walter Moore, agreeing to pay £105 over a three year period; and, that David [Fulton] first acted as operator and later as lessee. ...Benjamin Wyncoop was one of [merchant] James' customers (Ledger B, page 326) ... probably a kinsman of Helen, wife of David Fullton, miller."

The Moore (Moor) Family - Ireland & Pennsylvania

Leister: "James had more Moore customers than Fultons all the way from boarders to commission merchants, in Ireland. ... Problem for some one: degree of kinship of all these Moores to James."

[Herbert Leister included many friendly comments and remarks in his analysis. I feel that he was writing to all of us. -Ed.]

Merchant James Fullton married Mary Moore, daughter of Walter Moore of Mooreland Twp, Philadelphia Co, PA. [According to H. Leister. No other source yet found.] The merchant's ledgers, Day Book 1766-1770, entry 18 June 1768, contains this memo: "Walter Moore, (late of Moorland) is charged and House Expense credited:

"For his boarding, washing and lodging and his 'lukens' found him at my house from 1 January 1762 to 15 May 1766 - 4 years 4-1/2 mo	
at £40 per annum	£174.16.0
"Keeping his horse from 1 December 1763 to 15 May 1766	
at £25 p.a	86.9.2
"Cash paid Sarah Wilkenson; being the interest on your bond to her for £300, payable 21 April 1762, being 2 years	
at £18 per annum, till 21 April 1762	72.0.0
Total	£333.5.2"

Leister assumed that Walter [Moore] was the father-in-law of [merchant] James and Mary's father.

Bonus Fultons - not named in the letters or ledgers

Herbert Leister discovered yet another James Fulton that is, surprisingly, not named in the letters and ledgers. "This James was of the same locality as David [of Mooreland Twp, Philadelphia Co, PA.] This James was taxed in 1774 for 24 acres, 1 horse and one cow. On 8 September 1768, he married **Sarah VanCoort**. Their daughter, **Margaret Fulton**, married 25 January 1787, **Cornellus Wyncoop**. ... **Moses VanCoort** was another customer of merchant James Fulton. The sale of nails indicates that VanCoort was in the hardware business and possibly manufactured such items."

"On 30 September 1749, **Ellnor Fulton** of Mooreland Twp, witnessed the will of Henry Carey (Correy?). A John and Robert Correy of Elk, (Elkton), MD, were customers of merchant James. [Coincidentally? Rachel Fulton, daughter of (-----) Fulton of New London twp, Chester Co, PA, married Robert Correy.] On 29 June 1764, merchant James advanced John Correy and Robert Correy each £50 "per receipt." Leister: "My guess, they married about this time, and [merchant] James gave them an advance to start up in business."

Andrew Black of Boston, Massachusetts

In all correspondence to Andrew Black, merchant at Boston, James signs the letters, "your kinsman", a salutation continuously applied to selected letters. It is possible that Andrew Black's wife was related to merchant James (his sister?). Interestingly, a Mary Murray, resident of Boston, was a regular purchaser of flour through merchant James. On 24 March 1766, James charged Andrew Black for the cost of a picture of William Murray. Was Mary Murray a relative of Andrew Black and/or merchant James? (Another sister?) [See David Fulton, miller, who witnessed will of William Murray, 1760.]

James Martin of Londonderry, Ireland

James Fullton's letters regarding flaxseed shipments to James Martin, dated 7 December 1765 and 24 February 1766, contain the closing, "affectionate bro." Leister: "Were they brothers of the half-blood? Or, did James Fullton marry twice?"

Andrew Rowan, chapman, died at home of Rev. James Finley of MD

Merchant James traded with John & Stewart Rowan as well as David & Michael Finlay. Leister was interested in the Fulton/Rowan connection and located a power of attorney:

"July 13, 1763, Robert Fulton and Sarah [Rowan?] of Mentoghs, Londonderry gives power of attorney to James Fulton, Drumbarnet, Co. of Donegal...estate of Andrew Rowan (chapman) ...died at James Finlay's minister - Md.
Witness: Stephen Rowan, Killanacruie, Co. Caven, brother of Andrew and Sarah."

Andrew Rowan, brother of Sarah (Rowan) Fulton of Ireland, died ca 1763 at the home of **Rev. James Finley** of MD. Rev. James Finley may be an important clue to the possible interrelationship of several Fulton families. In 1768, Rev. Finley made the first of several trips to western PA in search of settlement land for members of his congregation. A warrant, filed 1770 in Cumberland Co, PA, was granted in 1775 to Rev. Finley for a parcel of land 8 miles south of the Monongahela River on Dunlap's Creek. More than 30 families eventually moved to western PA (1770-80) to join Finley. Sadly, they were unable to settle near to each other as originally planned and ended up scattered in Washington, Fayette, Somerset and Westmoreland Counties. (More, next issue!)

James Fullton of Donegal Twp, Lancaster Co, PA

Merchant James and James Fullton of Donegal Twp, Lancaster Co, PA, [son of Samuel Fulton who died 1760] were conducting business as early as 24 June 1761. The merchant's ledgers record that a loan of £6.0.0 was made to James of Donegal and the balance of James Kerr's account, £9.2.6, was charged to James of Donegal.

James of Donegal was paid for hauling merchandise to customers of merchant James. These customers included: Capt. David Hunter of York County, Joseph Spear [Carlisle, PA], and on 16 November 1765, merchant James paid James of Donegal to haul 35 cwt from Philadelphia to "Mr. Guthry's place for account of Robert Rogers, Fort Ligonier."³⁶

H. L. Leister concluded that "James [Fullton] of Donegal was another one of those frontier 'store-keepers,' purchasing from [merchant] James the usual line of staples, - rum, molasses, sugar, rice, etc. Their dealings continued upward at least till 1769."

From the Day Book 1766/70, 14 May 1767, merchant James Fullton created this tally of expenses for *three different James Fultons*, James of Donegal, James Fullton, Jr., and James Fullton, surveyor:

Cash paid at Land Office ³⁷	£61.6.4
Cash paid James of Donegal at Lancaster	1.0.0
Interest on the above	0.3.0
Interest on bond to James Fullton Jr.	
1 January 1765 to 16 May 1767	14.5.0
Interest on bond of £28 for	
2 years 4-1/2 months @ 6%	4.10.11
Interest on bond to James Fullton Surveyor	
1 year 11-1/4 months	2.6.5
Interest on his account current	4.10.1
Balance due on bond due James Fullton, Surveyor	19.5.4
Total	£107.7.1

On the same date, 14 May 1767, merchant James credited James of Donegal for £298.14.0, proceeds of a mortgage which James of Donegal secured from Amos Strettel, merchant of Philadelphia. Merchant Strettel had regular business transactions with merchant James.^{38]}

³⁶ Be still my heart! In 1765, merchant James shipped goods via James of Donegal to a Mr. Guthry in western Pennsylvania. And all the Abraham & Margaret (Guthrie) Fulton descendants whispered, "Amen."

³⁷ Is this related to the mortgage dated 2 May 1767, recorded 29 May 1767, Lancaster Co. Deed Book M, page 159?

³⁸ The land of James Fullton of Donegal was used as security for £600 lawful money from Philotesia Strettel, widow of Robert Strettel, and Amos Strettel, merchant of Philadelphia. Indenture dated 2 May 1767, satisfied and discharged, 17 June 1779. See also, FFL 91-37.

Business Associates named James Fulton

- 1) **James Fullton of Donegal Twp.**, son of Samuel Fulton who died ca 1760. A frontier store-keeper.
 - 2) **James Fullton, Jr.**, linen merchant of Londonderry, Ireland.
James Fullton, Jr., consistently referred to as a "kinsman," supplied Irish linen. James, Jr., made at least one or more trips between Londonderry, Ireland, and Philadelphia. In 1765, several sales of Irish Linen were made for account of James Jr. John Fulton of Carlisle made payment to merchant James for account of James Jr. On 14 August 1764, merchant James collected from Robert Fulton of Lancaster [the tailor], £20 for the account of James Jr. [probably more linen.]
 - 3) **James Fulton, surveyor.**
The ledgers clearly show that merchant James paid a bond for James Fulton, surveyor, as early as 1766. James the surveyor may have been in Pennsylvania earlier. An entry in the day book, 12 November 1767, charged James Fulton surveyor, in Halifax, with sundry surveying tools and supplies shipped him by merchant James via the ship "Charming Nancy," John Maloney, Master. The charges included the standard 5% commission to merchant James. This is last entry recorded for the surveyor. H. L. Leister adds, "Please see my letter of 6.15.46 to Dr. William R. Fulton, re tradition in his line from William Fulton, Fawn Twp, York county - two Fultons came over; one stayed in Penna. - one went to Nova Scotia."³⁹ [Wish we could see *this* letter. -Ed.]
 - 4) **James Fulton, schoolmaster.**
Leister could not distinguish between the schoolmaster and the surveyor and concluded "...it is not possible to say who this man was; if related, how; and also if the Schoolmaster and James, Surveyor, might have been the same person. References to the schoolmaster include the following:
- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 13 January 1764 | Instruments from Benj. Condy, | £8.5.0 dr. |
| | charged to schoolmaster's acct. | |
| 19 January 1764 | 34 1/2 yards Linen to schoolmaster | £6.18.0 dr. |
| | credited to "house expense" | |
| 31 January 1764, | paid to James of Donegal for | £5 cr. |
| | account of schoolmaster | |

The purchase of "instruments of Benjamin Condy" caused Leister to consider that the schoolmaster and the surveyor might possibly be one and the same person. No further information.

John Fullton, brother of James Fullton of Donegal Twp.

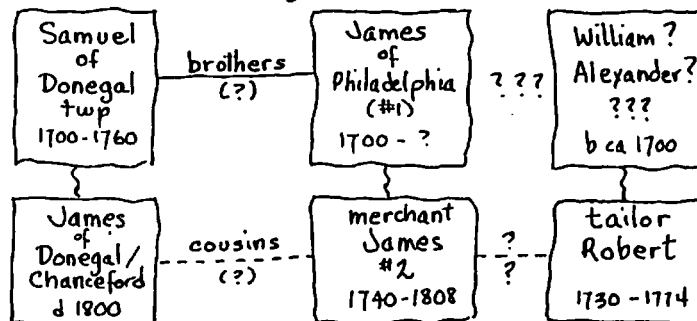
If you find that you are having trouble keeping all of these James Fultons straight, so did merchant James Fullton's clerk. In several instances the ledgers show a reversal of an entry charging one Fulton to another. Through these reversals, Leister concluded that another frontier storekeeper, John Fullton, who regularly purchased rum and sugar and hauled merchandise for the merchant to John Roberts of Carlisle, was the brother of James Fullton of Donegal.

[Reality check: Samuel Fulton of Donegal Twp, Lancaster Co, PA, died ca 1760. His will names three sons, James, Samuel and John (NO DAUGHTER NAMED). James and Samuel shared in 309 acre parcel called "Fulton's Pleasure." Son John directed to care for widow and received £8 along with some leather breeches with silver buttons. Samuel sells his share of "Fulton's Pleasure" to brother James in 1761 and disappears. Leister suggests that merchant James' ledger reversals identify John Fullton, store keeper and wagon freighter between Philadelphia and Carlisle, Cumberland Co, PA, as Samuel Fulton's son, John with the leather breeches, a brother of James Fullton of Donegal. Clear? -Ed.]

³⁹ Could this be James Fulton, surveyor, at Bass River, Nova Scotia? On 10 February 1775, James Fulton and 88 others petitioned for rights to land under a grant dated 1765. On 6 March 1775, James Fulton and 88 others received title to 500 acres each "lying and being in the Township of Londonderry," Nova Scotia.

Leister also concluded: "From the nature of these transactions, there is very strong evidence that the Donegal family was closely related to James of Philadelphia. Was Samuel an older brother of James?" [Let's see -- Samuel Fulton, born ca 1700, a brother of merchant James b ca 1740? Hmmm. Or, could Samuel Fulton of Donegal, Lancaster Co, PA, be the uncle of merchant James b ca 1740, the brother of merchant James #1, b ca 1700. Sounds better. No proof (yet). -Ed.]

Another interesting thought...



Many, many other people named in the letters

The summary prepared by Mr. Leister is extensive. There are many more names mentioned. At this point, the analysis will continue behind the scenes at Fulton headquarters with further discussion planned for the formal presentations at **The Fulton Reunion** in Lancaster Co, PA, June 1993.

From the Readers...

Since the publication of the July issue, well over 100 letters and phone calls have flooded Fulton headquarters. Fulton Fever is catching on all over America! I enjoy your notes, comments and the occasional telephone conversations and regret that I have been unable to properly respond to each and every one of you. Here are some highlights of the information received:

Fultons of Muskingum Co., OH, and Surrounding Counties (More!)

Subscriber Nancy Pruter ordered photocopies of original documents relating to several of the Fultons mentioned in the January 1992 and April 1992 issues. Her findings:

John Fulton m Jane Wilson at Muskingum Co., OH. (See FFL 92-6 and note 6 on page 92-11) Marriage license issued 6 January 1868. The affidavit is preprinted with underlined sections filled in: "John Fulton having made application for a LICENSE for himself and Jane Wilson and being duly sworn; says that he is of the age of 21 years and has no wife living; and that Sara Jane is of the age of 18 years; a resident of said County and has no husband living, and that said parties are not nearer him than first cousins." Signed John Fulton. The return was filed and recorded 13 July 1868 certifying that John Fulton and Jane Wilson were joined together in marriage on the 8th day of January 1868 by David Paul. [Photocopy of original, Muskingham Co., Ohio Marriage Records, Volume 5, page 486.] Note that Jane Wilson's full name was Sara Jane. Wilson may not be her maiden name.

George Washington Fulton m Hanna Sycks at Perry Co., OH. (See FFL 92-50, Pike Twp #354) Marriage record "May 3 1847. This may certify that I did on the 4" day of May A.D. 1847, solemnize the marriage of Mr. **George W. Fulton** and Miss **Hannah Sycks**. Given under my hand this 2" day of June 1847. Robert Register, J.P." #1321 in left margin, page imprinted 164. [Photocopy of original. Perry Co., OH, Marriages, Books 2 & 3 (as written), page 164.] Note that Washington Fulton, b ca 1823 in PA, and wife Hanna, b ca 1826 in OH, were parents to sons John A. Fulton, b ca 1849 in OH, and Francis E. Fulton, age 4/12 in the 1850 census (FFL 92-50).

James Fulton of Zanesville, Muskingum Co, OH. "Monday, August 17th A.D. 1874. In the matter of the Estate of James Fulton Deceased. Appointment of Administrator. This day personally appeared in open Court **Robert Fulton** and made application and filed herein a sworn statement Whereupon It is now by the Court here ordered that he be, and is hereby appointed Administrator of the Estate of **James Fulton** late of the City of Zanesville Ohio deceased and that he give Bond conditioned according to law in the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars with security and the said Robert Fulton being in open Court came forward and accepted said appointment and gave Bond accordingly with [blank] and [blank] as his sureties which Bond is now accepted approved and ordered recorded. At the same time James Buckingham, George N. Guthrie and William E. Guthrie was appointed Appraisers of Personal Estate." [Photocopy of original entry, Monday, August 17th A.D. 1874. appears at top of page. No other reference information.]

A James Fulton died 30 July 1874 and is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery, Greenlawn Section, Muskingum Co, OH (FFL 92-38). The administration papers dated 17 August 1874 appear to be for the same James Fulton. This James Fulton was the father of Robert Fulton of the Woolen Mill at Zanesville, OH. (See also, FFL 92-39 thru -41 for background notes.)

Note the appearance of the name Guthrie among the appraisers. **Mary Guthrie Fulton**, b 15 Dec 1830, d 10 Nov 1892, is buried at same Woodlawn Cemetery (FFL 92-38). **Amelia S. Guthrie**, b ca 1799 in CT, appears in 1880 Census of Zanesville with two daughters E. G. Silrory, b ca 1829 in OH, and M. G. [Mary Guthrie?] Fulton, b ca 1831 in OH (see FFL 92-8).

Fultons referenced in assorted Muskingum County Cemetery Records (even more!)

Again, subscriber Pruter has busied herself for our benefit:

Welsh Hills Cemetery

Elizabeth Fulton	1869-1929
David G. Fulton	1900-1913
Willis J. Fulton	1899-1918
Wallace J. Fulton	1899-1918

Wilson Cemetery

Donald Fulton	1919-1964
Mary Fulton	1851-1924
William R. Fulton	1848-1920
Karen Kristine Fulton	1953-1970
Ethel A. Fulton	1890-19__
William E. Fulton	1887-1955
Carolyn Jenkins Fulton	1887-1937

Poplar Fork Cemetery

Mabel H. Fulton	1906-1958
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Licking Cemetery

Joseph H. Fulton	1867-1950
Lulu Fulton	1869-1928

Hanover Cemetery

Eunice Fulton	(no dates)
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Cedar Hill Cemetery

Robert Fulton	d. 13 Jan 1852, 62 yr, 18 d. [b ca 1790]
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Judge Jesse Fulton of Muskingum Co, OH

Be sure you are sitting down for this one! Two years ago I tried to assist fellow Prodigy correspondent, Patricia Overell, with her Fulton research question (never did figure it out). She contacted me this September with the following note:

"A while back, we exchanged notes about **Lewis Fulton** who married **Deilliah Miskimen** in 1883 at Guernsey Co, OH. I have found out more about these Fultons and thought you might be interested. Jesse, John & Samuel Fulton came to Coshocton Co., OH, before 1812 where they operated the Fulton Salt Works." [For additional background information, see FFL 92-4 and Note 1 on 92-10.]

"Coshocton Co. Deed Book 3, page 99, has an item pertaining to William Fulton's estate, dated 31 January 1824. A **William Fulton** died without a will and left no wife or children. Jesse Fulton was his administrator. **Jesse Fulton, John Fulton and William Hays** petitioned to sell William's land.

Heirs to the estate of William Fulton of Coshocton Co, OH:

1. Jesse Fulton, brother
2. John Fulton, since deceased, brother
3. Sally (Fulton) Hays, wife of William Hays
4. Samuel Fulton, mentions land in Coshocton Co.
5. Alexander Fulton
6. James Fulton
7. Mary (Fulton) Hays, wife of Andrew Hays
8. Martha (Fulton) Mitchell, wife of George Mitchell
9. Violet (Fulton) Cruse, deceased, wife of Isaac Cruse
10. Elisha Fulton, deceased, sons John Fulton and Joseph Fulton, heirs
11. Anna (Fulton) Mitchell, deceased, wife of William Mitchell, her children
Violet, Anna, Fulton, Porter, Susan and Mary, heirs

Additionally, a newspaper article in the *Coshocton Democrat*, 5 April 1892, on the history of Linton Twp, Coshocton Co, OH, said that **Jesse Fulton** had 3 sons and 1 daughter. At that time [1892], **Marquis** [Fulton] age 71, lived in Guernsey Co. OH, and **Lewis** [Fulton] age 67, lived in Onaga, [Pottawatomie Co.] Kansas. A step-son, **Robert Jones** age 84 years, lived with his son-in-law & daughter, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Ridgeway of Otsego, Muskingum Co, OH.

An earlier article in the *Coshocton Democrat*, 13 February 1883, told about the visit of **Lewis Fulton** of Onaga, Pottawatomie Co, Kansas, to Linton Twp. after an absence of almost 30 years. [This is the Lewis Fulton that married Delilah Miskimen in 1883. -Ed.]

Hope you find this interesting. Let me know if this connects to anything you have."

Thanks, Pat Overell, 531 Hawthorne Court, Los Altos, CA, 94042

Thank you, Pat Overell! This unusual find clearly identifies 12 brothers & sisters, one of whom was Judge Jesse Fulton. In addition, Marquis and Lewis Fulton are named as sons of Judge Jesse. Very helpful! Who can identify the parents of these twelve children? [The name Marquis is distinctive and a Mr. Marquis appears on Fulton records found in western Pennsylvania. Is this a clue? -Ed.]

Fulton Slaves

The first installment of the family of David Fulton who died ca 1745 at Kingstree, Craven Co, SC, appeared in the July issue, (see FFL 92-75 thru 92-88). Some readers were uneasy with the specific references to slaves owned by Fultons. Between 1860 and 1960, specific references to slaves were generally omitted from genealogical presentations. Alex Haley brought world attention to genealogical research, especially by slave descendants.

In 1988, Dorothy Spruill Redford wrote *Somerset Homecoming* (Doubleday), a moving presentation of the heartache of genealogical research. Her story of how she traced her ancestors and then held a successful reunion of slave descendants at Somerset Plantation, Creswell, North Carolina, is relevant to all family historians. [This story was my inspiration for our "Fulton Experience" held at Fulton, Missouri. -Ed.] I empathized with Mrs. Redford's research struggle. She brought my attention to the problems of researching individuals not included in census records.

Prior to 1860, most enslaved people had no identity other than "male, age 40." Slaves, considered property, were often named in wills and estate settlements. Unfortunately, a will index rarely includes the names of slaves. Therefore, searching for an enslaved ancestor is truly a needle-in-the-haystack proposition.

The Fulton Family Letter is dedicated to preserving information concerning all Fultons and allied families. This includes enslaved persons owned by Fultons who later used the name Fulton. The 1992 index, in this issue, adopts the suggestions of Dorothy Spruill Redford so that future researchers will be aided in their own family history research.

September 2, 1992

Dear Mrs. Redford:

What is your advice regarding the proper way to index and reference slaves found in wills and deeds? For example, David Fulton's will of 1745 gives wife Rebeciah "the use of two negro men named Cesar and Cato" one to belong to Rebeciah forever and the other to go to son Samuel Fulton after her death. How would you suggest I reference Cesar and Cato?

P. Fulton Stark

September 11, 1992

Dear Mrs. Stark:

Do not list owner's or other surname unless you have determined the individual carried the name after freedom.

For example: Cato, enslaved person, or, Cato, owned by David Fulton
Cesar, enslaved person, or, Cesar, owned by David Fulton

If you know that Cesar used the surname Fulton...
Cesar (Fulton), owned by David Fulton

Dorothy Spruill Redford

Queries

Elisha Franklin Fulton died ca 1925, m at least twice. By unknown Wife #1, two sons: Robert and Cecil Fulton, both possibly b Cincinnati, OH. Wife #2(?), Margaret Ann (Rule) Fulton, who d ca 1925, one month before Elisha, 4 children: (1) **Edna Fulton**, b ca 1902, m Dallas Stanley; (2) **Joseph Fulton**, barber, b 2 April 1904 at Marion Co., IN, d 11 Jun 1965 at Mooresville, IN, bur at Stilesville, IN. He m ca 1935, Flossie (Fulton); (3) **George William Fulton**, b 25 June 1906, at Indianapolis, IN, d 3 Dec 1974 Minneapolis, MN. He m 6 July 1927 at Minneapolis, MN, Mary Marjorie Odoms, b 8 Sep 1905, d 3 Dec 1974 at Minneapolis, MN.; (4) **Vera Fulton**, b ca 1909, m Julius Hancock. Ancestry, please.
James Fulton, 5159 Drew Avenue No., Brooklyn Center, MN, 55429.

James Fulton, b VA, drafted War of 1812 in Fairfax Co, VA. He m1, Elizabeth McGeorge, she d 1829 at Farquier Co, VA. He m2 Aug 1833 Mary Ellen Newman at Prince William Co, VA. They moved to Muskingum Co, OH, ca 1835, and settled at Fultonham, Muskingum Co, OH. Seeking information on related families in Fairfax, Farquier or Prince William Counties, VA.

Nancy Pruter, 933 Flint Avenue, Concord, CA 94518-2514.

Benjamin Franklin Fulton, born 24 August 1817, Athens Co, OH (?), d 6 September 1881 at Foster, [Unknown Co.], IN. He is buried in Upper Mound cemetery near Covington, Fountain Co., IN. He m 1839 Lucinda Colgin, b 15 April 1821, dau of William and Nancy (Mabit) Colgin, d 12 January 1910 in Covington, Fountain Co., IN. Their daughter, Elizabeth Fulton, oldest of 15 children, b 21 August 1840 at Madison Co., IN, d ca 1876. Where is Elizabeth buried? Willing to share information.

Mrs. Vivian McKinney Edwards, Rt. 1, Box 431, Bismarck, IL 61814

From the Fulton archives: Athens Co, Ohio, was formed in 1805. Subscriber James L. Fulton copied Fulton marriages in Athens Co, as recorded in *Gateway to the West*, publication of the Ohio Genealogical Society, volume 1, page # shown at left:

- #76 Rachel Fulton m Phineas Allen, 11-17-1817
- #77 Polly Fulton m Thomas Francis, 12-31-1819
- John Fulton m Elizabeth Neal*, 2-15-1817
- Loammi Fulton m Polly Tompkins, 1-13-1818
- Sml Fulton m Ann Simonton, 5-10-1820
- #82 Betsey Fulton m J. B. Miles, 4-11-1822
- #83 Peggy Fulton m John Tannehill, 7-25-1821
- #85 Alexander Fulton of Athens Co. Inventory of estate, no dates, William Lowry and Rachel Fulton, administrators. Appraised by Wm Harper, Abel Man & Michael Barker. See Will Bk 1, Wills & Estate Records, 1814-1825, page 60.

* Elizabeth (Pugsley) Neal, b 1790, d 1866, was a daughter of Abraham Pugsley. She m1, Rufus Neal, who died in War of 1812. [From James L. Fulton, Jr., research findings.]

Joseph Fulton, b August 1781 in MD, d 22 March 1866 at Huntington Twp, Brown Co, OH. He m 25 January 1808, **Elizabeth Bennett**, b MD, daughter of **Moses and Elizabeth (---) Bennet**. Oral tradition states that Joseph was orphaned at an early age and came to Kentucky "as a youth with friends." Joseph and Elizabeth were parents of at least 8 children: (1) **Titus B. Fulton**, b 1813 at Mason Co., KY, d aft 1861; (2) **William Fulton**, (1824-aft 1868), m Mrs. Lucy (White) Rainey, dau of Uriah White; (3) **Joseph Fulton, Jr.**, (1825-1907), m Catherine Ann (Cooper) Riggs, dau of Jacob Cooper; (4) **Jacoline Fulton** m David; (5) **Rachel Fulton** m Humphrey of Bellefontain, OH; (6) **Jane Fulton**, m Boswell of Ripley, OH; (7) **Elizabeth Fulton**, m Stephenson of Union Twp, OH; (8) **Eliza Fulton**, m McDaniel of Champaign Co. IL. [Source: Clarence Kirk Wilson, *The Kirk and Wilson Family Tree*, 2nd edition, photocopy, no date, no further information. -Ed.] The will of Zilpah Burkham/Burkens, 1815, names son Stephen Burkham and grandson Joseph Fulton. Help! [See HUMPHREY Bible, next page.]

Jeanine Fulton Watters, 6292 Faircrest Road, Columbus, OH 43229

Margaret A. Fulton, b 1833, m 1 Nov 1849, Joseph W. Stewart, at Bourbon Co, KY. Margaret's Bible inscribed, "To Miss Margaret A. Fulton From her friend and pastor, J. C. Shane...North Middletown, Bourbon Co., November 19th 1844." Correspondent Clark writes, "I located Margaret in the 1850 census and then she disappears. Her children are living in the home of Ambrose Leach in 1860. Joseph Stewart does not appear in 1860 but reappears in 1870 and 1880. Joseph Stewart died in 1888." Allied families: Webster, Hedges, Wright, Clay, Thomas, Keesey, Fulton and Banta. Any ideas? Shirley Clark, 1121 West Brockett St., Sherman, TX 75090 (Prodigy # RDMX06B)

Samuel Fulton, m Elizabeth (O'Bromley) Van Landingham at Muhlenberg Co, KY, on 25 Nov 1796. Sally O. Fulton, daughter, b 22 April 1802 at Muhlenberg Co, KY, d 22 Feb 1864 at Coffey Co, KS.

Doris Stuck, 620 Columbine, Sterling, CO 80751

Mrs. Lennie C. Dennis, 532 Jason Ridge Road, Lewisburg, KY, 42256

A Bible transcribed in a 1944 issue of *The Colorado Genealogist* may be the family Bible of Rachel (Fulton) Humphrey, daughter #5 of Joseph and Elizabeth (Bennett) Fulton. *Holy Bible*, undated, published by Kimber & Sharpless, Philadelphia. This Bible was found circa 1940 in an arts & crafts shop in Colorado Springs, CO. Bible content published by *The Colorado Genealogist*, Volume 5, Number III, page 71, July 1944. [Copied from photocopy of very faded original mimeo page -- extremely difficult to read. Sorry. -Ed.]

HUMPHREY BIBLE

Marriages

Robert Y. and Rachel Humphrey were married the 5th day of April, 1838.
 Travis and Melvina Bosweel were married the 28th day of August, 1836.
 John and Mary Thompson were married September 6th, 1838.
 James and Elizabeth Stephenson were married October 4, 1858.
 George and Mary A. Cunningham were married November 16, 1831.
 Joseph Fulton Humphrey and Rebecca Jane Miller were married December 23, 1874.
 Robert Guy Humphrey, Sr., and Gertrude Hadden were married November 28, 1895.

Births

Robert Y. Humphrey	September 21, 1816
Rachel Humphrey	February 7, 1815
Joseph F. Humphrey	March 14, 1839
Elizabeth L. Humphrey	December 5, 1841
Martha Anne W. Humphrey	November 30, 1843
Mary Evelina Humphrey	March 4, 1846
Eliza Elen Humphrey	May 6, 1848
David Alonzo Humphrey	September 7, 1850
William Carey Humphrey	October 28, 1858
Robert Guy Humphrey	May 9, 1851
Anne Fulton	October 4, 1811
Jane Fulton	March 2?, 1820
Eliza Z?. Fulton	May 27, 1823
Jaqueline Fulton	August 25, 1825

Deaths

Mary Anne Cunningham	
Anne Wiles, (late Anne Fulton)	June 30, 1852
William Carey Humphrey	March 24, 1857
D. A. Humphrey	December 23, 1886
Robert Y. Humphrey	June 20, 1887
Rachel Humphrey	February 24, 1890
Eliza Ellen Humphrey	July 23, 1894
Rebecca Jane Humphrey	August 20, 1910
Elizabeth I. Humphrey	September 5, 1913
Joseph Fulton Humphrey	August 6, 1918
Robert Guy Humphrey, Sr.	November 19, 1918

Fulton Reunion '93 - Lancaster Co, PA

The dates and title have changed, but it's the same great Fulton party! *The Fulton Family Letter* is going "on the road again." How much will it cost? Well, more than last time -- but it's going to be great! The Willow Valley Family Resort package includes a sumptuous Pennsylvania Dutch smorgasboard breakfast and dinner! Rates are \$59.38 per person, (double occupancy), which includes taxes and gratuities. It's only fair to warn you that there will be additional registration fees for special events that you choose to attend. Contact editor Stark for your complete (no-obligation) information package.

Don't drag your feet. I'm not going to give away all the surprises that are planned, but I can assure you that you are going to regret it the *rest of your life* if you miss this party. The entire Stark family is coming, why not bring your whole clan? (Kids under 5 are free, 6-11 are only \$17.00 extra.) Just do it!

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