

# Captain Henry of Geauga by Frederick Henry

Summary by Jim Henry April 2022

To read the full text of Captain Henry of Geauga, access this hyperlink:

<https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=wu.89062145354&view=1up&format=plaintext&mp;seq=10&skin=2021>

Caveat: It is my hope that this summary sheds light on this book and provides a helpful context to read it in depth. However, in an effort to provide this overview, I have left out a lot of incredible details that I hope people will go back and discover for themselves.

Preface: In Charles's last 2 years while blinded he shared his life with his son, Frederick. He also kept all of his letters from James Garfield and Don Pardee and was able to pass those on to Fred. So, Charles, even in his blindness, contributed to his story, and Frederick, struggled successfully to decipher and include.

Chapter 1: Family Tree and Fruitage:

Northern Ireland - province of Ulster. Scottish Presbyterian colonists in Ireland - Scotch-Irish. A century later due to prolonged drought, a series of epidemics, a depressed state of linen exports, an increasing oppression of extortionate rents, and compulsory religious conformity forced a whole scale migration of these Ulstermen to America in 1718-1720.

These early descendants mostly settled in Boston and in frontier towns of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. In the early 1700's there were 9 different not necessarily unrelated Henry families. From one of these families there was a William Henry - 6 generations later was Charles Eugene Henry. This is his story.

There was William, Robert, John, Simon, John, Charles. William purchased 116 acres in Stow, Massachusetts. His son, Robert, together with his wife Eleanor and son, John moved to Groton. After Robert's death in 1759, John moved to Lebanon, Connecticut. He married Mary and their first child, Simon, was born on November 27, 1766. John eventually moved to Enfield, Connecticut where he died in 1819 aged seventy-six years.

Simon married in the same town, in 1792, Rhoda Parsons. The Parson name added fine old Puritan stock to the vigorous Scotch-Irish blood of the Henrys. They moved to Middlefield, and thence to Washington, Massachusetts where they cultivated a farm and reared a family of 10 children. Simon and Rhoda were highly regarded in the town right up to when he moved the family to Ohio. He was sent to the legislature during the war time period of 1812-1813. His three oldest sons served in the war against the British.

Nearly a quarter of the people of Washington, MA emigrated westward between 1811-1820. Simon, while thinking of his sons' future, exchanged his Massachusetts farm for a much larger tract of land in Bainbridge, Geauga County, Ohio. Sending two of his sons, Orrin and John, a year earlier, Simon left Massachusetts and traveled for 45 days with his wife and the other 8 children in 1817. They traveled about 15 miles a day, 600 miles total. The last night of the

journey they stayed in Hudson's Corner in Chester, Ohio. There they waited for their son, Orrin

who brought two fresh teams of horses. Two other families from the same town in Massachusetts, the Fowlers and the Smiths, also met up with Simon and accompanied them to Bainbridge. These Henrys were the ninth family to Bainbridge Township. In order, David McConoughey, Jasper Lacy and Gamaliel Kent, Alexander Osborne, George and Robert Smith, Enos Kingsley, Joseph Ely, John Fowler, Simon Henry, Jonas Childs, Justus Bissell, Daniel McFarland and Philip Haskins.

Simon died in 1854, 88 years old. To go back, Simon's son, John, the father of Charles Eugene Henry, while in Massachusetts was attending school in Boston. He was inspired to join the United States artillery (LA for light artillery). His mother, Rhoda, was not happy and gave Simon no peace until he procured his son's discharge. John's friends would nickname him "Lazy Ass". Three years later his older brother, Orrin, directed by his father to take one of his brothers with him to Ohio and build a house in the wilderness. Orrin chose John to go with him. Later John traveled to Canton in the winter and taught school. In July, 1819, he married Polly, the seventh child of Captain Simon and Ruth Jaqua. John over the years worked as teacher, surveyor, and postmaster.

In this chapter it is reported that Simon gave 100 acres to John. Through some arrangement John later transferred 15 of these acres to his brother, Calvin. Later John split up the remaining 85 acres between sons Charles and Charles' older brother, Simon. Charles would then buy his brother, Simon's half.

John's wife, Rachel, was "ensnared" by "the filthy tobacco habit. John on occasion of finding his wifes hidden tobacco once angrily slipped the hidden supply into her teakettle, and at another time besprinkled with gun powder to the acute discomfort of the smoker and her family." John was known to recite the following quatrain to make clear his disdain for smoking entitled,

"Lady Nicotine"

Tobacco is a nasty weed  
And from the devil doth proceed;  
It picks your pocket, burns your clothes,  
And makes a chimney of your nose.

Chapter 2: Log House Days:

Charles was the seventh of nine children. As Charles quoted to his son, Frederick, "Your grandpa and grandma had, I think, nine children, who lived to preach and do other things, two or three died young, probably the best ones." Two of his siblings did die early - William and Emma. Charles' mom, Polly, was alone during one particularly cold winter as John traveled to Pennsylvania to teach school to his class of 50 or more students. Charles' brother, Newton, was a big help to his mom and the younger siblings that winter. He would later become a preacher. Also in this chapter (pg. 25), Charles describes, while writing blind and later in life, where the other Henry homesteads lay in relation to his childhood house. Charles lived in the log house

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until he was 10 years old. Apparently, Charles' older brother, Simon, was building a house for his first wife, Prudence Southworth. They lived in this house together only 6 months when Prudence left Simon saying that he had misled her to believe that he had owned the entire farm.

Charles then moved with his family into this vacated house of Simons which later became the "big house".

#### Chapter 3: Reminiscences of Boyhood

Charles reminisces about saving money to buy fancy buttons for a new coat and for the admission to attend his first circus in Hudson mostly to see a clown that he saw on billboards. He then walked 11 miles stopping midway to stay with an aunt. There was a lot of religious influence in the homes and spoken by the adults at the time.

He would often play with his cousins down by the river in the valley between houses sneaking off after breakfasts on Sundays. The cousins nearest his own age included Nelson Henry, the only son of his Uncle Calvin; Oliver and Jasper, or "Goud" and "Jap" Lacy; Nelson Root; Harrison or "Hack" Henry, one of William's boys; and Orrin's son Marvin or "Supe". Charles' nickname was "Shuck" because he had gathered and shucked butternuts in exchange for boots to wear to school. Supe and Hack were Shuck's closest cousins. The others were good friends but just lived too far away to see each other regularly. Charles reflects that his Uncle Orrin was known as the most honest man in Geauga County.

Much time was spent outside in the woods and by the waters. Also, there were recollections of the stagecoaches that would stop at every town.

#### Chapter 4: Fanaticism and Follies

The decade in which Charles was born saw the early Bainbridge settlers deal with Mormonism and Abolitionism. In Bainbridge there was a Sidney Rigdon who was influenced by the Mormon faith but it didn't affect the Henrys as much as abolitionism did. Henrys were abolitionists and aligned with Federalists and then with the Whigs. Henrys were aloof from the Mexican War as it was felt to be a war to gain more slave territory. Near the center of Bainbridge lived Oliver Owen Brown, brother of the infamous John Brown of Harpers Ferry. Oliver was near equal in his abolitionist fervor as his famous brother and caused quite a stir in Bainbridge because of it. Calvin Henry's daughter, Julia, and Charles' Aunt Eliza, John's sister, both married sons of Owen Brown and these both ended in divorce.

Charles was quite the horse rider. This chapter goes into details of times that he and his brother, Edward, would barefoot chase each other up and down and across the Chagrin River. It was reflected that it all trained him for his later times in the war. "Charley" or "Bub" as Charles was often referred to carried the surveying chains for his Dad often accompanied by his cousin, "Supe" Orrin's boy, Marvin.

#### Chapter 5: Working and Learning

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In his middle teens, Charles worked many odd jobs - making hoops for barrels, haymaking, even teaching for his Uncle Simon in Huntsburg. He would wear his Uncle Simon's or Newton's boots to go to school until he shucked enough butternuts to buy his own.

Charles announced one spring, 1854, that he was going to Michigan to work and then that September he went. He wrote of his exploits to his brother, Edward, who he knew would read the letters to the girls that Charles was fond of. He worked in a woodmill often walking on logs in the water. While away three of his cousin William's kids, Jane, Hack, and Ellen, died of smallpox. They were dear to him.

Charles worked for his sister Ann and brother in law, Henry Brewster for a while and they recall

some of Charles' possessions. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, a choice possession of Charles that he bought in 1854, he inscribed to his grandson, Charles Adams Henry. I wonder where that is now. He also had a Colt (a gun or a horse?). He referred to Brewster's home as

his second home. At age 20, coming home from Michigan, he went into business with Henry Brewster - cheese box factory. He went to Hiram in November of 1857.

Look for Kit or Clarissa Pettibone who died on May 9, 1864 and is buried in the old Fowler burying ground in the southeast part of Bainbridge off of Haskins Road. She was aged 22, 5.5 years younger than Charles. She apparently was special to Charles.

The four years of Garfield's principalship (kind of a lead teacher of the 5 teachers present) at Hiram have been called "the golden days of the Eclectic Institute," and Charles' 5 terms of intermittent attendance all fell during that time. Although the first time Charles had met Garfield was when Charles accompanied his older brother, Simon, to Orange at a singing school and a 16 year old Garfield played with him - "tossed and tousled and whirled" him about. There were a couple of other times that he crossed paths. Garfield even stayed overnight at Charles' dad, John's house to see and hear a piano. Garfield's reputation was growing and likely influenced Charles' attendance at Hiram.

#### Chapter 6: Under Principal Garfield

In the winter of 1859-60 Charles taught his first school at Auburn at the Bridge Creek school house while living with the Brewsters. The directors told him frankly that he was chosen because they felt he could whip the older boys as two previous men had been run out. He got them under control in a week's time.

In a letter to Fred, Charles referred to William as Grandpa William, even though it should be great, great, great Grandpa. Charles went back to Hiram in the Spring of 1860 and roomed with his brother Edward and also paid his tuition. But rather than take the institute's meal plan, they boarded themselves and saved money. Garfield was present most of the time at Hiram but he was also a member of the Ohio Senate. At this time Charles sold his part of the cheese box factory business to Brewster.

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In the Fall of 1860 back at Hiram, Charles one day went with Edward and they both traveled to Burton to take the examination to be able to teach. It was a long day traveling and taking the exam and when he returned to Hiram he reluctantly attended a social where he traded glances with Miss Sophie Williams (Charles' future wife). Later in the term he invited Sophie to a social. When he left to teach during the winter of 1860-61 they agreed to correspond between Auburn and Hiram.

Charles arranged for friends of Hiram to come and give lectures in Bainbridge. They went over well. Garfield was a repeat lecturer. Some of Charles' letters begin to speak of Secession. In the middle of the spring term brother Edward quit school to volunteer for the war effort (first student to do so) and Charles roomed with Wilbur Henry (I do not know the relation). Charles' intimates at Hiram included Garfield, his brother-in-law, Joseph Rudolph, Burke Hinsdale, and Hinsdale's cousin, Judge Don Pardee. After commencement in June of 1861, Charles returned to Brewster and the boxwood factory where Charles could always find employment with his former partner and brother-in-law. He would often make the trek to Shalersville that summer to

the home of Frederick Williams to visit with Sophie.

#### Chapter 7: Under Colonel Garfield

Charles while still working in Auburn accepted a job teaching school in Solon a few miles from home and thus was able to help out at home since his brother, Edward, by now had enlisted in Cleveland. However, in August he was visited by Garfield and Frederick Augustus Williams, Sophie's brother, and they returned to Hiram to help raise a new regiment, the 42nd, in both Hiram and Mantua. After listening to Garfield's message in the brick church at Hiram, Charles was the first to sign up for a 3 year term. Charles would be a sergeant.

The signing by Charles also broke up another plan. Dr. Shipherd had hoped that Charles would take over his medical practice. Somehow Garfield heard about the medical career possibility and offered to make Charles a hospital steward. Charles declined because he wanted to carry a musket.

Garfield led his first Battle at Middle Creek, Kentucky. It was the first union victory albeit a small one. Charles was in the reserve under Sheldon and was only in the fringe of the battle.

#### Chapter 8: Circling Eastern Kentucky

Regular field journal reports during these months by Charles referred to death more from sickness due to weather and flooding during January than from casualties of war. There was some chasing of rebels over mountains. Pound Gap and Cumberland Gap expeditions would soon bring the soldiers of the 42nd further action. With Garfield in command these mountain campaigns drove a significant nest of rebels off of the ridge, clearing eastern Kentucky with little fighting. Charles brought back "a rebel cavalry sword, plain and heavy, as the souvenir of Pound Gap", which was then passed down to Fredrick.

It was during this time that Frederick Augustus Williams became sick and left the group and returned to Bainbridge where he died. He was Sophie Williams's brother, close friend of Garfield,

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Hinsdale, and Charles. Garfield referred to him as his "twin brother of his soul". The author of this book, Frederick Augustus Henry was named after him and regretted never meeting his namesake.

The company traveled to Louisville. Garfield would never rejoin his dear 42nd again. They joined with the Seventh Division, Army of the Ohio, assembling under Brigadier General George W. Morgan at Cumberland Ford and Garfield reported to Major General Buell on the march to join the forces of General Grant near Corinth. A lot of travel in and around Kentucky and Tennessee with brief skirmishes here and there. Through letters to home we see Charlie reflecting on the future of relations between the South and the North after the war. He is not optimistic due to the hate that the South has for the North and wonders how civility will be maintained in the border states and in the deep south.

#### Chapter 9: Cumberland Gap to the Mississippi

Don Pardee, "Old Pardee" they called him, was somewhat of a hero when he feigned a larger army and held back 15,000 rebels giving time for the rest of his brigade to regroup after a foraging mission into rebel territory. He would over time become one of Charles' closest friends. Charles referenced his brigade's retreat from Kirby Smith back to the Ohio River and their welcome at Wheelersburg. They had spent a lot of time struggling to find provisions. In

October of 1862 at Oak Hill in Jackson County, Ohio, Charles was stricken with fever and a telegraph was sent to his brother-in-law, Henry Brewster, to come quickly if he wanted to see him alive. Brewster came at once and stopped at Chillicothe along the way where he came upon Colonel Pardee, part of the 42nd. He asked Old Pardee of the condition of Charles. Pardee wasn't aware of his sickness but then presented Brewster with Charles' commission to second lieutenant and told him, "I guess this is something that will make him well." Brewster found him in improved condition. The promotion was great news and within a couple of days Charles was healthy enough to go to town and draw his pay and new clothing and proceed with his regiment to Gallipolis. By steamer they traveled to Memphis. They joined many others and reorganized as the Third Division of General Sherman's Army of the Mississippi, with General Morgan as Division commander. After rigorous drill the 42nd accompanied others in a fleet and stood off the mouth of the Yazoo River thirty miles north of Vicksburg. On December 26, 1862 they steamed 13 miles up the Yazoo and landed the troops near Chickasaw Bayou, eight miles north of Vicksburg.

Chickasaw Bayou is a flood plain that is overlooked from the east by Walnut Hills and was known by Sherman's army as Chickasaw Bluffs. The rebels led by General Pemberton were entrenched on these hills looking down on any approaching Union troops and could withstand much more than their 12,000 men. Sherman led an assault across the swamp and up the bluff on December 29 which was disastrous. Second Lt. Charles Henry led a skirmish line and saw much firefight.

Chapter 10: Fierce Fighting Before Vicksburg

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From the Yazoo River they all traveled north to Arkansa where there was a big meeting of Generals which included Grant. Then orders were given to go back down the Mississippi to Young's Point, Louisiana opposite the Yazoo River in plain sight of Vicksburg. There they attempted to dig a new channel (Grant's Ditch) away from Vicksburg, but that ultimately washed out. But taking Vicksburg was a must. Troops passed by Vicksburg in the bayous and the ships ran the batteries past Vicksburg - losing one member of the fleet. They all camped 35 miles below Vicksburg. From the south, Union soldiers erased the batteries and made the rebels flee. The 42nd was in the thick of the battle and lost 12 while 61 were injured. There were many accolades for the 42nd. Charles sustained a shattered bone in the left instep. He was sent to a hospital in Memphis, Tennessee and issued a 20 day furlough. He went back to Bainbridge and was later commissioned to first lieutenant and 30 more days were added to his furlough by the order of a local doctor.

Chapter 11: Provost Judge under Colonel Pardee

First Lieutenant Henry is in New Orleans and later Baton Rouge. Through his letters home Frederick explains the situation of the South. He works closely with Colonel Pardee as his assistant. He has an office and serves as a kind of mayor, sheriff, town council, justice of the peace, alderman, military governor and many other things. The government of the North is developing a system for how the freedman or former slaves will work and become self supporting. Wages are discussed for men, women and children of working ability. He is sending money home to his former partner, Henry Brewster to save for him for the future. When he was in the thick of battle his letters to Deacon Brewster included directions in the event that

he would not make it home. He also writes to his future father-in-law Frederick Williams and references his son, Frederick Augustus Williams, who died back in Bainbridge after becoming ill in the war. Incidentally, at the end of Chapter 7, Sophie's brother, Captain Frederick Augustus Williams, had been the hero of Middle Creek. "He led the principal fighting detachment and, as Garfield said, 'won his spurs' and a major's commission. And the battle, though relatively small, was the first real Union victory of the war."

In one instance, Charles, in his justice role, allowed some southern women to go to the store and get things for their homes. Purchases were not allowed to be made for southern fighting soldiers. Suspecting their real motives, Charles had these women followed. He had his agents then bring these women back to him after they had made their purchases. The southern black women who were working for these white women were told to jump off of their wagons which when they did caused the strings supporting hams hidden under their dresses to break and the hams fell at their feet.

Garfield, now a General Garfield, resigned his commission in December 1863 at President Lincoln's request to take his seat in Congress. In February of 1864 Charles sent a letter to Garfield and updated him as to Pardee and the boys of Hiram.

Charles also talked of meeting family members of former Hiram students who lived in the South and had fought for the Confederates. In September of 1864, Charles fulfilled his term and headed home. His plans were to marry and return to New Orleans.

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#### Chapter 12: Marriage to Sophia Williams

Three weeks after returning home, Charles Henry and Sophia M. Williams were married at her parents' home in Ravenna on November 10, 1864. He was 29 and she was 24. There was a reflection that Sophie along with her brother, Augustus, years earlier had attended the wedding of James Garfield to Lucretia Rudolph on November 11, 1858. Sophia had been a student of Lucretia's. She taught school beginning when she was 15 years old and for years after.

#### Chapter 13: With Bride in Baton Rouge

After the wedding and their visiting in Ravenna and Geauga Lake, they went to Niagara Falls. It was time now for Charles to return to Baton Rouge. He would send for Sophie at the right time. Don Pardee sent to Charles \$2400 in which to buy things in Ohio that they would sell in the south. The cheese that they bought for \$400 spoiled in the heat of the levee and all told they netted approximately \$2 each. Regardless, his law work in the area was very lucrative. Charles also left up in the North with his parents a servant named Phillip that had worked for him in the South to help with the chores for his parents. Polly would end up teaching Phillip how to read and John taught him math. After a month Charles wrote for Sophie to join him. She traveled with Mrs. Pardee and Colonel Sheldon down South.

Charles always held out that if Sophie had problems with any part of life down south that they would return. An April 22, 1865 in a letter home to her sister, Mary, Sophie writes of Lee's surrender and Lincoln's assassination. She also mentions money that Charles has been sending home with efforts to save to buy a farm up north. Sophie is practical enough to know that the income that he can earn is good in the South, but she doesn't want to stay any longer than she feels she has to. There is a concern from both Sophie and Charles right now of the

prospects of making money up north on the farm. They wish his reputation and circumstances of employment could be the same up North as it is in the South, but they are hopeful.

#### Chapter 14: A Fresh Start in Ohio

In June, Charles and Sophie returned to Ravenna and immediately started looking for land and work. Charles looked at all sorts of employment opportunities from buying an oil field in Pennsylvania to a team of horses for shipping things. He wrote to Henry Brewster about working together again.

John and Polly struggled to keep up the farm in Bainbridge and Charles' brother, Simon, was interested in selling his land. John hoped that Charles would buy out Simon and take control of their farm and set it up so that he and Polly would be able to stay there. Charles had already bought the McClintock farm land and it seemed logical to farm both areas. He set to work that first summer. He experienced heat prostration similar to the episode that he experienced in the war. All of this land purchasing left him and Sophia in debt. For a while their chief source of income was Sophia's making of butter and cheese. A nice description of the location of the homestead of what is now the "Big House". Charles was also Postmaster at Pond from October 29, 1867, to May 28, 1868, or longer. He did some part time work with the same office until it was discontinued on January 13, 1870.

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Frederick Augustus Henry was born on June 16, 1867 and Marcia, born on October 13, 1869. Frederick was named after both Sophie's father and brother. Father attended the reunion of the survivors of his regiment. He was secretary of the organization and attended the last Wednesday in August for the next 37 years until his death. This annual reunion of the 42nd was the most important day of the year.

#### Chapter 15: Mailbags and Politics

At this first meeting of the regimental society, Charles learns of a comrade who was in the railway service and in a letter to Garfield he asks him for a similar position. He shares that he is deep in debt and that this position would pay well and give him time at home. The General and Mrs. Garfield invites Charles and Sophia to Hiram to visit and discuss the position. Due to Charles' actual command in Vicksburg he was often referred to by regimental friends as "Captain" although he was never commissioned this title. This title stuck with him through his life even though this "promotion" was not accompanied with a corresponding higher pay. Even Garfield addressed Charles as Captain in letters. Frederick says that his father was "breveted" this title of Captain on page 219. Charles did get the position as postal route agent and clerk and kept it for four years.

Through back and forth letters, the Captain and the General's relationship grows. Charles is becoming a valuable source of information in his railroad runs. He provides valuable connections to the feelings of constituents especially in regards to iron tariffs that affect the Mahoning valley area.

#### Chapter 16: A Friend at Court

Frederick reflects on a visit in 1871 when Garfield and the whole family joined them in preparation for some speeches in Bainbridge and Chagrin Falls. There were big feasts under the maple trees where the two grown men rolled and roared with laughter in the lawn of the big house. Frederick remembers when he was 4 playing with a 7 year old Harry Garfield.



And then there were memories of Charles' homecoming from his week on the rails. The children would run down the road after hearing the departure of the train to meet their father walking up from the station on his way back to the big house. This chapter has other instances of life at home with the children.

#### Chapter 17: Guarding the Mails

Charles improved the efficiency of the postal service with his suggestions of how to handle the transportation of larger newspapers. His position was further valued when he showed that he could identify and apprehend postal thieves and robbers. He was conferred a special agent status working directly under the postmaster general and sent to Washington for training. His wages and per diem allowances more than doubled or tripled his income for the seven and a half years that he held this position. There are many humorous and exciting tales of Charles scheming to apprehend the thieves of the mail system. He had a special knack for this line of work! Charles' success and resulting reputation grew and by now was independent of his

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friendship to General Garfield. The Captain always worked for Garfield's interests and continued to keep his political prospects paramount. There were trips to Washington DC.. Sophie went with him on occasion as they were guests to James and Lucretia "Crete" Garfield. On March 6, 1875, Charles was introduced to President Grant.

#### Chapter 18: Defamed and Vindicated

By now Charles was debt free and he loved retreating after all of his travels to his house on the Chagrin River. In the spring of 1875 he added the east wing to the house; the house that had originally been built by his brother, Simon. He writes of Charles and Sophie hosting gatherings with the Garfield family and Hinsdale in September of 1857.

However, later that month "a dismal affair occurred". Charles' younger brother, Edward, always prone to tomfoolery and practical jokes that often went too far, was often "justifiably reproofed" by Charles. It was felt that Edward was never the same after his head injury at Antietam. He married in 1871 Annie Langworthy. These lapses in behavior of his were forgiven due to his heroism in battle and devotion to his wife who, always delicate, had eventually become an invalid. They never had children. In 1875 Charles rebuked him when he spent a good part of the summer living at their mother's (Grandma Polly) small dairy farm at her willing expense. Charles encouraged Edward to go home and get back to work. Edward took offense and sent two letters under a pseudonym, Duncan Ely, as Chairman of a Republican committee, and accused his brother of insolence - rude and disrespectful behavior. These were letters sent to a Postmaster General, Marshall Jewell, essentially Charles' boss and U.S. Senator, John Sherman. In the letters he called for Charles' dismissal. The men sent the letters to Garfield in the hopes that he would speak to Charles about them. Charles immediately offered to resign to Garfield. Dr. Curtiss of Chagrin Falls and Mr. A. G. Kent of Bainbridge, both prominent in Republican circles in the area, sent letters exonerating Charles. A permanent estrangement of the brothers resulted.

Don Pardee Henry was born on January 27, 1876, but lived only a short time - long enough to take first steps and talk first words. It wasn't long after that Charles joined the church and regularly attended.

More stories of cleverly catching postal thieves in the act. Charles likens his strategies of

catching thieves with how people find where a honey bee nest is in the woods. You place a piece of honeycomb in the woods and attempt to find where a bee takes it. Then you place another piece in a different location and trace that return to the hive. Soon you have a kind of cross coordination and one then would look around where the two paths converge. Only he did that with letters containing marked cash.

#### Chapter 19: Politics, Work and Play

More stories of catching postal thieves and also trips south through Aurora on the way to Sophia's parent's house in Ravenna. Charles referred to his surveillance efforts to catch the postal thieves as "attacks" and used other words like "victims" and "fatal money" found in the pockets of thieves.

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#### Chapter 20: Four Years in Cleveland

In January of 1877, Charles traveled to Salt Lake City. His travels revealed the scope of his work and provides a testament to his influence beyond the Ohio borders. He met with other agents whom Charles must have served as mentors to. He visited Marvin Henry, his cousin, "Supe" whom he had not seen for 25 years.

It was while away on this trip that his young son, Don, seemingly healthy when he departed, died of diphtheria. Charles and Sophie had been thinking of moving to Cleveland for many reasons - better schools, a better location for Charles to travel and do his job. With the impending Hayes inauguration and Charles's certainty that his job would not change, they began

to look for a caretaker for the farm. Charles took son, Freddie, to Washington with him for the inauguration and stayed with the Garfields.

They moved to Cleveland about the same time that the Garfields moved from Hiram to Mentor. The farm was rented to Martin Miner, a citizen of Bainbridge and Chagrin Falls. Charles and Sophie enjoyed attending a larger church. They were also now closer to fellow Hiram alumni who stood as leaders in the schools. Charles was elected Hiram trustee and served as such for the next 30 years. Their time in Cleveland proved "ample" for the whole family. Charles made strong connections during his time in Cleveland to railroad people, political-types - governors and Republican National Chair and committeeman.

Charles advocated for the best men to be appointed as postmasters and to keep it out of political patronage positions. This often brought him into quarrels with Republican leaders in Ohio as they sought to protect the higher grades of postmasterships. He also had strong acquaintances with newspapermen as his stories of men and things political made excellent copy. Charles was also on great terms with officers and practitioners of the Courts because his cases involving the post office were ironclad with great evidence.

Charles and Sophie went to Washington to visit the Garfields in 1880 and brought two stone jugs of maple syrup with them. While in Washington they went to the White House and visited with the President and Mrs. Hayes. Little did they know that Garfield within 3 months would be the Presidential nominee for their party and the Chief Executive within the year. While in Cleveland they always returned to the Geauga farm in the summers and also in the Fall. In 1879 and 1880 the farm was enlarged through the purchase of the McClintock land 106 acres

and the Squire's Place of 55.25 acres.

#### Chapter 21: Political Piloting

With Charles riding the statewide railroads and speaking to leaders in every county while at the same time taking the political temperature of the State of Ohio at every opportunity, Garfield was without too much effort unanimously elected to the U.S. Senate by the Ohio legislature. He was excited to have the 6 years of steady work in the Senate compared to the fleeting 2 years of the House. Soon, however, Garfield had to consider the political winds that were reaching for him to run for the presidency even after he endorsed the nomination of John Sherman for that

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same office. Charles reacted to Garfield's Sherman endorsement but opined to Garfield that like Lincoln, his time may have come.

In Chicago, the Republican convention got underway and Garfield watched dumbstruck as state after state went Garfield's way. He was numb as to the impending responsibility and Charles reflected that Garfield never seemed the same man after the nomination. General Hancock was nominated by the Democrats in Cincinnati. Garfield instructed his people to "not assail Hancock with personal abuse".

#### Chapter 22: Aide to the Commander in Chief

In this chapter Frederick announces that twelve weeks before his 21st birthday, James Garfield Henry, the youngest of the family, died at Geauga Lake of typhoid fever contracted at an alumni banquet.

Frederick reflects on attending a Sunday evening dinner at the White House with his father at President Garfield's request during the inauguration time when he was 16. General Garfield had already let Charles know of his intention to appoint him the United States Marshal of the District of Columbia, in succession to Frederick Douglass, the leader of the colored race. This particular position was considered close to the Executive. Garfield wanted to keep Charles close at hand to him I am sure because of his forever loyalty all these years. On May 13, 1881, Charles was confirmed by the Senate and sworn in as United States Marshall. He promptly resigned his position as post office inspector.

#### Chapter 23: Marshal in the Mourning Capital

Charles' mother, Polly's, death on January 21 left vacant her house and the caretakers of Charles and Sophie's house moved there leaving the whole house open for Charles' family when they came in from Cleveland.

On July 1, Charles left Washington for home. He got as far as Warren when he heard that Garfield had been shot. He continued to Geauga Lake, but the next day he returned to Washington. After encouraging news concerning his recovery, he died on September 19, 1881.

On September 23 he accompanied the Garfield family on the funeral train to Cleveland.

Frederick was at Hiram where Hiram's President and good friend to the family, Burke Hinsdale, assured the Henry family that their son was being looked after. As U.S. Marshall, Charles became good friends with Judge David Kellogg Carter, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia (now the United State District court of the District of Columbia).

In 1882, Charles sold his Cleveland home for \$5250 and "bought from Henry B. Shipherd for \$4000 the Russ Farm of about 165 acres which touched at the river bridge the northeast corner of the old homestead." On another note, this tract is presently (2022) owned by the Rorimers.

Meanwhile, as a U. S. Marshall, Charles was involved with the Star Route trials. The trials involved postal officials receiving bribes for lucrative postal routes.

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Charles served as Marshall for 1.5 years. In that time he had to deal with two trials: the Guiteau case and the Star Trials that I mentioned above. Guiteau's case was an insanity claim. Guiteau often spoke out in trial and great pains were taken to manage this to make sure to avoid a mistrial. There were two attempts on his life during the trial. After the overruling for the motion of a mistrial, the assassin was sentenced to be hanged on June 30, 1882. In newspapers across the country, it was reported that the Marshall of the District of Columbia, Charles Henry, would be the executioner. Instead that job fell to Colonel John S. Crocker, the warden of the District jail. Charles was besieged with applications from people to view the hanging and he was sent many gifts of different black caps and hanging ropes to use at the occasion. Charles ended up with a lot of extra rope back at the farm to tie calves. Guiteau wanted to see Charles. He entered Guiteau's cell. He was sorry he had killed Garfield and that Garfield was far better than Chester Arthur, who succeeded Garfield. Guiteau was mentally impaired. He worried that he would not receive political patronage that he felt was due him from Garfield so after stalking Garfield for weeks in Washington he shot Garfield and then expected to get a post overseas from the Arthur administration as a reward.

#### Chapter 24: Scapegoat for the Star Route Fiasco

Charles had only intended to stay in office until after the Guiteau prosecution, but the Star Route case impacted him personally. In this chapter there is ample detail about individuals involved in these postal star route corruptions. Some of these people were around during the brief Garfield Administration and while there was no evidence that Garfield or Charles had any wrongdoing in the corruption or in the juried case that followed, it appears to have been easier to dismiss Charles as Marshall and thus the chapter title's reference as scapegoat. Charles returned to Geauga County while receiving much support from his friends.

#### Chapter 25: Farming and a Startling Scene Shift

For the next three years Charles worked his farm. He dispensed with tenants and farmed with hired hands. He hired a German immigrant, Christian Hirschmann. Christian's family knew little English. Soon other members of Christian's family followed him to the Geauga Lake farm. Frederick worked at home during the winter term of '83 - '84 and during the whole '84 - '85 school year because he didn't want to burden his father, Charles, with expenses while his income was low. Now Charles prepared for sugaring with all the new maple trees that were now added through all the new land acquisitions. Charles was a leader in maple syrup production and had automatic orders every year from customers. He wrote articles for the Ohio Farmer magazine. Charles spoke and cautioned other maple syrup producers about the danger of those who would adulterate the syrup by adding glucose.

In 1884 Charles attended the Chicago Republican convention and opposed Chester Arthur's

effort for a second term. Blaine was nominated instead. However, Democrats with the defection of the reform-minded "Mugwump" Republicans were victorious. Grover Cleveland became the first Democrat elected since the Civil War. Many of Charles' friends were dismissed from their rail service positions.

Early in 1885 Charles took Sophia and Jamie to the New Orleans Exposition and visited his good friend, Judge Pardee and Joseph Rudolph. He let Judge Pardee know that he was looking for work that was higher paying than what he was able to make off the farm back home as he was thinking of the expense of college education for all of his children. In addition, Charles still struggled with the heat of the summer. In the Spring of 1885, Charles rented out the Home farm to Lewis R. Morris, and the other places to the Hirschman's. He still kept some land for himself and also the sugarbush - the building where the maple syrup was processed.

As he began to boil sap on the Russ place in the spring of 1886, he received a telegram from Judge Pardee asking him to go to Marshall, Texas, and be a part of the settling of the Great Southwest Railroad Strike of 1886. I had to research this piece of history in order to have a better understanding from Frederick's writing of what Charles got himself into.

This was a labor union strike that affected more than 200,000 workers in 5 states. The Union Pacific and Missouri Pacific railroads were owned by Jay Gould, by all accounts a miserable rich person. During the strike that lasted 2 months, 10 people were killed. The strike unraveled and it led to the downfall of the Knights of Labor union and the formation of the American Federation of Labor.

A little more background. As mentioned above, while working in the woods in the spring of 1886, Charles received a telegram from Judge Pardee delivered by Kary Baringer who was the telegraph operator and station agent at Geauga Lake. The telegraph communicated the existence of an anonymous tip that warned that it would be "healthier for Captain Henry to stay away." Not to be deterred by the warning, Charles turned over a sap bucket and penciled a note to be telegraphed back to Judge Pardee with the response, "That settles it; I will start at once."

This new opportunity for Charles, who by now was 50 years old, marked the end of his "functioning as a 'dirt' farmer." His home and 400 acres continued to be his principal place of residence. In an additional letter dated March 14, 1886, Pardee spelled out what he wanted Charles to do. Charles should ride the rail lines and get a sense of how peace might be restored while allowing the railroads to remain intact. He also gave Charles a rail pass for his travels and the authority to summon, swear, and examine witnesses. He wanted Charles to write to him frequently before he filed an official report. Governor Brown of Texas was made aware of Charles' appointment and Charles was encouraged to stop in Dallas and meet him. Charles was inspired by cowboys and characters of the south to write stories for newspapers back home. One story he wrote entitled, "A Brave Man" was written for the Leader and Herald on July 18. It "detailed the remarkable story of Charlie Dunbar, the hero of the Texas strike, who as Union man in the Civil War had suffered at Andersonville, and later was shot by Indians and carried into captivity by Comanches. Father always thought that this was one of the best things he ever wrote."

Charles wrote to his son, Frederick, who was studying at Hiram and shared his meeting with a Texas Ranger who was also involved with the strike. Charles' notes show that the average railroad worker does not know why they stopped working and that provisions of earlier labor

agreements were “full of future wars.”

He appreciated Frederick’s help on the farm before he left for school. From home Sophie worried about Charles riding the rails and struggled with the syrup shipments that Charles left in her hands. At home with Sophie was daughter, Mary Annis or “Babe” and 5 year old Jimmy. Charles witnessed court-appointed Texas Rangers protecting the railroads as strikers destroyed parts of the railroad. Charles’ final report was filed on May 29 and his testimony in St. Louis before the Congressional Committee was exhaustive and well received. Charles received \$1500 for his two months of work. (The equivalent of \$43,875 in 2022)

#### Chapter 26: Railroading in the Southwest

Charles came back to Bainbridge in May long enough to get son Fred a job railroading at Geauga Lake station. He returned to Dallas to take a job as a stock claim agent at \$3000 per year. (The equivalent of \$87,750 in 2022) He had to turn down a request to chair the Hiram committee of which Professor Colton was the secretary to enlarge and reconstruct the main college building at Hiram. Two of his children were in attendance at the time. In a letter to Fred he advised him concerning his railroad job to never walk on or between the rails.

Charles and Sophie now refer to their farm as Maple Farm. He returned in August for his regiment reunion and stayed through September. Over Christmas, Charles returned to Ohio and returned to Dallas with Polly and Jimmy leaving Marcia and Fred at Hiram and the youngest sister, Mary Annice with Grandfather Williams and Aunt Mary (Polly’s sister) in Ravenna. He often signs his letters to his children, Pawpaw. While Polly is enjoying the temperatures and new surroundings it is Charles who longs for the farm and begins to make plans for a new barn 70 feet long.

Charles’ older brother, Simon, returned from Washington sick and penniless and Charles felt obligated to help his sister, Maria, pay for Simon’s board until he could get well and back working. But he spoke at length on the “virtue of economy” - and said, “you know cheapness is my forte; I am crazy on that subject.”

In February of 1887, Charles went with Polly and Jimmy and Governor Sheldon to El Paso. It was a four day trip. Polly learned cooking from a French cook and they had many interesting experiences in Western Texas and on the Mexican border. Jimmy contracted a slight case of measles and this prevented their planned continued trip to California.

Charles, Polly, and Jimmy returned to Ohio. Charles would only stay a week before returning south. In that week he made plans to have his barn built, renewed his leases with the Hirschmans, and attended with Sophie the Junior Exhibition of Fred at Hiram. He was very pleased with Fred’s performances and with the three poems that Frederick wrote. In 1887 after

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his usual vacation in August and September, Charles returned to Texas with Sophie by November leaving Jimmy in Ravenna with the girls with Grandfather Williams and Sophie’s sister, Mary. Charles encouraged Jimmy’s letter writing and Fred’s efforts at Hiram. Sophie’s father, Grandfather Williams died on January 10, 1888 and Sophie thus returned back to Maple Farm for funeral arrangements from Texas as a result of his death.. She returned to Texas on February 20, 1887 with Jimmy. Polly stayed in Texas until June 2 when Jimmy finished school. Throughout the school year she supported Jimmy with his school work. At Hiram, the Charles Henrys were well represented with Marcia finishing up her freshman year,

Mary Annice, or Babe, finishing preparatory classes, and Frederick in his senior year. Fred, class of '88, was its sole member, that is until Charley Atwater decided midyear to speed up and graduate with him. All three of these older Henry children were well aware of the expected high ambitions of their parents and their family history to the college. At Fred's request, Charles gave his son a list of ideas that he could speak on for his senior address at commencement. Charles settled on "The Growth of Nationalism in American Politics". Charles wrote to Fred reflecting on Fred's first day at school and now on his last days.

Charles' goals for his self imposed exile to Texas were threefold: see all his children through college; reconstruct his farm buildings, acquire better tools and livestock, make his 400 acres more fruitful; and, finally, to provide for Polly a separate income, "sort of pension". He referred to his three farms: the Russ Place (which included the caves and the sugar house), the Squire's or Brewster Place (which included the land off of now Brewster Road), and the Home Farm (the Geauga Road acreage). These all had tenant houses and barns and could have prospective renters. All his land was paid for and the refurbishing of a dozen structures would be a pay as you go. He didn't trust his abilities with investment securities. Charles followed Polly home in time for Fred's graduation on June 14 and later that same day for the double wedding in Mentor of President Garfield's daughter and oldest son, to which Mrs. Garfield invited Charles, Polly, and their oldest children.

#### Chapter 27: Irksome Exile

Charles' letters home revealed his frustration at work in Texas. These letters scolded and growled at the expense of his Ohio farms and his family's failure to push successes in his absence. His friend, Don Pardee, reflected on Charles' question about resigning from his work and told him to quit when he is ready.

Within this year his Aunt Rachel Henry would pass as well as his oldest brother, Simon, who died destitute and disowned by his children who long suffered from his scowls and his tendency to act rashly without thinking things through. Charles' work was spent vainly and in drudgery, Fred writes. Charles' letters home asked everyone to write more frequently and in more detail. Only when he was home was everyone happy. Fred talks about visiting a friend in Pennsylvania and the family of his fiancée, Louise Adams, in East Smithfield. Charles' letters home often complained of the farmers that tilled his land. Payments were not always made on time and Fred felt compelled to help with Charles' farm businesses and spending time on chores from after graduation until late October. By now Fred was planning to study law. Charles

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helped him to meet mentor-type acquaintances. Charles' frustrations with work also impacted his desire to write stories for the Cleveland papers. The Texas heat, which Charles never could tolerate well, was also impacting him. In one article to Ohio Farmer, Charles spoke of the pure maple syrup being sold in Ohio in contrast to the evil "glucose mixtures" sold in the southwest.

#### Chapter 28: Happier Days in Dallas

With Hiram in his past now, Fred joined Sophie, Charles and Jimmy in Dallas, but his mind was on his girl in Ohio. Charles enjoyed having Fred accompany him to his work, and on visits to Don Pardee. Charles turned down Federal appointment positions in Texas and postal agent positions in Ohio. Fred returned to Ohio for 11 days around New Years 1889 to visit Louise, his sisters, friends from Hiram, and to tend to the farm affairs of his father. As Spring arrived in the

North, Fred writes that his farm anxieties returned. Charles' brother-in-law, Henry Brewster, was put in charge of the repairs of the Squires house and sap boiling at the Russ Place. The Germans had left the sap buckets from the previous spring in bad shape and that put Brewster behind. Together with a short sap season, Charles' profits of Ohio maple syrup sold in Texas were next to nothing. In the construction of the Squires House, flaws were discovered that had to be remedied. At the Home Farm, Charles' caretaker Morris had not fixed fencing issues resulting in errant cows belonging to his cousin getting into Charles' winter wheat. The extent that people looking to enter political office and seeking Charles' help now bothered him. The Hiram College expenses of his two girls seemed bigger than they really were. Caretaker Morris abruptly announced that he would quit. An unhappy Charles, having an understanding of how biting his letters were that he sent home from Texas, now sent a new round of letters hoping to make amends.

#### Chapter 29: Sacrificing for Children's Education

Marcia and Babe were really doing well in their studies at Hiram. Marcia ended up with a long fever and Sophie felt it was due to her working too hard. In April, 1889, back in Texas, Governor Brown's resignation of the presidency of the Texas and Pacific Railway, of which Charles was employed, brought fear and hope. Maybe this would end Charles' exile in Texas. Charles thought that July 1, 1889 would be a good date to resign. He reached out to Judge Pardee, who assigned a lot of the receiverships and was well acquainted with the politics of the railroad and their interests in that part of the country. Pardee replied that Charles could stay as long as he wanted.

Sophie and the rest of the family left for Ohio on June 1, 1889, but Charles ended up staying put in Texas for another 2 years, long enough to see his two girls finish up at Hiram.

Two occurrences in Ohio in 1889 affected Charles the most: the uncontested divorce of his younger sister, Eliza, and the death of Mrs. Jane Kent, widow to his former employer and teacher, Gideon Kent. Mrs. Kent was like a second mother to Charles. Charles was finally able to get back to Ohio from August 17 - September 22, 1889. About a week after his arrival he drove a dozen miles to Punderson's Pond in Newbury where he met with Civil War veterans and their families. Three days later he traveled to Kent to visit Sophie's relatives and the next morning he went by rail to Akron for the 21st reunion of the 42nd regiment. Then Charles

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accompanied his son, Fred, to all of the projects of the homestead and noted all the positive things that had been accomplished. While home Charles learned of news from Texas that he was being talked about for the postmaster of the Dallas position. Back from a trip to New York, Charles got to meet Fred's girl, Louise Adams, who was invited by Sophie to stop at the house

on her way back to Hiram for her senior year. Charles liked her a lot.

Now it was time for Charles to return to Dallas, the two older girls to return to Hiram, and Frederick to leave for the University of Michigan law school. Sophie only had Jimmy and her house maid, Kate Penney. It was lonely for Sophie. November 9 and 10, 1889 marked Sophie's 49th birthday and Jimmy's 9th.

Jimmy and Sophie finally arrived in Dallas on October 23, 1889. Charles was not able to meet them in St. Louis and accompany them to Dallas, a big disappointment for Sophie. Charles had



hoped that Frederick would return to Geauga Lake and help close up things for the winter, but Frederick had high hopes to win a class presidency election and didn't get back until Christmas. Charles was in better spirits after Frederick, home now for the holidays, was able to personally inspect the Squires house and find that it really was complete; and doubly satisfied to learn how well his two girls at Hiram had completed their coursework for the term. Charles grouched to Frederick about the girls' expenses even though Frederick could see that they were minimal. Frederick was elected class president in Michigan and Charles was obviously very proud. Charles shared his dreams to Frederick of running the Spring maple sap house together.

#### Chapter 30: Longing for God's Country

Charles now enjoyed studying the character of Abraham Lincoln. He spoke highly of the book, *Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln* by Allen Thorndike Rice and shared his thoughts with Frederick.

In comedic tones he encouraged Frederick to "choke and chew on your studies" and that during vacation time he suggested ways that he could earn money that would "consume the surplus hours above twenty-four a day."

Charles received a letter from his brother-in-law, Henry Brewster, up North who had started the sugaring season on February 17, 1890. On February 19 they gathered 70 barrels. For the entire season they boiled down 783 barrels of sap. It was a good season. Most of Charles's news from Ohio was from Henry Brewster and Morris, the tenant of his Home Farm and Squires Place. Charles was glad to have Frederick spend his spring break at Geauga Lake checking on things and not too exclusively in Hiram visiting Louise.

#### Chapter 31: Final Years in Texas

On July 19, 1890, Charles, sick with dengue fever, traveled home to Geauga Lake and arrived on July 22. Frederick met him at the Cleveland train station and couldn't believe how bad he looked. He mended well at home and by the end of the month was nearly well. It wasn't until

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August 29 that he started back to Dallas. Before leaving he spent a couple days with the Garfield household in Mentor.

Fred's sisters left for Hiram on September 22, 1890, and Fred left for Ann Arbor on the 29th after taking care of Henry farm business. Sophie and Jimmy arrived in Dallas on October 17. Charles updated Fred on this mother and brother's arrival and noted how well received Sophie was by the ladies of Dallas, reminding Fred, "You know she is president of the Ladies Something Society for Christian Churches of the City." He hoped to be done for good in Dallas by next summer.

Sophie's sister, Mary, was always able to help close up the Geauga Lake house and help Sophie with all the comings and goings of people and all the things that needed taking care of at the farm. She was there for Marcia when she fell ill at Hiram on December 1, 1890 overworked with her studies, she stayed out of school for 6 weeks including the holidays. Charles often voiced his complaint of his sister-in-law being around so much, but she was a great support to Sophie. Jimmy continued to do well in school despite the transition between Geauga Lake and Dallas.

Through the holidays Fred spent time at his fiancée's house as their guest in East Smithfield, Pennsylvania. Charles sent Fred a letter sharing his thoughts about picking marriage partners

and shared his judgments about characteristics of people that Henry men and women should consider. He then reminded Fred of his Great grandfather, Simon, who put a ladder up to the house window of his future wife, Rhoda, and disappeared in the night to get married when her father disapproved of him.

Over Christmas Charles was conversing with Henry Brewster back home about building a new sugar house with a new kind of boiler.

Now L. R. Morris, who for 6 years farmed the Home and Squires place on shares, threatened to quit unless repairs were made to his family's house. Charles accepted his notice to quit which surprised and angered Morris who now threatened not to leave unless other grievances were taken care of. Eventually, Morris left for another farm in Aurora and his successor, E.J. Eames took over. For a while after Fred passed the bar exam in Columbus, Charles was ready to "sue everybody" through his lawyer son, Fred that questioned his character or "his purse".

The sugaring season of 1891, with the new way of boiling, was even more successful. They made 498 gallons of syrup from 841 barrels of sap. There were 2000 hard maple trees on the Russ Place alone.

Charles left Dallas from June 20 - July 7, 1891, to attend Marcia's graduation from Hiram. He missed Fred's graduation from law school the same day. Marcia's salutatory speech was titled, "The Growth of Sympathy". Charles tendered his resignation for July 31, 1891. He was happy to leave the Texas heat. Returning to Ohio, his time with Fred increased but his correspondence with him was less, thus losing a source of information to look back on to write

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this biography. Charles had been in Dallas approximately 5.5 years and had earned approximately \$20,000 (equivalent to \$631,880 in 2022). He was 56 ½ years old.

#### Chapter 32: Restless at the Farm

Farm life was wonderful for Charles. There were always visitors. He loved having his niece, Florence or Flo around. She was able to "keep him kam". Not so much his sister-in-law, Mary Williams, who seemed to always be at the household. At one point with restraint he told her, "Mary, you are welcome in our home as a guest but not as manager." Within the year, she would eventually build a house in Hiram and stayed there until her death at Geauga Lake, on September 29, 1901. She was 9 years older than Sophie.

In September, 1901, Flo went to Cleveland to teach, Babe went back to Hiram, and Marcia took a teaching job in Mentor. Charles was quick to visit with his sisters, Maria Goodsell, Ann Brewster, and Eliza Brown. He attended the Pioneer Picnic at Geauga Lake on August 20, 1901 the 42nd Regiment's reunion on August 26, 1901. He visited Judge Don Pardee who came up from the south, and he attended a Republican primary meeting at the Bainbridge Town Hall where he secured a delegate for Jim Garfield for State Senator.

Jim Garfield lost that Senatorial bid, but won his next attempt and soon after was appointed Secretary of the Interior under President Roosevelt. It was through Jim Garfield and his brother, Harry, that Fred got into a high class law office in Cleveland. Marcia, while teaching in Mentor, received much kindness from the Garfields.

Farm life was hard on Charles. Fred encouraged him to reach out to friends in high places and secure a public position of employment. He and Fred and sometimes Sophie almost every night

would come out to the “office” behind the house to sit and smoke and discuss a variety of topics. Charles and Sophie continued to visit friends. Fred recalls many visits by his sisters and their boyfriends and other young people back at Geauga Lake in late fall and early winter. Babe would eventually marry one of these visitors, Grant Webb. When he showed his serious intentions, Charles kidded that he was going to make him “crouch and crawl”. Fred remembers his mother getting up before dawn to make him breakfast before he caught the daily “milk train” to Cleveland.

Fred writes fondly of his Mother’s old Stewart wood stove when the family retired and replaced it.

Fred used his father’s land deeds to create a map (p. 430) of all of his 400 acres in what Charles referred to as “Maple Farm”. Fred reminisces walking with his father the boundaries of the Russ Place and following the shores of the Chagrin River along this land.

On January 20, 1892, the temperature reached the coldest ever known there at -23 degrees. Charles and Sophie were reminded that they couldn’t travel about like they were used to down in Texas. But they were frequented many times by sled loads of Hiramites. The main job at home at this time was staying warm. On January 8, Fred received an offer from the President

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of the University of Michigan to teach economics but declined when he was reminded by his father, “What is it you have been working on so long to be?”

The Home Farm changed tenancy from Eames to Nye. It wasn’t a good change.

In his letters to Judge Don Pardee, Charles complained of the rigors of farm life, missing both the paychecks and the invigorating meetings of work acquaintances, and, thus, now contemplated life back on the railroad. When prospects weren’t panning out with the railroads he looked to his contacts in the treasury department and headed for Washington and New York. His friend, Secretary Foster, in the Treasury department found him a job as assistant inspector of public buildings for Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. He would inspect government buildings under construction. Before leaving on trips to more than a dozen cities, Charles found a maid to help Sophie after she fell ill. This appointment for Charles was short term.

Chapter 33: Hunting a Fugitive in Brazil

In late December, 1892, a Cleveland firm was looking for someone to go after a Philadelphia agent of theirs who had embezzled \$20,000 of theirs and fled to Brazil, a country that the U. S. had no extradition treaty with. Acting as counsel to the firm, President Garfield’s two oldest sons asked Charles to take the assignment and travel to Brazil and bring Harpin A. Botsford back to face punishment. Charles accepted and left on December 18 to Washington and New York where he received a letter of credit for 400 pounds sterling and cash in a handbag and left on Christmas eve on the steamship Allianca bound for Rio de Janeiro.

The account of Charles’ “adventure” in Brazil is well documented with his own journal and various stories retold in newspapers. Charles studied the photo and handwriting samples of Botsford on the way down. Great details are given of the voyage south with stops in St. Thomas, Martinique, and Barbados to drop off passengers and bring on coal and mail. During the long trip Charles became cautiously acquainted with another businessman from Philadelphia. Through many clues, Charles suspected that he too was an embezzler from Wisconsin or Minnesota. This new person of interest went by the name of A. R. Helm. Charles

secretly recorded his height, weight, and photograph. They continued along the coast of Brazil stopping occasionally at various ports. He continued to accompany Helm.

#### Chapter 34: A Second Suspect

Twenty-six days after leaving New York, they arrived in Rio on January 19. Charles found the minister Consul General, E. G. Conger, kind of like the consulate for the U.S.. He had on the same day received papers from the U.S. State department relating to the extradition of Botsford and promised his help to Charles. Then he enquired about other people that Charles might suspect that were on the same voyage down. Charles's description of A. R. Helm matched another fugitive bank president who had embezzled \$40,000, Albert A. Cadwallader. Helm was his alias name. Conger asked for Charles' help in bringing him to justice as well.

Conger and Charles together visited a representative of the Brazilian government who agreed to help them get Charles' primary fugitive responsibility, Botsford. While in Rio, Charles was able

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to talk with fellow passengers of Botsford on his voyage south and started zeroing in on his location. Charles traveled for 15 hours and over 400 miles inland to the capital, São Paulo, with no certainty of locating Botsford. He carried with him two "short bulldog six-shooters" that he never had to use. While there he found the non-suspecting Cadwallader, alias Helms, working in a store. Helms was happy to see Charles, his ship mate from the voyage south from New York. Charles mentioned that he had to travel further and that on his way back through he would stop in and 'see' him again. Meanwhile, he wired for the necessary papers to arrest him on his way back. He traveled another 200 miles up into the coffee country checking hotel registers along the way. With 21 officers they confronted Botsford.

#### Chapter 35: Two Birds with One Stone

The 21 officers surrounded Botsford but did not seize him. Puzzled by their lack of action, Charles discovered that because he had a gun and machete the officers felt he was too desperate and therefore dangerous. Charles quickly got off his mule and removed both potential weapons, and then they quickly apprehended him and tied him up. They took him back by horseback and eventually they got him to Sao Paulo and on a train. Paperwork came and Charles was able to trick Cadwallader, his former shipmate under the name Helms, to confess to his real name. So now Charles had both embezzlers. From Sao Paulo they made it to Rio where Charles hoped to catch the next steamer north. There was a lot of red tape to get prisoners to return to the U.S.. Charles produced letters signed by President Harrison. It took even more clever thinking by Charles to finally get both prisoners onto the steamer. On the way home there were times when the ship got stuck in mud leaving ports. Charles had to sit in a chair with his hand on one of the revolvers between the two staterooms to guard his prisoners. He offered to let the prisoners stay in the stateroom and not be in the dark dank jail below if their behavior was appropriate. There were times he had to threaten the jail card.

On Sunday, April 2, 1893, at 5:30 am they moved into New York harbor. Marshalls, the secret service, deputies, and detectives came aboard and took the prisoners from the Captain.

Charles was besieged for interviews. Charles accompanied Botsford to Philadelphia and delivered him to Pennsylvania officers. Charles reported to Washington in person. The prisoners were tried and each received prison terms.

#### Chapter 36: Home and Hiram

He made it home on April 7, 1893 - 4 months later. Charles' overseas stories made for good published press. While Charles was on the foreign mission, back at the farm in Geauga Lake it was Sophie, Jimmy, her housemaid, Alice, a daytime worker, Wiley Scott, the tenant, Nye, who lived across the gully with his family, and Frederick, who still commutes daily by train. Before he left, Father encouraged Fred and Louise's to get married in his absence so that Fred could bring Louise back to the Farm and be with Sophie since they already knew that they got along well together.

The wedding would be January 25, 1893, and Marcia joined them on the 400 mile trip to East Smithfield, Pennsylvania. The wedding celebration continued at Aunt Mary's house in Hiram where more acquaintances could celebrate. Fred and Louise stayed at the Big House for four

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months and then moved to the Brewster Place living at Squires house. They stayed for two years where their first child, Marcia Louise was born. They then bought a house in Cleveland but over the years returned often to the Farm with their by now growing family. They now had four children.

With some red tape help in Washington, Charles received \$2000 (\$63,890 in 2022) for his hardship in capturing the criminals. Before Charles' return, the farm tenant Nye was replaced with an Irishman, Michael Kennedy. Charles kept busy with farm repairs and complaining about missing tools. Fred and Charles contracted with the Herricks to work the stone quarry at the Russ Place and build a stone foundation and underground stable for his south barn. Some of these stones are built into the North wall of Fred's house. In a letter to Don Pardee, Charles wondered to him about the idea of starting a detective agency.

Hiram continued to be of high interest to Charles. He would continue to be a trustee of the school until his death in 1906. This chapter also announced the change from the Hiram Eclectic Institute to Hiram College. Professor Colton was officially recognized as an outstanding teacher of science.

Babe and her future husband, Abner Grant Webb, graduated from Hiram on Thursday, June 22, 1893. Fred, having moved with Louise  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile away to the Brewster Place, didn't witness the daily happenings at the Geauga Lake Home as much. The summer included the family attending the Pioneer picnic on the Kent house grounds at Geauga Lake, Charles attending with Don Pardee the 25th annual reunion of the regiment in Lodi, and he saw Sophie, Babe, and Jim off to Chicago for the World's Fair while he attended the State Fair in Columbus.

The Fall term started for Jim. Charles has been able to spend time with his 13 year old son, James Garfield Henry. The summer was spent on farm chores and exploring the woods and Chagrin River. Fred compares the companionship and conversation that they shared to his own childhood with his father. Hiram's President Zollars lured Marcia from Mentor and hired her to teach at Hiram where she continued for a decade and then assumed the post of Dean of Women that she held for a long time. Today (2022) there is a Marcia Henry Hall at Hiram.

Chapter 37: An Absconder at Trail's End

The government once again hires Charles to track down a fugitive and bring him to justice. This time he was headed to Costa Rica. The American Surety Company in Chicago was out to lose bond money when the Secretary of the House Building and Loan Association, Robert G. H. Huntington took off with \$23,429.99 (the equivalent of \$748,469 in 2022) that he

misappropriated over a three year period. The Secretary of State, Judge Walter Q. Gresham sent a 58 year old Charles traveling down the Mississippi River to New Orleans with paperwork signed by Democratic President Cleveland to bring Huntington back. On the way down the River, Charles was able to pause and reflect on his wartime experiences. Before leaving he hired a son of a former tenant, George Marshall, to stay at the farm and do chores to help son, Jimmy.

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Arriving in New Orleans on December 8, 1893 Father waited ten days before leaving for Nicaragua on the Steamer Harlan. Charles' credentials were authenticated by Minister Baker of the United States Legation in Managua. Minister Baker was also accredited to serve El Salvador and Costa Rica. Visiting the minister involved a lengthy detour. There was some sarcasm in Charles' letters home in regards to working for a Democratic administration. While in the south Charles met Judge Pardee and reminded him of his promise to look into getting him a pension for his veteran years in combat. Charles was awarded a pension of \$3.75 per month (\$66.14 in 2022). With arrearage from his initial application in 1865, Charles received a check for \$1305 (\$2,318 in 2022).

For two years in a row Charles was separated from his family during Christmas. On January 3, 1894, he received the necessary paperwork from Minister Baker that was needed for his work in Costa Rica. After a short journey he landed the next day and within a half hour had found Huntington. Without revealing himself to Huntington he proceeded inland to present his papers to the authorities. Charles ran into a lot of slow red tape such that by January 18, he decided to try and get Huntington to go back to the U.S. voluntarily. Huntington refused and felt that Costa Rica would not give him to the U.S.. He took walks with Huntington who was often drunk. It looked as though Costa Rica would not give him up. On January 26, 1894, Charles paid \$1 for things needed for Huntington when he became sick. By January 30, Huntington has a fever and wants to return home with Charles and try and clear himself. On the last day of the month Huntington dies of a tropical gastric fever with Charles at his side. Charles described Huntington as a scoundrel. He said, "Once one always one as a rule . We are all as we are; blood + culture = what we are, just as surely as the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the other two sides." Huntington's possessions included six incriminating letters from two people who were conspirators in this whole case. The consul, Williams, insisted that he keep all of Huntington's possessions including the incriminating letters but let Charles take the watch and chain to return to Huntington's wife.

Charles would lead the funeral procession and give the eulogy. Charles left for New York shortly thereafter and arrived on February 12.

#### Chapter 38: Extradition's Aftermath

Charles made it back home on Valentine's Day 1894 and almost immediately started sugaring at the Russ Farm (sugar bush). The first sap was gathered on March 1 and five weeks later the season was over with only 375 gallons of sap boiled - a disappointing season. He received a letter from Don Pardee detailing Pardee's disappointment of not seeing him on his way back north from Costa Rica. Pardee encouraged Charles not to take these trips anymore, arguing them being too great of a personal risk. He reasoned that the cause of Charles not coming back through New Orleans could have been to avoid Huntington's wife and her lawyer who were

traveling south from Chicago to meet her husband, whom she presumed was sick but still alive. The lawyer, F. E. Burton was one of Huntington's accomplices found in the letters that had been mentioned in Charles' report. The lawyer's mission was not only to help his wife to get the body but to retrieve his own incriminating letters. Through his diligence Burton was later able to get the letters while in Washington.

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Charles only received \$380 (\$12,704 in 2022) as compensation for this trip. His per diem this time was one third of what he had received for his earlier adventure in Brazil. And remuneration aside, his health after the last trip was never again so good as before. Several years later his "general capacity became noticeably impaired".

Charles left on April 5, 1894 for Chicago to serve as a witness for both the Cadwallader and Huntington cases. While in Chicago he met with both Huntington's wife and mother. While there he was able to assure them that Huntington was buried in a dignified manner and that he was not thrown in the ground while still breathing as they were led to believe. Charles was also at that time able to return the watch and chain that his mother had given to her son when he was 16 years old and other things entrusted to him. This assured both of them that his son was treated decently by Charles. In the Brazilian (Cadwallader) case, Charles finally was able to testify on April 18 more than a year after he had been brought to justice. President Cleveland pardoned Cadwallader after he served  $\frac{1}{4}$  of his five year prison sentence.

At the time there was much social upheaval in the country. There were strikes. The Cleveland militia was called out to suppress rioting and mob violence. The Great Northern trainmen union members were stealing trains and driving them to Washington to stage protests. Congress was struggling over silver, tariff, and agitator issues. On his way home, Charles stopped in Michigan and met with his friend, Burke Hinsdale, former President of Hiram and Superintendent of Cleveland Schools. They talked politics and on the subject of Garfield's reputation getting tarnished and what they might do to clean that up. Charles turned down a chance to write articles about Garfield for the magazine, Chautauquan. Frederick, looking back, wishes that he had done so and cleared the Garfield questions.

At home, Charles either met with his old friends or kept in correspondence with them. He rarely played the word games that were common at Henry reunions. Fred goes into detail about the nature of these games.

#### Chapter 39: Old Things and New

In May of 1894 Charles was contacted again by Vice President, Henry D. Lyman, of the American Surety Company in its bonding business. Charles was to fill a vacancy with their inspectors. The surety bond company would protect a company or individual from any losses that might result from incomplete work, damage, theft, or other failures of the hired company. When something happens and the bond company must pay out money for the loss, that is when they would have one of their hired inspectors like Charles to go after the guilty party and recover the money. Given his history, Charles was good at this as evidenced by his travels overseas and with his work on the railroads.

This part time position paid a regular monthly sum of \$100. Together with stock dividends, rents, proceeds of maple syrup and other farm products, press contributions, pension, and interest, Charles and Sophie were assured a regular annual income of approximately \$2400

(\$80,234 in 2022). This provided a very comfortable livelihood. Charles would keep this job with the surety company for most of the rest of his life.

There was a lot of work done on the various farms and farm buildings, but one area that Charles did not get to was the upgrade of his and Sophie's own dwelling. He had always meant to make a big renovation there. Fred mentioned that he himself was able to see to that 25 years later when he made special quarters for his Mom in the new home that he built, and that she was able to enjoy it for the last 6 years of her life. So, I think that brings us to what is now the Big House.

It was still busy at Hiram as Charles was reelected as head of the College board. His daughter Marcia was on the faculty. Sophie's sister, Mary, still resided in Hiram, and his son, Jim, was getting ready to enroll for the Fall quarter at Hiram. Charles at 59 years old was now busy with the bond company and traveling often. Fred and Lou (Louise) had moved from the Brewster Place to their house in Cleveland. Sophie was 54 years old and had been married to Charles for 30 years. She would visit Fred and Lou in Cleveland at times when Charles was away. On January 6, 1896, daughter Mary and Grant Webb were married.

On August 28 Charles attended the 42nd Regiment reunion in Chippewa Lake. At that event, Lucretia Garfield invited the regiment to hold their next year's reunion at General Garfield's home. She made a point to extend the invitation to Sophie. Meanwhile, Charles was enjoying his first grandchild, Marcia Louise. On March 29, 1896, Charles' first grandson, Charles Adams Henry was born, and joined his 2 year old sister. Both were children of Fred and Louise.

#### Chapter 40: Crises Public and Domestic

Another election cycle. Forty miles south of Geauga Lake in the City of Canton lives William McKinley, the next presidential hopeful and a Republican candidate. A big issue of the times was whether we would switch from the gold to the silver standard for money. Charles had multiple correspondences with McKinley during the campaign. Meanwhile, Fred shares that he made his own maiden political speech in Chagrin Falls that was well received. (It isn't clear what position he is campaigning for.)

Charles and Sophie hosted Sophie's dear friend, "Aunt" Myra Robbins who was married to Major James McNabb. He had lost his job and while he looked for a new one, Myra was invited to spend the summer and more time at Geauga Lake. The chapter speaks of the struggle that Charles had having her in his company for such an extended time. At one point he was meditating on the phrase "Welcome the coming, speed the parting guest." He was to become earnest in his efforts to help Major McNabb find a new position.

He spent time with Mrs. Garfield and helped her to plan the upcoming 42nd reunion. There were 144 members present. Judge Pardee was not in attendance. He didn't like the "gush" and usually was not in attendance. In a letter to Pardee, Charles shared that he recounted at the

reunion the Judge's battle heroics - how he held off for one afternoon 20,000 rebels with 400 42nd men by constantly moving the men from various positions to make them seem like a



greater number than they were. Jim traveled to Columbus and was able to obtain from the courthouse the real flag that flew during the battle which brought tears to everyone at the reunion.

In the winter Charles and Sophie both lived with Fred and Louise in Cleveland. On February 3, 1897, Charles and Sophie's third grandchild was born - Isabel Webb, to Mary (Babe) and Abner. There was also talk of sugaring and repairs to farm buildings.

#### Chapter 41: Hinsdale and Pardee

Not much family talk in this chapter. Charles talks of the state of education with Hinsdale who was affectionately known by the family as "the President". Hinsdale, a former Superintendent of Cleveland Schools and professor, was very interested in all aspects of education and he wondered to Charles about how textbook companies would discuss the Civil War. Would it be a northern perspective or southern, or would the narrative have to be watered down to be acceptable to both. There was also concern by Hinsdale of the legacy of President Garfield. Hinsdale implored that Lucretia Garfield and her sons correct the reporting of some of the relationships that Garfield had with other members of Congress that he didn't feel were accurate..

With the presidential and senatorial contests looming, Charles and Pardee talked a little about the state of the Republican party. They worried about Federal appointees in the south. Charles urged Don Pardee to break his pattern and show up at the next 42nd reunion. The Judge did show up in Akron on August 18, 1897.

By now, Marcia was back from an educators delegation trip to Europe and made it to the reunion at the homestead. In fact, from this point on as long as Charles was alive there wasn't a month between early spring and late fall where there wasn't a big reunion of the Charles and Sophie Henrys.

#### Chapter 42: Corporations as Bondsmen

Charles enjoyed the aspect of his surety bond work of traveling the state and five adjacent states and picking up on the political vibes. He shared his thoughts with his close friends. His reputation from his extradition trips to Brazil and Costa Rica aided the four or five cases he worked on each month. He got results and was well thought of. He enjoyed making new acquaintances.

He was very proud of Marcia's position at Hiram following Almeda Booth's reputation and loved hearing about her experiences in Europe. He was equally proud of son, Jim's, athletic prowess and academic accomplishments. When he visited the Mahoning Valley he loved staying in the Webb household with daughter, Mary. Charles enjoyed going out in the Fall woods with his ax. On the last day of October 1897 the family had the last reunion before closing up the house. Then Charles and Sophie packed their trunk for the move to Cleveland.

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A letter from Judge Pardee advised Charles to encourage Fred to stay in law and make his mark there before entering politics. He was very proud of Fred. Pardee and Charles corresponded a lot about the politics of the time. Charles and Sophie stayed with the Garfields for multiple days before the convening of the legislature of which J. R. Garfield had been reelected to the State Senate. Charles had discussions with the younger Garfield. During January 1898, Charles was away on surety business while Sophie visited Marcia, Jim, and

sister, Mary in Hiram and the Webbs at Mineral Ridge.

Also in January the battleship, Maine, was blown up in Havana harbor with a loss of 260 lives and precipitated war with Spain. With his unlimited rail passes Charles could travel wherever he wanted and see whomever he wanted. By now he was earning \$1400 (\$48,495 in 2022) a year for less than full time work. It gave him freedom that he enjoyed, and he often visited the larger cities in his areas. Meanwhile, Fred formed a new law firm - Winch, Henry, and Thompson in the American Trust Building.

#### Chapter 43: Expansion Stifles Anti-Imperialism

There was a lot of political talk now about relations with Spain especially after the sinking of the battleship, Maine. President McKinley had hoped to avoid war but Democratic party pressure pushed him into it. The United States backed the Cuban efforts to revolt from Spanish colonization. The Spanish-American War ended in August of 1898. The Treaty ceded ownership of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Philippine Islands from Spain to the United States and temporary control of Cuba.

Judge Pardee, with the current emphasis on a naval military presence, wondered to Charles about his earlier life decisions that led him away from a naval career to an army future. Charles reminded him of all that he would have missed - relationships with Garfield, himself, and the men of the 42nd. Judge Pardee also spoke to Charles about his romance and now a second marriage to Frances Wells in 1898 from Atlanta following his first wife's death in 1897. They talked of their support for J. R. Garfield's candidacy for the Republican congressional nomination which he ultimately would lose.

Charles continued to work for the surety company although he loved his time sitting on his rocker on the porch of his home "under the shade of his maples". He struggled with some of the actions of his farm tenants and rebelled at the idea of giving up his efforts at toiling the soil. He and Fred disagreed on their positions on imperialism. Charles was eager for the United States to acquire the foreign possessions of Spain, and Fred was against it and spoke about it much to Charles's disgust. Pardee had an indifference to it all and Hinsdale sided with Fred. Charles reasoned that since our independence we have always been expanding our influence and what difference did it make that we had some water between our lands.

Charles and Hinsdale spoke about the rise of the City of Cleveland and outsizing the Queen city of Cincinnati. In the summer of 1898, daughter, Marcia, was once again in Europe. Sophie enjoyed her visits with grandkids and her son, Jim's, Hiram chums who stopped in for visits.

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Charles's hearing was failing and he seemed to not attend church as often or write for publications nearly as much. His spare energies were spent with his three grandchildren. In October he attended the Republican Convention in Warren, Ohio, where Professor Colton of Hiram and U.S. Senator Dick were the principal contestants. Charles favored the Hiram choice but backed Dick when it was clear that Colton didn't have the votes. Under Charles' suggestion Judge Pardee received an honorary degree from Hiram College.

In May 1899, under Sophie's urging, Charles sold much of his farm implements which brought the ire of his Homestead tenant, A.J. McClain. While the use of this equipment fell outside the lease arrangement, McClain left the place before his time was up and brought a lawsuit against

Charles. The trial took place in the Bainbridge Town Hall with Fred representing his Father. McClain lost his case. Meanwhile, a junior at Hiram, Jim excelled in football and basketball and gained many compliments for his essay on "The Iliad of Homer."

#### Chapter 44: All In a Day's Work

Fred referred to the rest of his family members as Lou, Cheechee, and Brother. "Cheechee" was little brother's (Charles Adam's) effort of saying "sister". Charles worked hard to raise money now for Hiram. He never liked begging but admitted that it had to be done. One alumnus while in South Dakota asked a now 64 year old Charles if he wanted to accept fossils for the college. Charles' reply was that there are some colleges which seem to "prize fossils so highly that they pay some of them salaries." On July 14, 1899, Charles and Sophie's second grandson, Frederick Henry Webb, was born. Fred was also chosen to fill an empty Hiram trustee position which now made he and his father co-trustees.

In Cleveland there was a street railway strike that Charles, like all strikes, could not agree with. He always felt that owners and workers all had similar choices. An owner can seek labor in the open market and a worker can decide whether to work or not. There shouldn't be any disagreements, especially those involving violence by workers. Father was still very reliable to the surety company and this business was the only thing that kept him away from the farm. In his latter years his most intimate and regular correspondence was with Don Pardee.

Charles&#39;

surety job gave him ample opportunity to travel through Ohio and beyond to meet with old friends. In October of 1899 Charles shared his expectation that son, Jim, would eventually practice law with his brother, Fred. On November 29, 1899, Charles and Sophie celebrated their 64th anniversary. Before retiring to Cleveland for the winter Charles saw to the construction of a high brick smokestack at the Russ sugar house.

#### Chapter 45: Monuments

In June of 1900 Hiram planned a special celebration for its semi-centennial (50 year) anniversary at the regular commencement week. Charles was to speak of monuments or leading figures and disciplines in the Eclectic Institute when Garfield was principal. On January 24, Charles and Sophie took the train to Geauga Lake and opened up the house and stayed overnight. Sophie then went for three weeks to Hiram and visited Marcia and sister,

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Mary Williams and then on to Mineral Ridge to visit the Webbs. Father returned back to Cleveland and stayed with his sister, Maria Goodsell, in University Heights.

Charles was still very interested in Ohio politics. He was very welcome into the offices of the editors of the Ohio Farmer and Leader where he had an inexhaustible amount of stories that he could write and they would be happy to print.

Charles was excited to have the Russ camp sugaring equipment ready to go for the Spring 1900 season. He had a lot of capable hands to help including his son, Jim, who was nearing graduation and preoccupied with what Charles called "girl fever." That spring 377 gallons of syrup were made which was mostly sent to Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Chicago. Jim was engaged to marry Delia Richardson who also went to Hiram from Wayland, Portage County. She stayed out of school that year to teach District school. So during the spring of his senior year, Jim had many distractions to life on the farm which included spring athletics, college

orations, final exams, and other commencement activities. Charles wrote to Fred clearly frustrated with Jim. He needed help milking cows, selling farm products, cutting posts and setting wire, and cutting wood. Charles was less mobile than he used to be and reminded Fred how Fred used to do all of those things at times for him when he was going to school. Fred comments that Charles didn't raise Jim with the same attention to financial matters as he had done for him (Fred).

In another letter, Charles shared that Fred and Louise now had a third baby, a daughter, Charlotte Sophia Henry, born April 27, 1900.

Burke Hinsdale came to the Hiram College from Michigan for the Hiram Jubilee to speak and visit. It would turn out to be his last time on campus. He died on November 29, 1900, the same day as Charles' 65th birthday. Charles told Hinsdale's cousin, Don Pardee, that it was his saddest day since Garfield's death and that he, Pardee, was the only one that he had left.

#### Chapter 46: Religion, Politics, and Football

The turn into the 20th Century, 1900, shows that Charles is still a valuable member of the surety company as he gives advice to his friend, President Lyman, to investigate the Cleveland office when he felt that something was amiss.

Son, Jim, was now a member of the Western Reserve University Law School and on their varsity football team. At the same time Fred was a faculty member. Charles was very proud of Jim, but joked at how hard it would be for Sophie to watch her son go to battle on the field. Charles was interviewed by the Cleveland Leader mentioning how Charles had played football with Garfield and now his son played at Western Reserve. He also enjoyed sharing Jim's athletic prowess with Don Pardee.

On September 15, the first annual meeting of the Henry Family society, descendants of Simon and Rhoda Henry, took place under the maple trees of Charles' lawn. This continued except for two years when the meeting was held at Nelson Henry's home, not far from the site of their

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common ancestors' first dwelling in Ohio. At this time Nils Jorgensen and wife were working the Home Farm, Snively rented the Brewster Place, and Hepners occupied the Russ Place.

Sophie had two teacher friends who were paying guests now in July and August at Maple Farm. One of the teachers came for many summers until after Charles died in 1906 and became very good friends with Sophie. Throughout the summer and fall they always had guests from Hiram, Mineral Ridge and Cleveland. And then they spent winters at 154 Kensington Street in Cleveland with Fred and Louise and family.

#### Chapter 47: Texas Ten Years After

Now Charles began to plan a trip back to Dallas to retrieve his Texas bank stocks. He still had friends in Dallas but he also hoped for a visit to New Orleans to visit Don Pardee. Fred shares opinions of Charles concerning race and the state of slavery since the war. There is some talk about Booker Washington. Charles was overcome with emotion at his reception by his friends upon his return to Texas. On the way home aboard a train he crossed paths with "Crazy Snake", a Cree Indian who was leading the unrest of his people towards the U.S. government's breaking of an 1832 Treaty. In his letter to his grandkids he told them, "Crazy Snake was really a good Injun".

Fred also shares Charles' letters to his grandchildren about their "great and great great

gandmas and gandpas”, as he uses their pronunciation for grandma and grandpa. In those letters he speaks to the value of spanking children who throw tantrums.

He shared a funny story of one of his tenants who came to bed after hunting and skinning a skunk and being banished to the barn for the night by his wife with her lamenting all the way of how sorry she felt for the cows.

Finally, Fred shares a story that while Charles was riding the railroad for the surety bond company that he came across two carloads of glucose coming into Geauga County. Other people speculated that it was going to be used to water down Geauga County maple syrup. That claim was never proved, but it caused an uproar such that no more glucose came into the County.

#### Chapter 48: Joy and Mourning Under the Maples

Towards the end of March 1901 after Charles and Sophie had returned from Cleveland to Geauga Lake they opened up the house. Sugaring season has begun. This year Charles invited 8 or 10 of the Ohio Farmer magazine staff to the farm and gave them free rein to explore Henry country. A photographer was on hand to take pictures of the residence, the sugar house, the “ledges” or Russ rocks (what current 2022 Henrys call “the caves”). The section of the article detailing the sugaring process states, “Captain Henry is the first successfully to utilize steam in maple syrup making”. Fred quotes much of the article. Details of the land are recognizable today.

Another article about Charles written by the Cleveland Leader includes a portrait of him which they claim could have been entitled, “The Man with the Hat” taken from a photo of Charles by

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Charles Horton in Cleveland on April 4, 1901. The photo was taken when Charles was about 65 1/2 years old. The demands of the surety company on Charles were a lot less in 1901.

Fred shares that owning a large tract of land and being absent for long periods of time as Charles was in Texas and at other times made for problems and disagreements with neighbors. Charles reminisces how the bridge over the Chagrin River on Pettibone was initially planned to avoid two large sycamore trees and that the lot lines and the popular use of the road or trail did not agree. At this time in Charles’ life these neighborly annoyances didn’t last long due to “the joy of his grandchildren’s society”.

At Hiram, Fred and a younger group of trustees worked to become the majority on the board in order to make changes. They had help from another trustee and ally on the board, Fred’s father, Charles, as he gave them advice and help.

In the spring/summer of 1901, Mary Williams, Sophie’s sister, who lived in Hiram had symptoms of pernicious anaemia, a condition of paralysis affecting the extremities. As it got worse Sophie moved her sister to the Geauga Lake house to be with her. Their sister in Wisconsin, Annis Newton, started traveling to visit her sisters but fell and broke her hip. Later that Fall Sophie would visit this sister and find her recovery remarkable. Meanwhile, the house on Geauga Lake was filling up. The weather was wet at Geauga Lake and the roads were filled with mud. The Chagrin River flooded to the boards of the bridge and to the high banks of either side of the valley.

Fred shares the joy Charles had with wheeling his grandkids around in a wheelbarrow and taking him on all his trips around the farm. Charles wrote to Fred about the kids, “My life with

advancing years is braided into theirs. Hence, I want them with me". Meanwhile, Mary Williams was getting more helpless and it was clear that she would not long survive.

Tragedy was set in motion at the Hiram commencement exercises. Attendees of the event included Louise, Jim, Jim's fiancée, Delia Richards, the Webbs, and many of their friends. "As they sat, a jolly company, at table, none could suspect that there was "death in the pot." A fortnight later twenty or thirty of them came down with typhoid fever, including all those above named except Louise." It had either come from the spring water or ice-cream that was brought in from the outside. Two people died: a Hiram faculty member and "our Jim". Jim hung on until August 18. Fred noted that Charles was never the same after the loss of his son Jim.

President McKinley was shot on September 6 and died on the 14th, and Aunt Mary died on September 29. There was a nice tribute to Jim printed in the Ohio Farmer. Many notable people reached out with their condolences to the Henry Family.

#### Chapter 49: Putting Off the Harness

Charles struggled with his summer of sorrow. At the annual reunion of the regiment at Greenwich, Ohio on August 28, he could not accept the usual "hero worship" fervor of the

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veterans. Also around this time the Cleveland Leader printed "A Tribute to Judge Pardee", an interview that they had with Charles. The article traces Pardee's political and military career from a perspective of a beloved friend.

Marcia had returned to the Farm from studying at Harvard when Jim's sickness had gotten worse before he died and she stayed for a long time, but now it was time for her to return to Hiram where she was the principal teacher. Father struggled now to sleep through the night.

On one occasion he recalled a dream of waking to "Jim's gentle voice, 'Hello, Papa.' I see him plainly as I ever did - he is holding our little Don in his arms. I can not sleep then - till I am weary indeed." The "Don" in his dream is his first infant son born in 1876 and who died soon after taking his first steps. Until now Charles never appeared old to his family or friends.

In November 1901, Charles' good friend and President of the surety company, Henry D. Lyman came from New York and accepted Charles' resignation. They gave him a paid leave of absence for both December 1901 and January 1902. Charles and Sophie spent much of the winter with Fred and Lou. Towards the end of January Sophie left to visit daughters, Marcia and Mary, and soon after Charles left for the farm to put up ice and prepare for sugaring.

#### Chapter 50: Where Every Prospect Pleases

Fred shared a letter to the editor in the Cleveland Leader in January that Charles wrote that was picked up by more than 20 other papers. In it he defended Harriet Beecher Stowe's story and the play format of Uncle Tom's Cabin when some famous Confederate Kentucky soldiers and members of the United Daughters of the Confederacy attacked the plan to perform in Kentucky. Fred shares the entire letter.

With no surety employment, Charles' farms were his chief concern. On January 28, 1902, from Cleveland he wrote to his Brewster Place tenant, J. Snively, and explained to the tenant the conditions that must be met to rent the sugar bush. He explained the seasoning of the wood and the care of the equipment and supplies. Then he followed the letter and traveled to the farm. He spent time visiting and inspecting his farms. Sophie was worried about him being at

the house on his own in the winter.

In a letter to Cheechee and Brother (Marcia Louise and Charles Adams), Charles' older grandchildren, he announces that he is planning a trip to Vicksburg, the site where he had been under battle fire, and urged them to practice the chant "the wicked awful, wicked rebels" for their studies. He also shared with the children the talks that he has with turkeys. To his daughter, Marcia in Hiram, he sent an article explaining the recent New York Court of Appeals decision to allow women to wear trousers. Then he added that he couldn't imagine his girls running the farm in a pair of breeches. Charles was in good spirits. Sophie joined him in April.

On January 21, 1902, Charles sent a letter to his grandson, Charles Adams Henry, where he gave him two things: a record book that he carried in the war and 60 rounds in a cartridge box. He states a condition that he must never say any unkind things to his mother or exhibit tantrums and doldrums. In the summer of 1902 an extension of the Cleveland and Eastern trolley line

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from Chagrin Falls via Hiram to Garrettsville made it easier and cheaper to come to and from Hiram for Marcia and Sophie. Fred and Sophie's oldest two children, Marcia and Charles, now spend considerable more time visiting with Sophie and Charles. While these two oldest were off visiting, Margaret Rhoda was born to Louise and Fred on July 26, 1902. Fred spent some time traveling east to Washington, Massachusetts to learn more about Great-grandfather Simon. He ultimately published a "Henry Family Record".

Charles still seems very interested and informed on state and national politics. He corresponds back and forth with Pardee but regrets not seeing him over the summer. His old friend and boss, Lyman, President of the surety company keeps in contact. Meanwhile at home, about the fall woods, "the whole country is indeed beautiful but sombre, and the music of autumn is in the minor key". Charles and Sophie traveled to Chagrin Falls and got "an air-tight chunk-wood stove that we are assured will keep fire for three or four days without putting in more wood".

Chapter 51: The Farm in Winter, and Vicksburg Revisited

Sophie and Charles planned to spend the winter of 1902-03 at the farm. They worried about putting too much work on Louise staying with them for 3 or 4 months with the new baby and all, plus Charles didn't need to be in Cleveland for work anymore, so their winter preparations were more intense.

Sophie and Charles looked forward to Thanksgiving. Lou and baby Rhoda stayed in Cleveland as the baby was only 4 months old. The rest of the family made it to the farm. Besides the turkey, Charles made sure to have 2 chickens prepared so that all the grandkids had a drumstick. For Christmas, Louise presented with Sophie's approval a revolving bookcase, a joint gift of theirs and the Webbs, and it was shipped directly to Geauga Lake to accompany the new wood stove and the drop-leaf rocking chair. The Webbs were planning to move to Cleveland next Fall where Grant would work in the lumber business. For Christmas the plan was to have it at Marcia's in Hiram. They met at Bowler Hall. Marcia shared that under the Hiram new president, Beattie, things were a mess and she hoped to quit Hiram and get a job teaching English at a Cleveland high school. She added that Beattie had neither the confidence of the faculty nor students. It was quite the drama. All this time Fred was in Europe.

Charles' next adventure was to travel to Vicksburg and work with the National Military Parks Commission to fix landmarks that identify the regiments positions and trace their movements.