

## Samuel Fletcher Identity Proof Argument

Denise Cross

### **Samuel Fletcher of Westville, New York**

Discovering the previous residence of a settler in a newly opened area can be difficult. The lack of established churches and town governments compounded by jurisdictional changes leave few records in the early days of settlement. This is the situation encountered for early settlers of Westville, Franklin County, New York. Westville was part of Chateaugay, Clinton County, New York when settlement began in the last years of the eighteenth century. When Franklin County was divided off in 1808, the area was known as Constable, Franklin County, New York, from which Fort Covington and Westville were established.

The first history of Franklin County published in 1853, lists early settlers of what is now the Fort Covington and Westville area:

The first settler in Westville is said to have been Amos Welch, from Grand Isle, Vt., about 1800. ----- Haskins, Elisha Sabins, Samuel Fletcher, John Reed, Alexander McMillan, Silas Cushman, John Livingston, Joseph and Thomas Wright and Alric and Dr. Albon Man, mostly from Vermont, settled 1803, or before, principally on a road, that in 1800 had been made passable in winter from the settlements in Chateaugay to St. Regis.<sup>1</sup>

Census and tax record confirm a Samuel Fletcher was an early settler. He appears in the 1800 census as head of household and only male age 26 to 44 with one female 26 to 44 and three females under 10.<sup>2</sup> The first tax records include Samuel in 1800, paying on personal property.<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Franklin B. Hough, *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time*, v.2, publisher's galley, (Albany: Little & Co., 1853), 515; Franklin Benjamin Hough Papers, 1840-1885, record group SC7009, Series 7, box 74; New York State Archives, Albany.

<sup>2</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Clinton County, New York, Chateaugay, p. 1075 (penned), entry for Samuel Flotter; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 22.

<sup>3</sup> Clinton County, New York, 1800 Chateaugay tax assessment roll, entry for Samuel Fletcher; New York (State), Comptroller's Office, Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799–1804, Series B0950 microfilm roll 4; New York State Archives, Albany, New York.

He acquired land after the 1802 taxes were recorded, paying tax on real estate in 1803.<sup>4</sup> A plat map of Fort Covington created in the 1810s shows Samuel near the border of present day Westville with Fort Covington.<sup>5</sup> A deed was not recorded in either Clinton County or Franklin County.<sup>6</sup> At the time of purchase, the county seat was in distant Plattsburg, New York.

Samuel continued to appear in the censuses through 1820. In 1820, a woman of the appropriate age range to be Samuel's wife is absent from his household. A woman, Lucinda Fletcher, of the appropriate age range, 26-45, if at the older end, is enumerated alone three lines before Samuel.<sup>7</sup> She could also be his daughter Lucinda, born about 1798, if at the lower end of the age range.<sup>8</sup> By 1830, Samuel no longer appears in the census, but a household headed by Martha Fletcher is enumerated with two others who are appropriate ages to be among those enumerated in Samuel's 1800, 1810, and 1820 households.<sup>9</sup> The identity of his wife is uncertain.

The age categories of the 1800, 1810, and 1820 censuses place Samuel's birth year between 1755 and 1765.<sup>10</sup> By 1830 he would have been between 65 and 75 years old. Death records for this time in Franklin County were not kept. Early church or circuit rider records, if

---

<sup>4</sup> Clinton County, New York, 1803 Chateaugay tax assessment roll, entry for Samuel Fletcher; New York (State), Comptroller's Office, Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804, Series B0950 microfilm roll 4; New York State Archives, Albany, New York.

<sup>5</sup> Fort Covington Lands, hand drawn map, circa 1815-1820; Franklin County Historical & Museum Society, Malone, New York.

<sup>6</sup> Grantee Index search for Samuel Fletcher at Franklin and Clinton County Clerks' Offices.

<sup>7</sup> 1820 U.S. census, Franklin County, New York, Fort Covington, p. 671 (penned), entry for Lucinda Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M33, roll 66.

<sup>8</sup> "Minnesota, County Deaths, 1850-2001," images, *FamilySearch* (<http://familysearch.org> : accessed 8 August 2016), Steele, > Deaths, 1887-1914, vol A-D > images 9 and 10 of 507, entry for Lucinda Bryant.

<sup>9</sup> 1830 U. S. census, Franklin County, New York, Constable, p. 29 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), entry for Martha Fletcher; citing National Archives microfilm publication M19, roll 90.

<sup>10</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Clinton County, New York, Chateaugay, p. 1075 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), entry for Samuel Flotter [sic]; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 22. And, 1810 U. S. census, Essex County[sic], New York, unnamed town, p. 84 (penned), entry for Samuel Flecher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M252, roll 27. And, 1820 U.S. census, Franklin County, New York, Fort Covington, p. 671 (penned), entry for Samuel Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M33, roll 66.

they existed, are no longer extant.<sup>11</sup> No grave marker exists in cemeteries close to the area where he held land.<sup>12</sup> He was old enough to have served in the Revolutionary War. Eligibility for a pension, if not injured or an officer, would not come until 1832.<sup>13</sup> He did not appear in the 1830 census, so likely did not live long enough to file for a pension. No pension records have been found for a Samuel Fletcher living in Franklin County.<sup>14</sup>

### **Origin of Samuel Fletcher, early settler of Westville, New York**

Hough's *History* points to Vermont as the origin of the early settlers. Gathering and writing his history in the 1840s and early 1850s, he may have had direct contact with early settlers and their children. Notes no longer remain among his papers in New York State Archives that give the source of his statement on early settlers coming primarily from Vermont. Only two Samuel Fetters appear in the 1790 census in Vermont.<sup>15</sup> Samuel Fletcher of Townsend, Windham County, Vermont continued to be enumerated in Townsend in 1800 and 1810.<sup>16</sup> Samuel Fletcher of South Hero was not enumerated there in 1800. The natural migration route of Lake Champlain and the St. Lawrence river reinforce the likelihood that

---

<sup>11</sup> Email correspondence between Denise Cross and Beth Patkus, Conference Archivist, New York Annual Conference of the UMC, 18 November 2015.

<sup>12</sup> Search for Samuel Fletcher on Findagrave (<http://www.findagrave.com>). And, personal visit to Riverside and Briggs Street Cemeteries, Westville, New York, July 2014.

<sup>13</sup> Theodore J. Crackel, "Revolutionary War Pension Records and Patterns of American Mobility, 1780–1830," *Prologue Magazine* 16:3 (Fall 1984); National Archives (<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1984/fall/pension-mobility.html>).

<sup>14</sup> Searches for Samuel Fletcher on *Fold3* (<http://www.fold3.com>) and *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>).

<sup>15</sup> 1790 U.S. census, Chittenden County, Vermont, South Hero, p. 138 (penned), entry for Samuel Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M637, roll 12 and 1790 U.S. census, Windham County, Vermont, Townsend, p. 124 (penned), entry for Saml Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M637, roll 12.

<sup>16</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Windham County, Vermont, Townsend, p. 675 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), entry for Saml Fletcher; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 52. And, 1810 U. S. census, Windham County, Vermont, Townsend, p. 365 (penned), entry for Sam Flecher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M252, roll 65.

Northern Vermont families would migrate to the newly opened settlement area along the Canadian border by 1800.<sup>17</sup> There are no Samuel Fletchers enumerated in New York in 1790.<sup>18</sup>

### **Samuel Fletcher of South Hero**

The biographical details of the Samuel Fletcher living in South Hero, Vermont at the time of the 1790 census correlates with the biographical details of Samuel Fletcher of Westville, New York. Events recorded in South Hero leading up to the close of the 1790s gave him a reason to leave.

Samuel Fletcher of South Hero, Vermont was the son of Cotton Fletcher and Thankfull ([--?--]) (Bartlett) Fletcher, born in Salisbury, Connecticut 17 October 1758.<sup>19</sup> His family was among the first settlers of Poultney, Vermont. At age 19, he served as administrator of his father's estate during the years 1777-1784.<sup>20</sup> During the same time, he served in Vermont Militia units out of Poultney, Vermont as private and corporal.<sup>21</sup> He purchased land in South Hero, Vermont in 1786 and moved his widowed mother and siblings there in 1787.<sup>22</sup> Samuel's siblings were: Mary, Silas, Unice, Grace, Hannah, Issy, Cotton, Louicy, Amos, and Calvin.<sup>23</sup> His mother

---

<sup>17</sup> Scott Andrew Bartley, "Migration: A Story of Vermont Before 1850," *American Ancestors* (<http://www.americanancestors.org/Features/vermontmigration> : accessed 12 August 2016).

<sup>18</sup> "1790 United States Federal Census," databae and images, Ancestry (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), search for first name blank, last name Fletcher, lived in New York, exact checked, yielded 8 entries, none of which are a Samuel.

<sup>19</sup> "Connecticut Births and Christenings, 1649-1906," database. *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:F73G-4MB> : accessed 22 May 2016), Samuel Fletcher, 17 October 1758; citing Salisbury, Litchfield, Connecticut, United States; FHL microfilm 1,509,740.

<sup>20</sup> Vermont, Probate Court (District of Rutland), case files 1779-1945, packet 24, Estate of Cotton Fletcher; Series PRO-RTP-004, container RTP-00272, Vermont State Archives and Records Administration, Montpelier.

<sup>21</sup> Entries for for Samuel Fletcher, digital images, "Revolutionary War Service Records," database, *Fold3* ([www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) : accessed 6 June 2016), images 9645417, 96527858; citing Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783, National Archives microfilm publication M246, roll 90 and Entries for for Samuel Fletcher, digital images, "Revolutionary War Service Records," database, *Fold3* ([www.fold3.com](http://www.fold3.com) : accessed 6 June 2016), images 9962000, 9962008, 9962028, 9962039, 9962052, 9962069; citing Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783, National Archives microfilm publication M246, roll 91.

<sup>22</sup> South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 2: 119, Ebenezer Hyde to Samuel Fletcher, 8 June 1786; citing FHL film 28,855.

<sup>23</sup> Distribution of real estate of Cotton Fletcher, 24 April 1781, Vermont, Probate Court (District of Rutland), case files 1779-1945, packet 24, Estate of Cotton Fletcher; Vermont State Archives and Records Administration, series PRO-RTP-004, container RTP-00272.

and three sisters married by 1784.<sup>24</sup> The widow, Thankful, married an unknown Preston. Mary, also know as Moll, married Obediah Winter.<sup>25</sup> Grace married David Bishop Warren.<sup>26</sup> Hannah married Isaac Adams.<sup>27</sup>

Samuel appeared as head of household in 1790 South Hero, Vermont census, taken in 1791 upon Vermont's admittance into the United States.<sup>28</sup> His household consisted of three males 16 and over (Samuel and likely his brothers Silas and Cotton), two males under 16 (likely his brothers Amos and Calvin), and three females (likely including his mother Thankful and youngest sister Louisa). The rest of Samuel's sisters are married and living in the South Hero households of their husbands.<sup>29</sup> The remaining female may be the wife of Samuel. The 1800 New York household of Samuel Fletcher, including a woman old enough to be his wife and three females under 10,<sup>30</sup> suggests the marriage and the births of at least two of the three girls took place in Vermont. Samuel does not appear in South Hero marriage records.<sup>31</sup> The marriage likley occurred before 1797.

---

<sup>24</sup> Distribution of movable estate of Cotton Fletcher, 24 April 1784, Vermont, Probate Court (District of Rutland), case files 1779-1945, packet 24, Estate of Cotton Fletcher; Vermont State Archives and Records Administration, series PRO-RTP-004, container RTP-00272.

<sup>25</sup> Vermont Probate Court (District of Rutland), case files 1779-1945, packet 24, Estate of Cotton Fletcher; Vermont State Archives and Records Administration, series PRO-RTP-004, container RTP-00272. Later documents refer to Moll Winters, Obediah Winters serves as a bondsman for the administration of the estate.

<sup>26</sup> Affidavit of Caleb Warren, Pension file of Isaac Adams, "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files," database and images, Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/image/10950640> : accessed 2 May 2016).

<sup>27</sup> Affidavit of Hannah Adams, Pension file of Isaac Adams, "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files," database and images, Fold3 (<https://www.fold3.com/image/10950476> : accessed 2 May 2016).

<sup>28</sup> 1790 U.S. census, Chittenden County, Vermont, South Hero, p. 138 (penned), entry for Samuel Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M637, roll 12.

<sup>29</sup> Ibid. All three brothers-in-law are listed immediately before or after Samuel on the page.

<sup>30</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Clinton County, New York, Chattaugay, p. 1075 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), entry for Samuel Flotter [sic]; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 22.

<sup>31</sup> Lucy L. Wells, List of marriages solemnized by Rev. Asa Lyon [1797-1838] : from private record of Hector Adams, manuscript, South Hero, Vermont, 5 May 1950; citing FHL film 27754 Item 30 and read through of Fletcher cards in Vermont Vital Records index on Ancestry.com and the South Hero, Vermont, Town Records, Books 1 and 2, FHL film 28,855 and Books 3 and 4, FHL film 28,856 and Books 5 and 6, FHL film 28,857.

A summons and deed recorded in 1798 are the last entries for Samuel in South Hero. He was involved in a lawsuit for payment of a debt incurred in 1794. Benjamin Adams sued Samuel Fletcher and Obediah Winters. The judgment was for a debt of \$433.50 and \$1,000.00 in damages. The summons was served and delivered to Samuel Fletcher on 6 February 1798 by the constable of South Hero. Obediah Winters, formerly of South Hero, was not found in the precinct at the time the summons was served. Obediah was thought to be in the Province of Canada. Samuel Fletcher's land was identified as "the first division out of land laid to the original Right of Ebenezer Hyde in South Hero."<sup>32</sup> This matches his 1786 land purchase.

The judgment may have forced Samuel Fletcher to sell his South Hero land on 1 December 1798.<sup>33</sup> The sale was recorded 2 days later. After that point in time, he no longer appears in South Hero town records. Samuel had been active in town governance in South Hero in 1790 through 1797.<sup>34</sup> He does not appear on the 1807 tax roll, although brothers Issi and Calvin are included.<sup>35</sup> He does not appear in South Hero death or cemetery records.<sup>36</sup> Landless, he had reason to leave South Hero.

The delayed recording of a land transaction between Samuel and his mother, Thankful Preston, implies her need to establish a claim after her son left South Hero. Earlier, in 1789, perhaps as recompense for selling his mother's widow's portion in Poultney, Vermont, Samuel conveyed a life interest in "all the land lying East of the highway adjoining the lake in my lot on

---

<sup>32</sup> Vermont, County Court (Chittenden County), Chittenden County Court dockets and judgments, 1788-1840, Benjamin Adams v. Samuel Fletcher and Obadiah Winters, February Term 1798; Record series PRA-068, box PRA-00350, Vermont State Archives, Montpelier.

<sup>33</sup> South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 4: 90, Samuel Fletcher to Stephen Davison, 1 December 1798; citing FHL film 28,856.

<sup>34</sup> South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 2: 12-13, Town Meeting, 15 March 1790; citing FHL film 28,855 and Petition for Land Tax on South Hero to Make Roads and Bridges, 18 October 1791; Manuscript Papers, record series: SE-118, v. 18, p.291; Vermont State Archives, Montpelier and South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 3: 9, Town Meeting, 7 March 1797; citing FHL film 28,856.

<sup>35</sup> Page by page read through of South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 5 and 6; citing FHL film 28,857. These volumes cover South Hero deeds 1795-1819, town meeting records after 1798 and the tax roll of October 1807.

<sup>36</sup> Read through of Fletcher cards in Vermont Vital Records index on Ancestry.com.

the South Hero Lot No. 72 for the time being and during my mother's life."<sup>37</sup> This transaction was not notarized at the time it took place. It was recorded over a decade later on 5 August 1800, Access to the town clerk for recording the transaction was not likely an impediment in 1789. A land transaction later in that same year was executed and recorded the same day by Samuel.<sup>38</sup>

Samuel did not follow his brother-in-law and co-defendant, Obadiah Winters, to Canada. Samuel did appear on a failed petition to the government of Lower Canada for land. He was among many family and neighbors from South Hero, including brother Issi and brothers-in-law Isaac Adams and David Bishop Warren. Ebenezer Allen, from whom Samuel bought land in South Hero, was a lead petitioner. Obediah Winters, already in Canada, was not among the signers of the petition, filed in 1794. The petition was rejected in July of 1795. The petitioners were not eligible because they were associates of the "Democratic Society of Vermont."<sup>39</sup>

### **Fletcher siblings of Westville, New York have ties to Vermont**

Although Samuel Fletcher is not named as the father of any one of them, a group of siblings named as heirs-at-law of Eunice Fletcher Hyde are his children. Two men with the surname Fletcher were in the Westville area in 1800, Samuel and Thomas.<sup>40</sup> Thomas, a civilian, was shot and killed on his porch by British soldiers marching through town during the War of

---

<sup>37</sup> South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 4, p. 159, Samuel Fletcher to Thankful Preston, 8 April 1789; citing FHL film 28,856.

<sup>38</sup> South Hero, Vermont, Town Records Book 2: 120, Jonah Martin to Samuel Fletcher, 16 October 1789; citing FHL film 28,855.

<sup>39</sup> "Land Petitions of Lower Canada, 1764-1841," database and images, *Library and Archives of Canada* (<http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/land/land-petitions-lower-canada-1764-1841/Pages/search.aspx> ; 17 August 2016), entry for Samuel Fletcher, 1792-1801, 30:15810-15831; citing Executive Council Office of the Province of Lower Canada (RG 1 L3L) microfilm C-2504.

<sup>40</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Clinton County, New York, Chattaugay, p. 1075 (penned), entry for Samuel Flotter [sic]; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 22. Searches of the 1790 and 1810 censuses for Samuel Flotter returned no results. There is no Samuel Fletcher on the 1800 Chattaugay pages. Flotter is likely an enumerator error. And, 1800 U. S. census, Clinton County, New York, Chattaugay, p. 1077 (penned), entry for Thomas Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 22.

1812.<sup>41</sup> His widow, Mary, married Henry Lewis soon after and moved out of the county.<sup>42</sup> It is unlikely the entire group of young siblings would be left behind in Franklin County. Mariah, Lucinda, Fannie, Betsey, Samuel, Eunice, and Lura are the children of Samuel, whose family remained in Westville. The small town of Westville, Franklin County, New York is often named as place of birth or childhood residence. No other Fletcher family resided in Westville from about 1800 through 1840. The younger Samuel was living in Westville, New York in 1840 after the elder Samuel Fletcher likely died.<sup>43</sup>

Eunice, who did not have children of her own, named her brother, Samuel Fletcher and his wife Mariah and three daughters, as well as some of her nieces and nephews in her will.<sup>44</sup> The administrator of Eunice's estate provided a full list of all known heirs-at-law, naming brother Samuel and specifying each deceased sister to whom the nieces and nephews belonged. Samuel was the only living sibling at the time of Eunice's death in 1890. In 1880, he was living with his widowed sister in Iowa. Both Eunice and Samuel were born in New York; their parents, in Vermont.<sup>45</sup>

---

<sup>41</sup> Franklin B. Hough, *A History of St. Lawrence and Franklin Counties, New York, from the Earliest Period to the Present Time* (Albany: Little & Co., 1853), 636, digital image, *Google Books* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=3sz58LQ0q2cC> : accessed 23 September 2016).

<sup>42</sup>William Franklin McMillan, *McMillan genealogy & history : a record of the descendants of John McMillan and Mary Arnott, his wife, who were born and married in Scotland, removed to the north of Ireland and thence to Washington County, New York, about the middle of the eighteenth century, (St. Paul?: unknown, 1908?)*, 281, digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 8 August 2016. And, searches for Henry Lewis in Franklin County, New York in 1820 and 1830 yielded no results.

<sup>43</sup>1840 U. S. census, Franklin County, New York, Westville, p. 97 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016), entry for Samuel Fletcher; citing National Archives microfilm publication M704, roll 283.

<sup>44</sup> "Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988," images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1951-21907-37999-41?cc=1834344> : 20 May 2014), DeKalb > Will records 1877-1892 vol 2 > image 531 of 628, will of Eunice F. Hyde.

<sup>45</sup> 1880 U.S. census, DeKalb County, Illinois, population schedule, Paw Paw, p.15 (penned), dwelling 108, family 108, Eunice Hyde household, digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 8 August 2016); citing NARA microfilm publication T9, Roll 202.



Lucinda (Fletcher) (Erwin) Bryant was born 1798 in New York.<sup>46</sup> Earlier census records report Vermont. It is likely she or her son, Monson Erwin, born about 1820, were the informants in 1850 and 1860.<sup>47</sup> The appearance of a Lucinda Fletcher as the sole female in a 1820 Westville household listed on the same page as Samuel Fletcher, suggests she may have been enumerated close to the time of her marriage to Munson's father.<sup>48</sup> The proximity to Samuel Fletcher in 1820 suggest he is her father. The 1798 birth, probably in Vermont, link the Samuel of New York to the Samuel of Vermont.

Lucinda died intestate on 28 July 1883 in Minnesota. Her heirs were children, Munson M. Erwin, Simeon Erwin, Samuel F. Erwin, William Erwin, Elizabeth Bailey and grandchild, Maud Bryant.<sup>49</sup> All are also named in Eunice Fletcher Hyde's probate in 1890.

Fannie (Fletcher) Hyde left few records documenting her life. Born in 1799, she was the child of Samuel born during the 18 month gap in the records who could have been born in either Vermont or New York. She was living in Painesville, Ohio with husband Charles in 1850. Her birthplace was New York.<sup>50</sup> In 1860, her reported birthplace was Vermont.<sup>51</sup> She married

---

<sup>46</sup> "Minnesota, County Deaths, 1850-2001," images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.3.1/TH-1951-38439-2166-46?cc=2185953> : 24 September 2016), Steele > Deaths, 1887-1914, vol A-D > images 9 and 10 of 507; county courthouses, Minnesota.

<sup>47</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Franklin County, New York, population schedule, Westville, p. 466 (penned), dwelling 1806, family 1845, Munson Erwin household; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 8 August 2016); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 505. And, 1860 U.S. census, Franklin County, New York, population schedule, Westville, p. 97 (penned), dwelling 707, family 707, Munson Erwin household; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 8 August 2016); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 754.

<sup>48</sup> 1820 U.S. census, Franklin County, New York, Fort Covington, p. 671 (penned), entry for Lucinda Fletcher; image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 5 June 2016); citing National Archives microfilm publication M33, roll 66.

<sup>49</sup> "Minnesota Wills and Probate Records, 1801-1925," database and images, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 8 August 2016), Lucinda Bryant, 23 September 1887; citing Minnesota, Probate Court (Steele County), probate case files, v.B, 1879-1916.

<sup>50</sup> 1850 U.S. census, Lake County, Ohio, population schedule, Painesville, p. 199 (verso) (stamped), dwelling 386, family 390, Charles Hyde household; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 23 September 2016); citing NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 701.

<sup>51</sup> 1860 U.S. census, Kane County, Illinois, population schedule, Aurora, p. 256 (penned), dwelling 2113, family 1922, Chas Hyde household; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com>: accessed 23 September 2016); citing NARA microfilm publication M653, roll 191.

Charles Hyde in 1825 in Franklin County, New York.<sup>52</sup> The *Hyde Genealogy* account specifically names Westville, New York as the place she was living at the time of the marriage.<sup>53</sup> Charles Fletcher Hyde, their son, is the likely source of the information for both works, although the author of the *Hyde Genealogy* may have filled in additional information. Fannie's parents are incorrectly identified as James and Elizabeth Fletcher. There is a James Fletcher over 200 miles from Westville in Sempronius, Cayuga, New York in 1800. There are no female children in his household.<sup>54</sup>

Betsey (Fletcher) Osborn and Lura (Fletcher) Moone lived in Granville, Washington County, New York. Lura was born in Franklin County, New York about 1808.<sup>55</sup> Betsey was born in 1800 in Westville, New York, to father ([--?--]) Fletcher.<sup>56</sup>

## Conclusion

Samuel Fletcher of South Hero, Vermont moved his young family from Vermont to New York during a gap of about 18 months between the December 1798 sale of his South Hero land and the 1800 Chateaugay, later Westville, New York, census and tax roll. His older children were born in Vermont. The younger ones in New York. All grew up in Westville before scattering across the United States. Samuel Fletcher of South Hero, Vermont is the same man as Samuel Fletcher of Westville, New York.

---

<sup>52</sup> *Portrait and Biographical Album of Sedgwick County, Kansas* (Chicago: Chapman brothers, 1888), 229, digital image, *Google Books* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=SPs0AQAAMAAJ> : accessed 23 September 2016).

<sup>53</sup> Reuben H. Walworth, *Hyde genealogy, or, The descendants in the female as well as the male lines : from William Hyde of Norwich, with their places of residences, and dates of births, marriages, &c., and other particulars of them and their families and ancestry* (Albany: J. Munsell, 1864), v.1: 619; digital image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 September 2016).

<sup>54</sup> 1800 U. S. census, Cayuga County, New York, Sempronius, p. 672 (penned), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 November 2015), entry for James Fletcher; citing National Archives microfilm publication M32, roll 28.

<sup>55</sup> 1855 New York state census, Washington County, Granville, Election District 1, p. 99 (stamped), image, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 September 2016), Lyman Moone household.

<sup>56</sup> Register of Deaths in the Town of Granville, book 1, 1881-1890, entry for Betsey E. Osborn, 2 May 1886; Town Clerk, Granville, Washington County, New York.