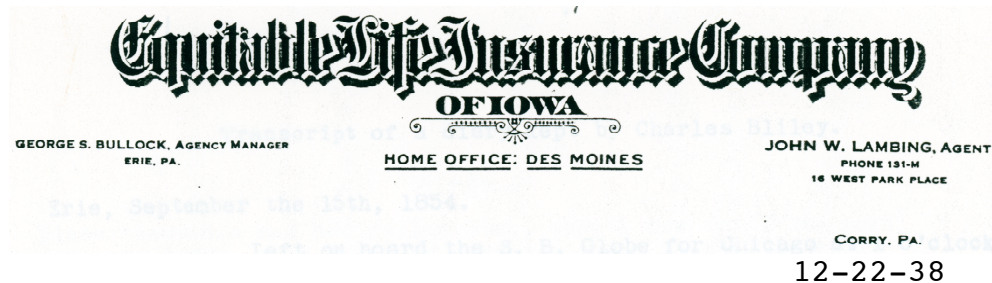


LETTERS OF JOHN WILBUR LAMBING TO SAMUEL WAGNER, 1938-39



Sam Wagner & John Wilbur Lambing
C1933

LETTER 1—Typed On Company Letterhead



Dear Sam -

If It wasnt for the love aril affection I have for an old piece of cheese like you, I wouldnt go to all the work I have in making up the record of the family history with which I herewith present you as a token of hydrophobia and antithesis from the ancient and amalgamated order of the Sons and Sausages of Now or Never. At any rate and be that as it wasnt, I hope you and your offspring will enjoy it to the zth degree.

Sorry I didnt have the full names of all the children in your family, and their dates of birth, for I would have entered them, but it is all set up for you to fill that part in on your own typewriter. Will you please send me a list of their full names and dates of birth so I may enter them on my carbon copy?

I rather expect to be able to secure some additional information on the 3liley line early next year, and if so I shall see that you get a copy of it.

With every best wish for your health and happiness the coming year, and love and kisses for the entire family, I am wishing you all a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Signed: Web

LETTER 2—Typed on Plain Paper

Corry, Pa.
1-27-39

Dear Sam,

It certainly was a voice from the distant past when your letter put in appearance. I had just about made plans to get Jim Farley on the phone and ask him what had become of the family history I sent to my cousin Sam for Christmas. Believe me kid, I put in a whale of a lot of work to get up that contraption, and if it was lost, I wanted to know about it.

Am glad you liked it, and now that I have become really interested in such work I find there is no place to stop. Have sat up many long night hours getting more dope together, and when we can get together we can compare notes and see who's who. I have quite a bit of information on the Bliley side which I am getting organized and to which you will be welcome if you don't already have it. For one thing, I should like to ask about the birth date you have of Grandpa Bliley's dad, Andrew Bliley. In grand pa's letter to Gertrude he said he thought his dad was two or three years older than his mother, which would bring it about 1791. But there is an offset to that in the same letter in that we know he died in February of 1835, and. in the same sentence, almost, grandpa says his dad died in his 49th year of age. If that is the case, then he would have to be born about 1796, which is a difference of 5 years from his other statement. Do you have anything on that?

I have two different dates for the marriage of Jonathan Mead Jr., or 2nd, to Sarah Husted. One is 1718 and the other is 1726. Do you have anything on that?

In the setup I sent to you I made two errors that I know of; one where I showed that you and I are in the 11th generation. If you will turn, to the line of descent of the Meads you can follow down the line to #7—Darius Mead (2) and his children. That is where the error is, for Darius

Mead 2, is the 6th generation. That would make Dave Mead 1803-1833 the 7th, Mary Jane the 8th, your Mother and mine the 9th, and you and I the 10th. So please correct that on your typewriter. Also, under "Children of Darius Mead" (1), I gave David as 1752----- The date of death I now find to be 8-23-1816.

In corresponding with a descendant of Darius Mead and Ruth Curtis, I find that the marriage took place about 1750. Perhaps you don't have that item. The wife of Joseph Mead, b. 6-25-1772 ----- d.3-3-1846, was Hannah Boone. She was a niece of Daniel Boone.

Grandpa Bliley's father Andrew was a brother of Sebastian Bliley. Do you have any information about their father and mother? I am very anxious to secure that if I can.

While I'm asking for information, I should like to include a "little" request for some names, etc., which you are in position to give me, namely, the first and middle names of your offspring with dates of birth, dates of marriage, name and date of birth of person they married, and the same of their offspring.

Now that that is off my chest, I can answer your letter. I was surprised to read your comment about Lois and Walter, for somehow I was under the impression that that affair was all over, lock, stock and barrell. Evidently not so. Well, it is just one of those things, I 'spose. Hope it works out all right, for I sure think a lot of Lois and hate to think of her being in such an unsettled and unsatisfactory state of affairs.

Am so pleased Alice is finishing her course, and that Robert is in Cornell and doing well. Had things been a bit different I might have had some similar interests by this time. I dont know how my career could possibly have turned out any more different from the way I planned it, than it has done. If we could just go back twenty or twenty five years and have the knowledge we now have, we would do things in a far different manner. But there isnt much we can do about it, so what the heck?

Havent had any inquiries for my house, so am sitting tight and hoping for better things this spring and summer. It would be a great thing for me if a buyer came along and offered me a reasonable price. "Then I cut loose from here I certainly will be a free agent, and I'm undecided whether to take a little trip to South America where I have always wanted to go, or to Germany to look up a little family history, before settling down in California. Of course I

may do neither, it all depends on how much money I have left at the time.

Had a better year in 1938 than 1937, but that isnt saying much either, so am hopeful this year will be the best ever, although it will have to be a lot better than January if it does go to town in a real way.

Best wishes, Sam, and I hope everything goes well for you. Send me the dope on the family when you can, and I'll enter it on the records I am making.

Love to all

John W.

LETTER 3—Typed on Plain Paper

Corry, Pa.
2-16-39

Dear Sam,

The last time I wrote to you I intended to put in the letter that the date of Uncle Will's marriage to Aunt Jessie was 04-37-1892. Sorry I forgot it in the first place because now it will have to go on the bottom of the list of marriages, but while that is not chronologically in order, it is no great error.

Since writing to you I have come across evidence in Grandpa Bliley's handwriting that establishes the date of birth of his father Andrew as January 8, 1787. I doubt if you have that information.

I also am in possession of his earnings from the farm on the Kuhl (or South) Road, and on the Station Road, from 1859 to 1891 inclusive. It is a very impressive list, and perhaps you would like to have it if you are not in possession of it now.

I also have a copy of a transcript from his diary of September 1854 in which he describes his trip to West Union, Ia.. If you do not have it I can lend it to you.

I also have the original letter, in their own handwriting, by grandma and grandpa, written from Busti, Howard Co., Ia., in 1883, to the kids back home in Wesleyville. Do you have a copy of that? If not, I'll be glad to send one.

But, like Hitler, I have to trade in barter, so you can have any of the above items in exchange for the information

I re requested from you in my last letter about your sweetheart Ada and the numerous progeny thereof.

Dont forget your accident insurance premium of \$17.50, it was due January 1st.

Best wishes, old thing----

Wilbur

ABOUT THE CORRESPONDENTS

Wilbur Lambing (48 Years)

- An insurance agent for Equitable Life Insurance Company of Des Moines, Iowa.
- Lived in Corry, Pennsylvania, his birthplace (1891), at the time of these writings.
- Eventually moved to California in March of 1942. He worked for the same insurance company for the balance of his life. He wrote a lengthy 15-page letter home after he arrived at his destination. Look for a scanned PDF of that letter elsewhere.
- Known for his whit and very agreeable personality.

Sam Wagner (53 Years)

- An older cousin, who lived in Rochester, New York. Born: 1886
- Very interested in family history through photography. He and his sister, Inez, created several dozen family albums with captions. Their work is available on www.Bliley.net.
- Worked for a supplier of electric motors and equipment in Rochester.
- Major contributor to the Bliley Family reunion in 1947 hosted by his cousin, Frank Dawson Bliley, and his wife Isabelle, at their home in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Miscellaneous

- Original letters were scanned and transcribed by Charles A. Bliley, Rochester, NY, August 2016. No corrections have been made to correct any spelling and grammatical errors.
- Letters found in the family archives of David Wagner, or Lima, New York, in 2016. They are believed to have been the personal archive materials of Dave's grandfather, Sam Wagner.