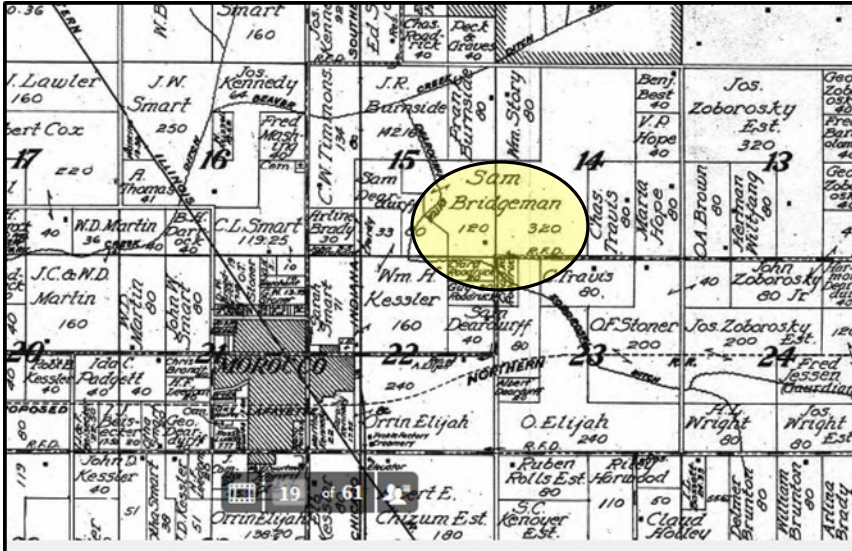


The Bridgeman Family

By Dennis Boyd

Samuel Bridgeman was born in Lancaster, Ohio on July 6, 1815. He was the son of Michael Bridgeman (1790–1870) who was born in Pennsylvania and Mary M. Keeley (1790–1849) who was born in Virginia. Sometime after their marriage, Samuel's parents migrated to Ohio.

In the early years of Samuel's life he moved to Harrison County, IN and lived there around 13 years. He then moved to Coal Creek in Fountain County, IN living there for four years. After another five years in Logansport, IN he moved to Newton County near Morocco in 1840 where he lived the rest of his life.



Newton County, Beaver Twp. 1916

This 1916 Map of the land owners in Beaver Twp. shows the location of Samuel's farm.

Samuel married Lavina Murphey in 1842 in Newton County and they had nine children in 16 years. Lavina died on March 10, 1887 at the farm at the age of 69. Sometime, thereafter, Samuel remarried.

The 9 children Samuel and Lavina had together included 5 daughters and 4 sons. Their children provided them with 27 grandchildren over the years.

Samuel and Lavina's children were - Sarah Jane (1843-1934), Lydia Anne (1845-1912), Nancy E. (1847-1929), John (1849-1893), Michael (1851-1901), Samuel E. (1854-1940), and twins Alonzo 1856-1929 and Alzoria (1856-1934) and Mary Catherine (1860-1945).

Sarah Jane married Samuel J. Deardurff (1844-1929) in 1868. They had three children. Sarah died in Morocco on Feb 26, 1934 at the age of 90.



Sarah Jane and Samuel Deardurff



Standing L to R – Archie Storey, Geo. Crudden, Ray Storey, Edith (Bridgeman) Crudden, Harold Bridgeman, Opal (Bridgeman) Storey, Sam Bridgeman, Wilimina Bridgeman, Elsie Bridgeman, Fonderine Storey, Flossie Bridgeman, Dolores Crudden, Eva (Story) Baird (holding Betty, & Milton Storey).

Lydia Anne Bridgeman was born in Morocco, on February 8, 1845. She married Christian Cyrus Deardurff (1840-1903) on April 25, 1865 in Newton County. They had five children in 14 years.

Lydia died on October 23, 1912 in Kentland and is buried in Morocco, Christian passed away on November 23, 1903 and is buried with her.

Nancy E. Bridgeman was born on March 27, 1847, in Morocco. She married Cyrus Brunton (1841-1912) on November 8, 1866, in Newton County. They had nine children in 20 years.. Her husband, Cyrus, had served in the Indiana 99th during the Civil War. Cyrus died on April 4, 1912. Nancy died on October 3, 1929, in her hometown at the age of 82, and she and Cyrus are buried there.

John Bridgeman was born on April 16, 1849 in Newton County. He married Eunice Flora James from Monticello (1853-1917) on March 9, 1872, in Newton, Indiana. They had two children during their marriage. For a short time John and Eunice moved to Island Grove in Sangamon County, Illinois, but later returned to Newton County. John passed away on December 4, 1893 and Eunice died in 1917. They are buried at the Oakland Cemetery near Morocco.

Michael Bridgeman was born May 21, 1851 in Newton County. He married Rosetta "Ettie" Goodale on April 26, 1885 and they had one child during their marriage. Ettie died as a young mother on January 6, 1894, at the age of 31 and is buried in the Murphey Cemetery in Morocco. Michael died on March 22, 1901, in Morocco, Indiana, at the age of 50 and is buried with his wife in Morocco.



Alonzo Bridgeman

Alonzo and his twin sister *Alzoria* were born on September 9, 1856, in Morocco. He married Olive Jane Hooks on January 20, 1886, in Newton, Indiana. They had 15 children in 25 years. Olive passed away at the age of 80 on July 27, 1950 in Morocco at the Murphy Cemetery. The 1900 Census records show that Alonzo and Olive lived in St. Mary Village, Iroquois County in Illinois. Alonzo died on February 27, 1929, in Jackson, Indiana, at the age of 72 and is buried by his wife.

Samuel E. Bridgeman was born on January 19, 1854, in Morocco, Indiana. He was married four times and had four sons and six daughters. He died on June 15, 1940, in Newton, Indiana, at the age of 86.

Alzoria "Allie" Lou Bridgeman and her twin brother were born on September 9, 1856, in Morocco at the Bridgeman farm and moved to Morocco when she married. She married George Ervin Lowe (1852-1939) on February 24, 1878, in Newton County. They had five children in 13 years; Ella May (1879-1904), Anna Viola (1882-1948), Rosezella Isabelle (1884-1968), Maude Christina (1886-1965) and Ina Eviena (1892-1912). George passed away on June 26, 1939. His obituary said he died from bronchial pneumonia. "Zella" passed away on Feb. 26, 1968. She and her husband are buried in the Riverside Cemetery in Brook

Mary Catherine Bridgeman was born on August 6, 1860, in Morocco. She married William Alfred Coovert on April 23, 1896, in Newton County. They had one child during their marriage. She died on March 11, 1945, in Beaver Twp., Indiana, at the age of 84.

Footnote: *Alzoria* ("Allie") and George Lowe's daughter, *Rosezella "Zella"*, married John Merchant on Jan. 16, 1907. They had four children; Lloyd, Alma, Eva May and Roy. One of Roy's daughters is Roslynn (Merchant) Boyd married to Dennis, the contributor of this article. "

Zella & John Merchant with their three grand-daughters, Roslynn, Carolyn & Cheryl Merchant



Lydia Anne (Bridgeman) Deardurff



George & Allie (Bridgeman) Lowe

