

Submitted by Shirley (Montgomery) Larsen
Benjamin Bunn & Mary 'Polly' Finley were my gggg-grandparents.

Benjamin Bunn grew up on the farm in Jeromesville, Ashland Co., Ohio and received his education there. He was the son of Benjamin J. Bunn and Margaret 'Peggy' Hyatt. At the age of 22 he married 17 year old Mary 'Polly' Finley.

About 1838 Benjamin and Mary and two children moved to Lawrence County, Illinois and according to one source, they bought 40 acres of land at \$1.25 an acre. Another source says they had 160 acres of timberland where they built a cabin and started clearing land for farming.

1850 Census - Lawrence Co., Illinois - Pg. 13B

Bunn - Benjamin	age 38	OH	farmer	1,200
Mary	33	OH		
Catherine	14	OH		
Mariah	13	OH		
Eli	12	IL		
Hiatt	10	IL		
Jonathan F.	7	IL		
Mary A.	4	IL		
Winfield Scott	2	IL		

They were living in Lawrence County, IL with seven of their children. Benjamin was a farmer with real estate valued at \$1,200. He was a Democrat and a Methodist and the Bunnns were reported to be well known and well respected members of the community. He remained on the farm until his death.

1860 Census - Lukin Twp., Lawrence Co., Illinois (Olive P.O.) Pg. 155

1 - Bunn	Benj	age 56	OH	farmer	Real estate 4000	personal 800
"	Mary	45	OH			
"	Eli	21	IL	farmer		
"	Hyatt	18	IL	school teacher		
"	Finley	17	IL	farm laborer		
"	Mary A.	14	IL			
"	W.S.	12	IL			
"	B.F.	6	IL			
Finley	Martha	26	OH			

The text of his will is as follows:

In the name of God, Amen. I, Benjamin Bunn of the county of Lawrence and state of Illinois of the age of 50 years and being of sound mind and memory do make, publish and declare this my last will and testament in the manner following, that is to say:

First, I will that all my just debts be paid out of the affects of my personal property.

Second, I will and bequeath to my beloved wife Mary Bunn her support of the proceeds of the farm during her lifetime.

Third, I will and bequeath to my daughter Katharine Schrader one seventh part of my entire estate after the former bequeaths are satisfied after deducting out \$75 out of her said seventh part.

Fourth, I will and bequeath to my daughter Mariah Wilson one seventh part of my entire estate as set forth in the third bequeath after deducting \$75 out of her said portion.

Fifth, I will and bequeath to my son Eli one seventh part of my entire estate after deducting \$300 out of his said share.

Sixth, I will and bequeath to my son Hyatt one seventh part of my estate.

Seventh, I will and bequeath to my daughter Mary Ann one seventh part of my estate.

Eighth, I will and bequeath to my son Winfield Scott one seventh part of my estate.

The several legacies to be paid to the several heirs as they become of age after the said estate shall have been turned into money.

Lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint John Milligan and Hyatt Bunn Jr. sole executors of this my last will and testament thereby revoking all former wills by me made.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this fifteenth day of October AD 1860.

Benjamin Bunn

* The executors of his estate, John Milligan mentioned in this will was Benjamin's brother-in-law and Hyatt Bunn Jr. was his brother.

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Catherine Bunn, daughter of Benjamin Bunn & Mary Finley  
married William Robert Schrader Sept. 30, 1852 in Lukin Twp., Lawrence Co., Illinois  
He was the son of Samuel Schrader and Margaret Corrie

William received 80 acres of land from his father and bought an additional 58 acres which he farmed south of Sumner. He was an active Methodist and was instrumental in building the **Bethel Church** on a corner of his farm. Many of the Bunnns and Schraders would later be buried in the Bethel Church Cemetery. He was also a Democrat.

Although he would have been of age to be in the military, there has never been found a record of his having served in the Civil War.

1860 Census - Lukin Twp., Lawrence Co., Illinois (Olive P.O.) Pg. 175/176

|                       |      |          |              |                   |               |
|-----------------------|------|----------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 140 - Wm. R. Schrader | 29   | IL       | farmer       | real estate 2000  | personal 500  |
| Catherine "           | 24   | OH       |              |                   |               |
| Maria "               | 2    | IL       |              |                   |               |
| Mary M. "             | 1/12 | IL       |              |                   |               |
| Wm. M. "              | 48   | Tenn     | farmer       | real estate 10000 | personal 1200 |
| Mary "                | 43   | Scotland |              |                   |               |
| John C. "             | 24   | IL       | farm laborer |                   |               |
| Wm. M "               | 17   | IL       |              |                   |               |
| Thomas M. "           | 9    | IL       |              |                   |               |

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Another daughter of Benjamin Bunn and Mary' Polly' Finley was Maria Catherine Bunn (my ggg-grandmother) She was born April 1, 1837 in Jeromesville, Ashland Co., Ohio. She married Lafayette Wilson on Jan. 1, 1857 in Lawrence Co., Illinois. He was born 1835 in Lawrence Co., Illinois, the son of William Wilson and Olive French.

Maria (Bunn) Wilson died Dec. 6, 1868, just shortly after the birth of her youngest daughter in Clay Co., Arkansas. Both are buried in Bethel Cemetery, Lukin Twp., Lawrence Co., Illinois. Lafayette died in 1883 in Clay Co., Arkansas.

* Some surnames associated with these family members are: Bunn, Schrader, Wilson, Corrie, Finley, Hyatt, Loney, Madding, Milligan