

# Buracker & Boraker

Family History Research Newsletters

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## Letter from Daniel and Nancy Boroker Dated 13 February 1878

**T**HE following letter was written to **Charles and Sarah DeWitt**. They are ancestors of Ruth Henry of Whiteboro, Texas who kindly sent this typewritten copy:

Crawfordsville, Ind.  
Montgomery County,  
February the 13, 1878

Dear Brother and Sister,

I once more sit down to try to write you a few lines to let you know that your receipt has come to hand all right, and I will go to Crawfordsville in a few days and I will send you a draft in a registered letter for one hundred and fifteen dollars.

I am at a loss to know where to mail it to Subrosa or Webb City or Charleston. I will send this letter to Subrosa, and the draft also in an extra envelope. So, Charles, when you get this draft I want you to write me so I will know it is all right.

Sally, I will say to you that Father's estate will be about \$1200.00 dollars to divide amongst 9 children; the balance I will send you between this and fall. Whatever it is when I make my final settlement with the court. Charles, I will say to you that I saw **Uncle Billy Monroe** a few days ago and they was all well as common. He offtimes asks about you.

Direct a letter to Boston Store and he will get it.

Charles, if you want the Crawfordsville review write in your next letter and I will send it to you. **Ele Mount and Mary** lives in Crawfordsville. **Nelly** is living with them and **Mary Ellen**, her only child is dead and she is very lonely. **John Ross** and Pap are living in White county John a doing no good. **Abram Marshbarger** lives where **Charles Masterson** lived when you left and is getting rich and has four children living and Aunt **Sally Marshberger** is living with him. Old **uncle John Blankenship** is well and lives at Ridge and is a doing well and in the way of politicks runs Coalcreek Township. Old Bill Craig is our sheriff.

Sallie, I will say to you that father and mother had broken up housekeeping before either of their deaths and they was living with me. Mother got a fall the first Sunday in January 1874, and never walked one step but lived till the 19 of May. Father took sick about the last week in March and died the 19 of May making 3 years to the day between their deaths. Sarah, the old house is torn down but your apple trees in the yard is a standing yet and looks younger than you do.

Sallie, I will send you a piece of mother's shroud. Sallie, Nancy says she would like

to see you and the children and have a talk with you once more. I could tell you a great many things you would want to know about. So I will have to close by sending my love and respects to you and the children. So farewell.

[**Nancy W. Boroker** then writes:] We have only two children at home, **George and Nancy Jane**; the rest all married. We have eleven grandchildren, can you beat that? Charles, the winter has been very warm and wet so far. A little snow on the ground tonight but clear and pleasant. Our wheat looks extra well. Corn was good, wheat is worth about \$1.20, corn from 30 to 33 cts. Pork \$3.75 to 3.80. Oats 25c per bushel. Whiskey \$4.00 per gallon but plenty on the market. Butter 20 cts and all other things in proportion. Now, Charles, I don't want you to neglect writing to me when you get this letter. It's ten o'clock and I am tired so will close.

-- **Daniel and Nancy Boroker**

*My comments:* Daniel's father and mother were **Henry and Mary Ann Boroker**. Henry had nine children to share the estate referred to. I know that he had at least 10 children according to the census records, but Lydia died in 1861.

"**Uncle Billy Monroe**." Who is he? How did he intermarry with the Boraker family?

"**Nelly** lives with them" (**Ele or Ely Mount and Mary**). That's probably referring to "R'nelly" or Ellen who was a sister of Mary. They were only four years apart in age.

"**Abram Harshbarger** lives where **Charles Masterson** lived." Abram married Lydia Boraker, daughter of Henry and Mary Ann. Charles Masterson married **Barbara Harshbarger** on 7 March, 1829 in Crawfordsville.

"**John Ross** and Pap are living in White county." John Ross married Polly ("Pap") Boroker, Daniel's sister.

"**Aunt Sally Harshbarger** is living with him" (**Abram Harshbarger**). Which relation is this? **Barbara Harshbarger**, already referred to, was the sister of **Christopher Harshbarger** who married **Eve Boroker**, Daniel's sister, on 19 Sep 1839.

*Editor's Note written in March 2008:* Christopher's brother Isaac married **Sarah Crouch** named "Sally" in the 1850 census. She was living with Abram Harshbarger at the time of the 1870 census. Sarah or Sally Harshbarger, wife of Isaac, was actually Daniel's cousin, but called an "aunt" for some reason.

"**Old uncle John Blankenship**" lives at the old place with 3<sup>rd</sup> wife. I don't know what his relationship was with the Boraker family, but he was a notable person in the community according to Beckwith's *History of Montgomery County Indiana*, page 598: "Mr. Blankenship has held many township offices. Assessor six years, constable six years, and overseer of the poor and has been administrator and guardian for many estates and children."

"Mother had fall in Jan 1874...lived till the 19 of May." All the records show that **Mary Ann Boroker's** death was in 1873 and Henry's in 1876. The year 1874 appears to be a human error on Daniel's part or it is a transcription error, in my opinion.

*Note written in March 2008:* Sarah or "Sallie" DeWitt was **Henry Boroker's** daughter and therefore an heir to his estate. She was Daniel's sister.

Sarah or "Sallie" DeWitt was **Henry Boroker's** daughter and therefore an heir to his estate. More details about her will be given in a future newsletter. She was Daniel's sister.