

EBBETS ADDENDA

No. 1

JANUARY 2006

This is the first issue of what may become an occasional publication to document additional findings on the history of the Ebbets family in America following the publication in 2005 of my book, *Ebbets: The History and Genealogy of a New York Family*.

FIRST GENERATION

1. DANIEL¹ EBBETS

In November 2005 I made another research trip to Salt Lake City. One of my objectives was to determine if the Daniel Ebbets, “roughmason,” of Norwich, Norfolk County, England, was identical to the Daniel Ebbets, brickmason of New York City. In discussing this question with one of the staff at the Family History Library, he confirmed that it would be unlikely to find any direct evidence to verify that association. He recommended, therefore, that one way to approach the question was through “negative evidence”—the absence of any record for Daniel in Norfolk after 1700.

Therefore, I searched the following Norfolk records for any mention of Daniel Ebbets:

- National Burial Index of England (CD). The only Daniel Ebbets in Norfolk County was buried in 1884, age 57.
- Apprentices of Great Britain, 1710–1762, extracted from the Inland Revenue Books at the Public Record Office for the Society of Genealogists. Vol. 9, Dien–Ellis. [Film no. 477,626] No Ebbets entries.
- Boyd’s Marriage Index, Grooms, 1701–1725. No Daniel Ebbets.

Norwich Probate Records:

- The Peculiar of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich. No Ebbets entries
- Archdeacon of Norwich, Index to Wills, 1660–1728. [Film no. 94,846] No Ebbets entries.
- Archdeacon of Norfolk, Index to Wills, 1639–1784. [Film no. 94,850] No Daniel Ebbets.

Having found no reference to Daniel Ebbets in any of these Norfolk records, my conclusion is that this negative evidence, while not sufficient to prove that the Daniel of New York came from Norwich, supports that hypothesis.

It remains probable, in my view, therefore, that the Daniel Ebbets, immigrant to New York City in 1700, was the Daniel Ebbets who was born on 14 September 1664 in Norwich, Norfolk Co., England, the son of Daniel Ebbets, roughmason. This son was admitted a Freeman of Norwich on 28 July 1693 and then disappeared from Norfolk records.

THIRD GENERATION

15. DANIEL J.³ EBBETS

Daughter, Elizabeth, is non-existent. This was a mis-reading of the baptismal record for another daughter, Jane. Jane Ebbets, who married Jacob C. Arthur, was born on 14 October 1783 and was baptised at Trinity Church, New York City, on 5 November 1783.

FIFTH GENERATION

15. DANIEL⁵ EBBETS

Daughter, Anna Ebbets, who married William Simpson on 4 April 1900.

In the *Ebbets* book (p. 59), I wrote, “Anna gave her age at marriage as 27 years old, implying a birth date of about 1873. She also listed Daniel Ebbets and Joan Byram as her parents. Daniel died in 1865, however, and Joan did not marry her second husband until 1875. Anna’s actual nativity, therefore, is a puzzle.”

As it turns out, Anna is probably not an Ebbets at all. In all likelihood she was Anna Robinson, daughter of John Robinson and Jane Hannah, born 21 April 1872 at 1 Minetta Place in New York city [see IGI for “female” Robinson]. She was likely the “Agnes Robinson” who was apprenticed to Joan Ebbets in 1874. The following information was provided to me by Art Simpson, Anna’s great grandson.

Anna Simpson was also known as “Pearl.” Her husband, William J. Simpson, was the son of John Gorham and Agnes Simpson. His father apparently died when he was quite young, and he was raised in the household of his mother’s brother, James Simpson and his wife, Sarah Johnson, and took James Simpson’s surname as his own.

Now Agnes Simpson (born ca. 1847) and James Simpson (born ca. 1831) were two of the eight children of John Simpson and Agnes Bell, Irish immigrants to New York City ca. 1837. Agnes and James also had a sister, Hannah Amelia Simpson (born ca. 1843), who married John Robertson ca. 1870. John and Hannah had a daughter Mary “Mimi” Robertson. Hannah’s second husband was Thomas McClure, whom she married on 26 September, 1884.

William J. Simpson’s first wife (whom he married on 28 August 1894 [NYC marriage certificate M10440] at the North Presbyterian Church) was likely his first cousin, this same Mary “Mimi” Robertson. As we know, William’s second wife reported her name as Anna Ebbets and gave her age as 27. On p. 58 of the *Ebbets* book I wrote, “Agnes Robinson, age two years and two months, was apprenticed to Mrs. Johanna H. [sic] Ebbets, housekeeper, of 160 Sullivan Street, on 1 June 1874.” This child was exactly the right age to have been “female” Robinson, born on 20 April 1872. Thus, she would have been raised in the Ebbets household from infancy and would have known Joan Byram Ebbets as her only “mother.” And it would have made perfect sense for this young lady (who likely preferred the name “Anna” to “Agnes”) to have then named her “adoptive” parents Daniel and Joan Ebbets on her marriage certificate to William J. Simpson.

William J. and Anna Simpson had three children:

- Arthur James Simpson, Sr., born 26 September 1900, in New York City.
- Agnes Rosalie Simpson, born and died in 1905 in Bayonne, Hudson Co., New Jersey.
- Alice Edith Simpson, born 6 November 1906 in Bayonne and died in 1992.

Anna C. Simpson died on 5 October 1934 in Hempstead, Nassau Co., New York [Nassau Co., New York, death certificate, 1934, no. 546], and was buried at Brentwood Cemetery, Long Island. Her death certificate lists her parents as John Robertson and Hannah Bell, both of New York. (The informant was their daughter, Alice Simpson. It may well be that in the stress of her mother's death she mis-named Jane Hannah as Hannah Bell.) Anna's husband, William Simpson, died in Baldwin, Nassau Co., New York, on 11 May 1935, and is also buried at Brentwood Cemetery.

This scenario remains highly speculative. But it appears to go a long way towards explaining the possible nativity of this Anna "Ebbets," born almost ten years after the death of the father she listed on her marriage certificate.

16. JOHN B.⁵ EBBETS

Daughter, Charlotte Lozier Ebbets.

The photograph on p. 109, identified there as Charlotte Bissell Ebbets Rapelye, is actually that of Charlotte Lozier Ebbets, daughter of John B. Ebbets and the wife of George Edgar Bissell.

17. EDWARD A.⁵ EBBETS

Phoebe, wife of George Arcularius, has now been identified as Phoebe Davenport Wright, born ca. 1793 in Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Connecticut [see Stamford, CT, vital records, Deaths in 1859]. Her maiden name was first obtained from the death certificates of two of her children, Amelia Augusta Arcularius Gunther (NYC death certificate, 1901, no. 32561), and Selina Derrick Arcularius (NYC death certificate, 1899, no. 35112). Subsequently, the marriage of George Arcularius and Phebe Wright has been found. They were married on 13 February 1820 by Rev. F. G. Schaeffer [Gertrude Barber's Index to New York Marriages]. Also, in line five, replace "George and Kate Arcularius" with "George and Phoebe Arcularius."

19. ARTHUR MERCEIN⁵ EBBETS

Arthur's second marriage to Elizabeth Ann "Betty" Stevenson took place on 4 August 1864 [*San Francisco Daily Evening Bulletin*, 5 August 1864]. They were married at the residence of Horace Hawes, by Bishop Kavanaugh. Elizabeth Stevenson Ebbets died in San Francisco, California, on 24 January 1894 [*San Francisco Morning Call*, 26 January 1894, p. 10]

20. JAMES⁵ EBBETS

Daughter, Mary A. Ebbets, reported to have married [unknown] Payne ca. 1865.

Mary Augusta Ebbets married Alfred D. Payne on 23 May 1866 in Brooklyn, Kings Co., New York. [Brooklyn marriage certificate, 1866, no. 35]

SIXTH GENERATION

29. CHARLES H.⁶ EBBETS

Daughter, Lydia Maie Ebbets, who married Leon Cadore.

Lydia Maie Ebbets was married twice. Her first Husband was Frank Albert Hendricks, son of William Justus Hendricks and Mary Jerold. Frank was born on 19 September 1874 in Brooklyn, Kings Co., New York [World War I draft card, Brooklyn, Board 44, Sterling Place & Vanderbilt Ave.]. He married Lydia Maie Ebbets on 15 June 1904 in Brooklyn [Brooklyn marriage certificate, 1904, no. 4321].

Lydia's second marriage, to Leon Cadore, occurred on 26 September 1931 in Thompson Falls, Sanders Co., Montana [Sanders Co., Montana, certificate no. 948]. Still, no record of her death has been found, but it probably occurred ca. 1950, possibly in Idaho

30. WILLIAM SNELL⁶ EBBETS

Daughter, Charlotte Bissell, wife of Lewis Bates Newell and of Warren R. Rapelye.

As reported above, the photograph on page 109 is actually that of Charlotte Lozier Ebbets Bissell. The correct photograph of Charlotte Bissell, wife of Warren R. Rapelye, appears here. Also, her daughter, Vilette Newell, died in Long Branch, Monmouth Co., New Jersey (not Onondaga Co., New York).



Charlotte Ebbets Rapelye

36. JOHN AUGUSTUS⁶ EBBETS

John A. Ebbets lived in Rochester from 1907 until 1912, when he had removed from that city [Rochester city directories]. He worked in Rochester as a tinsmith. No record has yet been found, however, to identify the maiden name of his first wife, Jean.

40. CHARLES O'CONNOR.⁶ EBBETS

The photograph on page 138 is mis-identified as "Charles and Kitty Ebbets with daughter, Frances." The photograph is actually that of "Charles and Kitty Ebbets with grandson, Robert."



The author, Ted Steele, continues to research this family. If you have any additional information to share, you may contact him as follows:

By e-mail:

eesteele@swbell.net

By phone:

314-725-5053