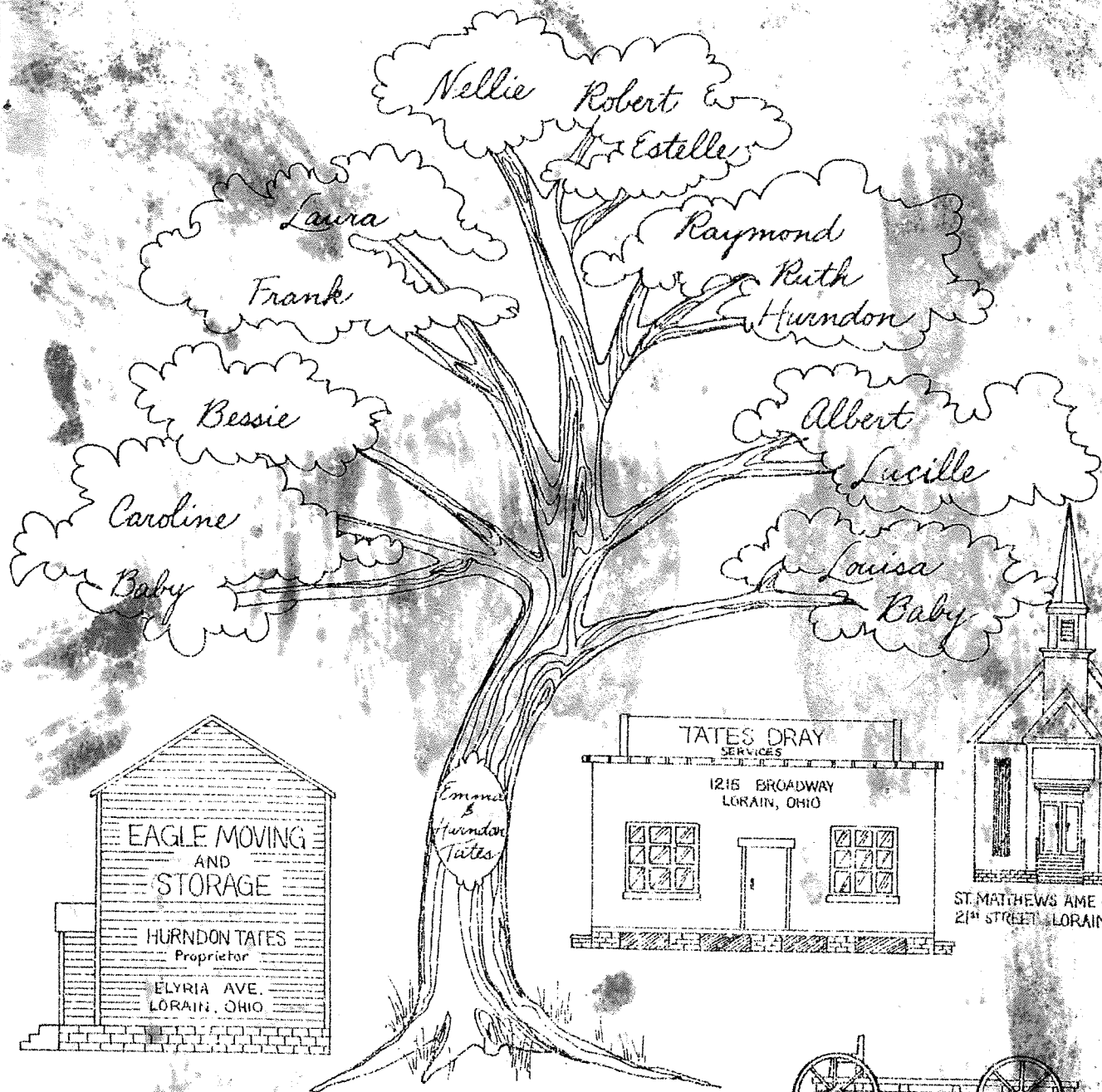
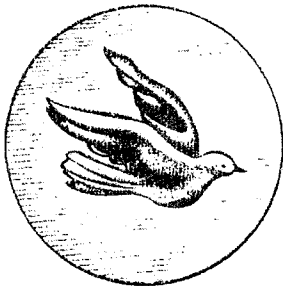


TATES HAULING SERVICE
LORAIN, OHIO

TATES FAMILY REUNION
1984, STOW, OHIO



GREETINGS

Aug. 4, 1984
Stow, Ohio

To Our Relatives:

It is with gratitude and love that we greet you on your attendance to the first organized gathering of the Bates Family Reunion.

Throughout the years we have met on occasions such as weddings, birthdays; for sickness and death. It seems we've always had an unspoken commitment to one another. But, it was more than that - it was that absolute bloodline that was binding and forever present.

Our ancestral background has been a great legacy for us. It has taught us to be survivors, to be courageous and to rise above defeat.

The matriarch and patriarch of our families - Emma and Hurndon Bates, braved the era which often offered no hope; a time when the struggle became too great for many who did not survive.

Hurndon Bates was a man of courage and strength, and his wife, Emma was supportive of his daringness and his ideas. They met the challenge early in the 1800s when they dared to be great - and they were.

We will pay tribute on this occasion to our Hurndon and Emma Bates, who some of you never knew, and some of us remember them with deep reverence. There are many interesting features of their life that we hope to share with you during this reunion.

Respectfully submitted by:

Darlene Linder-Brown, Pres.
Dr. Melvin Farris, Vice Pres.
Sylyna France, Secretary
Edward Randleman, Treasurer
Laura E. Farris
Sylyna Cousar
Preston Linder, Jr.

Youths during the Civil War

The year was 1860 - Abraham Lincoln was still president.

Somewhere in Green County, Kentucky, in a rural farm house, a new life was beginning. The birth of a baby girl was taking place, and upon her arrival she startled her mother with a loud, strong wail. The mother gently cuddled the new born and said, "Hello, Emma Elizabeth."



Emma Elizabeth was gently bathed by the mid-wife and dressed in a soft cotton gown and placed next to her mother where she slept, oblivious to the bitter political struggles going on the outside world.

One year after her birth, on April 12, 1861, the Confederates fired on Ft. Sumpter, which was the beginning of the Civil War. The slavery issue stirred the people's emotions in the north and south. One of Emma's sisters was taken from the family and sold.

Fear gripped the heart of Emma's father as talk was going around that another one of his daughters was going to be sold. One night he quickly and quietly stole his family away from the ramshackled house in Kentucky. They made their way through the dark fields and roads until they knew they were in safe territory. The family settled in a place called Duck Creek, Ohio, somewhere near Cincinnati.

Meanwhile, a young boy growing up in Culpepper, Virginia, where he was born in 1854, was free to roam. His mother was ever watchful of him because he was headstrong and defied the orders of the plantation master. After all, his father, an Irishman, with the last name of Sutton, was the overseer of the grounds, and Hurdon Travis Tate(s) felt safe in the fact that nothing would harm him. His mother had married a man with the last name Tate, so that was the name he decided to attach himself to. It wasn't until years later that he added the "s" to his last name.

Back in Duck Creek, Emma Brown and her family of sisters and brothers, were enjoying the freedom of the north. Her father, who was part Indian, was glad he had made the decision to move his wife and children from the dangers and threats of Kentucky.

Emma was five years old when the family moved to Ohio. Just a few names of some of her sisters are known. There was Jessie, Grace and Corilla, two of whom were twins.

Maybe it never seemed important to record the family names: parents, grandparents and children, but it is not known what her mother and fathers first names were. Nor was there any record of her brothers names and the sister which was sold in slavery.

There was talk though of the family having lived at one time in Walnut Hills, Ohio, which also is or was located near Cincinnati.

Back in Virginia, Hurndon, at the age of 14, took a job as a waterboy for a railroad company. After several years on the job, he took his money that he saved and bought his mother a house. He never referred to his mother by a first name, but he did talk of his grandmother, named Lucy. A picture of his mother is among a collection of pictures belonging to Louisa Bates Jackson.

Hurndon stayed with the railroad business, which took him to various locations. He eventually became a supervisor over a "work gang" while building tunnels for narrow gauge railroads. They tunneled through mountains in Belmont, Harrison and Jefferson counties.

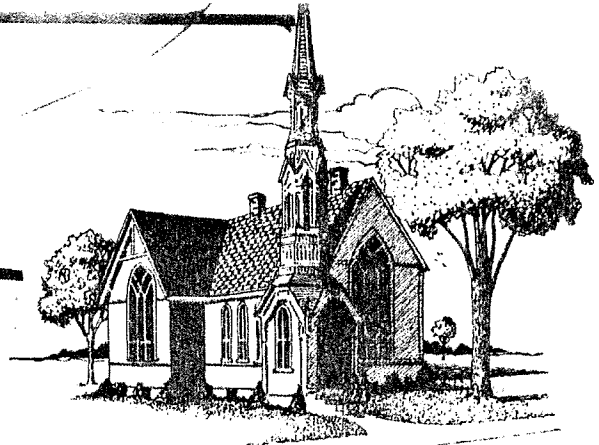
It was believed that it was during a job he was supervising near Cincinnati, that he met Emma Brown. They courted and married. She was probably around 18 years old and he about 24. The couple moved around quite a bit because of his job. And from some of the records, of where the children were born, it appears that at some time during their early marriage, they returned to Virginia and lived in Bowerston and Cadiz, Ohio.

Hurndon Bates never had any formal education, but was self-educated and a very shrewd businessman. He was described as being of very light complexion and having grey eyes, and being of average height. Emma was very tiny. She wasn't even five feet tall. Very petite and soft-spoken.

It was the job with the railroads that eventually brought Hurndon and Emma to Lorain, and later to New London, Ohio.

Upon This Rock.....

By Darlene Brown



It was a deep Christian faith that kept Emma and Hurndon Tate in the forefront of religious activities in the community.

There were few Negro churches in the city when they arrived in 1894, and little mention by other relatives and friends in forming any.

After a long day, fighting the cold and bitter winds that came through the open fields where Hurndon Tate spent much of his time, when he would arrive home and dinner was served he offered a lengthy blessing for the food the family was about to receive. The fields had yielded plenty and the children were always full. And, Emma was a great cook.

The couple realized from whence their help came.

When friends and relatives would visit, there was always talk of how good the Lord had been to them. Sometimes there were moments of prayer and a little singing. It wasn't that they did not go to church. They attended the CME (Colored Methodist Episcopal) Church on Seventh Street. But, the Tate family and some other families in Lorain had been members of African Methodist Episcopal churches before settling here and wanted a church of their own denomination.

Sometime in 1904 or a year before that, families of Hurndon Tate, Riley Thompson, Jordan Cain, Sr. and Thomas H. Stevens met at the home of William Brantford on 23rd Street & Oakdale Avenue. They had a long meeting and lengthy discussion on bringing the AME Church to Lorain. It was during that meeting that Emma Tate said she wanted to suggest a name for the church. She said she would like for it to be called "St. Matthews A.M.E. Church," and everyone agreed.

Needless to say, the five families prayed that their church would become a reality, and it did. The church was dedicated and named St. Matthews A.M.E. Church. The doors of the church opened in 1905, and the congregation experienced a tremendous growth. The old church was at 21st Street & Lexington Ave. Today, the new church is located at 1909 W. 24th St., and the name remains the same.



TATES CHILDREN & THEIR CHILDREN

NELLIE JANE

SPOUSES: Charles Poet, Louis Thompson,
E.R. Crockett, Arthur T. Luins

CHILD: Emma Poet Warren

LAURA

SPOUSE: Burl Farris
CHILDREN: Harold, Thelma, Sarah,
Demerus and Darmus (twins),
Melvin, Herbert

FRANK

Died as a youth

ELIZABETH (Bessie)

Died as a young woman

CAROLINE

SPOUSE: Willard Thompson
CHILDREN: Wilma, Wilbert, Owen, Esther

ROBERT

SPOUSE: Helen (Ferguson)
CHILDREN: Leonard, Betty, Robert, George

RAYMOND

SPOUSE: Mary (Bond)
CHILDREN: Edith, Gwendolyn, Howard,
Jessica, (stepson, Lester)

RUTH

Died as a youth

HURNDON

SPOUSE: Margretta
CHILDREN: Mildred, Vivian (both died
very young)

ALBERT

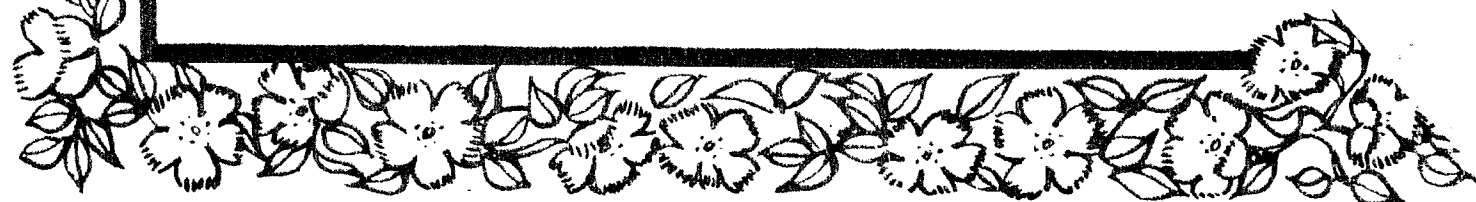
Died as a youth

LUCILLE

SPOUSE: Hester Randleman
CHILDREN: Loretha, Elizabeth, Nelson,
Sarah Lou, Edward, Mason,
Clinton, Clavon, Sandra, Jessie

LOUISA

SPOUSE: James Jackson
CHILD: Sylyna



TATES FAMILY SETTLES IN LORAIN

(This article was reported by Louisa Tate Jackson, the youngest and only surviving child of Emma and Hurndon Tate)

By Louisa Tate Jackson

In 1894 Hurndon Tate and his family moved to Lorain, where he had been contracted to work for the city in removing stone from the quarry to be used in the paving process of city streets.

As I understand it, my father had been building narrow gage tunnels in the eastern central part of the state, for railroad companies. Much of his work was in Belmont, Harrison and Jefferson counties.

For the quarry job, he brought his crew and machinery to Lorain. The quarry is now the site of Central Park or some refer to it as Highland Park. The street paving was to take place from the Nickle Plate Railroad tracks to 21st Street.

After the job with the city was completed, my father opened his own business - Eagle Transfer and Storage Co. It was the first business of its kind in Lorain for moving, storage and coach service. The coaches at that time were called hacks.. Three of his sons grew up working in the business, they were: Robert, Raymond and Herndon. Another man who worked for my father was named Basore. After learning the business he opened the same kind of operation.

The Eagle Transfer and Storage had two long horse-drawn vans and four plush upholstered hacks. Over the years he operated two other stores, one at Broadway & 14th Street and the other at Elyria Avenue & 22nd Street. In those years they were known as second-hand stores, but he also handled new items, one being the Sun Ray range. The building at 22nd Street is still standing and is used as an apartment building. This was also the site for his stables and storage place.

When he retired from the transfer business, his oldest son, Robert continued the moving business.

The Eagle Transfer and Storage Co. also had a contract with the steel mill in Lorain, to transport new settlers from the train depot to their destinations. Most of the people were Europeans, which the steel mill had offered employment to and also housing.

Some of these new settlers didn't have pre-arranged jobs, so they would ask my father if he could find them work, and that was the beginning of an employment business that he operated for many years.

SECURING PROPERTY

Hurndon Bates was a self-employed businessman in Lorain and in the Village of New London, Ohio. While in Lorain, he purchased several pieces of property. The two documents below show where he paid, \$5,000 for one parcel and \$4,000 for another. The years were 1903 and 1909.

WARRANTY DEED. No. 1907 3.

Know all Men by these Presents, That Mr. Muller H. Benson and Son, 93 Junior has bound and assigns

for the consideration of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) Dollars, (\$5,000.00) received to a cash full satisfaction of

do GIVE, GRANT, BARGAIN, SELL AND CONVEY unto the said Grantee, his heirs and assigns, the following de

in the City of Lorain, County of Lorain, State of Ohio

being Block number Eight (8) and the

number nine (9) in block number

allotment made by Select Bl

Block Eight (8) and

now in the City of

WARRANTY DEED No. 30739
Know all Men by these Presents, That

for the consideration of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) Dollars, (\$4,000.00) received to a cash full satisfaction of

do GIVE, GRANT, BARGAIN, SELL AND CONVEY unto the said Grantee, his heirs and assigns, the following de

in the City of Lorain, County of Lorain, State of Ohio

being Block number thirty (30) and Block number

allotment made by Select Bl

Block thirty (30) and

now in the City of

To Have and to

the said Grantee

heirs and assigns, the

good and independent

same are free and clear

and that I will

and assign forever, right

that I will

do hereby warrant, defend and

in the above described premises

In Witness Whereof

in the year of our Lord one thousand

1907

1909

1907

1909

THE STATE OF OHIO,

1907

1909

1907

1909

1907

1909

1907

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1907

1909

1907

1909

FAVORITE HYMNS

Emma Bates, when busying herself around the house or at the stove preparing a meal, would often sing or hum some of her favorite hymns. The list included: "Pass Me Not," "Amazing Grace," "I Shall Not Be Moved," "Leaning on the Everlasting Arm," "God Be With You," "Bringing In the Sheaves," "I Can Hear the Savior Calling," "Beautiful Isle," "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone," "Nothing But the Blood," "'Tis So Sweet to Trust In Jesus," "Asleep In Jesus," "There Is A Fountain," "Shall We Gather at the River," "What A Friend," "Yield Not to Temptation," "Softly and Tenderly," "Blessed Assurance," "He Leadeth Me," "Come Thou Fount," and "Sweet By-And-By."

No. 183. Pass Me Not.
FANNY CROSBY.

1. Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, Hear my hum -
 2. Let me at Thy throne of mer - cy Find a sweet
 3. Trust - ing on - ly in Thy mer - it, Would I seek
 4. Thou, the spring of all my com - fort, More than life

oth - ers Thou art smil - ing, Do not there in deep con - tri - tion, Help my wounded, bro - ken spir - it, Save me I on earth be - side Thee? Whom in

hear my humble cry, While on

Used by permission

No. 39
John Newton
Amazing Grace
 Arr. by R. M. McIntosh

1. A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears re - lieved; come;
 3. Thro' man - y dan - gers, tolls and suares, I have al - read - y

Hurndon & Emma Bates

12TH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES

BLACK RIVER TOWNSHIP - LORAIN CITY

COUNTY OF LORAIN, JUNE 20, 1900

(Copied from microfilm at Lorain Public Library)
as recorded by a census taker

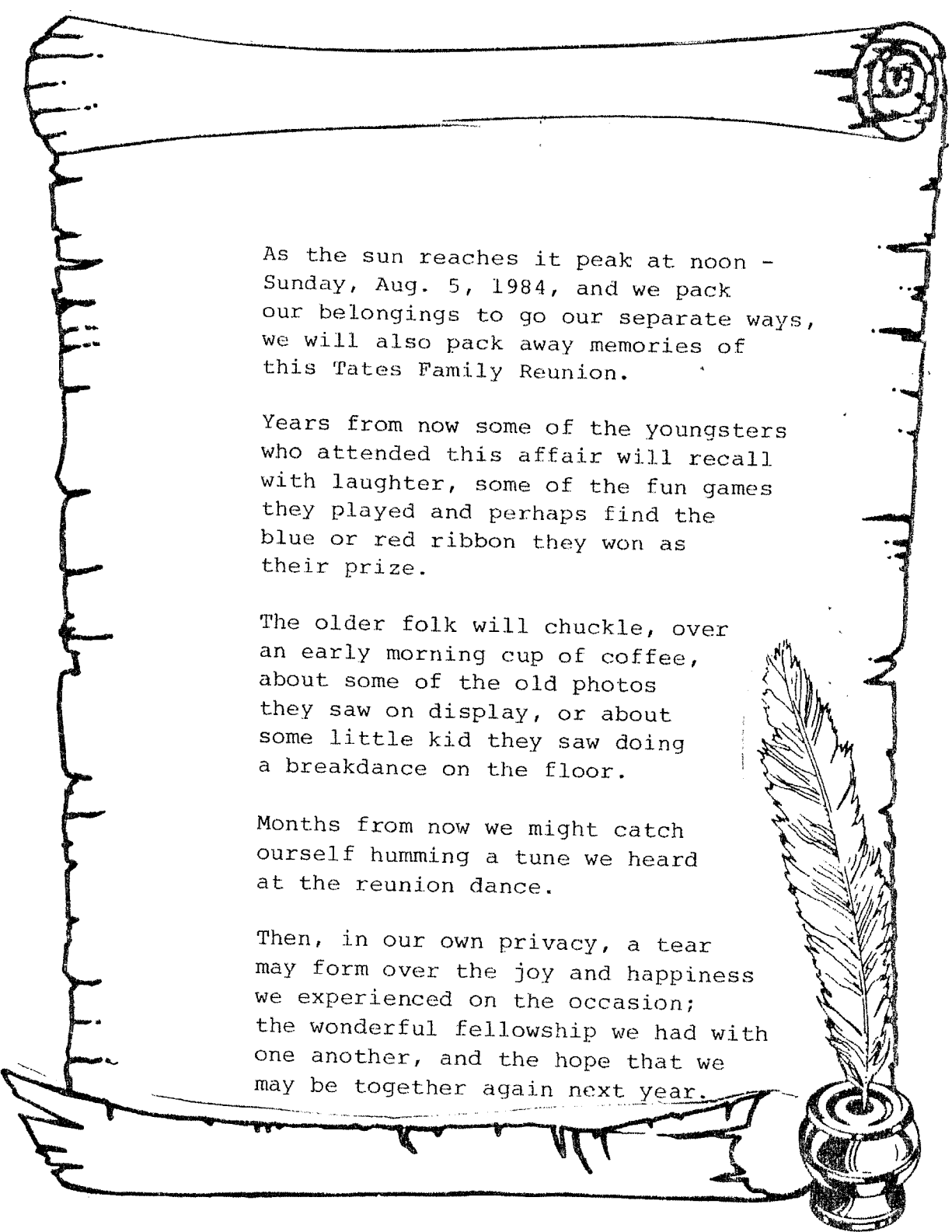
HEAD OF HOUSE: Hurndon Travis Tates - born in Virginia, 3/24/1854
Job Title: Liveryman
Age: 45 at time of census

WIFE: Emma (Brown) Tates - born in Kentucky, 7/27/1860

CHILDREN:	<u>NAME</u>	<u>BIRTH</u>
	Nellie Jane	March 1880
	Laura	March 1883
	Frank	August 1888
	Elizabeth (Bessie)	January 1890
	Caroline	August 1890
	Robert	October 1891
	Raymond	May 1892
	Ruth	January 1896
	Hurndon	January 1898
	Albert	January 1900
	Lucille	July 11, 1904
	Louisa	Jan. 21 1909

3 children died prior to the census, as infants

If you will take note: Five of the children
had January birth dates; two March and two August.



As the sun reaches it peak at noon -
Sunday, Aug. 5, 1984, and we pack
our belongings to go our separate ways,
we will also pack away memories of
this Tates Family Reunion.

Years from now some of the youngsters
who attended this affair will recall
with laughter, some of the fun games
they played and perhaps find the
blue or red ribbon they won as
their prize.

The older folk will chuckle, over
an early morning cup of coffee,
about some of the old photos
they saw on display, or about
some little kid they saw doing
a breakdance on the floor.

Months from now we might catch
ourselves humming a tune we heard
at the reunion dance.

Then, in our own privacy, a tear
may form over the joy and happiness
we experienced on the occasion;
the wonderful fellowship we had with
one another, and the hope that we
may be together again next year.