

Getman News From The Past

The Getman Family

The history of this family is Interwoven with the history of Montgomery county, from Revolutionary times till now and the family is spread over a goodly section of the western end of the county, in St. Johnsville, Canajoharie, Fort Plain, Fonda, Tribes Hill, Johnstown. N. Y. and other towns and villages. A genealogy of the family would show them to have entered in most every walk of life, farmers, merchants, lawyers and businessmen of all professions, thereby giving a good cross section of the history of the Mohawk valley.

(Saint Johnsville, New York, ENTERPRISE AND NEWS, Wednesday, February 19, 1936)

WIDOW OF FRED E. KNAPP, 84, DIES

Watertown Daily Times, NY

Friday, June 18, 1954
(Submitted by a reader)

Resident of City Most of her Life
Funeral To Be Sunday.

Mrs. Etta Sarah Getman Knapp, 84, widow of Fred E. Knapp and resident of Watertown the greater part of her life, died at 5:30 Thursday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. George S. (Ina) Eaton, Garden City, L. I., with whom she had been residing. She would have been 85 years old Sunday.

Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 at the Cleveland Funeral home. Rev. Dr. L. Ernest Otter, pastor of the First Methodist church, will officiate. Burial will be made in North Watertown cemetery.

The body will arrive here Saturday morning and be removed to the funeral home.

Surviving Mrs. Knapp, besides her daughter, Mrs. Eaton, are another daughter, Mrs. Julius J. (Adeline) Dworschak, Pelham Manor, N. Y.; a son, Earl R. Knapp, city; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrs. Orville (Edith) Walts, Evans Mills, and Mrs. Charles (Martha) Getman, Brownville.

Another daughter, Miss Lena May Knapp, died suddenly at the age of 35 years on Aug. 7, 1932, at Y. W. C. A. camp at Lake Brantingham of a heart attack.

Her husband, who died suddenly here Nov. 29, 1935, at the age of 64, had been a salesman in the James R. Miller company store for 46 years. Mr. and Mrs. Knapp lived at 134 Haley street.

Mrs. Knapp was suddenly stricken ill Wednesday, lapsing into a coma from which she failed to rally. While she had been afflicted with arthritis, she had not been ill.

Mrs. Knapp was born in the town of Orleans June 20, 1869, one of ten children of the late Stephen and Mary Waggoner Getman. She attended school in the town of her birth, where she spent the early part of her life.

She was married to Fred E. Knapp, native of the town of Brownville, on Feb. 20, 1895, and they established their residence in this city, Mr. Knapp having become an employe of the Miller clothing company in 1889.

Mrs. Knapp continued to reside here at the Haley street home until August, 1950, since which time she had been in the habit of residing with her two daughters.

She was a member of the First Methodist church.

Send us your family stories.

Wayne Getman
c/o
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Lines composed in 1863 on the death of Clara Lillian Davey
by her mother, Mrs. Laura Davey
Pulaski Democrat 3 Nov 1915

In the warm days of summer, God sent an angel child,
To grave our humble dwelling and our lonely hours beguile.
Oh! How we loved our darling as we held her on our knee,
And we called her little Lillie, for frail like one was she.
She bloomed for two short seasons like the flower whose name she bore;
Then God- he called our darling to yonder shining shore.
The hand of the destroyer was laid upon her brow,
And she left us sad and lonely and dwells with angels now.
When the cold breath of Autumn caused the withering leaf to fall,
A message came from Heaven and she obeyed the call.
Oh how we miss the footsteps that pattered round the room
We miss the childish laughter, and feel that we're alone.
Where e're our gaze we turneth, some trifle there we see
To remind us of our treasure and cause the silent tear.
How well do we remember each little prattling word
That to our ears seemed sweeter than the music of the birds.
We had learned to love the flowerets that in our pathway shone
When God, he took our darling, and left us all alone.
Oh how we long to press her unto our aching breast
But vain are all our longings, for Lillie's gone to rest.
Oh Lillie, look from Heaven, where thy pure spirit's gone,
And guide thy parent's footsteps up to thy peaceful home.
Wilt thou be ever near us, and help our hearts to feel,
However great our trials, God only wounds, to heal.

Clara Lillian Davey (GFG VIII) 1859-1861 is a great-great granddaughter of Catherine Getman (GFG – VIII) 1737-1807 and Johannes Shoemaker 1827-1813

Escaped the Earthquake

The Morning Herald
Gloversville and Johnstown, NY
Friday, March 17, 1933

Relatives have received word from Mrs. Lena Dockstader and her two sons, Norman and Leroy of Los Angeles, California, that they escaped injury during the recent earthquake in that section. The former's husband was the late Charles Dockstader of

Ephratah. Three sisters, Mrs. Herbert, Glenar, Mrs. Ida Getman and Mrs. Sarah Wemple, are residents of this city.

Charles Dockstader (GFG - B 427 / C) 1873-1920 husband of Dena Hinkelman and father of LeRoy and Norman Dockstader Is a son of Mary Elizabeth Getman (GFG - B 139 / C) 1840-1916 and John P. Dockstader, 1839-1917.

ILION MAN SHOOTS WIFE, ALSO TRIES TO KILL RELATIVE

Syracuse Journal, NY

Monday, July 10, 1916

LITTLE FALLS, July 10.—Mrs. Winnie Getman lies in the hospital to-day struggling for life with a bullet wound in her left lung, inflicted by a 38-callber revolver fired by her husband, Ralph Getman of Ilion. Getman made a good escape and is still missing. Getman also made an attempt on the life of George Stark, the girl's uncle, but the shot went wide and shattered a window.

The shooting occurred Saturday evening at about 10:30 o'clock, at the Globe Hotel in John St., of which George Stark is the proprietor. Trouble has existed between the young couple for some time. Getman wanted his young wife to live in Ilion, where he is employed at the Remington Arms plant, and if she would not do this he wanted their infant babe. It will be recalled that a couple of weeks ago Getman was apprehended by the police for stealing the baby and taking it to Ilion. Since then Getman has been in this city and has been a constant disturber at the Stark house.

District Attorney W. Earl Ward was notified as was Coroner Hunt. The district attorney took charge of the case, while the officers made a thorough search of the lumber yards near Fifth St., which direction Getman ran after the shooting. Chief Long also arrived some time later and he joined in the search. Later District Attorney Ward and Chief Long went to Ilion to the fellow's home. His mother answered the door and when asked where her son was, she replied that she had not seen him since 8 o'clock, when he left the house.

Mrs. Getman was married to Ralph Parker Getman about 18 months ago. They resided at the Globe Hotel until some months ago,

when they separated. She is 19 years of age. Her condition to-day is very critical and only faint hopes are held for her recovery. Dr. Douglas of Utica was called for consultation.

Getman is described as being five feet, seven or eight inches tall, weight 150, age about 23, stocky build, light complexion, blue eyes, light hair. Ho was hatless, wore blue suit with semi-pegged trousers and black shoes. He is a very good looking fellow.

Ralph Parker Getman (GFG – A) 1896-1959 married Winnifred Leonard 1897-1916. Winnifred died 11 Jul. 1916. The child Francis Joseph Getman was adopted by Ralph's sister Blanch Mary Getman and Christopher Monahan. Ralph was captured and imprisoned at Auburn State Prison and later in Attica State Prison.

A-B-C Lines

In the initial publication each of the original Getman sons was assigned a letter as follows. These letters were used to differentiate their lines of descent.

George Getman, b. 1723	A line
Christian Getman, b. 1734	B line
Frederick Getman, b. 1725	C line

There were additional D and E lines set up for Getman families that could not be linked to the original family when the book was being developed. These have each been identified in more current research and are now clearly linked to one of the A-B-C lines.