

15. THOMPSON

1. **Elisha¹ Thompson** was born in New York about 1798,^[1] and is last found on record in Freedom Township, Portage County, Ohio, in the 1860 census.^[2] It is said that he ultimately moved to Eaton County, Michigan, but this has not been proven. The same source names his wife as **Abigail Vanwinckler**, daughter of Jacob Vanwinckler.^[3] In records dating to her own lifetime, she is often called *Abi*. She was born in New York,^[4] on 31 January 1799,^[5] and died in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania,^[6] on 19 January 1856, aged 56 years, 11 months, and 19 days. She is buried in the Idetown Cemetery in Lehman Township, that county.^[7]

The family came to Luzerne County from Masonville, Delaware County, New York, where Elisha headed the only family of this surname in that town in the 1830 census. This household consists of two males aged 20-29, one female aged 20-29, and two males aged 0-5.^[8] Although this man's age does not exactly match the one who appears later in Pennsylvania, the two boys in his household do match his known family. On 23 October 1833, William C. Verplank and his wife Anna or Anne, of Fishkill, deeded ninety acres of land, as the north half of lot 14 in the Walton patent in the town of Sidney, to Elisha Thompson and Alanson Thompson of Delaware County.^[9] A few months later, on 19 April 1834, Elisha and his wife Abi, of Masonville, conveyed their interest in the same lot to Alanson, of Sidney.^[10] Elisha is not known to have entered any other land transactions in Delaware County. Because Elisha also had a son sometimes called Alanson, the two men are believed to be close relatives. Alanson could also be the man who was enumerated with Elisha in 1830, although his later placement in Sidney leaves this somewhat doubtful.^[11]

¹ Elisha Thompson household, 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1208, family 1232, microfilm publication M432, roll 793 (Washington: National Archives).

² Parmer J. Thompson household, 1860 U. S. census, Portage County, Ohio, population schedule, Freedom Township, page 104, dwelling 274, family 283, microfilm publication M653, roll 1025 (Washington: National Archives).

³ *Portrait and Biographical Album of Barry and Eaton Counties, Mich., Containing Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent and Representative Citizens of the County, Together with Portraits and Biographies of All the Presidents of the United States and Governors of the State* (Chicago: Chapman Bros., 1891), 798, biography of son Washington Thompson. Of Elisha's parents, the book states only that they were "of English descent."

⁴ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798; 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1208, family 1232.

⁵ Jack Galuardi, "Abi Thompson," memorial no. 6226325, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com/memorial/6226325: added 28 February 2002), with gravestone photograph by HBE/Nan [the late Harold Bulford Elston], added 22 July 2010.

⁶ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798.

⁷ Galuardi, "Abi Thompson."

⁸ Elisha Thompson household, 1830 U. S. census, Delaware County, New York, population schedule, Town of Masonville, page 137, line 10, microfilm publication M19, roll 89 (Washington: National Archives).

⁹ Delaware County, New York, Deeds, M:231, FHL microfilm 557,790.

¹⁰ Delaware County, New York, Deeds, 17:86-7, FHL microfilm 557,793.

¹¹ Alanson, formerly of Sidney, died at Del Prairie, Wis., 27 May 1860, aged about 50 years (On-Ti-Ora Chapter, *Unpublished Records: Windham Journal [Volume II], Greene County, New York*, New York DAR Genealogical Records Committee Report, ser. 1, vol. 365 [1971], 121-2, from issue of 24 July 1860). He lived in Sidney in 1855, aged 51, with his wife Ann, aged 42, and children, all natives of Delaware Co. (Alanson Thompson household, 1855 N. Y. state census, Delaware County population schedule, town of Sidney, dwelling 166, family 174, FHL microfilm 832,847).

Elisha first appears in the Pennsylvania census in 1840. His family was then composed of two males aged 5-9, two males aged 10-14, one male aged 40-49, one female aged 5-9, and one female aged 40-49.^[12] The two youngest boys appear to be Edgar and Palmer; the others would be William and Washington. In 1850 Elisha is found near the future wives of both Palmer and Washington, the latter called by his middle name, *Alanson*.^[13] The entire family must have moved to Ohio shortly after Abi had died, and in 1860 Elisha appears in the household headed by his son Palmer Thompson, with Washington Thompson as the head of an adjacent household.^[14]

Children of Elisha¹ and Abigail (Vanwinckler) Thompson are:^[15]

- i. WILLIAM² THOMPSON, b. say 1825, d. before 1891.
2. ii. WASHINGTON ALANSON THOMPSON, b. 4 Sept. 1829, d. 29 Sept. 1916, m. DEBORAH LAIN.
- iii. PALMER J. THOMPSON, b. N. Y. or Pa.,^[16] 11 May 1831, d. Denver Twp., Newaygo Co., Mich., 29 Oct. 1923, aged 92y 5m 18d,^[17] m. ca. 1855 PRUDENCE WICKHAM,^[18] b. Orange Co., N. Y., 9 March 1836, d. Denver Twp. 8 Nov. 1928, aged 92y 8m,^[19] dau. of Halsey and Jane (____) Wickham.^[20]
- iv. ADALINE THOMPSON, b. N. Y., 4 April 1833, d. Croton Twp., Newaygo Co., 28 April 1902, aged 69y 24d,^[21] m. ca. 1857 WILLIAM HUESTED, b. N. Y., Mar. 1833,^[22] son of Abraham and Mary (Scram) Husted, d. Newaygo, Newaygo Co., 1 April 1903, aged 70y.^[23]
- v. EDGAR THOMPSON, b. Pa., ca. 1836,^[24] d. 10 July 1855, bur. Idetown Cemetery.^[25]

¹² Elisha Thompson household, 1840 U. S. census, Luzerne County, New York, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 272, line 21, microfilm publication M704, roll 472 (Washington: National Archives).

¹³ In his printed biography, he is referred to as *Washington A.* (*Album of Eaton and Barry Counties*, 798). Reuben Lane household, 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1206, family 1230, microfilm publication M432, roll 793 (Washington: National Archives), two houses before Elisha, includes Deborah Lane, aged 14 years. Halsey Wickam household, *ibid.*, dwelling 1215, family 1240, seven houses after Elisha, includes Prudence Wickam, also aged 14 years.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, dwelling 275, family 284.

¹⁵ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798; 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1208, family 1232.

¹⁶ Palmer J. Thompson household, 1900 U. S. census, Newaygo County, Michigan, population schedule, Grant Township, enumeration district [ED] 89, supervisor's district [SD] 9, page 62, dwelling 249, family 262, microfilm publication T623, roll 735 (Washington: National Archives).

¹⁷ Newaygo County, Michigan, Record of Deaths, 3:148, FHL microfilm 1,006,425, item 2, names his parents as "Wm Thompson" and "Maria Van Winkle." Compare Palmer J. Thompson, death certificate no. 62-621, "Death Records," *Michiganology* (michiganology.org/uncategorized/SO_cdcc93e0-2671-4013-8ca6-5d97e9e8e734, Lansing: Michigan History Center, accessed 23 Aug. 2020).

¹⁸ 1860 U. S. census, Portage County, Ohio, population schedule, Freedom Township, page 104, dwelling 274, family 283; Palmer Thompson household, 1910 U. S. census, Newaygo County, Michigan, population schedule, Denver Township, ED 106, SD 9, sheet 5, dwelling 94, family 99, microfilm publication T624, roll 666 (Washington: National Archives).

¹⁹ Mrs. Prudence Thompson, death certificate no. 62-1654 (1928), "Death Records," *Michiganology*. Newaygo County Record of Deaths, 3:187, gives less information on the circumstances of her birth.

²⁰ 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1215, family 1240.

²¹ Mrs. Adaline Husted, death certificate no. 45 (1902), "Death Records," *Michiganology*, with her parents named as Elisher Thompson and Aby VanWinkler.

²² William Husted household, 1900 U. S. census, Newaygo County, Michigan, population schedule, Croton Township, ED 87, SD 9, sheet 8, dwelling 171, family 172, microfilm publication T623, roll 735 (Washington: National Archives).

²³ William Husted, death certificate no. 707 (1903), "Death Records," *Michiganology*, indexed as "Hursted."

²⁴ 1850 U. S. census, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, population schedule, Lehman Township, page 90, dwelling 1208, family 1232.

²⁵ Jack Galuardi, "Edgar Thompson," memorial no. 6226322, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com/memorial/6226322: added 28 February 2002), with a photograph by HBE/Nan, added 22 July 2010, as "son of Elisha & Abi Thompson," with an age on the lower part of the stone that has sunk into the earth and is now illegible.

2. **Washington Alanson² Thompson** (*Elisha*¹) was born in Masonville on 4 September 1829,^[26] and died 29 September 1916 in Vermontville Township, Eaton County, Michigan, aged 87 years and 25 days.^[27] He was married on 20 June 1852 to **Deborah Lain**, who was born 16 October 1835 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, daughter of Reuben and Rosetta (Stewart) Lain.^[28] She died in 1896. They are both buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Vermontville Township, under a monument that displays their birth dates, the birth dates of all their children, and the death date of Charles. However, their years of death are displayed only on adjacent footstones.^[29]

Children of Washington Alanson² and Deborah (Lain) Thompson are:^[30]

- i. ROSETTA³ THOMPSON, b. Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne Co., Pa., 17 Oct. 1853,^[31] d. Nashville, Barry Co., Mich., 6 Aug. 1934,^[32] m. Charlotte, Eaton Co., Mich., 18 Feb. 1874 EDWARD AVERILL,^[33] b. Vt., 24 Jan. 1852, son of Joseph and Mary (Pike) Averill, d. Vermontville Twp. 24 Sept. 1939.^[34]
- ii. CHARLES M. THOMPSON, b. Pa., 18 Oct. 1855, d. Vermontville Twp., Eaton Co., Mich., 14 May 1874, aged 18y 7m 28d.^[35]
3. iii. JAMES NELSON THOMPSON, b. 11 Aug. 1858, d. 9 April 1929, m. ADA LULLA SINCLAIR.
- iv. CLARA M. THOMPSON, b. Vermontville 5 May 1864, d. Marengo Twp., Calhoun Co., Mich., 27 Aug. 1943,^[36] m. (1) Vermontville Twp. 18 March 1883 DELOS FULLER of Detroit, Wayne Co., Mich., b. Ohio, ca. 1863,^[37] res. Cincinnati, Hamilton Co., Ohio, 1891;^[38] m. (2) Vermontville, Eaton Co., Mich., 2 Feb. 1898 CORNELIUS S. JACKSON,^[39] b. Dutchess Co., N. Y., 1 April 1834, son of John and Manervia (Stillwell) Jackson,^[40] d. Sunfield Twp. 4 Oct. 1917;^[41] m. (3) Jackson, Jackson Co., Mich., 24 Oct. 1925 IRA CHADDERDON,^[42] b. Barry Co., Mich., 12 Aug. 1867, son of Sanford and Caroline (Brott) Chadderdon, d. Battle Creek, Calhoun Co., Mich., 9 Feb. 1939.^[43]

²⁶ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798.

²⁷ Eaton County Death Records, 5:521, FHL microfilm 966,601. Compare Washington Thompson, death certificate no. 163 (1916), "Death Records," *Michiganology*. Both records misname his father as "Elijah."

²⁸ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798. See also Beatrice Linskill Sheehan, *Descendants of William Lain and Keziah Mather, with Her Lineage from Reverend Richard Mather* (Brooklyn: Theo. Gaus' Sons, 1957), 31.

²⁹ "Scout," "Deborah Lane Thompson," memorial no. 152475896, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com/memorial/152475896: added 18 Sept. 2015), with three photographs added by "Scout," 18 Sept. 2015. They depict Washington and Deborah's birth dates on one face of the monument, a close-up of the footstone showing "Mother, 1835–1896," and a wide view of the lot, showing footstones for "Mother," "Father," their son James N., and James's wife Ada L.

³⁰ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798; 1860 U. S. census, Portage County, Ohio, population schedule, Freedom Township, page 104, dwelling 275, family 284; "Scout," "James N. Thompson," memorial no. 157885077, *Find a Grave* (www.findagrave.com/memorial/157885077: added 6 Feb. 2016), with photograph of "Record of the children of W. & D. Thompson," reverse of Thompson family monument (see previous note), by "Scout," added 6 Feb. 2016.

³¹ Ray Hawkins, comp., "Vermontville Scrapbook," 9 vols. (n. d.), 6:13, Vermontville Township Library, Vermontville, Mich. This collection is assembled mostly from obituaries printed in the *Vermontville Echo* of Vermontville, *Eaton County Republican* of Charlotte, and *State Journal* of Lansing, but the pieces are not individually labeled.

³² Rosetta Averill, death certificate no. 8-2587, "Death Records," *Michiganology*.

³³ Michigan Secretary of State, Marriage Records, 1874, 1:250, *Michigan Marriages, 1868–1925* (www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1452395, Salt Lake City: Intellectual Reserve, Inc., updated 30 April 2019).

³⁴ Edward Averill death certificate no. 23-4676 (1939), "Death Records," *Michiganology*.

³⁵ Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, 1:77, FHL microfilm 966,599, item 1. The calculated age in this record suggests a birth date of 16 Sept. 1855.

³⁶ Clara Chadderdon, death certificate no. 13-8560 (1943), "Death Records," *Michiganology*.

³⁷ Eaton County, Michigan, Marriage Records, 5:48, FHL microfilm 966,596.

³⁸ *Album of Barry and Eaton Counties*, 798.

³⁹ Michigan Secretary of State, Marriage Records, 1898, 1:546, *Michigan Marriages, 1868–1925*.

⁴⁰ *The Past and Present of Eaton County, Michigan, Historically, Together with Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Leading and Prominent Citizens and Illustrious Dead* (Lansing: Michigan Historical Publishing Association, n. d.), 390.

⁴¹ Cornelius Jackson, death certificate no. 182 (1917), "Death Records," *Michiganology*.

⁴² Michigan Secretary of State, *Michigan Marriages, 1868–1925*, 1925, 2:187.

⁴³ Ira Chadderdon, death certificate no. 21310598 (1939), "Death Records," *Michiganology*.

- v. GEORGIA(NNA) THOMPSON, b. Vermontville Twp. 10 July 1866, d. Vermontville 20 Mar. 1943,^[44] m. Charlotte 10 April 1895, GEORGE SYLVESTER KNOWLES,^[45] b. prob. Clarendon, Orleans Co., N. Y., 5 Feb. 1873, son of Franklin A. and Amy or Anna L. (Burns) Knowles,^[46] d. Charlotte 31 Jan. 1950, aged 76y 11m 26d.^[47]

3. **James Nelson³ Thompson^[48]** (*Washington Alanson², Elisha¹*) was born on 11 August 1858 in Ohio, and died in Vermontville Township on 9 April 1929, aged 70 years, 7 months and 29 days.^[49] He married, 15 February 1890 at Shaytown, Eaton County, Michigan, **Ada Lulla Sinclair.**^[50] She was born 9 June 1870 in Sunfield Township, Eaton County, Michigan, daughter of Hobson and Emma Lenora (Van Vleet) Sinclair^[51] (see 31. *Sinclair*, 2, ii.), and died in the Eaton County Infirmary, Chester Township, on 30 March 1955, aged 84 years.^[52]

Children of James Nelson³ and Ada Lulla (Sinclair) Thompson, born in Vermontville Township, are:

- i. PEARL ELZINA⁴ THOMPSON, b. 6 March 1891,^[53] d. McMinn Co., Tenn., 4 Dec. 1969, aged 78y,^[54] m. Charlotte, Eaton Co., Mich., 26 June 1913 LA VERN L. TALBOT,^[55] b. Bellevue, Eaton Co., Mich., 13 June 1890,^[56] son of Leon and Dora (Butler) Talbot,^[57] d. Bradley Co., Tenn., 28 Nov. 1970, aged 81y.^[58]
- + ii. HAZEL DEBORAH THOMPSON,^[59] b. 17 Sept. 1892, d. Chester Twp., Eaton Co., Mich., 7 Dec. 1928, aged

⁴⁴ Georgana Knowles, death certificate no. 23-5313 (1943), "Death Records," *Michiganology*. Compare Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, E:466, FHL microfilm 1,782,463. They both show her birth year as 1868.

⁴⁵ Eaton County, Michigan, Marriage Records, 6:157, FHL microfilm 966,597.

⁴⁶ George Sylvester Knowles draft registration card, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–18, Eaton County, Michigan, order no. A2017, microfilm publication M1509, roll MI72 (Washington: National Archives); Virginia Knowles Hufbauer, comp., *Descendants of Richard Knowles, 1637–1973* (San Diego, Calif.: Ventures International, 1974), 388; Eaton County Marriage Records, 6:157.

⁴⁷ George Knowles, death certificate no. 10 (1950), Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, I:10, FHL microfilm 1782,465, item 3, gives a birth date of 5 Feb. 1873.

⁴⁸ So named by Albert N. Thompson, Social Security no. 380-38-3800, 16 December 1955, Application for Account Number (Form SS-5), Social Security Administration, Baltimore, Maryland.

⁴⁹ Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, 8:384, FHL microfilm 1,782,455. On his state death certificate, the birth date is entered as 9 April 1858, and the age consequently adjusted to 71 years, 0 months, and 0 days (James N. Thompson, death certificate no. 23-2304 [1929], "Death Records," *Michiganology*). These appear to be the state official's mistakes.

⁵⁰ Eaton County Marriage Records, 6:46.

⁵¹ Eaton County, Michigan, Birth Records, 1:105, FHL microfilm 966,583, item 1; Hawkins, "Vermontville Scrapbook," 9:133.

⁵² Ada L. Thompson, death certificate, no. 30 (1955), Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, J:968, FHL microfilm 1,782,460; "Area Deaths," *The Battle Creek Enquirer and News*, Battle Creek, Mich., 31 Mar. 1955, sec. 3, p. 12, col. 1, *Newspapers + Publisher Extra* (www.newspapers.com/paper/battle-creek-enquirer/3778, n. p.: Ancestry.com, accessed 23 Aug. 2020), as "Lulla A." and "Mrs. James Thompson."

⁵³ Eaton County, Michigan, Birth Records, 4:246-7, FHL microfilm 966,585.

⁵⁴ Shelby County Register of Deeds, "Tennessee Vital Records: Death Records Index 1949–2009," ([https://register.shelby.tn.us/index.php?go=TNdeathRecords&title=Death Records Index 1949-2014](https://register.shelby.tn.us/index.php?go=TNdeathRecords&title=Death%20Records%20Index%201949-2014), accessed 21 July 2014, citing certificate no. 37630, Pearle T. Talbot.

⁵⁵ Eaton County, Michigan, Marriage Records, 7:206, FHL microfilm 966,598, item 1.

⁵⁶ La Verne Talbot draft registration card, Iosco Co., Mich., no. 23, World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–18, microfilm publication M1509 (Washington: National Archives).

⁵⁷ Eaton County Marriage Records, 7:206.

⁵⁸ "Tennessee Death Records Index, 1949–2009," citing certificate no. 32874, Lavern Talbot.

⁵⁹ Her complete middle name is documented only from the delayed birth registration of her daughter, in Eaton County, Michigan, Birth Records, 7:181, FHL microfilm 966,587.

- 36y 2m 20d,^[60] m. (1) Charlotte 26 June 1913 HERMAN MERTON LENTZ,^[61] b. Kalamo Twp., Eaton Co., Mich., 17 May 1886, son of August Ferdinand and Louise Caroline (Wahlenmaier) Lentz^[62] (see 7. Lentz, 3), d. Charlotte 7 Oct. 1957,^[63] whom she divorced in Eaton Co., decree granted 28 Feb. 1924;^[64] m. (2) Charlotte 25 Dec. 1925 KENNETH EDWARD BAUER,^[65] b. Chester Twp. 19 June 1895, son of Edward C. and Susan (Lamie) Bauer,^[66] d. Chester Twp. 2 June 1961.^[67]
- iii. ALBERT NELSON THOMPSON, b. 3 Nov. 1895,^[68] d. Eaton Rapids, Eaton Co., Mich., 9 Oct. 1982,^[69] m. Charlotte 21 Aug. 1918 MURIEL JANETTE CAREY,^[70] b. Vermontville 23 June 1898,^[71] dau. of Eugene and Mabel A. (Dorman) Carey,^[72] d. Lansing, Ingham Co., Mich., 2 Sept. 1979.^[73]

⁶⁰ Eaton County Death Records, 8:104; Hazel D. Thompson Bauer death certificate no. 23-2213 (1928), "Death Records," *Michiganology*, with "Thompson Bauer" indexed as her surname.

⁶¹ Eaton County Marriage Records, 7:207.

⁶² Eaton County, Michigan, Birth Records, 3:432, FHL microfilm 966,584; Herman Merton Lentz draft registration card, serial no. 2417, order no. A2802; World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–18, microfilm publication M1509, roll MI72 (Washington: National Archives).

⁶³ Herman Lentz, death certificate no. 101 (1957), Eaton County, Michigan, Death Records, K:758; FHL microfilm 1,782,461.

⁶⁴ Divorce record, docket no. 5479 (1924), Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing; Eaton County, Michigan, Decree in Chancery Miscellaneous Book J:349, Eaton County Genealogical Society, Charlotte, Mich.

⁶⁵ Eaton County, Michigan, Marriage Records, 8:37, FHL microfilm 966,598, item 2.

⁶⁶ Kenneth Edward Bauer draft registration card, serial no. 348, order no. 45, World War I Draft Registration Cards, roll MI72; Eaton County Birth Records, 4:466-7.

⁶⁷ "Kenneth E. Bauer," *Enquirer and News*, Battle Creek, 3 June 1961, p. 11, col. 4.

⁶⁸ Eaton County Birth Records, 4:446-7; Albert N. Thompson, Form SS-5.

⁶⁹ "Michigan Death Index, 1971–1996" *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/3171, Provo, Utah: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 22 Jan. 1998–14 June 2013), citing certificate no. 56449.

⁷⁰ Eaton County Marriage Records, 7:301.

⁷¹ Muriel Janette Carey delayed birth certificate, Eaton County, Michigan, Foreign Births, A-H, sorted alphabetically by name, FHL microfilm 966,591.

⁷² Eaton County Marriage Records, 7:301.

⁷³ "Michigan Death Index," citing certificate no. 49789.