The Royce Quarterly

Fall 2025

A Publication of the Royce Family Association (RFA)

Volume 38 Number 4

Royce Family Association Website @ roycefamilyassociation.org.

Royce Family Facebook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1127883208081516)

Co-Editor's Note: The fall issue of the Royce Quarterly is chock-full of intriguing articles written by Kate Renner including one on Abner Royce who founded a manufacturing and extracting company in Cleveland, Ohio, and another on John Sears Royce who was an inventor of numerous farm plows. The lives of John and Amanda Royce and the artist, Susan C. Waters, who painted their portraits are also explored. Additionally, be sure to take a look at the Royce Family Association Bylaws at the end of the Quarterly.

RFA Seeking Volunteers for the Board

If any of our members would be willing to serve as a board member, please contact Kate Renner (secretary/treasurer at k8renmayo "at" gmail.com) or Lori DiDonato (president at ldido1016 "at" gmail.com.) There are no regularly scheduled meetings and the duties of a board member are pretty light. Occasionally there are matters that require a board vote, such as spending on the website, and our meetings and votes are by email or Zoom calls. We can have up to six directors, all of whom serve four-year terms. Directors are elected from among the members of the RFA and serve without compensation. The RFA has not had elections for several years due to a hiatus from 2020-2022. Founded 91 years ago, the RFA needs interested members to sustain its growth and vitality.

Attention RFA Members

Gentle reminder: The annual $15 dues payments are due by December 31st. Members should renew online at roycefamilyassociation.org by logging in and going to "My Account" then "My Subscriptions." If you click on the "Active" button, it will display the last payment date of your subscription (membership.) If the payment date was before October 1, 2025, ….please renew your membership by going to "Become a Member" and indicating that you are a renewal under "option." If your start date was October 1, 2020 or later, you do not have to have to renew until late in 2026. If you have any questions, please email the treasurer at k8renmayo "at" gmail.com.

The RFA will occasionally communicate with members via our website. The "From" header will be k8renmayo and end in Wix.com. The subject may be Royce Family Association has sent you a new message. Please check your spam folder from time to time.

Do you have a Royce/Rice family story to share? Did you go on a genealogical road trip over the summer or are you planning a genealogical discovery trip this fall? Or have you discovered something from your research on a genealogical website? The RFA Quarterly would love to hear from you! Please submit your article or any questions to Anne McGreevy (amcgreevy16@gmail.com).

Welcome New Members

Glad you are part of the RFA family! We invite you to write an article about your lineage, an interesting ancestor or how you became interested in genealogy. Email to: amcgreevy16@gmail.com

Sandra Holmes San Diego, CA
Roger Rice Oxnard, CA
David Richardson Webster, NY
Robert Royce West Winfield, NY
Jonathan Royce Knivsta Sweden
Robert Rice Nashville TN
Kathie Sencabaugh Chattanooga, TN

The Abner Royce Company of Cleveland Ohio

By Kate Renner



Our RFA president, Lori DiDonato, posted recently in our Facebook group about a segment on the Sunday Morning show on CBS about the National Mustard Museum in Middleton, Wisconsin. "As the camera panned across the display of vintage mustard containers, something caught my eye and I had to rewind. Sure enough, there was Royce's Ready Mustard Remedy", made by the Abner Royce company of Cleveland Ohio. She found that Abner is #2420 on page 319 of the Al Rhods book. Recommended uses printed on the back of that container: "A valuable remedy for Colds, Coughs, Bronchitis, Croup, Pneumonia, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Headache, Rheumatism, Soreness in Muscles and Joints."

The Abner Royce Company was established in 1879 in Cleveland, Ohio. They were known for producing perfumes, soaps, toilet goods, colorings and flavorings. The company continued its operations until at least 1935 and in the early 20th century it advertised nationally employment opportunities for women to market the company's products as sales representatives. The cake colorings became quite popular for adding vibrant hues to baked goods during that era. A 1910 catalog listing identifies the Abner Royce Company of 54 Quinby Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio as manufacturers and suppliers of extracts, flavorings, spices, drug store items, perfumes and toiletries, and household supplies— everything from vanilla and ginger, to silver and furniture polish, to bay rum and talcum powder. They made Royce's Ready Mustard Remedy, lemon extract, perfumes and the containers for these products are quite collectible.

Abner Royce, a Civil War veteran, was seven generations removed from Robert and Mary Royce, but amazingly his 1903 obituary stated this: "Born on June 23, 1839, in a log house on the shores of Lake Champlain, of a family descended from the old colonial family of Robert Royce, who located in Boston about 1630, (sic) he inherited those sturdy qualities characteristic of the New England farmer and frontiersman." His obituary said he moved to Cleveland in 1864 and was listed in the 1870 census as working in the life insurance industry. In 1879 he started the business and in the 1880 census he was a "manufacturer of ex." meaning extracts. He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, the Knights Templars, a Mason, the G.A.R., the Lake Erie Consistory and the Epworth Church. An obituary was also carried in the Boston Evening Transcript, which described him as the president of the Abner Royce Perfumery Company and one of Cleveland's most conspicuous business figures. His son William was vice president of the company when he died in 1939.

On July 27, 1945, three explosions and a subsequent fire destroyed the Abner Royce company building. Eleven families who lived near the plant were left homeless and damages were set at $68,000. The third explosion caused a crib holding three year

old Gloria Moff to turn upside down, trapping the child. Her mother rescued her and they fled to safety. Mr. M.H. Atkins slept through all of the explosions but his dog Baby jumped up on the bed, whimpered and licked his face to awaken him. No cause for the blast was ever determined. It appeared that the company did not continue after that date but a Traverse City Michigan newspaper reported that a local woman accepted a job as sales agent in Michigan in 1953.

Miami University in Oxford Ohio has offered a specialty within the chemistry major on Food, Flavors and Fermentation.

The Royce Reaper

By Kate Renner

From a History of Livingston County NY

John Sears Royce was the son of Deacon Samuel #602 and Betsey Reed, whose line was Elisha #238 and Abigail Higgins, Nehemiah and Abigail Gustin, Jonathan and Ruth Beckwith, Jonathan and Deborah Calkins, Robert. He was born 15 Jul 1819 in Leicester, Livingston County, New York, and died 5 Jan 1883. (A notice in his hometown paper stated he died in Hot Springs, Arkansas but his grave is in Livingston County, New York.) John's first invention was a threshing machine and at age 22, he invented a plow that became popularly known as the Genesee Valley Plow. He had patents on carriage wheel improvements but his most important invention was a combination mower and reaper, called the Empire Harvester which he later perfected into the lighter weight Royce Reaper.

Perry Royce Reaper



The following history is on Findagrave but originally from "History of Livingston County, New York" by James H. Smith, assisted by Hume H. Cole. Published By D. Mason & Co. 1881, 347-348.

"About the year 1815 a man who during his life was widely known as "Deacon Samuel Royce," in company with his good wife, Betsey Reed Royce, emigrated from the town of Lyme, New London County, Conn., to Leicester, Livingston County. There Mr. Royce purchased a tract of timbered land from John Gregg, and with the aid of his sons in due time converted it into a productive farm. Upon this same homestead which he had created, Deacon Royce died on July 12, 1850. He could look back upon a life well spent, adorned with Christian virtues, commanding the

respect of many friends and the love of the family. He was a member of the close communion Baptist church, and the father of eleven children, ten of whom are now living.

Among these children was one named John Sears Royce, the subject of this sketch, who was born in Leicester July 15, 1819. His boyhood and youth were passed on his father's farm, and although young Royce found much hard labor before him, he battled manfully with it till eighteen years of age, when his father became convinced that his son was born with an inventive genius that would not contentedly brook the narrow restraints of farm life.

Perry Royce Reaper



Fortunately for John, his father desired the happiness and future welfare of his children as much as the immediate advancement of his own affairs, and cheerfully allowed his son to act at will, and bade him God-speed in the broad field of invention.

The young inventor's first work was a threshing machine, the entire drafting and pattern making for which was done by himself; and the result was a better machine than any in existence at that time. When twenty-two years old, Mr. Royce invented and perfected a plow which was a favorite with many farmers of that day, and was widely known as the Genesee Valley Plow. He then took out his first patent on a metallic spoke suspension wheel for carriages, which was followed by improvements in portable steam engines, and afterward by his great work on mowers and reapers.

In the year 1849, when thirty years of age, Mr. Royce was married to Louisa M. Boom, of Litchfield, Herkimer county, N. Y., and in thus selecting a life partner he was most fortunate, his wife proving a true helpmeet in all his labors. Mrs. Royce is spoken of as endowed with caution and prudence, combined with good business capacity, and prominent in the social circle in which she moves. She is looked up to and respected by a large circle of acquaintances and many valued friends. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Royce, (of whom six are now living) viz: Ida A., Samuel J., (deceased,) Cora I., Jennie L., J. Byron, Carrie M., and Eva D. This family have been nurtured to habits of industry and characters of respectability.

In the year 1850, Mr. Royce took out a patent for a Rockaway carriage, which proved successful and in the manufacture of which he was engaged for nearly ten years, when he began the work which was destined to become the crowning achievement of his life, the invention of the combined mower and reaper, known as the Empire Harvester. During that era this was a successful machine, and Mr. Royce continued its manufacture till the year 1870. These combined machines weighed

from 1,200 to 1,500 pounds, and the practical-minded inventor readily perceived that farmers were injuring their horses in causing them to draw these great weights of moving machinery over the soft fields, and immediately employed his mind in constructing a plan for a machine which should require less power than the ones then in use and yet do the work so successfully accomplished by a man with a slender "cradle." The result was the machine known as the Royce Reaper, and the first one constructed weighed 370 pounds. It was a perfect success and possessed ample weight and power for cutting the heaviest grain.

During the years 1871, ‘72. and '73, a few of these machines were made, well tested by farmers, some improvements made, and in the year 1874, Mr. Royce took out patents in the United States, and Canada, covering nine claims. This machine worked a revolution in that branch of business, and still continues in almost universal use.

It was a proud triumph for Mr. Royce when his reaper secured, as it did, the first prize for simplicity, ease of draft, lightness and quality of the work done by it, at the great three days' trial of the Centennial exhibition. Since that time, the Royce Reaper has invariably been awarded first prize whenever exhibited in competition in the States and Canada, and it is not exaggeration to state that Mr. Royce has made more valuable improvements in reapers than any other inventor.

Not satisfied with the success already achieved, in the year 1878, Mr. Royce invented and patented two other reapers, differing widely from each other, as well as from the first. One is known as the Centennial reaper, and the other as the Little Joker, the patent for which covers thirty-two claims, and which has never been presented before the public, but will, we trust, in due time make itself favorably known.

Mr. Royce's last work is the invention of a header, thresher, cleaner and bagger, which, prediction says, will work an entire revolution in harvesting and reduce the cost of it to a nominal sum, It is expected that this machine will cut and prepare for market twenty acres of grain in a day, and its weight is not to exceed 800 pounds. For this great work all farmers will forever be grateful to the inventor.

In speaking of Mr. Royce's characteristics it should be noted that he combines with his inventive genius, great energy and executive ability otherwise he never could have reached his present measure of success. He is a born inventor, has loved the solution of mechanical problems from boyhood, and his mechanical ideas always possess originality and simplicity—two great elements of success. The influence of his genius has left its impression upon many branches of industrial science. The light reaper that bears his name is the pride of his life, an honor to its inventor, and, like many others, the work of his life will live after him.

Mr. Royce is radically temperate in all respects, and earnest and industrious in his habits. He possesses generous impulses, and has never turned a deaf ear to the wants of mankind. Being social in his nature, he is ever ready to promote the welfare and happiness of his family and those surrounding him. Now, while living,

he is respected by all who know him, and when his work is done he will be mourned by many."

History of Livingston County, New York
By James H. Smith
Assisted by Hume H. Cole
Published By D. Mason & Co. 1881

Examples of the Perry Royce Reaper, also called the Royal Royce Reaper, are found in the Henry Ford Museum at Greenfield Village, the Stuhr museum in Grand Island, Nebraska, the Waterford Agricultural Museum in Waterford, Ontario.

From an Ontario Canada brewery site https://m.ramblinroad.ca/royal-reaper.php

"The Royal Royce Reaper was one of the most significant agricultural innovations of the 19th century, the first mechanical harvester made specifically for grain. The Green Brothers, who had expanded their thriving foundry into manufacturing farming equipment for this booming agricultural area, first produced the Reaper in Waterford in the 1870s. It soon won awards at fairs and expositions all over the world. At its peak, the Greens were producing 300 Royal Royce Reapers a year, and progressive farmers of the day could own one for just $100! And in related news, Norfolk County experienced a distillery boom right around this time. You can see one of these amazing machines at the fascinating Waterford Heritage & Agricultural Museum."

From
https://2014-stuhr-harvesting.blogspot.com/2014/01/c-1880-green-brothers-and-company-royal.html
"After acquiring the rights to build and sell John S. Royce's patented design, Green Bros. & Co. made this reaper at their factory in Waterford, Ontario sometime after 1875. The reaper was one of a number of mechanized inventions developed over the course of the nineteenth century to replace the scythe and grain cradle as the primary tools for harvesting crops. A farmer used this reaper by hooking it up to a team of two horses. He would then sit in the seat, balancing out the weight of the reaper so the horses could pull it straight ahead. As the reaper moved forward, the rake-arms moved in a clockwise motion, each rake-arm pushing the wheat into the reaper blades at the front of the platform. The blades cut the wheat a few inches from the ground, and the rake-arm pushed the cut pieces onto the platform. As the rake-arm continued its rotation, it deposited the cut wheat in a pile to the side of the platform behind the farmer in his seat, and then moved to a position roughly perpendicular to the ground before beginning the cycle again.

Inventive minds began developing the reaper as a mechanized harvesting tool by the early nineteenth century. In the 1830s, Obed Hussey and Cyrus McCormick independently invented the most effective reapers which would impact the development of harvesting equipment for the next several decades. Stuhr Museum exhibits a replica McCormick reaper produced to celebrate the centennial of its invention. Building on the pioneering efforts of Hussey, McCormick, and others,

John S. Royce, a resident of Cuylerville, New York, patented a series of improvements for reapers and harvesters during the 1860s and 1870s. The entrepreneurial Royce received royalties for his patents from a large number of companies throughout the United States who wished to build and sell his machines.

Expanding his market, Royce obtained a Canadian patent for this reaper on March 5, 1875 – the patent date is stamped on the reaper seen here. Green Bros. & Co. was one of at least a few Ontario manufacturers who paid Royce to use his patent.2 Established as a foundry in 1844 by James Lodor Green, Green Bros. & Co. began producing the Royce Reaper in 1875. In that first year, the company reportedly made and sold 25 Royce Reapers; in 1876, the company sold another 300.3 Along with reapers, Green Bros. & Co. also sold plows, harrows, rollers, engines, and shingle machines."

Source for ad: "The Province of Ontario As It Is. Containing Manufacturing, Commercial, Statistical and Other Valuable Information" (Toronto: The Province of Ontario, 1877), p. 29, which can be found here. The advertisement seen above is from page 28 of this book.

Sources:
Findagrave
"History of Livingston County, New York" by James H. Smith, assisted by Hume H. Cole. Published By D. Mason & Co. 1881.

Stuhr Museum:
https://2014-stuhr-harvesting.blogspot.com/2014/01/c-1880-green-brothers-and-company-royal.html

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Portraits of John Brush Royce 1795-1889 and Amanda Leonard Royce 1802-1882

By Kate Renner

If you are traveling through the Southern Tier of New York, you might visit some Royces at the Roberson Museum in Binghamton. Part of the museum and cultural arts complex is the Historic Roberson Mansion, a Gilded Age mansion, built in 1907 and gifted to the city by Alonzo and Margaret Roberson. When Alonzo died in 1934, he was president of Roberson & Son Lumber and chairman of the board of Marine Midland Bank. After Margaret died in 1953, the museum opened and the Binghamton Museum of Fine Arts moved its collections to the Roberson.

About the Artist

The Royce portraits are oil on canvas, painted in 1844 or 1845 by itinerant folk artist Susan C. Waters, who began painting in 1843 to support herself and her farmer husband who had become paralyzed. She took commissions in the summer, coming to Binghamton and staying with relatives, but she worked in other towns in the area. Her best known painting is a portrait of Dr. Otis Lincoln's three daughters, Laura, Augusta and Sarah, held by the Boston Museum of Fine Art. While not currently on display, you can view an image of painting here: https://collections.mfa.org/objects/34463/the-lincoln-children?ctx=9a5fa83f-9416-40d5-9577-2906d0240a7e&idx=0.

Susan Catherine Moore Waters was born 18 May 1823 in Binghamton and died 7 Jul 1900 in Trenton, N.J. She was self taught and paid tuition for herself and her sister at the Friendsville Pennsylvania Quaker school by producing drawings. She was married in 1841 at age 17 to William Waters, a fellow Quaker whose health problems made his income sporadic. From bills of sale for the work of other early folk artists, it appears that an artist would charge an average of 94 cents for a portrait on oiled paper, $1.50 for a full face portrait. Additional background details would add another 75 cents to the bill. Her work is in the collections of ten museums, including the National Gallery of Art, the New Jersey State Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She was the recording secretary of the New Jersey Women Suffrage Association in 1871.

Shortly after her marriage, she created her first professional painting circa 1843. She produced 16 portraits of two children and 12 paintings of an individual child in addition to the three Lincoln girls. She often included a small puppy in many of her children's portraits which was probably her own dog. Between 1845-1863 she may have given up painting after her husband recovered from illness. For a time they lived in Ohio and then moved to Pennsylvania, eventually settling in Bordentown New Jersey. In 1863 she resumed painting, ceased to refer to herself as an itinerant portrait painter and focused on landscapes. She was primarily known for her lifelike paintings of sheep and dogs, and became one of the most respected American female painters. She was invited to exhibit at the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition. At her death, her property, valued at $10,000, was left to several nieces.

Dr. Otis Lincoln was listed in the 1850 census in Newark Valley, Tioga, New York, as a farmer along with son George age 20, daughter Helen age 17, Laura 14, Augusta was listed as Althea, the name of her twin, who died young, and Sarah age 7. His wife Sarah Slosson Lincoln had died in 1844 and daughter Celia died in 1845, and he was remarried. Older children not in the 1850 household were William, Charles and Caroline. Did his wife's death in 1844 have some influence on Dr. Lincoln's decision to have three of his daughters painted? His real estate value then was $35,000. According to the MFA's webpage, the painting descended from the family eventually

to Mrs. E. Norman Merithew, auctioned in 1981 in Vestal New York. Neither she nor her husband appear to have been descendants. In 1985, another Waters painting of a Berkshire, Tioga county man went unnoticed for more than 20 years in storage at the Tioga County Historical Society Museum which had purchased it in 1960 for $30. After restoration, it was to be hung in the Tioga Museum in Owego.

About the Subjects of the Portraits, John and Amanda Royce



John Royce



Amanda Royce

John Brush Royce, (Asahel-6, Adonijah-5, John-4, Jonathan-3, Jonathan-2, Robert per the Rhods book The Royce Family in America)
He was born in 1795 in Lanesborough, Berkshire, Massachusetts. As described in an 1887 Tioga, New York County written history, published in the late 19th century, his parents moved to Berkshire, Tioga, New York in 1813 with six of their children. Asahel's son Deodatus drove a herd of sheep and cattle from Richmond, Massachusetts to the family's new home in New York. Other accounts state that it was John who did this. From the county history: Colonel John B. Royce came on horseback but after a visit of a few weeks, he returned to Pittsfield, MA and in March 1816 he came with his parents who "had been back to the old hearthstone on a visit, and settled on the place where he lives (pages 125-126.) Other accounts stated he was a Colonel in the Massachusetts Militia but that is unlikely that he would have achieved the rank of Colonel, as he left the state at age 19. In 1829 he built the first brick house in the town of Berkshire, New York. The Historical Gazetteer of Tioga County, New York 1785-1888 described John as a wool-carder and cloth-dresser and that he had taught school in Richmond, Massachusetts, stating on page 145: "The winter that his father left there, took care of his father's cattle during the winter, and in May, 1814, drove them to Berkshire, where he married, 1 Jan 1823, with Amanda Leonard ...began house-keeping on the morning after their marriage, in the log house on the west side of the way, above the bridge, and lived there till 1829, when he built the brick house in which he is yet living, at the age of ninety-two years." The J. B. Royce House, at the corner of Route 38 and Payne-Marsh Road, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as was the brick house of Deodatus Royce. According to a Gay's 1888 Gazetteer and also one of the histories of Tioga County, John B. Royce's house was brick, but the application for the National Register asserted that the brick one belonged to Deodatus. The J. B. Royce House was torn down around 2022 but the Deodatus one

still stands on Route 38, just a little north of the Evergreen Cemetery. Listing on the National Register offers recognition but not any legal protection against demolition. Around 1786, the land in Tioga was purchased from Native American tribes through the Boston Ten Townships agreement through which New York allowed Massachusetts to purchase land in what is now Tioga and Broome counties.



JB Royce House

John's occupations in census records were always farmer, or retired farmer, and in 1860 he listed himself as Colonel John B. Royce. In 1836 he became guardian for the three minor children of his brother-in-law, Louis Leonard. The 1850 census showed that John B. Royce had real estate valued at $10,000 so he could certainly have afforded paintings. An 1866 IRS tax assessment list noted that he owned two watches, a carriage and a piano. An 1870 agricultural schedule showed that he farmed 60 acres with 2 horses, 4 cows, and 10 sheep. He also had 110 acres of woods. Sons John and George had adjacent farms, as did his brother Deodatus, and several in-laws. In 1877 he sold land for $1 to his nephew and in 1881 sold land to his sister and her daughter.

His wife Amanda Leonard was born in New York in 1802 to Asa Leonard, a Revolutionary war soldier from Connecticut, and Olive Churchill. He lived in Stockbridge, Massachusetts after his marriage in 1781 until about 1797 when they moved to Tioga, New York. Asa received a pension in 1831 as a veteran of the Connecticut militia while residing in Tioga, New York. Amanda Leonard Royce died in 1882 in Berkshire, Tioga.

Where did the paintings go after the death of John Brush Royce in 1889? They were located in the Southern Tier of New York when the Mapes Auction House of Vestal sold them in 1981. An investigation of the family shows that many remained in the Southern Tier of New York State and the Deodatus Royce House was occupied by Royces until 1930. Eldest son George Clark Royce died 3 months after his father John at which time his children were very young. Daughter Parmelia Royce Judd died in Tioga in 1896 and her three children remained in New York state. Son John Louis Royce was married in 1858 in Illinois to Cornelia Waldo who was from a Tioga family. Their daughter, Cornelia Waldo Royce, was born in Tioga New York in 1863 and her mother died when she was ten days old. John L. Royce's daughter Cornelia was raised by her grandmother Hannah Belcher Waldo. She married a Tioga county

man and lived there until her death in 1935. Her children also remained in Tioga county.

The Enigma of John Louis Royce and Jennett. Were these two different women?

The Portrait man John Brush Royce's son John Louis Royce was born in Berkshire about 1830. John L is a bit mysterious—he married in 1858 in Cook County Illinois to Cornelia Elizabeth Waldo who was also from a long time Tioga, New York family. Why they were there I cannot figure out but there seemed to be a lot of back and forth between Tioga and Illinois. They must have come back to Tioga, perhaps right away but I cannot find John in the 1860 census. Cornelia lived with her mother in 1860, enumerated as C. E. Royce, a music teacher. Cornelia gave birth to their daughter Cornelia Waldo Royce in April 1863 in Berkshire and died a few days later. John's Civil War registration on 1 July 1863 in Berkshire stated "wife dead and got a family." In the 1870 census, in Berkshire, Tioga, New York, done on June 23rd, John L. Royce was listed on page 20, age 39, a farmer living near his brother George and his uncle Deodatus Royce. In John's household were Jennett Royce age 36, and Albert Royce age 17, all born in New York. Who were Jennett and Albert? Jennett was quite a challenging puzzle. I wondered if Albert was John's son from a marriage prior to the 1858 marriage to Cornelia Waldo? Or could Albert have been Jennett's son?

Jennett was quite a rabbit hole. Her name was also spelled Janette, Janett, Janet, Jannette, Jeannette in various records. By careful searching on Familysearch Labs and other databases, I pieced together the mystery — I think. She did not have a son named Albert—not sure who he was. Her maiden name was Flint and she married Edward Summerville prior to 1862 and had four children with him, living in Granby, Oswego County NY. Her father Cornelius Flint's probate record from 1885 in Cayuga County, N.Y. listed her as Janett Royce of Berkshire, Tioga, New York. Until I found that document, I was convinced that the Jennett Royce from 1870 could not have also been the Janette Flint who married Edward Summerville. She was enumerated with a husband and family of 4 children, Francis and Minnie in 1860 and in 1870 adding children Henry Grant and Hattie in Granby, Oswego NY. In the 1865 state census, she was enumerated as Janett Flint Summerville. Edward died in 1879 and in 1880 Janette Summerville was living with her father Cornelius and two of her children, Grant and Hattie in Ira, Cayuga County. The real puzzler was that the 1870 census records for Jennett Royce and Jenette Summerville were done on 23 Jun 1870 for Tioga and 7 July 1870 for Oswego. Ten days and 80 miles apart so it seemed must have been two separate women. Looking on Familysearch's search labs for deeds, I found the following:

13 October 1883—Quit claim deed in Tioga Levi Ball et. al., including John B. Royce (should have been John L. Royce) and Jennett Royce, his wife, for a piece of land in Berkshire. Could Jennett have married John Brush Royce, the father whose wife died in 1882? If so, why was Jennett living with his son John in 1870?

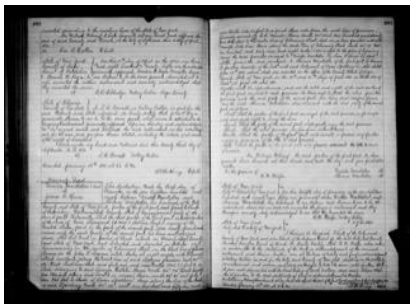
23 June 1885—probate record in Cayuga Janett Royce of Berkshire, Tioga, NY, daughter of Cornelius Flint deceased. (So Janette Flint Summerville Royce was one person.)



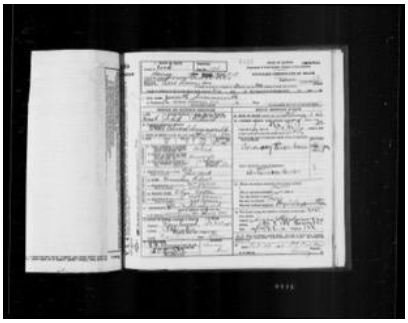
Janett Royce of Berkshire Probate

8 Apr 1890—Deed by John L. Royce et al (including John's sister Parmelia R. Judd, his nieces Marietta Royce and Frances Royce, and their mother Amelia, widow of George Royce) sale of land in Richford Lot 424 to Janette Royce for $1.

3 Sep 1890—John L. Royce in LaSalle Co IL acknowledged a deed of sale to Janette and recorded it in Tioga on 12 Jan 1891.



John L. Royce Deed 1890



Jeanette Summerville

20 Dec 1890--Janette Royce sold the Richford property received from John L Royce to his daughter Cornelia Waldo Eldredge for $45. Witnessed by Janette's daughter Hattie Summerville Bloodgood and Hattie's husband. Janette acknowledged the deed from Huron, Beadle County, South Dakota.

That last deed witnessed by Janette's daughter Hattie Summerville Bloodgood is the clincher. Were the women in the two 1870 census records the same one individual? I believe the evidence shows they were. Perhaps Edward Summerville was the informant to the census taker and wanted to hide that his wife had deserted or someone else provided the information and didn't know the details? Did Jennett desert her children? What was the tie between Oswego and Tioga? In 1880 John and Janette were living apart; John in Lasalle Illinois as a servant to a wealthy merchant originally from Oswego, N.Y. and Janette with her father and two children in Cayuga. John Royce died in 1892 in Ottawa, Lasalle Illinois. Jeannette Summerville (she used the surname Summerville in census records from 1900 on) lived with her daughter until she died in 1932 in Cook County Illinois. Janette's older daughter Minnie died in Oswego in 1889. She lived with her mother's sister in 1880. Janette's son, Frank worked as a store clerk in 1880, married and had a family and died in 1942, remaining in New York. His father Edward died in 1879, no record and nothing in the 1880 mortality schedules which would imply that he died prior to 1 June 1879. His widow Jeanette and brother Wallace Summerville filed for letters of administration on 31 Jan 1879.

Sources:

"History of Tioga, Chemung, Tompkins and Schuyler Counties, NY" by Henry B. Pierce and D. Hamilton Hurd, Philadelphia: Everts & Ensign, 1879.

"Historical gazetteer of Tioga County, New York, 1785-1888" by W. B. Gay, Syracuse, NY 1887.

"Our County and Its People. A Memorial History of Tioga County, New York" by Leroy W. Kingman, W. A. Fergusson & Co, Elmira, NY, 1900.

http://americanartgallery.org/artist/readmore/id/584

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susan_Waters

https://njwomenshistory.org/biographies/susan-waters/

Please Note: The RFA board of directors recently approved the minor amendments to the Association's bylaws to keep them consistent with current practices. The updated bylaws will be posted on the website in the near future.

ROYCE FAMILY ASSOCIATION
BYLAWS

SECTION 1: NAME AND PURPOSES

The name of this organization is the Royce Family Association. (RFA). The purposes of the RFA are to collect, maintain and distribute genealogical and historical data pertaining to the early Royce/Royse settlers of England and New England and their descendants, to preserve and display artifacts of the early descendants, and such other activities in recognition of the early settlers as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

The mailing address of the RFA shall be determined by the Board of Directors and may change from time to time.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP

The RFA membership is open to all descendants of Robert Royce and anyone who is researching any of the variations of the Royce name, including but not limited to, Royse, Roice, Roys, Rice, Ryse, and Ries. Anyone eligible may become a member by completing and submitting the application form and paying the annual dues through the RFA website (https://www.roycefamilyassociation.org/). Membership is renewed automatically upon payment of annual dues.

The membership year runs from January 1 to December 31. Those who become members during a year will have membership from the date they become a member until the end of the calendar year except those who become members after October 1 will have membership until the second December 31, up to 15 months of membership for the first year dues.

Following non-payment of annual dues, members will be regarded as inactive and will be dropped from the mailing list and membership roll after appropriate notice of such intention to the RFA member by the RFA President or Secretary.

SECTION 3: MEETINGS OF THE RFA

There shall be no regularly-scheduled meetings of the members of the RFA. Regular business of the RFA shall be conducted as outlined in Section 5. From time to time the RFA may sponsor a family reunion to be held at a time and place determined by the Board of Directors.

Other meetings of the membership may be held upon designation by the officers and/or Board of Directors at any time and at any place within the United States or virtually by electronic

means and made known to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance. Those members who attend a duly-called business meeting shall constitute quorum.

SECTION 4: DUES FOR THE RFA

Annual dues for the RFA will be determined by the Board of Directors, and will run from January 1 to December 31. Income from dues will be used for the publication of the RFA newsletter (The Royce Family Association Quarterly), mailings to the membership, maintenance of the RFA web site, and necessary expenses incurred by the officers and directors in conducting the affairs of the RFA and the membership meetings. From time to time, voluntary donations may be requested for specific and limited purposes. Dues shall be paid electronically through the website

SECTION 5: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The number of directors shall be no less than three or more than six, all of whom will serve four year terms. Directors will be elected from among the members of the RFA. All directors serve without compensation. Members running for positions on the board shall provide the newsletter editor at a time designated by the newsletter editor brief resumes of their qualifications to be published in the newsletter. Qualifications for election to the board shall be limited to active members of the RFA and the candidate shall have an active e-mail address. A membership vote for directors shall be conducted electronically by email, through the website, or by U.S. mail in a manner that ensures fairness and accuracy and allows for secret ballots, as directed by the Board of Directors. The results will be published in the next issue of the newsletter and on the website.

With the approval of the board, former directors may continue to serve on the board ex officio. Ex officio board members will be entitled to receive board notices and communications and to attend meetings of directors but shall not be counted toward a quorum and shall not be entitled to vote.

The affairs of the RFA shall be managed by the directors who shall have and exercise all the powers of the RFA, except those powers reserved to the members by these bylaws.

The directors shall meet at the call of the president as often as necessary to carry out the affairs of the RFA. At the discretion of the president, a meeting of the directors may be conducted by U. S. mail, email, telephone, or other means as technology changes and have the same force as if the directors were physically present. A director may designate a proxy to represent him/her at a meeting of the directors. A majority of the directors then in office shall constitute a quorum.

The directors may elect or appoint one or more committees and may delegate to any such committee or committees any or all of their powers. Any committee to which the powers of the directors are delegated shall consist solely of directors. Unless the directors shall otherwise designate, committees shall conduct their affairs in the same manner as is provided in these bylaws for the directors. The members of any committee shall remain in office at the pleasure of the directors.

Reasonable notice of the time and place of meetings of the directors shall be given to each

director. Such notice need not specify the purposes of a meeting, unless otherwise required by these bylaws. Except as otherwise noted, it shall be reasonable and sufficient notice to a director to send notice by U. S. mail or email at least ten days or by telephone at least seven days before the meeting, addressed to the director at his/her last known business or residence address or to give notice to him/her in person at least twenty-four hours before the meeting. Whenever notice of a meeting is required, such notice need not be given to any director if a written waiver of notice, executed by him/her or an authorized attorney before or after the meeting, is filed with the records of the meeting, or to any director who attends the meeting without protesting prior thereto or at its commencement the lack of notice to him/her. A waiver of notice need not specify the purposes of the meeting unless such purposes were required to be specified in the notice of such meeting. When a quorum is present at any meeting, a majority of the directors present and voting shall decide any question, including the election of officers, unless otherwise provided by these bylaws. For the purposes of a quorum and voting, directors participating by mail, email, telephone, or proxy vote shall be deemed to be present.

SECTION 6: OFFICERS

The officers of the RFA shall be a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and such other officers, if any, as the directors may determine. The officers shall be elected by the directors from among the directors of the RFA. An officer shall hold office for a two-year term and may continue to serve in office upon the vote of the Board of Directors.

The president shall be the chief executive officer of the RFA, and, subject to the control of the directors, shall have general charge and supervision of the affairs of the RFA. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board. He/she shall denote additional duties of the officers as needed and may appoint committees as he/she deems appropriate. The president may not delegate any powers of the directors without the consent of the directors.

The vice president shall have such duties and powers as the directors may determine. He/she shall have and may exercise all the powers and duties of the president during the absence of the president or in the event of his/her inability to act.

The treasurer shall be the chief financial officer and the chief accounting officer of the RFA. He/she shall also be in charge of its books of account and accounting records and of its accounting procedures. He/she shall be in charge of its financial affairs, funds, securities and valuable papers and shall keep full and accurate records thereof. He/she shall have such other duties and powers as designated by the directors or the president. A full financial report will be made to the membership and published in the spring newsletter.

The secretary shall record and maintain records of all proceedings of the RFA and of the directors, keep a complete register of all members, directors and officers, and the address of each, send out notices and agendas in advance of all meetings and perform such other secretarial duties of the RFA as designated by the directors or president. If the secretary is absent from any meeting of the members or directors, a temporary secretary chosen at the meeting shall exercise the appropriate duties at the meeting.
The Board of Directors shall designate one of the board members as the newsletter editor.

The Board of Directors may designate one of the board members as the reunion organizer who

shall have the following responsibilities:

Determine the location, including the city and meeting facility;
Negotiate contracts for the meeting facility, hotel/motel rooms, and any other required items;
Determine the agenda for the reunion;
Establish the members' cost to attend the reunion;
Submit all tentative contracts to the board for approval prior to contract signing; and
Submit invoices, other costs of the reunion to the treasurer for payment in a timely manner after the reunion

An officer may be suspended or removed from office by a vote of a majority of directors then in office at any meeting of the board duly called. An officer may resign by delivering his/her resignation to the president or the secretary of the RFA, to a meeting of the members or of the directors, or to the RFA. Such resignation shall be effective upon receipt, unless it otherwise states.

The Board of Directors may fill interim vacancies in any board position until the next member election or may at their discretion call for a special election to fill any vacant board position.

No officer, or member, of the RFA shall be paid or otherwise profit from his/her position as a member or officer of the RFA.

SECTION 7: PERSONAL LIABILITY.

The members, directors and officers of the RFA shall not be personally liable for any debt, liability or obligation of the RFA. All persons including but not limited to members, corporations or other entities extending credit to, contracting with, or having any claims against the RFA may look only to the funds and property of the RFA for the payment of any such contract or claim, or for the payment of any debt, damages, judgment or decree, or of any money that may otherwise become due or payable to them from the RFA.

SECTION 8: AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed in whole or in part by vote of a majority of the directors then in office, except with respect to any provision thereof which by these bylaws requires action by the members. A copy of the amended bylaws shall be published in the next issue of the newsletter following the approval of the amendments to the bylaws by the Board of Directors and shall be posted on the RFA website.