



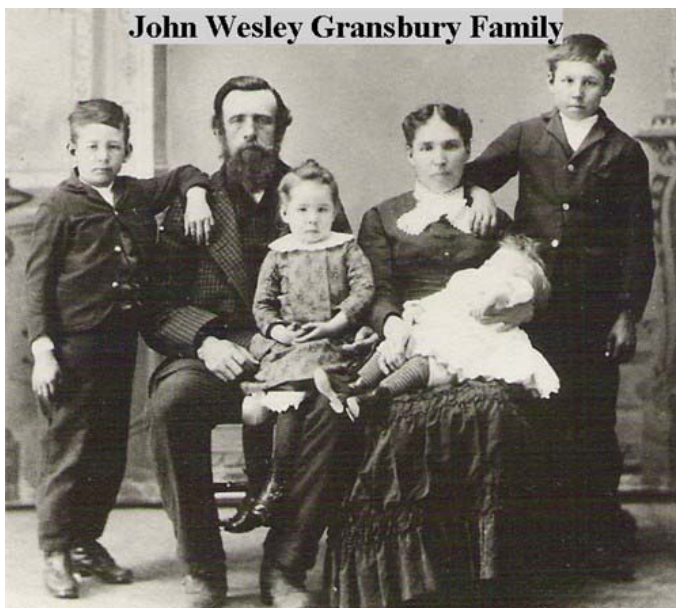
This picture has been in our family for at least 5 generations. The woman in the center has been identified as Rachel Almira Youngs Cole by our family tradition.

Rachel's daughter, Lura Elmina Cole Gransbury is my great-great grandmother.

Below is a photo of Lura Elmina Cole Gransbury taken about 1888 with her own family. This is as close in age as I can put another photo with anyone in the first photo.

The following photo was taken about 1888 and shows my great grandfather, Charles, then his father, John holding Jennie, his mother, Lura holding Alice and William.

However, it is Possible that Lura is not in the first photo as by 1880, she was living in Kansas instead of Delaware County, NY with others in her family.



The BIG question is When was the first photo taken and who is in it. About a year ago, I heard from a descendant of John Henry Cole, Lura's brother, who told me he had a copy of a picture of our

Indian Princess Ancestress—whom he believes to be on our pedigree charts as “Susannah Ferguson” Youngs, wife of John Youngs. Our pictures crossed in the mail, with mine claiming the center older woman to be Rachel Almira Youngs, and with him claiming her to be our Indian Princess – whose Indian name is “Rain on the Face.” Neither of us knows for sure who it is; but my mother always claimed the center woman to be Rachel Almira Youngs Cole.

Susannah, mother of Rachel, was born approximately 1786 and probably at Florida, Montgomery county, New York. (There has been some speculation that she was born in the state of Florida, but we feel this is incorrect.) She married about 1802 of Amsterdam, Montgomery, New York. I have names of two daughters of Susannah and John Youngs:

1. Elizabeth was born about 1808 and she lived in Otsego County, New York. She died in 1861 and is buried in the Wheeler Cemetery in Otsego, NY. She married a Cummings.

2. Rachel Almira was born 11 Oct 1818 at Oxford, Chenango, New York; married John S. Cole and had most of her family in Otsego County, NY. Between 1865 and 1870 they moved from Pittsfield, Otsego, NY to Walton, Delaware, NY where her husband, John died in 1874 leaving Rachel, a mother of 13 children with three still under 20 years of age.

There were other children, so far unidentified.

We do not have a death date for Susannah Young/Youngs. I believe it is she in 1850 living alone as a widow in Otego, Otsego, NY.

As for the family of Rachel Almira Cole, whom I tend to think the picture is of, her husband died in 1874 at Walton. The youngest son would have been 11 and youngest daughter 14. I think that is too young for the people in this picture for it to have been taken in 1874.

In 1878-1879, time period, the youngest son would have been 15-16; youngest daughter would have been 18-19. The second youngest son, Stephen Cole married in 1878-1879; the daughter, Lura Elmina, my ancestor and her husband moved to Kansas about that same time. Was this photo taken prior to Lura’s leaving New York and about the time of Stephen’s marriage?

In 1884, two of the sons passed away in October: William N. and John “Henry” Cole both died at this time. William died the 15<sup>th</sup>; I have no date for Henry’s death—just the year. William’s widow, Delana, was left with nine children—the youngest not yet born. Henry’s first wife and oldest son had died in 1877. He remarried and when he died left two known young children and a possible third. The son from his first marriage (Howard) was adopted and raised by his first wife’s brother, Anthony & Melissa Brower. The other son, David Burton Cole is the grandson whose family inherited the

original photograph in a large, original frame. Therefore, I tend to think that this photo may have been the last photo his father "Henry" was in – or was taken after his father died. (If Henry died after William and the photo was taken when William died, this theory would fit). Did EACH child of Rachel Almira have one of these photos? If so, is there anyone else who can help us identify the sons/daughters and inlaws in it?

A descendant of David "Burton" Cole, and I have been trying to put this puzzle together. He has two versions of a story about our "Indian Princess" and they are both different. Consider the source of each. Here they are:

#1(aka David Burton Cole)

Burton Cole: Tuskegee Patient One of Five Vets of Spanish War

From a newspaper article shared with me by Burton's grandson, Wyn Cole:  
Written by John Dagley, **Enquirer** Staff Writer 7/23/1980

Tuskegee, Ala.--Burton Cole's name may not be familiar to you, but when he celebrates his birthday President Carter is among the dignitaries who congratulate him.

That's because Cole, who turned 101 Tuesday, is one of only five living veterans of the Spanish-American War. He's the only veteran of that forgotten war, living in Alabama.

Cole was the star attraction on "family-day" Tuesday at Tuskegee's Veterans Administrative Hospital, where he's lived for 10 years in the hospital's nursing home.

His eyesight and hearing are poor. He sleeps a lot, and according to his son Emerson, he spends much of his waking time in a reverie.

Yet Cole is doing "better than ever now, even better than last year," says his son. Emerson Cole, a retired illustrator, who lives in Huntsville, tells an interesting story about his father.

"Dad was born in New York state, in the Adirondacks. He had only a third or fourth grade education when he got out of the service, and you know, he went back to school with the younger kids and went all the way through college at New York University.

"He never saw action in the war. He trained to fight, but the hostilities ended before he could be sent to Cuba. Instead of mustering them out when the war ended, the Army sent Dad and the others out west to fight some of the last battles with the Indians.

"Dad is part Indian himself. His grandmother was a Seminole princess who left her tribe in the Tampa Bay area to protest the tribe's cruelty against its own people. They were terribly cruel to their old people and would just leave them out in the woods to die.

"She left the Tampa Bay area and walked across the state. At Jacksonville, she met a Mohawk Indian who had traveled down the east coast from up north because he was fascinated with the ocean. He talked her into going north with him. Meanwhile, though, a posse from her tribe came after her. But she went on to New York and, to this day, there are Seminole Indians living in New York.

"After he graduated from NYU, Dad taught school for 16 years in one-room country schoolhouses in upstate New York. Farming was what he really liked best, though, but he wasn't as good at it as he was teaching."

For the past 20 years, Cole has lived in Florida and Alabama VA hospitals. The nurses and attendants at Tuskegee's VA Hospital speak fondly of Cole, and credit his long life to the way he takes care of himself. They say he eats well, keeps himself warm, stays relatively active but never does anything hurriedly.

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#2

Florida--the State; or Florida, Montgomery County, New York???

On 11 Sep 2007, Wyn Cole wrote: As I understand from my father, Gerald Emerson Cole, my grandfather David B. Cole and his sister were orphans. I never knew my grand fathers sisters name or his parents name.

All I know is his wife's name. The name of the Indian wife, as I was **told by my father** was "Rain on the face" and that she was with the **Delaware** tribe. As far as proof, I would have to go the veterans administration to dig out that information if I can. It may bare knowing that my grand father Cole died in 1981 (I think) at the age of 101 ½ .

We still have the cape he wore in the Spanish American war and somewhere we have a family picture of Rain on the face. My sister and I will spend some time looking for the picture, but it could be anywhere. I understand the confusion about where the Indian came from. The story in the paper came from my dad. I **can remember my dad and his brother arguing about it. Dad said she came from Florida, my uncle said she was from NY. I can't help but notice that there is a Florida in NY. Could this be a misunderstanding on my father's part? The argument between my father and his brother was that the Indian came up from Florida and my uncle said she did not.**

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#3 Information on John Henry Cole's orphaned son, Howard:

In Nov 2008, I received the following email from a descendant named Ann:

"I found your profile on Ancestry - requesting more information

Interested in any information on John Henry Cole, 1848-1884. You have listed his son, Howard Cole, born 10 Feb 1875.

I believe that Howard is the child of John Henry and Sarah Brower. "Henry" and Sarah were married 17 Feb 1874; their first son was Edmund/Edmond H., born 11 Jan 1875, born in the town of Tompkins, Del Co., NY. Sarah & Edmund died August 1877.

Around the age of 3, Howard was taken to the home of Anthony and Melissa Brower, where he was raised as Howard Brower.

Howard was my grandfather. Anthony Brower was Sarah's brother, and also the brother to Richard Brower who married Eliza J. Cole (the daughter of William & Delaney Thorpe Cole. William being the brother of John Henry Cole)."

I would love to hear from other descendants of Lura Elmina Cole's siblings!

1. **Russell Cole** died at Andersonville in the Civil War 28 Jul 1864; 2 children: Mandana (Madonna) and Mary Jane. His wife was Mary Etta Finch. She married 2<sup>nd</sup> Perry Butts and 3<sup>rd</sup> Silas Butts, brothers and had 5 more children.
2. **Mary "Adela" Cole** married Robert Clark. Known children: Charles, George, John, and Burton Clark. Lived at Masonville, Delaware, NY. She died in 1923.
3. **William Cole** married Delana Sophia Thorp and they had 9 known children: Eliza J., Mary F, Henry M, Marshall U, Irvin W., A. Abbie, Fred, Zephaniah, and Alice. William died 15 Oct 1884 at Sidney Center, Delaware, NY. Buried near his parents at Pine Cemetery. (His father preceded him in death by 10 years; mother outlived him by 12 years)
4. **Phebe Cole** married Albert Anderson. Four known children: DeEtta, Mary, Emma and Arthur Anderson. Phebe died in 1899.
5. **George Riley Cole** married 1<sup>st</sup> Anna Louise Mullenex and 2<sup>nd</sup> Emma J. Washburn. He had 11 children with Anna and one with Emma; namely: Charlotte, Riley, Iola, Olive, Alvin, Grace, Iver, Charles, Stanley, Harry, Anna, and Minnie Dora. George died in 1925.
6. **Elizabeth "Levina" Cole** md Samuel Finch. Known children are Jonas, Jennie, Ada, and William Finch. Elizabeth died in 1922 at Masonville, Delaware, NY.
7. **John "Henry" Cole** md Sarah E. Brower and had two children: Edmund and Howard. Sarah and Edmund died in 1877. Henry then married Maria Palmer and had David Burton Cole and possibly a daughter. Henry died in 1884 leaving all his children orphans.
8. **Lura Elmina Cole** md John W. Gransbury. Known children: William, George, Charles, Jennie and Alice Gransbury. Went to Kansas by 1880 and later to Idaho. She died in Idaho in 1935.
9. **Charles E. Cole** md Maryette Jenkins. Known children are: Alfred, Elmina, Charles, William, Norman, Floyd, and Dollie.
10. **Mary Jane Cole** died as an infant.
11. **Stephen Cole** md Emeline Evelyn Palmer. Known children: Olive, Jessie, Harvey, Gertrude, and Jennie.
12. **Ann Eliza Cole** md Erwin/Ervin Dumond. Known children: Walter and Viola.
13. **James "Nelson" Cole** –we think never married. Died 1913 at Sidney, Delaware, NY.