

DISCLAIMER

This biography is a rough draft and a work-in-progress.
The research has not been completed, so there may be errors and omissions.
Please return to Tuscania1918.org in the future to see if a revised and
finalized version is available.

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

TUSCANIA

Samson, Charles Leonard
1876 IL – 1938 IL



Charles Leonard Samson – “Chicago Tribune” 8 Feb 1918 p 3



Charles Leonard Samson - president of the Urbana (IL) High School graduating class of 1906 –
 ‘Champaign County Herald’ (Urbana IL) Wednesday 10 Jun 1896 p 1

SAMSON—Capt. Charles Leonard Samson of 7416 Bennett avenue, husband of Loula Jay, brother of Inez Rose Samson; Friday, Oct. 28. Services private. No flowers.

Obituary – “Chicago Tribune” Sunday 30 Oct 1938 p 22

Charles L. Samson.

Private funeral services will be held today for Charles Leonard Samson, mechanical engineer, who died Friday in the Hines hospital. He was 60 years old. Mr. Samson formerly was associated with the Amalgamated Machinery corporation. During the world war he served overseas as a captain in the 132d engineers and was a survivor of the transport ship Tuscania, which was torpedoed at sea. He was awarded the congressional medal for distinguished service. Mr. Samson was a member of the Western society and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Illinois chapter of Military Engineers. His widow, Mrs. Loula Jay Samson, survives.

“Chicago Tribune” Sunday 30 Oct 1938 p 22

Life:

OFFICERS ON TUSCANIA

Chicago and Middle West Men,
Casuals, and Attached, Aboard
Lost Vessel.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 8.—
[Special.]—THE TRIBUNE to-
day obtained from war depart-
ment records the complete list
of officers from Chicago and the middle
west who were checked on board the
Tuscania at Halifax.

Under the head of "Organization and
Casuals"—that is, officers not assigned
to any troop units on the Tuscania—
were included:

Captains—Ralph A. Feldes, 1646
West One Hundred and Second street,
Chicago; Howard B. Bushnell, Clinton,
Ill.; Thomas W. Clayton, Dixon, Ill.;
Harry P. Letton, Springfield, Ill.

First lieutenants—Don M. Hawley,
128 Main street, Evanston, Ill.; Charles
L. Samson, 6730 Perry avenue, Chicago;
William Binnie, Fridley, Minn.; Hugh
L. Joseph, Detroit, Mich.; Don A.
Smith, Detroit, Mich.; Clifford Waller,
Fenton, Mich.

Second lieutenant—Cecil A. Clarke,
Stronghurst, Ill.

"Chicago Tribune" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 2

RELATIVES HERE REJOICE OVER TUSCANIA LIST

**Personal Telegrams Sent
to Families of Men
Rescued.**

Chicago and the nation emerged yesterday from the first ordeal of its kind the war has developed when the official list of survivors of the torpedoed *Tuscania* was completed. In addition to the official list supplied newspapers, war department officials notified relatives by personal telegrams. Apparently every man from Chicago and vicinity whose name was published in the newspapers has been saved.

For many fathers and mothers and wives and sweethearts sleep came last night for the first time in four days. This was especially true of those whose loved ones' names did not appear in the first list of 1,000 survivors sent out from Washington Saturday. Among these were the wives of First Lieut. Charles L. Samson of 6730 Perry avenue and William E. Barwick of 3334 Fulton street.

CHICAGOANS SAFE

**New List Shows More Men
from This City Who Escaped
Tuscania Torpedoing.**

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—[Special.]—The war department tonight issued the following additional list of names of Chicago men who were rescued from the *Tuscania*:

BARWICK, WILLIAM, 11 South La Salle street.

GOLDSTINE, ARTHUR, 5425 Glenwood avenue.

KUMOROWSKI, JOHN, 849 Marshfield avenue.

MANDA, JERRY L., 1519 Tell place.

NAPIER, CHARLES H., 5123 Indiana avenue.

SAMSON, CHARLES L., 6730 Perry avenue.

Both from "Chicago Tribune" Saturday 9 Feb 1918 p 2

SAMSON CHARLES LEONARD		HOSP PK	C 2791253
Capt 132 Engrs		K	552 627
8233 Avalon Ave Chicago Ill		A	2 213 500
No	Died 10-28-38	T	57 402
Born	12/16/76	R	
Enl	9/25/17	Dis 8-29-19	Ct. 1 774 426
		I	
U. S. VETERANS BUREAU MAIL AND RECORDS Form 7000-Rev. Sept., 1935		INDEX CARD 5-12000	

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQN7-J63Z>

1755. CHARLES LEONARD SAMSON
(Brother of Nos. 1756, 2227)
B. S. in M. E.; Mech. Engr.; b. Dec. 16, 1876, Deers, Ill.; s. Nelson Willard (b. Ont., Can.) & Georgena Charlotte (Leonard) Samson (b. W. Newell, Ill.) Prepared in Urbana H. S. Varsity Football Scrubs; Class Football Mgr. Master Mechanic the Buda Co. Married Loula Jay Womack, Sept. 12, 1910, Boston, Mass. Address, Harvey, Ill.

U of IL catalog 1913 – PAGE 285 (baccalaureate alumni)

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1129240:2203?tid=&pid=&queryId=2ccf16a2cdaed38787dbf42e8e91cd4a&_phsrc=hFB52627&_phstart=successSource

CHARLES SAMSON,
The president of the class of '96, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Samson, of near Deers, Ill. He was born at that place, Dec. 16, 1876. He went to school at Silver Hill school house until three years ago when he came to Urbana and entered the high school. He has always been a hard worker in school and always stood high in his classes. He was a strong player on the foot-ball team last year.

"Champaign County Herald" (Urbana IL) Wednesday 10 Jun 1896 p 1

Name	Charles L Samson
Sex	Male
Age	61
Residence Place	7416 Bennett Avenue
Address	7416 Bennett Avenue
Burial Date	31 Oct 1938
Burial Place	Proviso, , Illinois
Death Date	28 Oct 1938
Death Place	Proviso Township, Cook, Illinois, United States
Birth Date	16 Dec 1876
Birthplace	Deers, , Illinois
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	Hydraulic Press
Race	White
Father's Name	Willard Dawson Samson
Mother's Name	Charlotte Georgene Leonard
Spouse's Name	Loula Samson
Informant's Name	Lee Stigler
Event Type	Death
Entry Number	792
Cemetery	Oakridge
Funeral Home	Paul W Senne Funeral Home Inc

IL, Cook County Deaths - <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/LD5V-4ML>

Wife

PRESIDENT



MRS. CHARLES L. SAMSON.
[Montfort Photo.]

Mrs. Charles L. Samson, 7416 Bennett avenue, president of the Arché club, has completed appointment of committee chairmen for the coming season. The club's opening is scheduled for Oct. 2.

Loula – "Chicago Tribune" Sunday 13 Sep 1931 p 47

VOLUNTEER



Mrs. Charles L. Samson, 7416 Bennett avenue, club leader who is active in VOLUNTEER work in the 7th ward.

[TRIBUNE Photo.]

"Chicago Tribune" Friday 11 Sep 1936 p 7

No.	Place of Marriage Boston Date	Full Name of Groom and Bride Maiden name of Bride if divorced or widowed (Color, if other than white)		Age in Y ^{rs} .	Number of Marriage Widowed or Divorced	Residence of each at time of Marriage (Street and Number) Boston if not specified	
5107	Sep 12	Charles L	Samson	33	First	" La Salle, Ill."	
		Loula J	Womack	40	2nd D&W	"Hotel Nottingham "	
		mm	Womack				

Occupation
Mech. Engineer " School Teacher

Place of Birth of Each	Name of Parents of Each	
	Full Name of Father	Maiden Name of Mother
Sidney, Ill. Waco, Texas	Nelson W. Samson Thomas J. Womack	Charlotte Leonard Mary Greenwade

Name, Residence * and Official Station ** of Person by whom Married (* Boston if not specified)	Date of Record
A Z Conrad Hotel Westminster	Sep 15

MA marriage record -

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/2511/images/41262_b139559-00223?pld=12102576

Mrs. Samson to Read at Hamilton Park.

Under the auspices of the Civic club of Hamilton Park, next Sunday, the 31st inst., at 3:30 o'clock, at the field house, Mrs. Loula Jay Samson, interpretative reader, will read "If I Were King," by Sothorn. Mrs. Samson, who is the wife of Lieut. Charles L. Samson, recently rescued from the "Tuscania," is an exceptional reader, and a rare treat is being offered the people of the community in this opportunity to hear her. Miss Jeannette St. Lawrence will be the soprano soloist, and Mrs. Pauline G. Filler accompanist.

"Suburban Economist" (Chicago IL) Friday 29 Mar 1918 p 4

Mrs. Charles L. Samson to the Arché club, she's Loula Jay Samson to many lovers of the drama. Her loyal constituents will have an opportunity to hear the versatile Arché club president read Milne's delightful play, "Michael and Mary," this evening at the Windermere.

"Chicago Tribune" Sunday 14 Feb 1932 p 105

Name	Loula Jay Samson
Sex	Female
Age	73
Address	6450 Kenwood Avenue
Burial Date	13 Nov 1941
Burial Place	Chicago, , Illinois
Death Date	11 Nov 1941
Death Place	Chicago, Cook, Illinois, United States
Birth Date	18 Mar 1868
Birthplace	Waco, , Texas
Marital Status	Widowed
Occupation	Housewife
Race	White
Spouse's Name	Charles L
Informant's Name	Inez Rose Samson
Event Type	Death
Entry Number	30525
Cemetery	Oakwoods
Funeral Home	Boydston Bros

IL, Cook County Deaths - <https://www.familysearch.org/tree/person/sources/LD5V-4ML>

Father:

Son of Willard F. Samson
(11-4-1903)
& Margaret Mary (d. 1903)
(first wife)
Nelson Samson
8-28-1875
3-9-1903
A Brother of
John B. Samson

TAKEN BY DEATH

SUFFERING OF A CHAMPAIGN
COUNTY PIONEER IS ENDED.

Edward C. Ireland, Former Illinois
Central Conductor and Cham-
paign Real Estate Man, Dies
in Oregon.

At 10:20 this morning, May 2, occurred the death of Nelson Samson, 311 West Fifth street, one of the oldest residents of the county. The end came after three or four months of acute suffering, starting with colic and the lower portion of the digestion and renal organs. Through his illness he was surrounded by loved ones fearing of the outcome, yet certain of it. Mr. Samson, himself, from the beginning of his illness, was sure that his time had come, but he fought a brave fight against overwhelming odds.

Mr. Samson was the youngest and last surviving child of Willard, and Margaret Mary Samson. He was born at Bardaville, Ont., February 28, 1875. His father, however, was an American born from Syracuse, N. Y.

In 1877, with his father's family, he removed to Marshall county, Indiana, where he married Amanda Pumpert, by whom he had seven children, six of whom came to maturity and reared families. Harriet and Amos Rollin, both deceased. Emma, wife of L. H. Howser of this city; America, now widow of Dr. J. C. Conant and residing in Chicago, Idaho; John Franklin, of Oriskany, Wash., and Max, wife of R. L. Burdick of Ashland, Ore., were born of this marriage.

In 1884 he removed to Champaign county and resided near Sidney during the remainder of his life. After the death of his wife Amanda, Nelson Samson married Georgiana C. Blair, widow of William H. Blair, and daughter of Philip and Angelina (Williams) Leonard of near Danville, Ill. By her he had three children, Charles L. of LaSalle, Ill.; George R. of Cowsville, Ore., and Iva Rose, who made her home with her parents at 311 West Fifth street, this city.

All the surviving children of Mr. and Mrs. Samson were either at the bedside or on their way when the end came. J. F. Ameron, and Max were unable to reach Urbana in time to see their father alive, but they are expect-

Will of Late Urbana Resident Filed
For Probate—Widow, Children and
Grandchildren Are Beneficiaries.

Nelson Samson, late of this city, leaves an estate, valued at \$54,000 of which \$2,000 is personal property and the remaining \$52,000, realty. He died December 21, 1903, and today, makes L. H. Howser of this city, executor. The latter is directed to purchase a monument at a cost not to exceed \$200.

The widow, Georgiana Samson, is to receive the homestead at 311 West Fifth street and a farm of 160 acres in section 34, Urbana township, to be kept during her life, on condition that the farm is to be kept in good shape. This bequest is conditioned upon her relinquishment of dower interest.

A 112-acre farm in section 6, Sidney township, is to be sold and the proceeds added to the obligations held by the testator against all of his body heirs. The whole is to be then divided into nine equal parts, each body heir to account for whatever he or she has already received.

The share of Harriet Bruce, deceased, shall be divided equally between her two children, Earl Biddlecome and Maude Stewart. The share of A. R. Samson shall be divided between his children, Maurine, Jean, June and Mollie.

After the widow's death, the farm in which she is given a life estate is to be sold with the 60-acre tract in Nebraska and the home in Urbana, and the proceeds divided as in the first sale.

E. M. Kocowiton and George M. Bennett are witnesses to the will.

No. 4047.

Know all men that I, Nelson Samson of Urbana, Champaign County Illinois, being of sound and disposing state of mind and memory, and being desirous of settling my worldly affairs, make and publish this my last will and testament hereby revoking and making void all former wills by me heretofore made.

First: I direct that my executor L. H. Howser, pay all my just debts and funeral expenses, from my personal property, or money not hereinafter disposed of, and purchase and erect a monument at my last resting place and inscribe on the front, the date of my birth and death, also the date of my wife, Amanda M. Samson and Georgena C. Samson to be inscribed on either side of the monument, the monument not to cost more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

Second: I give to my wife, Georgena C. Samson all the furniture in my home, and I devise to her my home in Urbana, Champaign County, Illinois, and my farm of one hundred sixty acres, situated in Section thirty-four, Urbana, Township, Champaign County, Illinois, during her natural life, she to receive all rents and profits arising therefrom, and also to leave the farm in as good condition as when she took possession of it, except for natural wear. I devise these properties to my wife, Georgena C. Samson on condition that she relinquish her right of dower in all my other real estate.

I further direct that my executor shall proceed to sell my two hundred twelve acre farm in section six in Sidney Township, Champaign County, Illinois, and add the price of it to the obligations that I hold against all of my body heirs. Then divide this sum of said addition into nine equal parts, each body heir to account for whatever he or she has already received.

I further direct, the share of Harriet Brace, my body heir deceased, shall be divided equally between her two children, Earl Biddlecome, and Maude Stewart.

I further direct that the share of A. R. Samson, my body heir deceased, shall be divided equally amongst his four children, viz: Maurine, Jean, June, and Hallie.

I further direct that after my wife, Georgena C. Samson's decease, my executor shall proceed to sell my farm in Section thirty-four, Urbana Township, also my eighty acre farm in Nebraska, also my home in Urbana, divide the proceeds of said sale in the same manner as the previous sale was divided. In case one of my body heirs should die without issue, before the division of my estate is made, his or her share shall be divided the same as the previous division was made. The taxes on the farm in Urbana Township, section thirty-four and on the home in Urbana are to be paid annually from the rents and proceeds from said farm.

In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand and seal, and published and declared this instrument to be my last will and testament, in the presence of the persons whose names are subscribed as attesting witnesses.

WITNESSES

NELSON SAMSON,

On the Twenty first day of December Nineteen hundred and three (1903) the above named Nelson Samson, in our presence signed the foregoing instrument and declared to us that the same was his last will and testament, and requested us to subscribe our names hereto as witnesses, and we in his presence and in the presence of each other, have, in compliance with such request hereto subscribed our names.

Filed May 18, 1912.

E. M. Knowlton,)
) Witnesses.
 Geo. M. Bennett.)

Fred H. Lee
 Clerk County Court.

State of Illinois)
 Champaign County.) ss

In the County Court of said County.
 In Probate to June, Term A.D. 1912.

In the Matter of the Last Will and Testament:

Nelson Samson, Deceased.

E. M. Knowlton and Geo. M. Bennett subscribing witnesses to the annexed instrument in writing, purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Nelson Samson, deceased, late of the County and State Aforesaid, personally appeared in open Court and each being duly sworn according to law, depose and say that they were present and saw the said Nelson Samson sign said Will in their presence, and that said testator acknowledged the same to be his act and deed; that they signed said instrument as witnesses at the request and in the presence of said testator and in the presence of each other; that they believe and do now believe that said testator was of sound mind and memory, of lawful age and under no constraint at the time of signing and acknowledging the same.

Subscribed and sworn to in open Court this)
 13th day of June, 1912.)

H. M. Cassidy,
 Notary Public.

E. M. Knowlton,
)
 Geo. M. Bennett.
)

(N.P. Seal)

Will of Nelson Willard Samson - <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/3244481:9048?tid=80240175&pid=150013486278&queryId=45675703c2935b2bf6a8e79123c77b45&phsrc=hFB52588&phstart=successSource>

NELSON SAMSON DEAD

Old Resident of County Seat Ill From
Paralysis—Decedent Native of
Canada.

Nelson Samson, one of Urbana's old and wealthy citizens, died at his home, 311 West High street, at 10 o'clock this forenoon after a long illness caused by paralysis.

He was eighty-three years old and was born in Canada. He came to Urbana from the Deers neighborhood about 1896.

Besides his wife, the decedent is survived by these children: Mrs. L. Houser of Urbana, Miss Inez Samson at home; Mrs. R. L. Burdick of Oregon; Mrs. Machie Conaut of Idaho; C. L. Samson of Washington; Frank Samson of Washington and George of Oregon; also these step-daughters: Mrs. Noah Corbin, Mrs. Roy Palmer and Mrs. W. R. Grant, all of Urbana.

"Champaign (IL) Daily News" Thursday 9 May 1912 p 1

NELSON SAMSON

WORTH \$94,000

**Will of Late Urbana Resident Filed
For Probate—Widow, Children and
Grandchildren Are Beneficiaries.**

Nelson Samson, late of this city, leaves an estate valued at \$94,000 of which \$9,000 is personal property and the remaining \$85,000, realty. His will, executed December 21, 1903, and filed today, makes L. H. Howser of this city, executor. The latter is directed to purchase a monument at a cost not to exceed \$200.

The widow, Georgena Samson, is to receive the homestead at 311 West High street and a farm of 160 acres in section 34, Urbana township, to hold during her life, on condition that the farm is to be kept in good shape. This bequest is conditioned upon her relinquishment of dower interest.

A 212-acre farm in section 6, Sidney township, is to be sold and the proceeds added to the obligations held by the testator against all of his body heirs. The whole is to be then divided into nine equal parts, each body heir to account for whatever he or she has already received.

The share of Harriet Brace, deceased, shall be divided equally between her two children, Earl Biddlecome and Maude Stewart. The share of A. R. Samson shall be divided between his children, Maurine, Jean, June and Hallie.

After the widow's death, the farm in which she is given a life estate is to be sold with the 80-acre tract in Nebraska and the home in Urbana, and the proceeds divided as in the first sale.

E. M. Knowlton and George M. Bennett are witnesses to the will.

"Urbana (IL) Courier-Herald" Saturday 18 May 1912 p 5

Siblings:

At Peterson Home—Mrs. George R. Samson and her two children are at the home of Professor and Mrs. S. H. Peterson to remain until after the funeral of their husband and father, the late George R. Samson. They are former residents of Corvalli.

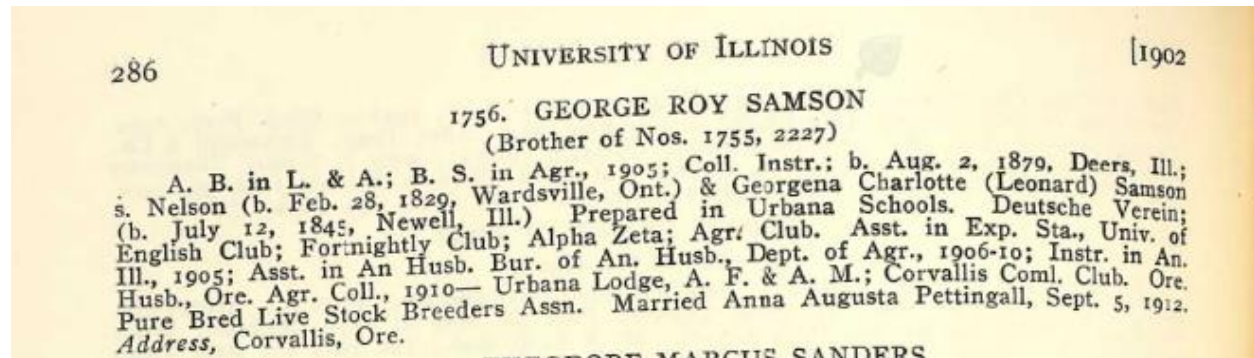
"Corvallis (OR) Gazette-Times" Tuesday 11 Jan 1927 p 3

Family From Alpine Moves Here—
Mrs. George R. Samson and children of Alpine have come to Corvallis to make their home to benefit from the school advantages here. The family will live at Ninth and Monroe streets. Mr. Samson, who was formerly an O. A. C. faculty member, died last winter at his home at Alpine.

“Corvallis (OR) Gazette-Times” Friday 16 Sep 1927 p 3

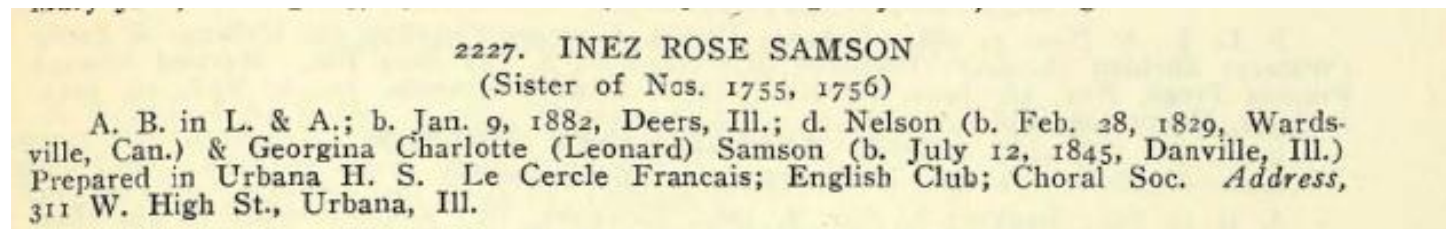
G. R. Samson, a graduate of the University of Illinois and for a long time employed in the U. S. department of agriculture, comes as instructor in animal husbandry.

“Corvallis (OR) Gazette-Times” Friday 26 Aug 1910 p 3



George Roy Samson – U of IL 1913 catalog (baccalaureate alumni) – page 286 -

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1129240:2203?tid=&pid=&queryId=2ccf16a2cdaed38787dbf42e8e91cd4a&_phsrc=hFB52628&_phstart=successSource



Sister Inez Rose Samson (1872-1971) - U of IL catalog 1913 -

https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1129240:2203?tid=&pid=&queryId=2ccf16a2cdaed38787dbf42e8e91cd4a&_phsrc=hFB52627&_phstart=successSource

Half-siblings: by his father's 1st marriage, to Amanda Pumphy

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/45461319:61675>

Name	Harriet M. Brace
Sex	Female
Age	47
Burial Date	31 Jan 1900
Death Date	30 Jan 1900
Death Place	, Cook, Illinois, United States
Death Place (Original)	Chicago, Cook, Illinois
Death Age	47y
Birth Year (Estimated)	1853
Birthplace	Indiana
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	housekeeper
Race	White
Ethnicity	American
Event Type	Death
Record Number	50
Cemetery	Cremation Graceland

Cook Co. IL death record of half-sister Harriet M. Samson Biddecome Brace (1851/1853 – 1900) - <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N7CK-7NG>

Half-siblings: by his mother Georgena's 1st marriage, to William H. Blair

MARRIED, at the residence of Mr. Nelson Samson near Sidney, by Rev. Robert Harris of this city, on Sunday, March 13, 1887, Mr. Noah W. Corbin and Miss Ida J. Blair, both of Sidney township. Quite a number of friends and relatives witnessed the ceremony and joined in congratulating the happy couple. Some nice presents graced the table all of which will be useful as well as ornamental. May prosperity and happiness attend the newly wedded pair through life's journey.

Marriage of **half-sister Ada Blair (1864-1932)** to Noah Corbin – “Champaign County Herald” (Urbana IL) Wednesday 16 Mar 1887 p 1

HARVEST WEDDINGS.

While the Farmers are Busy Harvesting the Golden Grain, Cupid is Equally Busy Gathering His Harvest of Hearts and Welding Them Together—Four Hearts Made Two and Start on the Voyage of Life with Bright Prospects.

GRANT-BLAIR.

William R. Grant, of this city, was united in marriage to Miss Florence Blair, at the residence of the bride's parents, near Deere, Illinois, at three o'clock yesterday afternoon. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Robert Harris, of this city. Mr. Grant is a highly educated young man and makes the teaching of a number of languages his profession. Although only a resident here for about a year he has made many warm friends and is highly esteemed for his many excellent traits of character. The bride is a favorite in the community in which she resides and is well fitted for the position in life she is now called to fill. Mr. and Mrs. Grant will make this city their future home and will reside on Urbana Avenue. A reception will be given them at one o'clock to-day by Rev. and Mrs. Robert Harris, at their residence in this city.

Marriage of **Florence Blair (1868-1949)** to William Grant – "Champaign County Herald"
(Urbana IL) Wednesday 17 Jul 1889 p 1

W. R. GRANT, 70, DIES; MASONIC RITES PLANNED

**Prominent Urbana Lodge
Worker, Formerly an
Engineer, Was Born
in London**

William Robert Grant, 70 years old, longtime resident of Urbana, died at his home, 602 West Illinois Street, at an early hour Wednesday morning, after a long illness due to a complication of diseases.

The funeral will be held at 3 o'clock, Friday afternoon, from the Renner Funeral Home. Services will be in charge of Rev. Sidney A. Guthrie, assisted by Rev. Olin L. Sherburne.

Urbana Lodge 157, A. F. & A. M. will have an emergency meeting at 2:30 o'clock, Friday afternoon, for the purpose of attending the services. Burial will be made at Woodlawn Cemetery.

The deceased was a son of Charles and Margaret Harris Grant, and was born in London, England, July 16, 1862. He spent his early life in London, but while a young man went to the region of the Danube, where he was engaged in engineering work. Later, he did the same work in the region of the Nile.

Came to Visit Uncle

He came to Urbana, about 47 years ago to visit his uncle, the late Rev. Robert Harris, then pastor of the First Christian Church of Urbana, and decided to remain here.

On July 16, 1889, he was married to Florence C. Blair, of near Urbana. Two children were born to them, Helen, wife of Clyde H. Parr, of Chicago Heights, who preceded her father in death and Ruth, wife of E. E. McCoy, of Elgin, who with his wife, survive. There is also a grandson, Robert E. McCoy.

For many years, Mr. Grant was engaged as a draftsman with the New York Central Railway, then known as the Big Four. Later, he entered insurance work, and at the time of his death was state manager for the Masonic Protective Association of Worcester, Mass.

Mr. Grant was a member of the First Methodist Church of Urbana, and all of the Masonic orders of Urbana, as well as Mohammed Temple of Peoria.

Obituary of Florence Blair's husband William Robert Grant – "Champaign (IL) News-Gazette"
Wednesday 24 Aug 1932 p 2

Hymeneal.

Married at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Samson, at Deers, Illinois, Mr. Oliver R. Palmer and Miss Willa H. Blair, of Deers on Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1894. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Robert Harris of this city. Quite a number of invited guests witnessed the nuptials and partook of the plentiful board prepared for the occasion.

Among the guests from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Grant, of Indianapolis, Mr. and Mrs. Clemens, of Mansfield, Miss Anna Leonard, of Danville, Mr. and Mrs. Brace, of Chicago, and Mrs. Frank Samson, of Nebraska. The music including the wedding march was by young Mr. Robert Howser of Deers. An enjoyable time was had by all present. The substantial testimonies were many and varied and the donors united in wishing the happy pair a safe and prosperous voyage through life.

Marriage of half-sister [Willa H. Blair \(1871-1946\)](#) to Oliver Roy Palmer – "Champaign County Herald" Wednesday 7 Mar 1894 p 1

PALMER WILL IS FILED.

Entire Estate Goes to Widow for Rest of Her Lifetime.

The will of Roy Palmer, late of Urbana, was filed for probate in county court Monday, the instrument directing that the entire estate go to the widow, Willa B. Palmer, for her lifetime, the residue then to go to the testor's daughter, Mary Dorothy Palmer.

The widow is named as executor. The will was signed at Jacksonville, Fla., on March 3, 1917, in the presence of Carl C. Corbin, Ada B. Corbin and Inez Rose Samson.

"Champaign Daily Gazette" (Urbana IL) Tuesday 6 Nov 1917 p 4

Services Tuesday For Mrs. Palmer

Mrs. Roy Palmer died at 9:15 p. m. Sunday in her home at 508 West Illinois street.

She was born July 7, 1871, near Danville, daughter of William H. and Georgiana Blair, and was christened Willa. For the past 42 years she has been a resident of Urbana or vicinity.

Mrs. Palmer was a member of the First Methodist church of Urbana, the Literary club and the Among Ourselves reading club.

She leaves one daughter, Mrs. C. Woody Thompson of Iowa City, Iowa; two sisters, Mrs. W. R. Grant and Inez Rose Samson, both of Urbana; one grandchild, Martha Jeanne Thompson; her husband having preceded her in death Oct. 27, 1917.

The body will be taken home from the Renner funeral home Tuesday morning for funeral services to be held there at 2 p. m. Tuesday, Rev. A. A. Belyea officiating. Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

Obituary of Willa Blair Palmer – she is survived by her half-sisters, not sisters - “Urbana (IL) Evening Courier” Monday 7 Jan 1946 p 3

Name: Samson, Charles Leonard

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: Officer Reserve Corps – 1st lieutenant

Serial number: US Army officers in WWI were not assigned serial numbers

Entered service from: San Francisco, San Francisco CA

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Charles Leonard Samson

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": wife Mrs. Loula Jay Samson, 6730 Perry Ave., Chicago IL

Returned from war on: "Calamares" Jul 1919

Sailed on return ship as: Charles L. Samson

Next-of-kin on return ship & rank: wife Mrs. Loula Jay Samson, 6730 Perry St., Chicago IL
(captain, Co. A, 132nd Engrs)

World War I draft registration (1917):

National Tuscania Survivors Association (1939):

World War II draft registration (1942):

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted: 25 Sep 1917

Discharged: 29 Aug 1919

Address: 8233 Avalon Ave., Chicago IL

Rank/unit: captain, 132nd Division

Birth & death:

Born: 16 Dec 1876 Deers, Champaign IL

Died: 28 Oct 1938 Hines, Cook IL (IL, Cook Co. Deaths) (in Hines Veterans Admin Hospital)

Find A Grave record: burial info in Cook Co. death record - private services noted in
obituary: "Chicago Tribune" 30 Oct 1938 p 22

Burial location: Hillside, Cook IL

Cemetery: Oakridge (now Oakridge-Glen Oak)

Tombstone:

Father: Nelson Willard Samson, 28 Feb 1829 Wardsville, Middlesex, Ontario, Canada – 9
May 1912 Champaign Co. IL. Although born in Canada, his father was an American citizen

from Syracuse NY. Son of Willard Fremont Samson & Margaret Marr. In 1837, the family moved to Marshall Co. IN.

His first wife was Amanda Melvina Pumphy, born 1833 in Plymouth, Devon, England, whom he married 14 May 1850 in Plymouth, Marshall Co. IN. They had 7 children, 6 of whom lived to adulthood. Amanda was either dead or divorced by Dec 1874, when Nelson remarried.

In the 1850 census, Amanda appears twice, both times in "My District" in Marshall Co. IN. In one record (dated 9 Sep 1850), Amanda Pumphy (age 18) lives with her parents Amos Pumphy (50 VA) & Polly Pumphy (38 KY). In another record (undated), Nelson Samson (21) lives with his wife Amanda Samson (18).

In 1854 Nelson moved to Champaign Co. IL. After the death of Amanda, he married widow Georgena Leonard Blair. They had 3 children: Charles, George & Inez.

Buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Sidney, Champaign IL. In his will, Nelson had directed that a tombstone be inscribed with his name & dates & that of his wives Amanda & Georgena on each side. His tombstone is not pictured on Find A Grave; his wife Georgena is buried in a different cemetery.

Find A Grave: 143208901

Mother: Georgena Charlotte Leonard Blair Samson, 12 Jul 1845 IL – 3 Jan 1922 Champaign Co. IL. Daughter of Phillip Leonard & Angelina E. Williams.

First married to William H. Blair (4 Dec 1834 – 26 Jun 1874) whom Georgena married in 1864. He is buried in Rose Cemetery, Bismarck, Vermilion IL, F: 11021320.

Second wife of Nelson Willard Samson.

Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL.

Find A Grave: 141567676

Parents' marriage: 9 Dec 1874 Vermilion Co. IL

Spouse: Loula Jay or Hortense Womack Meek Samson, 18 Mar 1868 Waco, McLennan TX – 11 Nov 1941 Chicago, Cook IL. Daughter of Thomas J. Womack & Mary Greenwade.

Loula Hortense Womack had married on 28 Dec 1895 in Bexar Co. TX to Alexander Beaufort Meek (17 Nov 1865 – 18 Nov 1914, buried in Friendship Cemetery, Columbus, Lowndes MS, F: 13324452). He had previously been married to Matilda E. Seth (on 15 Sep 1891 in Lamar Co. TX).

In the 1900 census for Waco, McLennan TX, Alexander B. Meek (35 MS, father b. AL, mother b. TX, b. Nov 1865), a commercial traveler, lived with his wife Lula Meek (32 TX, father b. MS, mother b. KY, b. Mar 1868). They had been married 4 years and Lula had no children.

According to the Cook Co. IL death record, she is buried in Oak Woods Cemetery, Chicago, Cook IL.

Spouse Find A Grave:

Marriage: 12 Sep 1910 Boston MA. It was George's 1st marriage. She says "2nd D&W". If this stands for "divorced & widowed," she would have had to be divorced from Alexander Meek by 1910; he died in 1914.

Children:

Siblings: Charles was the oldest of his full siblings.

- George Robert Samson, 1879 – 11 Jan 1927 Linn Co. OR. Resident of Corvallis OR in May 1912 when his father died. Buried in Crystal Lake Cemetery, Corvallis, Benton OR. F: 27647657
- Inez Rose Samson, 9 Jan 1872 Deers, Champaign IL – Nov 1971. Residing with her parents at 311 W. High St., Urbana IL In May 1912 when her father died. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL. F: 141567651

Half-siblings: by his father Nelson Samson's 1st marriage, to Amanda Pumphy

- Harriet/Harriett M. Samson Biddlecome Brace, ca. 1851 IN (ca. 1853 IN, Cook Co. IL death record) – 30 Jan 1900 Chicago, Cook IL. Married in 1873 in Champaign Co. IL to Joseph Whitney Biddlecome, a Civil War veteran (bugler), who died 14 Mar 1876 in Champaign Co. IL & is buried in Old Homer Cemetery, Homer, Champaign IL, F: 25449397. Under the name of Harriet M. Brace, she applied for his war pension on 13 Jul 1889. She had 2 children, Earl Biddlecome & Maude Biddlecome Stewart, who inherit her share of her father Nelson Samson's estate (died May 1912). When she died, she is listed as married; her surname is Brace. The Cook Co. IL death record says she was cremated at Graceland. Not on Find A Grave as of 11 Oct 2022.
- Emma Samson Howser, 6 Jul 1856 Champaign Co. IL – 7 Nov 1944 Urbana, Champaign IL. Wife of Leonidas H. Howser (1846-1917, F: 1382086115). Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL. F: 138208694
- Amos Roland Samson, 1857 IL - 6 Apr 1899 Boise, Ada ID. Husband of Liberty (Libbie) Cole (1861-1930, F: 147596066); four daughters survived him. Libbie later married John J. Neal (1869-1924, F: 62080690). Amos is buried in Pioneer Cemetery, Boise, Ada ID. F: 43878692
- America Elizabeth Samson Conant, Dec 1861 [also found as 25 Dec 1859] Champaign Co. IL – 27 Nov 1940 Lewiston, Nez Perce ID. On her marriage license, her name is listed as Mackie Samson. Wife of Dr. Jesse L. Conant (1856-1910, F: 24420780). They obtained a marriage license on 2 Jul 1883 in NE; she resided in Fort Calhoun NE. Widow of Dr. J. C. Conant & resident of Weiser ID in May 1912 when her father died. Buried in Hillcrest Cemetery, Weiser, Washington Co. IL. F: 24420748
- John Franklin ("Frank") Samson, 9 Jun 1864 IL – 7 Oct 1944 Cashmere, Chelan WA. Resident of Oroville WA in May 1912. Husband of Olive Knight (1866-1934, F: 119330909). Buried in Oroville Riverview Cemetery, Oroville, Okanogan WA. F: 119330851
- Mae Samson Burdic [Burdick], Oct 1866 IL – 18 Jan 1932 Jackson Co. OR. Listed as Mrs. R.L. Burdick of Ashland OR in her father's May 1912 obituary. Wife of Ruric Lester (R.L.) Burdic (1895-1989, F: 79419774), whom she married in 1888. Buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Ashland, Jackson OR. F: 66322918
- One died in childhood.

Half-siblings: by his mother Georgena Leonard's 1st marriage, to William H. Blair

- Ada B. Blair Corbin, 4 Sep 1864 [1865 on tombstone] Danville, Vermilion IL – 10 Mar 1932 Urbana, Champaign IL. Wife of Noah W. Corbin (1858-1938, F: 141413111). Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL. F: 141413067
- Florence Blair Grant, 1868 IL – 1949. Wife of William Robert Grant (1862-1932, F: 141413552) whom she married 16 Jul 1889. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL. F: 141413623
- Willa H. Blair Palmer, 7 Jul 1871 Vermilion Co. IL – 6 Jan 1946. Wife of Oliver Roy Palmer (1872-1917, F: 141567507) whom she married in 1894 in Champaign Co. IL. Buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Urbana, Champaign IL. F: 141567554

Notes:

Pre-war:

University of Illinois graduate 1902 in mechanical engineering

Wartime:

"Chicago Examiner" - 1918 address: 6730 Perry Ave., Chicago IL - wife also listed as at 730 Perry Ave.

Post-war:

Obituary:

"Chicago Tribune" 30 Oct 1938 p 22 – Survived by widow Loula Jay Samson. Private funeral services held that day; no burial information in obituary. Tuscania survivor. Mechanical engineer, died at age 60, WWI veteran, awarded Distinguished Service medal, formerly with Amalgamated Machinery Co.

Social Security number:

Censuses:

1870 Sidney, Champaign IL
 Nelson Samson, 40 Canada, farmer
 Martha, 35 IN, keeping house
 Harriet, 19 IN, at home
 Emma, 14 IL
 Roland, 12 IL
 Amelia, 8 IL
 Franklin, 6 IL
 Mary, 4 IL
 & 2 farm laborers, Hugh Hunt (21) & Hiram Bradley (15)

1880 Sidney, Champaign IL – conducted 16 Jun 1880

Nelson Samson, 52 Canada, farmer

Georganna Samson, 45 IL, keeping house

Roland Samson, 21 IL, teaching school [son of Amanda]

America Samson, 18 IL, teaching school [daughter of Amanda]

Frank Samson, 15 IL [son of Amanda]

Mary Samson, 13 IL [daughter of Amanda]

Charly, 3 IL [son of Georgena]

George, 1 IL [son of Georgena]

Hatta Biddlecome, 29 IL [daughter – nee Harriet Samson - of Amanda]

Louisa Biddlecome, 5 IL [listed as daughter, but a daughter of Harriet, not Nelson]

Maud Biddlecome, 3 IL [listed as daughter, but a daughter of Harriet, not Nelson]

Ada Blare [sic/Blair], 14 IL [stepdaughter – Georgena's daughter by 1st husband William H. Blair]

Florance Blare, 12 IL [stepdaughter]

William Blare, 8 IL [listed as son but this is stepdaughter Willa]

1900 Urbana, Champaign IL – 311 High St.

Nelson Samson, 71 England Canada, Feb 1829, father b. NY, mother b. Canada, married 25 years, landlord

Georgena C., 54 IL, Aug 1845, father b. KY, mother b. England, gave birth to 6 children, 6 are living [this counts her 3 children by William H. Blair as well as her 3 children by Nelson Samson]

Charles L., 24 IL, Jan 1876, at school

George R., 20 IL, Aug 1879, at school

Inez R., 18 IL, Jan 1882, at school

1910 cannot locate

1920 Chicago, Cook IL – 225 Marquette Rd. – note Loula reports being 9 years older than Charles

Charles L. Samson, 42 IL, father b. Canada (England), mother b. KY, engineer, mechanical
Loula Jay, 51 TX, father b. MS, mother b. KY, reader, professional [sic]

1930 Chicago, Cook IL – 7416 Bennett Ave. – note Charles has aged 6 years since the 1920 census & Loula is 3 years younger than 10 years ago]

Charles Samson, 48 IL, father b. Canada (England), mother b. KY, age 28 at 1st marriage, engineer, factory, WWI veteran

Loula, 48 TX, father b. MS, mother b. KY, teacher, music school, age 28 at 1st marriage
[this entry is crossed through with note: house closed]