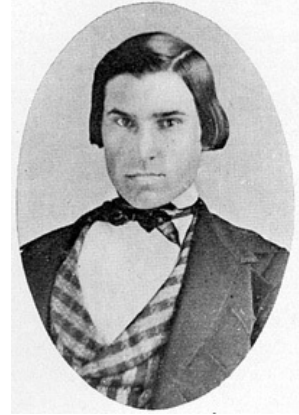


Merrill Wheeler

The first Wheeler in our historical line probably arrived in America some time about 1635 in Massachusetts. Over three generations the family migrated to the center of the state to Rutland, Massachusetts, built a house, and lived there continuously until about 1970. The first mention of the name Merrill comes from Isaac Merrill Wheeler, the 6th generation of our Wheeler family in America. The name Merrill may have come through his mother's family. I don't know. Her name was Lucy Ames. Merrill was born in 1827, legally changed his name to Merrill Wheeler, and died of typhoid fever at a young age in 1852. But not before marrying Sarah Gibbs and producing three children. The



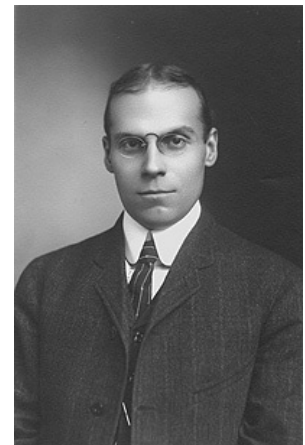
Merrill Wheeler



**Merrill Herbert
Wheeler**

Michigan.

oldest child was Merrill Herbert Wheeler. He remained in Massachusetts through his teen years, then migrated west to Wisconsin with his younger brother, Eli. There he worked in a general store in the woods of northern Wisconsin. He married and produced six children in Marshfield, Wisconsin. The oldest child, Herbert Merrill Wheeler, was my grandfather. He married and had two boys, the first of which was my father, Richard Smith Wheeler. Herbert died in his forties from a wound inflicted during training for World War I. My grandmother, Orra Smith Wheeler raised her two sons back in her hometown of Nashville,



**Herbert Merrill
Wheeler**



**Richard Merrill
Wheeler**

The name Merrill skipped a generation and was given to me, Richard Merrill Wheeler. Then the name moved over to my brother Douglas Hughes Wheeler's family, who named his oldest son Edward Merrill Wheeler. Finally Ned named his third child Merrill Hayward Baxter Wheeler, a XIIth generation Wheeler in America.



Douglas Wheeler's Family, including Edward (Ned) Merrill Wheeler (far left) and Merrill Hayward Baxter Wheeler (center front)

**Richard Merrill Wheeler
on this day, January 27, 2014**