

# CASS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter January 2020

## JANUARY MTG: THURSDAY, 23

Houses, churches and businesses of varying styles, sizes and ages connect with founders and familiar names. You don't have to drive around Atlantic to see them. Instead plan to attend the Cass County Genealogical Society meeting on Thursday, January 23 beginning at 1 pm. It will be held at the American Legion Memorial Building (the Armory).

The Atlantic Historical Society did a survey of the town to identify and photograph houses and other buildings with significant history and style. The resulting set of slides was narrated by Wally Roscoe.

Franklin H. Whitney Questers found a way to combine voice and pictures to produce a DVD and preserve history. An address is given for each building along with the builder and/or resident.

The presentation is open to all interested persons. The Armory at 201 Poplar Street is handicapped accessible.

I plan to bring a map of Atlantic with me to mark locations.

## Family History Daily

<https://familyhistorydaily.com>

"Family History Daily has been providing articles, courses and tools to help family history enthusiasts discover their ancestors since 2013. You can read our articles or take online courses to build your research skills." What are your experiences using this resource? \*\*\*\*\*

Remember this local resource: *Discovering Your Roots* DVD program is available for check out by members and other genealogy groups from the Atlantic Public Library.

## 2020 CENTENNIAL 19<sup>TH</sup> AMENDMENT

Below is a brief summary of the journey to the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, It does not tell the stories of women's work and how they were mistreated.

Do you suppose/know that any of your ancestors participated in suffrage activities?

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution granted American women the right to vote, a right known as women's suffrage, and was ratified on August 18, 1920, ending almost a century of protest. In 1848 the movement for women's rights launched on a national level with the Seneca Falls Convention organized by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott. Following the convention, the demand for the vote became a centerpiece of the women's rights movement. Stanton and Mott, along with Susan B. Anthony and other activists, raised public awareness and lobbied the government to grant voting rights to women. After a lengthy battle, these groups finally emerged victorious with the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment –May 21, House of Representatives; June 4, 1919 in the Senate and August, 1920 ratified by a sufficient number of states to be formally adopted into the Constitution.

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List of free sources of information provided by Family History Daily:

[YouTube](#)

[FamilySearch Learning Center](#)

[Brigham Young University Independent Study:](#)

[UK National Archives Family History](#)

[Ancestry.com Learning Center](#)

[RootsMOOC–Intro to Genealogy and Family History Research](#)

**Note from Mary**

**Oliver Mills 1821-1907**

Farmer, Politician, Trustee of the State Agricultural College at Ames and known Abolitionist.

**Wilbur H. Siebert** complied the following seven question letter which was mailed to some of the known abolitionist around the country. This is the reply of Oliver Mills, Lewis, Cass County. Sophia Arnold Mills, wife of Oliver Mills, was a cousin of John Brown who visited in their home on occasion when passing through Lewis with his "dusky passengers".

**Lewis, Iowa, Oct. 18, 1894**

**Hon. W. H. Siebert,**

**Columbus, Ohio**

**My Dear Sir:**

Though I am now old and in infirm health I will try to answer the proposed questions in your communication.

**The route.** The route from Missouri was usually to Tabor, Iowa, where nearly every house was a depot, thence to Lewis, 50 miles via a Mr. Bradburgh ((Bradway), which was a halfway station at times, otherwise the

whole 50 miles was covered by Tabor people.

**The period of activity.**

About 5 years after my residence at Lewis, Iowa. Here I will say (at Lewis) the home of Rev. Geo. B. Hitchcock was one of the principal resting places as well as that of J. N. Coe, Amos Gridley, my own home any others.

**The method of operation.**

The method of communication was by horse or mule teams. Scarcely any notice was ever taken of the arrival of trains and sometimes several wagon loads would come in upon us (usually at night).

**Memorable incidents.** I

cannot now remember dates or any especial incidents of interest, but one that occurred, I think Dec. 1858. Two colored girls belonging to one Col. Nuckols escaped and arrived at Lewis closely pursued by Nuckols and his men. They were secreted at a house but not suspected and by good strategy were removed to Canada, right through the midst of their pursuers. This broke up following fugitives.

**Your own connection.** I had resided before coming to

Iowa in Trumbull Co., Ohio, and was associated with Plumb, Keep, and many other anti-slavery men helping on to freedom in Canada all who came to us from the slaveholding states, never having a single one taken from us into slavery. This was from 1840-1850.

**Names and addresses.** I cannot now give you further information but refer you to Pres. Brooks of Tabor, Iowa.

**Biographical Sketch.** I was born at Gustavus, Trumbull county, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1819. Residing there until March, 1850 when I removed to Iowa and have resided here ever since. Many in fact of those with whom I was associated in the antislavery cause have gone to their final account. I had forgotten to mention the names of Giddings and Wade of Ashtabula county, Ohio, who have been the great defenders of the poor slave. I am now an old man but love to be alive to see slavery abolished and our country free from its stain, and these imperfect sketches and answerers I cheerfully hand you.

**Very Respectfully,**

**Oliver Mills**

**Our mail is still going to the Atlantic Library at 507 Poplar Street.**

**Cass County Membership Form:** \$15 Annual Membership fee due January for the calendar year. New members who join in October of a given year will have membership for the next calendar year.

Membership Application Please Indicate

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames Being Researched in Cass County \_\_\_\_\_

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Revised 12/11/2019