

JASPER COUNTY GLEANER

Volume 38

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Number 3

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Society News

WE’VE MOVED! Yes, we have moved into the Courthouse Annex or the old post office for some of us. We are on the first floor at the end of the hall that goes to the back door. It’s easier to come in the back door because there is a ramp and/or fewer steps. The address is **115 N 2nd Ave E**. Our mailing address is still P.O. Box 163, Newton, IA, 50208. Our phone number remains the same at **641-792-1522**.



The hours are Thursday and Friday from 10:00 to noon and 1:00 to 3:00 and the first and third Saturdays from 10:00 to noon.

We moved because the HVAC went out in our building and the county did not want to install a new one as they are looking at other uses for the building.

Lots of people were involved in this move and without each hand the project could not have been done. We did, however, have a few expenses of about \$300 and with our tight bank balance, we are asking for donations. We also are in need of a different copy machine. **So if you can spare a couple of bucks, please send them to Treasurer JCGS, P.O. Box 163, Newton, Iowa 50208.**

JCGS Projects

Family Search Project

Family Search volunteers, Bill and Jonice Hubbard, are in Jasper County digitizing probate records. The Iowa State Historical Society is coordinating the schedule and teaching us how to prepare the records for the filming. Luckily JCGS member Darlene Leib unfolded and put in folders 6 file cabinets worth of probate records several years ago. Because this was already done, Bill and Jonice were able to begin immediately to digitize those records. Member Diana Wagner has spent all spring and summer locating and sorting the multitude of other probates. Member Barbara Hug has also helped with this project. It is estimated it will take about 6 months to do just the six files cabinets.

In going through all of these documents we've seen several interesting situations, ex: contesting wills, guardianships for underage children, guardianships for people of "unsound mind" and others. The most interesting so far is a document called Indenture of Apprentice. Instead of adoption or guardianship, a six-year old child was apprenticed to a family. The document is reprinted here as a representation of that practice.

Indenture of Apprenticeship of Sadie Ethel Acklin to John S. Payton (filed May 26, 1890)

This Indenture witnesseth that Sadie Ethel Acklin of the County of Jasper and State of Iowa now aged six years and having no parents living and having no guardian, and the said Sadie Ethel Acklin is not possessed of any property and is a pauper and depending on strangers in blood for support and maintainance (sic).

Now therefore I, N. Townsend Clerk of the District Court of the County of Jasper and State of Iowa hereby bind said Sadie Ethel Acklin to John Payten of Mound Prairie Township Jasper County State of Iowa, to learn the art of housekeeping and as apprentice to serve from this date until the said Sadie Ethel Acklin shall have attained the age of Eighteen years which will be on the 21st day of June AD 1901; during all of which time the said apprentice shall serve her master faithfully honestly and industriously, and his lawful commands obey, at all times protect and preserve the goods and property of her said mentor, and not suffer or allow any to be injured or wasted. She shall not buy, sell or traffic with her own goods, or the goods of others, nor be absent from her masters service day or night without leave; but in all things behave herself as a faithful apprentice ought to do during said term.

And the said Master shall clothe and provide for the said apprentice in sickness and health, and supply her with suitable food and comfortable clothing and also send the said apprentice to school at least four (4) months during each year during said term, and to provide her with suitable books for said schooling as afore said, And I the said clerk hereby consent and hereby find to said John Payton the said minor child for the purpose herein specified and for the term herein specified in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 Title 15 of the Code of 1873 and laws amended along thereto.

In witness where of the said John S. Payton has signed his name hereto and N. Townsend, Clerk of the District Court as aforesaid has also signed his name and affixed the seal of said District Court for the purpose herein exformed (?) this 26th day of May AD 1890.

N. Townsend
Clerk Dist Court
Jasper County Iowa
John S. Payton

Catherine Henderson Project

As was reported in the last newsletter, long-time member Catherine Henderson gave portions of her genealogy collection to JCGS. We have received boxes and boxes of newspapers and have gone through many of them to cut out obituaries and other genealogy-related materials. Right now they are being transcribed and put on the Internet at <http://iagenweb.org/boards/jasper/obituaries/index.cgi> . We now have more than 19,000 obits on that site. The obits also will be put in our notebooks for the library.

Queries

- Seeking other descendents of Joseph **GILSON** (1850 - 1934) who arrived in Clear Creek Twp of Jasper Co ca 1875. Also asking relationship to the **HOLDER** family
Seeking other descendents of Charles **HAYES** (1835 - 1920) who arrived in Clear Creek Twp of Jasper Co before 1870. Also asking relationship to the **HOLDER** family.
Terry W. Van Gilder, 2570 Heatherview Circle, Marion, IA, OR tvangee@q.com
- Seeking information on Carrie Crawford who married Fred Jerome Roberts between 1875 and 1885. Carrie was born in Camden, Oneida, New York in 1864. Fred was born circa 1865 in Pennsylvania. They had a daughter Alice May who was born in Ira, Iowa in 1886. Alice went to live with her grandmother in 1898. What happened to George and Carrie Roberts?! Thank you.

Posted by Robin Dudley, loganwater@comcast.net

Land Patents

A **land patent** is an exclusive land grant made by a sovereign entity with respect to a particular tract of land. To make such a grant “patent”, a sovereign (proprietary landowner) must document the land grant, securely sign and seal the document (patent), and openly publish the documents for the public to see. An official land patent is the highest evidence of right, title, and interest to a defined area. It is usually granted by a central, federal, or state government to an individual or to a private company.

After the American Revolution and the ratification of the Constitution of the United States, the United States Treasury Department was placed in charge of managing all public lands. In 1812, the General Land Office was created to assume that duty.¹

The first land patents in Jasper County are dated 1848. Issue Vol. 34-4 (Nov., 2014) printed 1848. Issue Vol. 35-1 (Feb., 2015) printed 1849. Issue Vol. 34-2 (May, 2015) printed 1851. This issue prints 1852-1953. If you click on the link in the chart, it will take you to the actual patent certificate and the number of acres. MW is a Military Warrant.

Accession	Names	Date	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #
IA2380 .299	TURNER, WILLIAM H	3/10/1852	081N - 021W	SE¼SE¼	6
IA2380 .300	DAUGHERTY, JOHN	3/10/1852	081N - 021W	SW¼NW¼	3
MW-0635-240	CULBERTSON, JOHN C, LOVELACE, JOHN	9/10/1852	081N - 021W	SW¼SE¼	6
MW-0635-241	WOOD, WILLIAM, WOOD, WILLIAM	9/10/1852	081N - 021W	N½SE¼	6
MW-1101-385	SWICKARD, JOHN, BUNTING, JOSCENA, HOSEY, MATILDA, POTTER, CATHARINE P, SHELDON, GEORGE T, SHELDON, JOHN	11/1/1852	081N - 021W	E½NW¼	21
			081N - 021W	W½NE¼	21
MW-1100-462	TRAMEL, WILLIAM A B, RECTOR, ALFRED, RECTOR, BENJAMIN F	11/10/1852	081N - 021W	NE¼	36
MW-1100-496	OSWALT, JACOB T, ROBINSON, WILLIAM P	11/10/1852	081N - 021W	NE¼	17
MW-1101-463	SWICKARD, JOHN, MANNING, JAMES H, MANNING, WILLIAM, MANNING, ANN D, LONG, MARY ANN, MANNING, JOHN	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	E½NE¼	9
			081N - 021W	E½SE¼	9
MW-1101-466	SWICKARD, JOHN, WILHELM, HENRY	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	N½NW¼	9
			081N - 021W	SW¼NW¼	9
			081N - 021W	NW¼NE¼	9

¹ Wikipedia. Accessed November 14, 2014

Accession	Names	Date	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #
MW-1101-467	SWICKARD, ELIAS, HOWARD, JOHN F	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	SE¼	8
MW-1101-468	OSWALT, JACOB, SUMMERS, JAMES G	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	SE¼	17
MW-1101-493	WHITE, SAMUEL, LOOMIS, CHARLES H	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	SW¼	6
MW-0644-479	BERRYHILL, WILLIAM D, BAILEY, ELIZABETH, BAILEY, JOEL	12/10/1852	081N - 021W	NE¼NW¼	17
MW-0647-160	WHITE, SAMUEL, SUTFIN, JAMES	4/15/1853	081N - 021W	NW¼SW¼	15
MW-0647-162	WHITE, SAMUEL, SMITH, CHARLES	4/15/1853	081N - 021W ----- 081N - 021W	SW¼NW¼ ----- NW¼SW¼	18 ----- 18
MW-0647-168	WHITE, SAMUEL, THOMPSON, THOMAS D	4/15/1853	081N - 021W	W½NE¼	7
MW-0647-170	WHITE, SAMUEL, CURRY, ELIZABETH, CURRY, JAMES	4/15/1853	081N - 021W	NW¼	7
MW-0661-006	CHANEY, THOMAS A, NEWELL, ELIZABETH, NEWELL, JOHN	5/20/1853	081N - 021W ----- 081N - 021W	SE¼NE¼ ----- SW¼NW¼	19 ----- 20
MW-0640-197	TRAMEL, WILLIAM A B, JESSUP, CHARLES	7/15/1853	081N - 021W	SE¼SE¼	25
MW-0650-205	MAGGARD, ELLENOR, MAGGARD, DAVID	9/10/1853	081N - 021W ----- 081N - 021W	SE¼NW¼ ----- NE¼SW¼	25 ----- 25

Spanish American War

The Newton Journal

Successor to Newton Free Press and Jasper County Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 1898

THE WAR NEWS.

The interest in the action of Congress during the past week has been intense, owing mainly to a want of agreement between the two Houses of Congress.—The Senate wanted a resolution recognizing the independence of the Republic of Cuba, while the House resolution was in accord with the recommendation of the President. The matter was talked and wrangled over for several days, and during its discussion disgraceful passages were had between members. Finally at 1:30 a.

m., Tuesday morning, after several conference committees had been appointed, the following resolutions were agreed upon:

Joint resolution for the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in, the island of Cuba, and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the president of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect.

WHEREAS. The abhorrent conditions which have existed for more than three years in the island of Cuba, so near our own borders, have shocked the moral sense of the people of the United States, have been a disgrace to Christian civilization, culminating as they have, in the destruction of a United States battleship, with 266 of its

officers and crew, while on a friendly visit in the harbor of Havana, and can not longer be endured, as has been set forth by the president of the United States in his message to congress of April 11, 1898, upon which the action of congress was invited therefore:

Resolved, By the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled:

First—That the people of the island of Cuba are, and, of right ought to be, free-and-independent,

Second—That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the government of the United States does hereby demand, that the government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

Third—That the president of the United States be, and he hereby is directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several states, to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolution into effect.

Fourth—That the United States here by disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination when that is accomplished to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

The vote of the House was 310 yeas to 6 nays. In the Senate, yeas 42, nays, 35.

In the meantime, troops are being rushed to and concentrated on the Southern Coasts, munitions gathered, ships being got ready, and everything put in readiness for action, as soon as the proclamation of the President is issued.

The resolutions of Congress were sent to the President at noon, yesterday, and a meeting of the Cabinet called at 3:00 o'clock.

The die is cast and we may now expect speedy war. Spain will not surrender Cuba without at least a show of battle, that will at least placate the Spanish war party. As an exchange says: Spain may make a sham resistance and then appeal to the powers to let her down easy and save the throne to the reigning dynasty; but no intervention by the powers will be accepted by the United States that does not provide for the independence of Cuba.

The Speaker of the House signed the resolution at 12:00 yesterday, and the Vice President shortly afterwards.

Last night's news would indicate that the President with the advice and consent of the Cabinet will give Spain from two to three days in which to accept the terms made by the resolution, before a final declaration of war is declared.

Plans are being matured for placing enough men in the field to take a short and vigorous campaign, from 80,000 to 200,000 men. If the number is determined upon, they will be made up of 27,000 regulars, 60,000 volunteers and 100,000 State Militia.

The president favors giving Spain at least three days to reply to the ultimatum of the United States, as by that time our army and navy will be ready for a dash on Cuba.

Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, is said to be all ready to cross the frontier into Spain to inaugurate an insurrection. The belief prevails that the present Spanish dynasty is doomed.

Consul Phil Hanna, has left Puerto Rico, and his leaving caused great excitement.

Prices of food advanced 100 per cent. Troops and rations were sent from Havana.

The Newton Journal

Successor to Newton Free Press and Jasper County Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1898

WAR NEWS.

The past week has been one of intense excitement on the part of our people, and the war spirit has been rampant. Below we give the important events of each day as near as we could gather them from the dispatches, - they may not be absolutely correct, because of the contradictions that have occurred from day to day, - but in the main the summary is correct :

THURSDAY, April 21. - Without waiting for the presentation of President McKinley's ultimatum, the Spanish Government furnished U. S. Minister Woodford's passports, and, in effect, told him to "git." The act is considered a final declaration of war.

The Spanish Minister at Washington asks and receives his passports. He says he will remain in Canada until the war is over.

On account of ill health, Postmaster General Geary has resigned. Charles Emory Smith, editor of the Philadelphia Press, and ex-Minister to Russia is appointed to succeed him.

The whole county, Newton included, show their adherence to the course of the administration, by the displaying of bunting, the firing of cannon, and other noisy demonstrations.

Troops and war munitions are being rushed to the front.

Privateering will not be allowed by Uncle Sam, unless Spain sets the example.

FRIDAY, April 22. - As soon as the decision of Spain had been received, the North Atlantic Squadron was ordered to Havana, and during Thursday night for Cuban waters.

Later the foreign governments were notified by a manifesto that a state of war existed between the United States and Spain.

In Congress a resolution was adopted giving the President power to prevent the exportation of coal or war material.

SATURDAY, April 23. - The representatives of all nations are notified that the American Government will not resort to Privateering, and that the various ports of Cuba will be blockaded.

The Spanish freighter Don Pedro, loaded with lumber is overhauled and taken as a prize by the Nashville.

Cuba is declared by Blanco in a state War.

Our Asiatic squadron leaves Hongkong for the Philippines.

Gen. Woodford's train, while leaving Spain, is attacked and stoned by the Spaniards.

The United States may take possession of Hawaii as a coaling station.

Capt., now Acting Rear Admiral, Sampson, takes his North Atlantic squadron to Cuba.

The camp of the mobilizing army at Chickamauga is named Camp George H. Thomas.

Congress passes the bill for 25,000 volunteers.

The first naval fight is expected in Argentina waters between the Oregon and a Spanish gunboat.

When the Spanish torpedo flotilla sails from Cape Verde, the United States will blockade Puerto Rico.

SUNDAY, April 24. - Spain declared a state of war to exist between that nation and the U. S. Thirty days are granted to all ships in Spanish harbors to take their departure free of hindrance. The right of issuing letters of marque are reserved by Spain.

The guns of Moro Castle fired a number of shots at the blockading squadron at Havana without damage, or eliciting a reply.

The gunboat Helena captured the steamer Miguel Jove, valued at \$400,000, and her cargo at \$150,000. The Cruiser Detroit also captured the Spanish steamer Catalina, twelve miles from Havana.

A bill increasing the internal revenue duty on whisky, beer, and tobacco, with a stamp duty on checks and legal documents will be passed.

The war ship Oregon and her convoy heard from, and given warning of the expected attack by Spanish ships.

There was no definite news from the American liner, City of Paris, which had been captured by the Spaniards off the coast of Ireland. But no news is considered good news. The Paris is one of the fastest steamers on the ocean, holding the second place for the quickest trip across the Atlantic, and it is believed if she is given any chance she can outrun any boat that may attempt to capture her.

The war ships of the United State and Spain have been notified to leave British ports within 24 hours. This is satisfactory to the U. S., as it will increase the difficulty of Spanish vessels attempting to operate on this side of the Atlantic, and will tend to shorten the struggle, and will greatly lessen the interference by foreign concert.

Up to Sunday night, the following are the captures of Spanish ships made by the U. S., together with the date, by whom taken, and where:

April 22. - Str. Buena Ventura, by Cruiser Nashville, off Sand Key, Florida.

April 22. - Str. Pedro, by Cruiser New York, off Coast of Cuba, near Havana.

April 22. - Fishing Schooner, by Torpedo Boat Ericcson, under guns of Morro Castle.

April 23. - Schooner Mathilda, by Torpedo Boat Porter, under the guns of Ccjonar Battery.

April 23. - Str. Miguel Jover, by Gunboat Helena, 150 miles southwest of Key West.

April 24. - Str. Catalina, by Cruiser Detroit, twelve miles from Havana.

April 24. - Str. Saturuina by Revenue Cutter Winona, off Biloxi, Miss.

April 24. - Schooner Candida, captured by Gunboat Wilmington.

April 24. - Schooner Antonio, captured by Torpedo boat Porter.

MONDAY, April 25. - John Sherman, the venerable Secretary of State, has resigned, and Judge William T.

Day, of Ohio, has been appointed in his stead. Mr. Sherman alleges that his health and strength are not sufficient for the labor the present crisis will entail.

The President sent a message to Congress and asks that war be declared with Spain, and it took the House One minute and forty seconds to pass it unanimously. The senate passed the resolution without amendment. It is as follows:

FIRST -That war be and the same is hereby declared to exist and that war has existed since the 21st of April A. D. 1898, between the United States of and the Kingdom of Spain.

SECOND - That the President of the United States be and is hereby directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of tile U. S. and to call into actual service of the United States the militia of the several states to such extent as may be necessary to carry this act into effect.

The State Fair Grounds, the redezvous (sic) of the Iowa troops, has been named by Gov. Shaw, Camp McKinley, and will be in charge of Gen. Rush Lincoln.

The United States has cut the cable ten miles out of Havana. This gives our government an exclusive cable, and cuts Blanco off from Spain, as the insurgents are between him and the other cable ports.

In 1898, after the U.S. battleship Maine blew up in the harbor of Havana, Cuba, the U.S. declared war on Spain (Cuba was a Spanish colony). Because it was decided that the President did not have the right to send the National Guard outside the United States, Guard units volunteered as individuals - but then reelected their officers and remained together.

National Guard units distinguished themselves in the Spanish-American War. The most famous unit of the war was a cavalry unit partly recruited from Texas, New Mexico and Arizona National Guardsmen, Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders".

The real importance of the Spanish-American War was not, however, in Cuba: it was in making the United States a power in the Far East. The U.S. Navy took the Philippines from Spain with little trouble, but the Filipinos wanted independence, and the U.S. had to send troops to hold the islands.

Because most of the regular Army was in the Caribbean, three quarters of the first U.S. troops to fight in the Philippines were from the National Guard. They were the first American troops to fight in Asia, and the first to fight a foreign enemy who used classic guerilla tactics - tactics which would again be employed against U.S.

troops in Vietnam more than 60 years later. ~
Information Courtesy of the Army National Guard

The Newton Journal

Successor to Newton Free Press and Jasper County Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1898

CAMP MCKINLEY,

What the Boys are Doing and How They
are Prospering,
CAMP MCKINLEY, May 9.

"Special to the Journal."

Tomorrow marks the end of the first two weeks of camp life of the Iowa troops, and we find ourselves today in the same position, geographically, which we occupied two weeks ago tonight. From the standpoint of military tactics, soldierly appearance, and general fitness for service, we are far ahead of what we were. The period of unrest is fast subsiding and after the final physical examination is taken, we will know just who are and who are not going. The officers have all been examined and the examination of the men began today. The discrepancy in weight and height among the officers was cutting out so many of the best men that an order was issued countermanding that rule and all who otherwise are able bodied are allowed to pass. Even under this rule, quite a number of the officers are being turned down and their places are to be filled by election.

We are all enjoying excellent health, especially when you consider that we are unused to the life we are now living with its exposures and change of diet. In fact very little sickness has been known in the whole camp, except a few colds, such as one gets at home or abroad. In this connection, may we ask the kind friends who remember the boys so kindly with dainties from home to send substantial (sic) rather than the pastry and candy, for we have an appetite that is equal to anything and home cooking makes a delightful break in the monotony of army fare and, although we appreciate it and dearly love it all, yet, after indulging, we find ourselves none the better, at least, and should we be called, as it now seems possible we may, to a southern city, we ought to be in good shape physically to withstand the change in climate and water. The report which we received today is to the effect that the 1st Regiment leaves within a week for Chattanooga, and the remaining three regiments leave under Gen. Lincoln as soon as examined, for either Washington or Atlanta.

The ladies of Des Moines gave us a royal treat on Thursday of last week, in the form of a grand dinner, and the ladies deserve great praise for the way in which they

carried out their tremendous task, as well as for the quality and quantity of the viauds. We have also been informed, through Col. E. E. Lambert, of the kindness of the P. E. O. ladies of Newton, expressed through the "where withall to purchase a mess tent, for which the Company is sorely in need. We are now negotiating for the purchase of one. We are planning the purchase of some new dishes of enameled (sic) ware, as the old ones are few in number and bad in quality.

Our quarters here in camp are very comfortable, and we of the second regiment manage to live very comfortably in the booths in the amphitheatre. The boys have hustled in everything in sight as well as out of sight, and we find our beds covered with mattresses and pillows which not long since occupied the lodging houses which entertain the visitors to the State Fair. Gasoline torches and fine tables with nice benches and cook stoves, have come forth from all sorts of unknown localities, and now adorn our quarters, or the company's kitchen. Our Co. L boys are good foragers, and if we should ever get out on a campaign, I feel sure we will never be short of anything if there is any chance to "be long."

Our company left Newton in very poor shape, and all but discouraged, but since coming into camp every effort has been made to bring it up to a splendid standard of excellence. John A. Dunlap, of Keokuk, was assigned as Lieutenant, to command the company and help to get it on its feet. He is a very pleasant, gentlemanly and efficient officer, and at once gained the good-will and confidence of the company to such an extent that when we were informed that our only commissioned officer could not pass the physical examination, he was elected as captain of the company at a primary election, which was held to decide upon who should be entrusted with the command of the company.

The company at that time expressed their intention to elect Harry T. Lewis as Second Lieutenant. Since the primary election we learn, that through a change in the rules relating to the physical requirements, our Lieutenant; Wm. E. McMurray may pass the examination. The final election, when ordered, may show a change in the slating of the officers as then expressed.

The following is a list of the non-commissioned officers as they now stand : 1st Sergeant—Harry McMurray, 2nd Sergeant—Harry T. Lewis, Commissary Sergeant—E. G. Beard, 3rd Sergeant—Frank Besack, 4th Sergeant—Ira Wilson, 5th Sergeant—Ed Dennis, Iowa City. Corporals—Eugene Errett, Geo. Turner, Thos. Law, Ike Wilson, A. Bryant, Chas. Van Eppers, Burlington, Burl

Owens, Thos. Morrisey.

The remainder of the company are as follows:

NEWTON. - John Wirt, Pearl Gifford, Richard Hayes, F. H. Coleman, H. L. Howard, Herman Dahlgren, H. V. Clutter, A. L. Kennedy, Chas. Fox, Wm. Sherman, Jesse Stallings, H. A. McKinney, Clarence Errett, L. A. Wells, Chas. P. Smith, B. Mendenhall.

COLFAX - Fletcher Helm, Arthur E. Small, W. J. O'Neill, Jno. N. Callahan, Chas Rush, John McFarlane, Alex L. Crawford, Carl D. Kiser, Ed C. Stevenson, Thos. Corrigan, Basil Wells.

H. J. Callison, Metz; James W. Vaughan, Kellogg; Fred Shrader, Monroe; F. Le Roy Harsha, Ira; Wm. W. Gamble, Arcola, Ill.; H. C. Dunham, Iowa City; G. F. Bedwell, O. A. Graves; Thomas Lynch, H. Frazey all of Des Moines; Samuel Shugar and Wm. Simmons of Burlington; J. R. Bonham, Weldon; J. L. Kelliham, Rock Rapids; and F. B. Everhart, Dawson.

Keokuk - Oscar Hopson, _____ Trott, O. C. Holmes, C. A. Prescott, F. R. Johnson, Arthur Allison, Guy Blakeslee, E. R. Wheatley, B. P. Rulon, F. J. Peffers, James Fallon, D. J. Johnson, Geo. L. Perrigo,

H. J. Johnson, La Porte City; Jno. L. Hightower, Earlham; H. E. Miller, Indianola; C. R. Adkins and J. J. Morris, Montezuma

Each company is allowed 65 men, so the foregoing list will have to be cut down some. We used every possible means to fill the company with desirable men from Jasper County but owing to the selfish desire on the part of some for personal advantage in the way of getting commissions, the majority sent us were lacking in some essential qualifications to make a good soldier. The company as it now stands, bids fair to be one of the very best in the state, and on Dress Parade Sunday afternoon we received especial praise for our appearance and work, and were one of the two companies in the regiment who received applause from the immense crowd of by standers.

Our Sundays are not what we have been accustomed to, and the immense crowd of people who swarm the grounds take away the quiet and rest which we have learned to look forward to on that day.

Our daily program of drill has been published in these columns.

In the morning our drill is usually company or battalion drill, and is executed on or near the Fair Grounds. In the evening we usually have regimental or brigade drill on the grounds about one mile west of the Fair Grounds.

We walk from two to eight miles in executing each of these drills, and the boys are hardening to the work in splendid shape.

The regiments have all received new shoes and will soon receive other new equipments, including new guns, which are being received at headquarters now.

Our rations consist of bacon (sow bosom), beef, potatoes, bread, coffee, beans, rice, sugar, salt, molasses and vinegar, and it seems strange to us to see how quickly we have learned to like our diet. Still, "home cooking" seems to fit right into a spot built exactly for it.

The inactivity and uncertainty of the past two weeks has been a little irksome to the boys, for they came expecting to go into actual service and not remain in camp far from the seat of any action until sent home, and the news of our approaching departure is welcomed by nearly all. In some respects the troops would be better off if farther from home as stricter military discipline could then be maintained.

Thanking all the friends of Co. "L" for the kindness extended in many material ways, we ask that you continue to bear us in your hearts and prayers, so that we may be true men as well as patriotic.

Very sincerely, E. G. BEARD.

The Newton Journal

Successor to Newton Free Press and Jasper County Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 1898

A Letter from Harry Lewis.

[The following are extracts from a letter from Harry Lewis, which was written on the way down to Florida, which we feel sure will be of interest to our readers.]

On the Louisville and Nashville Rail Road, about forty or fifty miles south east of Mt. Vernon, Ill.

I will begin you a letter and try to tell you all about our trip so far. It is now Sunday morning, May 15, at ten o'clock.

We left Des Moines Saturday about 11 o'clock in the morning. Stopped at Ottumwa for dinner. Just one battalion is on this train. We started in two sections, but consolidated at Moulton, Iowa. There are about 280 men on board. Our train has eleven passenger coaches, three baggage cars and one palace horse car.

The last coach is a sleeper. The officers all sleep in the Pullman. The colonel and field officers are with us.

The other two battalions went over the Rock Island and

the North Western. We will not meet them till we reach Tampa. I am officer of the guard today and have charge of the train guard. No one except officers are allowed to leave the car. Every door is guarded and the men carry loaded cartridges. We reached Kirksville at 6 o'clock. The people there had one hundred gallons of coffee ready for us. We stayed about ten minutes. Our next stop was at Moberly, Missouri, for supper. The major took all the men out of the cars and gave them a little walk for exercise. We all went to bed as soon as we left Moberly and I had a good sleep. Did not see any of St. Louis but was awake when we crossed the river. We stopped twenty minutes at Mt. Vernon and the people covered us with flowers. That town is a garden of roses. The girls gave us bunches of roses with their names on a card attached. The girls gave us their hat pins, neck ties and other little things and asked us to write to them.

Well, we are quite a ways from where I began to write. Have just crossed the Ohio river at Evansville, Indiana. We are now in the state of Kentucky. We stopped for dinner at Carmi, Illinois.—At Evansville we changed all the boys into clean cars, and put on two more cars, so we have plenty of room now.—It was eleven when we ate our dinner, so I was pretty hungry. We are going through a country now that has very heavy timber. There are many log houses and an abundance of negroes. This is the fifth state we have been in. Most of the fences are rail. It has been very wet down here, too. Some of the timber land is very flat and low. The water is standing on both sides, all thro' the timber. You can see a small corn field once in a while, and every planter's wheel track is full of water.

Our next stop will be Nashville, Tenn. Will be about 7 p. m. when we reach there. Our horses are to be unloaded and fed there, so we will probably stay an hour. I am enjoying my ride very much there are just twenty officers in the sleeper, so we have lots of room. Each man has a berth to himself. I have a berth above Col. Lambert, so I tell him that I am higher than he is when we go to bed if not when awake. We have been complimented by the people of every town that we go through for being the best behaved and best looking troops that have gone through. Iowa was noted for its good soldiers in the last war, and we intend to keep up the record. Our men all want to make the 50th Iowa the best regiment from the State.

The Newton Journal

Successor to Newton Free Press and Jasper County Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1898

LETTER FROM ENSIGN WILLIAM WELLS.

Vivid Description of the Brave Act of Hobson,—
Coolness of His Bunkmate.

OFF SANTIAGO DE OTBA,

U. S. S. BROOKLYN, June, 3, 1898.

DEAR FOLKS.—This is the day that I expected to get my diploma from the U. S. N. Academy, but I believe it is a day that I will remember longer than any other day. A naval office, Hobson, Ass't Constructor U. S. N., had a plan of sinking some old ship in the channel to the harbor and thus keeping the fleet in there. He worked up his scheme and the collier Merrimac was stripped of all provisions and the morning of June 3rd was chosen as the time. Seven men volunteered, and the eight were on the collier. I had the 12-4 a. m. watch and was on deck at 2:10 a. m. and saw the collier swing around and head towards the mouth of the harbor. You know the harbor is long and narrow and there are many batteries in addition to the forts all along the channel.

This old collier headed right in. She had seven torpedoes under her to be exploded from a boat astern, and the men were to be picked up by a yacht. The old collier got very near the fort before she was discovered, but when she was discovered, Oh! the cannonading, the constant flashes of fire from the guns! and old collier had no gun at all, but he kept going. The firing continued thirty minutes, during which time more than six hundred shots were fired. I got tired waiting for news, so I turned in till morning.

In the morning, the first thing we saw was a signal from the New York : "Merrimac sunk in channel, no one on board returned." It was very sad indeed. Hobson had been our lecture on naval construction at the Academy, and no one thought that they could come out of that place alive.

In the afternoon, we saw a small tug coming out of the harbor, flying the Spanish flag, with a flag of truce. We sent the Vixen to meet her half way, and found aboard the tug, the chief of the Spanish Admiral's staff, who came to tell us that all our men were safe but captured; only two were slightly wounded. He said they would be well treated and all that; and that his Admiral sent him to tell the news as an acknowledgment of the bravery of American sailors. I wish you could have witnessed what I have.

Early this morning, I stuck my head out of the port (window) and soon saw dash of a gun. I ducked my head in just in time to hear the shot buzz at six feet above me. Just missed the ship. I look out again and a second shot

fell a hundred yards short. I turned my room mate and told him we were being fired. He was asleep and only turned over and grunted and said: "Which side of the ship is toward beach?" I am well and safe and send love to you all. We've received but one mail since we left Fortress Monroe. Have 25 or 30 ships here, nearly all ships of the navy. There are five Spanish battle ships bottled up and two torpedo boats.

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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

—BY RALPH ROBINSON.—

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1898

Isaac Davis Writes From Porto Rico.

Mrs. Julia Davis received a letter from her grandson, Isaac Davis, last Friday. It bears the date of Aug. 20, and was written from Utuada, Porto Rico, and contains much of interest. It must be a veritable "wet season" here, for he says that they are encamped in a swamp where it rains regularly every ten or fifteen minutes. They are having great difficulty in getting their mail, only a little of it reaching them, so far. "It is rumored that a large quantity of mail was burned at Santiago and that again it was stolen." "My company has the honor of being the first company of volunteers to set foot in Porto Rico, and I can say that I was very near the first one of our company to get on land. We landed at Guanica on the morning of July 25, and I tell you we were a happy lot of fellows to get on dry land again." He speaks of a little brush that the Spaniards had with their marines at first, and of the former taking at once to the mountains, leaving the coast clear. They had several very hard marches to the interior, "over the mountains, through mud, rivers and almost everything else, passing through several town." One night they camped on a hillside of rocks and centipedes. They were so afraid of the latter that they tried to sleep standing up, but without much success.

"As we entered the city of Ponce, we were given a grand reception by the people there." It was at Ponce that he got the first and last square meal since he left the U. S., costing him \$1.68. He had to stand on guard duty for 48 hours to pay for going up town, but was glad he did it, anyway. Coffee, hard tack and a little fat pork is the bill of fare. There is abundance of fresh fruit of many kinds, but it is not thought good for them to eat it, yet. Most of the way on the march, "our supplies were hauled by oxtteams; and in some places it was necessary to use ten and twelve yoke of oxen. Instead of putting the yoke around the neck as they do at home, they tie the yoke to their horns down here, and they do all the pulling with their horns. The night we reached Adjuntas, we were

wading in full six inches of extremely soft mud, and we were wet to the skin ;" they pitched their tents that night on the side of a steep hill covered with two inches of very slippery mud. "I believe that that there is some of the prettiest scenery here in Porto Rico that it is possible to find." He also speaks of the flowers and foliage. "At one place we saw cactus trees twenty high." Isaac is as well as can be expected, and although his clothes are a trifle ragged, they are like those of others. He speaks of his Captain in the highest terms.

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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
 —BY RALPH ROBINSON.—
 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1898

Good, the Boys are Coming!

A letter received from Col. E. E. Lambert dated last Friday, September 2, states that the sickness is on the increase, and that they are sending from ten to twenty men home on sick leave, every day. They are not waiting to let them get bedfast, but send them home as soon as they feel sick. The lieutenant colonel is among those who have been sent away. The process is making the camp depopulated to a considerable degree. He hopes that the entire 50th Iowa Regiment will have everything in readiness to start north by the end of this week. This will come as welcome news to many anxious relatives.

Lieutenant Harry T. Lewis arrived home last week. He is

a trifle thin, but looks and feels well. Leonard Wells got home on Saturday. Leonard was sick enough to be sent to the hospital, but he preferred to risk the journey home instead, and so they allowed him to go. He shows the effect of his illness; but will most probably recuperate fast with home care. Harry says that the folks of Newton have gotten an exaggerated idea of the conditions at Jacksonville, that they are not nearly so unpleasant as they have been led to think. Their home coming has been a source of great pleasure to many people.

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PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY
 —BY RALPH ROBINSON.—
 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1898

The War Ended.

Spain will sign the treaty, and every demand of the United States will be conceded. Spain may attempt to procrastinate, but the end will come as indicated. A short synopsis of the war may not be amiss at this time: On April 23, war was declared; on May 1, Dewey won a marvelous victory in Manila Bay; on July 3 the Cervera fleet was destroyed; before the month was out Santiago surrendered with 24,000 men; on August 12, the protocol was signed, and on November 28, the Spanish peace commissioners assented to the treaty proposed. The war lasted 219 days, a few days over seven months.

J.C.G.S. Officers and Their Telephone Numbers:

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Librarian: Pat Beckham.....	patbeck36@hotmail.com	(641)792-7796
Gleaner Editor: Barbara Hug.....	barbhug3@gmail.com	(641)791-9458

Some items we have at the JCGS Library are:

- Obituaries from Newton, Prairie City and Grinnell papers
- Vital record transcriptions and some actual records
- Military books
- General histories of county, townships and towns
- Family Histories
- Family Group Sheets
- Burials in Jasper Co. cemeteries
- Census Records
- Some other county, state and country records
- Some probate records
- Some funeral home records
- Rural directories and telephone books
- Newton City Directories
- Atlases in various years

JASPER COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 163

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Map of Jasper County, Iowa

	R-21	R-20	R-19	R-18	R-17
T-81	Clear Creek	Independence	Malaka	Mariposa	Hickory Grove
T-80	Poweshiek	Sherman	Newton	Kellogg	Rock Creek
T-79	Washington	Mound Prairie	Palo Alto	Buena Vista	Richland
T-78	Des Moines	Fairview		Elk Creek	Lynn Grove