

JASPER COUNTY GLEANER

Volume 40 Issue 1 MAY 2017

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

In recent years our local network of volunteer members has aged and dwindled, a problem that plagues many organizations across the country. Recently we have had to scramble to find enough volunteer librarians to allow us to maintain our regular library hours and keep up with our schedule of Gleaner production.

Beginning immediately:

- The Gleaner will be published only twice per year. Publication dates will be May and November. Some issues may have a few more pages than normal, some fewer. It will depend on the amount of information our volunteers are able to pull together. Again, we need our members, both local and out-of-area to help us by supplying material about Jasper County.
- Library hours will remain the same: Thursdays & Fridays: 10:00 - noon & 1:00 - 3:00; first and third Saturdays: 9:00 – noon.
- Our “snail-mail” address is changing. Instead of our post office box, we will now be receiving our mail at our library address:

Jasper Co. Genealogical Society
115 N. 2nd Ave. East – Suite C
Newton, IA 50208

Please use this address when writing to us with research requests, dues payments, or anything else. Our email address remains the same as before: genealogy1jcgs@hotmail.com

**BOOK TALK
NEW BOOKS ON THE SHELF**

The following books have been added to the shelves of Jasper Co. Gen. Library:

Tuck & Berth Wilson's Descendant's - Book of Memories

The Descendants of Dan Robinson & Abigail Curtis

The Descendants of Alexander McKinstry & Mary Samuels

McKinstry's of Anamosa, Iowa Vols. I, II, III.

Amendment to the McKinstrys' Genealogy Books

Tales of the Old Dutch Graveyard (A walking tour of the Old Dutch Church of Sleepy Hollow)

In the Sleepy Hollow Country (Picturesque Terrytown)

Some Rensselaer County Gravestone Inscriptions (New York)

Grace Lutheran Church History- Newton, Iowa

The Wilsons & Scotts of Knoxville, Iowa Volumes I & II

Descendants of Richard Gregory 1600's & Agnes

Descendants of William B Fleming and Martha 1666 & 1995

Descendants of Michael Shurts 1688 & Maria Elizabeth Stieven

Descendants of Thomas Sr. Bartlett 1730 & Anne 1732

Descendants William Hurst 1789 of Virginia & Sarah Anna Jones

Descendants of Lucius Phillips born early 1800's and Martha Ann Hurst 1823

Descendants of Thomas Scott 1817 Penn. & Elizabeth Shurts 1832 Ohio

Descendants of Michael L Wilson 1823 Kentucky & Sarah Ann Bartlett 1822 Virginia

Other Books of Interest to Genealogists and Family Historians:

This book is in our Library.

**THE TENMILE COUNTY AND ITS PIONEER FAMILIES -
A Genealogical History of the Upper Monongahela Valley (with surname index)**

By Howard L. Leckey _ Historian; Published by Closson Press 1935 Sampson Drive Apollo, PA 151613; August 1993 in cooperation with Cornerstone Genealogical Society, Green County Historical Society and Rosemary Sullivan, Bookseller

The area covered is in Greene and Washington counties, Pennsylvania.

This version runs 774 pages and includes a workable index of names. It consists mostly of an extensive genealogy list of families that lived, at least for a while, in the south-western portions of Pennsylvania. There is a short introduction for many of the families, running from a paragraph to perhaps a few pages. These family histories contain details not likely to be found elsewhere.

I was able to break one of my family's brick walls with this book. It identified George Morris Teagarden who moved to Appanoose County, Iowa. This led me to Thomas Teagarden of Ohio, who was my great-great grandmother Susannah Teagarden's father.

She married Thomas Martin and also moved Mystic, Appanoose County, Iowa.

Found his will and probate records in Ohio where he lists his nine children. The probate records show that Thomas Teagarden's second wife fought the executor William Teagarden over the estate.

**submitted by:
Barbara Jones**

REMINDER:

If you have found a good reference book that you think might be of interest to a lot of us whose ancestors eventually made their way westward to Iowa, please let us know about it. Send us the name of the book, along with the author, publisher's information and a short synopsis of the book. We'll publish them periodically.

**REVIEW OF FAMILY HISTORY BOOKS IN JASPER COUNTY GENEALOGY LIBRARY:
starting with family names of the letters A & B.**

01. Adams Pressley Townsend
02. Adkins Family History
03. Aillaud - scrap book - Lenore Aillaud Skow
04. Allen
05. Allfree
06. The James Anderson Family
07. Baker
08. Ballew, Beech, Beals
09. Baird (Beard-Gaylord)
10. Descendants of Thomas Sr. Bartlett, 1730 & Anne 1732
11. Family History Beaver (Eismeon) O'Neal, Vroom
12. The Beckman Family Genealogy
13. The Benskin Family History
14. Benson Caleb & Alice Hatch
15. The Benson Family -by Croft - descendants of Isaac Benson & Mary Bumpas
16. Family History Benson, Henry James descendants
17. Family History Bergman, Altemeier & Maytag
18. Berkenbosh - descendants of Martin Gialts Berkenbosh & Pauline Vander Schoor
19. The Bevan Family
20. Family Histories Blanford/Slaughter & Boyd & Braley & Brien
21. Bleakney Kenvon Milligan
22. Brene and Toedt Families
23. Family History Broderson-Preston (Brown, Cavender, Dougherty, Ivins, Nutt, Paschal, Potter, Robbins, Wulf) with two addendums
24. Family History Bruce
25. Family History Brierly, Brindle, Winegar
26. Family History Butin, Butrum
27. Family History Bucklin
28. Family History Butin (Biggs, Eilert, Clifford, Kleinendors, MacKerman, Murphy
29. Samson, Scarbrough, Schmidt, Underwood, Van Dalen
30. Family History Burns

**GENEALOGY RESEARCH SITES:
by Kelley Zuidema and Barbara Jones**

We all know that there are many genealogy sites available today for the novice and seasoned genealogists via the internet. Some cost money and others are Free. Just beware that not all the data is correct and that your local genealogy library may still be the best place to start to explore your family lineage.

Listed below are several sites available:

Family Search.org - which accesses millions of records

GAA - Genealogy Addicts Anonymous

RAOCK - Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

Your Genealogy Brick Walls

Search Squad

Genealogy Chit-chat

Dead Fred's Photo Archive

The Ancestor Hunt

FamilyTreenow.com

FindaGrave.com

timeanddate.com

**HOW DO YOU FIND AN ANCESTOR'S GRAVE THAT IS UNMARKED?
by Barbara Jones**

Many old gravesites have lost their wooden, plastic or sandstone markers to the elements. But it's still possible to find out where your ancestor is buried. Today we have **Findagrave.com** which now is a great source in finding our ancestors gravesites. Still many old gravesites are very hard to read and dates can be wrong. If the individual you are looking for has a common name it can still be difficult to determine if the person listed is your relative.

Another great source is old local newspapers which can be researched on Newspapers.com for a price. Best source for free newspapers is at the **public library**. Many old papers can be on microfiche and hard to read. So until they convert them to a digitized format our eyes get a workout trying to read the blurry print.

For Military Graves, try the **National Archives** (NARA) (archives.gov). Revolutionary War pensions can be viewed at Heritage Quest Online (heritagequestonline.com-free).

Historic Events for the Genealogist

By Rita Reinheimer

As genealogists we work hard to add another name to our family trees. But by focusing just on *names* we often fail to understand the *people* and the lives they led.

Don't overlook the importance of learning what was going on during your ancestors' lives. Events of the time may have affected their lives and the decisions they made. A sudden move from an area the family has inhabited for years? A change of occupation? A man listed with his family in the 1850 and 1870 censuses is missing from the 1860 census? The "why" may be related to what was going on in their part of the world.

Many computer genealogy programs give you the option of adding "events" or "facts" to your ancestor pages. Some programs may even have built-in lists of events that may have impacted your ancestors' lives. Take some time to check those computerized lists, as well as history books and local newspapers, then add any pertinent information to your ancestor files. In addition to being interesting and helping to tell the story of your relatives' lives, knowing what was going on around them may lead you to other sources than can help you break down some of the brick walls you have faced in your research.

I recently bought a calendar called "This Day in History," published by sourcebooks.com, with information from history.com. It lists one event for each day of the year; some are from recent history, others from past centuries. Here are a few of the events from the months of May to October that were interesting to me.

May 11, 1997	IBM's computer, "Deep Blue," beats Garry Kasparov at a chess tournament
May 16, 1849	New York City opens hospital for cholera victims
May 20, 1899	First automobile driver arrested for speeding
June 1, 1779	Benedict Arnold faces court-martial for misbehavior
June 8, 1955	World Wide Web inventor Tim Berners-Lee is born (wait, I thought that was Al Gore!)
June 17, 1579	Explorer (Sir) Francis Drake claims California for England
July 1, 1862	Congress approves a national income tax
July 16, 1969	Apollo 11 begins historic flight to the moon
July 23, 1903	First Ford Model A is delivered to buyer
Aug.16, 1896	Gold discovered in Canada's Yukon Territory.
Aug. 22, 1485	Final major battle in England's War of the Roses: King Richard III is defeated by Henry Tudor, Earl of Richmond, at the Battle of Bosworth Field

Aug. 26, 1920	Nineteenth Amendment is ratified, giving women the right to vote
Sept. 1, 1802	Newspaper reports of Thomas Jefferson's concubine
Sept. 17, 1693	Antonie van Leeuwenhoek reports discovery of bacteria
Sept. 20, 1873	New York Stock Exchange closes, triggering Panic of 1873
Oct. 6, 1961	President John F. Kennedy urges Americans to build bomb shelters
Oct. 27, 1659	Massachusetts Bay Colony executes two Quakers, William Robinson and Marmaduke Stevenson, for violating a law banning Quakers in the colony
Oct. 30, 1974	Muhammad Ali regains heavyweight boxing title, beating George Foreman in Zaire (now, Republic of the Congo)

We'll look at some more events from November to April in the next issue of the Gleaner

The "**Grand Army of the Republic**" (**GAR**) was a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Union Army (United States Army), Union Navy (U.S. Navy), Marines and the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service who served in the American Civil War for the Northern/Federal forces. Founded in 1866 in Decatur, Illinois, and growing to include hundreds of posts (local community units) across the nation, (predominately in the North, but also a few in the South and West), it was dissolved in 1956 when its last member, Albert Woolson (1850–1956) of Duluth, Minnesota, died. Linking men through their experience of the war, the G.A.R. became among the first organized advocacy groups in American politics, supporting voting rights for black veterans, promoting patriotic education, helping to make Memorial Day a national holiday, lobbying the United States Congress to establish regular veterans' pensions, and supporting Republican political candidates. Its peak membership, at more than 490,000, was in 1890, a high point of various Civil War commemorative and monument dedication ceremonies. It was succeeded by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), composed of male descendants of Union Army and Union Navy veterans.

General Wilson Post #432, G.A.R. Roster, Kellogg, Iowa

Miscellaneous Data and History: Originally named "Kellogg Post"

Chartered July 26, 1887; Mustered by C. Lamb; 27 Charter members, total 48

Property: At G.A.R. Headquarters; Charter; Received Feb. 25, 1946 from Public Library at Newton, IA – Descriptive Book. Minutes Jan. 5, 1889 – Dec. 6, 1897 received July 15, 1949 from Mrs. Catherine Adamson & Mrs. May Daly of Newton, Iowa.

Post #432 General Wilson, Kellogg; Disb. June 1, 1930, 48 members

Besides the information listed below there is more to be found on the original G.A.R. membership cards. They have been microfilmed and digitized and can be found on

FamilySearch.org. The information sometimes includes birth info, parent's names, wife's name, names and birthdates of children, census information, pension information, wounds received, newspaper articles, obituaries and even facts like when a diary was found, just to mention a few.

Hyphen – means the field was left blank.

Name	Rank	Unit	Died	Cemetery or Notes
Adair, Absalom Washington	Surg.	54 IN Inf.	22 Jan. 1907	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Barber, Dorr	Corp.	I 33 NY Inf.	07 Oct 1908	-; Grinnell, IA
Beals, Isaac B.	Pvt.	I 10 IA Inf.	-	-
Beals, Thomas B.	Pvt.	G 7 IA Cav	-	-
Bellamy, Socrates N.	Pvt.	G 18 IA; K 3 IA Cav	03 May 1906	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Blakney/Bleakney, Benjamin F.	Pvt.; Lt.	E 18 IL Inf.; I 17 US Col. Inf.	-	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Boat, Ira	Pvt.	A 119 IL Inf.	27 Feb 1908	Bethel Cem.; Jasper Co, IA
Boatright, Madison V.	Corp.	A 20 OH H. Art.	29 Nov 1907	Saum Cem.; Jasper Co, IA
Braley, Alson H.	Pvt.	C 9 VT Inf.	-	-
Brandt, Wesley L.	Pvt.	C 17 OH Inf.	15 Mar 1905	Woodland Cem.; Des Moines, IA
Brooks, Gordon	Pvt.	G 74 IN Inf.	01 Aug 1887	-
Brown, Foster D.	Pvt.	B 47 WI Inf.	-	-
Brown, James M.	Pvt.	G 20 IA Inf.	02 July 1927	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Brunson, John	Pvt.	F 12 IL Inf.	10 Apr 1895	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Burton, John B.	Musician	C 98 OH Inf.	15 Feb 1925	Hollywood Cem.; Los Angeles, CA

Day, Henry W. Hildreth	Corp.	H 7 NH Inf.	24 May 1925	Hazelwood Cem.; Grinnell, IA
Doane, Bradley W.	Pvt.	E 36 IL Inf.	-	-
Doane, Charles N.	Pvt.	E 36 IL Inf.	28 Mar 1916	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Donahey, John C.	Sgt.	I 166 OH Inf.	26 Mar 1907	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Drake, James	Pvt.	L 9 IA Cav	22 June 1928	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Ervin, John P.	Pvt.	24 OH Arty	07 June 1923	Slagel Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Failor, Samuel	Musician	D 40 IA Inf.	24 Sept 1921	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Fugard, Samuel C.	Sgt.	C 22 IA Inf.	11 May 1894	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Golden, Charles M.	Pvt.	D 20 IA Inf.	16 Sept 1911	Glendale Cem.; Des Moines, IA
Green, Eli S.	Pvt.	D 20 IA Inf.	-	-
Hammer, Ira L.	Pvt.; Corp.	G 7 IA Cav; B 48 IA	18 Sept 1919	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Ives, Edmond M.	1 st Lt.; Capt.	C 8 IN Inf.; A US Eng.	-	-
Jacobs, Thomas D. H.	Vet. Surg.	2 IA Cav	14 Sept 1902	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Kellenbarger, John Henry	Pvt.; Lt.	B 3 IA Inf.; I 9 IA Inf.	08 Mar 1923	Died at Grinnell, IA
Kimberly, Wesley Clark	Pvt.	F 1 IA Cav	16 Aug 1933	Riverside Cem.; Marshalltown, IA
Knight, David R.	Pvt.	I 35 IA Inf.	13 Oct 1922	Rushville Cem.; Jasper Co., IA
Lewis, David	Pvt.	D 30 KY Inf.	(09 Dec 1933)	(Rock Creek Cem.; Jasper Co., IA)
Marks, Samuel	Pvt.; 2 nd	H 66 OH Inf.; F	05 Dec	Slagel Cem.; Jasper Co.,

	Lt.	168 OH Inf.	1893	IA
Marshall, William	Pvt.	K 12 IL Inf.; H 7 MI Cav.	14 Oct 1907	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Meredith, Oliver C.	Pvt.	B 48 IA Inf.	01 July 1917	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Morgan, Charles H.	Pvt.	E 1 WI Inf.	22 Aug 1922	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Morgan, Ryan	Pvt.	F 15 IA Inf.	02 May 1914	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Morris, Stephen	Pvt.	I 10 IA Inf.	(09 Feb 1901)	(Rushville Cem.; Kellogg, IA)
McCausland, Joseph A.	Pvt.; Sgt.	I 20 OH Inf.; K 5 OH Cav	02 May 1917	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
McKitterick, Robert	Pvt.	B 68 IN Inf.	1928	Rock Creek Cem.; Jasper Co., IA
Peters, John F.	Pvt.	F 9 IA Inf.	02 Dec 1925	-; Marshalltown, IA
Richardson, George C.	Pvt.	G 33 IA Inf.	07 Feb 1916	Black Oak Cem.; Pella, IA
Robinson, William J.	Sgt.	B 127 IL Inf.	04 Apr 1904	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Sharp, Adam	Sgt.	I 93 IL Inf.	16 Aug 1919	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Sherman, George	Pvt.	B 102 IL Inf.	08 Jan 1909	Swan Cem.; Lynnville, IA
Smith, Elias	Corp.	H 58 OH Inf.	02 Jan 1890	Mt. Pleasant Cem.; Jasper Co, IA
Stuart, Jasper Newton	Pvt.	D 37 IN Inf.	14 Dec 1927	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
Trivits, Jacob	Pvt.	L 9 IA Cav	11 Feb 1889	Slagel Cem.; Jasper Co., IA
Turner, O. Jacob	Pvt.	H 12 KY Inf.	03 Jan 1921	Rock Creek Cem.; Jasper Co., IA

Vinall, Henry George	Pvt.	C 20 IA Inf.	31 Jan 1926	Fairview Cem.; Cedar Falls, IA
West, Alexander G.	Pvt.	I 46 IL Inf.; H 16 IL Cav	18 Feb 1910	Silent City Cem.; Kellogg, IA
White, Virgil A.	Pvt.	C 20 IA Inf.	02 Mar 1909	Newton Union Cem.; Newton, IA
Woodward, Simon Barker	Pvt.	D 7 IA Cav	-	-

Above info on Post #432 submitted by Barbara Wagner

STORIES FROM THE PAST:

Even though we have had a mild winter last year, 2016 - not so in the past.

Prairie City News -1959

Vandalia -

ICE NOW IS NOTHING; REMEMBER 1908?

by Della Wade Peery

The winter of 1959 with its icy streets and highways will probably be remembered for many years. Cy Miller has never forgotten the big freeze of 1908. Streets were not sanded in those days. Traffic consisted mostly of horse-drawn vehicles. But it was just as hard to unshod horses to travel on ice as it is for today's automobiles.

When asked for anecdotes concerning the history of Vandalia, one-time bustling trade and coal-mining Center of southwest Jasper County, Miller recalled that there had once been a store on the south side of the main street, run by a man named Draper. Draper editor of Vandalia's only newspaper, published in 1870-1871, later became a member of the Iowa State Legislature.

"Draper," said Miller "sold his store to men named Deakin and Cavitt. Cavitt bought Deakin out. L. H. Crane built a store on the north side of the street right across from Cavitt. He didn't last long, though, because Cavitt run him out by under-selling, then bought his store and moved into it."

Cavitt kept his store a long time. He had the post office in it, too, until R.F.D. started, then the post office closed and we got our mail, from Prairie City.

There was a blacksmith shop where the Four-Square Church now stands. It was run by a man named Wallace.

"That blacksmith shop reminds me of the big freeze in 1908. It took everybody on surprise. Ice, four inches thick, covered every stick and stone and stayed on the three weeks."

"Jim Rose had the only shod team of horses around here. We kept him busy hauling coal by bobsled. Once when he was coming from the mine his sled runners hit an ice-covered stone on the southeast corner down yonder, the one that slopes. The bobsled upset and coal slid everywhere."

"John Roulsen lived four miles from the blacksmith shop. He tied gunnysacks over his horses' feet and drove them to be shod. It took him two days to get his horses over that ice to the blacksmith shop in spite of the gunnysacks."

"Carrie Rucker taught the South Vandalia school that winter. One morning she got almost to the top of the school- house hill when presto! Her feet slipped from under her and down she went, clear back down to the bottom of the hill."

"Even then she could not get back on her feet, so she crawled up that hill on all fours." Miller chuckled. "When she got to the top, who did she meet but some of her pupils crawling up the other side."

"Talk about fun! Old Cavitt was running the store. He had a whole bunch of sleds and he put them all out and told us kids to go for it.' We coasted down the hill on the main street so fast that the wind sucked the caps right off of our heads! But finally the people got their horses shod and the road was spoiled for coasting. Then we had to coast in the pastures."

According to Miller, the old schoolhouse was moved on to the main street of Vandalia and now houses, the present store. Four of the original houses, including Miller's, are all that remain standing.

He remembered a doctor, whom he called 'Doc Anson' who once lived in the nearby houses.

"I guess he didn't like that name much." said Miller. We kids used to tease him about it. We would go to the door, knock and call 'Doc Anson' then run and hide." We should have been horsewhipped, but he never got mad at us."

"Doc Anson didn't know how to make money like doctors do nowadays, but he was a good doctor. He never left a bedside as long as a patient was in danger. One way he got his pay out of a patients was to go to their house when called and stay for dinner and supper."

Miller tried to remember how to spell the names he had mentioned. "I don't know what's the matter with me," he confessed. "I used to be the best speller around here. I could spell them all down at the spelling bees. I even spelled my teacher down once. But she was a good sport about it. She just laughed. Guess, I've forgotten how to spell. But one thing I'll never forget is the fun we kids had on that ice in 1908."

Thus ice covered streets and roads of over fifty years ago are remembered. Then, travelers met the challenge by ingenious methods of getting their horses to the blacksmith shop to be shod. Today, it is met by sanders and scrapers attached to huge maintenance machines. How will they do it in another fifty years?

How Grandpa's Buffalo Herd Created Draper Road (and a little of the true history of the area)

When I was a kid in the 1950s and early 1960s, everyone in my mother's immediate family got together at her parents' farm east of Monroe every Sunday for dinner. If you weren't going to be there, you'd better have a darned good excuse. Grandma Vera Carter Morgan fried chicken on a wood-burning cook stove and the bathroom was located out back. All four Morgan kids, their spouses, and an ever-growing number of grandchildren would be there, visiting on the front porch or gathered around the Christmas tree, depending on the season.

On a recent trip to Iowa, I decided to drive out Draper Road and take a look at this neighborhood that I once knew. In the Fifties, Grandpa Emerson Morgan told all of us grandkids that the reason that Draper Road had 26 corners between Monroe and his farm was because he had been driving a herd of buffalo out there back in the day and he couldn't keep them going straight. They kept wandering off the trail and actually created a new, wider path that had become known as Draper Road. I never questioned that story because Grandpa told the truth, right?

Maps from the 1950's confirm my memories of the twisting, turning little road heading east out of Monroe. Today, there are very few things along the road that look familiar to me. About thirty years ago, the road was straightened so much that I swear I'm now driving behind some farmsteads that I used to see the fronts of. And it is no longer named Draper Road. Today, the road is known as Republic Avenue. I decided I needed to do a little research about the area.

I remember turning east at the southeast corner of the Square in Monroe and passing a little cemetery on the very edge of town. Gifford Cemetery is located in Section 31 of Fairview Township (T78N R19W). The earliest known burial was made in 1854 and the cemetery is still used today. Roughly 300 graves represent pioneer families named Woody, Herwehe, McBride, Whitted, Wittmer, McConeghey, Birkenholtz, McCuen and others whose names appear on plat maps of the area. The big old trees I remember still shade some of the graves.

A couple of miles further east stood the town of Draper. Draper had been a coal mining camp that was most active in the 1880s and 1890s. In its heyday, Draper had a post office, a general store, railroad service, and a saloon. What it was missing was a schoolhouse, but there were two rural schools nearby. Some Draper children attended Enterprise, located one mile to the west, while others went a mile east to Oak Grove. Rural schools in Iowa at that time were located every two miles, and Draper was located exactly halfway in-between these two. Most of the homes at Draper were located north of Draper Road on a hill.

The store at Draper seems to have been a true “company store” that would carry clothing, groceries and the supplies the men would need to work in the mine. Many times, miners and their families “ran a tab” at stores like this, and on pay day, wages went directly to the store to cover their outstanding bill. The post office was located in the store, as well. I found mention of a Baptist church, Disciples of Christ, and a Methodist church (which we’ll talk more about later).

A number of the Annual Reports of State Mine Inspectors for Iowa are available online, providing lists of mines in operation with locations, yield and managers. The report for 1890 shows three mines at Draper: the David Bruce Mine, dealing in local trade only; E.E. Edwards Mine, also a local dealer; and the Draper Mine itself, run by Jasper County Coal and Railroad Company. Draper Mine had two shafts and one slope. The coal was located 35 feet deep in a vein measuring about four feet thick. J.W. Gilchrist was the mine’s superintendent. This was a longwall mine with fan ventilation. Similar information is available for other years. The miners at Draper went out on strike for two weeks in 1886 when they became unhappy with how the weighman measured their production. Rail cars carried Draper coal out of town to the north toward Reasoner and Newton.

By the time I was a kid, there wasn’t a lot left of Draper, but I remember unpainted mine structures, several tumble-down shacks, steep black hillsides and a hollow where tailings had been piled. The Jasper County Mining and Railroad Company rail line was probably long gone, and yet I wonder. Do I remember piles of ties? I guess they could just as easily have been mine timbers. I did find a Pike Coal Company operating in Section 33 of Fairview Township as recently as 1941.

About a mile east of Draper stood Tools Chapel Church, a white clap-board structure located on land once owned by the family of Adam Tool. Arriving in 1843, the Tools were among Jasper County’s very first settlers. They helped organize some Methodist camp meetings in the neighborhood in the 1840s and 1850s. By 1866 the need for a church building became apparent, and Adam’s son James A. Tool donated land for this use in Section 34. Tools Chapel served as an active community center for over 100 years. I clearly recall attending the funeral for my grandfather Morgan there in 1964. Some time afterward, the building became an antique store for a time. It is no longer standing today.

Grandpa Morgan’s 160-acre farm was located in the southwest quarter of Section 26, just beyond the corner where Oak Grove schoolhouse sat. A little research showed me that by the late 1860s, Hodgen Barnes claimed to have found both copper and gold-bearing quartz deposits on his 160-acre farm. Hodgen left the farm to his son Frank Barnes, who owned it until his own death in 1942. Next, Everett and Leota Stringer owned it. Then, on March 1st of 1947, Emerson and Vera Morgan moved onto the farm that I knew so well. After my grandfather’s death, Grandma moved into Newton. She eventually sold the land to the Kenneth Landgrebe family, who still own it today. The house I knew is gone.

I remember Grandpa talking about the coal that he dug on his farm, and in recent years, Sutton Coal Company mined coal there again. A check of the Mine Inspectors reports showed me that in the 1880s the Barnes family themselves employed two miners in a coal mine. Other operations in Section 26 included a McConaghey mine and Mitchell Slope.

There is another small cemetery just east of Grandpa's place. Folks called it Tool's Chapel or Fairview Cemetery. In use since 1852, there are only about one hundred burials, named Nolin, Lust, Fraaken and others.

Although the Skunk River did not cross Grandpa's farm, the rich, soupy river bottom did mark the east end of Draper Road as I knew it, and life along the river revolved around the stream's meanderings. The location of the river changed a lot over time, and I found an interesting thesis online that explains how the river was straightened between 1912 and 1915. Search for "*Subject to Overflow: the History of Drainage Districts in Jasper County, Iowa*" by Joseph W. Otto, 2012.

Written by Susan Mills Cochran, granddaughter of Emerson & Vera Morgan.

The "Tombstone Stories" on pages 16-18 were submitted by Pat Beckham. Information was scanned into a computer and input as pictures.

Tombstone Stories

If you have ever walked through a cemetery, you know there are a lot of stories to be gained from the tombstones. In a small cemetery named Sams, northwest of Colfax, there is such a stone. This stone reads Leonard Booth, 31st Jan. 1876, 43Y, 1M, 14D, "Died by the hand of Morris Spangler".

Research of old newspapers and we learn this story. Early this morning rumors of another murder in Polk County were rife upon the streets, but none could be found who were acquainted with the particulars. About eight o'clock on January 31 the following telegram was received by Coroner Griffith. "Mr. Leonard Booth was murdered last night at his home in Franklin township come down." To this the coroner made immediate reply as follows. "Sick with pleurisy. Cannot come. Get Justice of the Peace."

The Leader immediately telegraphed to Mitchelville for particulars and is able to present the following account, procured from reliable citizens of that place: "It appears that on Sabbath evening a meeting had been held in Center school house, Franklin township, about a mile from Mr. Boothe's residence. Among those in attendance were three young men, Morris Spangler, Mr. Newman and Mr. Boothe - a son of the murdered man. After the services this trio took their homeward way together, and it seems Spangler and Newman commenced ridiculing and pestering young Boothe, who became somewhat excited and threatened to make his father acquainted with the circumstances."

He made good his threat by calling loudly his father's name. Mrs. Booth was the first to hear and waking her husband, he immediately arose and appeared upon the scene in his shirt and drawers. To him the young Booth detailed his grievances and very naturally received the sympathy of his parent. A word altercation, ensued and the elder Booth in response to an assertion of Spangler's called him a liar, but made no physical demonstrations

toward him, whereat young Spangler raising a heavy piece of a fence stake, struck Mr. Booth a powerful blow upon the head. It crushed through the skull, literally braining him on the spot. Spangler and Newman, immediately fled. A neighbor of Mr. Booth's, who was standing near by and had witnessed the affair, assisted the son in carrying his father into the house, where he lingered in an unconscious state until 2 o'clock A.M. when he expired.

Young Newman was arrested soon after the fatal blow had been struck, but Spangler was no where to be found. The excitement in the vicinity and even in Mitchelville where all of the parties are well known is intense. The neighborhood was alarmed and during the entire night the search for young Spangler was continued by without avail.

Public sentiment seems to be somewhat divided in regard to the matter, some believing that the murderer struck the deadly blow in self defense, others, and the larger number, that it was the result of impetuous anger.

The murderer is described as a tall, slim youth, 17 years of age, light complected and tolerable intelligent. The young man has heretofore borne a good reputation.

The murdered man was about 50 years of age and leaves a family consisting of a wife and several children. He was the owner of a small farm and also followed the business of boring wells.

A separate article states "Just as we go to press we learn that Spangler, who murdered Booth in Franklin township, last Sunday, was arrested near Oskaloosa, and is now on trial in preliminary examination at Mitchelville."

A small article in the Leader February 9, 1876 states "Young Spangler, the slayer of Booth, has returned to his old home at Mr. McClary's in Franklin township, and is attending school regularly.

DAILY STATE LEADER
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1876
Mitchellville, Iowa

Weather Report

At 7:00 O'clock this morning the thermometer at
The Leader office indicated 28 above zero.

BRIEFLETS

-Twenty-seven arrests were made by
The police yesterday.

Twenty-six men attended the tem-
perance meeting last evening.

-The Myers case will be called in Cir-
cuit court tomorrow morning.

-Basket picnic of Des Moines Lodge,
I.O.O. F. at the hall this evening.

-"The Old Senate" by Henry Clay
Dean at Moore's Opera House this eve-
ning.

- H. Gunderson, an East Sider was
fined \$1 and costs, for disturbing public
quiet, by Magistrate Crane this morning.

-The celebrated horse, Bertrand, has
been sold by Mr. Bathman to Clair Boy-
er, of Adel, for \$2,000, cash. He was
Taken to Adel today.

-Young Spangler, the slayer of Booth
has returned to his old home at Mr.
McClary's in Franklin township, and is
attending school regularly.

Jasper County Gleaner

The JASPER COUNTY GLEANER is published twice per year by the Jasper County Genealogical Society. Membership in the Society runs January through December. Dues are \$12 individual, \$15.00 family, and \$20.00 foreign.

The Society is a non-profit organization, Internal Revenue Service classification #42-1147-284. Gifts, contributions, and bequests are tax deductible. Unless otherwise instructed, all correspondence, contributions, and requests should be sent to: Jasper County Genealogical Society (or JCGS), 115 N. 2nd Ave. E. – Suite C, Newton, IA 50208. Contact us for an address to send packages.

The Jasper County Genealogical Society was organized 26 Oct. 1977 and is a chapter of the Iowa Genealogical Society.

Research services are available at a cost of \$12.50 per hour plus the cost of copies (1-2 surnames per request, please). A \$12.50 check and a stamped self-addressed envelope (S.A.S.E.) should accompany each request. Send research requests to the Society address.

Queries may be placed in the Gleaner without research requests. This service is free to our members; non-members should send \$1.00 for each query. Submit queries to the Society address.

The JCGS library address is 115 N. 2nd Ave. E., Suite C, Newton, IA. The library is open Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m. We are also open the first and third Saturday of each month, 9 to noon. There is no charge for using the library.

The telephone number for the Society is (641) 792-1522. Our email address is genealogy1jcgsh@hotmail.com. Internet access is at <http://iagenweb.org/jasper/jcgs/>

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