

JASPER COUNTY GLEANER
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Want to contact or visit us? Our library address and our mailing address are now the same:

Jasper Co. Genealogical Society
115 N. 2nd Ave. East – Suite C
Newton, IA 50208-3241

Please use this address when writing to us with research requests, dues payments, or anything else.

Our email address: jcgsgenealogy@gmail.com (that first letter is a lower case “J”). Please update your records and use this address to contact us in the future. It is on our web page as well.

Our phone number: 641-792-1522. You may leave a voice mail message for us, but we can return calls to local numbers only. It is best to call during library hours.

JCGS Research Services: The price for basic research is \$12.50 per hour, which includes the cost of copies (except in cases where a large number of copies is requested). Send your check for a minimum of \$12.50 along with up to 2 surnames and specific info on what info you want us to look for.

For probate files contact us first, preferably by e-mail. We will give you a price quote that includes research time, cost of copies (at 20c each) and postage.

** We have been having difficulty correcting our address on the research request form on our website. ***An updated research form is included on page 19 of this Gleaner.***

Update on our library:

Work is currently being done to stop the inflow of water into the basement of the Jasper County Annex building (where our library is located) and to remove mold from one wall. Our library is on the first floor and is not affected. At this point we do not anticipate having to move our library to a new location but, should it become necessary, our new address will be posted on our web site. So, visiting us, please consult the JCGS page at <http://iagenweb.org/jasper/jcgs/> for the most up-to-date contact information.

Abas (sic) Spooning At High School Says Prof. Beard

Source: *Newton Daily News*; April 28, 1911, page 1

The signs of the times point to a distant future when the subtle art of “spooning” will cease to be one of the diversions of the local high school. Prof. Beard has signified his intentions of writing finis to the business and he is confident that ere long he will be able to pronounce the final obsequies over the slushy actions of the charming lads and irresistibly winning lasses. In short, to employ the terminology of the immortal Grover Cleveland “spooning” at the high school must pass into a state of “innocuous desuetude.”

Prof. Beard says he “can’t stand for this brazen faced ‘loving’ anymore.” He has been aware for some time that something of the sort was going on, but he had never had an opportunity to get his “eyes full” until last Tuesday evening when two couples – just two – were caught fondling one another in the assembly room. He was not playing the sleuth, either. While walking down the hall his ears caught the turtle dove music as it floated from the resounding room and as it was an hour when the students were supposed to be absent from their room the professor stepped inside. It was too much. It was a golden opportunity for advice and admonition but words failed the professor. Quite overcome by the delirious and oblivious spooners he turned from the room. He went straightway to his study and prepared a trenchant lecture on “Lovey Dovey actions,” and spooning in general. In fact he loaded up with several verses of sickening poetry in addition to several piercing anathemas regarding the disgraceful propensities his pupils seem to have for spooning. The following morning the philippic was delivered much to the chagrin of the entire high school.

Of course, there’ll be no more “loving” at the high school now. If pupils seem to be afflicted with amorania they will privately reprimanded by the authorities and compelled to cheese the “goo goo eye” business and eliminate all strangle holds about the high school building.

Toughing it out in Missouri

If, while researching 1860s -1875 Missouri records, you find a woman selling property, don’t automatically assume that she is a widow, It could be that she was acting as head of the family because of her husband’s loss of civil rights as a result of his service on behalf of the South - or his sympathies for the Southern cause. In such cases, when his civil rights were restored later, you will find him handling financial transactions for the family again.

**BRIEF EARLY HISTORY
OF BUENA VISTA TOWNSHIP, JASPER COUNTY, IOWA**

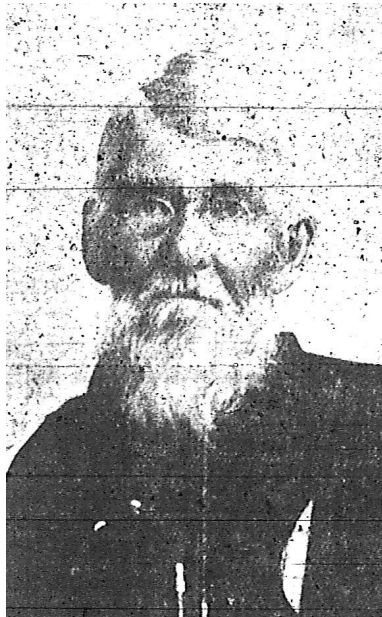
From: *Newton Journal*, July 7, 1909, and July 14, 1909, page 1

[MURPHY, IOWA, June 30, 1909.

EDITOR (of the) JOURNAL: I send you a brief history of Buena Vista Township, Jasper County, Iowa. I make no pretense of literary ability – I simply state what has come under my observation and what I have taken down in jottings from Ballinger Aydelotte (sic) and other early settlers – such as Evans Adamson, Sr., Mrs. Mary J. Dooley, G. T. Saum, Nate Hammer and others. There may be mistakes – any one who knows of errors will make them known and do better than I have done.

There is much that may be written of the early history of Buena Vista Township, which, if I find time to do so I may write, but would prefer that others do it.

-- J. W. MURPHY].



J. W. MURPHY, MURPHY, IOWA

Ballinger Aydelotte was the first white person to settle on Elk Creek. He built his cabin on the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of (now) Sec. 8, Twp. 79, south $\frac{1}{2}$, W 5 P.M., Iowa, March, 1845.

The spot of ground pointed out to me by Mr. Aydelotte, is about three rods N.W. of the house in which Wildman Woods now lives (June, 1909); owned by Milton Vanscoy, he sold it to Samuel McDaniel in 1851 and McDaniel sold to Jacob Herring who lived on it until his death. Several families came and settled on Elk Creek later in the spring, summer, and fall of 1845.

This part of Jasper County at least was townshipped in the summer of 1845 by the U. S. surveyors and sectionized in the summer and fall of 1846.

John H. Franklin settled on the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ section near the Slagel School House (and now owned by John F. Rouze) in 1845. Joab Bennett settled on N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ section, in 1845. James Pearson settled on the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5, in 1845, near the spot where D. W. Murphy now lives. Pearson sold to John Moss and he sold to John Wheeler about 1857. Moses Lacy on S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 18, in 1845 – the late Evan Adamson farm, now Claud (sic) Wheeler's. William Ferguson settled in the timber south of the Adamson Grove cemetery, Nov. 1845. M. D. Springer settled on S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 12, Twp. 79, R. 19, in 1845 – near the Samuel Squire farm. William M. Springer settled on N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, in the fall of 1845 afterwards known as the C. M. Davis farm. David Edmunson (afterwards Judge,) settled on the land in section 18, now owned by Robert Thompson, in Feb. 1846. Abraham Adamson, Sr. bought Edmunson's and Ferguson's claims in 1846 and settled on the 40 acres that Thos. Clark now lives on. Nathan Williams settled on S.W., S.W. Sec. 17, in the spring of 1846. He sold to Wm. Smith (fool Bill) in the fall of 1846, and he sold to Enos Adamson in 1847. Ira Hammer settled on W. $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec 20 in the spring of 1847—now the Richard Pink farm. Seth and Henry Hammer settled on E $\frac{1}{2}$ Sec. 20 in the spring of 1857. Henry Smith settled where John Welle now lives in 1846. He sold to Adam Dooley, Sr., and he to Dr. Anthony Turck. Jesse Hammer settled on E $\frac{1}{2}$ N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 20, in the spring of 1847 – known as the Monroe Trother farm. Lewis Herring settled on N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 8, in 1848, in the edge of timber now owned by W. A. Livingston.

The present poor farm of Jasper County was settled by David Edmunson in 1846, he sold it to Thos. Allen, he to S. H. Wilson, and he to Jasper County. Jerry Weatherbe settled on the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 6, in 1850 – now owned by Elmer Hough (the Lockwood farm). James Plum settled on the J. W. Murphy farm in 1850, he sold to Tedrick & Roush, and they to J. W. Murphy. John Alloway settled where Uriah Davis now lives in 1851 – he sold to John Davis and then Alloway settled on the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 5, in 1852 where C. C. Garver now lives. J. R. Scoville settled S.W., S.W. Sec. 9, in 1850 – now Wilbur Woods. Wm. Smith (afterward County Judge Marshall County,) taught the first school in Elk Creek in the Franklin Cabin the winter of 1846-7.

The first public school house built in Hixson Grove was on the present poor farm in the fall of 1847, and Judge Smith taught the first school in it. The first school house built in the Adamson Grove was on the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, in the timber across Elk Creek, west of J. W. Murphy's farm in 1849, and Elizabeth Moss taught the first school there in the summer of 1850. The children of both groves attended this school. The first Gospel Sermon preached by M. E. Minister in Hixson Grove, was in the cabin of Joab Bennett in the fall of 1846. The audience were: Bennett and wife, John H. Franklin, Ballinger Aydelotte and John Wilson. The second sermon was preached in the Franklin cabin by Wm. C. Smith, a Newlight minister in the spring of 1847. The first church organization in Hixson Grove was effected in B. Aydelotte's cabin in the fall of 1847 – a Christian or Newlight church.

The first white child born on Elk Creek was Ollie Springer, son of Wm. M. Springer in the winter of 1846-7.

Mrs. James Pearson was the first white woman to settle in Hixson Grove.

The first marriages on Elk Creek was a double wedding – that of Jessie Rickman and Nancy Pearson and John Wilson and Josie Pearson, daughters of Thos. Pearson. The ceremony was performed by B. Aydelotte, Esq., Mar. 1847. Wilson was raised by Joab

Bennett. Corn bread, crab apple sauce, crab apple pie, chicken, both tame and prairie, roast pork, cabbage slaw, etc., were served for the wedding supper. We did not learn what fee the squire got for tying the knots.

In the spring of 1845 Bennett planted a patch of corn in the edge of the brush, in the fall he cut and shocked it up. The wild turkeys proposed to get a share of his labor, so they came to pick corn. Mrs. Bennett proposed to be their equal, so she hid herself in a shock. A large turkey gobbler climbed on the shock she was in, she caught him by the leg, held him fast, but he lacerated her hand terribly with his spurs, but she took him in (and) cooked him.

The first public 4th of July celebration in Jasper County was held at the cabin of Ballinger Aydelotte, July 4th 1846. We give the following letter:

Newton, Iowa, July 2, 1894

J. W. Murphy, Esq.

Dear Sir: I was pleased to hear you was going to celebrate the 4th at Murphy. It reminds me of a little celebration we had at my home in 1846 – if it could be called a celebration. It was a small affair but we done the best we could under the circumstances. Well, the eight families that settled on Elk Creek in 1845 concluded to met at my cabin (you know where it stood, near where the Herring house stands now) and spend the day in celebrating. All furnished the best they had on hand to help out the dinner. The families were: M. D. Springer, Wm. M. Springer, Joab Bennett, James Pearson, Moses Lacy, Fool Bill Smith, B. Aydelotte and John H. Franklin. We got together early and the women went to cooking the dinner. We did not have a great variety, but plenty such as it was. Lacy had killed a deer a day or so ago, so we had fresh venison. Bennett found several bee trees and we had plenty of honey. Bill Smith had been to Oskaloosa a few days before and brought home a little flour. He furnished the pie crust. I had gathered a lot of wild gooseberries, so we had gooseberry pie and plenty of it and the dear old crabapple pie of those days. We had new potatoes and garden beans, so our principal meal was corn bread, beans and potatoes. For sweetening, my wife had made four gallons of maple molasses and fifty pounds of sugar in an Indian “Wickeup” that stood just above where the railroad crosses Elk Creek (west of Murphy). I had made troughs and tapped thirty trees that stood around the “Wickeup”, so with Bennett’s honey we had plenty of sweetening. Wm. M. Springer read the Declaration of Independence and we spent the balance of the day in talking of the Mexican War and the goo country of Iowa and whether it would ever be settled up – not in our day, we all thought. I would be glad to be with you but can’t this time. I have jotted this down as things came to my remembrance – did not think I would write half so much.

Wishing you a successful celebration.

I remain yours,
B. AYDELOTTE

What a change in the last 63 years – since Aydelotte settled on Elk Creek – has come to Jasper County and Iowa.

The first person buried in Adamson Grove cemetery was Henry Adamson, nephew of Abraham Adamson, Sr., in the fall of 1846. The second, Mrs. Waggener of Atkin’s Grove – an old lady. The third, a child of B. Aydelotte. The first person buried in Mt.

Zion cemetery, was Calloway Dooley, on Sept. 28th, 1854. Mrs. Wilson Thompson, the second, in 1856. The first person buried in the Saum cemetery, was the first wife of G. T. Saum in Oct. 1855. The first person buried in the Hixson Grove cemetery was Harjett (sic) Ann Russell, daughter of J. W. Russell June 28, 1861, aged three years.

The first term of District Court held in Jasper County, was in the cabin of M. D. Springer, March, 1846.

The first election of officers for Jasper County was held at the house of Joab Bennett, March 1, 1846. Judges of election: Henry Smith, Joab Bennett and John H. Franklin; clerk, Wm. M. Springer. Some of the officers elected were: B. Aydelotte, Justice of the Peace; David Edmunson, Sheriff; Henry Smith, Constable.

The first Court House was built by the two Springer's in March 1846, in the brush just in the edge of Palo Alto township near the line between Buena Vista and Palo Alto townships, about 4 to 6 rods south of the elbow now in the county road on the Samuel Squire farm. It was built of small, round hickory logs about 8 inches in diameter, and was 16x16 ft. and 8 ft. store – scotched down on inside with clapboards nailed over cracks on the inside to keep wind and storms out and with clapboard roofs. It had what was then termed a “continental chimney” – that is, holes bored into the walls, pins driven therein, and then weatherboarded with clapboards – this forming a due for conducting the smoke above the house. A lane was cut through the brush from the court house to the prairie. The first court in the new court house, it is said, was presided over by Judge Williams of Davenport, the March term of 1847. It has been said that while court was in session several deer in their perambulations came into the lane, cut through the brush between the court house and prairie and the court, judge and all, went out to see them.

Buena Vista township as a political division of Jasper was made Feb. 17, 1857 by County Judge, W. R. Norris.

The boundaries of the township were: commencing at the N.E. corner of Sec. 25, Twp. 80, R. 18 W. Thence west on section line to N.W. corner of Sec. 30, same Twp. And R; thence south on range line to S.W. corner of Sec. 30, Twp. 79, R. 18; thence east on section line to S.E. corner of Sec. 25, Twp. 79, R. 18; thence north on range line to place of beginning.

Monday, the 6th day of April, 1857, was appointed by the court to hold the first election at the house of Jacob Herring. Officers for township: 3 Trustees, 1 Clerk, 2 Justices of the Peace and 2 constables. The court did on the 18th day of April, 1857, appoint, empower and command C. N. Davis to put up at least 3 notices in the most public places in said territory described; of the order of the court. The following return was endorsed on this order: “Received February 27, 1857 served by putting up four written copies of this warrant in the most public places in Buena Vista township, March 13, A. D., 1857. C. M. Davis.”

On the 6th day of April, 1857, the first election was held in and for Buena Vista township. It appears from the records that C. M. Davis, John Binkerd, and John B. Drake were elected Trustees and John C. Scott was elected Township Clerk. The records do not show who were elected Justices of the Peace or Constable. As first organized, Buena Vista township was six miles east and west and seven miles north and south.

State of Iowa
Jasper County
To the Trustees of Buena Vista township in said county.

You are hereby notified that the south line of said township has been placed on the Congressional Township line dividing township seventy-eight and seventy-nine north of range eighteen west.

Given under my hand and seal of said county at my office in Newton, this 24 day of May, 1858.
DAVID EDMUNSON, County Judge.

After this order of county court, Buena Vista township contained all of Twp. 79, R. 18 and the twelve south sections of Twp. 80, R. 18, or 6x8 miles which continued until Kellogg township was organized.

Civilization rests on two prime factors – intelligence and common sense – hence the necessity of good common schools and good roads. Good faithful school directors and teachers and road supervisors are the men and women on whom rests our civilization and do more for their country than any other class of citizens, and it makes it possible for a Lincoln, a Johnson, a Garfield, a McKinley, and a Grant to come from the people without wealth.

Strange as it may appear to some of us these two prime factors are carried on co-operatively “by the people, of the people, and for the people”. Might not railroads, telegraphy, telephones and many other things be carried on by the people as well as public roads and common schools. On the 9th of May, 1858, trustees met and districted the township into six road districts and appointed supervisors in each district.

Road District No. 1, William Miller
“ “ “ 2, Mahlan Patton
“ “ “ 3, John W. Bicknell
“ “ “ 4, Monroe Trotter
“ “ “ 5, J. W. Blackwood
“ “ “ 6, Levi N. Meek

(These men are now deceased)

On March 1, 1858, trustees settled with road supervisors. At the election held the first Monday in April, 1858, it appears that C. M. Davis, J. W. Murphy and John Binkerd were elected Trustees of the township, and John C. Scott, Township Clerk. It appears that Jacob Hixson, C. W. Hart, Wilson Thompson, Leonard Likens, Thos. Antle and Jessie Newlin were elected Road Supervisors. The law was changed, and township officers were elected at the October state election in 1858, it appears that C. M. Davis, J. W. Murphy and Hiram Ellis were elected Trustees, John C. Scott, Clerk and J. W. Murphy, the Assessor who was the first township assessor – as before that year we had county assessors. In October, 1858, J. W. Blackwood, Hiram Ellis and Nelson Trotter were elected Trustees, and Joseph Corbet, Township Clerk. We give a list of Township Clerks to-wit:

1857 to Nov. 1859, John C. Scott; 1860, Joseph Corbet; 1861-2, L. E. Likens (Extine); 1863, John C. Scott; 1864, J. F. Roberts; 1865-8, Aaron T. Hinshaw; 1869-1873, O. I. Adams; 1873-5, S. G. Russell; 1875-8, Townsend Murphy; 1879, J. W. Murphy; 1880-7, Townsend Murphy; 1888, Geo. Swearingen; 1888-1890, O. I. Adams; 1890-92, Wm. C. Dooley; 1892-96, J. E. McCausland; 1896-98, V. S. Blackwood; 1898-9, F. M. Phillips;

1899-1900, Frank Carpenter; 1900-1, A. A. Hammer; 1901-06, Vic Reynolds; 1907, Frank Swearingen.

From the assessment of property of the township in 1859 we glean the following: No. acres, resident land owners, 16,044, value, \$124,756; No. acres, non-resident land owners, 14,190, value, \$50,502; total value, \$175,258; No. horses, 266, value, \$9,563; mules and asses, 4, value, \$280; No. cattle, 751, value, \$7,435; No. sheep, 392, value, \$575; No. hogs, 931, value, \$761; No. vehicles, 114, value, \$3,436, monies and credits, \$13,738; merchandise, \$300; other property, \$2,770; county polls, 130; road polls, 105; value personal property, \$38,858; total valuation of township, \$21, 4116 (sic).

Census of township taken in the winter of 1859.

No. dwelling, 115; No. males, 344; No. females, 322; No. votes, 138; No. militia, 127; between 5-21 years, 271; acres improved land, 5,217; acres sorghum, 264, gallons, 1,794; acres orchard 42, product, \$15; acres Hungarian, 99, tons, 121; acres meadow, 76, tons, 1,014; bushels grass seed, 64.

Acres spring wheat (1858)	1229
Bus. " " "	553
Acres oats	701
Bus. " "	593
Acres corn	1501
Bus. " "	35941
Acres potatoes	37
Bus. " "	1669
Hogs sold	350
Value	\$1673
Cattle sold	140
Value	\$3670
Pounds butter	10785
Pounds cheese "	227
Pounds wool	1023
Value domestic manufacturers	\$693
" general manufacturers	\$40
" of farm Implements	\$2828

It will be remembered that the summer of 1858 was exceedingly wet and small grain was a failure...

...The religious faith of the early settlers of the township were: Quakers, Baptists, Methodists, Church of Christ, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, the first three perhaps predominating. We learned from Mrs. Geo. Dooley that the first M. E. church organized in Adamson Grove was at her home in the fall of 1851 by Rev. Jones, Thomas Pearson, leader. The Baptists held regular services in the Jacob Herring home in the early fifties, but we have no records. The Quakers had a church house north of the E. W. Day cross roads and had services in the early fifties, we have no records. The first M. E. church organized in the Hixson Grove at the home of W. S. Hixson, Nov. 11857 (sic), by Rev. Fleming of Newton, W. S. Hixson, leader. The Methodist Protestant church at Hixson Grove was organized in the Slagel school house Jan. 1863 by Rev. D. B. Drake, W. S. Hixson, Class Leader.

This article will be continued in the November *Gleaner*.

Edna Perry, Widow at Age 13

Submitted by Carl Nollen

She was a bride at age 12, a widow age 13, and a mother, age 13, in that order, all in the space of 3 months and 1 week in 1899.

Many of us genealogists are taphophiles (cemetery lovers). I learn something every time I visit a cemetery, even if it is a surname I have not heard of before. Last summer I spent some time at Bethel Cemetery, Independence Township, Jasper County Iowa. One of the most impressive monuments there is inscribed on opposite sides; Clarence Barbee, Aug 4 1899 aged 17 ys, and Otis Barbee, Aug 4 1899, aged 19 ys. Nearby is a toppled pillar for Earl B. Perry, born Nov 28 1881, died Aug 4 1899. Three teenagers all gone the same day. Surely there is a story here.

I went to the microfilmed newspapers at the State Historical Library in Des Moines, and found a story in the Newton Journal, "Three Boys Killed at Humboldt." As I expected, there had been a horrible accident. The Humboldt location led me to the Fort Dodge Messenger where I found a longer story about the "three men dashed to death in a carriage..." The Newton story had the wrong first name for the Perry boy, but it said "He also leaves a child-wife to mourn..." He was only 17, a young age for a man even in those days to marry. How old was his wife, that said she was a child?

What follows now is a chronology on Edna (Owens) Perry and her 4 marriages:

1886, August 16, Pleasant Grove Twp, Olmsted County, Iowa, Edna Owens, born, daughter of Sherman & Lettie (Raridon) Owens.

1895 census, p. 362, Independence Twp, Jasper County Iowa, Edna Owens, age 7 (sic), enumerated with her parents, ages 30 & 28, and brothers, Clifford, 9, John, 4, & sister, Bessie, 2. Their religious belief was LDS (Latter Day Saints).

1899, July 7, Mitchellville, Iowa, Polk County Marriages p. 206, Edna Owens of Baxter, Iowa, age next birthday, "14", married Earl B. Perry, of Baxter, son of H. W. Perry & Minerva Barbee, age next birthday, 18. Possibly marriages weren't allowed then at age 12, to account for her allowing her age to be 13, when she would not be 13 for a month or so. Witnesses to the marriage, Sherman Owens & Mrs. Minerva Perry, father of the bride & mother of the groom. Married by C. B. Taylor, minister. Earl and Edna were second cousins.

1899, August 4, Earl & his two Barbee cousins killed at a railroad crossing in Humboldt County, driving a covered wagon en route to the Dakota wheat fields. Three newspaper articles are reproduced following this article with the details. The deaths of the three boys is recorded in the Jasper County Record of Deaths, page 8, even though they actually occurred in Humboldt County. I have found this sometimes to be the case – if a person is buried in the county different than where they died the death record can be found in that county where buried.

1899, October 14, Eva Perry born, daughter of Edna V. Owens & Earl B. Perry. Jasper County Record of Births, page 26.

1900 census, Independence Twp, Jasper County, taken June 14, Edna Perry, age 13,

her daughter, Eva, 7 months, are enumerated with Edna's parents, Sherman Owens, 35, Philetta R., 40, wife, children, John 9, Bessie F., 6, Vera, 2 & Venice, 2 (twins). Sherman's occupation was day laborer. His neighbors were farmers. The 1900 soundex cards made up by probably a different person (who) didn't believe Edna's birth year or age & changed them to 10 years earlier, 1876 & 23!

1903, Feb 27, brother, Morris Owens died, age 1 (a twin)

1903, Feb 28, sister, Venice Owens died, age 4 (a twin)

1903, October 29, Edna Perry & Charley W. Thurston married, Jasper County.

1904, Donald Thurston born

1905-1909, Edna & Charley Thurston divorced? He lived from 1872-1956 & is buried in Union Chapel Cemetery, Jasper County.

1909, October 15, Edna Thurston, 23, & Leonard Sanfacon, 33, both of Medford, North Dakota, married, Grand Forks County, North Dakota Book 12 #126. Sanfacon is French Canadian and is pronounced "San fa saan." It has also been written "Saafacon" and pronounced "Saa fa saan."

1910 census taken May 14, Elkmount Twp, Grand Forks Co, ND, Leonard Sanfacon, 33, born Maine, farm laborer, Edna Sanfacon, wife, 24, mother of 2 children, 2 living, Eva Perry, 11, stepdaughter of Leonard, Donald Thurston, 5, stepson.

1915 North Dakota census shows Lenard Sanfausa, Edna, Eva Perry, Donald Thurston.

1917 (about), Eva Perry (Edna's daughter) married James Stonehouse.

1917, October 1, James Milton Sanfacon born to Eva. His birth certificate says James Stonehouse was his father, but his biological father was Magne Elvick, found through DNA tests. James later went to live with Leonard Sanfacon and took his name.

1920 census taken January 6, Michigan, Nelson County, North Dakota, Leonard Sanfacon, 43, farm laborer, Edna, 33, James Stonehouse, grandson, 2.

1925 census, Grafton, Walsh County, North Dakota, Eva Stonehouse, 26, enumerated as Inmates of Institution for Feeble Minded. I believe this is the same as Eva Perry.

1930 census taken April 5, Homer Twp, Stutsman Co, North Dakota, Eva Perry, inmate, North Dakota State Hospital for Insane, age at 1st marriage, 18, occupation, dusting. Eva was known to be slow, but in those days "slow" people were put in an institution like this. I believe James Stonehouse in 1920 census was her son.

Before 1930, Edna & Leonard (Sanfacon) divorced. In North Dakota, divorce records over 50 years old are destroyed!

1930 census taken April 14, Wheatfield Twp, Grand Forks Co, ND, Leonard Mootz, 39, age at 1st marriage, 23, born Iowa, farmer, Richard, 15, son, Clifford, 11, son, Edna

Sanfacon, 43, servant, occupation cook, age at 1st marriage "23", James Stonehouse, 12, grandson.

1939, January 31, Edna Sanfacon & Leonard Mootz married, Clearwater Co, MN.

1940, census taken April 17, Shevlin Twp, Clearwater County, Minnesota, Leonard P. Mootz, 50, head, farmer, Edna V. Mootz, 53, wife, highest grade of school, 4th, both lived in same county in 1935.

1940 census taken April 2, Moose Creek Twp, Clearwater Co, MN, Eber P. Birdsell, 68, born Iowa, farmer, Eva B. Birdsell, wife, 40. (This is Eva Perry, Edna's daughter).

1961, June 21, Edna Mootz died, buried Clearwater Lutheran Cemetery, Shevlin, MN, age 74. Leonard Mootz (Dec 25 1889 – Nov 21 1967) buried same cemetery. Leonard Sanfacon (Aug 13 1876 – Dec, 19 1963) buried Michigan Cemetery, Michigan, Nelson Co, ND. Eva Birdsell died March 20 1977, buried with husband Eber (Dec 22 1873-Feb 22 1944) at Shevlin Cemetery, Shevlin, MN.

2003, July 29, James Milton Sanfacon died, West St. Paul, Dakota Co., MN, age 85, buried Crystal Lake Cemetery, Minneapolis, MN.

A little background on the Perry family. Earl's parents were Harrison W. Perry (1849-1917) & Minerva Abigail Barbee (1853-1937), both buried at Restland Cemetery, Baxter, Jasper County. They were married 1874. Children, Mary 1875, Mattie 1877, Marshall 1878, Earl 1881, Edith 1883, Oscar 1886, Odessa 1894. Mother Minerva's brother, Christopher Barbee, was the father of the two Barbee boys who were killed with Earl Perry.

Thanks to Jill Sanfacon, Edna Sanfacon's great-granddaughter for her information and interest, and to Wilma Albee, Perry descendant, whose great-grandfather, Harrison Perry, was Earl Perry's father.

From the *Fort Dodge Messenger*, Tuesday, August 8, 1899

**Three Men Killed
Horrible Accident on the Northwestern at Humboldt This Morning
Three Men Dashed to Death in a Carriage – They Were Strangers**

A terrible accident occurred Friday morning on the Northwestern in the vicinity of Humboldt. The accident happened about 5 o'clock in the morning about a mile from town. As the flyer on the Northwestern was sweeping the curve at the crossing a buggy in which three men were riding attempted to pass the crossing in front of the train and were struck by the flying mass of iron. The buggy was smashed to splinters and the men were killed, two of them dying instantly and the third living only long enough to be taken to the depot. The identity of the men was at first impossible to determine as there was nothing on their clothes to indicate who they were. They had fishing tackle with them and seemed to be a party of fishermen going out to do some early morning fishing.

Later advices from Humboldt in the afternoon say that the men were still unidentified. They were all young men, none of them being over 25 and one of them was a boy of about 17. Instead of a party of fishermen it is now thought they were a part of hunters,

probably going up into Minnesota somewhere to hunt. They had guns and fishing tackle with them, bearing out this theory. Unfortunately, none of the men had a single written line about their person indicating where they were from or where they were going. They drove a double-seated buggy and a two horse team. One of the horses was instantly killed and the other badly injured. The train which killed the men was No. 5, on the Northwestern, and is known as the flyer. They run at a very fast speed and must have struck the buggy with terrific force. The engineer claims that nothing was seen of the men until they were upon them. The train stopped and the men were taken on board and the train backed up into Humboldt. Two of them were killed instantly and the third was unconscious all the time and died immediately after reaching the station. They were badly cut and bruised, some of them being crushed out of all semblance of human shape.

Every effort is being made to discover the identity of the unfortunate men and the telegraph wires out of Humboldt are being kept hot in the effort to discover the identity of the men.

Their Names Learned

The Northwestern company has learned the names of the three unfortunate young men who were killed yesterday at a crossing two miles east of Dakota City. They were Ottis Barbee, Clarence Barbee, brothers, and Mart Perin (sic), a cousin. Their home is near Baxter, Iowa, and they were en route to the harvest fields of southern Minnesota. The engineer of the passenger train claims to have whistled and rung the bell before reaching the crossing but the distance was so short it was impossible to stop at the speed they were going. John Perin who works for W. H. Daniels near Lehigh is a cousin of all three of the boys. He learned of the accident and that they were from Baxter and went to Humboldt on the late train last night. He viewed the bodies this morning and positively identified them as his cousins. The parents were notified this morning and will arrive on the first train. The affair is a very sad one. The young (sic) passed through this city on Thursday afternoon and were noticed by a reporter for the Messenger to be three very intelligent looking young men. Their conveyance and horses were in good condition and their appearance indicated that they were traveling comfortably.

From the *Fort Dodge Messenger*, Tuesday, August 11, 1899

Were Popular Young Men

Death of the Unfortunate Victims of Railroad Crossing Accident Deplored at Baxter

Baxter, Aug. 8 – The saddest news received here for a long time was first brought in an item last Friday, saying three young men from Baxter were killed by a fast mail train near Dakota City, Iowa.

Investigation soon proved the young men to be Clarence and Otis Barber (sic) and Earl Perry. The boys started from their homes, four miles west of Baxter, on last Monday, in a covered wagon to procure work and to look at the country with a view of locating.

By some means they were caught by the fast mail train on the Northwestern railroad one mile east of Dakota City and all three of the boys and the team were instantly killed. The bodies were embalmed and sent here, arriving at 9:45 p.m. Saturday. The boys were fine young men and their tragic death was a great shock to their friends, but more especially to their families. Their fathers are well-to-do farmers and have the sympathy of the entire community.

The Barber boys were members of the high school here and their school mates attended the funeral in a body, each member of their respective classes depositing a bouquet on the coffin of their classmate. The funeral was held in the grove in the northern part of town yesterday at 3 o'clock p.m. Services conducted by Elder Nirk, assisted by Elder Clancey and Rev. B. F. Logsdon, after which the remains were deposited in the cemetery at Bethel. The funeral was the occasion of the largest gathering seen in Baxter in a long time, it being estimated from 1,000 to 1,500 people attended. So far as known no blame attached to the railroad company or anyone else, it simply being a very lamentable accident.

From the *Newton Journal*, Wednesday, August 9, 1899

**Three Boys Killed at Humboldt
All Belonged Near Baxter**

On Tuesday morning, August 1st, Messrs. Clarence and Otis Barbee and Martin Perry, left their homes, west of Baxter, to go north in search of work in the wheat fields. They traveled overland in a covered wagon. On Saturday morning, while crossing the Chicago-Northwestern R'y, their wagon was struck by the fast mail, at a dangerous crossing near Humboldt. Otis Barbee, aged 19, and Martin Perry, aged 18 were instantly killed, and Clarence Barbee, aged 17, lived about an hour, but never spoke. One horse was killed outright and the other was put to death. The wagon was utterly demolished.

The bodies were brought to Baxter for burial, and the services were held in Smith's Grove, in the north edge of town, on Sunday, August 6th, at 3 o'clock. The whole country attended the services over the three bodies, which was conducted by Rev. Nirk, of Rhodes. The bodies were interred in the Bethel cemetery, west of Baxter.

The two brothers were the sons of Mr. & Mrs. Bud Barbee; Martin Perry is the son of Mr. & Mrs. John Perry. He also leaves a child wife to mourn after him.

Edna Mootz 1886-1961

Edna Vera Mootz was born at Pleasant Grove, Minnesota, on August 16, 1887 (sic). She passed away very suddenly Wednesday night at her home in west Bagley. Mrs. Mootz moved from Minnesota to Iowa and then to North Dakota for a time and came to Clearwater County (MN) in 1943.

She was married to Leonard Mootz in 1939 at Bagley, Minnesota. Mr. & Mrs. Mootz lived at Shevlin until about one year ago when they moved to Bagley. She was preceded in death by one son, Donald. She is survived by her husband Leonard and one daughter, Mrs. Eva Birdsell of Shevlin and one grandchild. She also leaves one sister Bess and 2 brothers John and Mike.

Funeral services were held in the Clearwater Lutheran Church at Shevlin on Monday, June 26th at 2 p.m. Rev. C. W. Hanson officiated at the last rites. Cease Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Interment was made in the Church Cemetery at Shevlin.

NOTE: Tombstone photos for Eva and some family members mentioned in this article are available on Find-a-Grave. Photos of Eva and two of her husbands appear on page 14.



Leonard & Edna (Owens,
Perry, Thurston) Sanfacon

Photo courtesy of
Jill Sanfacon



Leonard & Edna (Owens,
Perry, Thurston, Sanfacon)
Mootz

Photo courtesy of
Darrel Anderson

Books added to JCGS Shelves since Nov. 2017

Jasper County:

A History of Monroe, Iowa 1843-1976

Marriages 1880-1900 Taken from files of the Prairie City News (Iowa)

The History of Coal Mines-Coal Dealers & The Ice Industry in and around the town of Colfax, Ia. before the year 1940, by Lee Schmitt

Other states:

Early History of The Town of Salem (from 1761- to close of Rev. War) (Massachusetts)

Genealogies of Long Island Families - Mainly from records left by Benjamin F. Thompson (New York)

Long Island Genealogies - Thomas Powell 1688 (New York)

Records of the Reformed Dutch Church of Hackensack & Schraalenburgh, NJ Part 1 & 2

Other countries/ethnicities:

Cradled in Sweden, by Carl Eril Johansson - A practical help to Swedish records

Letters from the Promised Land - Swedes in America 1840-1914

Scotch-Irish Family Research Made Simple, Second Edition, by Simmit Publications

Family histories:

The Descendants of Archibald Galloway, by Jean Gleaves Poage

General Information:

A Graveyard Preservation Primer, by Lynette Strangstad

Gravestone Design & Symbolism, by John Daehler

Tombstones of Your Ancestors, by Louis S. Schafer

Twenty censuses: Population and Housing Questions 1790-1980

To the lot of Mr. & Mrs. George Miller of the Metz neighborhood falls the honor of securing the first marriage license in the old (1857) court house which was destroyed two years ago to give place to the magnificent new one. On Jan. 20, 1859, George W. Miller and Miss Emily M. Helphrey appeared at the court house, obtained their marriage license and were married by Judge Edmondson, the judge of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Miller were both in the city today attending the dedication service of the new building. Mr. Miller is a prosperous farmer residing just this side of Metz and both he and his good wife are enjoying the best of health. (— from *Newton Daily News*, April 6, 1911)

Family Genealogies in the JCGS Library (surnames beginning with C-F)
(Surnames A-B were published in the May 2017 Gleaner)
(associated surnames in parentheses)

Carder/Curtis

Carnahan

Carrier

Clippinger

Cox

Croxton

Cating – Cornelius & Mary

Chapman (Greenlief)

Chenowith/Turck

Clemont (Gibson, Hayes)

Conway (Mardis)

Cook

Cottrell (Wright)

Cummings

Cushatt/Nirk

Dammeier

Davis – A Quaker Family

Dawson/Baumbarger

Deakin

Dearinger/Meredith

Dean/Short

Deaton/Jontz

Dee

Doak

Doane

Dooley/Callaway

Dougherty

Downey/Crawford

Draper (Means, Shearer)

Dulany/Furlong (Fox, John, Kells, Pitcock)

Dupy

Earp
Edman
Eells//Ells/Ellis
Efnor
Eyerly
Emmack
Failor
Fenner
Fleming
Fritz
Freese
Fraaken/Olds
Frick – 2 vols.
Fudge
Fulk

If you would like us to research any of these books for you, please complete and mail a research request form, located on page 19, and tell us what information you are seeking.

From: *Newton Journal*, Dec. 21, 1910, p. 3

**Wife Desertion Case Taken From Jury
Judge Clements Says Evidence Did Not Warrant Conviction**

The expected happened when, in the criminal case of the state of Iowa vs. Orvill Fleming, Judge Clements, upon a motion by the defendant's attorney this morning took the case from the jury and directed a verdict of not guilty.

The facts developed during the trial that Mr. Fleming and his wife were living with his mother in Vandalia and that Mrs. Fleming aggrieved over some matters, left the home provided for her by her husband and refused to return to him.

The judge deemed the evidence insufficient to warrant conviction under the law as wife desertion.

The defendant was represented by attorneys McLain and Campbell.

Find-A-Grave Will Change

by Ted Bainbridge, Ph.D.

(ED. NOTE: This press release arrived after our last issue of the Gleaner was completed. The changes described have now been implemented. If you have not used the site or, like many users, use the link to access the previous format, we are printing Dr. Bainbridge's information in its entirety, with additional explanations at the end of the article for statements marked with a **.)

Findagrave.com has announced that the web site soon will change. Some changes are cosmetic, while others are functional. A map feature has been added.**1

The home page, formerly just a list of over thirty choices, will become a photograph with a few menu selections across the top. That page will be dominated by the search panel, which will function largely as it has in the past and with the same options for every search box except those related to location.

The current search panel specifies location via pull-down lists for country, state, and county. The new search panel offers a single box for location, in which you are supposed to type the name of a place. As you begin to type a city, county, state, or country that box auto-fills with suggested place names which you can select with a mouse click.**2 Use the American English equivalent of a country name; *Germany* works but *Deutschland* doesn't.

The new home page's menu bar goes across the top of the screen.**3 Clicking *CEMETERIES* takes you to a page that lets you hunt cemeteries in either of two ways. Near the top left of the page is a search box where you can type a cemetery name. This auto-fill box works as above. When you select a name, you see a hit list of cemeteries with that name. Each entry on the hit list displays some facts about that cemetery, and a link to its information page. That page contains a search box that you can use to hunt for a person's name.

Instead of using that cemetery-name search box, you can use the cemetery-place search box to its right. Clicking a place name produces a map of cemeteries near that place. You can zoom the map in or out, and can pan it in any direction. (If the map doesn't display any marker pins, zoom in.) After a name is in that search box, clicking *Search* leads to a hit list of cemeteries near that place. Use this hit list the same way you use the other cemetery search box.

To see and experiment with all the planned changes, go to <https://findagrave.com/> and then click *preview now* near the top center of the screen.

**1 The map feature appears at the bottom of the *CEMETERIES* page that is accessed through the toolbar at the top of the home screen.

**2 The words "county" and "United States of America" must be written out in full. If you get a "not found" message, try the *CEMETERIES* option as described below.

**3 Depending on the size of your computer screen and the way your browser is set, you may not see a toolbar across the top of the new Find-a-Grave home screen when it opens. If this happens, either zoom out until the toolbar appears, or click on the three horizontal lines that in the top left corner of the screen and choose the *CEMETERIES* option.

NOTE: There are a number of good tutorials available, accessible from the toolbar "help" option.

Jasper County Genealogical Society Research Request Form

Probate Records

DO NOT enclose a check for cost. DO enclose a self-address legal-size envelope with a 1st class stamp. A price quote for the probate record will be mailed or e-mailed to you.

Name: _____ Years: _____

Name: _____ Years: _____

Extended Research

ANCESTORS' VITAL INFORMATION

Surname: _____ Given name: _____

Birth date: _____ Birth location: _____

Death date: _____ Death location: _____

Parents' names if known: _____

Spouse's maiden name: _____ Spouse's given name: _____

Marriage date: _____ Marriage location: _____

Where lived, if known: _____ Time period to search: _____

State exactly what information you want to know: _____

_____ (use back of sheet if need more space)

Enclose a check for \$12.50 made payable to JCGS which pays for one hour of research, any copies and postage.

Amount of enclosed check \$ _____

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address: _____ Phone: _____

Mail to:
JCGS-Research
115 N. 2nd Ave. E. – Suite C
Newton IA 50208-3241

JASPER COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
115 N. 2nd Ave. E. – Suite C
Newton, IA 50208-3241

Address Service Requested
Return Intact – Do Not Destroy

Map of Jasper County, Iowa

