

The White Line



Wilbur, Philip, Helen, and Dorothy at
the Spring House in Midlothian,
Virginia about 1909

Notes:

Notes:

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2023

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The White Line

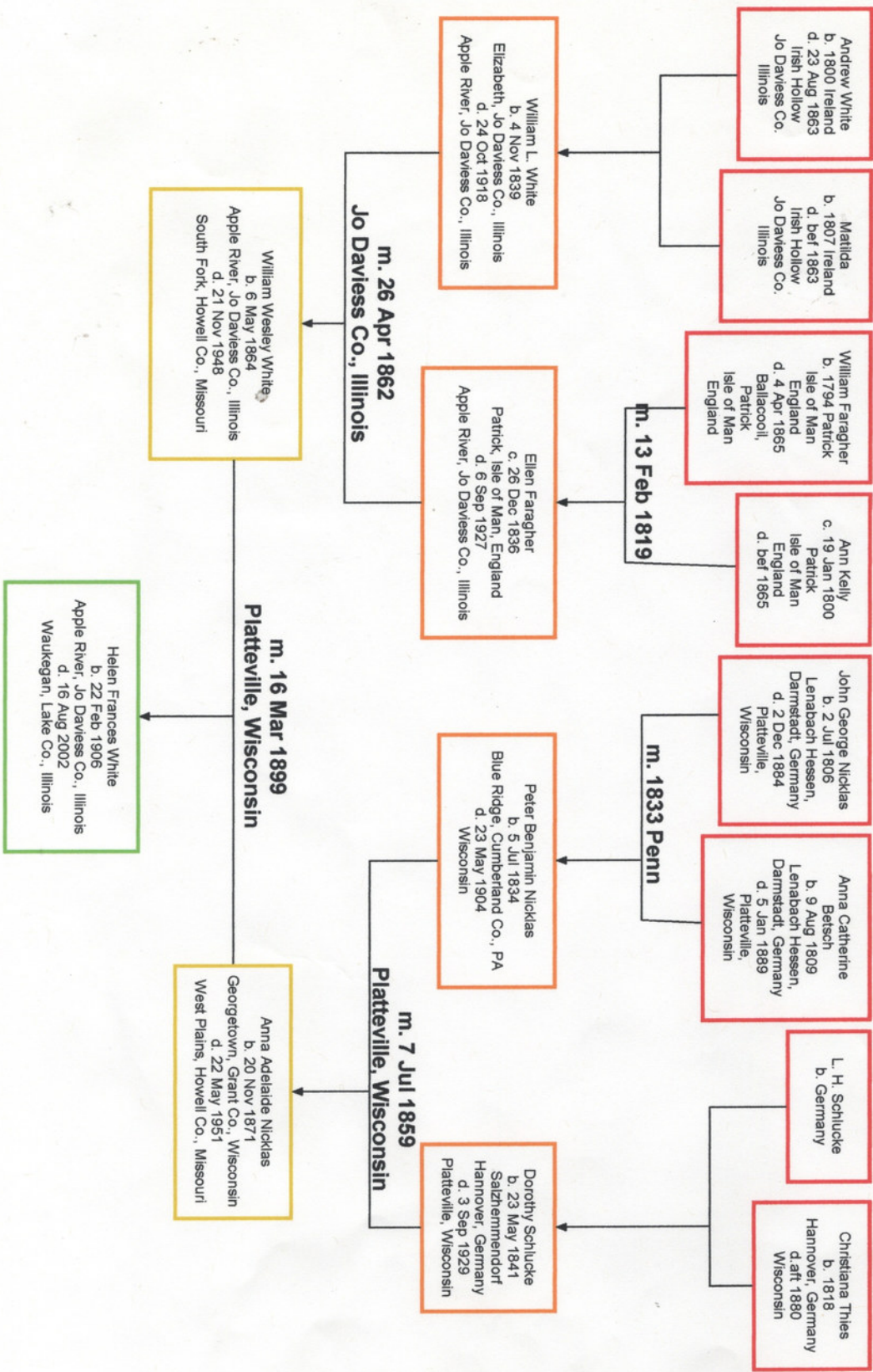
**by: Dianne Irene Zimmerman
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**With technical and editorial
assistance from
Paul R. Stevens**

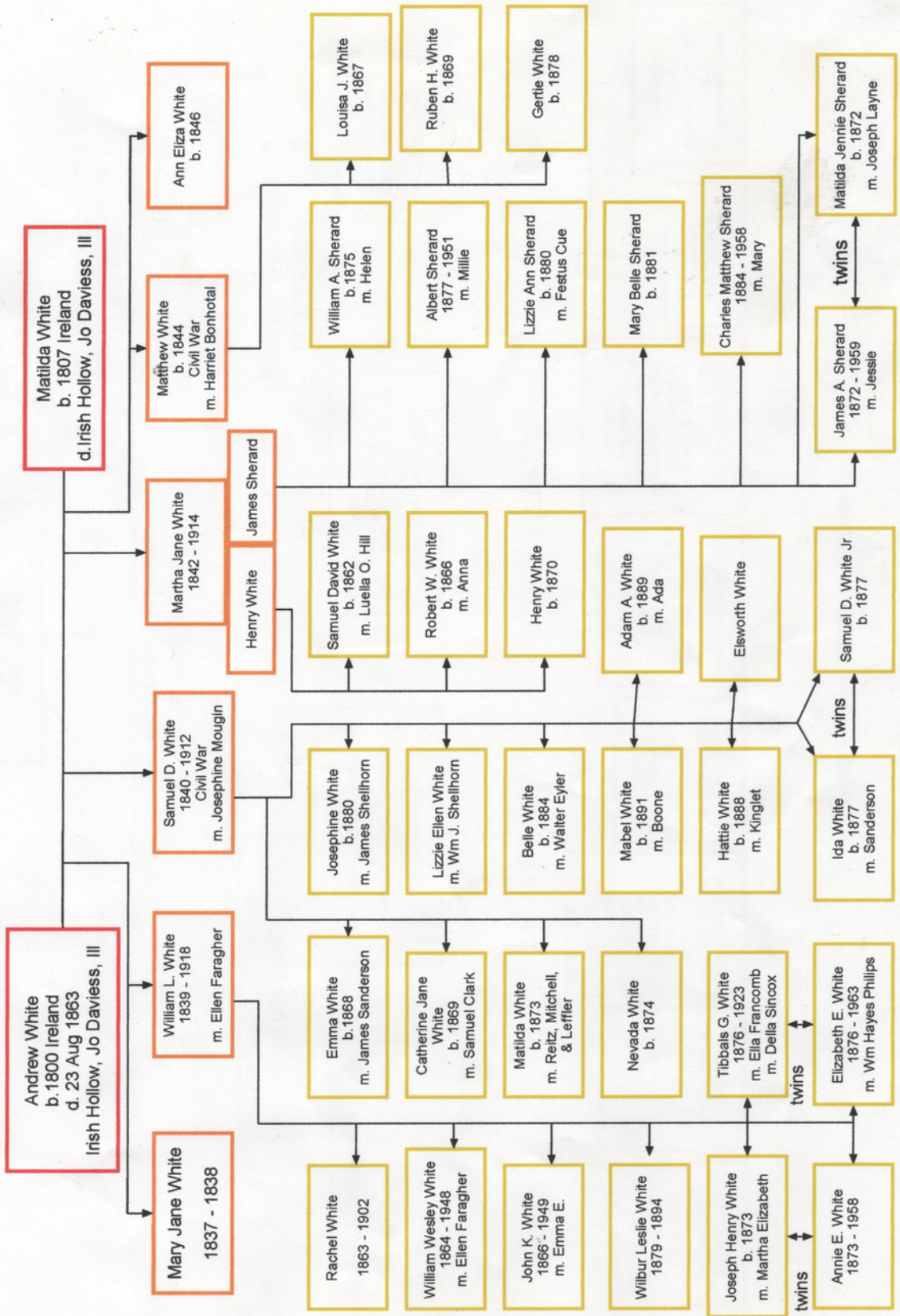
March 31, 2007

**For more information about the people and the
sources of information in this book please visit
my website at
dianneandpaul.net**

Helen Frances White Ancestors



Andrew & Matilda White Family



15 February 2007

Dear Children,

Tonight I will tell you the story of our ancestors Andrew and Matilda White. They were your Grandpa Stevens great-great-grandparents on his mother's side. Andrew was born in Ireland in about 1800 and died August 23, 1863 in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. Matilda was born in Ireland about 1807 and preceeded Andrew in death.

When I was a young teenager once a year our family would drive from our home in Waukegan, Illinois to visit my dad's parents in Portland, Oregon. We always went by way of Apple River, Illinois. I called it Apple River Country and loved it dearly. It is filled with rolling hills and woodlands and little farms nestled down in the valleys. I thought it the most idyllic country I'd ever seen. Sometimes, on our way home, we'd come through the Apple River country just before sunup and I'd tell my dad, "Be sure to wake me up when we get there." To me that was the best part of the trip. At dawn the land had a hushed and mysterious beauty with the mist swirling gently up from the valleys. I felt like I was looking in on a very beautiful and secret place. The view stirred romantic daydreams in my young heart. One time I wrote a musical composition about it. Ask me to play it for you sometime.

What I called "Apple River Country" is actually Jo Daviess County, Illinois. The Apple River runs through it and it has a small town called Apple River. Imagine my surprise and delight when I married your grandpa and learned that his mother, Nana, was born in my Apple River Country.

Andrew and Matilda White were the first of our ancestors to settle in Jo Daviess County. They were in Jo Daviess County by 1837 because there is a record that their daughter Mary Jane died there on September 22, 1837 at the age of one year. Isn't that sad? We don't know why she died. At that time many babies and children died of things like diptheria and whooping cough and measles, things we give children shots for nowadays. Andrew settled and farmed in a beautiful corner of Apple River Country, a long winding valley called Irish Hollow, probably one of the very valleys I wrote about in my song. After Mary Jane, Andrew and Matilda had five children; William L., Samuel D., Martha J., Matthew, and Ann Eliza.

Though Andrew and Matilda did not have twins, there are a number of twins among their descendants. Andrew's son William had two sets of twins. Samuel D's children Ida and Samuel D. may have been twins, Martha had twins, and at least one of Samuel's grandchildren, Elmer Sanderson, had twins.

Andrew and his family show up on the census in Jo Daviess County in 1840, 1850, and 1860. Many other families on those censuses have connections to our Whites. They are almost all from Ireland. It was common for people coming to America to immigrate to the same neighborhood where other family members were located. For all we know half the residents of Irish Hollow may have been related. I have postulated that Robert and Matthew were perhaps Andrew's brothers. Here are some of the connections I found between Andrew White, Matthew White, and Robert White that makes me

suspicious that they were brothers: Robert White died in 1849, but his family is living two doors away from Andrew's in 1850 and Matthew White and his family are about ten doors away. Family members frequently lived near one another. Robert's son, Henry, married Andrew's daughter, Martha. If Andrew and Robert were brothers that would mean that Martha and Henry were cousins. It was not uncommon for cousins to marry one another in those days. Another connection is that when Matthew went off to the Civil War he went with Samuel and Robert White, two of the older Robert White's sons. Matthew and Andrew showed up in Jo Daviess County about the same time. They were both listed in the Personal Property Assessment of 1839. We know Andrew's daughter Mary Jane died in Jo Daviess County in 1838. Matthew's daughter Mary was born in Illinois in 1838, so he and Andrew show up in the area at about the same time. Matthew died in 1851, but his daughter, Eliza Jane, was paid \$11 from Andrew's estate in 1863, so there was still a connection. All three Whites had a son named Samuel. The possible brotherhood of Andrew, Robert and Matthew is speculative. I leave it for some future researcher to pursue when perhaps more records will be discovered.

Whether or not they were brothers, these three White families were part of a close-knit Irish community, hence the name "Irish Hollow." This fact becomes apparent in the various records I have been able to look at; censuses, and the estate files of Robert, Matthew, and Andrew. It's always interesting to read what items are sold at a person's estate sale and what prices they bring. I also found it interesting who the people were who bought the items and who were mentioned as debtors or creditors to the estate. Following this story is a list of some of those people and their connections to Andrew, Robert, and Matthew White.

Among the sources for Andrew in this history is the listing of all the items sold at the estate sale. Along with all the farm tools and household goods listed are over a dozen books, one entitled *History of the World*. William was able to buy half of them. He also managed to buy most of the livestock. He bought a horse for \$30.00, a cow and calf for \$11.00, and a bull for \$6.50. In light of those prices it is especially interesting to note that by far the most expensive item purchased was a "Snare" bought by William for \$80.00! I wonder what that could be. Andrew's daughter, Martha Jane, bought only one item, her dad's watch for which she paid \$20.00.

What isn't in the sale record is almost as interesting as what is. There is no mention whatever of the sale of property. The estate document says, "The property of said estate consists of real debts and personal property." Was Andrew able to transfer his farm to one of his sons before he died? From comparing the neighbors of Andrew's 1860 census with those of his son Samuel D. White in the 1870 census it's clear that Samuel D. is living on the property that had belonged to Andrew. He has the Roddens and Hazlitts on one side of him and the Irvins, Sherards, Gales, and Johnstons on the other. We don't know how he came to be the owner.

Another interesting omission, neither Matthew, Samuel D., or Eliza appear in the sale records. Samuel is listed in the debts paid as having received \$83.00 from the estate, but Matthew and Eliza are mentioned only in the list of heirs. Andrew died in 1863. Both Matthew and Samuel served in the Civil War. They were probably away at war at the time of the sale. Read below about Ann Eliza and you'll

understand why she didn't participate.

One more item in Andrew's estate papers that was very interesting, there was an order for an autopsy of his body. An autopsy is done when someone dies in a mysterious or unusual way. Did someone suspect he was murdered? I wrote to the county for more information but there was none to be had so this mystery remains unsolved for now.

Now I'm going to tell you a little bit about the two men that may have been Andrew's brothers. Matthew White, possible brother to Andrew, was born in Ireland in about 1812. He married a woman in Pennsylvania and their first child, Samuel, was born there in 1836. They appear in Jo Daviess County about the same time as Andrew does. They show up in the 1840 census in the Small Pox District. I wrote and asked someone about that name and this is the reply I got, "Smallpox Creek runs through the county. It's probably a reference to that." Once in Jo Daviess County Matthew and his wife had children Mary, James, Sarah, Eliza Jane, and Matilda. Matthew's wife died before the 1850 census so we don't know her name. In 1859 he married Mary Ann Costello and they had one child, Matthew. Then Matthew Sr. died in 1861 and the baby Matthew died in 1862. Matthew's son James married a German girl named Fanny. They raised at least seven children, first in Missouri, and then Kansas. Matthew's daughter Eliza Jane married James Bawden. They had at least 5 children in Jo Daviess County. Matthew's daughter Matilda married Alanson Crandall and they settled in Iowa.

Robert White, possible brother to Andrew, was born in Ireland and died 12 July 1849 in Jo Daviess County. In 1850 his widow Jane is shown two houses down from Andrew with her children Henry, Samuel, Robert, Henrietta, Thomas, and James. According to the birthplaces and dates listed for the children, Jane and Robert must have immigrated between 1845 and 1848. By 1860 Jane is living in Carroll County with her new husband, William Shannon, and their five new children. Her eldest son from her marriage to Robert White, Henry, is still living in Irish Hollow. In the 1860 census Henry is now 21, and head of a family that includes his brother Robert, his sister Henrietta, and Thomas and James, who are designated as nephews. It looks like Henry's mother deserted the family she had with Robert. Robert's estate papers seem to amount to various efforts to force Jane to fulfill her obligations as executrix of Robert's estate. They are hand written and very difficult to read. Robert's sons Samuel and Robert went off to the Civil War with Andrew's son Matthew. The three of them served together in I Company of the 96th Illinois Infantry.

Robert's oldest son Henry married Andrew's daughter, Martha Jane White. He and Martha had three sons, more about them later. Henry served in the Civil War and reportedly died of his injuries, though he lived until about 1870. Robert's second child, Samuel, raised a family in Jo Daviess County. Henrietta married Robert Moore and raised a family in Carroll County, Illinois. She had twins.

Now we'll turn to Andrew and Matilda's five children. What became of them? Their oldest son William L. White is our ancestor. He has his own story.

Andrew and Matilda's second son, Samuel D. White, fought in the Civil War. He was a private with Company D of the 45th Illinois Infantry. He served from Nov 20, 1861 to Dec 30, 1864.

Soon after the War ended Samuel and his brother Matthew married two local girls of French parentage who lived next door to one another. They may have been related on their mother's sides. Samuel married Josephine Mouglin in September of 1865 and Matthew married Harriet Bonhotal in October 1865. Samuel and Josephine appear to have lived and farmed on the land that had belonged to his father, Andrew. On the 1870 census many neighbors are the same as Andrew's were in 1860. By 1880 though he is still in Elizabeth Township, the neighbors are different so I don't know if he or they have moved. Samuel and Josephine had 16 children but they didn't have very good luck with their children as on the 1910 census Josephine says she has given birth to sixteen children but only 7 are still living. I think there may have been diabetes in that family. The 1910 census also says Samuel is blind. He and Josephine lived out their lives near the place of his birth. Samuel died in 1912 and Josephine in 1914. They are buried together in the Greenwood Cemetery in Galena. Many of their descendants continued to live and farm in the Jo Daviess county. One daughter and one granddaughter married railroad engineers, Lizzie Shellhorne and Myrtle Kish. The Kishes lived in St. Paul, Minnesota. There was at least one set of twins among Samuel's descendants, Vernon and Vera Sanderson.

Andrew and Matilda's daughter Martha Jane White married the boy next door, her possible cousin, Henry White, son of Robert and Jane White, on December 24, 1861. Their first child, Samuel David, was born in 1862. The Sherard History says Henry fought in The Civil War and died of his injuries. I haven't yet found his military record. After the Civil War Martha and Henry had two more sons, Robert in 1866, and Henry in 1870. By the time of the 1870 census, Henry Sr. had died and Martha and the three boys were living with her brother Samuel. In 1872 she married James Sherard, who had been living with his uncle and family in Irish Hollow. There is no mention of little Henry after the 1870 census, so he must have died, but Sam and Robert as well as their old neighbors from Irish Hollow, James and William Black who were brothers of William L. White's (eldest son of Andrew and Matilda) first wife Rachel Black, all accompanied James and Martha on the three week trek to Dakota Territory soon after their marriage. What an adventure that must have been! The 1910 census shows that Martha has had 13 children, only 9 of whom are living. Besides baby Henry, three Sherard children must have died as well. Martha and James were good hearted people. The 1900 census shows them with six children still at home and in addition they are caring for three nieces and Martha's handicapped sister Ann Eliza. Read more about the Sherards in the article titled "Sherard Family" in the sources for Martha. Martha and James lived and farmed in Turner County, South Dakota until they died, Martha in 1914 and James in 1919. Many of their descendants stayed in South Dakota. Some moved on to Oregon.

Andrew and Matilda's third son, Matthew enlisted in the army along with two sons of Robert White, Samuel and Robert, and Josephine Bonhotal's brother, Henry. The three served in I Company of the 96th Illinois Infantry. Matthew received a Distinguished Service commendation. After the war he married Harriet Bonhotal whose parents were from France. I have found her named spelled many different ways, some of them extremely creative. I think this one is right. The 1870 census shows

Matthew and Harriet living in Boone County, Iowa with two small children, Louisa J. and Ruben H. By 1880 they are back in Jo Daviess County, Rice, with children Rosie (same age as Louisa should be), Rubie, and Gerty. They are listed on the Census index, but the actual image is not available on Ancestry or FamilySearch. However the index shows them living next door to Harriet's mother, Catherine "Bonhotell" on one side and the Augustus and Catherine Mougins family on the other side. The Mougins are the parents of Josephine White, wife of Matthew's brother Samuel. Matthew's son Ruben married and moved to Pennsylvania.

Andrew and Matilda's youngest child Ann Eliza, born in 1846, suffered from some sort of handicap. In the 1880 census she is living with her brother Samuel. The column #20, "Maimed, crippled, bedridden, or otherwise disabled" is checked. Columns 22, "cannot read," and 23, "cannot write" are checked. The 1900 census shows her living with her sister Martha. The word "invalid" is written in the column titled "Occupation." There are "No" s in the columns "Able to read" and "Able to write," but a "Yes" in "able to speak English." At that time and place there were few alternatives to families caring for their own elderly and handicapped members. I'm glad Ann Eliza's siblings rose to the task after her parents were gone.

We come to the end of the story of Andrew and Matilda White, our Irish ancestors who immigrated from Ireland and founded a family in the beautiful Apple River Country. At least three generations of their descendants were born there. Though they themselves were immigrants, two of their sons fought in the Civil War to preserve the Union and end slavery. They had books in their home when few did and they taught their children to care for one another. 'Tis a fine legacy we have from our Irish ancestors, Andrew and Matilda White.

Here is how we are related to Andrew and Matilda. Andrew and Matilda had William L. White. William L. had William Wesley White. William Wesley White had Helen Frances White. Helen Frances White had Paul Robert Stevens. Paul Robert Stevens had Dawne Irene Stevens. Dawne Irene Stevens had Sarah Elizabeth, Hannah Irene, Timothy Paul, and Rebecca Anne Pamplin. Hooray for Andrew and Matilda White!

Love,
Granny

Jo Daviess County Biographies



Samuel D. White **Elizabeth Twp.**



This gentleman bears the distinction of being one of the oldest natives of Elizabeth Township. He is in the prime of life, having been born Dec. 20, 1840 and has his present home on section 19, a good farm under thorough cultivation, with a substantial set of frame buildings. He was trained by careful parents to habits of industry and frugality and bids fair to become, like his father, one of the land-marks of this part of the county.

The parents were Andrew and Matilda White, who were natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, whence they emigrated to America after their marriage about 1833. They landed in Philadelphia, where they sojourned five years, the father being employed in the dye works. In 1838 they set out for Northern IL and coming to this county, settled upon the land included in the present farm of our subject, being the land had come into the market. In 1847 the father secured it from the Government, paying \$1.25 per acre, the purchase including a half-section.

At the time Andrew White settled in this county the land around him was in its primitive condition and over it Indians and wild animals roamed unrestrained. The hardy pioneer battled with the elements of the new soil, season after season, under many drawbacks and discouragements, including a distant market, to which he conveyed his products by the slow methods of horse or ox-team. There probably seldom occurred to him the thought of retracing his steps to a more congenial clime and he persevered until Providence began to smile upon his labors. There opened up slowly from the wilderness the fields of corn and grain and the other indications of civilization, while around him, here and there, gradually appeared the cabins of other settlers, encouraging him to prosecute his first purpose. He had the honor of being the first man to settle within the limits of Elizabeth Township. The father of our subject continued at the old homestead until his death, which occurred Sept. 13, 1863, when he was about 67 years of age. He had become widely and favorably known throughout the county, not only for his pioneer labors in connection with the cultivation of the soil, but for the strength of his character, which left its decided influence upon his community. The parental household included seven children, five of whom survive - William L. of Apple River Twp.; Samuel D, our subject; Martha, the wife of James Sherard of Turner Co, Dakota; Matthew residing in Northern Wisconsin, and Ann E. in Elizabeth Twp. A great shadow fell upon the household with the death of the wife and mother which occurred Sept. 13, 1861.

Samuel D. White grew from a child to manhood at the old homestead, occupied in a manner similar to the sons of the early pioneer, gleanng a limited education under the imperfect school system of that time, his studies being mostly prosecuted in the winter season, while, during the time of sowing and reaping, his services were utilized about the homestead until the outbreak of the Civil War. Soon after the first call for troops he entred the ranks of the Union Army, becoming a member of Co D 45th IL Inf. which was assigned to the Dept. of TN. He participated in many of the important battles which followed thereafter - Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, the siege of Corinth, Port Gibson, Raymond, Champion Hills adn the siege of Vicksburg, at which latter place his regiment held the pot of honor, and its flag was the first which floated over the city after its surrender. He was also in other engagements and skirmished too numerous to mention until meeting the enemy in the siege of Atlanta. In the meantime he was twice wounded on the field of Shiloh in the head by minnie balls. These however, did not disable him so as to be unfit for duty. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he received his honorable discharge Nov. 20, 1864 at Nashville TN and soon-afterward returned to his native county.

The year following his retirement from the army Mr. White was married Sept. 20, 1865 to Josephine Mougín, also a native of this county, born in Rice Twp. July 19, 1850. Mrs. White is the daughter of Augustus and Catherine (Gammon) Mougín, the former a native of France and the latter born in the State of Maine. They emigrated to what was then the Far West, settling in Rice Twp. about 1842. They are still living on the old homestead, which, by their united labors, they built up from a wild and uncultivated tract of land. Nothwithstanding they are quite well advanced in years, they are hale and hearty and int he enjoyment of good health, sitting under their own vine and fig tree, amid the comforts which they have so justly earned, and with the blessings of scores of friends.

Mr. and Mrs. White after their marriage located on the farm which they now occupy. In due time they gathered around their fireside children to the number of twelve - Emily is the wife of James Sanderson, of Rice Twp.; Ellsworth died when three months old; Kittie J. is the wife of Samuel Clark of Elizabeth Twp; Matilda, Nevada, Ida, Samuel D Jr., Josephine, Eliza, Belle, Cyrus and Hattie are at home with their parents The homestead includes 256 acres of land, which with its improvements, makes a valuable estate in the accumulation of which Mr. White has received the assistance of his industrious and worthy wife. They are both favorites in the social circle, and are often to be found foremost int he enterprises set on foot for the elevation of society and the general good of the community. Our subject votes the straight Republican ticket and has served as Assessor three years. He is public-spirited and liberal, prompt to meet his obligations and a man whose word is considered as good as his bond.

From Portraits and Biographical Pg 528, Transcribed and contributed to Genealogy Trails by Christine Walters

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Andrew White Estate Papers - Abridged

Andrew White Estate Papers, Copy in Personal Files of Dianne Z. Stevens.

" "Andrew White late of Jo Daviess County deceased, died at East Galena in said county on or about the 23 day of August A.D. 1863, leaving property and effects in this county, and leaving no last will and testament . . . The property of said estate consists of real debts and personal property. The personal property is worth probable \$400.

The said deceased left him surviving no widow as his widow, and William L. White, Samuel D. White, Martha J. White, Matthew White, Annie E, White children and heirs at law. Your petitioner being the eldest son of said deceased, therefore prays that administration on the said estate of Andrew White decedent may be granted.

Aug. 26, 1863

William L. White.

5 November 1863 Bill of Sale."

on file at Jo Daviess County, Illinois.

Signed by James H. Jackson and Robert Irwin at Irish Hollow

TERMS of Sale: All sums of five dollars and under, Cash; All sums over five dollars on a credit of twelve months

Articles Sold	Name of Purchaser	am't of Sale
one hich	James Irwin	1.05
One Broad axe	Henry White	.50
one shoe for wagon	Tho Haines	1.00
One Lock chain	William White	1.00
old iron	Tho Haines	.50
one grind stone	James Irwin	3.25
one bee hive	William White	2.40
one bee hive	William Rodden	2.60ha
one bee hive	Charles Haislitt	2.50ha
one Sett Harrow teeth	John Fitzpatrick	4.42
one sledge hammer	James Irwin	1.00
one brush scythe	William Shererd	.90
one double harrow	William White	9.25
One square harrow	William White	5.50
one plow	James Rodden	4.10
one plow (one horse)	Martin Donnehue	1.80
one plow	William White	5.25
one breaking plow	Thos. Gibbons	7.50
one Log chain	Thos. Gibbons	2.20

one heating stove	Sam'l Campbell	5.75
one hoe	Do	.70
one potatoe fork	Robert Irwin	1.70
one Buck saw	Saml. Campbell	1.05
one log chain	John Fitzpatrick	1.00
one grubbing hoe	William White	1.05
one bedstead	Henry White	2.50
Do	Do	.25
Do	James Irwin	3.75
Do	Michl Donnegan	6.50
Carpeting	Mathew Harper	18.72
one barrel	William White	.50
Do	Henry White	.50
one water barrel	William White	.25
6 chairs	Michl Donnegan	6.00
Do	Wm Johnston	1.92
12 sacks	William White	6.00
Do	Do	5.40
Do	James Irwin	4.20
one cable rope	William White	2.50
Steel yards	William Shererd	2.50
one table	James H Jackson	7.75
one cupboard	Thomas Haines	11.00
Do	Joseph Lawton	14.25
one lamb	James Irwin	1.00
one lamb	Saml Campbell	.40
History of the World	William White	1.00
Map & Book	Do	1.25
one book	Do	.70
Do	Henry White	.50
Do	William White	.75
3 books	James Irwin	1.05
one book	Do	.85
Do	Saml Campbell	.90
Do	Mary Johnston	.45
2 books	William White	.50
Candle Moulds	Henry White	.25
Candle Sticks	John Fitzpatrick	.80
Grater	Anthony Smith	.25
Copper Kettle	Henry White	.55
Sugar Bowl	James H Jackson	.30
2 Waiters	Saml Campbell	.25
cake pan	James H Jackson	.15
one plate	Mary Johnston	.10
1/2 dozen plates	James Rodden	.80
5 Plates	Mary Johnston	.30
3 bowls	James H Jackson	.15
cups & Saucers	Mary Johnston	.15

3 glasses	James Entwhistle	.55
one delph teapot	Mary Johnston	.30
Dish & Bowl	Henry White	.25
Feathers	Michl Donnegan	4.50
Quilt	James H. Jackson	5.00
Do	Robert Young	5.00
one dish	James Irwin	.25
Do	Do	.40
one quilt	Anthony Smith	4.50
Do	Michl Donnegan	5.25
Do	Do	3.60
Do	Mary Johnston	1.50
Blankets	Michl Donnegan	2.00
one bed	Mary Johnston	4.25
one clock	William White	2.00
one watch	Martha J. White	20.00
one bucket	James Rodden	.35
cream pitcher	Robert Irwin	.15
Tea pot	Henry White	1.20
knives & forks	Hugh Young	1.15
one looking glass	Mary Johnston	.25
one bucket	William Gale	.40
two pand	Do	.80
table	Mary Johnston	.30
Bridle	Mathew Harper	3.25
Pillow Cases	Saml Campbell	1.60
Do	Do	.50
Do	Anthony Smith	1.05
one pair sheet	Thos Haines	3.30
Do	Do	3.00
Hoe	Michael Donnegan	.75
one fork	Anthony Smith	.50
Tin Pan	Mary Johnston	.10
Wheel Barrow	Saml Campbell	2.50
one Snare	William White	80.00
one Horse	Do	30.00
Harness	Do	1.25
Cow & Calf	Do	11.00
one cow	Do	16.50
Do	Do	16.00
one Bull	Mathew Harper	4.00
Two calves	William White	3.65
one Bull	Do	6.50
Cow and Calf	Do	7.50
Wagon	Robert Irwin	2.10
Colt & Hand Saw	William White	20.90
Churn & Hand Saw	James Irwin	2.95
Machine and Box & Tools	William White	11.70

Augers	Thomas Knox	.85
Three Sickles	Thos. Gibbons	.25
one wrench	Robert Irwin	.10
Total Amount of Sales		<u>497.71</u>

Signed by James H. Jackson, Clerk and
Robert Irwin, Crier

January 1865 Besides the sum of \$497.71 from above Estate sale, William White reports Money collected from various persons, to wit:

John Beaty	8.00
Robert Dick	39.50
Hugh Young	8.00
Thomas Hines	18.50
Robert Miller	58.00
John Fitzpatrick	16.25
Mathew Harper	77.50
Michael Donnegan	35.00
Peter McGough	63.75
Martin Donehugh	9.25
John Funston	7.00
James W. Entwistle	40.00
Adam Drone	30.00
Total	<u>470.75</u>
Grand Total Collected	908.46

Jan 1865 cont

The undersigned credits himself with the following sums of money paid on claims against said estate and allowed by the court:

Paid to:

Peter Duffy	voucher	1	22.00
J.M. Schrielmuller		2	10.25
E. Graham & Co.		3	7.00
L.S. Winall		4	1.50
Samuel Campbell		5	2.50
R. H. McClellen		6	35.00
John Robinson		7	25.00
Eliza Jane White		8	11.00
J.B. Brown		9	3.50
Peter Kotzke		10	33.30
Caldwell & Bebee		11	3.00
Wm. Rodden		12	71.00
Robert Irwin		13	4.05
Samuel D. White		14	83.00
R. Seal Adm. & Letters		15	6.00
James Robinson		16	250.00
B.F. Fowles		17	15.00
Total			<u>583.10</u>

The undersigned would further that the said estate was indebtied to him to the amount of one hundred dollars 100.00

Also that he advanced the funeras expenses from his own money which amounted to thirty dollars 30.00
And also for revnu stamps one dollar 1.00
Also five dollars for expense at sale of property 5.00

Also five dollars for legal advice 5.00
Also his percentage as allowed by law 54.50
195.50

Which sum he asked to allowed him by the court

RECAPITULATION

Whole amount of assets	908.46
Whole amount of credits	778.60
	<hr/>
	129.86

Which leaves (\$129.86) in the hands of the administrator subject to the order of the court...

William L. White, Administrator of the Estate of Andrew White, deceased

Andrew White Estate Papers p.5

March 1866: List of debts Paid and Final Settlement:

James Robinson vouchers A.	\$ 30.00
R. Seal vouchers B.	11.25
Wm. J. Gray, tax collector C.	25.05
Wm. L. Barton, tax collector D.	34.08
James Robinson, interest	1.25
W.R. Rowley, satisfaction of mortgage	.25
Administration report	2.00
	<hr/>
	103.88
Balance in hands of administrator	25.98

There are no more assets belonging to said estate, and no debts against it. & upon the payment of balance in hands of administrator to the heirs of said Andrew White deceased, he asks to be discharged from further duties as administrator of said estate all of which is respectfully submitted, Wm L. White.

This list is from the creditor and debtors named in Andrew's Estate papers plus the people who bought things at his Estate Sale. In this list * means a near neighbor; the number designates the number of family entries on the 1860 census either Before Andrew (B) or After Andrew (A). + means a probable relative of a near neighbor from the 1860 census. N means a further neighbor, still in Elizabeth Township (Irish Hollow). The place of birth is also listed.

+Robert Irwin			Crier for the Estate sale
*James Irwin	-	2A	IRE
*Henry White	-	9A	IRE Son-in-law
William White	-		IL Son
*William Rodden		2B	IRE
*Charles Haislitt		1B	IRE
*John Fitzpatrick		14B	IRE
*William Shererd		3A	IRE Uncle of future son-in-law; signed Robert White's (d.1849) estate papers
Martin Donnehue			2nd Husband of Matthew White's (b.1812) widow
*Saml. Campbell		6B	IRE
+ Robert Irwin			IRE
*Michl Donnegan		5A	IRE
*Wm & Mary Johnston		6A	IRE
*James H Jackson		1A	IRE Clerk of the sale
+Anthony Smith			
N James Entwistle			
* Robert Young		7A	IRE
Martha J. White			IL Daughter
*William Gale		4A	IRE
*Thomas Knox		13A	IRE
Robert Dick			IRE Petitioner in Rob't White (d.1849) & in Matthew White (b.1812) estate papers
+ Hugh Young			IRE
+ Peter McGough			IRE
N Eliza Jane White			IL dau Matthew White (b.1812) living w. James Moore family in 1860; was paid \$11.00 from the estate
Samuel D. White			IL Son

Descendants of Samuel D. White

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Page 1

1. Samuel D. White (b.20 Dec 1840-Irish Hollow,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.29 Mar 1912-Galena,Jo Daviess,Illinois)

sp: Josephine Mouglin (b.19 Jul 1847-Rice,Jo Daviess,Illinois;m.20 Sep 1865;d.3 Jan 1914-Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois)

2. Emma White (b.Mar 1868-Illinois)

sp: James Sanderson (b.Dec 1864-Illinois;m.15 Jan 1885)

3. Myrtle Sanderson (b.Jan 1886-Illinois)

sp: Joseph Kish (b.Abt 1879-Wisconsin;m.Abt 1905)

4. Emma Kish (b.Abt 1906-Wisconsin)

4. Loretta Kish (b.Abt 1908-Wisconsin)

4. Gladys Kish (b.Abt 1910-Wisconsin)

4. Jule Kish (b.15 Apr 1925-Wisconsin;d.3 Apr 2005-LaCrosse,LaCrosse,Wisconsin)

3. Elmer Sanderson (b.30 Jul 1887-Illinois;d.15 Jun 1967-Hanover,Jo Daviess,Illinois)

sp: Lillian M. (b.Abt 1887-Illinois;m.Abt 1909)

4. Florence Sanderson (b.Abt Jun 1909-Illinois)

4. Earl E. Sanderson (b.Abt 1912-Illinois)

4. Hazel J. Sanderson (b.Abt 1816-Illinois)

4. Jessie M. Sanderson (b.Abt 1918)

4. Vernon L. Sanderson (b.Abt 1924-Illinois)

4. Vera M. Sanderson (b.Abt 1924-Illinois)

3. Edgar Sanderson (b.Mar 1891-Illinois)

3. Mable Sanderson (b.Sep 1892-Illinois)

sp: Charles H Jobe (b.Abt 1887-Illinois;m.Abt 1908)

4. Floyd V. Jobe (b.25 Jul 1908-Illinois;d.25 Nov 1987-Erie,Neosho,Kansas)

4. Earl K. Jobe (b.15 Jul 1912-Illinois;d.29 Nov 2001-Hanover,Jo Daviess,Illinois)

3. Wilbur Sanderson (b.Aug 1893-Illinois)

3. Ethel Sanderson (b.May 1897-Illinois)

3. Cyrus Sanderson (b.Sep 1899-Illinois)

2. Catherine Jane White (b.Oct 1869-Illinois)

sp: Samuel Clark (m.4 Oct 1888)

3. Ida Clark (d.8 Mar 1920-Turner County,South Dakota)

sp: Joe Verley (b.3 Jul 1889;m.30 Nov 1910)

3. Aggie Clark

3. George Clark

2. Matilda White (b.Abt 1873-Illinois)

sp: Reitz (m.(Div))

3. Edward Reitz (b.Aug 1887)

sp: Joseph Mitchell (m.Abt 1908)

3. Vertuel J. Mitchell (b.Jun 1909)

sp: Charles Marquis Leffler (b.18 Oct 1874;m.1911)

3. Lucille Leffler

2. Nevada White (b.Abt 1874)

2. Ida White (b.Abt 1877-Jo Daviess County,Illinois)

sp: Sanderson

3. Hattie Sanderson (b.Abt 1893-Illinois)

3. George Sanderson

Descendants of Samuel D. White

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Page 2

- └ 3. Emma Sanderson
- └ 2. Samuel D. White Jr. (b. Apr 1877-Elizabeth, Jo Daviess, IL)
- └ 2. Josephine White (b. Jan 1880-Jo Daviess Co., Illinois)
 - sp: James Shellhorn (m. 16 Mar 1899)
- └ 2. Lizzie Ellen White (d. Bef 12 Sep 1918)
 - sp: William J. Shellhorn (b. 5 Feb 1878-Illinois; m. 4 Jun 1903)
 - └ 3. Arthur Shellhorn (b. 4 Jun 1905-Illinois; d. Oct 1977-Rockford, Winnebago, Illinois)
 - └ 3. Florence Shellhorn (b. Abt 1908-Illinois)
 - └ 3. Lillian Shellhorn (b. Abt 1912-Illinois)
 - └ 3. Harold Shellhorn (b. Abt 1913-Illinois)
- └ 2. Belle White (b. Apr 1884-Illinois)
 - sp: Walter Eyer (b. Abt 1885-Illinois)
 - └ 3. Walter Eyer Jr. (b. 26 Jul 1906-Iowa; d. May 1977-Iowa)
 - └ 3. Ioma Eyer (b. Abt 1908-Illinois)
 - └ 3. Vivian Eyer (b. Abt 1912-Wisconsin)
- └ 2. Mabel White (b. Aug 1891-Illinois)
 - sp: Boone
- └ 2. Hattie White (b. Jun 1888)
 - sp: Kinglet
- └ 2. Adam A. White (b. 8 Oct 1889-Rice, Jo Daviess, Illinois)
 - sp: Ada (b. Abt 1895-Illinois; m. Abt 1913)
- └ 2. Elsworth White (d. Bef 1878)

Sherard Family by Jessie B. Sanborn - from a book about the Centennial of Hurley South Dakota that was worked on by Eula Sherard - married to Clarence, son of William Sherard

James Sherard Sr. was born in the year 1842, in the county of Tyrone in that old congested country of Ireland. He passed away November 11, 1919, at the age of 77 years, 6 months, 5 days, in the home of his daughter Mrs. F. A. Cue, Hurley, South Dakota.

He heard of America and since he longed for more freedom, he left his native home and arrived in the new land at the age of 22. Six years later in Galena, Illinois he married Martha Jane White, a young Civil War widow, with two little boys; and became a father to these two boys, raising them to manhood - namely Samuel and Robert White.

Then he wished for a home of his own, but, alas, no money to buy. He heard of Dakota Territory and a county called Turner with Swan Lake as the county seat. After he investigated and found the county seat with its half dozen settlers his mind grasped the possibilities.

On the 17th of May, 1872, Mr. and Mrs. James Sherard and sons, Samuel and Robert White, also James and William Black, came to this new land. They drove through from Galena, Illinois by team and had some unpleasant experiences. At one place Mr. Sherard got stuck in a swollen creek and had to get out in water waist deep, unhitch his team and hitch a chain to the end of the wagon tongue to draw the wagon out. At one farm ranch they were charged seventy-five cents for a single feed of hay for each team "Evidently there were monopolists then as well as at the present time." (Quote from Joseph Andrew-Early Days in Spring Valley).



Martha Jane White and
James Sherard

Daughter of Andrew and
Matilda White

They were three weeks on the road. The claims near Swan Lake had been filed on. He pushed on a few miles west, stuck his stakes, built a new prairie home which was a sod cabin and a warm cave in which they spent the winter. On the 22nd of May, 1872, his little family moved out of the covered wagon. According to W. W. Stoddard Turner County Pioneer History this gave Mrs. Sherard the distinction of being the first woman to make actual settlement in Spring Valley Township, although there were others that settled there that same summer.

Mr. Sherard filed a preemption on the NE 1/4 of Section 10. He at once started his team to breaking and facing the real struggle to gain a home for himself and family and if possible, a little extra. Consequently he was up early in the morning to get the oxen moving to turn the prairie sod, or make a trip to Yankton (30 miles away) for supplies. He bucked the awful prairie fires, braved the terrible blizzards, kept a stiff upper-lip when the hail and grasshoppers descended, and looked steadily forward in faith for better days.

They had been in their new home only three months and six days when twin children were born- James Jr. and Jennie. As these were the first births in the nameless township Mrs. Sherard was given the honor of naming it, and as there were several large springs near, she named it Spring Valley.

That fall or winter, James Sherard proved up on his preemption and filed a homestead on the four south forties in Section 15, where he later moved and made his home for many years. He also filed on the southeast quarter of Section 23 as a timber claim and proved up on the same. He filed a soldiers' orphans homestead for his step-sons and proved upon the same in their name. Later on, on May 24, 1881, he received the Final Receivers Receipt of Homestead Certificate No. 1411 for S1/2 SW1/4 and S1/2 SE 1/4 of 15-97-54 160 acres, Spring Valley Township.

As we read of these experiences does it sound romantic or imaginary? "Let me quote from W. H. Stoddard Turner County Pioneer History: "Let me assure you, there was nothing imaginary in digging a living out of a raw prairie or raising a family in a one-room sod cabin with neighbors few and far between, and the quickest way to call him was to go on foot or borrow an Indian Pony of some six or eight miles away possibly. It was a great game. A few won out. Many families went back east to live with the old folks. Some lost through calamity and running deeply in debt."

In 1875, when a country post office was established in the township, Mr. Sherard was named Postmaster. His name was among early school officers and specifically I note he was elected Treasurer of Spring Valley School on June 26, 1883.

Even though Mr. and Mrs. Sherard had a large family of nine of their own, their big hearts reached out and took two little girls (children of a distant relative out of the poorhouse in an Illinois county and brought them to their Dakota home and raised them to womanhood namely: Mrs. George Muilenberg and Mrs. Joe Verley.

Once again I quote from W. H. Stoddard Turner County Pioneer History: "I do not know as Mr. Sherard ever became a member of any church, but this I do know, that he contributed to the building and maintaining of the early day M. E. Church that was built at Swan Lake and later moved to Spring Valley Township. I have positive proof that at one time he had saved five dollars to buy himself some warm winter underclothing, when a call was made for the help of the church, and upon his wife's declaration that she could mend up his old underwear, he said here goes the five dollars for the church. Of late years he was a yearly contributor to the support of the M. E. Church in Hurley."

Mr. and Mrs. Sherard raised the following children: James, Jennie (Mrs. Joseph Layne), William, Albert, Belle, Charles, Lizzie (Mrs. Festus Cue), and Samuel and Robert White.

James, William, and Charles all married and farmed in Turner County. They all had sons interested in the fertile land. They and their sons continued to work the land. Currently the only Sherards farming in Turner County are Duarne and Darrell Sherard, sons of Clyde Sherard, grandsons of James A. Sherard and great-grandsons of James Sherard from Tyrone County, Ireland.

Descendants of Martha Jane White

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Page 1

1. Martha Jane White (b.Jul 1842-Jo Daviess County,Illinois;d.18 Feb 1914-Turner Co.,South Dakota)
 - sp: Henry White (b.Ab. 1837-Ireland;m.24 Dec 1861)
 2. Samuel David White (b.Dec 1862-Jo Daviess,Illinois)
 - sp: Luella O. Hill (b.Aug 1875-South Dakota;m.Ab. 1894)
 3. Robert Keith White (b.8 Jan 1896-Turner Co.,South Dakota)
 2. Robert W. White (b.Jun 1866-Illinois)
 - sp: Anna (b.Dec 1876-Wisconsin;m.Ab. 1899)
 2. Henry White (b.Feb 1870-Illinois)
 - sp: James Sherard (b.May 1842-County Tyrone,Ireland;m.14 Feb 1872;d.11 Nov 1919-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 2. James A. Sherard (b.28 Aug 1872-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory;d.28 Dec 1959-South Dakota)
 - sp: Jessie (b.Ab. 1876-SD)
 3. Zola Sherard (b.1 May 1902-SD;d.Dec 1981-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 - sp: Clifford Jorgensen (b.6 Jan 1897-SD;m.25 Jun 1927;d.20 May 1988-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 3. Claude M. Sherard (b.11 Apr 1903-SD;d.Nov 1975-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 - sp: Lucile Flyger (b.Ab. 1900-SD;m.8 Sep 1923)
 4. Harriette L. Sherard (b.1 Jan 1925-SD;d.24 May 1991)
 - sp: James M. Mershon (m.19 Aug 1945)
 - 3. Clyde Sherard (b.10 Jul 1904-SD;d.28 Apr 1988-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 - sp: Ivy L. Nielsen (b.17 Jul 1910;m.21 Sep 1935;d.24 Aug 1987-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 4. Duane Sherard
 4. Darrell Sherard
 - 3. Zora Sherard (b.Ab. 1906-SD)
 - 3. Jessie Sherard (b.Ab. 1908-Texas)
 - 3. Merritt Sherard (b.11 Dec 1910-SD;d.Mar 1978-Parker,Turner Co.,South Dakota)
 - sp: Mary Ann Wipf (m.5 May 1938)
 - 3. Irma Sherard (b.Ab. 1913-SD)
 - sp: H. J. Tatom (m.26 Dec 1931)
 - 3. Marian Sherard (b.Apr 1916-SD)
2. Matilda Jennie Sherard (b.28 Aug 1872-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory)
 - sp: Joseph A. Layne (b.Ab. 1872-South Dakota;m.Ab. 1892)
 3. Elsie May Layne (b.4 May 1895-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory)
 3. Frieda Fay Layne (b.12 Dec 1898-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory;d.May 1989-Burbank,Los Angeles,California)
 3. Joseph Alfred Layne (b.18 Apr 1902-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory)
 3. Ruth B. Layne (b.Ab. 1905-Texas)
2. William A. Sherard (b.23 Oct 1875-Dakota Territory)
 - sp: Helen (b.Ab. 1884-Denmark;m.Ab. 1903)
 3. Clarence W. Sherard (b.19 May 1904-South Dakota;d.Apr 1965-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 - sp: Eula M. Piper (b.28 May 1905-South Dakota;m.8 Mar 1924;d.16 Aug 1996-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 4. Floyd M. Sherard (b.Ab. 1920-South Dakota)
 3. James Linn Sherard (b.30 Apr 1906-South Dakota;d.17 Sep 1994-Milwaukee,Milwaukee,Wisconsin)
 3. Isla Sherard (b.Ab. 1908-South Dakota)
 3. Willard S. Sherard (b.21 Dec 1909-South Dakota;d.May 1968-Lennox,Lincoln,South Dakota)
 3. Bervin Herbert V. Sherard (b.2 Dec 1913-South Dakota;d.23 Nov 1988-Sioux Falls,Minnehaha,South Dakota)
 - sp: Doris Kaufman (b.6 Sep 1922-Turner,South Dakota;m.8 Jul 1947)

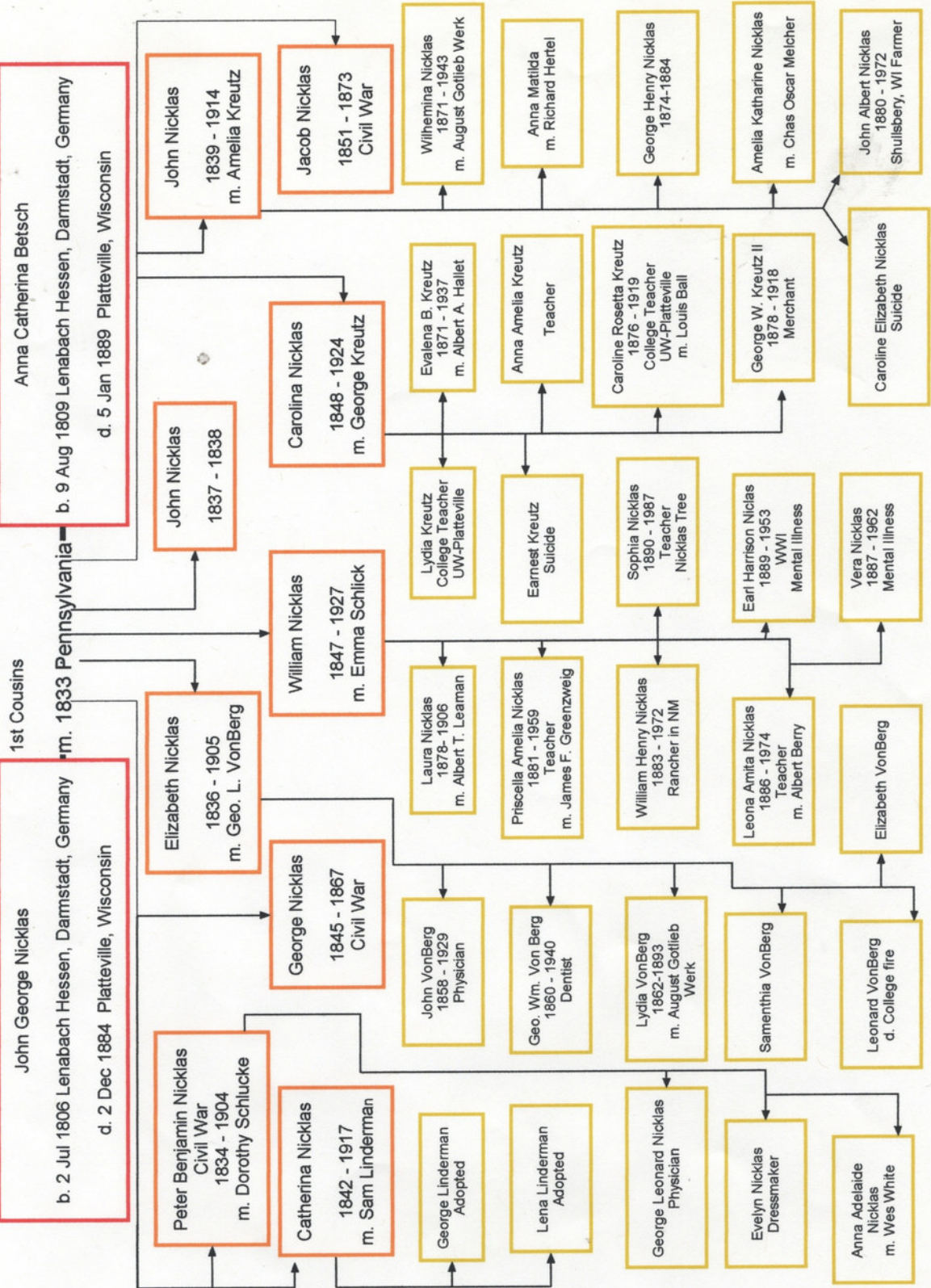
Descendants of Martha Jane White

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Page 2

- 2. Albert Sherard (b.17 Sep 1877-Dakota Territory;d.8 Mar 1951-Jackson Co.,Oregon)
 - sp: Millie (b.Ab 1877-Oregon;m.Ab 1910;d.4 Jan 1944-Jackson Co.,Oregon)
 - 3. Dorothy J. Sherard (b.Ab 1912-oregon)
 - 3. Cleo D. Sherard (b.Ab 1915-oregon)
- 2. Lizzie Ann Sherard (b.27 Sep 1880-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory)
 - sp: Festus Cue
- 2. Mary Belle Sherard (b.9 Dec 1881-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory)
- 2. Charles Matthew Sherard (b.15 Dec 1884-Turner Co.,Dakota Territory;d.31 Mar 1958-South Dakota)
 - sp: Mary (b.17 Jul 1885-South Dakota;d.Feb 1978-Hurley,Turner,South Dakota)
 - 3. Merle Sherard (b.31 Mar 1910-South Dakota;d.Nov 1986-Lennox,Lincoln,South Dakota)
 - sp: Mary Poppenga (b.25 Apr 1909;m.5 May 1937;d.28 Jul 1994-Lennox,Lincoln,South Dakota)
 - 3. Gifford C. Sherard (b.16 Oct 1911-South Dakota;d.8 Feb 1988-Sioux Falls,Minnehaha,South Dakota)
 - sp: Evelyn L. Peterson (m.12 May 1941)
 - 3. Martha Sherard (b.Ab 1913-South Dakota)
 - sp: Joe Stucky (m.22 Oct 1933)
 - 3. Russell Sherard (b.28 Jul 1916-South Dakota;d.1 May 1992-Buffalo,Erie,New York)
 - 3. Lester Sherard (b.Ab 1921-South Dakota;d.25 Oct 1937-Turner Co.,South Dakota)

John George and Anna Betsch Nicklas Family



**John George Niklas 1806 - 1884 and
Anna Catherine Betsch 1809 - 1889**

February 23, 2007

Dear Children

Tonight I will tell you about the Nicklas Family. Anna Adelaide Nicklas was Nana's mother. She married William Wesley White on March 16, 1899 in Platteville, Wisconsin. This is the story of her people.

The first Nicklas ancestors that we know of were John George and Anna Catherine Betsch Nicklas. They were first cousins, born in Leonabach, Hessen, Darmstadt, John George Nicklas on July 2, 1806 and Anna Betsch on August 9, 1809. From 1567 to 1806, the year John was born, Hesse-Darmstadt was a state in the Holy Roman Empire. From 1806 until 1918, after the Holy Roman Empire dissolved, the area was called the Grand Duchy of Hesse, It was a member of the German Confederation and then the German Empire. From 1918 to 1945 it was called the Peoples' State of Hesse and it was a state of Germany during the Weimar Republic. It's located in west central Germany near Frankfurt.

In Germany John was a hooked rug designer. He and Catherine came to Pennsylvania in 1832 and were married in 1833. Their first three children, Peter Benjamin, Elizabeth, and John were born there in Cumberland County. Baby John died before he was eleven months old. By the time their next baby was born in June of 1839 they had left Pennsylvania and moved to Monroe County, Illinois, along with the mother of either John or Anna. We can see her listed on the 1840 census, but only by age, not by name. Monroe County borders the Mississippi River down in southern Illinois. John and Anna really wanted a John in their family so when the next baby turned out to be another boy, they again named the baby John. They had four children during the ten years they lived in Illinois; after the 2nd John came Catharina, George, and William. Then they put all their belongings on a boat and came up the Mississippi River to Wisconsin. First they settled in Lafayette County where Carolina was born, and then they moved to Grant County where their last child, Jacob was born in 1851. They lived and farmed in the township of Georgetown for thirty years. When they were very old they moved into Platteville and they died there, John on 2 December 1884 and Anna on 5 January 1889.

We know a great deal about the descendants of John and Anna Nicklas because of their granddaughter, Sophia Driskill of Yukon, Oklahoma. During the last ten years of her life she worked on compiling information on all the Nicklas descendants she could find. Before she died she sent me a copy of her work, titled *Nicklas Family History*. She also wrote me a number of letters over the years and they are printed in the sources for John George Nicklas. Two of their sons died as a result of their Civil War service. Baby John died in infancy. From the remaining six children they had 29 grandchildren.

I am calling them John and Anna. However, they may have been called George and Catherine. Many Germans immigrants seem to have had a peculiar custom of giving their children a first name and a middle name and then calling them by the middle name. On the 1840, 1850, and 1860 census he is

George, she is Catherine (except that only the head of the family, usually male, is listed before 1850.)
On the 1880 census he is John G. and she is Anna C.

On the last page of her book Sophia has a list of "Nicklas Characteristics." How many of these can you see in your mom's family?

tall and slender

slow

religious

neat

stingy with money

queer in some ways

stomach trouble

curvature of the spine

Also senile

Many teachers and doctors

not talkative

Poor business people

Doesn't sound like your mom to me! Maybe your grandpa.

Among John and Anna's descendants were many teachers and doctors, so I don't think when she said "slow" she was talking about brain power. I found one who was an English professor right here in Madison while we've been living here and we didn't even know it. That was Irving Kreutz (b. 1917). It bothered Sophia that along with brilliance, the family seemed to have a dark side. Sophia thought perhaps it was because of George and Anna being first cousins. Nowadays its against the law for first cousins to marry because there is a greater risk of having babies with abnormalities, but it used to be quite common. We have a good number of marriages between first cousins in our family tree besides John and Anna. One time when Sophia said to a cousin that she wished she had known more about her grandparents the cousin replied, "You would NOT want to KNOW about them." (See Sophia Driskill Letters G and H) There were a number of cases of mental illness and at least two suicides among their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.. Sophia thought those cases were due to their having been cousins. We will never know for sure.

Now I'm going to tell you a little bit about each of John and Anna's nine children.

John and Anna Nicklas's first child was Peter Benjamin Nicklas, born 5 July 1834 in Blue Ridge, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He is our ancestor. More about him later.

John and Anna Nicklas's second child was Elizabeth Nicklas, born 13 February 1836 in Blue Ridge, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Elizabeth grew up and married Leonard VonBerg who was born in

Germany. They had one son that was a doctor, and another was a dentist. The third died in a dormitory fire when he was at college. They also had three daughters. Some of their descendants lived in Iowa.

John and Anna Nicklas's third child was John Nicklas, born 5 October 1837 in Blue Ridge, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. He died in infancy.

John and Anna Nicklas's fourth child was John Nicklas, born 26 June 1839 in Monroe County, Illinois. He married Amelia Kreutz in 1870 in Wisconsin. Amelia's brother, George Kreutz, married John's sister, Carolina Nicklas. John and Amelia had six children, two boys and four girls, with many descendants in Iowa. Their youngest daughter committed suicide by throwing herself down a well.

John and Anna Nicklas's fifth child was Catharina Nicklas, born 1 January 1842 in Monroe County, Illinois. She married Sam Linderman on 25 February 1870. They had two adopted children. It was reportedly an unhappy marriage.

John and Anna Nicklas's sixth child was George Nicklas, born 10 October 1845 in Monroe County, Illinois. George was a private in Co. K of the 47th Wisconsin infantry in the Civil War. He died of Tuberculosis several years after the war ended. Many Civil War soldiers suffered from TB. Over 6,000 died during the war and countless others, including George and his brother Jacob, succumbed after they returned home.

John and Anna Nicklas's seventh child was William Nicklas, born 9 February 1847 in Monroe County, Illinois. He married Emma Schlick in 1876. They settled in Floyd County, Iowa and had seven children, the youngest of whom was Nicklas family historian, Sophia Nicklas Driskill. Many of their descendants lived in Iowa.

John and Anna Nicklas's eighth child was Carolina Nicklas, born 24 June 1848 in Lafayette County, Illinois. She married George Kreutz in 1868. George Kreutz and Amelia Kreutz, John Nicklas's wife, were brother and sister. George and Caroline had six children. The youngest, Earnest, was seven feet tall and committed suicide.

John and Anna Nicklas's ninth child was Jacob Nicklas, born 3 November 1851 in Georgetown, Wisconsin. Sophia says Jacob served in the Civil War but I haven't found his record. If he did he would have had to do so as a very young teenager. He died in 1873 of Tuberculosis.

So that's the story of our immigrant Nicklas ancestors from Leonabach, Hesse, Darmstadt.

Here is how you're related to John George and Anna Catherine Betsch Nicklas: They had a son Peter, Peter had a daughter Addie, Addie had a daughter Helen White, Helen had Paul Stevens, Paul had Dawne, and Dawne had Sarah, Becky, Timmy, and Hannah!

Hooray for John and Anna! (Or George and Catherine.) Love, Granny

Sophia Nicklas Driskill Letters

Originals - Personal files of Dianne Z. Stevens, 1301 Reetz Road, Madison, WI 53711

Letter A - to Helen Romppainen. written during the 1970s

"7 E. Cypress
Yukon, Okla.
73099 Apt. 101

Dear Helen

I enjoyed hearing from you. Glad you are interested in working on the Nicklas Family tree. I have tried to help some. I'm mailing some of my information I received. A lot of it is duplication but it may help clear some points on previous papers. We are so scattered. My nephew and I are the last close relatives. He is my brother's son.

Sorry I could not get Uncle Peter's wife's maiden name. She was born out of wedlock, a very nice, small, nervous lady. She was a lovely seamstress and very neat. She and uncle spent a winter with us so I got to know them quite well. She was a goose herder in Germany. I saw an article in Magazine about the German goose herders. It was considered a very good job.

Our grandparents visited my parents in Iowa and gave mother a lot of information about themselves.

Maybe I should not give you this information but I thought you would like to know it.

Too bad our grandparents were cousins. There were 6 mental cases and 2 suicides. Many teachers and doctors. Evelyn spent the winter with us at the time. She was a wonderful seamstress also. They lived with grandparents quite a while. They are buried in Jamestown without a marker. Father often said he would like to place a marker but no one seemed interested. Uncle (Peter) was a very poor businessman. She made a living by sewing.

I don't know how much you know about the Nicklas family. My father spoke very little about them.

They left quite a sum of money to the children in the will. Our cousin found the will in a trunk.

I hope this has not tired you and wish you. Good luck.

Love, Sophie Driskill."

Driskill, Sophie - Letters to DZStevens

Letter B

1147 N.W. 37
Okla City Okla
2-20-74

Dear Cousin-

I received your letter asking for information about the Nicklas Tree. I sent most of my information to Geo. Kreuty Jr. in Houston, Texas. I'll send what I have as can remember. I was so glad to be with your mother last winter. I enjoyed her so much. I hear from Dorothy at Christmas. This is a rainy day, but we are glad for the rain. We have a lot of bulbs up; tulips, Jonquils, and hyacinths- My husband just came home from the hospital. He was there three days, but could not find any real reason for his trouble. I heard your mother speak of you and your sister-in-law, We did not go to the valley. I'm glad now we didn't. I lost my only sister Jan. 10 in Nashua, Iowa. Guess Phillip & Ezra are enjoying the Texas

winter. Hope this information will be of some help.
Geo. Kreutz Jr.
85011 Western Dr.
Houston, Texas 77055
He is a poor hand to write. He is a Deputy Sheriff and very busy.
Love, Sophie (An early outline of the Nicklas family was enclosed.)

Letter C

Dear Dianne

I received your letter today. I opened George's letter. I thought I may be more able to answer questions than he.

1. No one knows what place in Germany they were born. They were married in Penn. No one knows the town. They went to Illinois, Monroe County, where the children were born. They went to Grant Co. Wis. (Georgetown) We do not know the date of Peter's death. I think Peter lived with his parents and later moved to Platteville, Wis. I do not know Harriet's last name. She was born in Germany and was a "Goose Herder."

I don't think Geo. Kreutz knows too much about the family. His son is getting the information. I'll forward your letter to George.

My father never told anything about his folks. I got some from my mother. They use to visit them & John Nicklas gave the most to us. Geo. Kreutz Jr. is my 2nd cousin, your 3rd.

Love, Sophie

Letter D

1 E. Cypress
Yukon, Okla
73099 Apt - 101

Dear Dianne

I received your letter and be glad to answer your questions. I'm enclosing the picture of cousin I said was retarded. He could not learn in school but ran his father's farm 10 years with help, runs a car, but not very responsible. Please return his picture. Married and divorced.

This is another lonely day. I'm trying so hard to adjust, but it is so hard. Arthur was such a wonderful husband and companion for 56 years. We were SO happy. I know he is better off and with the Lord. Prayers and friends are a great help, but my life will never be the same.

Back to the family tree. My sister Vera was a Deaconess in Meth. church 25 years. My brother Earl was WWI vet. He died in Vet hosp.

Both became mentally ill at 65. Drs. called it Paralona schizophrenia. Clarence and Blanche were my sister's children. They also became ill at 65 and lived about 3 yrs. I'm pleased you are working on Family Tree.

Love, Sophia Driskill

John Geo. Nicklass & Anna Beitch were born in Germany, met in Penn. and married. They went to Monroe County, Ill where children were born. Moved to Georgetown Wis. (Grant County) where they lived until death. Jack, John, & Peter were in Civil War. Jack & John got T.B. and died shortly after.

Hope this will be some help.

Sophia

Letter E

Sunday

Dear Cousins -

Did you get the material about Nicklas Family Tree? I'm going to send some more material. It may be a duplicate of some of the material, but it may help. I hope your daughter is doing OK on it. It is quite a job. I have been working on it for nearly a year. We are so scattered. It takes time to get the information.

I have been looking for Geo. Kreutz, Jr. He lived in Houston and retired and moved to an acreage in Ark. He said he was coming, but was getting a check up first. Dr. found cancer of the prostate, but he thought it was under control. He is such a fine young man. I'm afraid his report wasn't good. One of Lenn Kreutz Hallett's granddaughters lives here in Yukon. Her parents visited us a year ago. Her grandmother was Aunt Caroline Nicklas Kreutz, my father's sister. I guess Phillip will soon be back to the valley. They enjoy their travels. I enjoy their Christmas letter. How is Dorthea?
Love, Sophia & Art

Letter F (about 1978)

Monday

Dear Cousins -

I finally got as much information as I could for Nicklas Family Tree. It has really been a task. I've worked on it nearly a year. I still don't have all the names. I'm enclosing some pages with information that may help. Some were so slow in answering. Hope your daughter can make use of this material. Some of the White's isn't finished and you may know some others. Do you remember the Kreutz family? She was father's youngest sister, Carolyn. Uncle John, her brother, married her (Carolyn's) husband's sister, Amelia Kreutz. I had a letter from Geo Kreutz III. He has worked as a deputy in Houston and retired and bought an acre in Ark. He is such a fine man and has such a nice family. We visited him while were in the valley. One of his sons is a lawyer and other a journalist. I hope this family tree is finished so I can see it before I go. I'm 88 now. Geo III will visit us in Aug. One of the Kreutz granddaughters lives here. She is Lena Hallett's son. Hope this will be of some help. I'll be anxious to hear from you. I'm so glad I saw you in the valley. Send me a copy if you have more names.
Love, Sophia & Arthur

Letter G

Feb 1982

(in response to the question "Who were the 5 mental cases and the one retarded that you mention?")

The 5 mental cases in the Nicklas family tree were:

Vera and Earl Nicklas, children of William and Emma Nicklas

Clarence and Blanche Leaman, children of Albert and Laura Leaman

Dwight E. Werk, son of Seranus and Beatrice Werk. I would rather they did not want his case history.

We have a wonderful cousin living here (Yukon.) Her grandmother was father's sister, Carolyn Kreutz. Lena Hallett's granddaughter lives here. Harold & Sherril Puffett - ch. Steven & Jeri Ann. Lena is daughter of Carolyn Kreutz.

Letter H

Mar 1982

"7 E. Cypress
Yukon, Okla
73099 - Apt. 101

Dear Cousin,

I received your letter. Your question, Aug. Werk's first wife was Lydia VonBerg. She died with T.B. He married her cousin Wilhemina Nicklas (John Nicklas - father's brother John) 2 children from Lydia and 2 from second wife. Hope this clears your problem. I'm so glad you are working on Nicklas Family Tree.

Father did not talk about his parents (John George Nicklas & Anna Catherine Betsch). I got most (of my information) from John Nicklas, Jr. My sister said something once about wishing to know about them. Our cousin Eva Nicklas said, "You would NOT want to KNOW about them." I often wondered WHY? I only know they were first cousins.

Hope this helps. I, too, wish you could visit me. I'm so lonely.

Love, Sophie Driskill."

Letter J

(received 30 Aug 1984)

Mrs. Arthur Driskill
7 E. Cypress, No. 101
Yukon, Oklahoma 73099

Dear Cousin

You will be surprised to hear from me. I have written Helen many times asking for some information about some relatives, but she has never answered.

I'm still working the Nicklas family history. I've been working on it for several years. I have all information now except I need our cousin's wife (Betty Nicklas, her husband was Richard Nicklas. He was only son of Dr. Geo., whose father was Peter Nicklas, Helen's grandfather. Richard has 2 sons. He has been dead many years ago with a blood disease (leukemia). He was a woodwork teacher in a college. He had retired and had a shop of his own in Loveland, Colo. I would like to hear from his wife or boys. Do you think you could help me? Richard Nicklas would be Helen's 1st cousin.

We have a cousin living here, Shirley Puffett. She is such a nice person. She visits me every Sat. Her father was Arthur Hallett. His mother Lena Kreutz and grandparents Geo.Kreutz and Caroline Nicklas, my father's sister. My father's name was William Nicklas. I'm his youngest daughter. There were 7 in our family. I'm youngest and only one living. I'm the only one of close Nicklas family left. I'm 94 years and I'm only one to be able to give this information. I won't be here for too long. I sent you the information you wanted. Have you been able to work on it?

I also need Uncle Peter's wife's maiden name. She was Harriet _____. That is why I'm anxious to get in touch with Richard Nicklas wife or family.

I always enjoy Phillips Christmas letter. Guess they quit traveling. We were with them in the Valley. I was so glad to meet and be with Helen there.

I lost my husband 2 1/2 years ago. I live in an apt. My daughter lives here. Also my husband's 2 sisters. I'm very comfortable.

We have had nice summer. I still garden with help. Lots of flowers & tomatoes.
If you would help me I would be happy.
Love, Sophia

Letter K

mailed 6 Sep 1984

7 E. Cypress
Yukon, Okla
73099 Apt 101

Dear Cousin Dianne

It was good to hear from you. Sorry you could not answer my questions. I only wish Eva Nicklas (b. 1866) was still here so she could give me this information.

Do you think Helen's sister Dorothy could help me? I know she has fallen and been in a hosp. and lives in a nursing home. We used to write quite often, but she hasn't written for some time. I surely would like to know about Richard Nicklas family.

Congratulations on your new son. My 2 daughters - Ramah Miller 27 May 1913, Normah Miller 23 Jan 1915. They married brothers.

We are having nice weather, some hot days but good rains. I enjoy my garden flowers and vegetables. I get lots of help here or I would have to quit. I enjoy living here in an apartment in Teachers Retirement Home. Everyone so kind and helpful. Would you mind writing Dorothy and see if we can get this information. I just discovered I don't have her new address. Has Philip moved to new location?

Best Wishes, Sophia Driskill

Letter L

11 - 12 - '84

Dear Cousins

We are having delightful autumn weather 70 degrees - no frost so far. I'm still picking roses etc. I finally get Richard Nicklas' address. My granddaughter in Greeley, Colo. looked in phone book in Denver and found Richard's son Theodore. His wife answered. She said Richard and Betty died 1961 & 1977. Richard had 2 sons; Theodore & Richard. Theodore has three children. He is an atty. Richard Jr. not married. I have his address so I'll write for more information. I'm so glad to know His address. Richard Nicklas was Helen's 1st cousin.

Has Phillip & Ezra moved from the valley? I visited them in Kansas.

Time goes so fast. It will soon be Thanksgiving and Christmas. One of my daughters will give us a Thanksgiving dinner. (18) We will all fly to Dallas for Christmas at Ramah's son Dick. (grandson) I enjoyed Helen and Phillip so much in the Valley.

I know you are enjoying your family in Wis. I have been to Madison several times. My sister lived there.

I have just returned from dinner. Three meals are served here. This is such a nice place for me. I would not live anywhere else, especially since my husband died 2 yrs. ago. Everyone so kind & helpful.

I thought you would enjoy good new.

Love, Cousin Sophia

Letter M

Posmark 24 May 1985

Dear Cousins -

I'm anxious to know if your 14 year old daughter is well again after that car accident. I HOPE she has recovered.

I've been trying to get Uncle Peter's wife's maiden name. No one would help me, so I wrote to the court house and received the information. I'm so happy about it. Uncle Peter was your mother's grandfather, and my father's brother. I had a copy made for you. I wrote again for more information. I know this the right couple because Uncle Peter's middle name was Franklin and his wife has a German name. Guess he was 20 when married. We always called his wife Harriet. One of her middle initials is H. Guess we went by Harriet.

I wrote you I got hold of Richard, Uncle Peter's only child. He and wife Betty have been gone several years. Richard had two sons - Theodore & Richard. Richard never married. Theodore in an Atty and has three children, Annette, Sharon & Robert. Richard wife, Betty Grimes. He lived in Loveland Colo. and now in Arnada, Colo.

Theodore's wife Katherine Stevenson. I've written her twice, but no answer. My granddaughter lives in Colo. She got this information for me.

I had a nice letter from Ezra & Phillip.

I'm doing quite well for 94.

Love, Sophia

Letter N

Postmark 11 Jun 1985)

Dear Dianne

I want to thank you for your letter with names. I surely appreciate your help. Only wish some of my other cousins did as well. Two of my cousins have never answered.

Did I send you the copy of Uncle Peter's wedding? It has a lot I can use.

We are having a lot of rain. I have so many flowers, roses, lilies, etc.

I'm sending a picture of my husband and myself. It was taken in 1980. The last picture of my husband. he died Jan. 7, 1982. It is a lonely life without him. He was such a wonderful companion for over 50 yrs. Our 2 girls are such a help and comfort.

I'm anxious to know if your daughter is still improving?

Sorry to hear about Helen's broken ankle.

You are the only cousin who seems interested in the Nicklas family history. I'm so glad you are so helpful.

It sounds like you have a nice family. I hope you both enjoy them.

Love, Sophia

P.S. I'll send a copy of Peter's wedding if I have not sent it.

Letter P

Jun 1985

Dear Cousins -

I always enjoy your letters. Sorry your daughter is still in hospital but thankful she is making some improvements. Hope she will continue. I'm mailing a copy of Peter Nicklas marriage. I wrote to many for Aunt Harriet's maiden name but no luck so I told you I wrote to his court house and got RESULTS! Uncle Peter was my father William's oldest brother. I tried to get his wife's name. Uncle Peter & Aunt Harriet had three children. Dr. Geo. married Carrie Straw. (His son (had) grandson Richard. Evelyn (single), and Ade - Wesley White. She had 4 children, Wilbur (died T.B. in south, Dorothy (single) and Helen with 2 children; Paul & Diana, Lois - Tony ? (need children's names)

I had a hard time getting Richard's address. My granddaughter in Greeley got Richards & Theodore son's wife - Katherine Stevenson. They have 3 children; Annette J., Sharon L., Robert W. Richard's other son, Richard, (single) lives in Ft. Collins, Colo.

I had a nice letter from Phillip & Ezra. Her maiden name was Ezra Grimes. They have 2 adopted children - Dorothy Nell Wilson (Calif) Bruce - Brownsville, Texas.

Hope this information will be helpful. Aunt Harriet was born out of wedlock. I see she took her mother's name. She was a goose herder in Germany, a good job.

This is a rainy day (4 in)

Hope this is very helpful. Sorry about Helen's ankle accident.

Love, Sophia

Note Q

Some Nicklaus Characteristics:

tall and slender

slow

religious

neat

stingy with money

queer in some ways

stomach trouble

curvature of the spine

Also senile

Many teachers and doctors

not talkative

Poor business people

Some queer acts:

Grandma had 200 in slipper for missions when died.

Did not put money in bank.

Uncle John afraid to ride on train.

Sad in family

2 suicides

5 mental cases

1 retarded

4 T.B."

Grandchildren of John George and Anna Betson Nicklas

Anna Amelia Kreutz

Daughters of George and Caroline
Nicklas Kreutz



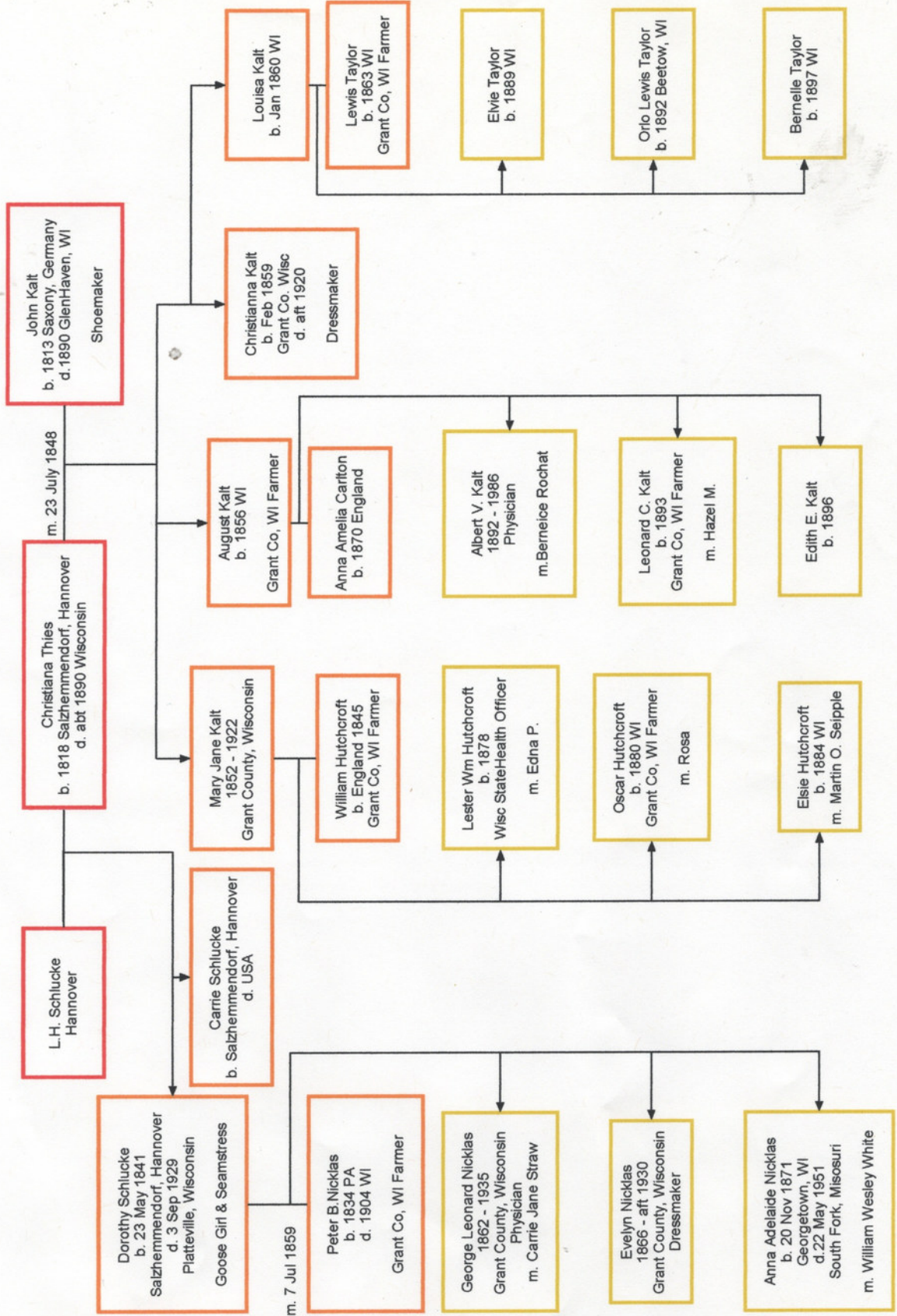
Caroline Rosetta (Carrie) Kreutz



Anna Adelaide Nicklas
daughter of Peter &
Dorothy Schlucke
Nicklas



Christiana Thies Schlucke Kalt Family



The Christiana Thies Story
(abt 1818 - aft 1880)

2 March 2007

Dear Children,

Tonight I want to tell you about one of your great-great-great-great-grandmothers. Do you have any idea how many of those you have? If you figure it out let me know.

Christiana Thies (At least I think that was her name!) was born in a little town in Hanover, Germany called Salzhemmendorf. Salzhemmendorf is a village in Hamelin-Pyrmont district, in the province of Hanover in Lower Saxony, Germany. It is about 12 miles east of the city of Hamelin. Do you remember that town from the story of the pied piper? Perhaps he led the children through Salzhemmendorf. Think of Christianna when you read that story. Salzhemmendorf is famous as a health resort. Hanover was the Kingdom of Hannover in the early 1800's when Christianna was born there. It became a province of Prussia in 1866 and then part of Germany after unification of Germany in 1871. When Christiana lived there her country was Hannover, not Germany.

Our Nana's sister, Aunt Dorothy White, told us that her great grandmother, Christiana, was an unwed mother and that she came to this country with two little girls, our ancestor Dorothea and a little red-headed sister. Until very recently there was a certain amount of shame involved for a woman who was not married and had children. The shame centered only on the woman and not on the man who fathered the children. This shame may have been part of the reason Christianna came to America. But the shame came with her. When our Aunt Dorothy told us about Christiana, this is how she began, "History may reveal skeletons, so adults please read before releasing to children." She was talking about her grandmother, Henrietta Dorothea. She continued, "This grandmother was a dear little lady who had the misfortune of being an illegitimate child. As I remember it, she had a red-headed illegitimate sister. When she came to this country great grandmother (Christiana) became a law-abiding citizen." Another place we can sense the shame is on the 1850 census. Christiana has married and is shown on the census with only her husband, even though Henrietta Dorothea would have been only 9 years old at the time and the little red-headed sister is nowhere to be found either.

I believe Christiana may have been a seamstress and probably supported herself that way until she married John Kalt. I think this because two of her daughters were seamstresses, Dorothy and Christiana. It was a fairly common occupation for single woman in that time as ready made clothes were scarce.

You may wonder, "How do you know she is our ancestor?" I'll tell you how I found her and why I'm sure she is your 4g grandmother and you will learn a little bit about how to do genealogy.

1) I knew your 3g grandfather's name from Nana and Aunt Dorothy and where he lived. That was Peter Nicklas. They told me Peter's wife was Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet.

2) I looked online, found his marriage record, and ordered a copy. The Grant County, Wisconsin marriage record gave her name as Doratha L. H. Schlucke. It showed the names of her parents. Not all marriage records show that information so I was very lucky. It said her mother was Christina Colt and her father, Mr. Schlucke.

3) I have a photo album kept by Addie Nicklas, Dorothy's (or Harriet's or Henrietta's) daughter. In it I found a lovely photo of a woman named Christianna Kalt. Hmm ...Colt, Kalt, Chistina, Christiana, very similar.

4) I found a marriage record on line for John Kalde and Christine Tiece, 23 Jul 1848. Again, the spellings are a little different but similar and the date is approximately right.

5) I followed Christianna and John in the Grant County, Wisconsin census and this is what I found:

a) 1850 - Eastern Grant County -John, a shoemaker, and Christianna Colt, both born in Germany and married within the year.

b) 1860 - Hazel Green - John , a boot and shoemaker born in Saxony, and Christena Kalt, born in Hanover, and their four children, Mary J., August, Christena, and Louise.

c) 1870 - Hazel Green - John, a shoemaker born in Baden, and Christiana Kaulte, born in Switzerland, and their four children, Mary J., Augustine, Christiana, and Louise.

d) 1880 - Beetown - John, a shoemaker born in Holland, and Christine, born in Prussia, and two children, Christiana and Louise.

Notice all the different spellings of Kalt and all the different places of birth. But the names and ages of children, I omitted the ages here, make it read almost like a string of DNA. I became quite sure I had the right family. Those kinds of problems make genealogy a fun and challenging puzzle. It's a thrill to finally put the pieces together. From the census records I concluded the photo I have of Chistiana was the daughter, not the mother. The album also has a photo of August Kalt, her son, and his wife.

6) The final piece of evidence, I ordered the death certificate for Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet Nicklas. It gave her mother's name as Christiana Thies and her father's name as ... August Thies! That's genealogy. Whenever you solve one mystery you open another. I discovered that the spelling Thies is much more common than Tiece, so I'm going with Thies.

But the Christiana Thies on Dorothy's death record is clearly the same person as the Christine Tiece who married John Kalde in 1848, and the Chistiana Kalt whose children's pictures appear in their half-sister's, Addie's, photo album. I hope you followed all that!

The fact that I have photographs of two of Christiana's children from John Kalt in Addie's photo album leads me to believe Christiana did not desert her first children even though they are not listed on the 1850 census with her. A good relationship must have been maintained between the two sets.

Here is a little bit about Christiana's children:

Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet Schlucke is our ancestor. More about her later.

I have found nothing at all about the **little red-headed sister** mentioned by Aunt Dorothy.

Christiana and John's first child, Mary Jane married William Hutchcroft from England. They farmed in Glen Haven in Grant County, Wisconsin and had three children, Lester, Oscar, and Elsie. Lester became a state health officer.

Christiana and John's second child, August Kalt, married Anna Amelia Carlton. He farmed in Bloomington in Grant County. They had three children, Albert, Leonard, and Edith. Albert became a physician and practiced in California.

Christiana and John's third child, Christiana, never married. She was a dress maker like her half-sister, Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet. She lived over the years with various nieces and nephews and may have helped them go to college.

Christiana and John's third child, Louisa married Lewis Taylor in 1888 and had at least three children.

So here ends the story of your fourth great grandmother, Christiana Thies. She was born in Germany and came to America in shame as a young unwed mother with two small children. She redeemed herself by making a good marriage and raising a second, respectable family in Grant County, Wisconsin. You can be sure it was not an easy life.

Here is how you are related to Christiana Thies. Christiana had Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet Schlucke. Dorothy or Henrietta or Harriet married Peter Nicklas and had Anna Adelaide Nicklas (Addie). Addie married Wesley White and had Helen White (Nana). Nana married Harold Stevens and had Paul Stevens. Paul married me and had Dawne. Dawne married your daddy and had...Sarah, Hannah, Timmy and Becky!

So Hooray for Christiana Thies!

Love Granny

01926

John Kaldel & Christine Dice

Wisconsin

Grant County

ss

I, any person authorized to solemnize marriages in said county
You are hereby authorized and empowered to join in marriage John Kaldel
Christine Dice of said county if their was legal disability to the same and
this shall be your sufficient warrant for the same July 20, 1848

A. H. Suttle

Wisconsin

Grant County

Justice of the Peace Grant County Wis

This is to certify that on the 23^d day of July ad 1848 I
joined in marriage John Kaldel and Christine Dice both of said
county July 20, 1848

Recorded August 5 1848

Wm L O. S. traded clerk Co. G. C. No. 110

A. H. Suttle

Justice of the Peace Grant Co Wis

UNCERTIFIED COPY

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in any print or electronic format.

Descendants of Christianna Thies

31 Mar 2007

Page 1

1. Christianna Thies (b.Ab. 1818-Hanover,Germany;d.Aft 1880)

sp: L.H. Schlucke

2. Doratha L. Harriet Schlucke (b.23 May 1841-Salzheimendorf,Germany;d.3 Sep 1929-Platteville,Grant,WI)

sp: Peter Benjamin Nicklas (b.5 Jul 1834-Blue Ridge,Cumberland Co,PA;m.7 Jul 1859;d.23 May 1904-WI)

3. George Leonard Nicklas (b.16 Aug 1862-Georgetown,Grant,Wisconsin;d.21 Jun 1935-Grant County Asylum,Lancaster,G,WI)

sp: Carrie Jane Straw (b.4 Jul 1868-WI;m.27 Aug 1891;d.1964)

4. Richard Straw Nicklas (b.16 Jun 1893;d.Oct 1961-Arvada,Jefferson,CO.)

sp: Elizabeth Rita Smith (b.13 Oct 1902;d.14 Jul 1977-Arvado,Jefferson,CO)

5. Richard Nicklas Jr.

5. Theodore J Nicklas (b.Ab. 1936)

sp: Katherine Stevenson

3. Evelyn Nicklas (b.28 Sep 1866-Georgetown,Grant,Wisconsin;d.Aft 1930)

3. Anna Adelaide Nicklas (b.20 Nov 1871-Georgetown,Grant,WI;d.22 May 1951-Christa Hogan Hospital,West Plains,Howell,MO)

sp: William Wesley White (b.6 May 1864-Apple River,JD,Illinois;m.16 Mar 1899;d.21 Nov 1948-South Fork,Howell,MO)

4. Wilbur L. White (b.3 Mar 1900-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.Jun 1923-Dona Ana County,New Mexico)

4. Dorothy Ellen White (b.25 Dec 1902-Apple River,IL;d.1 Jan 1990-Rifle,Garfield,CO)

4. Philip Love White (b.23 Aug 1904-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.15 May 1999-Brownwood,Brown,TX)

sp: Ezra Edna Grimes (b.9 Jan 1898-Bell Co.,TX;d.18 Jun 1994-Texas)

5. Dorothy Nell White (b.5 Aug 1928-Dallas County,Texas;d.3 Aug 1992-Sonoma,Sonoma,CA)

sp: Dave Wilson

sp: Cecil H. Tripp (b.26 Apr 1925;d.24 Nov 1996-Clearlake,Lake,California)

5. Bruce Elmer White (b.20 Oct 1941-Dawson County,Texas)

sp: Maria Estrada (b.25 Nov 1939)

4. Helen Frances White (b.22 Feb 1906-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.16 Aug 2002-Waukegan,Lake,IL)

sp: Harold Balis Stevens (b.25 Aug 1908-Redfield,South Dakota;m.1 Jan 1938;d.5 Jun 1955-Chicago,IL)

5. Paul Robert Stevens (b.6 Apr 1940-Waukegan,IL)

sp: Dianne Irene Zimmerman (b.23 Oct 1943-Portsmouth,VA;m.25 Oct 1962)

5. Lois Marie Stevens (b.19 Jun 1942-Waukegan,Illinois)

sp: Anthony Roy Sacramento (b.2 Sep 1935-Waukegan,Illinois;m.4 Feb 1961)

sp: Alvar Romppainen (b.15 Oct 1917-Nisula,MI;m.19 Jul 1957;d.28 Aug 1987-Waukegan,IL)

2. Carrie Schlucke (b.Ab. 1840-Salzheimendorf,Hanover)

sp: John Kalt (b.Ab. 1813-Saxony,Germany;m.23 Jul 1848;d.Ab. 1890-Glen Haven,Grant,Wisconsin)

2. Mary Jane Kalt (b.5 Apr 1852-Hazel Green,Grant,Wisconsin;d.11 Jan 1922-Glen Haven,Grant,Wisconsin)

sp: William Hutchcroft (b.May 1845-England;m.29 Jan 1878)

3. Lester William Hutchcroft (b.25 Oct 1878-Grant Co.,WI)

sp: Edna P. (b.Ab. 1887-WI)

4. Mary E. Hutchcroft (b.Ab. 1914-WI)

3. Oscar Hutchcroft (b.Mar 1880-WI)

sp: Rosa (b.Ab. 1880-WI)

4. Gladys M. Hutchcroft (b.Ab. 1908-WI)

4. William O. Hutchcroft (b.Ab. Nov 1909-WI)

4. Edith M. Hutchcroft (b.Ab. 1914-WI)

4. Vivian V. Hutchcroft (b.Sep 1915-WI)

4. Malja Hutchcroft (b.Apr 1919-WI)

Descendants of Christianna Thies

31 Mar 2007

Page 2

- 3. Elsie Hutchcroft (b. Jan 1884-WI)
 - sp: Martin O. Seippel (m. 29 Jun 1903; d. Bef 1920)
 - 4. Martin W. Seippel (b. 9 May 1904-WI; d. 10 Jun 1988-Dubuque, Dubuque, Iowa)
 - 4. Madlyn Seippel (b. Abt 1908-WI)
 - 4. Isabel Seippel (b. Abt 1915-Iowa)
 - 4. Gwendolyn Seippel (b. Mar 1915-Iowa)
- 2. August Kalt (b. Aug 1856-Wisconsin)
 - sp: Anna Amelia Carlton (b. Nov 1870-England; m. 25 Mar 1891)
 - 3. Albert V. Kalt (b. 12 Feb 1892-Beetown, Grant, WI; d. Sep 1986-Laguna Hills, Orange, California)
 - sp: Berneice R. Rochat (b. Abt 1892-Kansas; m. Abt 1922)
 - 3. Leonard C. Kalt (b. Oct 1893-WI)
 - sp: Hazel M. (b. 31 Dec 1897-Texas; m. Abt 1918; d. Nov 1985-Lancaster, Grant, WI)
 - 4. Helen M. Kalt (b. Abt 1920-WI)
 - 4. Lloyd E. Kalt (b. Abt 1923-WI)
 - 3. Edith E. Kalt (b. Apr 1896-WI)
- 2. Christianna Kalt (b. Feb 1859-Glen Haven, Grant, Wisconsin)
- 2. Louise Kalt (b. Abt Jan 1860-WI)
 - sp: Lewis Taylor (b. Sep 1863-WI; m. 7 Feb 1888)
 - 3. Elvie Taylor (b. Mar 1889-WI)
 - 3. Orlo Lewis Taylor (b. 1 Aug 1892-Beetown, Grant Co, WI)
 - 3. Bernelle Taylor (b. Feb 1897-WI)

Children of Christiana Thies and John Kalt



Christiana Kalt



August and Anna Amelia
Carlton Kalt

Madison, Wisconsin
October 31, 2005

Dear Children,

Tonight I want to tell you everything I know about:

William L. White
(1839 - 1918)

William L. was the oldest son of Irish immigrants, Andrew and Matilda White. They lived in Jo Daviess County, Illinois, in an area near Galena called Irish Hollow. Most of Illinois is very flat, but Jo Daviess County is a part of the Driftless Area that escaped the ice age glaciers. The countryside is made up of very picturesque hills and valleys with the Apple River flowing through it. I loved this part of Illinois long before I had ever heard of Whites or Stevens. When Nana first told me she was born in Apple River, Illinois I knew it was fate that had brought me to join this family.

I have found no record of what the L. in his name stood for. I believe it was Leslie, because one of his sons was Wilbur Leslie, and another was William Wesley. But that's only a guess.

When William was not yet 20 he married a girl down the lane, Rachel Black, whose family was also from Ireland. William's father had to sign for him as he was underage to marry. We don't know what happened to Rachel. Perhaps she died in childbirth as did many women at that time. What we do know is that by September of 1860 William appears on the census living back with his birth family. On April 26 of 1862 he married Ellen Barrett (nee Faragher) a widow with a four year old son, Enoch.

The next we hear about William is when he is acting as executor of his father's estate. His father, Andrew, died on August 23, 1863. His mother had already died, we don't know when. As the eldest son, it was William's responsibility to see that all his father's property and possessions were disposed of properly, a task he fulfilled. He was only 23.

William and Ellen moved to a farm in Apple River township right near Mt. Sumner, a funny mound that juts way up above the surrounding countryside. Together they had eleven children. You can read about their life together and about their children in the story about his wife, Ellen Faragher. They lived there until they sold their farm in 1908 and moved into the village of Apple River. William died there on the 24th of October, 1918, and is buried in the nearby West Ella Cemetery.

In trying to learn about this family I have searched through records from Jo Daviess County and Census records. It has been a little bit difficult because White is a common name. It's amazing how many William Whites there were in the county at the same time. For an example, I found there were four White families farming in sections 34 and 35 of Apple River Township in the year 1878. They were J.C. White, William L. White, William White, Sr., and William White, Jr. Fortunately our William almost always used his middle initial.

The only other thing I know about William is that he was an excellent craftsman with wood. We have a beautiful little drop-leaf table that he made for Ellen. His granddaughter, Helen, told that he made many pieces of furniture for her.

Here's how you are related to William L. White. William and Ellen had William Wesley White. William Wesley White had Helen Frances White. Helen Frances White had Paul Robert Stevens. Paul Robert Stevens had Dawne Irene Stevens. Dawne Irene Stevens had Sarah Elizabeth, Hannah Irene, Timothy Paul, and Rebecca Anne Pamplin. Hooray for William L. White!

Love, Granny

The Ellen Faragher Story
14 October 2005

Dear Children,

Tonight I am writing to you about Ellen Faragher. Ellen was a pioneer woman who was strong and brave. She endured a lot of hardship in her life and met it head on, leaving her descendants a legacy of courage in the face of life's disasters, as well as a more material legacy.

Ellen was born on the Isle of Man, an island in the Irish Sea between England and Ireland. She was christened at Patrick, a small village near Peel, on December 26, 1836. Ellen was the 10th child and 8th daughter of a prosperous farm family, William and Ann Kelly Faragher. I say prosperous because they lived in a large beautiful home that even had a name, Ballacooil. We have a picture of it. Though Ellen was the 8th daughter, she didn't have seven sisters to greet her birth. One sister, Ellinor, born in May of 1836, only lived for seven months. You may think it strange that a family would name a baby so closely to another who had died, but this practice was quite common in earlier times. In fact Ellen may have been named Ellinor. In her father's will, he refers to Ellen as "Ellinor."

We don't know very much about Ellen's life in Isle of Man before she came to America. Her granddaughter, Helen Romppainen, was fond of telling that the folk of this island were rugged and independent people. One story Helen remembered of her grandmother was that as a young girl Ellen helped the women with the wash and spread the clothes on the rocks to dry. I always imagined this to be right on the shore of the ocean. In the photo we have of Ellen's childhood home, over on the left edge, we can see something very blue that looks like the ocean.

I want to tell you a few of the things I've learned about this Isle of Man place where Ellen was born. In ancient times Isle of Man was home to people called the Celts. The name of the island is from the a Celtic word for Neptune, Mannanan. The Vikings wreaked havoc on the island in the early 800's. During the 900's they sent settlers and the Isle came under the rule of the Scandinavian kings of Dublin. At that time Man was ruled as part of the Sudreys which are all the little islands west of Scotland from the Hebrides south to Isle of Man. In 1275 Scotland won control of the isle. For the next century or so it went back and forth from Scottish control to English. But by 1406 it was in English hands and stayed there. Something very interesting happened that year. King Henry IV of England gave the island to Sir John Stanley and his heirs on the condition that they send two falcons to every king of England upon his coronation. Why is that interesting? That is the very same Sir John Stanley that is in our family tree on the Derrick line. He was one of our ancestors! Sir John did some good things for IOM. He ordered laws to be written down. He began the practise of trial by jury, rather than trial by battle. And he curbed the power of the church. We'll learn more about him on another day.

Through the years IOM had some good rulers and some bad. During a period when the peoples' rights to their land were not being respected many on the island turned to fishing and smuggling for their livelihoods, a leaning which lasted for a century or more. Today IOM has a vigorous tourist industry

and is known as a tax haven. It's very famous for its motorcycle races which we have watched on our TV in Wisconsin. The native language of the Isle of Man is called Manx. The last native speaker of Manx died in the 1970's, but it is now being taught in some schools. Do you think our Ellen spoke Manx? Perhaps. All the farms have names with lots of l's and vowels. I'll bet they are from the Manx language. The Faragher's farm was named "Ballacooil."

The story of how Ellen came to America shows how tough and independent she was. Here is an account of this journey in a letter from her daughter, Lizzie, to Helen in 1962.

"Mother came from England when she was 18 yrs. old. It took 7 weeks to make the voyage from Peel, Isle of Mann, England, to Elizabeth, Illinois by train, stage, and boat. While on the sea she witnessed several deaths and burials of passengers. They would have a short service then lower the bodies by ropes into the deep waters. When she got to Galena (Illinois) she had no way to get to Elizabeth, so she walked those miles to her sister's home and stayed there until she was married to Enoch Barrett in April 1857."

Can you imagine the courage it took for a young girl of just 17 to come to America all by herself in the first place, and then to walk the last 15 miles all by herself through the forest, carrying all her gear with her? We have a beautiful piece of hand woven cloth which she brought with her on that journey from the Isle of Man.

Why she came to America is also interesting. Aunt Dorothy in her letters to the Stevens family wrote,

"About Grandma White, I don't know her maiden name. I think it was something like Faricker. The Mormon church today sends out missionaries. In Grandma White's day they sent missionaries to the Isle of Man. A number of Grandma's sisters came to this country to join the Mormon colony."

I have found one sister, Ann, who did come to America and convert to the Mormon faith. Her descendant, Irene Clark, and I have been in contact and have collaborated on the Faragher genealogy. I believe the sister she came to join in Elizabeth was her sister Elizabeth who had married Robert Corris on the Isle of Man. I have combed the 1860 census for Elizabeth, Illinois, and the only person I found that could be Ellen's sister is Elizabeth "Carsis". 1860 Census (Ancestry p.625) lists Robert and Elizabeth "Carsis" born in England, Elizabeth is 36. Ellen's sister Elizabeth would have been 36 in 1860 and married Robert Corris. Robert "Carsis" is also the correct age to be Robert Corris - 35. Another bit of supporting evidence I have found is a Robert Corris listed on the 1855 property tax list for Elizabeth, Illinois. A third reason, Ellen, Elizabeth, Ann, and Jane are the 4 sisters to whom the father left only one pound in his will. Ann and Ellen were both in America when he died. If this is the correct Elizabeth, she also was living in America in 1865 when her father wrote his will. Perhaps we will find that Jane too, came to America. Why did he leave them only one pound each? Perhaps he felt they could be of no use to him in his old age. Because of these three bits of evidence I am 99% sure Elizabeth Corris is the sister Ellen came to be with in Elizabeth, Illinois in 1854.

Lizzie says Ellen lived with her sister until she married Enoch Barrett, March 14, 1857. Enoch was

born on July 15, 1834, in England, the son of Michael and Annie Barrett. On the marriage certificate Ellen's name is written "Hellen Fariher." Lizzie's letter describes what happened next.

"Enoch B. was killed in October as he stood leaning on a gun, watching a game of horse shoe, when a horse shoe hit the hammer of his gun and it went off and killed him. Mother was in the kitchen helping with dinner for a crowd of men and heard the report of the gun and saw Enoch fall. She ran out and took off her apron and wrapped his head with it. And there, alone left, she struggled on until Jan. 12, 1858 when her baby Enoch was born."

We don't know where Ellen went after her husband died. Life must have been very hard for a single mother in those days. In the 1860 census Ellen and baby Enoch are living with the family of William and Eleanor Ludener. William's occupation is listed as miner. Ellen's description says, "Eleanor Barrett, age 23, seamstress, born in England." Perhaps she was trading her sewing skills for room and board for herself and little Enoch.

Ellen was on her own for five years. On April 26, 1862 she married William L. White. William had also been married before. He had married Rachel Black, a girl who had grown up very near to himself. We don't know when or how Rachel died. Adding to little Enoch, William L. and Ellen had eleven children together, including two sets of fraternal twins, and three more children that died in infancy and of whom we have no record. That made a family of 11.

William L. and Ellen had a farm in Section 35 of Apple River township, Jo Daviess County, Illinois. It was right near a huge hill called Mt. Sumner. We have a photo of the farm house. Nana never tired of painting it. It was the house where Nana (Helen) was born. Life was a hard lot for a farm woman in those days. Aunt Dorothy wrote about it in her letters.

"I don't know if many people nowadays have cisterns or not. There was one on our Illinois place. (This would be the Apple River farm.) . . . My but life is much easier on womenfolk than it used to be. We don't have the big ironings they used to have to do. Grandmother White had to have every sock ironed. Everything had to be ironed. The water had to be hand pumped and carried in pails. It was necessary to boil the clothes. The bar of soap (one kind was called Octagon) had to be sliced up so as to be softened by the water. We didn't have chore girls, woven metal gadgets to get the sticky particles of food off the dishes. I've heard the practice of saving string made fun of nowadays. There were no tapes or rubber bands for quickly sealing packages. What alot of sewing and mending had to be done!"

Plus cooking everything from scratch for a family of 11 plus any hired help. Plus birthing and nursing and caring for 9+ kids. And she had time to worry if every sock was ironed?

Helen White, Ellen's granddaughter, reported that every now and then, maybe once a year, Ellen would simply disappear for two or three days. No one knew where she went, but when she returned they would welcome her back with open arms and say nothing about it. I don't doubt that she needed a vacation!

Another detail of life that Helen remembered was that Ellen gave each of her sons a bearskin coat which she bought for them.

When William and Ellen retired, about 1908, they sold their farm and moved to a new home in the town of Apple River. William died there on 24 October 1918 and Ellen died 6 September 1927 at the age of 90.

Following is a list of the bequests ordered by Ellen's will. Remember that \$92 in 1927 would equal \$1000 today:

Annie E, White, daughter - \$1000.00; the house in Apple River, with the understanding that John K. White may live there also, as long as he likes; all household goods. Annie was also named executor.

John K. White, son - 1000.00

Enoch Barrett, son - 500.00

Phillip L. White, grandson - 100.00 (Phillip, Dorothy, & Helen; children of Ellen's son William)

Dorothy White, granddaughter - 100.00

Helen White, granddaughter - 100.00

Edith M. Phillips, granddaughter - 100.00 (Edith & Ellen; children of Ellen's daughter Lizzie)

Ellen W. Phillips, granddaughter - 100.00

Howard F. White, grandson - 100.00 (Howard & Merritt; sons of Ellen's son Tibbals)

Merritt W. White, grandson - 100.00

James Barrett, grandson - 100.00 (James, son of Ellen's son Enoch Barrett, Jr.)

Methodist Episcopal Church of Apple River - \$200.00 for foreign missions and \$200.00 for homeland missions

Any remaining property was to be divided equally among her five living White children, William, John, Joseph, Annie White, and Elizabeth Phillips. After all the above payments were made, \$5313.80 remained. \$1062.76 went to each of the 5 White children. The \$100.00 for grandson

Howard was turned over to the county treasurer as no one knew the whereabouts of Howard.

Besides the cloth she brought with her from the Isle of Man, we also have several pieces of furniture that once belonged to Ellen. We have an end table that her husband William made for her. We also have two rockers. One is a platform rocker, one of the first pieces of furniture Ellen ever owned. It's currently upholstered in green velvet. The other is a traditional rocking chair with spindle rungs between the arm rest and the seat. It was at one time covered with white paint and was refinished by Dianne and Jon Stevens. It now has a red velvet upholstered seat.

You may be wondering what became of Ellen's children. Here's a run down.

Enoch Barrett, Jr. - He grew up to be a farmer. He married Margaret Barningham, a girl with no hair and no eyebrows or eyelashes either. It seems strange that Ellen willed the remainder of her estate to only her White children, leaving out Enoch, though he was left \$500. Enoch and Margaret had one son, James, after both were in their 40's. James never married. He lived with Aunt Annie until Aunt Lizzie moved in. He did not like Aunt Lizzie. He once told Helen, "Aunt Annie is very religious, but she lives her religion. Aunt Lizzie just talks hers." When he died in the 1960's, he owned several large farms in Jo Daviess County. His estate came to over \$200,000 and was left to his cousins.

Rachel never married. She died of a stroke in 1902 at the age of 40.

William Wesley White was our ancestor. He attended Illinois Normal and became a teacher. He lived and farmed in Illinois, Virginia, New Mexico, and Missouri. More about him later.

John K. also attended Illinois Normal. He was a very religious man. His first wife, Emma, died of puerperal fever when their baby, Emma was born in 1895. The baby died too. His second wife divorced him leaving some in the family to think she must not have been quite sane. John was a schoolteacher, however, the 1920 census shows him living with his brother Tibbals in Iowa and working as a chiropractor! On the 1930 census he reports his occupation as house painter.

After John came the twins, **Joseph and Annie**, born in 1873. Joseph lists "instructor" as his profession on the 1910 census, at which time he was living with Mom and Dad in the village of Apple River. We don't know what became of him after that. I cannot find him on either the 1920 or the 1930 census, but we know he was still living when his mother died in 1927.

Annie is the one in the family we know most about (next to William Wesley, of course!) In 2002 Paul and Dianne went to Apple River to try to locate the old farm house. At the place where we thought it should be we met two old men, the Williams brothers, in their eighties. They both remembered Annie White, the school teacher. They spoke glowingly of how sweet she was and how much they had loved her. As a young girl Annie was a beautiful blonde. Her brother, William Wesley, counselled her not to marry a certain wealthy gentleman because he was not religious

enough. She turned him down and never did marry. Annie taught school for many years. When her parents retired, sold the farm, and moved to town, Wesley encouraged her to quit teaching and take care of them. Annie did so and was paid \$2 per week to care for them and keep house. Out of this salary she saved enough to help her niece Helen with her college expenses. When William and Ellen died, they left their home to Annie with the understanding that she would make a home for any White who was down on his luck. Annie lived there with her brother John and the two were good, industrious people. Other Whites came to visit but they seldom stayed because Annie and John were so religious. So they took in other old people who needed their help. When Annie was way up in her seventies and eighties she was painting her two story house and caring for little old ladies. Dianne and Paul Stevens have a beautiful map of the United States which Annie drew and painted when she was 18. She exhibited it in the state fair in 1890 and won a first prize. I believe Annie also played the piano. In Lizzie's letter she mentions inheriting Annie's piano. Annie lived to be almost 85. It's nice to know she is still remembered with respect and affection.

After Joseph and Annie came another set of twins in 1876, **Tibbals and Lizzie**. Can you imagine? Twins not yet three and Ellen has another set of twins. I'm sure the 10, 12, and 13 year olds had a lot of work to do helping her out. There were no disposable diapers then. And Ellen irons everything - including socks! Do you think she ironed the diapers?

In Ellen's will she calls him **George Tibbals**, but everyone always called him Tibbals. We have no idea where that name came from. Tibbals was the post master for many years at Oskaloosa, Iowa. He married Ella Francomb and they had one son, Howard. After only 12 years of marriage Ella died and Tibbals married Della Sincox. They produced another son, Merritt. Then Tibbals and Della both died in the terrible flu epidemic of 1923. Tibbals and both wives, Ella and Della, are buried in the home cemetery at Apple River. Howard, just 17 (According to the 1920 census, Howard was probably 19 when his parents died), went to live with Aunt Annie and Uncle John in Apple River. A short time later he left for Chicago and was never heard from again. Merritt was a small child of 3 in 1923. He went to live with his mother's Sincox relatives. When he grew up he lived in Virginia and had 6 kids. One daughter came to visit us in about 1973 when she was studying Portuguese at the University of Wisconsin.

The 1900 census shows **Lizzie** working as a schoolteacher. Besides the one letter we have from Lizzie about Aunt Annie's death, everything we know is from her niece Helen. Lizzie married Hayes Phillips, a minister of The Church of the Nazarene. When she became ill with TB they moved to La Lande, New Mexico. There she recovered and took in Edith, a child whose mother was dying of TB. After that she had her own daughter, Ellen. They stayed in the ministry until Uncle John and Grandma White died. Then they came to live with Annie in the big old house in Apple River, Illinois. When Annie died, Lizzie inherited most of the furniture, except for several pieces which went to Helen. Lizzie writes (White, Lizzie - letter to Helen White 31 DEC 1962):

"I had left to me the old family Bible with the family record made out by John and can be depended on. In it he had all the grandchildren's names and ages down to Ellen."

The youngest child of Ellen and William L. White, **Wilbur**, died at the age of 15 from meningitis.

The Williams brother who remembered Annie told us the Whites were all teachers and were all very bright. We know that Wesley and John attended college to become teachers. We know that Joseph, Annie, and Lizzie were teachers at some point in their lives. They may all have attended college, but we can't be sure. Requirements for teachers were different in those days. I have checked with Illinois Normal and they don't have records that far back. But we know the White children must have had a love of learning.

So that's the story of Ellen Faragher from the Isle of Man. She was a strong and independent woman who embarked on a long and difficult journey, becoming our immigrant ancestor. Her life was tough. She watched her young husband die accidentally and struggled through single motherhood. With her second husband she bore eleven more children, only 5 of whom outlived her. She seems to have instilled a sense of religious fervor and a love of learning in her children, sending at least two to college. With her and her husband's hard work and frugality, she was able to leave a tidy inheritance for them when she died.

Here's how we are related to Ellen Faragher. Ellen married William L. White and they had William Wesley White. William Wesley married Adie Nicklaus and they had Helen White whom we call Nana. Helen married Harold Stevens and had Paul Stevens. Paul married Dianne Zimmerman and they had Dawne Stevens. Dawne married Jason Pamplin and they had . . . Sarah, Hannah, Timmy, and Becky Pamplin! Hooray for Ellen Faragher!

Love,
Granny



Ballacooil, the Faragher's
home in Patrick, Isle of
Man

Ellen Faragher's sister,
Ann, who became a
Mormon





Ellen Faragher White (1836 - 1927)

William L. White (1839 - 1918)

W. L. & Ellen White with some grandchildren



front:

Helen White
James Barrett
Philip White

Back:

Dorothy White
Howard White
Wilbur White

about 1908

William L. White } Issued March 2^d A. D. 1859 1859
 AND }
 Rachel Black } White under age. Father came and gave consent. Leahy 22

To Daviess County, Illinois March 31 1859 1859
 I, M. P. Linnis a Minister of the Gospel hereby certify, that
 this day I joined in Marriage Mr. William L. White
 with Rachel Black agreeably to the authority given in the above License.
 M. P. Linnis

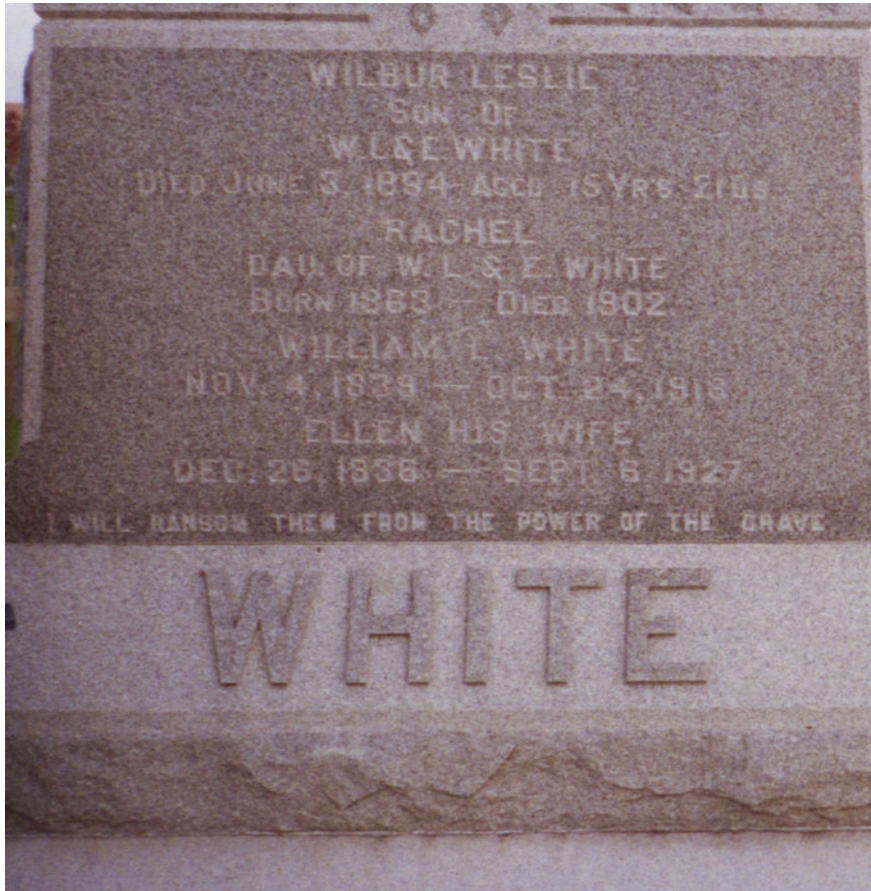
marriage Certificates from
 Jo Daviess County, Illinois

Quach Barrett } Issued August 11 A. D. 1857 1857
 AND }
 Helen Smith } Barrett under age. he is 21. yet. age. h since Leahy is 18 year of age

To Daviess County, Illinois March 14 1857 1857
 John W. Campbell P. M. & Justice of the Peace hereby certify, that on
 this day I joined in Marriage Mr. Quach Barrett
 with Miss Helen Smith agreeably to the authority given in the above License.
 John W. Campbell P. M. & Justice

William L. White } Issued April 21 A. D. 1862
 AND }
 Helen Barrett }

To Daviess County, Illinois 24th April 1862
 I, Wm. Linnis D. Shelton a Minister of the Gospel do hereby certify, that on
 this day I joined in Marriage Mr. William L. White
 with Helen Barrett agreeably to the authority given in the above License.
 Wm. Linnis D. Shelton



Graves in West Ella
Cemetery
Apple River
Illinois



Children of William L. and Ellen White

Joseph H.
(1873 - ????)



John K. (1866 - 1945)



William Wesley (1864 - 1948)



Children of
William L.
and
Ellen White



Lizzie and Annie

Tibbals and Lizzie



Tibbals (1876 - 1923)
Lizzie (1876 - ????)
Annie (1873 - 1958)



This is the piece of hand-woven cloth Ellen carried with her on her journey from the Isle of Man to Elizabeth, Illinois



The drop-leaf table made by William L. White for his wife Ellen

Ellen Faragher White's Rockers



This platform rocker was one of Ellen's first pieces of furniture.

Annie E. White with the map she created. Her map won a first prize at the Illinois state fair of 1890.

She was 17 years old at that time. Oklahoma was "Indian Territory".





Lizzie E. White
and
William Hayes
Phillips
--
Wedding Picture



John K. and Annie E. White
1947

Howard White - about 1908



The White's Farm Home
Section 35, Apple River twsp, Jo Daviess County, Illinois



The White's home in the town of Apple River



Whites lived here from 1908 to 1958.

Descendants of Ellen Faragher

- 5. Cynthia Marie Sacramento (b.31 Mar 1963-Waukegan,IL)
sp: Peter Allan Rucks (m.10 Aug 1985)
 - 5. Robert Joseph Sacramento (b.26 Jun 1964-Waukegan,IL)
sp: Mary Denise Pastella (b.26 Jul 1965;m.15 Mar 1986)
 - 5. Patricia Mary Lynn Sacramento (b.10 Dec 1965)
sp: Patrick John Shanders (m.21 Apr 1993)
 - 5. Kathleen Louise Sacramento (b.18 Jun 1968)
sp: Scott Kreul (m.31 Oct 1987)
- sp: Alvar Romppainen (b.15 Oct 1917-Nisula,MI;m.19 Jul 1957;d.28 Aug 1987-Waukegan,IL)
- 2. John K. White (b.1866-Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois;d.1949-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois)
sp: Emma E. (b.1866;d.1895)
 - 3. Emma E. White (b.May 1895;d.Jun 1895)
- 2. Joseph Henry White (b.21 Apr 1873-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois)
sp: Martha Elizabeth (b.Ab 1859-ohio)
- 2. Annie E. White (b.21 Apr 1873-Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois;d.7 Mar 1958-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois)
- 2. Tibbals G. White (b.5 Mar 1876-Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois;d.5 Mar 1923)
sp: Ella E. Francomb (b.19 Dec 1874-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;m.25 Feb 1902;d.21 Dec 1914-University Park,M,Iowa)
 - 3. Howard White (b.Ab 1904-Illinois)
sp: Della A. Sincox (b.30 Mar 1887;d.2 Mar 1923-Iowa)
 - 3. Merritt W. White (b.18 May 1919-Iowa;d.17 Dec 2000-Ellenwood,Clayton,Georgia)
sp: Ruth
- 2. Elizabeth E. White (b.5 Mar 1876-Apple River,Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois;d.Jun 1963-Texas)
sp: William Hayes Phillips (b.23 Jul 1879-Ohio;d.Jan 1963)
 - 3. Edith Philips (b.Ab 1907-){Allinois)
 - 3. Ellen Philips (b.Ab 1913-NM)
sp: Woody
 - 3. Houston Hilt (b.Ab 1921-Texas)
- 2. Wilbur Leslie White (b.1879-Apple River,Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois;d.3 Jun 1894-Apple River,Jo Daviess Co.,Illinois)

The Peter Benjamin Nicklas Story

1834 - 1904

June 4, 2001

Dear Sarah, Hannah, and Tim,

This is the story of Peter Nicklas, another one of your ancestors that was in the Civil War. Peter was your great-great-great-grandfather.

Peter was the son of John George Nicklas and Anna Catherine Betsch Nicklas. John and Anna were first cousins. They came to Pennsylvania from Leonabach, Hessen, Dormstadt, Germany in 1832 and were married in 1833. Peter, the oldest of their nine children, was born in 1834 at Blue Ridge, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania 5 July 1834. After Peter came his sister Elizabeth and then a baby that died, and then the family moved to Monroe County, Illinois where four more children were born. Then one day they put all their belongings in a boat and sailed up the Mississippi River to Wisconsin. They settled in the southwest corner of the state in Grant County near the tiny town of Georgetown and had two more children.

When Peter was 25 he married Dorothy Schlucke from the nearby town of Hazelgreen. Dorothy was born in Germany in 1841. She came here with her mother and her little red-headed sister. Dorothy was sweet and neat and a lovely seamstress. She may have had epilepsy.

Peter didn't sign up for the army until he was 31 years old and the Civil War was almost over. In January of 1865 he enlisted into Company K of the 47th Wisconsin Infantry. Infantry means soldiers who fight standing on their feet instead of riding a horse. The 47th Infantry organized at Camp Randall in Madison, Wisconsin. Ask your mom about the little guard house from Camp Randall that still stands on the university campus.

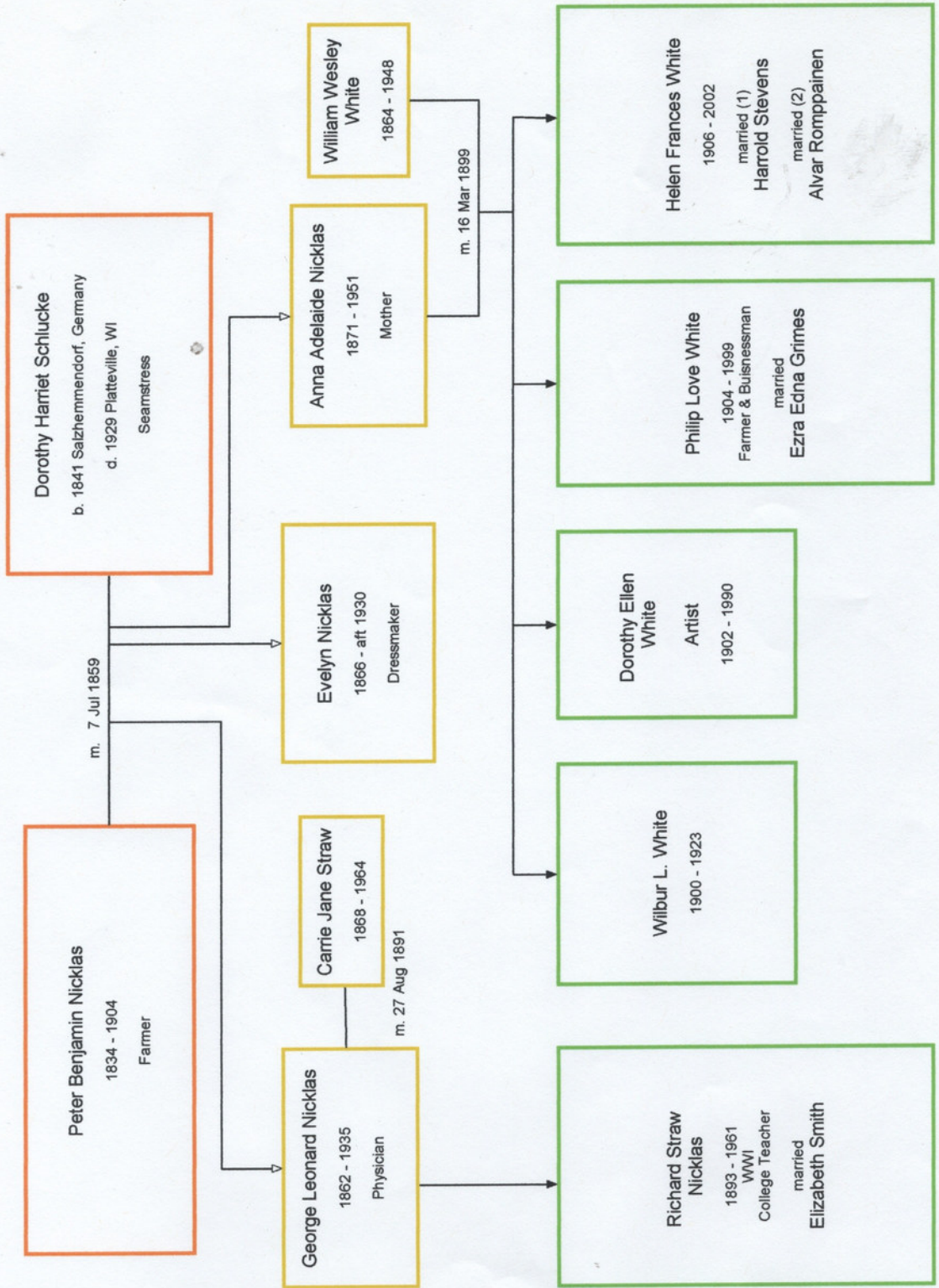
Peter left Wisconsin with his unit in February of 1865 and went to Louisville, KY and then to Tullahoma, Tenn., where his unit was employed in drill and guard duty for several months until the war was over. He never had to be in any battles. After the Civil War Peter came home to be with his family and care for his farm in Georgetown near his parents farm. His wife Dorothy helped to keep the family fed with her sewing skills which she had learned from her mother and taught to her daughters. In those days families would have a dressmaker come every spring and every fall and make all the clothes for the whole family. Nothing was brought ready made. There was always a market for women with good sewing skills

Here is how we are related to Peter. Peter and Dorothy Nicklas had Addie Nicklas. Addie grew up and married William Wesley White and had Helen White. Helen (that's Nana) grew up and married Harold Stevens and they had Paul and Lois. Paul grew up and married Dianne Zimmerman (me!) and they had Dawne, Jon, Heather, and Uncle Danny. Dawne grew up and married Jason and had Sarah, Hannah, and Tim, you guys!

So that's the story of your great-great-great-grandfather who joined the army to be in the Civil War but never had to fight. Hooray for Peter Nicklas!

Love, Granny

Peter and Dorothy Schlucke Nicklas Family



The Dorothy Schlucke Story
1841-1929

March 30, 2007

Dear Children

Tonight I want to tell you the story of our ancestor Dorothy Schlucke.

Dorothy was born in the village of Salzhemmendorf, Hanover, Germany in 1841. She and her sister Carrie and their mother, Christiana Thies, had to work very hard to earn their daily bread. Dorothy's mother was a seamstress and Dorothy was a goose girl. In Germany at that time life was not arranged like it is on American farms of today. Most people lived in villages rather than on separate farms. In order for the animals to graze the herders would come around in the morning and pick them up from each household and return them in the evening and they were usually paid by the village treasury. So every morning little Dorothy had to go to each home and collect the geese and remember which goose belonged to which house and lead them out into a meadow to feed and she had to watch them all day to see that they didn't get lost or eaten by another creature. On wash day women would dry their sheets on the grass beside the river and Dorothy had to be very careful her geese did not walk on the drying sheets. In the evening she took each goose back to its proper home. It was a very important job. And it paid well.

In those days there were no child labor laws like we have today in America. Children could be made to go to work as soon as it was humanly possible and they often were. Dorothy was born in 1841 and her mother was married in Wisconsin in 1848 so Dorothy did this important job before she was even seven years old!

We don't know anything more about Dorothy until she turned 18 and married Peter Nicklas. It's probably a good thing Dorothy learned to work hard when she was very young because for most of her married life she helped Peter earn the living. On the 1860 census she and Peter are shown working for and living with two separate families less than a year after their marriage. Dorothy is working for a family in Cassville as a nursemaid, probably caring for the family's small children. Peter is working for a farmer nearby. He worked as a farmer most of his life in Georgetown where his parents were. Nana and Cousin Sophia Driskill both said that Peter didn't have a good head for business and wasn't the greatest farmer and that his wife, Dorothy, earned most of the family's living by sewing. They both said she was a wonderful seamstress.

Peter and Dorothy had three children in Georgetown, Grant County, Wisconsin; George Leonard born in 1862, Evelyn in 1866, and Anna Adelaide in 1871. The 1910 census says Dorothy has birthed 4 children so one baby must have died. It also says only 2 are still living but that is wrong as all three were alive and well in 1910. Sophia said they, Peter and his family, lived with his parents. Perhaps they did at one time. I didn't find that arrangement on the census record. They show up on their own

place in Grant County in 1870 and 1880 and Peter is farming. In 1900 they are living in Rush Illinois with their daughter Addie and husband. Peter died in 1904 and on the 1910 and 1920 census Dorothy is living with her daughter Evelyn in Platteville. She died there in 1929 just short of 90 years of age.

Besides the historical record we find in things like censuses, marriage, and death records, we have information on Dorothy from three people who knew her personally. They are her granddaughters, Nana and Aunt Dorothy White, and her cousin, Sophia Driskill. They all told that Dorothy's parents weren't married. That fact was quite important and shocking to that generation. Here are a few of the other things they said:

From Aunt Dorothy, Letter 3,

"Grandma Nicklas' name was Henrietta Dorthea. Part of the relationship called her Henrietta and part Dorthea. This grandmother was a dear little lady. . . As I remember it, she had a red-headed ... sister."

And from Letter 4:

"Grandma Nicklas and Aunt Eva got their drinking water from their cistern in Platteville, Wisconsin. I remember that you could taste smoke in the water. Grandma said, ' You'd get used to it.' Evidently it didn't hurt her, for she didn't die until her 90th year."

From Cousin Sophia, Letter A,

"Sorry I could not get Uncle Peter's wife's maiden name. She was ... a very nice, small, nervous lady. She was a lovely seamstress and very neat. She and uncle spent a winter with us so I got to know them quite well. She was a goose herder in Germany. I saw an article in a Magazine about the German goose herders. It was considered a very good job. . . . Evelyn (Peter and Dorothy's daughter) spent the winter with us at the time. She was a wonderful seamstress also. They (Peter and Dorothy) lived with grandparents quite a while. They are buried in Jamestown without a marker. Father often said he would like to place a marker but no one seemed interested. Uncle (Peter) was a very poor businessman. She (Dorothy) made a living by sewing. "

And from Letter M:

"We always called his (Peter's) wife Harriet. One of her middle initials is H. Guess we went by Harriet."

Dorothy's name has been a puzzle. As you can see above, for her first name she went by Dorothy, Dorthea, Henrietta, or Harriet. In the historical record she is sometimes Doratha as well., and once Amelia! Her maiden name was Schlucke on her marriage record, Thies on her death record, and Tiece on her mother's marriage record. Her married name Nicklas appears also as Nicholes and Nicholas. All these spellings make research a bit challenging. It's a good thing I had first person accounts to lead me.

Here is a little about Dorothy and Peter's other children:

Dorothy and Peter Nicklas's first child was George Leonard Nicklas born in 1862. He married Carrie Jane Straw in 1891. George and Carrie had one child, Richard Straw Nicklas, in 1893. George became a physician practicing in Platteville until 1915. In his early 50's George suffered from early senility and had to give up his medical practice. His wife was unable to care for him, so he was sent to the county Asylum in Lascaster where he died in 1935. Their son Richard was a college woodworking teacher in Colorado.

Dorothy and Peter Nicklas's second child was Evelyn Nicklas born in 1866. Evelyn grew up to be a bright and lovely young woman. Her parents tried to send her to college in Platteville but she became too homesick. She went home and became a seamstress and dressmaker with her mother. The dressmaker at the turn of the century was a very highly skilled craftsperson. A single bodice could have as many as 78 pieces. And the pattern pieces, all printed on top of one another on a single sheet, made a maze to make a spider weep. Evelyn never married. She cared for her parents when they were old. She was careful with her money and saved enough to be able to help her niece, Helen White (Nana), with college expenses at UW-Platteville.

Dorothy and Peter Nicklas's third child was Anna Adelaide Nicklas born in 1871. She's our ancestor, so, more about her later.

So this is the story of Dorothy Schlucke. She had the misfortune to be born out of wedlock and had to work very hard her whole life. Even as a child before the advent of child labor laws, she labored as a goose herder. As an adult she supported her family with her sewing skills which she passed on to her daughter. She was born in Hanover and died in Wisconsin. She was a good sweet loyal hardworking woman.

Here's how we are related to Dorothy Dorothea Doratha Henrietta Harriet Amelia Shlucke Tiece Thies Nicholes Nicholas Nicklas. Dorothy the seamstress had Anna Adelaide the farmer's wife. Anna Adelaide had Helen Frances the schoolteacher. Helen Frances had Paul Robert the computer scientist. Paul Robert had Dawne Irene the engineer and teacher. Dawne Irene had . . . Sarah, Hannah, Timmy, and Becky!

So Horray for Dorothy Dorothea Doratha Henrietta Harriet Amelia Shlucke Tiece Thies Nicholes Nicholas Nicklas!

Love,

Granny

Peter and Dorothy Nicklas



Peter in Civil War uniform



Children of Peter and Dorothy Nicklas



George and Evalina



Eva Nicklas

Children of Peter and
Dorothy Nicklas

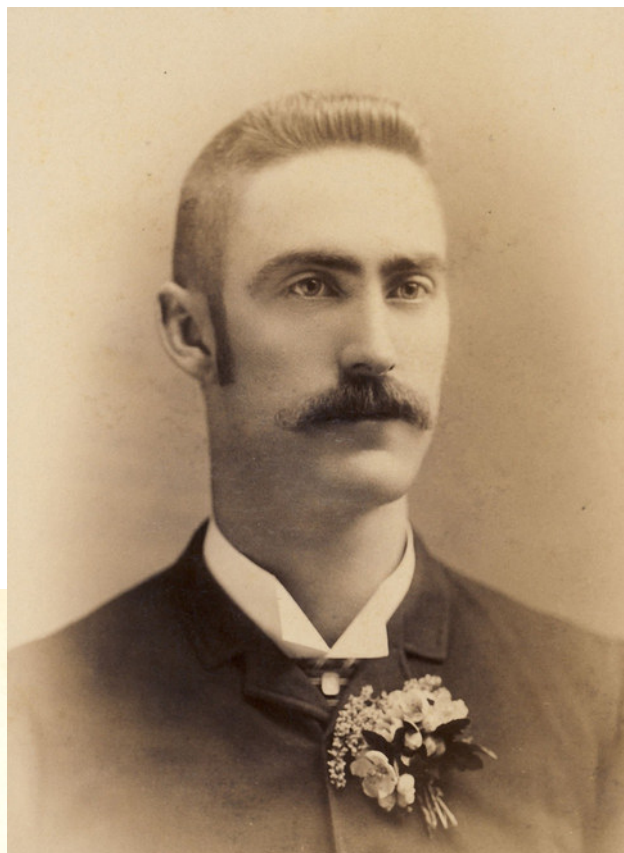


George Nicklas



Eva Nicklas

George Leonard and
Carrie Straw Nicklas
and their baby
Richard





Georgetown Wisconsin home of Peter and Dorothy Nicklas where George, Eva, and Addie grew up.

Dog at door.

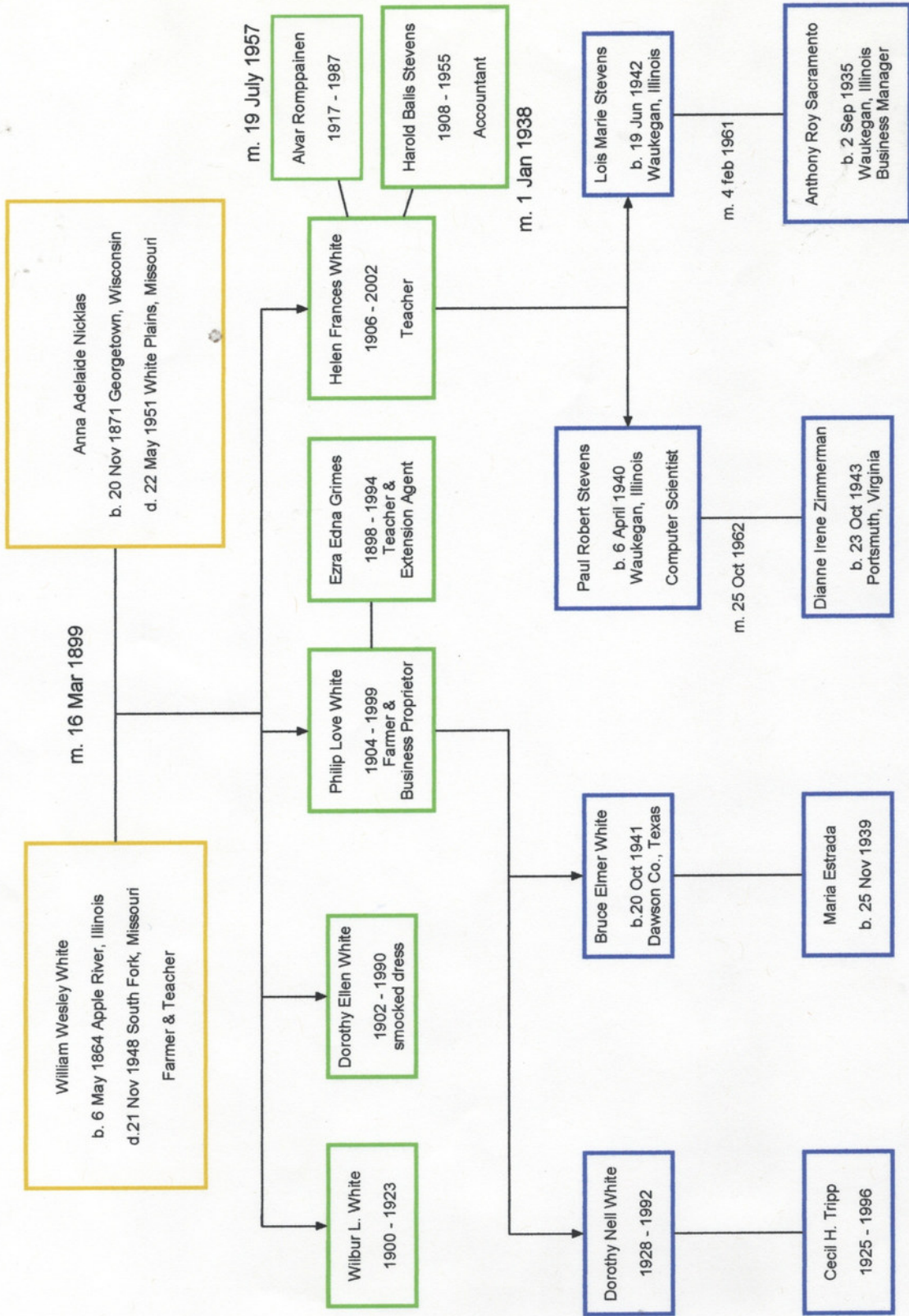


Richard Nicklas, son of George and Carrie Straw Nicklas



Peter and Dorothy
Nicklas in their
Mature years

William Wesley & Anna Adelaide Nicklas White Family



The William Wesley White Story

6 May 1864 - 21 Nov 1948

28 March 2007

Dear Children,

Tonight I want to tell you about Grandpa Stevens' Grandpa White.

William Wesley White grew up in beautiful Jo Daviess County, Illinois. He was the third in a family of nine children. The Whites were a well established, industrious farm family and instilled in their children a love of learning and an ardent religious leaning. Wes, as he was called, was fortunate to be able to attend college. He attended Illinois Normal, acquiring the credentials necessary to teach school and he taught in Platteville, Wisconsin. Wes had four brothers and sisters that taught school as well. Platteville is where he met his wife Anna Adelaide Nicklas. She was one of his students and was six years younger than he. Addie's story says her parents sent her to school in Platteville and she became so homesick she had to go back home. It would be very interesting to know exactly how that romance developed. We know it did develop because Wes and Addie married 16 Mar 1899 in Platteville.

The 1900 census shows Wes and Addie living in Rush Twsp, Jo Daviess County in the same house with Addie's parents and sister. The census says Wes is a farmer and he owns the home, not his father-in-law Peter. Helen always said the 4 children were all born on the farm where Wes grew up at Apple River, but it appears at least Wilbur was not. Perhaps they moved there after Peter Nicklas died in 1904. Anyway, the family lived at or near the farm at Apple River until 1908. All four children were born there or near there; Dorothy Ellen on Christmas Day in 1902. (Some people have a penchant for holidays. Dorothy Ellen died on New Years Day, 87 years later.) Philip in August of 1904, and Helen on 22 February 1906.

Two things happened in 1908 that affected the family's future. Addie developed a condition in her face called neuritis and was advised to move to a warmer climate. Wes's father, William L. White, was close to 70. He was tired. He did not want to farm anymore. So William L. sold the family farm and moved to town with his wife and daughter Annie, and Wes and Addie and their four kids moved to Midlothian, Virginia in Chesterfield County, near Richmond. I wonder why they chose Virginia. Wesley was an excellent farmer. Before long he owned two farms. One good cash crop they produced was strawberries. For extra money, the family cut down and sold pulp wood. The family appears on the 1910 and the 1920 censuses in Chesterfield County, township of Midlothian, Virginia.

Wesley did many things a little differently from his neighbors. Out of an old waogn wheel he made his kids a merry-go-round, which they loved to play on. They had one of the very early victrolas on which they played records by Sousa and Galley Kirchey. Wes was an amateur photographer. He enjoyed taking pictures and developing them, a progressive hobby for his day. And we have copies of many of

the photos he took, including one of the four children playing on the wagon wheel merry-go-round.

Wes was an avid reader. The Reader's Digest was one of the few sources of reading material available. Like his brothers and sisters, Wes firmly believed in the value of education. Helen had warm memories of the whole family sitting around the kitchen table in the evening with everyone reading or doing schoolwork. He counselled his children to do their best in life and not to worry so much about competing with others. And he told them, "If you ever have troubles, come home with them. That's where help is."

When Helen was 17, she, her mother, Phillip, and Wilbur went to New Mexico because Wilbur had TB and the wet Virginia climate was bad for him. TB is short for Tuberculosis, a very serious bacterial disease of the lungs. Another name for it in olden days was Consumption. It was very common and very deadly in the days before antibiotics. Many people felt a warm dry climate was the best environment for an individual with TB.

But it was too late for Wilbur. He died there of TB a few months later. Mrs. White refused to come back to Virginia, so the family was forced to sell their nice farm and move to New Mexico where it was extremely hard for Wesley to make a living. In retrospect Helen realized it was a blessing the family moved to the southwest because both she and Phillip had developed TB, though no one knew at the time. Wes built his family a lovely home of stone. It was covered with ivy which was irrigated.

The 1930 census shows the White family in Dona Ana County, New Mexico. Wes is working as a general farmer, he owns his own home valued at \$350. Philip is working as a farm laborer, Helen as a public school teacher, and Dorothy has been unemployed for 3 months, but lists Furniture store Stenographer as her occupation.

In 1935, when he was 70 years old, Wes, Addie, and daughter Dorothy moved to South Fork, Howell County, Missouri. There they bought a cheaper farm. Unfortunately, the soil was very poor and it was hard to make a living. On top of that it was the Depression and everyone was poor. South Fork is near West Plains in south central Missouri, near the border with Arkansas.

Paul remembers visiting his grandparents there. He says their farm was quite primitive. They had a pot bellied wood stove in the living room that provided heat for the house, and a shelf of National Geographics. In the yard was a shed where Dorothy milked the one cow. Paul wonders how they managed to eke out a living. It must have been a difficult life indeed.

One other thing we know about Wes is that he developed epilepsy late in life. It was successfully controlled.

Here's a little about Wes and Addie's children:

Wes and Addie's eldest child Wilbur died in 1923 soon after they moved to New Mexico. He was a

beautiful talented young man just like his father. When his sister, Helen, was in her eighties, she said to me one day, "Wouldn't it have been wonderful if Wilbur had lived?" This comment tells us as much about the atmosphere in Wes and Addie's home as it does about Wilbur. Even after 70 years Helen loved him and missed him.

Wes and Addie's 2nd child Dorothy, as a young girl was very bright and talented in music and art. But she had a difficult life as an adult. Helen paid for her to go to Business School, but she couldn't keep a job. She went to Nursing School but couldn't get along with the patients. She tried raising chickens, but that didn't go well either. She lived with her parents and cared for them until they died. After that she worked in a Laundromat for a while and then retired in Rifle, Colorado. Helen visited her there several times and reported her little house was filled with boxes and piles of stuff to the point that only aisles remained. She seemed to suffer from a personality disorder that didn't show up until she was grown. We have a painting Dorothy did of the Yuccas in New Mexico. When Dawne was little, Dorothy sewed many cute clothes for her including a hand-smocked dress that was saved and worn again by Dawne's daughters. In the 1970's Dorothy wrote a number of letters to our family telling about their lives in Virginia. A copy of those letters appears in this collection of stories.

Wes and Addie's third child Philip had to quit high school and help his parents. He married a Texas woman, Ezra Edna Grimes. You can read about Ezra in her own story, which also is included here. Ezra brought an adopted daughter, Dorothy Nell, to the marriage. Philip and Ezra adopted a second child, Bruce Elmer. Philip tried farming in Missouri but that didn't go too well. Paul spent one summer with him and his family on their farm in Jasper, Missouri. Then for 25 years Philip and Ezra operated a coin laundromat in Lawrence, Kansas, an endeavor which proved more productive for them. After they retired they bought a trailer and toured the western states, making many friends and thoroughly enjoying life. They'd spend winter in Texas and go north in the spring to Idaho where they enjoyed picking wild huckleberries, and canning apricots, apples, strawberries and rhubarb. Philip was a very friendly, good humored man. His wife was six years older than he and lived to be 96. During her later years she suffered from several debilitating conditions and required much care. Philip cared for her until she died, at which time he himself was 90 years old. He was never heard to complain. Philip lived another 5 years, dying in Brownwood, Texas in 1999. Philip Love White was a good and happy man. Their daughter, Dorothy Nell, married several times, moved to California, and had six children. Their son Bruce married a girl of Mexican descent, had two children, and retired in Mexico.

Wes and Addie's fourth child Helen Frances, the youngest, is Grandpa's mother and has her own story.

Wes was born during the Civil War and lived through World War II and everything in between. As a young boy he had every advantage that an industrious, thrifty farm family that loved learning could give him. He began his adult life with a rather promising future. His family valued education and he attended college at a time when few did. He worked as a teacher and as a farmer. Teaching brought him his wife, and farming brought him some years of prosperity as a Virginia farmer. But then the

health of his children forced him to leave his productive farm and spend his last 25 years ekeing out a living first in barren New Mexico and then in the poverty of southern Missouri. He was a man of education, of wisdom, energy, and ingenuity. Though he ended his life in poverty, the lessons he instilled in his children have been passed on down the line through his children and grandchildren to you dear ones.

Here's how you are related to William Wesley White. Wes married Anna Adelaide Nicklas and had Helen Frances White. Helen married Harold Balis Stevens and had Paul Robert Stevens. Paul married Dianne Irene Zimmerman and had Dawne Irene Stevens. Dawne married Jason Andrew Pamplin and had you wonderful children. William Wesley White was your great great grandfather.

Hooray for William Wesley White!

Love,
Granny

Ezra White 1898 - 1994

Wife of Philip

The following article is from the Llano Grande Lake Park weekly newsletter - Jan 5, 1979

We, here at Llano Grande Lake Park, are privileged to have EZRA WHITE a Texas pioneer, observing her birthday - 82nd - on Wednesday. She was born January 9, 1898 in Bell County, Texas, twelve miles from Temple, Texas.

Her family moved to West Texas when she was three. There were no fences and only one neighbor. Prairie dogs were everywhere, with a rattlesnake in every fourth hole.

Later at 4 she lived on a cattle ranch what was then called the bottom land of the Texas Colorado River. Her 9 year old brother walked four miles to Bronte to school, crossing the river. One morning a wolf chased him up a tree where he stayed 'til past noon.

When she was 5, her older brother (and Ezra) drove a horse and buggy to the same school. One cold morning the river was frozen hard almost to the center. They tried to cross the river - the horse broke through the ice, but they continued on over with the buggy as the horse scrambled to gain his footage on the ice. They laughed, thinking it was fun.

Her father bought a cattle ranch near Eden, Texas. There was no town there then. The nearest neighbor was ten miles away. Post office and place to buy supplies was San Angelo - 50 miles away. Twice a year this family of five drove this 50 miles in a covered wagon, camping along the way. There were no roads - just a sense of direction to follow! There were few fences and occasional ones, the father pulled the staples from the wire at 2 or 3 posts. The children stood on the wire as he drove over, then restapled the wire to the fence.

Ezra's mother taught the children at home. She was in the 6th grade when she entered public school. She graduated in 1914 with a degree and a teacher's certificate from Southwest Texas State University at San Marcos - and later taught at a whopping salary of \$60.00 a month - room and board for \$24.00. She became a home demonstration agent in New Mexico. During World War I she worked in the Census Bureau in Washington D.C. and was called back to the ranch in San Saba, Texas because her father had lost his eyesight. Many people in West Texas lived in DUG-OUTS. Windows were above the ground. (Note from Ezra adds: This bit about the dug outs was not where my family lived but in a newly formed county in the pan handle of Texas where a big ranch was divided into 7 counties at the death of the owner. I was an extension agent there.)

While working and still single Ezra adopted a little girl one year old. She met Phil while he was president of the Farm Groups in NM, they married and lived on her father's ranch. Later they adopted another child, a boy. To date they have 8 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. More moves - farmed in Cherokee, near San Saba, then to Missouri for ten years. For 25 years they operated a coin laundermat in Lawrence, Kansas.

After they retired they bought a trailer and toured the western states. Spent 4 years in Harlingen, Texas in Fun-in-Sun and in the meantime purchased 2 lots in Llano Grand Lake Park. They have 5 trailers and presently have a 35' fifth wheeler, which is their "home away from home." Their 16' wide mobile is located on #16-17 Guadalajara, and their 5th wheeler is being rented for the winter - next door. One of the highlights of Ezra's life was the jet boat trip on the Snake River two years ago out of

Lewiston, Idaho - called Hell's Canyon of the Snake River. Four summers were spent at Vallecito Resort in Colorado - 25 miles from Durango. The last three years have been spent in the summer in Kamloops Park in northern Idaho picking wild huckleberries, canning fruit, apricots, apples, strawberries & rhubarb.

Her activities in the park have been fabric painting, playing bingo, and attending pot luck suppers. She has FROSTED many BIRTHDAY CAKES for the gringos.

She remembers well the early days! Everyone had a sense of honesty. You had no laws just a sense of pride. Y'all didn't dare brag about yourself - if you bragged about Texas that was ALL RIGHT - that was drilled into them from infancy on.

A REAL TEXAS PIONEER LADY - EZRA WHITE!

The Anna Adelaide Nicklas Story

(20 Nov 1871 - 22 May 1951)

March 12, 2007

Dear Children,

Anna Adelaide Nicklas, called Addie for short, was the third child of Peter and Dorothy Nicklas, a German-American farm family in Georgetown, Grant County, Wisconsin. Addie was born 20 November 1871 in Georgetown. One memory of Addie's girlhood that her daughter Helen shared with us was that as a young girl she sometimes earned money making strawberry baskets which she sold for a penny each. Another memory was that once a year a singing teacher would come to town and all the neighbors would gather and sing in parts.

Addie's parents sent her to college at UW-Platteville, where she lived with her brother George and his family. Yes, that's the same school that Nana and your Uncle Danny went to. But like her sister Eva, Addie became so homesick that she had to give it up and return home. At home she became a dressmaker and seamstress along with her mother and Eva. In those days a family would have the dressmaker come every spring and every fall and make all the clothes for the whole family. Nothing was bought ready-made. But somewhere along the line of her school career, I'm not sure whether it was in high school or her brief stay in college, her teacher was the handsome young Wesley White. He was seven years older than she. They married 16 Mar 1899 in Platteville.

After the wedding they moved back to Jo Daviess County. Their four children were born there on the farm where Wes had grown up, Wilbur in 1900, Dorothy in 1902, Philip in 1906, and Helen, our Nana, in 1906. Notice how the babies are two years apart. That was the normal spacing of children until quite recently. Addie breastfed her babies as all women did, there was no reasonable alternative. The breastfeeding protected them from having another baby before the first one was well into toddlerhood. Nana described her mother as a very gentle woman who never spanked her children.

When Nana was two the family moved to Midlothian, Virginia, where Wes bought a farm with good fertile soil and the family prospered. They had a spring on that farm. Do you know what a spring is? It is a place where beautiful clear water bubbles out of the ground. There was no pipe to bring water to the kitchen so having a way to get clean water was very important. The spring was nestled down in a fern bed with its own little house built around it. The spring house served as a refrigerator to keep the milk cool on warm days. Soon they had a well with a pump to make getting clean water even easier.

We have many pictures that Wes took of the Virginia days. In addition, Addie's daughter Dorothy wrote to us about their life there. Here are a few excerpts from her letters to give you a bit of the flavor of the White's life in Virginia:

"Goats are something we had on that first Virginia place. We were glad to tell the other children at school that we had kids at home. Those goats climbed up onto the

chickenhouse roof. They were quite a nuisance. . . .

"When we went to Virginia, we turned yellow, because we got malaria, there was so much woods and dampness, making a fine home for mosquitos. . . .

"I'll mention music this month. When we children were little we had a gramophone in place of what we call a record player today. It had a horn that was shaped like a morning glory flower. The records were...cylinders that fitted on to a solid cylinder. Records I remember are, ' Just a Little Attic but it's Home Sweet Home', "Ring the Bells of Heaven', 'Tell Mother I'll be There', Poke Miller's 'The Old Time Religion', and instrumentals, some by violin, flute, and harp, one 'Love and Devotion.'

We had a book of favorite songs. Many of them were by Stephen Foster. . . .

"One odd thing that I remember is that there were beautiful wild violets growing in the graveyard at the colored church. The church was next door to our one-room schoolhouse. I picked violets and worried that night because I had stepped on some graves. . . . Snobbish colored people from Richmond would come to visit the folk at our local colored church and sometimes there would be shootings. As I understand it, the city people felt much superior to the country folk and expressed their feelings. . . .

"Quite a few people in Virginia were proud of having Indian blood. One family lived on the first place we had in Virginia after we moved up on the hill. One brother asked father to pull a tooth for a poor Indian. Father did. . . .

"Our mother had four children for whom she sewed, washed with a washboard, churned and canned. We helped with the canning, because our family sold canned goods. We helped with the planting of tomato plants, potatoes, beans, etc. . . .

"Mothers often got lonely in those days when the fathers were at work and the children away at school. Few had telephones. There were no radios or television sets to keep one in touch with the world."

Besides all the sewing and cooking we know that Addie always made time for flowers. Whenever Nana looked at my flowers she always told me how beautiful her mothers flowers were. I don't know if that was in Virginia, New Mexico (can you grow flowers in New Mexico?) or Missouri. We know she grew roses in Missouri because we have a picture of Addie in her roses.

After they lived in Virginia for two years, Wes built a better home "up on the hill." Now he owned two farms and rented one out. He was a prosperous Virginia farmer. And so we can understand his mixed feelings in 1923 when Addie insisted on the family moving to New Mexico.

Wilbur had been sick for several years and was getting sicker. His disease was called Consumption. Now it's called Tuberculosis. Addie was told that the Virginia climate was very bad for Wilbur and he should be in a warm dry place. Nothing was so important to Addie as her children. There was no question in her mind. She had to take Wilbur away. Addie had a cousin, William Henry Nicklas, who was a rancher in Dona Ana County, New Mexico. That is very likely the reason she picked that particular area of the warm dry southwest. Off she went with Wilbur, Philip, and Helen. Wilbur did not get better. He died in New Mexico in June of 1923. Addie told Wes she would not come back to Virginia, so he sold his nice farms and followed her. But even though it was very hard on the family financially, the move may have saved Philip and Helen who later learned they had had early TB at that time.

Addie and Wes and Dorothy, who continued to live with them, held out in New Mexico until 1935. By that time Wes was 71 years old and Addie 64. There was no Social Security in those days. People either saved enough to live on in their old age, or they moved in with their children, or they worked until they died. Wes and Addie sold their place in New Mexico and bought a new farm in South Fork, Missouri and kept working. Aunt Dorothy went too. The new place had poor rocky soil and life was no doubt quite a struggle. Wes died there in 1948 and Addie in 1951, just shy of 80 years. This is what her death certificate says about her cause of death. Cause of death was Chronic Myocarditis (inflammation of the heart muscle) which she had suffered with for five years. It was a result of 10 years of arteriosclerosis (hardening of the arteries). Another significant condition she suffered from was chronic cholecystitis (gall stones). She had had that condition for ten years.

You can read about Wes and Addie's children, Philip and Dorothy, in Wes's story. Helen (Nana) is our ancestor. She has her own story.

So this is our ancestor Anna Adelaide Nicklas. She came from a family of strong resourceful German women. She fell in love and married her schoolteacher. She had four children she adored. She gave up a fairly comfortable life as a Virginia farmer's wife in the effort to save her son, Wilbur. Though that effort failed, she may have inadvertently saved her other children. She and Wes lived a long struggling life as senior citizens, but she always had roses. Anna Adelaide Nicklas was a good faithful loving wife and mother. We are proud to have her as our ancestor.

Here's how you are related to Anna Adelaide Nicklas. Addie and Wes birthed Helen White. Helen and Harold Stevens birthed Paul. Paul and Dianne birthed Dawne. Dawne and Jason Pamplin birthed . . . Sarah, Hannah, Timmy, and Becky!

So Hooray for Anna Adelaide Nicklas!

Love,
Granny



Young
Anna Adelaide Nicklas
and
William Wesley White



Descendants of William Wesley White

1. William Wesley White (b.6 May 1864-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.21 Nov 1948-South Fork,Howell,MO)

sp: Anna Adelaide Nicklas (b.20 Nov 1871-Georgetown,Grant,WI;m.16 Mar 1899;d.22 May 1951-Christa Hogan Hospital,WP,H,MO)

— 2. Wilbur L. White (b.3 Mar 1900-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.Jun 1923-Dona Ana County,New Mexico)

— 2. Dorothy Ellen White (b.25 Dec 1902-Apple River,IL;d.1 Jan 1990-Rifle,Garfield,CO)

— 2. Philip Love White (b.23 Aug 1904-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.15 May 1999-Brownwood,Brown,TX)

sp: Ezra Edna Grimes (b.9 Jan 1898-Bell Co.,TX;d.18 Jun 1994-Texas)

— 3. Dorothy Nell White (b.5 Aug 1928-Dallas County,Texas;d.3 Aug 1992-Sonoma,Sonoma,CA)

sp: Dave Wilson

sp: Cecil H. Tripp (b.26 Apr 1925;d.24 Nov 1996-Clearlake,Lake,California)

— 4. Shirleen Jeanette Tripp (b.5 Mar 1948)

sp: Innskeep

— 4. Ronald David Tripp (b.14 Oct 1950)

— 4. Michael Bruce Tripp (b.18 Jan 1952)

— 4. Frank Philip Tripp (b.18 Aug 1955)

— 4. Laurie Ann Tripp (b.5 Oct 1957)

sp: Dowd

— 4. Linda Jean Tripp (b.13 Oct 1960)

sp: Rhoades

— 3. Bruce Elmer White (b.20 Oct 1941-Dawson County,Texas)

sp: Maria Estrada (b.25 Nov 1939)

— 4. Eric Thomas White (b.6 Oct 1967)

— 4. Carla Edna White (b.21 Mar 1970)

2. Helen Frances White (b.22 Feb 1906-Apple River,Jo Daviess,Illinois;d.16 Aug 2002-Waukegan,Lake,IL)

sp: Harold Balis Stevens (b.25 Aug 1908-Redfield,South Dakota;m.1 Jan 1938;d.5 Jun 1955-Chicago,IL)

— 3. Paul Robert Stevens (b.6 Apr 1940-Waukegan,IL)

sp: Dianne Irene Zimmerman (b.23 Oct 1943-Portsmouth,VA;m.25 Oct 1962)

— 4. Dawne Irene Stevens (b.29 Nov 1964-Madison,WI)

sp: Jason Andrew Pamplin (b.3 Jun 1971-;m.1 AAtlanta,Fulton,Georgia;m.1 Aug 1992)

— 5. Sarah Elizabeth Pamplin (b.16 Oct 1993-Adelphi,Prince Georges County,MD)

— 5. Hannah Irene Pamplin (b.2 Sep 1995-Norfolk,VA)

— 5. Timothy Paul Pamplin (b.24 Jul 1998-Woodstock,Cherokee,GA)

— 5. Rebecca Anne Pamplin (b.3 May 2002-Marietta,Cobb,GA)

— 4. Jon Christian Stevens

— 4. Heather Carol Stevens (b.2 Aug 1970-Madison,WI)

— 4. Daniel Derrick Stevens (b.10 Jan 1984-Madison,WI)

— 4. Davida Xiong (b.28 Jun 1986-){+}{GSt Paul,Ramsey,MN)

— 4. Shanie Xiong (b.14 Nov 1987-){+Fresno,Fresno,California)

— 3. Lois Marie Stevens (b.19 Jun 1942-Waukegan,Illinois)

sp: Anthony Roy Sacramento (b.2 Sep 1935-Waukegan,Illinois;m.4 Feb 1961)

— 4. Anthony Roy Sacramento Jr (b.26 Feb 1962-Waukegan,Illinois)

sp: Lynn Ann Pomierski (b.19 Jan 1962;m.16 May 1987)

— 5. Anthony Alexander Sacramento (b.2 Dec 1989-Lake Forest,IL)

— 5. Nicolas Joseph Sacramento (b.28 May 1993-Lake Forest,IL)

— 5. Carli Marie Sacramento (b.12 Oct 1995-Lake Forest,IL)

Descendants of William Wesley White

29 Mar 2007 Relationship Codes: {+} Multiple Parents {G} Guardian

Page 2

- 5. Joseph Sacramento (b.24 May 2001-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 4. Cynthia Marie Sacramento (b.31 Mar 1963-Waukegan,IL)
 - sp: Peter Allan Rucks (m.10 Aug 1985)
 - 5. Lauren Marie Rucks (b.18 Apr 1989-Highland Park,IL)
 - 5. Jamie Rucks (b.26 Dec 1990)
 - 4. Robert Joseph Sacramento (b.26 Jun 1964-Waukegan,IL)
 - sp: Mary Denise Pastella (b.26 Jul 1965;m.15 Mar 1986)
 - 5. Devon Marie Sacramento (b.20 Mar 1993-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 5. Jason David Sacramento (b.24 May 1995-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 4. Patricia Mary Lynn Sacramento (b.10 Dec 1965)
 - sp: Patrick John Shanders (m.21 Apr 1993)
 - 5. Sara Jessica Shanders (b.27 Nov 1993)
 - 5. Brian Patrick Shanders (b.26 Sep 1996-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 5. Megan Elizabeth Shanders (b.15 Dec 2000-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 4. Kathleen Louise Sacramento (b.18 Jun 1968)
 - sp: Scott Kreul (m.31 Oct 1987)
 - 5. John Scott Kreul (b.19 Jul 1989-Waukegan,IL)
 - 5. Justin Michael Kreul (b.25 Mar 1991-Lake Forest,IL)
 - 5. Jacob Ryan Kreul (b.16 Jun 1994-Waukegan,IL)
 - 5. Jessica Kathleen Kreul (b.30 Jul 2002-Waukegan,IL)
- sp: Alvar Romppainen (b.15 Oct 1917-Nisula,MI;m.19 Jul 1957;d.28 Aug 1987-Waukegan,IL)

Dorothy Ellen White Letters to Paul & Dianne Stevens Family 1976-1978

This is a series of 8 letters written between January 1976 and July 1978 describing various aspects of life when Dorothy was a young girl. Included here are excerpts.

Originals in Personal files of Dianne Z. Stevens, 1301 Reetz Road, Madison, WI 53711

Letter 1. 1-26-76:

"One big differences between our generation and later ones is the amount of dollar bills and coins that are handled. We didn't have many. Uncle John sent us each a dollar at Christmas. Grandma and Aunt Eva gave us little gifts I think Aunt Eva got for sending in Subscriptions to McCall's Magazine. Our Sunday School bought us gifts from the 10 Cent store.

When we went to Virginia, we turned yellow, because we got malaria, there was so much woods and dampness, making a fine home for mosquitos.

Goats are something we had on that first Virginia place. We were glad to tell the other children at school that we had kids at home. Those goats climbed up onto the chickenhouse roof. They were quite a nuisance.

There was a spring on that first Virginia place, and that spring had its own house among the big ferns or brakes. Soon we had a well with a pump.

Grandpa Wesley White made us a swing to play on. It was a big board that swung around on a stump. Someone would push it, and, if you didn't watch out, you could get bumped.

We girls preferred paper dolls to real ones. Oh, yes, we had spool people too. All of these we dressed.

Letter 2. Feb 1976:

Dianne wants to know about spool people. They were just spools that our imagination gave heads, arms, legs, and faces. Mother sewed, so we had the use of many empty spools. We dressed them in bits of cloth. Spool families would visit one another.

Our mother had four children for whom she sewed, washed with a washboard, churned and canned. We helped with the canning, because our family sold canned goods. We helped with the planting of tomato plants, potatoes, beans, etc.

Mothers often got lonely in those days when the fathers were at work and the children away at school. Few had telephones. There were no radios or television sets to keep one in touch with the world...

Grandmother White claimed to have had twelve children. (In those days many of the babies died or were born dead.) I know of --

Uncle Enoch Barrett, James Enoch Barrett's father (The father of Uncle Enoch was killed while watching a horseshoe pitching game. The gun he was holding with the barrel beneath his chin discharged when hit by a horseshoe.) Grandmother married Grandfather, William L. White.

William Wesley, Paul and Lois' grandfather.

John K. He was very religious. His first wife died when their baby was born, of puerperal fever, a disease caused by the carelessness of doctors and nurses. Of course the baby died too. By the way the second wife acted, we think she wasn't quite sane and by divorcing Uncle John, she made him the only one of the family to go through a divorce court.

Rachel. Rachel died quite young at 40 of a stroke.

Tibbals. He was a postmaster at Oskaloosa, Iowa for a long time. Tibbals and his wife, Merritt's mother and father, died of the flu when Merritt was tiny. He was raised by an aunt on the Sincox side of the family. I guess they were sort of rough. They drank and Merritt does too. When he phoned me the last times I could hardly understand him.

Lizzie. Tibbals and Lizzie were twins.

Joseph.

Annie. Joseph and Annie were twins

Wilbur. He died young of meningitis.

Letter3. 3/22/76:

History may reveal skeletons, so adults please read before releasing to children...

Speaking of schooldays: After I left the 4th grade, we went by horsedrawn schoolbus to a consolidated school. I remember that a neighbor boy just didn't want to go to school, and he didn't have to go. Now the colored folk had a little one-room school. Being very poor, the colored people had no facilities for taking baths. (I've read the kings and queens of England of years ago had trouble keeping clean.)

One odd thing that I remember is that there were beautiful wild violets growing in the graveyard at the colored church. The church was next door to our one-room schoolhouse. I picked violets and worried that night because I had stepped on some graves.

Now family business: Grandma Nicklas' name was Henrietta Dorthea. Part of the relationship called her Henrietta and part Dorthea. This grandmother was a dear little lady who had the misfortune of being an illegitimate child. As I remember it, she had a red-headed illegitimate sister. When she came to this country great grandmother became a lawabiding citizen.

About Grandma White, I don't know her maiden name. I think it was something like Faricker...

The Mormon church today sends out missionaries. In Grandma White's day they sent missionaries to the Isle of Man. A number of Grandma's sisters came to this country to join the Mormon colony...

Snobbish colored people from Richmond would come to visit the folk at our local colored church and sometimes there would be shootings. As I understand it, the city people felt much superior to the country folk and expressed their feelings.

Letter4:

Some of us near Richmond, VA went to high school via train. We had a whole train society. The conductor would come through the car punching holes in our tickets. He might call out, 'Tickets, tackets, and pocket books!' Besides the school children there were college students and men and women who commuted to their jobs.

I don't know if many people nowadays have cisterns or not. There was one on our Illinois place and I remember that a kitten fell into it breaking our hearts. Of course, Grandma Nicklas and Aunt Eva got their drinking water from their cistern in Platteville, Wisconsin. I remember that you could taste smoke in the water. Grandma said, 'You'd get used to it.' Evidently it didn't hurt her, for she didn't die until her 90th year.

Letter 5:

Curious people or groups that we knew years ago is what I'll write about this time.

Most of the time in Virginia we were in the Baptist church. As you probably know, there

are many Baptists in the south. Until baptismal fonts were built in the church, people would be immersed in a pond or creek. One lady in the neighborhood must have been a Presbyterian or an Episcopalian. She would favor us with a solo every once in a while. We thought her funny, because her voice would quiver.

Quite a few people in Virginia were proud of having Indian blood.

One family lived on the first place we had in Virginia after we moved up on the hill. One brother asked father to pull a tooth for a poor Indian. Father did.

Huegonauts were religious refugees from France. Once we went to Huegonaut Springs, VA - our family and the Baumanns' - for a picnic. That religious sect must have had a colony there. Of course we went by horse and buggy. A short distance now was a long way then.

Letter 6 - 8/2/76:

I'll mention music this month. When we children were little we had a gramophone in place of what we call a record player today. It had a horn that was shaped like a morning glory flower. The records were...cylinders that fitted on to a solid cylinder. Records I remember are, 'Just a Little Attic but it's Home Sweet Home', 'Ring the Bells of Heaven', 'Tell Mother I'll be There'. Poke Miller's 'The Old Time Religion', and instrumentals, some by violin, flute, and harp, one 'Love and Devotion.'

We had a book of favorite songs. Many of them were Stephen Foster. They, of course, were mostly Negro. I believe Negro songs are out of style nowadays.

Letter 7 - 8/21/1977:

Letter 8 - 7/16/1978:

Helen called sometime ago and mentioned that we should have questioned the former generation more when we had the chance; however, there were some things they were reluctant to talk about.

My, but life is much easier on womenfolk than it used to be! We don't have the big ironings they used to have to do. Grandmother White had to have every sock ironed. Everything had to be ironed.

The water had to be hand pumped and carried in pails. It was necessary to boil the clothes. The bar of soap (one kind was called Octagon) had to be sliced up so as to be softened by the water.

We didn't have the chore girls, woven metal gadgets, to get the sticky particles of food off the dishes.

I've heard the practise of saving string made fun of nowadays. There were no tapes or rubber bands for quickly sealing packages.

What a lot of sewing and mending had to be done! Today, if we watch for bargains, we can buy our clothes ready-made for practically what it would cost us for the material and notions.

The boys and girls may have had chores to do before starting off to school.

And there were school wagons instead of buses and maybe ill-tempered drivers. If the poor driver had indigestion, he might not feel too good.

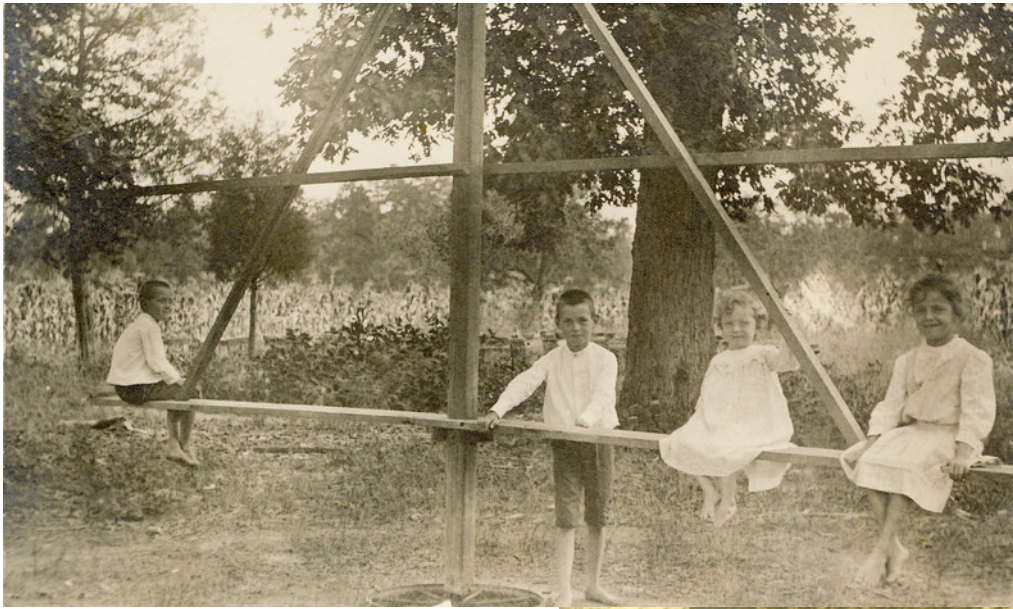
I can't get over thankfulness for 1978."



Addie (back right) with the Help and Mercy Committee



Addie with Wilbur and Dorothy 1903



Philip, Wilbur,
Helen and
Dorothy on
Merry-go-round
made by Wes.

Children of Wes and Addie White in Virginia



Philip, Dorothy, Helen,
and Wilbur



Philip, Dorothy,
Helen, and Wilbur
shortly before they
left Virginia

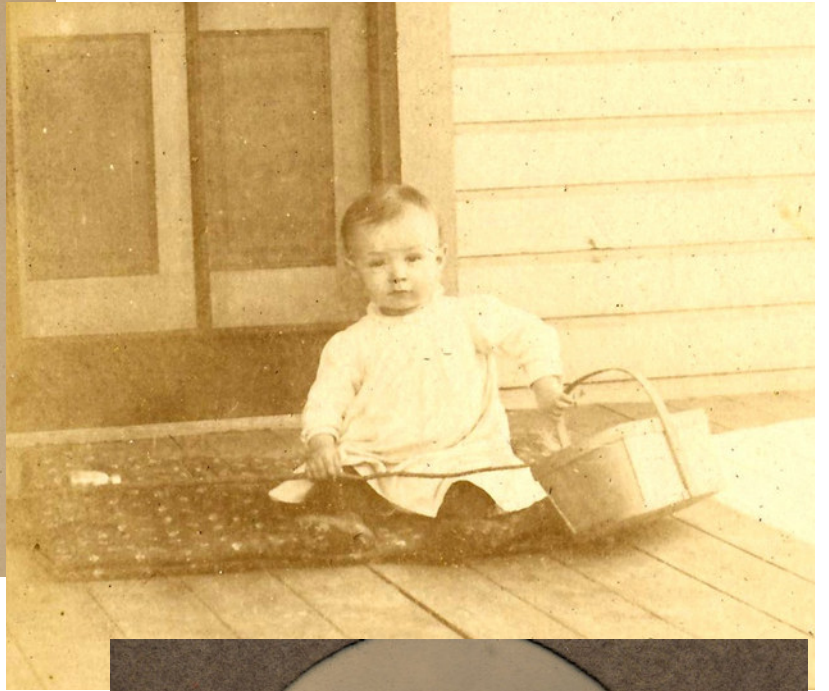


Dorothy and Helen

White Children in Virginia



Wilbur,
Dorothy,
Helen, and
Philip



Wilbur L. White

1900 - 1923





Dorothy Ellen White
Age 20

Dorothy Ellen
White
1902 - 1990



Dawne Stevens (age 2)
in the hand-smocked
dress made by Dorothy



Philip Love White
1904 - 1999



Philip and Family about 1945
Dorothy Nell, Bruce, and Ezra





Apple River Illinois Farm
where children were born
1899 - 1908



1st Midlothian Virginia Home
1908 - 1910
Addie, Philip, Wilbur, &
Dorothy
with Chickens



2nd Midlothian
Virginia Home
1910 - 1923



Addie, Dorothy, Helen, Wes, and Philip take a break during building

The White's Home in LaMesa, Dona Ana County, New Mexico 1923 - 1935



The finished home - the vines were irrigated

Mature
Wesley and
Addie White



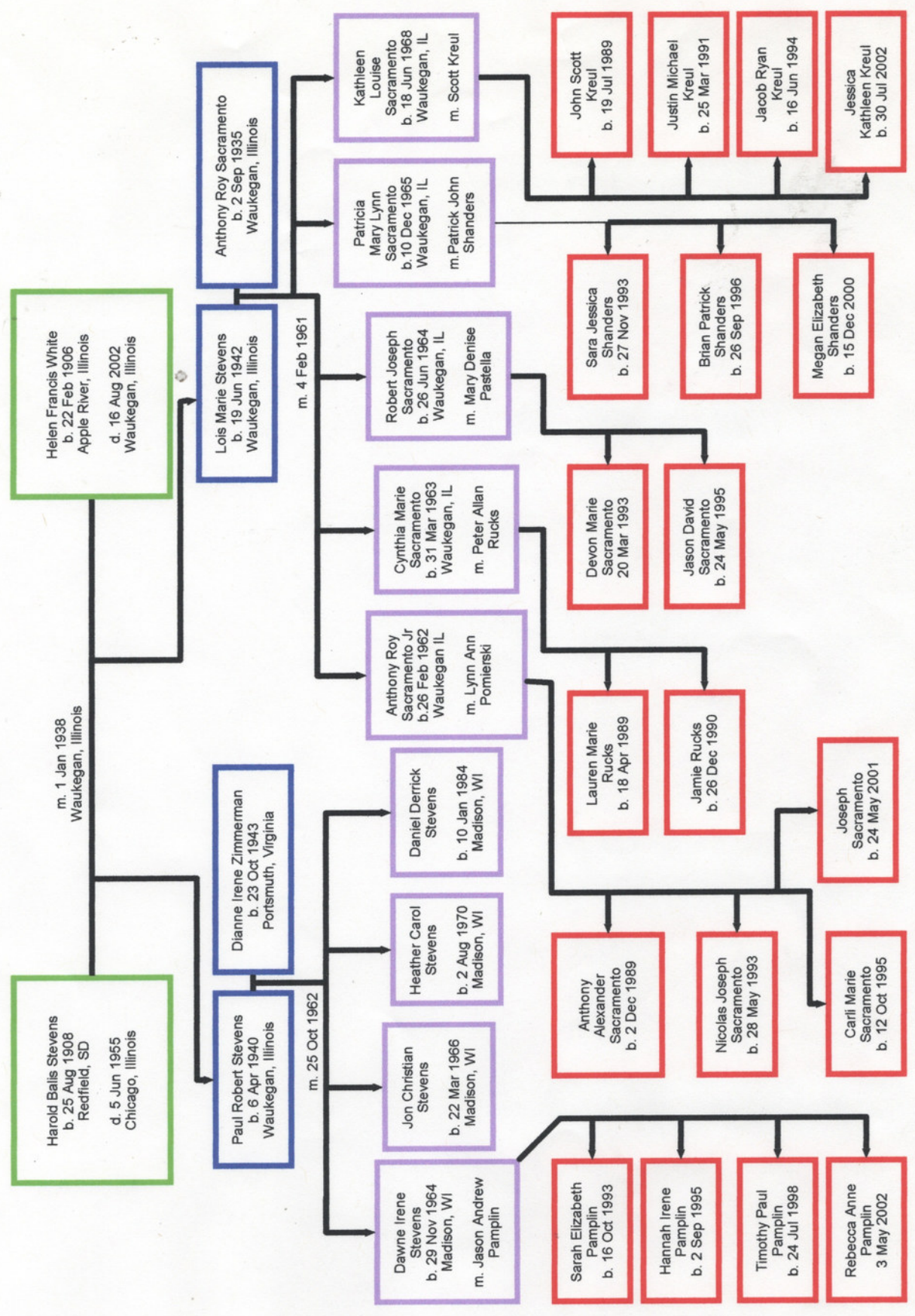


Wes and Addie

With
Addie's
Roses
in Missouri



Harold Balis & Helen White Stevens Family



The Helen White Story
22 Feb 1906 - 16 Aug 2002

August 18, 2002
Dear Children,

Tonight I will tell you about one of your great-grandmothers.

Helen Frances was the fourth of four children born to William Wesley and Anna Adelaide Nicklas White, February 22, 1906, on the White family farm near Apple River, Illinois. She followed Wilbur, born in 1900; Dorothy Ellen, 1902; and Phillip, 1904.

When Helen was two years old, her mother developed neuritis in her face and was advised to go to a warmer climate. And so the family moved to Virginia where they bought two farms at Midlothian, near Richmond. The children soon turned yellow from malaria, but they all survived it.

Helen's dad was a clever and inventive person. A favorite memory was of the merry-go-round he made for the children out of a wagon wheel.

Another favorite play activity for Helen and her sister was to make dolls out of the empty thread spools. Any old scrap of fabric would do to dress them. Here's how Helen's sister Dorothy described the spool people. "They were just spools that our imagination gave heads, arms, legs, and faces. Mother sewed, so we had the use of many empty spools. We dressed them in bits of cloth. Spool families would visit one another."

Wesley White was also a great reader and stressed the value of education to his children. The Reader's Digest was one dependable source of reading material the White's had in their home. From her father Helen developed a love of reading. Two of her favorite books from childhood were *David Copperfield* and *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*.. After dinner each evening the whole family would sit around the dining room table and read or do homework.

Aunt Dorothy writes about school days in Virginia. "After fourth grade we went by horse-drawn schoolbus to a consolidated school. I remember that a neighbor boy just didn't want to go to school, and he didn't have to go."

Later she writes about high school. "Some of us near Richmond, Virginia went to high school via train. We had a whole train society. The conductor would come through the car punching holes in our tickets. He might call out, 'Tickets, tackets, and pocket books!' Besides the school children there were college students and men and women who commuted to their jobs.'"

When Helen was 17, her mother, Phillip, and Wilbur went to New Mexico because Wilbur had TB and the wet Virginia climate was bad for him. Wilbur died there of TB in 1923. Mrs. White refused to come back to Virginia, so the family was forced to sell their nice farm and move to New Mexico

where it was extremely hard for Wesley to make a living. In retrospect Helen realized it was a blessing the family moved to the southwest because both she and Phillip had developed TB though no one knew at the time.

The Whites lived right on the border of New Mexico near El Paso, Texas. Helen completed her senior year of high school at a huge high school in El Paso.

When Helen graduated from high school, she wanted to marry a boy her parents disliked. They offered her a chance to go to college in Platteville, Wisconsin, so off she went to Platteville which is quite near Apple River, Illinois, and Helen was close to many White and Nicklas family members. Her Aunt Annie White was especially helpful in paying for school expenses, as was Aunt Eva Nicklas.

After getting her teaching degree from Platteville Helen began teaching in Waukegan, Illinois in 1929. At first she lived in the YWCA where they had very strict curfews. She was teaching 2nd grade at Whittier School in 1933 when she began boarding with the Stevens family on Utica Street and soon after that began dating Flora Stevens' son, Harold. On their first date they rode the North Shore Line, an electric train, to Chicago to see a hockey game. It was the Depression. Harold did not have a good enough job to support a wife, so, they dated for five years. During that time they went to see every movie that came to town for 15 cents a show. Finally, Harold got a job at Abbott Laboratories allowing the couple to marry on January 1, 1938 at the Stevens' home in Waukegan.

After the marriage Helen was allowed to keep her job only until June, because at that time in Waukegan married women were not allowed to hold teaching jobs. When June came they both lost their jobs.

In September Helen got a job teaching at Spaulding School which was outside the Waukegan district and had different rules. She was given a class of 47 first and second graders. At home she had a husband plus two roomers to cook and clean for. Life seemed very hectic.

Meanwhile Harold got a job at the TB Sanatorium. His boss suggested he bring his wife in for a screening. It was then discovered Helen had had TB in both lungs. After that Harold insisted his wife take life a bit easier which became more possible as Harold was once again employed by Abbotts and became the Paymaster.

Paul Robert arrived on April 6, 1940 and Lois Marie on June 19, 1942. Their family was complete.

Their first home was an apartment on Sherman Place where Paul was born. They moved to 1501 Ridgeland, where Lois was born, and then to 22 N. Butrick. In 1946 they purchased a large Dutch colonial at 28 N. Elmwood for \$13,000.

Many consumer goods were in short supply during war time. The Stevens were not able to

purchase their first car until 1946. But they were the first family in the neighborhood to have a TV. If the shade was up on the back door it meant it was OK for neighbor kids to come and watch. And come they did! It was not unusual in the afternoons to have the living room carpeted with children watching Howdy Doody.

Helen was always a gracious hostess to her children's friends. Whether it was 30 neighborhood children watching TV or a friend needing a place to wait after school 'til working parents could pick her up (Dianne), it was fine. If Lois happened to bring a new friend home from camp who wanted to stay for a week, no problem. If 40 kids from church needed a home to serve the entree for the youth group's Progressive Dinner, well the more the merrier! You could count on the Stevens' home to be warm and welcoming.

Paul was a sickly child and spent as much time out of school as in school in the days before widespread use of penicillin. During those times Helen, who was a stay-at-home mom, would read to him and help him memorize poetry. Among their favorites were poems by James Whitcomb Riley and Eugene Field. These have been passed on to grandchildren and now, to great grandchildren

In the spring of 1955 Harold became ill. His doctor put him in the University of Chicago Billings Hospital. Three weeks later he was dead from pancreatic cancer and Helen was left with two children.

Because of life insurance, there was no immediate financial peril. Helen went back to school at Roosevelt University in Chicago to earn her Master's degree and bring her teaching credentials up to date. She then returned to teaching and taught at Clearview Elementary until her retirement in 1967.

On July 19, 1957 she married Alvar Romppainen, a man of Finnish descent who worked for Ammco Tools. He and his brother Arvo had been roomers with the Stevens family. They sold the Elmwood home and bought a smaller house at 1818 Monroe in 1963.

Helen thoroughly enjoyed life after her retirement. She engaged in many social activities and hobbies. She sewed for herself and her family and for friends who had troubles getting things to fit. She did upholstery. She played bridge. She took up oil and watercolor painting and created many works treasured by her family including several renditions of the family farm in Apple River. She was an active member of the First Christian Church and the Waukegan Women's Club. She was a volunteer with the Victory Hospital Auxillary. Her grandchildren fondly remember their visits to "Nana's" house where she kept a room just for them, well stocked with toys and dress-up clothes. One of her favorite activities with grandkids was a trip to the library.

When Al died very suddenly of a heart attack on August 28, 1987, Helen abruptly sold her house and moved into a retirement home in Vernon Hills, IL. She stayed only one month because she was so miserable and disoriented. Lois helped her relocate to an apartment at 520 N. Genesee Street, Waukegan, where she had several old friends. With Lois's steadfast support she lived there

independently until after her hip replacement surgery in 1992 when it became apparent she needed full time support. That was when the wonderful Lucy was discovered and became her full-time live-in caregiver. Lucy stayed with Helen until her death, August 16, 2002, including over four and a half years of care when Helen was totally bedridden.

That's the story of you great grandmother Helen Frances White, She was an intelligent, industrious, talented, independent-minded, and resourceful woman. From her birth family she inherited a strong sense of family, a love of books and learning, and a practical and inventive approach to solving lifes problems. She acquired a college education long before it was the norm for women to do so, and she used her education to support herself before her marriage to Harold, and after his death, to support her children and herself. She made her home a welcoming haven for her children and their friends and her grandchildren. She lived through TB , the Depression and World War II, and outlived two husbands. She was a good teacher, wife, mother, and person. We can be very proud to have Helen Frances White in our family tree.

Here is how you are related to her. Helen Frances White was the mother of Paul Stevens. Paul Stevens is the father of Dawne Stevens. Dawne Stevens is the mother ofGuess Who! So Hooray for Helen Frances White!

Love,
Granny

Helen Frances White
1906 - 2002





Helen catches fish during a
Wisconsin camping trip
Aug 1928



Helen at her Grandma Dorothy
Nicklas' Cistern in Platteville,
Wisconsin

El Paso, Texas High
School where Helen
graduated





Helen White and Harold Stevens married in 1938. This photo was taken at 28 N. Elmwood, Waukegan, Illinois.

1950ish

Helen Stevens and Alvar Romppainen married in 1957. Al and his brother Arvo had been roomers in the Stevens' home on Elmwood.





Harold & Helen Stevens Family about 1950
with Paul and Lois

