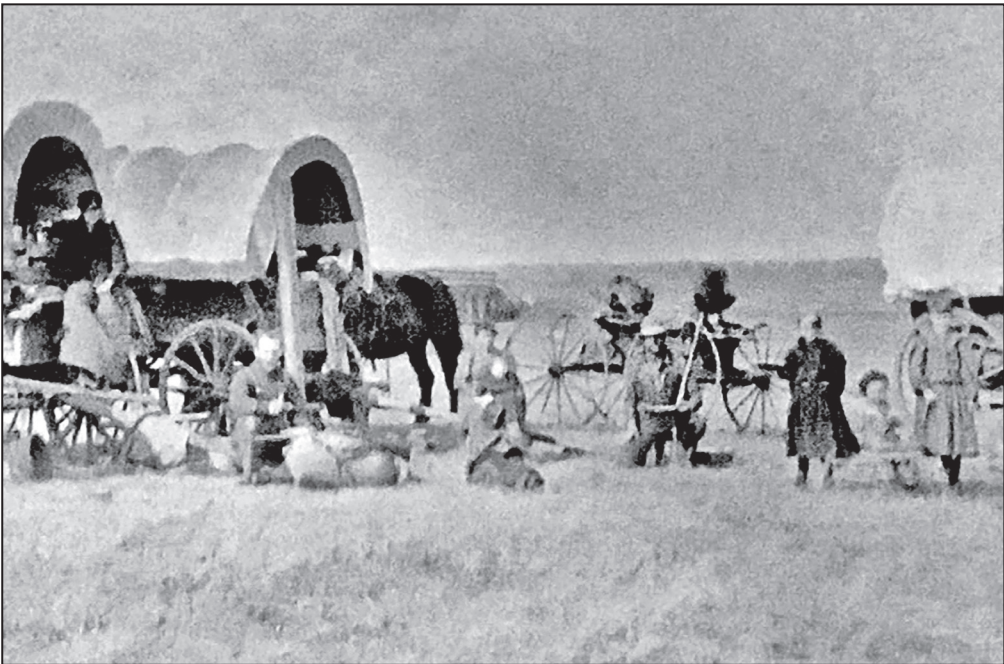


Archival Anecdotes

by Rachel Brazil  
Eddy County Museum Archivist



While the photo doesn't give the clearest picture, it does help convey just what an operation it was just to get to North Dakota. On the trail, families often traveled together, while single women and young mothers often opted for the train. Courtesy photo.

The stories told

Many Americans have a story of an ancestor who once lived in a far away land and made a big decision to leave home for a new place. These stories can be inspiring and can even lead to a greater understanding of our own existence.

I first began studying my family tree after my father's passing in 2012. Learning about his lineage helped me cope in countless ways. I learned about my great-great-grandmother, Josephine who, according to family history, enjoyed ice fishing. I learned that she immigrated from Sweden at the age of 20 in pursuit of a better life. Records indicate that her alternative was likely playing mother to her 17 siblings. Instead she decided to settle in Chicago. There, she worked as a maid for wealthy households, and even had a side hustle in fortune telling. She had two children and lived to 91 years of age.

Of course, there's much more to Josephine's story. While the internet offers insight to some aspects of our ancestors lives, the richest of stories come from histories told through the generations. One of the greatest resources we have in learning about the past are the words of our elders.

In 1961, the Eddy County chapter of Pioneer Daughters formed and began documenting their own "Pioneer Histories." Here are a few samples:

Clare Collins Payne's father, Jeremiah, immigrated from Ireland and worked carpentry in Minneapolis before marrying and moving west, eventually settling in Stutsman County. Clare worked as a depot agent with her husband William Payne.

Anna Ackerman wrote of how her mother, Francis Adams Ackerman, left Otterstadt, Germany with her parents and came to Dakota Territory in 1881. They settled outside Fargo. It was Francis who after marrying Jacob Ackerman settled 10 miles west of New Rockford.

Mrs. Howard Stone wrote about how her mother Signe Hustveit left Sweden for Sheyenne as a newlywed with Sveineng Aslakson.

Jennie Doyle shared her grandfather's story. Darby Doyle ran away from his wealthy Pennsylvania household and eventually landed himself in Fort Totten where he enlisted in the Army. He later married Jennie Feltcamp of Sheyenne and the two homesteaded and farmed together. Later in life he took on the profession of baking.

There are dozens more

stories available at eddy-county.catalogaccess.com. You can find them under the "Library" tab in the menu. These histories tell stories of ancestors who traveled alone or with family, and with a brand new spouse. They rode on horses and on wagons from Ohio, Illinois or Nebraska. Some crossed oceans – which could take up to three months!

Eddy County Museum board member Janet Bower Heskin got involved with the Eddy County Museum almost eight years ago because of her growing interest in her ancestors' story. Janet grew up in Bremen, not far from the places that three sets of great-grandparents settled.

When asked how she got interested in her genealogy, Janet shared that she had read a book written by her great-grandmother and North Dakota pioneer Mary (Gardner) Twist titled "Just an Ordinary Family." From there, Janet has researched her family's heritage back to Europe. Along the way she's not only found facts and dates, but also stories and connections that help her round out her family tree.

What family stories do you remember?

months. Or, if you notice some loss of peripheral vision, get to the eye doctor right away.

If you're a Medicare beneficiary, annual eye examinations are covered for those at high risk for glaucoma. Or if you don't have vision coverage, contact EyeCare America, a national public service program that provides free glaucoma eye exams through a pool of more than 4,600 volunteer ophthalmologists. Visit AAO.org/eyecare-america or call 877-887-6327 to learn more.

While there's currently no cure for glaucoma, most cases can be treated with prescription eye drops, which reduce eye pressure and can prevent further vision loss. It cannot, however, restore vision already lost from glaucoma. If eye drops don't work, your doctor may recommend oral medication, laser treatments, incisional surgery or a combination of these methods.

For more information on glaucoma, visit the National Eye Institute at NEI.nih.gov, and the Glaucoma Research Foundation at Glaucoma.org.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, Okla. 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

**LIVING ROOM AND HALL CARPET**

**\$99.95**

**OTHER SERVICES**

- Water, Smoke, Fire Damage Clean up
- Furnace Air Duct Cleaning

— FREE MILEAGE —

Jamestown (701) 251-1967

**24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE**

HISTORY OF NEW ROCKFORD

K.C. Gardner, Jr. • Drayton, ND • NRHS Class of 1962



On Aug. 11, 1906, Mrs. H.R. Campbell went to Minneapolis to order her fall stock of millinery; she would be assisted in her shop by Miss Vera Keime; she returned on Aug. 25.

From Aug. 11 to 15, Miss Josephine O'Connell, who was teaching at Sykeston, came in to visit relatives; she was accompanied by another young lady from Sykeston, Miss Margaret Murphy. On those days, Mrs. S.F. Beer visited her daughter, Miss Dora, at Valley City.

On Sunday, Aug. 12, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Carroll were in Morris.

On Aug. 13, tinner James Mulvey returned from Esmond, where he had been doing a plumbing job. Mrs. James E. Hyde and Mrs. W.J. Morris went to Minneapolis; Mrs. Hyde returned on Aug. 18. Mrs. E.P. Cosgrove left on a trip to the Twin Cities and to her old home, Sumpter, Minn. Mrs. Inez Gullicks and her assistant Miss Bertha Hopper went to Minneapolis to spend a couple weeks selecting the new styles for Mrs. Gullicks' millinery; they returned on Aug. 27. Col. D.F. Ellsworth, Erwin Forbes, James Davidson, and George Treffry went to Minneapolis for the G.A.R. encampment; three returned on Aug. 18, but Ellsworth returned on Aug. 20. Rev. and Mrs. F.L. Gehrs left to visit Chicago relatives. Mrs. A.D. Tomlinson, Mrs. J.M. Mulvey, and Mrs. Viola Woodward left on a visit to Minneapolis; Mrs. Woodward returned on Aug. 18 and Mrs. Mulvey on Sept. 19. Band leader Claude Comer and State's Attorney R.F. Rinker left for a visit to their old Iowa homes; Rinker returned on the evening of Aug. 23, Comer on Sept. 5. That night, former resident O.W. West was in from Bowbells to visit. [He had left Eddy County on Jan. 7, 1902.]

Sealed bids were received until 5 p.m. on Aug. 13 by the county auditor for materials and construction of two bridges: one across the James between Sections 21 and 22, T149, R67 [Munster] and one across the Sheyenne between Sections 15 and 16, T150, R63 [Eddy].

The Eddy County Commissioners (J.G. Dailey and N.C. Gunvaldson; missing: James Dafoe) met on Aug. 13. They voted to rescind their July 20 approval of franchises for the Mutual Telephone Company of Barlow and the Western [or Northwest] Short Line Telephone Company because such approval should come from the Board of Supervisors in each of the newly established townships of Superior, Rosefield and New Rockford. They voted to pay the following: \$45, O.E. Nash, grading approaches to the Sheyenne River bridge in T150, R64 [Hillsdale]; \$8.50, New Rockford Light & Water Improvement Co. for June and July lights; \$499.50, E.M. Stitzel, grading contract; \$80, John Collins, janitor's salary for June and July; \$50, State Hospital at Jamestown, admittance of Annie R. Hammer. Bids were opened for the construction of two bridges: Twin City Bridge Co., \$3998; Hewitt Bridge Co., \$3710; A.Y. Hayne Co., \$3690; Security Bridge Company of Minneapolis, \$3690; Hennepin Bridge Co., \$3673; Fargo Bridge & Iron Co., \$3590; the bid was given to the Fargo Bridge & Iron Co.

On Aug. 14, Miss Fena Carlson returned from a visit with her sister Amelia at Leeds, where she had been employed as a dressmaker during the summer; Amelia accompanied her sister and after a visit with the girls' parents Mr. and Mrs. John Carlson returned to Leeds, where on Aug. 20 she was described as a bookkeeper for a mercantile firm. Albert West returned from Brinsmade, where he had gone the previous week to look over the Northwest Lumber Company's yards. Franklin D. Beardsley arrived from Painesville, Ohio, to stay with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Beardsley, during the fall in hopes of improving his health. Mrs. L.E. Weaver left to visit her old home at Algona, Iowa, and other points in that state; she returned on Sept. 28.

On the morning of Aug. 15, a son was born to Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Stegenga. The Congregational Sunday School children had their picnic in Clark's Grove. Mr. and Mrs. Ned Walsh came in for the First Communion service at St. John's Catholic Church; there was a large congregation and 32 First Communicants. Halver Halverson was down from the Sheyenne Valley on business. Dr. John Crawford and his father came down from Esmond to visit A.H. Crawford and his family. Mrs. H.F. King of Corry, Pa., arrived to visit her brother P.J. Braman for the rest of the summer; it was her first visit to North Dakota. Miss Vera Tyler of Chicago came in to visit her sister Mrs. John Von Almen and family until she took up her duties as a teacher in the Jamestown city schools. Mrs. A.E. Prouty's father from Adel, Iowa, came in

for a visit. Former resident Hugh Carr arrived from Madrid, N.Y., to look after business matters. Frank Hays went to Carrington to supervise the delivery of a big J.I. Case rig he had sold to farmers in Larrabee. Miss Hazel Henry, a sister of Mrs. J.C. Smith, went to the Valley City State Normal School to visit her sister Miss Beatrice Henry. Dr. and Mrs. Charles MacLachlan left on a trip to his old home in Ontario; he was also going to a meeting of the British Medical Association being held in Toronto. He returned on Sept. 1, while she remained to visit for a while longer. That evening, Louis [Ludwig] Schaefer died at the State Asylum in Jamestown to which he had been committed about two months prior. His body was brought to New Rockford the next day and at 9:30 a.m. Aug. 17, was interred in the Germantown Cemetery west of New Rockford, Father VandenBergh officiating. He left a wife and ten children. [There is a Ludwig Schaefer, July 13, 1854-Aug. 15, 1906, buried in St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery at Bremen.] That night, a small Jersey milch cow strayed from Hawthorne's pasture; the tip of her left horn was broken off. "Probably has calf by her side." Notify H.W. Wilson.

At Aug. 16, Misses Katherine and Doris Maddux arrived for a few days visiting Alice (Mrs. J.W.) Rager and other friends. Miss Darlene Dawson came in from Adel, Iowa, to visit Mrs. Fred Utz and family. Veterinary Surgeon F.R. Patterson came over from McHenry on professional business. Elmer Johnson stopped off on his way from San Francisco to Boston to visit his brother Howard Johnson for a few days. Bertha Spillman left for a visit with relatives and friends at Elizabeth, Minn. That evening, Mr. and Mrs. Orley Couch entertained around 16 young people at their Stimson Avenue home in honor of Miss Olive Couch's 21st birthday; the evening was passed playing "Grand Nulle" and enjoying light refreshments. At 8 p.m., Rev. E.W. Burleson conducted Episcopal services in the Methodist Church.

On Aug. 16 and 17, F.H. Dutee was in town visiting and on business matters.

The Aug. 17, 1906, "Transcript" said a large number of Illinois and Indiana land seekers were in the county that week, looking over prospective acreage. A crew of men were remodeling John Olson's residence on Dakota Street, just in back of his blacksmith shop.

Continued from page 5

HOLLAND—

for God.

Each moment we are tempted and distracted to focus our attention on something other than Jesus Christ. We hardly notice this subtle persuasion from the dark side, but stop for a moment and observe. This is certainly not a game, but conduct a serious experiment and you will realize that all of us are in the middle of fierce spiritual warfare. The idea from Satan is if he can keep our thoughts occupied with anything except God, he can control us. The question is, do we care? Do we not see the danger of being led around by Satan whose mission according to John 10:10 is to kill, steal and destroy?

The good news is we have a choice about how we live as the second part of that verse says, "but Jesus has come that we might have life, and have it more abundantly."

I have two passages to share with you before we close. The first is Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you." The second is found in James 4:7-8, "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." If we meditate on seeking and drawing near to God, we notice it demands an intentional act on our behalf

to pursue with a passionate determination. Could the principle of reaping and sowing pertain here? I believe so.

If God's response to us is based on the level of our desire to know Him, then how many steps do you intend to take to meet Him? If something prevents you from embracing and giving yourself completely to Him, what is it? There is a reality within the Christian faith and a worthy consideration; we can be as close to God as we want.

Dr. William Holland is a Christian minister, author, and chaplain. Learn more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com.

PLAN FORWARD

The best way to secure your future is to invest in your retirement.



**DAN TAYLOR | AIF®**

**Financial Advisor**

484 Main Street | Carrington, ND  
701.652.2852 | investforward.net



The financial advisors of Invest Forward offer securities and advisory services through Commonwealth Financial Network, member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Investments are not insured by the FDIC and are not deposits or other obligations of, or guaranteed by, any depository institution. Funds are subject to investment risks, including possible loss of principal investment. Bank Forward is not a registered broker-dealer or Registered Investment Adviser. Bank Forward and Commonwealth are separate and unaffiliated entities.