

**Obituaries of Cooper Countians
1920-1929**

23 Jan 1920

Issue of the Pilot Grove Weekly Record

**For Mrs Susan nee' Ramspear (Stewart) (Mann) Keck
George Allman**

Mrs. Susan Keck Dies

Was Born in Cooper County in 1845
Died at the Home of Her Sister Mrs. Mary Brownfield

Susan Keck died suddenly Wednesday morning, January 21, 1920 in Pilot Grove at the home of her sister, Mrs. Mary Brownfield, with whom she had been since early last fall, when she came to make a visit to her sister. Thanksgiving morning, Mrs. Keck slipped on the ice and received injuries from which she has since been confined to her room and to the house the past few weeks being able to walk about the home without being aided. Except for a very bad cough Mrs. Keck seemed much better than usual Tuesday and after a hearty supper retired feeling well. About one o'clock in the morning she became suddenly very ill and complained of a severe pain on the left side. Although suffering severely at times she was active and directing ministrations for her relief and death came when she had dropped into an apparent natural sleep, those with her not knowing when she passed away. Mrs. Keck, who was Miss Susan Ramspear, was born 74 years ago and reared near Pilot Grove. She was first married to J. W. Stewart and to that union one child was born, Mrs. Clara Schupp, of Union, Mo. After the death of the first husband she became the wife of Mr. John Mann, and for the first time left Pilot Grove, making her home at New Lebanon during the life of Mr. Mann. Later she was married to C. Keck of Clinton, Mo., and for many years that place has been her home, her husband having died two years ago. Mrs. Keck had her plans made for returning to her Clinton home and was anxiously awaiting the time when she might make the trip in safety. In her early girlhood she became a Christian and united with the Mount Vernon church and her life has been of quiet submission and unflinching faith. Besides the one daughter she leaves one surviving member of her family, Mrs. Brownfield, at whose home she died. The funeral was preached at the Pilot Grove Presbyterian church Friday afternoon (today) at two o'clock by the Rev. G. L. Coffman, pastor of the Methodist church at this place, after which the body was taken to the Mount Vernon cemetery, one mile south of town, and laid to rest by the side of her first husband and near the last resting place of many members of her family.

29 Oct 1920

Issue of the Bunceton Weekly Eagle

For Andrew C. Hurt

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

DEATH OF ANDREW C. HURT

Aged Farmer, West of Prairie Home, Died Monday Night –
A Civil War Veteran

Andrew C. Hurt, who lived about four miles west of Prairie Home, died Monday night, after having been in failing health for some time. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. T. M. MacDonnell at the Pisgah Baptist Church Wednesday morning, followed by interment in the church cemetery.

Mr. Hurt was born September 14, 1842 in Clark's Fork township, where he spent his entire life, having lived on the farm where he died for about forty years.

He was married to Miss Celeste Holstein November 7, 1867, and five sons were born to the union, all of whom survive with the wife and mother. They are: B. F., J. A., W. A., D. D., and O. F. Hurt, all of this county. Fifteen grandchildren also survive.

Mr. Hurt joined the Christian Church at Pisgah about thirty-five years ago and was an upright and honorable man, esteemed by all who knew him. He was a veteran of the Civil War, having served under Gen. Joe Shelby in the Confederate Army.

27 Jan 1922

Issue of the Bunceton Weekly Eagle

For Jesse A. Potter

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

Jesse A. Potter, of the Potter Hotel, High Street, Boonville, died early Thursday morning, January 19, at the home of the family, following a long illness of sciatic rheumatism, aged 54. He was born in this county near Prairie Home and had lived here all his life, since early manhood in Boonville, and had a wide acquaintance in the community. He is survived by the widow, who before their marriage was Miss Rosa Gantner of Boonville, and by their son, Muril Potter; his aged mother, Mrs. Martha (George) Potter, all of Boonville; his brother, Lon Potter, of Houston, Texas, and a sister living in California. Funeral services, largely attended by the relatives and friends of the family, were held at the home Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. H. Sando, of the Christian Church, followed by burial in Walnut Grove Cemetery.

19 Jan 1923

Issue of the Bunceton Weekly Eagle

For Lon V. Stephens

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

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FUNERAL SERVICES OF LON V. STEPHENS HELD LAST FRIDAY

The funeral of former Governor Lon V. Stephens, whose death occurred suddenly January 10 of heart disease at his home in St. Louis, as briefly told in the Eagle of last week, took place Friday afternoon at Cabanne M. E. church, St. Louis, largely attended by those prominent in the church, business and civic affairs of the city and state in addition to relatives and friends of the family. Following the funeral ceremonies, which were impressive, the body was placed in a receiving vault at Valhalla cemetery, St. Louis, until arrangements for burial are made later when, it is said, burial may be in Walnut Grove cemetery at Boonville, where his parents and the other deceased members of the Stephens family are buried.

Lon V. Stephens, third son of Col. Joseph L. Stephens, deceased, for many years a prominent citizen, lawyer and banker of Boonville, was born December 21, 1858, at Boonville, and grew to manhood here, attending the public schools, Kemper School and later Washington and Lee University at Virginia. Entered business upon his return from college as assistant cashier of the Central National Bank, Boonville, later becoming vice president. He was appointed State Treasurer by Governor Francis in place of the then defaulting treasurer and elected to that office by a large majority. Then nominated and elected as Governor for the four years term, ending in 1901, an administration marked by fine executive ability and success. His administration, as Receiver of the defunct Fifth National Bank, St. Louis, resulted in the saving of 98 percent to the stockholders and met with much commendation. Failing health and badly impaired eyesight forced his retirement from active public and business life during his latter years. He was married October 5, 1880, to Miss Maggie Nelson, daughter of James M. Nelson, for many years a prominent citizen, bank president and capitalist of Boonville, now deceased. Governor Stephens is survived by his wife, his sisters, Mrs. Wilbur T. Johnson of Boonville and Mrs. Paul B. Moore, of Charleston, Mo., his brothers, W. Speed Stephens of St. Louis and Alex Stephens, of Boonville.

31 Jan 1923

Issue of the Sedalia Capital

For Joseph L. Hazell

Submitted by Frances Smith

JOSEPH L. HAZELL

Joseph L. Hazell Died Following a several weeks' illness with dropsy, Joseph I. Hazell died at 4 o'clock yesterday morning at the family home, 1801 South Park Avenue. He was 45 years old.

Mr. Hazell had resided in this city for three years, coming here from Speed, Missouri. He was born March 7, 1848. Surviving him are his widow and four sons: Judson Hazell of this city, Leslie Hazell, Atchison, Kansas, and Dade, and Aubrey Hazell of Speed.

The funeral will be held at 11:00 o'clock this morning from the Pleasant Hill church near Pilot Grove, in Saline county. Rev. Red, the pastor, will officiate at the services.
(Comments: If he was born 1848 and died in 1923, he would be 74 years old, not 45.)

24 Oct 1923
Issue of The Sedalia Democrat
For Linus W. Deuel
Submitted by Dorothy Harlan

Linus W. Deuel

Linus W. Deuel, aged 86 years, for many years a resident of this city, died at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the family home, 1110 East Eleventh Street.

Mr. Deuel was born in New York state, but came to Sedalia when a young man. He was employed for many years as a machinist at the Missouri Pacific shops, but since the strike, in July 1922 he had not been employed.

Surviving are his widow, five sons, Frank of Cooper county, Charles and Oscar of Kansas City, Dean and George of Sedalia, two daughters, Mrs. J. A. Hearle of Boonville and Mrs. O. L. Heckert, of Sedalia. He also leaves one brother, A. M. Deuel, of Nowata, Okla, one sister, Mrs. Ida Gray, of Evansville, Ill, thirty grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at the home at 10 o'clock Monday morning, Rev. W. B. McGraw of the East Sedalia Baptist church to officiate.

Burial will be in Crown Hill cemetery.

23 Dec 1923
Central Missouri Republican – 27 Dec 1923
Anton Daniel Back
Submitted by Bill Scroggin
From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

Anton Back Stricken With Heart Attack

Well-Known Baggage Man Dies While at Work Sunday Afternoon - Fifty-Seven Years Old
Five Children Survive Him
Funeral Services Wednesday Afternoon From Home in Charge of Odd Fellows

Anton Daniel Back, well known to Boonville people as "Tony Back", died suddenly at 1 o'clock Sunday afternoon, while engaged in his work at the Missouri Pacific station, where he was baggage agent. His death was unexpected, apparently due to an acute attack of heart trouble, and the members of his family were waiting for him to come home to dinner at the time it occurred.

Mr. Back was born in Boonville March 31, 1865 and had lived here all his life. He was married November 17, 1885 in Boonville to Miss Louise Sophia Fessler, who died seven years ago, January 4, 1917. Six children were born to the union, one of them, John Robert, having died when a child.

The surviving children are: Terrence and Rosalie of Kansas City, Kan., Thelma and Henry and Mrs. Oscar Kline of Boonville. Two grandchildren, Bernard Anton Kline and Henry Frank Back, Jr. of Boonville, also survive.

Mr. Back was a member of four orders, the Odd Fellows, the Maccabees, the Woodmen of the World and the Modern Woodmen of America.

"Tony" Back was a familiar figure in Boonville, having for many years served as a baggage man and conducted a transfer business. He was outstanding in his reliability and in the service which he performed was of value to all of Boonville.

Funeral services for Mr. Back were held at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon from the family home, 204 East High street, conducted by the Odd Fellows

07 Jan 1924
William J. Vaughan

WM. J. VAUGHAN DEAD
CIVIL WAR VETERAN
William J. Vaughan Died Jan. 7, 1924
Was The Father of Thirteen Children

William J. Vaughan was born Nov. 2, 1843 and died Jan. 7 1924 being at the time of his death, 80 years, 2 months and 5 days old. His death marks the passing of another Civil War veteran. He was married March 4 1863 to Nancy Day who died July 14, 1863. He was married the second time Feb. 7, 1863 to Pernecia Elizabeth Vaughan who survives him. To this union 13 children were born. The eight living children are Mrs. Hugh Scott of Linn Creek, J. C. Vaughan of Boonville, Mrs. James of Versailles, Mrs. C. E. Jobe, Russeville, Mrs. Robert Swinehart, South of California, William Franklin, at home, Mrs. W. W. Jobe, High Point, Mrs. Leonard Jobe, of this city, all of whom were present except Mrs. Scott and J.C. Vaughan. He also leaves one brother, Frank Vaughan southwest of California and one sister, Mrs. Will Rex of Adair, Oklahoma. He leaves 38 grand children, eighteen great grand children, and one great grand child. He was born and raised in Cooper County and joined the old Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church at the age of 22. Years and lived a faithful Christian since. He was at the time of his death a member of the Brush Creek Church. He told one of his daughters that he knew he had a better home awaiting him and went to meet his heavenly Father with a prayer on his lips. The funeral was conducted by his pastor R. L. Hood and the body was laid to rest in Crown Hill cemetery.

02 May 1924
Issue of the Bunceton Weekly Eagle
For Joseph Shelby Cole
Submitted by Bill Scroggin
From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

JOSEPH COLE OF NEAR MT. NEBO PASSED AWAY

Death was Result of Pneumonia –
Funeral Was Held at Mt. Nebo Church Monday, April 28th

Joseph Shelby Cole passed away at his home in the Mt. Nebo community Saturday night, April 26th, following a severe illness of pneumonia.

Joseph Shelby Cole was born on December 20, 1863 on the farm where he died, having spent his entire life in the same community, passing away at the place that had been his home for more than sixty years.

At the age of 17 years his father died and the duties of filling his father's place at the head of the large family of eight children revolved on Joseph. To this task, he bound himself and aided his widowed mother in every way. In May, 1889, he was married to Miss Mollie D. Ewing. To this union were born three children who, with the wife survive. They are Celeste, Inez, and Horace. The only one left of this large family of brothers and sisters, is his sister Emma.

Mr. Cole was held in the highest esteem in the community in which he had made his home for so many years, and his friends were many. He was a citizen of splendid character and was accorded such among all who knew him.

Funeral services were conducted at the Mt. Nebo Church on Monday morning, by the Rev. Clyde Hampton of Tipton and interment was made in the Bunceton Masonic Cemetery.

We extend to the relatives of the deceased our sincere sympathy in this sad hour.

02 Aug 1924
William M. Lionberger

W. M. LIONBERGER DIED SATURDAY AT HIS HOME HERE

Was Laid To Rest This Morning At Eleven O'clock --A Noble Man!

Mr. William M. Lionberger died, just as the sun was sinking in the west last Saturday evening, a soul was called to rest--a kindly soul that was ready to go to his home eternal.

Mr. William M. Lionberger who had been a resident of Boonville all his life, fell asleep at 7:20 o'clock August 2. Mr. Lionberger was the son of Isiac H. Lionberger and Mary Ann Tutt, who were married in Luray, Virginia, later coming to this city to make their home. This son was born in Boonville, May 3, 1840. On January 14, 1869 he married Miss Anna Trigg. The surviving children are: Dr. John Lionberger of St. Louis and Mrs. H. L. Harlan of this city. There are three grandchildren.

Mr. Lionberger was well-known in this town and neighboring community and was honored and respected by all who knew him.

For the past four years he has been confined to his home, where he has been tenderly cared for by a devoted daughter. His was of a noble character and he has been a brave and patient soldier in the battle of ill health and discomfort.

The funeral was held from the family residence Monday morning at 11 o'clock. The pallbearers were his nephews: Nelson Leonard, John Pitott, Frank Pigott, Fred Pigott, Ewing Trigg, Frank Waltz. The honorary pallbearers being, Colonel John Cosgrove, Carter Sappington, D. S. Koontz.

The Daily Republican joins the many friends of the family in extending the deepest sympathy in this hour of sorrow.

26 Nov 1924

Issue of the Sedalia Daily Democrat

For Abe Potter

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

Abe Potter

Abe Potter, aged 99 years, well-known pioneer, residing 3 miles west of Clifton City, died at his home at 1:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, following a brief illness.

Mr. Potter, surrounded by a large circle of relatives, celebrated his ninety-ninth birthday on November 12. The day before he had walked as usual to Clifton City for his mail. He was taken seriously ill about a week ago.

He was born on the thousand-acre estate on which he died, November 12, 1826, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Jon Potter. He engaged in grain and stock farming on reaching manhood. Joining the gold rush to California in 1849, he lived in that state about one year, returning to his home afterwards. He had resided on his home place practically all his life. Mr. Potter was well known throughout central Missouri as a gentleman farmer of the old school. When he was forty-two years of age he was married to Miss Sarah Erwin, who died ten years ago. Of this union nine children survive, Mrs. J. W. Neal of 1603 South Moniteau Avenue, Miss Alice Potter of Clifton City, Granville Potter of 2201 South Ohio Avenue, John Potter of Clifton City, Mrs. A. M. Harlan of 902 West Broadway, Mrs. Frank Richards of Florida, Mrs. Frank Griffin of Smithton, Miss Hettie Potter of Clifton City, and Mrs. Tom Huffine of Oak Grove, Mo.

The funeral was held at his home at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, the Rev. J. W. Owens, pastor of the Longwood Methodist Episcopal Church officiating. A large concourse of friends and relatives of the deceased were in attendance. Profuse floral tributes of rare beauty testified to the position of esteem, and respect in which Mr. Potter was held by his large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Pallbearers were M. M. McCarty, J. E. Shy, Ollie Bringes, Q. Higdon, J. W. Neal and William Bidstrup.

Interment was in the Providence Church Cemetery near Clifton City.

25 Jun 1925

William T. Eubank

A Builder of the West Rests After Long, Useful Life

William T. Eubank dies at the advanced age of eighty-nine years

Was a Pioneer of the West and Life Has Been Filled With Adventures and Hardships

William T. Eubank died at the home of his son, W.G. Eubank, in this city, on Sunday afternoon, June 25, 1922, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. The elderly gentleman had lived with his son for about two years last past, and had been practically helpless for a year or more. He received every loving attention from his son and family during his stay here and died from the effects of old age, quietly and without pain of any kind.

A history of the life of William T. Eubank would read like a tale of border days, replete with adventure and hardship, for he was among the earliest builders of this part of the west. He was born in the state of Virginia in 1833, and located at Leavenworth, Kansas in early manhood. He crossed the plains from Leavenworth, Kansas to Sacramento, California in 1850, being engaged in the business of freighting supplies to the gold miners of the coast. He pursued this

business a number of years, and made a number of trips to and from California, each trip requiring a years time, and each journey being filled with danger of hostile Indians and accidents of flood and field.

Mr. Eubank also helped establish the first pony express from Leavenworth to Sacramento, he being the one who laid out the route as best traveled, and placed the men and riders at their first stations. He was a very strong and aggressive man, of the kind that was so much in demand in those strenuous days, and his services were recognized to be of great value in establishing the routes of travel across the American desert, as it was called. In 1878 he took up his headquarters at Sidney, from where he delivered beef to the Indians on the Pine Ridge agency for two years. In 1880 he started a freight line from Sidney to Ft. Robinson, near Crawford, Nebraska, and to the Black Hills, first using mule teams and later the typical "bull" teams in hauling his wagons. In 1885 he was elected sheriff of old Cheyenne County, when he sold his freighting outfit and gave his entire attentions to his office. His term as sheriff extended until December 31, 1890, and during this term he was continually busy in the fight against lawlessness that was then being waged by county officials everywhere in the middle west. While serving as sheriff Mr. Eubank had occasion to execute a murderer who killed two persons and buried their remains in a sand draw about half a mile east of where Redington now stands. In 1891 Mr. Eubank took up his home in Denver where he resided until about two years ago when he was brought by his son to end his days here.

Funeral services were read over the remains of the aged pioneer, at the Eubank home Sunday afternoon, by Rev. Henry Steele, pastor of the Episcopal church of Bridgeport, after which burial was made in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Many friends of the family extended sympathetic attention and followed the body to its last resting place.

Bridgeport News-Blade
Bridgeport, Nebraska
June 1922

Note: In a biographical sketch printed in the Sidney, Nebraska newspaper when Mr. Eubank was running for sheriff, he listed his birthplace as Owenville, Cooper County, Missouri.

William T. Eubank married Alice Sarah Taggart in Sidney, Nebraska on June 6, 1886. He had three children from an earlier marriage and he and Alice had three children.

04 Aug 1925

Central Missouri Republican 06 Aug 1925

William Herman Back

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

William Back Killed By Train Here Tuesday

Funeral Services Were Held at Walter Potter Home On Walnut Street Thursday

William Back, lifelong resident of Boonville, died at St. Joseph's hospital here at 8 o'clock Tuesday night from injuries received when he was struck by a Missouri Pacific Railroad train about 6 o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

Back had apparently fallen asleep on the railroad track near the Missouri Reform School, and failed to hear the train approaching. Both legs were severed in the accident and he sustained other injuries. He was taken to the hospital immediately following the accident.

Mr. Back was born on June 18, 1869, and was married on January 14, 1891 to Miss Mackie F. Hurt, who died here on September 10, 1921.

He was a member of the Woodmen of the World lodge for many years.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Elmer Cartner of eight miles south of Boonville, two sisters, Mrs. J. Potter and Mrs. Dom Barnert of Boonville, and one brother, Joe Back of Billings, Okla.

Funeral services were held at 3 o'clock Thursday afternoon at the home of a nephew, Walter Potter, on Walnut street. They were in charge of the Rev. J. E. Bomar, pastor of the Baptist church of Tipton. Burial was made in Walnut Grove Cemetery.

01 Jan 1926

Issue of the Bunceton Weekly Eagle

For William J. McFarland

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

W. J. McFARLAND OF CLARKS FORK DEAD

Was One of County's Most Widely Known Farmers and Stockmen

William J. McFarland, one of Cooper County's best known farmers and stockman, passed away at his home near Clark's Fork early Friday morning following a critical illness of several months duration.

Mr. McFarland was born in Clarks Fork township September 9, 1863, the son of A. W. and Mary Catherine McFarland. He spent his boyhood days on the home farm and received his education in the public schools of the county. He had been a farmer and stockman all his life and his farm in Clark's Fork township is one of the best and most modern farms in that section of the county.

The deceased was married to Miss Mollie Eller, a daughter of Davis and Martha Eller, of Boonville township November 2, 1884, who survives him. Four children also survive the father: Wilbur J., Mrs. William Mersey, Mrs. Wilbur Farris, and Mrs. Gordon Mitchell.

Mr. McFarland was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Boonville and was an active and worthy member of the Presbyterian Church at Bethel. He was a public-spirited citizen and took an active interest in all matters pertaining to the public welfare and the advancement of the community.

Funeral services, attended by a large crowd from all parts of the county, were held from the Bethel Presbyterian Church on Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock. Services were conducted by the Rev. Rewster of King City, Mo. Burial was made in Walnut Grove Cemetery in Boonville.

28 May 1926

Boonville Advertiser

For Mrs. Mary Ann Monks

Submitted by Mae Bruce

COUNTY'S OLDEST WOMAN DIES AT AGE 94

Mrs. Wm. Monks, of near Tipton, was native of England

She came to America when eighteen years old and settled in New York

Mrs. Mary Ann Monks, Cooper county's oldest woman, died at the home of her son, William Monks, of near Tipton, May 20, being 94 years and two months at the time of her death.

Funeral services were held at the Presbyterian church at Clarksburg followed by burial in the Odd Fellows Cemetery. Pall bearers were six of her grandsons, Harry and John Monks, of Tipton; Roy and Edgar Monks, of near Bunceton, and Truman and Stanley Hirst, of Sedalia.

Mrs. Monks' maiden name was Miss Mary Ann Barwood and she was born in Yarmouth, England, March 16, 1832. She came to America when eighteen years old and on July 5, 1853, she became the wife of William Monks. To this union nine children were born. The husband and four children preceded her in death, and she is survived by one daughter Mrs. Lydia Hirst, of Sedalia, and four sons, Tom Monks, of Welsh, La.; Alex, of Sedalia; Sam, of Syracuse, and William, of Tipton, with whom the venerable old lady had make her home for the past 12 years. Mrs. Monks also had twenty-seven grandchildren, forty-three great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren, making her seventy-seven living descendants.

Mrs. Monk's husband was a seaman and for some time following their marriage they lived in New York. Following this Mr. and Mrs. Monks moved to St. Louis and Mrs. Monks conducted a millinery store until a few years after the Civil War after which they moved to Cooper county.

Until two years ago Mrs. Monks led an active life and was an industrious housewife. She was always a great lover of needlework and took many premiums at various fairs.

She was a member of the Presbyterian church and was a woman of unusual attainments.

07 Aug 1926
Issue of the Telegraph Herald, Dubuque, Iowa
For Robert T. Roedell
Submitted by Kristen Watts

Robert T. Roedell, 73, died at Finley hospital Friday morning at 3 o'clock.

The body has been taken to the home of his son, R. P. Roedell, 264 Hill Street. Funeral services are to be conducted at the Walton and Schroeder chapels Sunday afternoon at an hour to be announced later. Burial be made in the Linnwood Cemetery.

Mr. Roedell was born in Quincy, Illinois October 15, 1852 and has been a resident of Dubuque for the past forty years. He was a painter by trade. He is survived by four sons, F. G., R. C., R. P. and A. T. Roedell all of Dubuque, and one daughter, Mrs. Alex Duccunu, Dubuque.

03 Jun 1927
Issue of the Boonville Advertiser
For Judson Hazel
Submitted by Frances Smith

Judson Hazel, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Hazel, was born in Cooper County, near Billingsville, August 27, 1874, and died at his home in Nevada, May 26, 1927. He spent the most of his life in the county where he was born and has many friends of his old home. On April 16, 1921, he was married to Mrs. Fronie D. Wright, of Nevada, who with the mother and three brothers, Leslie, Dade, and Aubrey, all of this county, survive. Funeral services were held from the Hay's Undertaking Parlor, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with burial in Nevada.

13 Dec 1927
Boonville Weekly Advertiser
Friday, December 17, 1926
Front Page
Submitted by Nancy LaGore

Born Near Clifton City, but Lived for Past Thirty Years at Pleasant Green

James Nathaniel Blyth, a native of Cooper County, passed away Monday at Pleasant Green at 6 o'clock in the evening having attained the age of 68 years. He was the fourth member of his family to die within thirteen months, three of his sisters having died within that time.

Mr. Blythe was born one mile north of Clifton City on the old Blythe homestead, Marcy 20, 1848 and grew to manhood there. His first marriage was to Miss Margaret Campbell of Clifton City, who died many years ago. On December 8, 1891, he was married to Miss Sallie Woolery, and is survived by her.

Mr. Blythe was a member of the Pleasant Green Methodist church, and funeral services were held from that church at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon by his pastor, the Rev. Powel Cane. Pallbearers were: W.C. Cordry, E.L. Graves, Dr. J.S. Parrish, J.W. Coe, J.T. Rueker and J.H. Schlotzhauer. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The many friends Mr. Blythe had made during a long and useful lifetime will learn with sorrow the passing of this Christian citizen for he was always a man who took pleasure in aiding those who called upon him for help.

12 Jun 1928
Ralph Tuckley

Ralph Tuckley, son of William Tuckley formerly of Versailles but for several years a citizen of Bunceton, died at the home of his father Tuesday, June 12, about noon. The young man was around 28 years old. He served in the World War where he contracted tuberculosis and from which he suffered several years, spending most of his time in government hospitals. A government nurse was with him at the time of his death. The body was brought to Versailles today for burial in the Tuckley burial lot in the city cemetery.

12 Jun 1928

Margaret Rymal Kickasher

The following is a transcription of the **Obituary of Margaret Rymal Kickashear 1835-1928**, as found in the Boonville Daily News, Boonville, MO December 17, 1928 Page 1.

Transcribed by Judith Ambrose King on January 2, 2002

93 Yr Old Woman Dies Yesterday

**“Grandma” Kickashear, Near Overton
Was Ill With Influenza Only Few Days.**

Funeral To Be Tuesday

**She Was Born in Cooper County in 1835
and Spent Almost Entire Life in County.**

Mrs. Margaret Kickashear, lovingly known as “Grandma” Kickashear, by hundreds of relatives and friends, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Emma Groom, near Overton, yesterday morning between eleven and twelve o’clock. The immediate cause of the aged woman’s death, who was past 93 years old, was influenza. She was ill only a few days.

In spite of her age Mrs. Kickashear was active physically and mentally almost up to the time of her death. She was probably the oldest person in the country to vote at the last election, going to the polls to cast her vote for her grandson, Clay Groom, who was elected sheriff.

Funeral services will be held at the Highland Cumberland Presbyterian church Tuesday ;morning at 10 o’clock, by Rev. Russell of Sedalia, and burial will be in the Clayton cemetery, near Wooldridge.

The following interesting account of this remarkable old lady was written for publication two years ago by Mrs. George S. Stemmons, of Prairie Home:

Was Born In Cooper In 1835

Mrs. Kickashear, whose maiden name was Margaret Rymal, was born in 1835, eight miles east of Boonville. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rymal, first lived in Tennessee, but hearing the call of the west as did many of their neighbors at that time, and seeking to better their fortunes, came with their children, their household goods and chattels, to Missouri in 1835. They came in “covered wagons,” traveling slowly and painfully westward, ever westward, helping to blaze the way for the countless thousands that followed, enduring the hardships of the trail, facing the menace of the hostile Indians that they might build the better for their children.

Soon after reaching Missouri, little Margaret the eleventh child of the family was born. One was born afterward, but only seven of these children survived the hardships of pioneer life. Mrs. Kickashear talks feelingly of the father and mother who toiled early and late that their family of little ones might be properly clothed and fed. The mother raised the flax, the wool and even the cotton, all of which she took through the many primitive processes preparatory to the spinning and the weaving and dyed the cloth and fashioned it into garments.

Attended "Subscription School"

In the winters Margaret, with her brothers and sisters, attended subscription school, which usually lasted three months and for which the father paid one dollar per capita per month. Considering the preparation of the average teacher of the time, it was "high at the price." The school they attended is now known as the Woodlawn, but was then called the O'Brien. It was built of logs and contained long backless benches for the pupils. A long desk where all the youngsters stood to "do their sums" and their writing exercises was made of a log sawed in two through the middle and set up on wooden pins. Blackboards were unknown. The children had to "toe" a long mark, when they stood up to recite, and woe to the mischievous lad who waxed too festive during a recitation, for down on his luckless pate came the ferule with which the master was always armed.

In talking of the farm and its activities in those days, Mrs. Kickashear tells of the threshing of the wheat on the barn floor by the horses who tramped it over and over, driving in the primitive way, the grain from the stalk. This was followed by the separating of the chaff from the wheat by the old fashioned wheat fan, a far cry from the improved methods of today. No wonder wheat flour was a delicacy and to be used only on special occasions such as when the preacher came to dine or some one in the family married.

Future Husband Comes to America

While Margaret was growing in body and spirit, blooming into attractive womanhood, there was in far off Italy, a young silk weaver, an expert at his trade, one who had a touch so delicate, a hand so true, that one-fourth yard per day was his limit. His fame as a weaver had gone abroad in the land and he was commissioned to weave a velvet tapestry to adorn the palace of the king. While this young weaver was working at his trade, he was weaving dreams of his own into the fine fabric of his loom, dreams of a far away country where he could live a free life in the great outdoors that he loved --dreams that were rudely awakened by the military commandant whose heavy hand was laid upon his shoulder, and he was pressed into military service.

For eight long years he served his country as a soldier, but the dreams of the weaver lad became too strong; they developed into a driving ambition, and with the assistance of an older brother, himself a weaver and a merchant, the young man was slipped out of the country and smuggled aboard a merchant ship bound for America, whose jolly tar of a captain agreed to deliver him on American shores for the sum of one hundred dollars, a vast amount in those days and in that country. But why not? It was the price of freedom. After many days at sea, Joseph Kickashear was landed at New Orleans. He had no friends, no acquaintances, no one in whom he could confide, for a price was on his head, so what could he do? Silk weaving, the only trade he knew beside soldering, was not in demand, and he had he not promised himself a life in the open, once he reached the land of his dreams?

Young Couple Wedded

So, as was the usual custom of the Italian immigrants of that day, he took the little money he had and bought a monkey and a handorgan and proceeded northward, making enough to pay his expenses as he went. With the hand of fate guiding him, one night he and a partner whom he had annexed in his travels, advertised a show in the neighborhood of the young Margaret Rymal. Can we not see the happy faced young girl, accompanied by a school friend, (who, by the way, was the late Samuel L. Jewett), as she goes to the little show in a neighboring schoolhouse, clad in her best "linsy" frock and eyes bright with expectancy? Shows were few and far between in that time and the day that brought one, was a real event in the lives of the young people.

It was truly a "red letter" day for the young Guiseppe (so his name would be spelled in his native language) for it was a case of love at first sight with him. But Margaret would have none of him at first; she had no such thought in her bright young head. However, Joseph's ardent southern nature saw no obstacles and he pursued his suit with such vehemence that the lady finally consented to be his bride. So, eleven months afterward, on Dec 3, 1854, they were married at the residence of the late Robert Miller, a neighbor. Mr. Miller had faith in the young man who confided to him his ambition to become a farmer, and so he rented to Joseph some land that he owned in Bates county.

They Move To Bates County

The following March, 1855 the young married couple took what Mrs. Kickashear fondly calls their wedding trip, in an oxcart, with all their worldly possessions piled in the "tonneau". It took six days to cover the distance of some 126 miles. The first night out they made camp in what now is the heart of Sedalia, though no buildings stood there at that time. After a period of one and one-half years in Bates they decided that Cooper was the place they wished to make their permanent home, so they harnessed up their oxcart and returned. In a few years by dint of hard work and careful

management they were able to own a farm of their own and bought one near Overton and that is the place where Mrs. Kickashear makes her home with a daughter whose husband purchased the place soon after Mr. Kickashear's death some thirty years ago.

Mrs. Kickashear is the mother of family of seven. Mrs. Mary Johnson, Portland. Ore.; Mrs. Emma Grooms, Overton; Andrew, Sedalia; Mrs. F. L. Schilb, Prairie Home. She also has twenty grandchildren and twenty-two great grandchildren.

Active and Energetic

Mrs. Kickashear is remarkably active and energetic, wants to keep busy all the time; can cook, sew, and do housework, is able to walk as far as one-fourth mile and frequently does it. She can thread a needle with 60 thread with ease, has pieced ten quilts since her ninetieth birthday and has started work on the eleventh. She possesses a remarkable memory and two years ago at the Prairie Home M.E. Children's Day exercise, repeated a poem that she had learned and given at a school entertainment seventy-five years before. The poem was "God Made the Stars," and it was in the second reader she used in her youth. Last year she gave it at some exercises held at the Highland Presbyterian church and it was commented on by the "Cumberland Presbyterian," the state paper of that organization. Her partner in this little dialogue when she repeated it first in 1849 was James Tucker, long since dead, the grandfather of Harold Mills, of Boonville.

Had "Old Fashioned Religion"

It is a privilege to know and love a woman like "Grandma" Kickashear, who has the old fashioned kind of religion that makes her love everybody. Her face becomes actually illuminated as with a light from above when she tells of her joy when her husband became a Christian. In looking back over the long road she has traveled with its days of hopes and joys, its moments of sorrow and sadness, that time of the conversion of the husband and father is her "supreme moment," standing out as a shining beacon in her life of Christian service which began at the age of fourteen, the time of her own conversion. She is a Cumberland Presbyterian by faith, and while she loves all brother and sister Christians, her heart is naturally a bit more tender to those of her own denomination. Old age would hold no terrors of us if we could grow old as sweetly and beautifully as she has done, with her courageous Christian faith, her daily walk with the Master and her childlike, prayerful trust in God. "Hers an old age serene and bright and lovely as a Lapland night."

23 Jul 1927

Issue of the Central Missourian

For Mrs. A. W. (Catherine) nee' Hurt McFarland

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

Mrs. A. W. McFarland died at her home in Clark's Fork township Friday July 22, after an illness of six weeks. Mary Catherine (Hurt) McFarland was born in Clark's Fork township September 2, 1838, and was a daughter of William and Catherine Robertson Hurt.

She was married to A. W. McFarland of Boonville township, December 10, 1857. To this union were born five children. Two daughters died in childhood. William J. McFarland died in December, 1925. Two daughters, Mrs. Robert Johnson and Mrs. J. Terrell Mills, both of Cooper County, survive. Two brothers, W. A. Hurt and James Hurt, of Boonville, with a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. McFarland was a widow of A. W. McFarland, who died January 3, 1910. Both Mr. and Mrs. McFarland were natives of Cooper County. They lived in Henry County for three years, then moved back to Cooper County, where they made their home on the old McFarland homestead in Clark's Fork township. The Hurt and McFarland families are prominent in the history of Cooper County.

Early in life she became a member of the Bethel Presbyterian church. Funeral services will be held in the Boonville Presbyterian church at three o'clock Sunday afternoon, conducted by Rev. Mitchell of Independence. Interment will be made in the family lot in Walnut Grove Cemetery.

02 Aug 1928

Issue of the Sedalia Daily Democrat

For George W. Potter

Submitted by Bill Scroggin

From newspaper collection, Newspaper Library, State Historical Society of Missouri

George W. Potter

George W. Potter, 84, died at 5:30 o'clock Wednesday morning at his home five miles north of Clifton City. Death was caused by general debility.

He is survived by his widow, three sons, Grant, John, and Samuel, and four daughters, Mrs. Little Wood, Mrs. Nellie Durley, Mrs. Jane Fair, and Ruth Wallace. All are of the Clifton City neighborhood, with the exception of Mrs. Wood, who lives at Exeter, Calif. He is also survived by thirty-three grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren, and three brothers and one sister.

Funeral services will be held at the Lamine church at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon. The Rev. Zeb Thomas will be in charge of the services.

Mr. Potter had lived in the Clifton City neighborhood since some time prior to the Civil War and has many relatives and friends there.

www.mogenweb.org/cooper