

## Cropper Family Burial Plot

Inquire and please, ask permission to enter private property.

### Quadrant Map:

Rocheport

### General Location:

South of Overton

### Congressional Township:

Township 48-N; Range 15-W

### Section:

Southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 5

### Longitude & Latitude:

To be determined

### Directions:

On land current located on the Clydesdale Breeding Farm

### Atlas Survey:

1877 land atlas – a cemetery symbol on Hays land

1915 land atlas – no cemetery symbol on O. F. Fluke land

1978 plat book – no cemetery symbol on Milton Sieckman land

1991 plat book – no cemetery symbol on Milton Sieckman land

### History:

For a long time people in Cooper County, Missouri knew that there was a small private cemetery on the bluff along the Missouri River near Overton, Cooper County, Missouri. They also knew that buried in that cemetery was Leven Cropper one of the earliest settlers in the county, nothing else was known about the cemetery. I decided to find and record the Leven Cropper Family Cemetery and, so, with atlas maps in hand and the help of Muriel Brewer we come up with the most probable location. The location was on the current (2009) Clydesdale Breeding Farm in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. In 2009 with my brother, Jon Thoma, we contacted John Soto, manager of the breeding farm who guided us to the cemetery location. There we found two upright stones and seven field stones in the cemetery along with some split log resting benches. The stone information was photographed and recorded to the best of our ability. As we left the Clydesdale Breeding Farm John Soto asked that we keep him informed of what we learned about the cemetery. John, you did me no favors with that request.



At this point, my thanks go to Muriel Brewer, Jon Thoma, John Soto, Doreene Durant, and Cassie Hill for all their help and contributions.

As my search progressed in information about Leven and Mary Cropper the cemetery became a story of two strong similar but dissimilar people. Those being Leven Cropper and Mary [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper, a couple who married on the back side of their lives. It also became a story of the early history of Cooper County, Missouri and its connection with Monroe and Randolph Counties, Illinois. So the history of this cemetery is divided into three sections: Levi Norbert Cropper, Mary [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper, and Early Cooper County History.

### Levi Norbert Cropper

Levi Norbert Cropper was born in 1745 or 1760 in Worcester, formerly Somerset County) Maryland. He was the son of Nathaniel and Mary née Tull Cropper. He married Comfort Bill / Biehl / Biehle. A Revolutionary War veteran. he served in the militia roles for the Sinexuxient Battery. There are some records suggesting that he was a sugar planter near Sinexuxient Bay; near a place known as "Cropper neck", a sound. It is also believed that his ancestral home was called "Wellbeck".

There is a major question of when and where Levi Norbert Cropper died and is buried. Comfort Cropper is listed in the LDS Church Records as dying in 1795. This is about the same time (1798) that three of Levi Norbert's children (Nathaniel, Thomas, and Leven) were living in Missouri Territory on land located within the present day limits of St. Louis, Missouri. In examining all the records related to this family that I have been able to presently locate; there is the possibility that Levi Norbert Cropper accompanied his children to the Missouri Territory. That he remained with his son, Leven and died in Cooper County, Missouri.

#### **Children of Leven Norbert and Comfort née Biehle Cropper**

1) Nathaniel Cropper was born in Sinepuxent, Worcester County, Maryland<sup>1</sup>. He married Rebecca Terrell in July 1809 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana. Rebecca was born Jan 1795 in Georgia. She was the daughter of Richmond and Sarah née Lisles Terrell. Nathaniel died and Rebecca married James Johns in 1827.

#### **Children of Nathaniel and Rebecca née Terrell Cropper**

1) Lucinda Cropper married Charles Kleinpeter.

2) Thomas Nathaniel Cropper married Matilda Kleinpeter, the niece of Charles Kleinpeter. Thomas died in 1846.

2) Thomas Cropper was born in Sinepuxent, Worcester County, Maryland<sup>2</sup>. With his brothers, Nathaniel and Leven, ever searching for land in the new frontier, they left the home of their father, Levi, on the eastern shore of Maryland, where the family had settled generations earlier. Coming down the Mississippi River, the two brothers claimed land near St. Louis, then moved on to Iberville Parish just prior to 1800<sup>3</sup>.

1798 Feb 10 Concession of 400 arpents of land situated on the Creve Coeur River in the district of St. Louis granted to Thomas Cropper, signed by Zenon Trudeau, lieutenant governor of Upper Louisiana (document in French). Notation on back reads, "Confirmed to James Kincaid four hundred arpents of land as per the written concession, saving the right of Thomas Cropper, January 9, 1806, by the Board [of Land Commissioners]."

1799 Apr 2 Survey of land of Thomas Cropper on Creve Coeur River, Upper Louisiana (document in Spanish).

1802 Apr 8 Letter signed William McConnell (or William M. Connell), St. Charles, to Captain Mackay, stating that he will be Mr. Cropper's security for making a title to the land which he is selling. (True copy of original signed M.P. Leduc, recorder, January 8, 1806.)

1802 June 5 Deed of transfer of land executed by Nathaniel Cropper, attorney of Thomas Cropper, to James Kincaid (document in French). (True copy of original signed M.P. Leduc, recorder in and for the District of St. Louis, January 8, 1806.)

He married Julie Eulalie Marionneau on 15 Nov 1802 at the St. Gabriel Catholic Church in Louisiana. Rebecca, born 08 Sep 1783 in Ponte Coupe Parish, Louisiana the daughter of sugar planter Charles Francois Marionneaux and his wife, Marie Jeanne Gueho<sup>2</sup>. Shortly afterward his marriage, Thomas bought a strip of woodland near White Castle, which became his Laurel Ridge Plantation<sup>3</sup>. Thomas Cropper died young in a camp near New Orleans. His son, Nathaniel, is believed to have died in a hunting accident soon afterwards in 1824. This left young Norbert and his mother to run their three plantations.

#### **Children of Thomas and Julie Eulalie née Marrionneau Cropper**

1) Antonie Norbert Cropper was born 04 Sep 1805 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana and died 18 Sep 1855. He married Henriette Lauve on 23 Jun 1834. Harriett, as she was called, was the daughter of Evariste and Cleste née Brunet Lauve. Harriett was born in Iberville Parish, Louisiana and died 1885.

Norbert, as he was called, died in a hunting accident aboard the steamer "Blue Hammock". He accidentally shot himself while hunting alligators. He was buried at St. Raphael's Cemetery near Plaquemine, Louisiana. Other sources indicate that he may have committed suicide by shooting himself. He was a sugar cane planter.

Henriette Cropper remarried in 1857 to Judge James L. Cole. They continued to live on Rebecca Plantation. After her husband's death, she moved to Plaquemine. She apparently was quite wealthy and had numerous jewels. Two men conspired with her maid to unlock the door

one night. As the men were robbing her, Henriette awakened. To keep her from awakening the household, they stuffed a silk stocking in her mouth causing her to suffocate.

**Children of Antoine Norbert and Marie Henriette Lauve**

1) Evariste Nathaniel Cropper was born 19 Apr 1835. He first married Lidia Jane Wailes and then married Cornelia Ann Wailes.

2) Euphemie Cecelia Cropper was born 17 May 1836 and died 22 Sep 1908. She married George Bell Newell Wailes, a lawyer, on 29 Nov 1855 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana.

3) Thomas Ernest Cropper was born 13 Mar 1838 and died 17 Sep 1878. He married Harriet Bethel Nash on 26 Jan 1860.

4) Julie Henrietta Ernestine Cropper was born 23 Jan 1843 and married Edward Woodlief. She later married Arthur Schiff.

5) Charles A. Cropper was born 01 Feb 1845 and died in Aug 1908 in Plaquemine, Louisiana.

2) Nathaniel Cropper was born 18 Aug 1803 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana and died 20 May 1824.

3) M. Rebecca Cropper was born Feb 1820 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana and died about 08 Jul 1821.

4) Jeanne Guilot Cropper was born 02 Jul 1822 in Iberville Parish, Louisiana and died 06 Jul 1822.

3) Vincent Cropper was born in 17 Jul 1777<sup>4</sup> in Sinepuxtent, Worcester County, Maryland. He married Mary Stiles on 27 Oct 1805 at Trinity Church Parish, New York City, NY. He died of consumption in Nyack on 15 Jan 1847 or 15 Apr 1847<sup>4</sup>.

Vincent and Mary first lived at 169 Chapel Street, latter at 70 Thompson Street and later in Nyack, Rockland County, New York. Today this all part of greater New York City.

**Children of Vincent and Mary née Stiles Cropper**

1) Ede Anne Cropper married William James Bennett on 28 Jun 1832 at Trinity Church Parish, New York City, New York. William James Bennett is a famed landscape artist.

2) Catherine Matilda Cropper married James Van Rensselaer Archer on 11 Jun 1835 at Trinity Church Parish, New York City, New York.

3) Caroline Louise Cropper married Clarkson W. Ryder on 20 Jul 1836 at Trinity Church Parish, New York City, New York.

4) Leven Cropper, Jr. was born 01 Mar 1779<sup>4, 5</sup> in Sinepuxtent, Worcester County, Maryland and died 06 Feb 1852 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. He was first married to Sophia C. Levens on 10 Feb 1801<sup>4</sup>. Some records indicate that this marriage occurred in Missouri. However it is more probable that the marriage occurred in Randolph County, Illinois. Sophia was born 27 Mar 1780<sup>4</sup> and died 11 Apr 1828<sup>4</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. His second wife was Mary née Rainer [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper who was born on 01 Jul 1788<sup>4</sup> and died of Palsy on 24 Jul 1852<sup>4</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. They were married 16 Nov 1838 in Monroe County, Missouri<sup>4</sup>. Mary was the daughter of Jesse and Sarah Rainer<sup>4</sup>. Both Leven and Mary née Rainer [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper are buried in the Cropper Family Burial Ground<sup>6</sup> on the bluff overlooking the Missouri River bottoms at Overton, Missouri. In the normal manner their graves face east with their "face to the rising sun".



be sworn to the Spanish King. It is interesting to note that almost all commercial and governmental

functions were carried on by the French who had owned the territory until 1762 when they ceded it to the Spanish who would in turn cede it back to the French in 1802 who in turn sold it to the United States in 1803. Things being slow on the frontier, it was said that the Spanish flag was lowered, the French flag raised, the French flag lowered, and the American flag raised all on the same day.

Leven did not stay long on the Grand Glaize Creek as in 1801 he was a Captain in the Indiana National Guard for the county of Randolph. Serving under Leven Cropper was a man named Thomas Levens. Thomas was a relative of Henry Levens and both also lived in Randolph County, Illinois. Henry Levens and Leven Copper would both end up in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri where they would be honored as the oldest settlers of Cooper County, Missouri.

The last record of Leven residing in Illinois was in 1807 when he was listed on the Randolph County census of southern Illinois. By 1825 he was no longer found in the Randolph County, Illinois census records. It is during this time of living in Kaskaskia, Randolph County, Illinois that we believe Leven made a tour of southern Missouri and northern Arkansas. He kept a journal of this trip noting land, accommodations, prices, rivers and waterways, settlements, and general impressions. Likely it was from these journeys that he decided to move next to mid-Missouri.

This note survives of Leven residing in Randolph County, Illinois: "Recieved Novembner the first 1808 of Mr. Leven Cropper the ---of one hundred and twenty six dollaars on a judgement which I recieved againsh him in the court of common pleas in the county of randolph--- ----by me Elias Chaffin"

The legal system was no stranger to Leven. He appears in Missouri Supreme Court cases first in 1812 in St. Genevieve County, Missouri. Next he appears in an 1813 case in St. Louis County, Missouri.

Leven Cropper came to Cooper County, Missouri in either 1817 or 1818. The reason that we know this is that he voted in the election of 1819 and you had to be a resident for one year in order to vote in the election.

He took an immediate interest in the political affairs of his new home serving as Cooper County Assessor for Saline Township from 20 Feb 1822 through 19 Feb 1823. He served as Justice of the Peace for Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri in 1824.

From his letters we know that Leven took a keen interest in his financial matters. The Book of Strays reports that 21 Jan 1821 was taken up by Leven Cropper and testified to by William Larn (Lamm) and W. Calvert. This was a time when hogs, cows and horses often ran free or escaped from their owners. If a person found such an animal they could report it to the county officials. Along with the report they it was required that two people testify to the animal; which meant that they testified as to the value of the found animal. At the end of one year if no one had claimed the animal then the finder could pay the county a tax and claim free ownership of the animal. Two steers were taken up by Leven Cropper of Saline Township on 24 Dec 1822 and testified to by Lewis Broils (Broyles) and George Paid (Pate). On 29 Dec 1827 a red steer was found by Leven Cropper of Boonville Township, Cooper County, Missouri and appraised by Benjamin Hannah and George Pait (Pate). Likewise on 28 Mar 1828 the Book of Strays reports that two mares were taken up by Leven Cropper of Boonville Township and appraised by John Calvert and James Farris.



Leven Cropper purchased 160 acres of land in Missouri Territory on 14 Nov 1816 for \$383.50. This purchase was for 160 acres of New Madrid Claim land. Later Leven cashed or traded in this claim for 160 acres of land in Township 15, Range 15 located in Cooper County, Missouri. Leven Cropper purchased 440 acres of land from George Tennille on 25 Aug 1824 in the SW, NE, and NW quarters of Section 6, Township 48, Range 15 located in Cooper County, Missouri. He purchased 160 acres of land from Samuel Emmons on 17 May 1830 in the NW quarter of Section 28, Township 53, Range 17 located in Chariton County, Missouri. On 01 Mar 1831, Leven purchased 80 acres of land in Cooper County, Missouri being the western half of the southwest quarter of section 5, township 48 north and range 15 west. In the 1835 Tax List for Cooper County, Leven owned 160 acres in section 5, township 48 north and range 15 west and an additional 70 acres in section 6, township 48 north and range 15 west. On 02 Nov 1837 he purchased an additional 40 acres of land lying in the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of section 5 of township 48 north and range 15 west.

Living next to Leven and Mary was James M. Stevens; the probable father of Dodge Stevens; the husband of Mary née Cropper Stevens. James Conner and Charles Force, mill owners of Cooper County, were well known by Leven Cropper and his brother, Vincent Cropper.

#### **Children of Leven and Sophia C. née Rainer Cropper**

1) Thomas Cropper was born on 08 Nov 1802<sup>4</sup>. He married Nancy Ann Mitchell in Boone County, Missouri on 29 Jan 1832. Nancy was born sometime from 1800 to 1810. In 1840 he was living in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri near his father and mother-in-law where he was a farmer. Thomas died on 11 Jan 1844<sup>4</sup> and is presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot

#### **Children of Thomas and Nancy Ann née Mitchell Cropper**

1) Elizabeth Margaret Cropper was born 05 Aug 1833<sup>4</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. She married T. D. Evans.

2) Eda Ann Cropper was born in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri on 25 Jan 1836<sup>4</sup>. She died on 21 Jul 1836<sup>4</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri and is presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.

3) Mary Sophia Cropper was born circa 27 Nov 1837<sup>4</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. Mary married Higgason or Higgerson H. Rice.

2) Loueza Cropper was born 20 Sep 1804<sup>4</sup>. The Cropper Family Bible has no further information on this daughter of Leven and Sophia née Levens Cropper. The presumption one has to make is that she also died at birth or infancy. In 1804, Leven Cropper was known to be living in Kaskaskia, Randolph County, Illinois

3) Eliza née Cropper Stevens was born 20 Aug 1806 (the family Bible gives her birth as 19 May 1806) in Kaskaskia, Randolph County, Illinois and died 03 Aug 1837 (the family Bible gives her death as 03 May 1837). She married Joseph Stephens on 22 Sep 1824<sup>4</sup> in Cooper County, Missouri and lived the rest of her life in the Bunceton area of Cooper County. Joseph, born 13 Nov 1800 and died 23 Jun 1884, was the son of Joseph and Rhoda née Cole Stephens. He was born in Wayne County, Indiana and came to Cooper County in 1817. After the death of Eliza, Joseph Stephens married Sarah Covert of Harrodsburg, Kentucky. Joseph Stephens was the son of the first Stephens of Cooper County.

#### **Children of Joseph and Eliza née Cropper Stephens**

1) Leven Cropper Stephens was born 15 Nov 1825<sup>4</sup> near Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri.

2) Basil Wells Levens Stephens was born 19 Jan 1829<sup>4, 7</sup> near Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri. He went to Mexico and ended up in Yolo County, California.

3) George Hartt Stephens was born 15 Mar 1832<sup>7</sup> near Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri. The Cropper Family Bible provides 20 Apr 1827 as the birth date for George.

4) James M. Stephens was born near Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri.

5) Joseph Doge Stephens was born 24 Apr 1837<sup>4</sup> in Missouri and died 06 Oct 1837<sup>4</sup> in Missouri.

#### **Children of Joseph and Sarah née Colvert Stephens**

1) Joseph D. Stephens born 19 Sep 1842 in Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri

2) Gordon L. Stephens born 29 Jun 1850 in Bunceton, Cooper County, Missouri

3) John Covert Stephens

4) Jacintha "Cynthia" Cropper was born on 10 Sep 1807. She married Adam Simonton on 30 Oct 1828 in Cooper County, Missouri. They were divorced in 1832, through a settlement of \$1.00 paid to Leven Cropper by Adam Simonton. On 08 Jan 1839 Jacintha was living with her father. Adam later married Rebecca Clarke on 12 Dec 1839 in Cooper County, Missouri.

The fate of Jacintha is unknown. The Cropper Family Bible is largely silent about Jacintha giving only her birth date. Her marriage to Adam Simonton was by Cropper records an abusive one. Jacintha escaped her marriage to Adam by going back to her father's house. Adam denied her request for a divorce and it was not until Leven Cropper threatened to take it to the Missouri Supreme Court that Adam relented and agreed to a divorce. Jacintha in an 1839 letter to her

father expressed a desire to never marry again. But at the same time her father was sending possible suitors to court her. While she was living with her father in 1840 she does not appear in the 1850 census records with her father. There is not a record in Cooper County of a second marriage and the will of Leven Cropper does not list Jacintha as an heir. It is highly probable that she died and is buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.

5) Mary L. Cropper was born 18 Oct 1810<sup>4</sup> (most likely) in Illinois. She married Jurial Doge Stephens on 04 Sep 1833<sup>8</sup> or 04 Sep 1834<sup>4</sup> in Cooper County, Missouri. Jurial and Mary moved to California, Moniteau County, Missouri. Jurial was the son of William and Rowena née Dever Stephens and was born in Cooper County, Missouri. Mary died between 1850 and 1860 as Jurial had moved to St. Clair, Missouri and by 1860 had remarried. Jurial died 1870 in St. Clair County, Missouri.

#### **Children of Jurial Doge and Mary L. née Cropper Stephens**

- 1) William L. C. Stephens was born on 11 Jan 1836. He married and had a daughter named Kate who married J. T. Moore.
- 2) Vincent N. Stephens was born 12 Jul 1837<sup>4</sup> in Moniteau County, Missouri.
- 3) Elizabeth Cropper Stephens was born 01 Jan 1839 in Moniteau County, Missouri. She married Brightwell Cary. Elizabeth died 18 Jan 1908 at the home of her son, Charles Cary, in Speed, Missouri. Elizabeth is buried in the Old Moore Cemetery, Cooper County, Missouri.
- 4) Rowena Stephens was born in 1841. She married Joseph Cary. Joseph Cary was a brother of Brightwell Cary.
- 5) Cynthia Stephens was born in 1842.
- 6) John Stephens was born in 1845.
- 7) Rhodia Stephens was born in 1848.
- 8) John Stephens was born in 1849.
- 6) Margaret Cropper was born on 03 Jan 1813<sup>4</sup> in Missouri and died 07 Jul 1827<sup>4</sup>. She is presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.
- 7) Vincent Cropper was born in 23 Sep 1815<sup>4</sup> in Missouri. He worked for several years with a cousin, Norbert Cropper, who owned a cane plantation in Louisiana. He then spent time in an insane asylum in Illinois before being moved to his father's home, where he was living in 1850. In 1858 he purchased land in Bates County, Missouri.  
On 13 Jul 1856<sup>4</sup> Vincent married America Virginia née Butler. America was born on 06 Apr 1833<sup>4</sup> and died 03 Sep 1859<sup>4</sup>. Her entry is the last one in the Leven Cropper Family Bible. It is possible that her surname could be Butter or Buttes.
- 8) Henry Levens Cropper was born 17 Feb 1818 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. He died 25 May 1846 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. He is presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.
- 9) Levin W. Cropper was born in 31 May 1820<sup>4, 5</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri. Levin Cropper first married Elizabeth P. née Caldwell on 16 Jan 1845<sup>4, 8</sup>. Elizabeth was born 12 Jun 1826 and died 01 Dec 1847 probably as complications of childbirth. She is buried in Clayton Cemetery. Her gravestone is broken and stuck in the ground but the lettering is still legible.

Levin W. Cropper next married Mary Jane Sturat (Stewart) on 07 Jul 1852 in Cooper County, Missouri. Mary was born 15 Apr 1833 and died 06 Nov 1851. She is buried in the New Salem Cumberland Church Cemetery in Cooper County, Missouri.

Levin W. Cropper's third wife was Tabitha Jane Owsley. They were married on 04 Sep 1855 in Johnson County, Missouri. They lived in Johnson County, Missouri on the border with Pettis County. They owned land in both Johnson and Pettis County. Levin and Tabitha moved in 1859 to Halsted, El Paso County, Colorado when he was a rancher and justice of the piece. Leven died on 24 Feb 1881 in Halsted and is buried there.

#### **Children of Levin W. and Elizabeth P. née Caldwell Cropper**

- 1) Silas Wright Cropper was born in 24 Dec 1845<sup>4, 5</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri.



2) Sarah Louiza Cropper was born in 21 Nov 1847<sup>4, 5</sup> in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri.

**Children of Levin W. and Mary Jane née Sturat Cropper**

1) Leona Stewart Cropper was born 10 Jan 1862 in Cooper County, Missouri. On 30 Mar 1881 she was married to Sardis Pelitah Armstrong in El Paso County, Colorado. Interestingly, Sardis was born in Apr 1829 in Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri. Leona died on 01 Nov 1902 in Cripple Creek, Teller County, Colorado. Sardis died on 28 Apr 1911 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Mary [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper**

Mary was a remarkable woman. She was married three times. First to William Alexander and second to Samuel Bailey on 24 Aug 1826 in Monroe County, Illinois, and lastly to Leven Cropper on 15 Nov 1838 in Monroe County, Illinois. William Alexander was a wealthy man and is likely the source of Mary's wealth. As, indeed, she was wealthy and preserved her wealth through prenuptial agreements with both Samuel Bailey and Leven Bailey. She sold land in Monroe County, Illinois on 30 Mar 1826 under her own name. On 01 Mar 1828 she sold land to her son-in-law, Isaac Starr, under the name of her husband Samuel Bailey.

Little is known of Mary's parents and siblings other than one sister. Her sister was Margaret Wilson of Monroe County, Illinois; the wife of Robert Wilson. Robert died circa 25 Feb 1833.

1) Sarah Alexander married Isaac W. Starr on 28 Jul 1826 in Monroe County, Illinois. She later married John Rader on 30 Jul 1837 in Monroe County, Illinois. John and Sarah née Alexander [Starr] Rader remained in Illinois where they wrote to Leven and Mary of their children, crops, cholera and business interests.

**Children of John and Sarah née Alexander [Starr] Rader**

1) Mary E. Rader was born 29 May 1838 in Ingel's Prairie, Monroe County, Illinois. She married William Solomon Scott.

2) James M. Rader was born 16 Aug 1840 and died 05 Apr 1860. He is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in St. Clair County, Illinois.

3) Francis M. Rader was born on 05 Nov 1842 and died 12 Feb 1843.

4) Hannah E. Rader was born on 05 Feb 1843 and died 28 Oct 1871. She married George T. Crosby.

5) Melissa Ann Rader was born in 1846. She married Richard A. Marshall. They are both buried in Barton County, Missouri.

6) Cornelia Isabelle Rader was born 24 Feb 1848 and married John H. Cook. She is buried in Bellville Cemetery, Lebanon, St. Clair County, Illinois.

7) Sarah A. Rader was born 02 Jan and died 05 Feb 1877. She married Horace E. Patterson.

2) Elizabeth Alexander was born 01 Dec 1806. She married Gilman Jewett on 12 Feb 1825 in Monroe County, Illinois. Gilman was born in Ohio on 10 Aug 1793. Gilman was both a teacher and farmer. He died on 20 Jan 1835 in Monroe County, Illinois. Elizabeth followed him in death on 02 Mar 1837. Together they had a family of seven children

**Children of Gilman and Elizabeth née Alexander Jewett**

1) Samuel L. Jewett was born in 12 Nov 1833 in Monroe County, Illinois and died 1916 in Cooper County, Missouri. He married Martha M. née Dorsey on 10 Oct 1860. She was born 14 Jan 1834. They are both buried in Walnut Grove Cemetery in Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri. In 1840 Samuel L. Jewett and William Cropper came to Cooper County, Missouri where Samuel began operating Jewett's mill with the help of William Cropper.

2) William S. Jewett moved to Jefferson County, Missouri

3) Laura A. Jewett married J. A. Owen of Cooper County, Missouri.

## **Early Cooper County History**

### **Flukes**

1) Louisa née Fisher Fluke was a native of Monroe County, Illinois and came to this county when she was quite young. She was partly reared in the family of Leven Cropper, then living near Overton, Missouri. There she met and married John Fluke.

Their son George F. Fluke remained a farmer and owned 300 acres of land; 200 of bottom land and 100 acres on the bluff.

### **Croppers**

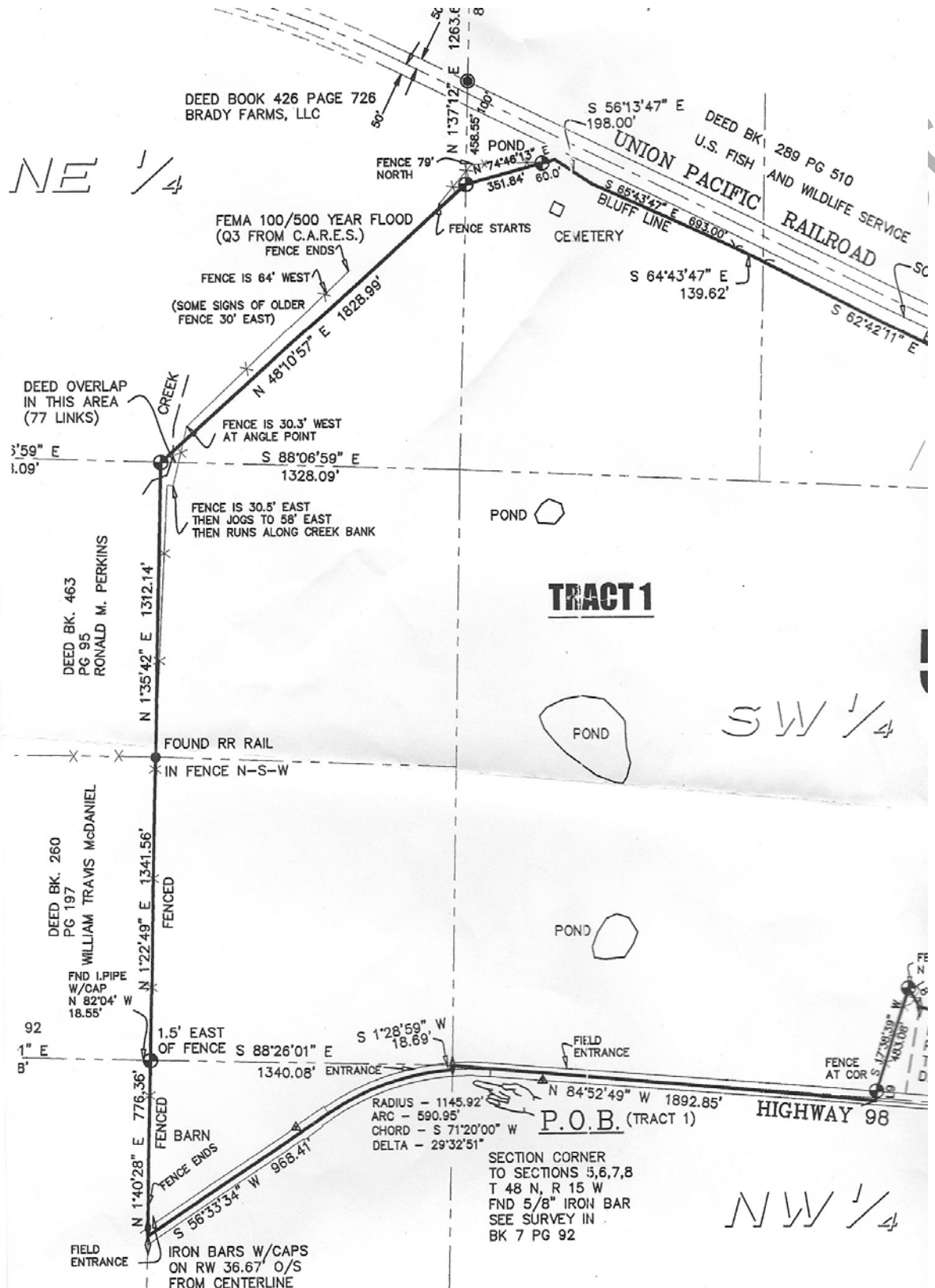
William Cropper also lived in the vicinity of Leven and Mary Cropper. He worked at the mill of Sam Jewett. In 1840 he moved from near Waterloo, Monroe County, Illinois to near Overton, Missouri.

### **Slaves**

1) There is a marriage record dated 13 Aug 1865 uniting in marriage Eduard Homan and Mary Cropper both colored. Their children Henry born 31 Oct 1851, Joseph P. born 09 Jan 1853, Sarah E. born 21 Nov 1854, and John W. born 02 Sep 1858 are mentioned in the marriage record. The lineage of Mary née Cropper Homan is not known. On closer inspection Ed and Mary née Cropper Homan are the same Ned and Mary that are mentioned below. Henry Homan mentioned above is Nathan mentioned below.



2) Leven Cropper did own slaves. In his will he made specific request for his slaves. At the time he owned Harriett a female about 12 years old and valued at \$400; King a male age 18 and valued at \$800; Ned a male age 27 and valued at \$700; Mary a mulato age 18 and valued along with her child Nathan age 6 months at \$700; and Dorcas a female age 45 and valued at \$300. Ned and Mary were husband and wife and Nathan was their child. In the way Leven requested that Ned and his family not be separated, that they not be required to move more than 2 miles away. The slaves were asked to select new masters and if that were not possible then they were to be distributed among his children. In the end, that is what happened: Harriett and Dorcas went with Vincent Cropper; Ned, Mary, and Nation went with Leven W. Cropper; and King went to Leonard Calvert.





Updated:

August 23, 2011 with 8 entries for this cemetery.

Cropper	Eda Ann; born 25 Jan 1836 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; died 21 Jul 1836 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; presumed to be buried here; daughter of Thomas and Nancy Ann née Mitchell Cropper
Cropper	Henry Levens; born 17 Feb 1818 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; died 25 May 1846 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; son of Leven and Sophia C. née Levens Cropper; presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.
Cropper	Jacintha; born 10 Sep 1807; daughter of Leven and Sophia C. née Levens Cropper; wife of Adam Simonton; married 30 Oct 1828; divorced; presumed to have died between 1840 and 1850 and presumed to be buried in this cemetery.
Cropper	 <p>Leven; born 17 Jul 1777 in Sinepuxtent, Worcester County, Maryland; died 06 Feb 1852 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; son of Levi Norbert and Comfort née Bill / Biehl / Biehle Cropper; husband of Sophia C. née Levens, first wife; married 10 Feb 1801; husband of Mary née Rainer [Alexander] [Bailey], second wife; married 16 Nov 1838. Leven name is often given as Levi, Levin, Lavin, or Laban. Sinepuxtent can be spelled so many ways that I am unsure of the spelling. Sinepuxtent was destroyed in the hurricane of 1817.</p>
Cropper	Margaret; born on 03 Jan 1813 in Missouri; died 07 Jul 1827; daughter of Leven and Sophia C. née Levens Cropper; she is presumed to be buried in the Cropper Family Burial Plot.
Cropper	 <p>Mary née Rainer [Alexander] [Bailey] Cropper; born 01 Jul 1788 in Ohio; died 24 Jul 1850 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; daughter of Jesse and Sarah Rainer; wife of Colonel William Alexander, first husband who died and is buried in Monroe County, Illinois; wife of Samuel Bailey, second husband who died and is buried in Monroe County, Illinois; married 24 Aug 1826 in Monroe County, Illinois; wife of Leven Cropper, third husband; married 16 Nov 1838 in Monroe County, Illinois; Mary insisted upon legal prenuptial agreements with her second and third husbands. It is known that her first husband, Colonel William Alexander, was a wealthy man.</p>
Cropper	Sophia C. née Levens; born 17 Jul 1777; died 11 Apr 1828 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; first wife of Leven Cropper; married 10 Feb 1801; most likely married in Randolph County, Illinois; there is a tombstone of American white marble purchased for her and erected by Joseph Stephens in this cemetery, but it is now buried under the forest floor. Sophia is likely the daughter of Henry Levens and sister to Basil W. Levens. She is related to all the other Levens of Cooper County who also came from Randolph County, Illinois.
Cropper	Thomas; born 08 Nov 1802; died 11 Jan 1844 in Saline Township, Cooper County, Missouri; presumed to be buried here; son of Leven and Sophia née Levens Cropper; husband of Nancy Ann Mitchell; married 29 Jan 1832 in Boone County, Missouri.

<sup>1</sup> The Leven Cropper Papers in the Spencer Givens Collection; Western Historical Manuscript Collection; Columbia, Missouri.

<sup>2</sup> Riffel, Judy; Iberville Parish History.

<sup>3</sup> Kleinpeter, Lynette LeBlanc; The Kleinpeter Legacy.

<sup>4</sup> Klein, Rosa Lee, Leven Cropper Family Bible

<sup>5</sup> 1850 United States Census

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<sup>6</sup> [www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper); Cropper Family Burial Plot

<sup>7</sup> Hill, Cassie; email dated 29 Oct 2009

<sup>8</sup> [www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper); Cooper County Marriage Records

[www.mogenweb.org/cooper](http://www.mogenweb.org/cooper)