

Gibbon Township

Andreas' History of the State of Nebraska

BUFFALO COUNTY

Produced by [LeRoy Eaton](#).

Part 8

WILLIAM T. BEATTY, farmer, P. O. Gibbon; located in Gibbon, October, 1872; purchased a hotel, which he conducted about three years; during this time he took up a homestead five miles northwest of Gibbon. After leaving the hotel he moved on the farm and cultivated the same about three years. He then moved to his present location, purchasing the same, and erecting his dwelling in the fall of 1878, adjoining the village plat on the northeast. He owns a fine tract of eighty acres of land, one and one-half miles east of the village. He was born in Clermont County, Ohio, September 11, 1817; was brought up on a farm; made a trip over the great plains in 1852, to California, and remained in the latter State two years, engaged in mining; returned to Ohio in 1854, and engaged in farming until July, 1861, when he received a commission as Captain of Company C, Second Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Ivy Mountain in East Kentucky and Perryville, Ky., at which battle he received a ball through his right limb and seven balls through his clothes; was confined in the hospital three months, reported to his command in Murfreesboro, Tenn., with a commission as Major, and participated in the battle of Chickamauga, having command of the regiment, where he received three wounds, his horse being shot under him, and was left by Gen. Thomas as a forlorn hope, with orders to hold the position at all hazards. He held the same until he was surrounded and captured, and was held prisoner a year and seven days, being confined in Libby Prison and stockade, at Macon, Ga., and the jail in Charleston,

N. C. He was exchanged at Atlanta, Ga. There was a commission awaiting him for Lieutenant Colonel, but he never served under it; was mustered out in Columbus Ohio, November 10, 1864. He returned home to Cincinnati, Ohio, sold out, and moved to Muncie, Delaware Co., Ind.; and farmed five years; sold out and came to Gibbon, Neb, in 1872. He was married in Clermont County, Ohio, June 28, 1838, to Miss Miriam Everson, of Cincinnati, Ohio. They have five children--Mary E., Benjamin E., Acenith A., John M. and George S. They are all married, and the two oldest are living in Ohio; the next two in North Platte, Neb., and the other one living in Gibbon.

DAVID M. FULMER, farmer, P. O. Gibbon, bought land in Gibbon in August, 1879, being there on a visit at that date. He soon returned to Syracuse, N. Y., and moved his family to the above place in February, 1880, and located. He now owns 400 acres of fine land adjoining the village site, 320 acres of which is under plow. He was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., February 4, 1831, and was raised on a farm. He owned and operated a farm in the East until ten years previous to settling in Nebraska. He then moved into Marcellus, N. Y., and followed mercantile business. He was married in Onondaga County, N. Y., April 21, 1858, to Miss Ellen E. Longstreet, of the latter county. Mrs. Fulmer was born September 10, 1838. They have five children--Charley E. and Henry E., both teachers of good standing, Clark A., Minnie L. and Nellie E. Mr. Fulmer and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Bassett, Vol. I

P. 110 - GIBBON TOWNSHIP--TOWN NO. 9, RANGE NO. 14

(Note--The southwest quarter of section 14, town 9, range 14, in this township, known as

"Boyd Ranch," was the first claim taken in the county by Joseph Boyd in 1867, and was

the first piece of deeded land in Nebraska west of Hall County.) 1867—

Joseph Boyd.

1871—56 [Gibbon Homestead Colony came April 7, 1871] A. F. Gibson, W. H. Kenny, W. J. Knight, **Coe Killgore**, Clara E. Lew, John Lloyd, C. A. Monks, W. F. McClure, E. Northrup, A. J. Oviatt, **Wm. Patterson**, C. T. Silvernail, H. P. Rogers, John Lucas, **Geo. H. Silvernail**, Wm. Roach, John Silvernail, Jacob Booth, R. E. L. Willard, J. W. Wiggins, S. M. McDuffee, Aaron Ward, W. D. Hick, C. E. Brayton, John W. Forrest, **Wm. Brady**, Robert Hick,

I. D. LaBarre, R. Forrest, Geo. Gilmore, P. K. Drury, L. S. Hough, J. Delos Drury, S. Rosseter, V. T. Mercer, U. A. Day, John Stern, D. R. Davis, O. A. Buzzell, Asa Fawcett, W. J. Carson, W. W. Gibson, **D. P. Crable**, M. D. Thomas, A. Kennedy, J. S. Chamberlain, R. S. Shiffert, L. D. George, J. Gable, T. J. Hubbard, W. N. Jackson, E. M. Hubbard, G. A. King, Saml. Mattice, R. Wallace, John Grabach.

1872—13
P. T. Davis, A. J. Snowdon, W. C. Drury, J. W. Berry, Mary J. Mercer, J. E. Kelsey, **D. P. Ashburn**, John P. Putnam, T. J. Fisher, D. B. Worley, Wm. Stern, J. A. Danner, H. B. Mercer.

1873—4
J. Marsh, T. B. George, W. P. Trew, T. J. Mahoney.

1874—2
Ebon Bray, J. J. W. Place.

1878—26
A. P. Johnson, H. Lewis, R. W. Wallace,

P. Crawford, A. J. Murrish, John J. Marrs, Charles Riley, Wm. Manix, John Murrish, B. M. Guiles, M. Meals, J. McWhiney, T. Pratt, A. H. Boltin, Elisabeth Baker, W. H. Chapman, W. O. Altaffer, S. M. Palmer, H. Cook, F. H. Cook, Mary A. Reis, E. S. Edwards, J. M. Applegate, **P. E. Foxworthy**, Hattie B. Cook, **A. Eddy**.

1879—3
Peter DeClark, Isaac DeClark, A. L. Chase.

p. 122-124 - Gibbon as County Seat and the First Courthouse

At the regular election held October 10, 1871, the county seat was, by vote, located at Gibbon. [Previous to this it had been in Wood River Centre after being reorganized in December 1869.] At the same election Aaron Ward was elected county clerk, Edward Oliver, treasurer; C. Putnam, superintendent of schools; O. E. Thompson, sheriff; B. F. Sammons, and W. F. McClure, commissioners. As recalled Frank S. Trew served as deputy county treasurer. On May 22, 1872, the county records were transferred to a building erected for a private residence being at this date (1915) the residence of Mr. F. M. Riggs. On this removal the county clerk was authorized to expend not to exceed \$50 for a desk and other furniture for his office. The county offices and county records were kept in this building, for which a rental of \$10 per month was paid by the county until February,

1873, when on the completion of the new courthouse the offices and records were transferred to that building.

THE COURTHOUSE

On April 20, 1872, the commissioners, W. F. McClure and B. F. Sammons, ordered a special election to vote on the proposition of issuing courthouse bonds. This election was held May 7, 1872, and resulted as follows:

For bonds, 121 ; against bonds, 55; majority for bonds, 66. On June 8, 1872, Charles F. Driscoll, an architect from Omaha, appeared before the commission and was authorized to furnish plans and specifications for the courthouse building. He received for drawing plans and specifications the sum of \$423.

To build this courthouse there was issued \$20,000 in bonds, bearing 10 per cent interest and dated July 1, 1872. They were twenty-year bonds, optional after ten years. It might be of interest to state that these bonds, are still unpaid (1908); they were refunded in 1888 at 7 per cent interest; in 1893, refunded at 5 per cent interest; in 1800 at 3 60-100 per cent interest. The interest on these bonds from July 1, 1872, to date, 1908, approximates \$51,480. The original bonds were sold to Farr & Trew, bankers at Gibbon, for 87½ cents, that being 5 cents higher than the bid of any other bidder.

The county received in cash for these bonds	\$17,500
The county has paid, approximately, in interest.	51,480
The county has yet to pay on bonds	20,000

On July 13, 1872, ten bids were received for the construction of the courthouse and jail, the jail being in the basement of the building. The contract was awarded to H. B. Dexter of Omaha to complete the building for \$16,025. Mr. Dexter further agreeing that the brick would be manufactured at Gibbon. Mr. Dexter at once began the construction of the courthouse. The stone for the foundation and the lumber to be used were shipped from Omaha. The brick were made from clay and sand found in the immediate vicinity of Gibbon and it was planned to burn the brick with wood procured from the Loup River in the north part of the county, a distance of about twenty-five miles by the route necessarily traveled. The contract to cut the wood was taken by W. F. McClure and he was assisted by John Silvernail and Samuel Mattice. J. S. Chamberlain took the contract to haul the wood at \$6 a cord and among those who hauled wood for this purpose were J. S. Chamberlain, W. W. Gibson, S. C. and B. C. Bassett, Bray Brothers and W. F. McClure. McClure hauled with a horse team, the rest with oxen. With three yoke of oxen two cords of wood could be hauled at a load, by doubling the teams from the Loup through the sand, a distance of about four miles. There was a drive of about twenty miles without water, making it necessary to drive in the night a portion of the trip as the oxen could not stand it without water if driven in the heat of the day. It required three days, with good luck, to make the trip with oxen, and it usually took longer as breakdowns occurred or wagon tires became loose, often in the night, when the wheel must be taken

off, the tire heated over a wood fire, strips of burlap tacked on the wagon wheel felloe and the tire, when heated as hot as the green wood would heat it, crowded back on the wheel and cooled with all the water carried in the little five gallon kegs used on such trips. A loose tire was greatly dreaded as it meant a delay of some hours. The wood cut for this purpose was both cottonwood and oak. It was cut on the south side of the Loup, opposite the mouth of Beaver Creek on section 9, Garfield Township, the timber being on an island in the bend of the river and had thus been protected from prairie fires by having water on both sides of the timber.

There was no money in hauling this wood at \$6 a cord and the last brick made were burned with coal, it being impossible to develop sufficient heat with the green wood. It might be mentioned that in tearing down this courthouse in 1908, brick used in the inside walls were found that had not been heated sufficiently hot in the making or burning to destroy the grass roots that had grown in the clay of which the brick had been made. Some of the men who hauled wood on this contract carried at times nothing but green corn to eat on the trip, and while green corn is a most toothsome article of food, especially as a side dish where a variety of foods comprise the meal, yet when one has corn for breakfast, corn for dinner, corn for supper, corn, corn, corn, it somehow loses its delicious toothsome flavor, especially when eaten cold. In the drive of about twenty miles, without water, in hot weather and hauling a heavy load, the oxen sometimes became so thirsty as to become unmanageable and it was necessary to unhitch from the load and go some miles to the water. At such times the oxen, frantic with thirst, would break away and bawling run like mad for water and drink till it seemed their hides would burst.

One serious accident occurred in the building of the courthouse. While working in a sand pit on the north side of Wood River, to secure sand for the construction of the building, the sand caved in and thereby William Brady lost his life. Mr. Brady was a member of the colony, a soldier of the Civil war, Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-third New York Infantry. His death occurred on September 17, 1872. He left a wife and four small children and none of the early settlers had a more arduous, laborious struggle than did Mrs. William Brady to support and educate her family of children. She met this struggle, extending over many years, with fidelity and true courage and success crowned her

efforts.

Just when the courthouse was completed the county records do not show. Final settlement was made with Mr. Dexter, the contractor, on April 1, 1873. The first meeting held in the new courthouse was on Washington's birthday, February 22, 1873. It was a public gathering of the people on the occasion it now seems, of the formal acceptance of the courthouse. The gathering was in the evening and among the other exercises was an address by Col. H. D. Niles, a local attorney. The exercises concluded with a dance, music for the same being furnished by the Thomas Brothers Orchestra, George, Aleck and Thorn Thomas, homesteaders living in the eastern part of the county.

p. 127-128 – The Decision to Move the County Seat to Kearney

Before the first courthouse was completed agitation had begun for removal of the county seat. Time is too short, eternity too near, printer's ink and white paper too expensive, to even attempt to relate the history of a county seat fight. On August 24, 1874, the county commissioners, W. F. McClure, Patrick Walsh and J. E. Chidester, were induced to declare the courthouse unsafe and to order that no meetings except for county purposes be allowed in the building. On August 29, 1874, a petition was presented to the commissioners asking for a special

P. 128-129 – Use of Gibbon Courthouse Building

The casual reader of this history of the first courthouse in Buffalo County, whether he be an early settler or late comer, will be quite apt to exclaim: "What a waste of money! What utter foolishness on the part of some one or more persons that taxpayers should have been compelled to squander more than \$70,000 in paying for a courthouse that was used by the county less than two years for courthouse purposes."

It seems best to complete, in a brief manner, the history of the first court house, the uses to which it was put, and possibly when this is understood it will appear that the erection of the building was not after all an entirely useless waste of public money. In 1875 there was established in the courthouse building an academic department of the Gibbon schools, District No. 2. Prof. W. S. Campbell was at the head of this academic department for two years. County Superintendent of Schools J. J. W. Place

election for the relocation of the county seat. On October 13, 1874, a special election for the relocation of the county seat was held, resulting in its removal to Kearney. The records do not show the number of votes cast for and against this question. . . . One of the inducements offered for the removal of the county seat was that the South Platte Land Company and the Union Pacific Railroad Company would donate to the county a site for a courthouse and also erect a building for courthouse purposes. The site donated is the one now in use by the county and which, for a consideration of \$1, was deeded to the county December 27, 1875, and thereon was erected in 1875 by these two companies a cheap frame building, two stories high, and used by the county until the erection of the present courthouse. This building was first occupied by the county on January 4, 1876. At its own expense the county erected, on the present courthouse site, a small 1-story brick building, with fireproof vaults, for the safe keeping of county records, and in this building were the offices of the county clerk and treasurer. The frame building erected by the Union Pacific Railroad Company for use as a courthouse, when no longer needed for that purpose, was moved to another location, veneered with brick, and is now being used as the W. C. T. U. Hospital.

visited the schools on December 13, 1875, and in his official record reports as follows: "Spent the day in visiting the academic school in Gibbon. The scholars are enthusiastic in their studies. Lessons mostly perfect. Twenty-three scholars present. Prof. W. S. Campbell is an able teacher; he holds the only first grade certificate in the county."

On November 28, 1876, County Superintendent John Swenson records: "Visited the academic school at Gibbon. About thirty-five pupils in attendance, many of whom live out of the district and others have moved in to take advantage of this school. The brilliant success of this school is greatly owing to the personal character of Professor Campbell both as a man and as a teacher. There is need of another teacher in this department.

Prof. M. T. Mallalieu succeeded Professor Campbell and for three years fully maintained the high standing of this school and the excellent work

accomplished by the students in attendance. The necessity and importance of this school at that date can hardly be appreciated by those conversant with present educational advantages only. In all the territory of Central and Western Nebraska, at the dates mentioned, there was not a high school nor a school where the educational advantages offered were much above the present eighth grade in our common schools, hence it was that the academic department of the Gibbon schools offered superior educational advantages to students from a large territory and more especially to those students desiring to fit themselves as teachers in our common schools, and students came long distances to attend this school.

Equally as important and far-reaching in results were a series of county farmers' institutes held in the courthouse building from 1874 to 1880, at which were presented and discussed problems relating to the agriculture of the county, and the lessons there learned, the seed there sown, have brought forth fruit in great abundance to all the people of the county. In the growth and development of the county education has been the most important factor. This wonderful growth and development can be best illustrated by a brief comparison. In 1870 the population of the county was 103 and the value of all property for purposes of taxation \$788,988, and 97 per cent of this amount was that of the railroad and telegraph companies. In 1900 the population of the county was 20,254, and the valuation of property, for purposes of taxation, in 1908, \$35,276,110. The total amount of taxes levied in 1870 was \$13,484.56, and in 1908 \$298,998.91.

In 1882 there was established in the courthouse building the Nebraska Baptist College, at the head

of which was Rev. G. W. Read, assisted by Rev. George Sutherland, now (1912) president of the Baptist College at Grand Island. This college was well attended and did excellent work in an educational way, but because of a more central location and financial considerations was removed to Grand Island in 1885. In 1886 there was established a collegiate institute under the control of the United Brethren Church, Rev. C. M. Brooke, principal. The attendance at this college was in excess of 100 students, and the educational advantages offered were of a high order. This college, after three years, removed to York, Neb., and takes rank as a leading college of the state. At a later date commercial colleges were conducted, first by Prof. U. S. Conn and last by Professors Boggs and Moody in 1904, so that for some thirty years the "First Courthouse" has been a temple of learning instead of a temple of justice. As before stated, there was pressing need, in the early history of the county, of schools offering the advantages of higher education, and by reason of the sheltering walls of the abandoned courthouse such advantages were provided and made use of by hundreds of students. From an educational standpoint it is believed Buffalo County never made a better investment of public money than in the erection of "The First Courthouse." In the '90s the courthouse was sold to School District No. 2, Gibbon, for the consideration of \$1, the object being to enable that district to secure the permanent establishment of a commercial college. This project failed, and in 1908 the building was torn down and in its place erected an up-to-date high school building at an expense of approximately \$25,000. Of the some 400,000 brick used in the construction of the courthouse building about 100,000 were used in the high school building.

p. 130 - BRIDGING THE PLATTE AT GIBBON AND KEARNEY JUNCTION--CONTRACT PRICE FOR GIBBON BRIDGE, \$16.50 PER RUNNING FOOT

The first bridge across the Platte River in Buffalo County was south of Gibbon and completed in the spring of 1873. The contract price for this bridge was \$16.50 per running foot, including approaches, and H. T. Clark of Omaha was the contractor. The bridge was built at the joint expense of Buffalo and Kearney counties. The contract was let at Lowell, county seat of Kearney County, at a joint meeting of the county commissioners of both counties, the two commissioners on the part of Buffalo County being W. F. McClure of Center Precinct and B. F. Sammons of Shelton Precinct. The county bonds voted to build this bridge bore 10 per cent interest and are not at this date (1912) wholly paid, but have been refunded by bonds bearing 3 6-10 per cent interest.

In the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad a siding was built at this point in 1866 and named "Gibbon Switch." As the editor of this history understands, the name Gibbon was in honor of Gen. John Gibbon, a graduate of the United States Military Academy in 1847. He served in the war with Mexico. Subsequently he was in garrison and on frontier duty against hostile Indians until the outbreak of the Civil war in 1861. For gallant services in battle in the Civil war Captain Gibbon received successive brevet promotions from major to that of major general, U.S. A. Gibbon is located on section No. 13, all of which would have been railroad land had it not been that a man named Wilson "squatted" on what proved to be, when surveyed, the northeast quarter of section 13. From the heirs of Wilson, J. E. Kelsey purchased the squatter's right" and filed thereon a soldier's homestead claim. John Nutter relates the following incident connected with the first family who made settlement where now is the Village of Gibbon: In the year 1865 a man named Wilson "squatted" on a claim, now within the incorporated limits of Gibbon. Here he built a habitation, part dug-out, part logs, and then went to Dobytown, a hamlet two miles west of Fort Kearney, for his family. His family consisted of a wife and several children, some of sufficient age and experience to drive an ox team. He had an ox team, a covered (prairie schooner) wagon and also owned a mule. Loading his family and belongings into the wagon it was arranged that the two older boys should drive the oxen and the father follow, riding the mule. To celebrate their removal to their claim the father indulged in a few drinks and the start was made. The crossing of the Platte was opposite Fort Kearney. It was in the month of June, and, as the saying is, the Platte was running full banks at high water mark. The most difficult and dangerous part of the crossing was known as "ox channel," it having a deep, swift current and occasional

quicksand holes.

Crossing this channel the boys had great difficulty in extricating their ox team from a quicksand hole and in the excitement incident thereto none of the family seem to have thought to look back for the father. When the family had reached land they looked for the father, but could see nothing of either him or the mule and neither of them were seen or heard of since. It is conjectured that the mule encountered a quicksand hole and was drowned and that Mr. Wilson, too drunk to help himself [sic], drowned as he floated down stream in the turbid, swift flowing waters of the Platte. Jack Staats married Sophia, daughter of Mr. Wilson before mentioned, the families living together. It is related that in the days of the building of the Union Pacific, James E. Boyd claimed nearly everything in sight, there being a story current that he was paid \$500 for the privilege of permitting the wood to be cut on Wood River, although he had no rights on any land other than his claim on section No. 14, known as Boyd's Ranch. When the Staats and Wilson families squatted on their claim Mr. Boyd rode down and ordered them to leave. When Staats refused, the story as related is, that Boyd started to draw his gun, but Staats being the quicker, shot Boyd through the hand and would have killed him had not Boyd immediately left.

The names of Staats and Wilson appear in the list of tax payers in the county in the year 1867.

The Village of Gibbon had its beginning in April, 1871, on the arrival of the soldier's free homestead colony, and in the history of the colony, elsewhere given, appears much of the early history of the village.

The records disclose that the original townsite of the Village of Gibbon--the southwest quarter of section 13, township 9, range 14 west--was purchased of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, consideration, \$600.

THE FIRST FLOURING MILL

The first mill for the grinding of wheat and other grain, erected in Nebraska west of Hall County, was at Gibbon in 1873.

This mill was not only useful and beneficial to the early settlers of a large portion of Central and Western Nebraska and Northwest Kansas, but it was a most important factor in the early settlement of Buffalo County and of the country named. Its establishment encouraged the growing of wheat as it enabled the early settlers to have ground into flour and meal grain of their own raising thus saving the expense of shipping such grain to distant markets and paying freight on flour and meal manufactured at distant points. So important did the Union Pacific Railroad deem the erection of the flouring mill in the settlement of the new country that it transported, free of charge, two carloads, one of machinery, one of lumber, for the construction of the mill, this free transportation being for the same reason that free transportation was granted of material for building churches and schoolhouses.

In the early days settlers came, in some instances, distances of more than one hundred miles in order to get their grain ground into flour. Some of these settlers came with ox teams, bringing full loads, being a week on the way, at times waiting a week for their turn to have the grain ground and then a week on the road home. For many years the mill was run as a custom mill, each one receiving the flour from his own grain and awaiting his turn to have his grain ground.

The original mill was built in the summer and fall of 1873; the building was about twenty-four feet square and two stories; there were two runs of four-foot buhr stone, one for wheat, one for feed and a reel bolt. The capacity of the mill was about thirty barrels per day.

Power was furnished by Wood River, a stream of living water having a fall of about ten feet per mile; the dam erected was about ten feet high.

The mill dam has always been a source of great expense to maintain. About twelve feet below the surface is a layer of quicksand and muskrats working down into the quicksand caused great damage. It is estimated that in the thirty-seven years since its first construction from twenty thousand to twenty-five thousand dollars have been expended on

this dam. While there has never been a complete washout, each year repairs have been necessary. In the year 1877 the mill was remodeled, another run of stone added for grinding midlings, thus increasing the yield of flour per bushel. In the year 1884 the roller process of grinding was introduced, increasing the capacity of the mill to sixty barrels. The Gibbon mill was one of the first in the state to introduce the roller process of grinding. In the year 1889 the mill was again remodeled, a swing sifter system installed, also a twenty-one horse power gasoline engine, thus increasing the capacity of the mill to eighty barrels. The Gibbon mill was one of the first in the state to install machinery necessary in the milling of turkey red winter wheat which practically took the place of spring wheat which before the advent of the turkey red had been altogether grown. The successful milling of turkey red winter wheat was of immense benefit, financially, in the development of the agricultural resources of Central Nebraska. In the year 1905 there was installed a fifty-horse power steam engine with all the latest and best improvements, making the capacity of the mill about one hundred and twenty barrels.

From the building of the mill in 1873 and the remodeling of the same from time to time, nothing but the latest and best improved machinery has been installed and from 1873 to date (1916) the manufactured product has always been recognized as first class, standard as to quality.

Also the management of the mill has always been in the hands of men with a well earned, well deserved reputation for honesty and integrity in all their business relations. The original builders of the mill were I. N. Davis & Company (I. N. Davis and James H. Davis), who conducted the business until 1885. From 1883 to 1897 I. N. Davis was owner; from 1897 to 1907, James H. Davis and son (Roy A. Davis); Roy A. Davis from 1907 to 1914; when J. N. Ashburn purchased a one-half interest. Roy A. Davis died in 1915 and the Gibbon mills for more than forty years in the Davis family passed into other hands.

The managers of the business have been James H. Davis, from 1873 to 1885; James S. Hopkins, 1885-88; C. Putnam, 1888-90; Bert Sprague, 1890-

92; C. Putnam, 1892-97; Roy A. Davis, 1897-1914. The millers employed appear in the following order, beginning in 1873: Fritz Stark, Hans Voss, J. B. Ring, Fred Carter, James S. Hopkins, Bert Sprague, Bayard Seaver, Charles A. Putnam, J. D. Mickey,

R. S. Winchester, Ralph Sprague and Homer J. Mickey in 1916.

About one hundred thousand bushels of wheat are milled into flour each year.

Bassett Vol. II

p. 259-260 - WILLIAM BRADY.

William Brady, who was a pioneer settler and farmer of Gibbon township, Buffalo county, was born on Christmas Day, 1838, in the province of Ulster, Ireland. His parents, William and Eliza Brady, were also natives of Ireland, where they lived during the greater part of their lives, although their last days were spent in America. William Brady of this review was reared to agricultural pursuits and engaged in farming independently in Argyle, New York, for some time. There he was married on the 14th of February, 1866, to Miss Mary McGowan, a daughter of Harry and Mary McGowan, natives of Ireland, where they spent their entire lives, passing away when their daughter was eight years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Brady became the parents of four children, namely: Ida M., who is now the wife of W. J. Bloodgood; Mary E., now Mrs. H. A. Gaarde; James A., who married Miss Bertha Cain; and Grace, who died in childhood.

Mr. Brady remained in New York until 1871, when he removed with his family to Buffalo county, Nebraska, coming here with the Soldiers' Free Homestead colony. He took up a claim in Gibbon township and at once began its development and improvement but was not to enjoy his new home for but a short period, as he was accidentally killed in a clay pit along Wood river in 1872 when he was getting clay with which to make the brick for the first courthouse of Buffalo county. His wife continued to reside upon the homestead and in five years proved up on the place and received the patent in her own name. She had many difficulties to overcome but persevered bravely and brought the farm to a high state of development. On the 29th of

August, 1882, she was again married, becoming the wife of S. R. Traut. They continued to live upon the farm and Mr. Traut passed away a number of years later. She still owns the place and supervises its operation, but since 1903 has lived in the village of Gibbon, where she has many warm friends.

Mr. Brady was a Presbyterian in religious faith and his life was guided by high standards of ethics. He always manifested a keen interest in the public welfare and at the time of the Civil war his patriotism led him to enlist in the One Hundred and Twenty-third Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, with which he was at the front for two years and ten months, or until the close of the war, when he received his honorable discharge. His salient qualities of character were those that are associated with the highest type of manhood and, although he had only lived in this county for a year at the time of his death, he had gained the respect and the esteem of those who were brought into contact with him.

Mrs. Brady has the honor of being a charter member of the first church established in Buffalo county, which is the Presbyterian church of Gibbon, organized in 1872. She has always been one of its most loyal supporters and attendants and in that faith has reared her children. In the early days the church passed through many vicissitudes and would have been disbanded had it not been for Mrs. Brady and three others, who attended a meeting of the presbytery and prevailed upon them not to disband the church. It is now in a very flourishing condition and in 1909 a beautiful new house of worship was erected on the old site.

Biographical Souvenir of Buffalo, Kearney, & Phelps County, 1890

p. 209-210 - J. W. HARREL

is a representative business man of the town of Gibbon, Buffalo county. He is not an old timer, and the record of his experience does not therefore run back to the early days of the colony. He settled in Gibbon in February, 1879, and is a man of comparatively recent growth. As the common saying goes, he started "at the bottom round of the ladder," and although not yet rich or famous, he has secured a footing, and is in a fair way to get on in the world. Given the case of a young man age twenty-five, married, thrown into this new western country, among strangers and without a dollar to go on, what will he do? His first impulse will be to return home. If he overcomes this impulse and decides to stay, the chances are that he will hear in a short time of some more attractive place further west, and, catching the migratory fever, will move on toward the front. If he "strikes it rich," he will settle down, but failing in this he goes out with the next exodus, and so he drifts from place to place in his wandering pursuit of wealth till fortune graciously smiles upon him or death comes at last to his relief. The race for wealth, the contest for glory, become too absorbing to admit of the tedious process of growth and development, the idea being to get to the front, to get there on territory, to get there in time, to get there in point of success, and to get there fully, freely and unmistakably. The subject of this sketch, when he decided to stay West, made up his mind to locate in one place and remain there. In April following the date of his locating in Gibbon, Mr. Harrel engaged in the mercantile establishment of A. D. George, in whose employ he remained for six years. Here he gathered the knowledge of the local trade and formed an acquaintance with the buying public which have since stood him in good stead. At the end of the six

years he had saved enough from his earnings to begin business for himself. He opened a grocery store in Gibbon in the spring of 1885, and has been engaged exclusively in the grocery business since. His business has been reasonably prosperous, and measured by his means and opportunities, he may be considered a fairly successful man. The secret of what success he has attained, if there be any secret about it, is to be found in his industry, economy and strict application to business. He has followed steadily one purpose -- that of developing his business interests in accordance with his means and opportunities. He has allowed no distracting pursuits or diversions to lead him away from this purpose.

In politics Mr. Harrel is a republican -- a staunch believer in the principles of his party -- but not a politician even in mildest sense of the word. As a citizen he is alive to the welfare of his community, ever ready to help, to the extent of his means and ability, any enterprise of general interest -- a liberal contributor to all charitable purposes and a zealous worker in that most benevolent organization, the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Mr. Harrel possesses an agreeable presence. He is large of mold and generous of heart. He has an open, frank face, and a hearty manner. He is somewhat of the style of "rough and ready." He has his own opinions and speaks them freely to friends and strangers. He is broad in his views and believes in each one having the largest amount of personal liberty consistent with the public good. He asks nothing for himself that he is not willing to grant to others. He is, in short, an industrious, useful citizen, a successful business man, a clever companionable fellow, whom everybody knows and familiarly greets as "Joe."

p. 213-216 - A. D. GEORGE.

Another man who settled in the vicinity of Gibbon at an early day is A. D. George. Mr. George came to Buffalo county in September, 1872, and located one mile east of the town of Gibbon, taking as a homestead the south half of the southeast quarter of

section 18, township 9, range 13 west. To this he subsequently added by purchase the north half of the same section. He began his improvements soon after making his selection, starting in a humble way, as did all the old settlers. For eleven years he lived

on his homestead and followed farming and stock raising. During this period he passed through the trying times of the grasshopper season and the dry years: and there fell to him the usual hard experiences that fell to the common lot of all. What these experiences were are known to all the old settlers, but not so well known to, or properly appreciated by, those who have come in at a later date. The case of Mr. George was even different from that of the average settler and the situation thereby rendered the more discouraging. Prior to coming to Nebraska he had spent all his mature years in the mercantile business. Farming was practically new to him. He was in a new country and launched at once into an untried condition of agriculture, far from market and unsurrounded by any of the helps and conveniences common in the old communities of the East. To make a success from the beginning could hardly be expected. Simply how to live, soon became a problem. But Mr. George had confidence in the ultimate outcome. He believed in the country, believed in the soil, in the climate and in the ability of himself and his associates to make something out of them. He never allowed his courage to weaken, nor his interest to flag. He stuck to his farm and pursued his fixed purpose to labor and to wait. The succeeding years brought their reward. The logic of events has demonstrated the correctness of his views. His present condition -- the success he has attained -- is a signal vindication of his position and a befitting remuneration for his long years of patient toil. In 1879 Mr. George purchased the mercantile establishment of Henry Cook & Son, at Gibbon. Since that date he has been actively engaged in the business, being now one of the oldest and most successful merchants of Gibbon. For the mercantile business Mr. George possesses a special aptitude, and for its successful pursuit he is well qualified by experience. He has spent the greater part of his life in a store. When a lad he began as a clerk in Canton, Mass., and afterwards going to Boston, he was engaged as a clerk there for ten years, being seven years with one house, Hiram M. Stearnes, and three years with Newell & Rankin. At the end of that time he engaged in business for himself, opening a gentlemen's furnishing goods establishment in Boston. He was so engaged for five years. In the meantime he started a laundry business which has since grown to be one of the largest anywhere in the East. It was ill-health, brought on by the exacting nature of these business interests that brought Mr.

George west. He never possessed a robust constitution. Tying himself down when a boy to the exacting duties of a clerk, the confinement told on his physical development, and the cares of his personal concerns in later years aggravated his troubles. It was due to this fact or ill-health that Mr. George was never accepted for military service during the late war, although he twice offered himself as a volunteer and was once drafted.

A. D. George is a New Englander by birth and in his physical, mental and moral make-up preserves, in a large measure, some of the prominent characteristics of the people of his section. He was born in the town of Sunapee, Sullivan county, N. H., January 25, 1836. His father, Rodney George, was also a native of Sunapee, as was also his paternal grandfather. His father lived in Sunapee to middle age, moved thence to New Jersey, and later to Nebraska, Buffalo county, where he died in 1881, at the age of seventy-four. Mr. George's mother bore the maiden name of Achsa Dodge and was a daughter of Benjamin Dodge, of New Boston, N. H. She was born in that place and was herself a descendant of an old New Hampshire family. Mr. George is one of a family of eight children, as follows: Amanda, John A., Amos D., Marcia A., Ira P., Jason R., Alice and Mary M. All of these reached maturity and most of them became citizens of Nebraska, moving west about the same time the subject of this sketch did.

In his own domestic relations, Mr. George has been happy, yet he has not escaped some of the afflictions which fall to the lot of humanity. He was married in Marlboro, Mass., in November, 1859, to Miss Lucy M. Chipman, of that place. This lady died in 1869, leaving one child, Edith, now widow of George E. Nathecut. Mr. George next married November 25th, 1869, Miss Abbie M. March, of Garland, Me. By this marriage he has an interesting family of children.

Mr. George's career has been that of a business man strictly. He has devoted his whole life to his own personal affairs. Yet he is not a man whose (sic) sole aim is to make money. He is not lacking in enterprise or public spirit. He possesses pronounced views on most matters of general interest, and while he avoids the wranglings of politics, he does not neglect his duty as a citizen. He has affiliated with the republican party since its organization until the last year or two, and is still an advocate of its principles on national matters. But with all its achievements in the way of progress and

reform, he considers the party lacking in aggressiveness in dealing with some of the most momentous issues of the day. In other words, he is a progressive republican. The principal issue on which he differs with his party is the temperance question. He is an ardent temperance man and believes that it is the duty of all good citizens and every association of citizens and every party or organization having at heart the public welfare, to take a decisive stand on the temperance question and to labor individually and by co-operation for the suppression of the vice of intemperance. On this question Mr. George is outspoken, and, what is more, he lives up to his preaching in a way equalled by few, even of the most zealous advocates. He believes that a vast number of the men who are lured into the paths of drunkenness start with the smaller vices and approach their ruin imperceptibly. For this reason he opposes the use of tobacco, and although he has been in the mercantile business for years where the handling of tobacco might be profitable, he has not suffered a pound of the article to be sold in any shape over his counters since the year he opened business. As might be inferred from this, Mr. George is a man who takes the liveliest interest in the welfare of his fellow man. He is a man of the broadest charities, the most benevolent impulses. He has been almost a life-long member of the Baptist church, taking an active interest in all

church work. In the matter of education he has exhibited equal zeal, and his efforts have not failed of the reward they merited. He was one of the organizing members of the First Baptist church of Gibbon and has, since the date of the founding of that church, been one of its chief pillars. While the State Baptist seminary was located at Gibbon, Mr. George occupied the responsible position of treasurer of the institution, and during the last term it was in operation he bore the entire expense of running it. He is a liberal contributor to all charitable purposes. Personally, Mr. George is modest and unassuming, and has no desire to make a fuss in the world. What he does as a citizen is simply the outgrowth of his convictions. He is not the apostle of any new faith nor the exponent of any new political idea. He works along the lines pursued by the worthies of the past. The most notable feature of his faith and the distinguishing trait of his character is that he believes in the philosophy of things well done- the gospel of true labor--as contradistinguished from pretense and profession. For church, for school, for home, for all that helps to keep men and women from the slippery paths of sin and win them to lives of usefulness, sobriety and happiness, fitting them for the best possible life here and hereafter, the name of A. D. George stands pledged, and in all these things he himself rises to the full stature of a man.

p. 216-218 - **HORACE P. SMITH**

is one of the young, intelligent and progressive farmers of Gibbon township, Buffalo county, who, having come into the county at a comparatively recent date, and availing himself of his opportunities, has secured a good start and is in a fair way to grow into a land-holder of means and a citizen of influence. Mr. Smith came to Buffalo county in October, 1878, looked over the country, went back home and returned in the spring of 1879 and located. He bought a small tract of land in section 27, township 9, range 14 west, lying three and a half miles southwest of the town of Gibbon, on which he settled and made improvements. Mr. Smith came west with limited means, and his first purchase of land was, accordingly, not large. He has added, however, to this by subsequent purchases, until now he is the owner of three hundred and

seventy acres, all of which is under cultivation except a tract of eighty acres reserved for hayland. Mr. Smith has made the money with which he has bought this land by his own labor. The improvements on it he has also placed there. It is well improved, desirably located, and, better than all, is paid for. This, of course, has not been done without much labor; it represents also good management. Mr. Smith is an industrious, thrifty, economical farmer, looks after the details of his affairs with great care, and studies the condition of his soil, its necessities and capabilities. He keeps considerable stock and sells but little raw material. He is careful to see that his annual income exceeds his annual expenditures by as large a margin as possible, and judiciously avoids debt. He has the proper material in his make-up to succeed. This

material is not altogether a personal trait. To some extent it is a hereditary gift. He comes of good stock, and he has been properly trained. His ancestry will bear historical research.

Horace P. Smith is a son of George T. and Sarah (Farnham) Smith, and a grandson on his paternal side of Parsons and Nancy (Waters) Smith. His grandfather, Parsons Smith, whose name in part he bears, was a native of Massachusetts, a son of a revolutionary soldier, and himself for twenty-one years in the service of the United States government. He was in the war of 1812, serving with credit himself and fidelity to his country during that war, and afterwards continuing in the service in the regular army for years, a large part of which time he was in the United States arsenal at Watertown, Mass. After a life of great activity and usefulness, the best years of which were spent in behalf of his country, he died at the advanced age of seventy-four.

Mr. Smith's paternal grandmother, Nancy Waters, whose father was also a revolutionary soldier and was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, was a native of Massachusetts. She was born in a house which stood half in old Charlestown and half in Cambridge, and first saw light on the morning of the memorable day on which the battle of Bunker Hill was fought. It is a tradition of the family that only a half-hour before she was born a thirty-two-pound shot from a British cannon tore its way through the upper part of the house in which her mother lay and lodge in a beam overhead. Mr. Smith's father, George T. Smith, was born in the United States arsenal at Watertown, Mass., September 7, 1818, lived there till thirty years of age, going thence in 1847 to Maine, where in February of the following year he married Sarah Farnham, of the town of Mercer, Somerset county, and there lived till 1866, except the time he was in the army. He went into the service late, enlisting March 17, 1864, and entering Company K, Thirty-first Maine infantry. His regiment was organized in March and April of 1864, and leaving the state the 18th of the latter month, it proceeded at once to Alexandria, Va., where it was assigned to duty in the 2d brigade, 2d division, 9th corps. In less than a

month after it left home it went into action at the Wilderness and following that the engagements at Spottsylvania, Bethsaida church, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Poplar Springs church, and all intermediate affairs, in all of which its losses were heavv. In less than one year's time the Thirty-first Maine lost six hundred and seventy-four men, killed or wounded in action, three-fourths of this loss occurring in May, June and July, 1864. Mr. Smith's father followed the fortunes of the fighting Thirty-first till the close of the war, being mustered out July 17, 1865. In 1866 he moved west and settled in Illinois, where he lived till 1882, when he came to Buffalo county, this state, following his son, Horace P., and settling where he now resides, in Gibbon township, on an adjoining farm to the subject of this sketch.

Mr. H. P. Smith's mother, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Farnham, was born and reared in the town of Mercer, Somerset county, Maine, and is a descendant of a respectable, well-to-do family of that place. She is also yet living.

To George T. and Sarah (Farnham) Smith have been born a family of eight children, as follows -- Waitstill J., Mary M., Horace P., whose name heads this article; George W., Tena A., Cora E., William A. and Nellie M. These have all reached maturity, and most of them are now married and are themselves the heads of family.

Horace P. Smith and Mary L. Mercer were married in February, 1881, Mary L. Mercer Smith being a daughter of Vernon T. and Nancy Rebecca Mercer, whose biographies will be found in this work. Mrs. Smith was mainly reared in Buffalo county, this state, her parents coming here in 1871. She has by long usage become familiar with farm life, and especially that part of it that relates to household affairs, her recollections running back to the sod shanty of the "seventies," when what are necessities now were luxuries then, and the housewife's ways and means of getting on with her economic duties were by no means what they are now, albeit they are none too luxurious at this time.

Mrs. Smith is a lady of intelligence and kindness, and possesses the greatest of all virtues, genuine hospitality.

p. 218-219 - **W. N. JACKSON.**

A man of good personal record as a citizen, of exceptionally good record as an old soldier, and withal, one of the old settlers of his locality, is W. N. Jackson, of Gibbon township, Buffalo county. Mr. Jackson settled in Buffalo county in the spring of 1871--the date, it will be remembered, that the Soldiers' Free Homestead Colony was located at Gibbon and the settlement of the county properly begun. He filed a soldiers' homestead claim on the north-east quarter of section 28, township 9, range 14 west, lying three miles west and south of the village of Gibbon. There he located, and there he has continued to reside since, except during temporary absence at intervals. He improved his homestead in accordance with the law and secured a patent for it. One hundred acres of it are now under cultivation, and the remainder in hayland, pastures and groves. It is provided with comfortable and commodious buildings for man and beast, and in every respect gives evidence of the industry, thrift and good management that have prevailed there. The land lies well, being every foot susceptible of cultivation, is in a good neighborhood, has at hand good school and church facilities, and is convenient to market. The place is richly worth \$50 an acre, and probably could not be bought for that. Mr. Jackson has been farming since coming to Buffalo county, and is recognized as one of the prosperous, well-to-do agriculturists of his locality.

Mr. Jackson came from Elmira, N. Y. to Nebraska, having been a resident of New York state some years prior to moving west in 1871. He is native of Canada, having been born in the province of Ontario, in March, 1838, and was reared there to the age of twenty. He then came to the States, locating in New York. His parents were both Canadians by birth -his father of English extraction and his mother of German. These are still living in Canada, and are named David and Debby (Huffman) Jackson.

Mr. Jackson passed his youth and part of his maturer years in York state, and it was there that he met and married the lady who has borne him companionship for nearly twenty five years. This lady's maiden name was Susan Ann Davis, a daughter of Henry E. and Jane (Corruthers) Davis, of Elmira, N. Y. Mrs. Jackson is a native Ulster county, N. Y., and is a descendant of an old York state family. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson were married in

August, 1863. They have but one child, William E. Jackson, born in Bradford county, Pa., July 9th, 1866.

When the country was torn asunder with civil discord, and the hydra-headed Monster, treason, was threatening the destruction of our institutions, Mr. Jackson was one of the men who shouldered his musket and patriotically marched to the front in defense of the common good. He enlisted for two years in the service, in April, 1861, entering Company K, Thirty-fifth (Jefferson county) New York volunteers. His command served with the Army of the Potomac. Mr. Jackson was present and participated in the following engagements -- The second Bull Run; Fredericksburg; second Manassas; Fairfax court house; Culpeper court house; Cedar mountain and Rappahannock station, besides numerous smaller ones. After the expiration of his term of enlistment in the Thirty-fifth New York, he re-enlisted, entering the Fifth New Jersey independent battery of light artillery in September, 1863. This command had six light twelve-pound guns and one hundred horses. It participated in the following engagements -- Howlett's house, May 9, 1864; Clover Hill station, May 14, 1864; Drury's bluff, May 15, 1864; Petersburg, June 8, 1864; Bermuda Hundred, June 8, 1864; Deep Bottom, July 16, 1864; Dutch gap, August 13, 1864; Harehouse battery, near Petersburg, September 2 and 10, 1864~ and Darbytown road, October 7, 1864.

Mr. Jackson entered this command as a private, was promoted to corporal December 4, 1863, and to sergeant August 23, 1864. During his first term of service he was twice wounded -- once in the left side and once in the right leg. These wounds were received at the second Bull Run. He lost the hearing of his right ear in the battery service at Drury's bluff. He was mustered out of the service in June, 1865. Comment on these facts is unnecessary. They speak for themselves. They show how faithfully Mr. Jackson discharged his duty to his country in its time of need. He bears on his person the marks of his heroic efforts and patient endurance.

With such a record, and the mental constitution which Mr. Jackson has, it would be next to impossible for him to be anything but a republican in politics. At any rate, he is a staunch supporter of the republican party, and has been a firm adherent of that party since the date of its organization. He

cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln when he was a candidate the first time for the presidency, and he has voted the straight ticket since.

Mr. Jackson is a man of plain manners, and has led an unassuming life. He is hard working, frugal

in habits, and strictly attentive to his own personal concerns. He is progressive in his ideas, public-spirited and generous with his means, possessing a kind and benevolent disposition.

P -219 – 222 - P. E. FOXWORTHY.

An old settler of Buffalo county, although not one of the first, is P. E. Foxworthy of Gibbon township. He moved into Buffalo county, in June, 1876, and for a short time rented a place north of the town of Gibbon, but in July following settled on the east half of the west half of section 35. township 9, range 14 west, being part of the old Fort Kearney military reservation. He simply squatted on this claim, as the reservation had not then been thrown open to settlement, but as soon as it was opened he made his filing, improved his claim and got his patent to it, and has since resided there. His place lies on the lower bottomland of the Platte river and is more suitable for grazing and hay-making than for agricultural purposes. Mr. Foxworthy has not, therefore, broken out a great deal of it. Besides, hay has always been a commodity in good demand in local markets, whereas the sovereign product, corn, has not. Putting these things together as a sensible farmer would, Mr. Foxworthy has devoted his attention mainly to stock-raising and hay-making. At this he has succeeded reasonably well. Like most of the farmers who settled in Buffalo county twelve and fourteen years ago, Mr. Foxworthy began on limited means and the first few years of his residence were marked more for their hardships and privations than for the progress they witnessed in the way of making a home. What these hardships and privations were need not here be recounted. They have become part of the history of those times and it will do the subject of this sketch sufficient justice from a historical point of view to say that he passed through those times, bearing his full share, and more, of the suffering that fell to the common lot. One instance which will be decisive on this point, may here be given. Mr. Foxworthy relates that when he and his family reached the county they had just \$18.00 in money and a limited amount of household goods and wearing apparel. With these they began the struggle for existence in the last and hardest year of the grasshopper season. The fact that he has succeeded as well as he has, is an admirable

tribute to his pluck, energy and patient self denial, extending through long years of discouraging vicissitudes. But Mr. Foxworthy was and is the man to endure such trials. He comes of an ancestry that heroically fought similar, or, perhaps, more fiercely contested, battles on the frontier before him, and his own early training and personal experiences well fitted him for an undertaking of this character.

P. E. Foxworthy is a son of Phillip A. and Martha (Evans) Foxworthy. His father, a native of Virginia, went to Kentucky when a young man, married there, and not long afterwards moved to Indiana and settled in Morgan county in territorial days. He made that his home until his death in 1875, in the eighty-third year of his age. In his earlier years he followed the business of a carpenter -- later he devoted himself to farming. He led the life of the average farmer and met with a fair degree of success.

Mr. Foxworthy's mother, who bore the maiden name of Martha Evans, was a daughter of Andrew Evans, who moved from Kentucky to Indiana at an early day and settled in Owen county. She died in Morgan county, in September, 1843. Her husband had been married prior to his marriage to her and married again also after her death, but it is not deemed necessary to encumber this article with the details of these two marriages. The subject of this sketch is the only offspring of the marriage to Martha (Evans) Foxworthy, and with his history and lifework we are more especially concerned.

P. E. Foxworthy was born in Morgan county, Ind., in September, 1843. He had the great misfortune to lose his mother in his infancy, she dying when he was but two weeks old. His earlier years, however, were watched over by a kind father and he grew up under as good training as could be had at the hands of one parent. Mr. Foxworthy had just turned into his eighteenth year when the clouds of civil war burst over this country and he, like thousands of other patriotic young men when the call was made for volunteers to defend the Union,

quit his plow and bravely marched to the front. He enlisted in August, 1861, as a private in Company H, Thirty third Indiana volunteer infantry, commanded by Colonel Coburn, of Indianapolis, and was assigned to duty as a drummer. His regiment left Indianapolis in September, 1861, and moved across the line into Kentucky. It saw its first service at Wildcat, Kentucky, and was in a series of skirmishes about Cumberland gap, finally driving the confederate forces from their position there, and after foraging for more than three months, holding the advantages thus gained, it was forced back across the Ohio river for supplies. Returning, it was engaged during the winter of 1862-63 in chasing the wily cavalry chieftain and guerrilla, John Morgan, over the mountains of Kentucky. It then moved into Tennessee, and at Franklin, that state, was formed part of the brigade sent out to capture Van Dorn's mounted infantry. In the affair at Thompson station, March 4 and 5, 1863, its casualties were thirteen killed, eighty-five wounded and four hundred and seven missing. Almost the entire regiment was captured; Mr. Foxworthy, however, luckily escaped. In January, 1864, the regiment veteranized, was placed in the Twentieth (Hooker's) corps, and immediately entered on the Atlantic campaign. Mr. Foxworthy was then carrying a musket. Beginning with the engagement at Resaca, he was in the continuous series of engagements down to Kenesaw mountain, where he was wounded June 23d, having a rib of his left side broken and an ugly hole made through him by a ball from the enemy's guns. He was sent back to Nashville for hospital treatment, and from there, as soon as able, secured a furlough and went home. When his wounds had sufficiently healed he started back to his command, which was then under Sherman on his "March to the Sea." But at Chattanooga, Mr. Foxworthy met Thomas on his return into Tennessee and was placed in Thomas' army and participated in the remainder of that campaign. After the defeat of Hood at Nashville he was engaged till the following spring in chasing fragments of confederate forces around through Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. In March, 1865, he was ordered to join his own command, which was then on the Carolina campaigns. Going around by way of Washington he reached Sherman's army at Goldsboro, N.C., just before the surrender. He was present when the capitulation took place between Sherman and Johnson, returned home with his regiment and was mustered out at Indianapolis

in June, 1865. The Thirty-third made a splendid record during its term of service, and inasmuch as Mr. Foxworthy was with it nearly all the time and helped to make that record, another fact or two of general interest in connection with the history of his regiment may be given here: At the date the Thirty-third (sic) veteranized it re-enlisted four hundred and sixty men, being the largest re-enlistment by more than twenty men made by any Indiana regiment. Its loss in killed and wounded was one hundred and sixteen; its loss by disease, accident and deaths in prison was one hundred and eighty-two; making a total loss of two hundred and ninety-eight. Eloquent figures, they speak volumes for the courage, endurance and heroic bearing of the "Fighting Thirty third."

At the close of the war Mr. Foxworthy resumed the peaceful pursuits of life with the same courage and sense of duty that distinguished him on the battle-field, and being then a young man with but little to go on he resolutely set about to make his way in the world in a manner becoming a man. He married in September, 1866, Miss Elizabeth Applegate, a daughter of Hezekiah and Margaret (Whittaker) Applegate, of Owen county, Ind. Mrs. Foxworthy is a native of Owen county, and is one of four children born to her parents, the others being John M., a farmer of Buffalo county; James, of Owen county, Ind.; and Juliet, wife of William Myers, of Colorado. Mrs. Foxworthy's parents were both natives of Kentucky, and were among the first settlers of Owen county, Ind., where her father died in 1874 at the age of fifty-four, and where her mother yet continues to reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Foxworthy have been the parents of five children, three of whom are now living. These children in the order of their ages are as follows -- John, who died in infancy; Ollie, who died July 4, 1888, at the age of eighteen; Clara, Alice and Cora.

Mr. and Mrs. Foxworthy are members of the Christian church, and, having been reared in a knowledge of the great truths of the gospel themselves, they are bringing up the little ones committed to their charge in the same knowledge, thus fitting them for the greatest usefulness and happiness here and hereafter.

It seems natural and in every way becoming that a man of Mr. Foxworthy's history, experience and family traditions should be a republican in politics. His first vote was cast for Abraham Lincoln when he was a candidate for the presidency the second time, and he has voted the straight ticket since.

All in all, it can be recorded of the subject of this sketch, without any stretch of language, that he is not only an old soldier of good record, but a citizen

distinguished for his integrity, industry and benevolent christian character.

P 226-227 - WILIAM W. GIBSON.

One of the oldest settlers of Gibbon township as he is one of the most industrious and highly esteemed citizens of the township, is William W. Gibson, the subject of this sketch. Mr. Gibson is a brother of A. F. Gibson of the town of Gibbon, a sketch of whom appears in this work, in which sketch will be found the facts pertaining to the ancestral history so far as they are of interest or value to this record.

William W. Gibson was born in Lawrence county, Pa., August 7, 1845, and was reared in his native place, growing up on the farm, receiving a common school education in the district schools of the community where he was reared, and being trained also to the habits of industry and usefulness that mark the farmer's life. He enlisted in the Union army at the age of twenty, entering February 1, 1865, as a member of Company B, One Hundredth Pennsylvania infantry. He saw his chief service in front of Petersburg, Va., participating in the siege of that place and taking part in the mine engagement. In this siege he was severely wounded in the right wrist by a fragment of a mortar shell. He was in the service till July 27, 1865, being mustered out at Harrisburg on that date. He served as a private and had the good fortune never to be captured or wounded. He belonged to a historic regiment, the old Hundredth being known also as the "Roundheads" and proving themselves worthy upon many a battle-field of their historic name. The regiment was present at twenty-three of the principal battles of the war, in only four of which it did not take an active part. It lost in killed and wounded eight hundred and eighty-seven men out of a total enlistment of two thousand and fourteen, all but twenty-nine of its losses occurring in actual conflict in the field, twenty-nine being the number that was lost in Confederate prisons. The number killed outright in open engagements was two hundred and twenty-four, being a little over eleven per cent. It fought in widely separated localities and made long journeys by sea and land.

Returning to Lawrence county when the war was over, Mr. Gibson settled down to farming and remained there till the spring of 1871, when he in

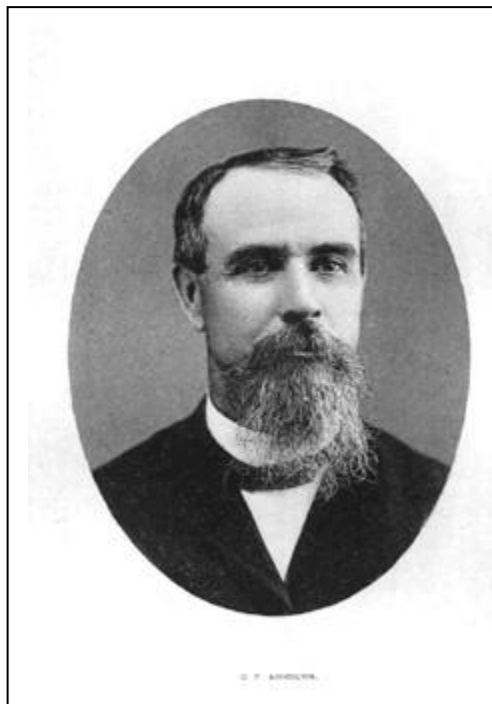
company with his brother, A. F. Gibson, joined the Soldier's Free Homestead Colony and came to Nebraska, settling in Gibbon township, where he took a homestead and has since remained. Mr. Gibson's place lies about a mile north of the town of Gibbon, being the northeast quarter of section 12, township 9, range 13 west. He has resided on this place for more than nineteen years, taking it when it was a raw prairie bearing fresh marks of the buffalo, which had only a few years previously roamed over it undisturbed. It is now well improved, half of it being under cultivation and the remainder in pasture, furnished with comfortable buildings and ornamented with groves, natural, and artificial. For several years after coming to the state, Mr. Gibson lived a bachelor, having too much regard for the tender feelings and gentle nature of the opposite sex to ask any woman to share with him the hardships and privations which fell to his lot in the earlier years. But with the improvement of his worldly condition, the gradual settlement of the country and the appearance of better times, he got the consent of his mind to change his lot of single blessedness, and, as was most natural in such a case, his eyes reverted to his old home in Lawrence county, Pa. In 1878, February 13th, he led to the marriage altar Miss Virginia McGary of that county, a lady whom he had known from early childhood, she, like himself, being a native of that county. Mrs. Gibson comes of Pennsylvania parentage, his (sic) father, John McGary, having been born and reared in Lawrence county, where he always lived and where he died in 1875 at the age of sixty-two, and her mother, a native of Armstrong county and still living, being a resident of Lawrence county. Mrs. Gibson is one of a family of twelve children, of whom, besides herself, two daughters and one son reside in Buffalo county, viz.--Mrs. Mary Thompson, Miss Nan E. McGary, and James McGary. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have only one child, John M., a bright, intelligent boy, around whom their chief hopes and ambitions gather, and who gives every evidence of being the realization of their fondest expectations.

A man who has lived in Gibbon township, Buffalo county, sufficiently long to be called an old settler and a man who has been one of the most successful, as he is one of the most highly esteemed, citizens of the locality where he resides, is William Roach, the subject of this biographical notice. Mr. Roach is an Englishman by birth, having been born and reared to the age of seventeen in that famous island, which has furnished the world more navigators, explorers, pioneer settlers, empire makers and city builders than any other spot on earth. He comes of good old English stock, the Anglo-Saxon strains running through his ancestral line from time immemorial. He is a native of Cornwall, and was born October 20, 1830. His father was Thomas Roach, a native also of Cornwall, and his mother bore the maiden name of Jennie Hare, being a daughter of William Hare, and a native of the same county. His parents immigrated to Canada in 1847, bringing their family, but remained there only about one year, when they came across into "the states," settling in Erie county, Pa. There, after a residence of a few years, the mother died, leaving, surviving her, her husband and nine children. The father, accompanying his son, the subject of this sketch, to Nebraska, died here the 12th of June, 1888, at the advanced age of seventy-nine. He was a plain man of quiet tastes and orderly habits, having led an industrious, upright, useful life.

William Roach, our subject, was reared on the farm and adopted farming as the calling of his life. He married in Erie county, Pa., having grown to maturity in that county, the lady whom he selected for a life companion being a native of Pennsylvania, reared mainly in Erie county--Miss Caroline Ames. As his family began to grow up around him, like a thoughtful parent solicitous for the welfare of his children, Mr. Roach decided to move West, where opportunities were better for getting on in the world than in the more thickly settled communities of the East. He came to Nebraska in the fall of 1871,

settling in Gibbon township, where he took a homestead about three miles north of the town of Gibbon, and where he has since resided. Starting with the limited means at his command, Mr. Roach has steadily progressed from year to year in spite of the obstacles, failures and discouragements that fell to his lot in common with most of the old settlers at an early day, and also since, until now he is one of the best-to-do farmers in Buffalo county, owning more than seven hundred acres of land, mostly in this county, a large part of which he has under cultivation, well stocked and otherwise well improved. He gives particular attention to the raising of horses, having several Norman and Clydesdale thoroughbreds and a number of high-grade animals on his place. He is a thoughtful, industrious, progressive farmer and deserves all the success he has attained.

Mr. Roach has a pleasant home, and is surrounded by an interesting family of children, having been the father of eight -- Charles, George, Frederick, Julia, Perry, Mark, Clinton and Pearly. Of these, three are deceased. The third, Frederick, was born in Erie county, Pa., September 1, 1868. Coming to Nebraska with his parents in 1871, he has been reared mainly in this state, growing up on the old home place in Gibbon township, Buffalo county. He has received a good common school education and has been reared to habits of industry and usefulness. He has always taken great interest in farming and stock-raising, being a great fancier of good horses; and with the energy, thrift and self-reliance born to his nature and encouraged by the judicious training of his father, he began to accumulate when small, and his savings have gradually grown until now; although he is but little past his twenty-first year, he is in a much better condition financially than the majority of men who are many years his seniors in age. He is a sober, intelligent, hard-working young man, and will one day be a man of wealth, position and influence.



came to Buffalo county, Nebraska, April 4, 1871, as a member of Soldiers' Free Homestead Temperance Colony, and settled at that date at Gibbon, where, with the exception of temporary absence, he has since resided. He has been identified with the leading interests of his locality, material, political and social, and is probably one of the best known as he has been one of the most active and useful men, not only of his township, but of his county and state.

Mr. Ashburn is a native of Ohio, having been born and reared in Trumbull county, that state. He was brought up on the farm, and has always been more or less interested in agricultural pursuits, having, also, in his earlier years, followed the carpenter's trade. He married in his native county, and resided there till coming to Nebraska. His original homestead, where he settled on coming to the county, lies only about a mile west of the town of Gibbon, he still holding title to it, and having resided there, more or less, since living in the county. Mr. Ashburn has been, and is now, a man of diversified pursuits and manifold interests, and has spent not a little of his time in the public service. For the first few years after he located in Gibbon, he was mainly engaged in contracting and building, and farming. Then, when the grasshopper invasion came, followed by the dry years, and the problem of life narrowed down to a struggle for bread and butter, he was for a few years in the employ of the Union Pacific Railway Company as express messenger, running west from Omaha. Resuming

his farming pursuits, with the return of good crops, in 1876, he was so engaged till 1879, when he left the farm, and moving into Gibbon, began the grain trade, building a grain elevator, which he subsequently sold to the parties who built and operate the present one there. In 1881 he built the Gibbon creamery, which he continues to own and operate, and which bears the distinction of being one of the most successful enterprises of the kind in central or western Nebraska.

Mr. Ashburn has filled a number of public offices, and has done a vast amount of labor in an official and semi-official nature. He was elected justice of the peace of Gibbon township in the fall of 1871, and held that office for one term. In the fall of 1872 he was placed in the field by his friends as the republican candidate for legislature, against the then well-known frontiersman and since celebrated showman, "Buffalo Bill," democratic candidate. Mr. Ashburn received a majority of the votes cast, but by mistake, the returns from Franklin and Harlan counties were sent to the city of Lincoln instead of the county seat of Lincoln county (North Platte), as the law required, and these returns were not before the canvassing board. The remaining returns showed a majority of "Buffalo Bill," and he received the certificate of election. Mr. Ashburn brought a contest, and producing the returns of all the counties in the district, proved his majority and was seated by a unanimous vote of the house, "Buffalo Bill" not appearing or claiming the seat.

His district, the twenty-sixth, embraced all that portion of the state lying west of a line extending through the state from north to south, parallel with the east line of Buffalo and Kearney counties, thus giving him a large area of country to look after. He took an active part in the general legislation before the house and in the committee rooms. During the last session of the legislature, he was selected by his county board as a delegate from his county to act, in connection with others similarly selected to consider the revision, and propose measures for the recasting of the township laws of the state, and at the first meeting of those delegates, held at Columbus, he was made chairman of the convention, and at the second meeting, held at Lincoln, he was sent as a delegate from that convention, to urge before the legislature the passage of the measures proposed by the convention, nine out of twelve of which measures were passed and became laws. He also had in charge a measure from the Nebraska State Dairymen's Association, asking for an annual appropriation of \$1,000, for which he drafted a bill and secured its passage. He has been particularly active in behalf of the dairying interests of the state, being now president of the State Dairymen's Association. He has served his township on the county board of supervisors, being the present member of the board from Gibbon township, and has been a member of the town council of Gibbon several terms, and active in its municipal affairs. In January, 1889, he was admitted to the Buffalo county bar, having since given some time and attention to the practice of law, and in July, 1889,

P 232-235 - I. D. LABARRE,

the first man who ever sold a dollar's worth of goods in the town of Gibbon, is still a resident of that place and is yet engaged in mercantile business there. He settled on the present town site of Gibbon on April 7, 1871, being a member of the Soldiers' Free Homestead Temperance Colony, by which the village of Gibbon and most of Gibbon township was settled. Most of the members of this colony, as appears in the history thereof, were from Ohio, but it was recruited by volunteers from other states who fell in at different points, there being in all representatives of more than twenty states. Mr. LaBarre came from New York, of which state he is a native. He is a descendant of two old York state families, the advent of whose ancestors on this

he was appointed postmaster at Gibbon, an office which he continues to hold.

With these interests and pursuits, Mr. Ashburn's life has been and continues to be, an active, not to say laborious, one; yet, as exacting as his duties have been and are, he has discharge them with entire satisfaction to those concerned, and has succeeded in his own personal affairs far beyond the average of business men. It would be doing injustice to his most excellent and deserving wife not to say in this connection, that in his labors, both of a public and private nature, he has been materially assisted by her, and not a little of the success he has attained has been reached through her efficient labors and zealous co-operation. As has already been noted, Mr. Ashburn married in his native county, in Ohio. The lady whom he selected to share his life's fortunes was Miss Emily Amanda Brown, who was reared in Trumbull county, Ohio, but was a native of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Ashburn were married August 3, 1862, since which time they have borne each other the cherished companionship which they sought with each others' hands, and have reared, almost to maturity, an interesting family of children. For these duties, as well as for those in the more extended sphere, in which she has been called in connection with her husband's business, Mrs. Ashburn is admirably fitted, being a lady of not only sound intelligence, but of an abundance of practical sagacity, discriminating judgment and business methods and accomplishments, possessing withal, a well-cultured mind and a nature rich in the treasures of her sex.

continent runs back into the mists of the past, and he is of French extraction and Huguenot stock on both sides. The family name is variously spelled and abbreviated, appearing as LaBar, De LaBar, LaBarre and LaBaire, and representatives of the name are now found in many parts of the United States, especially scattered over the states of New York, Pennsylvania and western states. Mr. LaBarre's father, grandfather and great grandfather were natives of York state, and it is highly probable that his first ancestors on American soil were as many as four or five generations removed from himself. The LaBarrs, DuBoises, LeFevers and Beviere were early settled families of New York as appears from the mention of their names in

connection with the first settlement of the French Protestant refugees there. Whether his people belonged to the Ulster County colony or the Staten Island colony is not known, but in either case his ancestry would run back to the early part of the seventeenth century, as these colonies were settled about the same time the colony at Jamestown was.

I. D. LaBarre is the second of seven children born to John and Rosetta (Walker) LaBarre and first saw light August 4, 1834, in Hartford, Washington County, N. Y. He was reared in Washington and Essex counties, which join, and was brought up as a sailor on Lake Champlain and Hudson river and off the coast of New York. He married in January, 1856, Miss Mary W., a daughter of Minus Winter, his wife having been born and reared in the same community with himself and being like himself a descendant of old settlers of the northern part of York state. He engaged in business in his native county and in Essex, and was so engaged when he decided to move west. The circumstances which led to his coming to Nebraska were such as have happened to many others and doubtless have been given to print many times before. He became dissatisfied with the over-crowded condition of things in his own state and wanted to get into a new country, where opportunities for getting on in the world were better than they were where he was. He cut loose from friends, relatives and business connections in the spring of 1871, and started west, not knowing at that time where he would cast his lot. He left Washington county in company with Dr. I. P. George, who will be remembered by all the old settlers, and as above stated fell in with the Old Soldiers' Homestead Colony and became one of the founders of the town of Gibbon, Buffalo county. Mr. LaBarre's first experience as the first merchant of Gibbon was sufficiently novel to satisfy the taste of any lover of pioneer methods. He opened his first stock of goods in a box-car, on a part of the train which was side-tracked where Gibbon now stands and used by the colonists until houses were erected, and this stock of goods he brought with him and began selling the day after his arrival. As soon as the town site was located he secured a lot and built a store house and moved in, becoming one of the fixtures of the place. This lot adjoins the one on the west of that on which his store now stands. Business, never very prosperous in the early days, grew distressingly dull after the first year or two. The men who settled in Gibbon and vicinity, like the early settlers of all new countries, were men of

brawn and brain, but not men of means. They came west to better their condition. Their wants were few and their ability to buy limited. In the early days, at least, the town was not a place where small tradesmen could soon bloom out as merchant princes. The tradesman shared the lot that fell to the average citizen. In many instances he fared worse. When the hard years came, the years when the grasshoppers and drouth (sic) spread suffering over the land, the shopkeeper found it as difficult to maintain his foothold and keep starvation from his door as did the poor homesteader. Yielding to the pressure of hard times Mr. LaBarre went out of business in 1874, and remained out till the return of good crops brought a revival of trade. With the exception of this period of general distress, when all of the old settlers had to resort to one makeshift and another to live, hardly anyone remaining at his accustomed business, Mr. LaBarre has been engaged actively in the mercantile business in Gibbon since the date of the founding of the colony in 1871 to the present time. His is the oldest establishment of the kind in the place and he is in point of residence Gibbon's first merchant. He has seen all the changes which have marked the growth and development of the town and vicinity--has seen a country which twenty years ago was one unending stretch of prairie rapidly settled up with a thrifty class of citizens and become dotted over with peaceful and happy homes. He has seen the spot where the pioneers of Buffalo county first pitched their tents grow from a train of boxcars to a prosperous town of several hundred people, having all the conveniences and comforts of an eastern village, and he has seen many of the first settlers, whose earlier years on the plains were marked by a prolonged and arduous struggle for bread and butter, become well-to-do citizens, owning broad acres, well improved and furnished with commodious and elegant buildings. Thousands of dollars' worth of goods have been brought to Gibbon, sold and consumed, since Mr. LaBarre sold his first article of merchandise from a box car in 1871. Store buildings have been erected by the score and merchants have come and gone, many of whom are not now remembered. Through all the changing years and all the varying seasons, except only the grasshopper period, the subject of this sketch has remained practically on the spot where he built his first building and has continued to supply the local trade with whatever was wanted in his line.

Mr. LaBarre, although an old-timers not a type of the Western rustlers in business such as have passed into common fame and newspaper notoriety. He is destitute of the grasping, money-getting spirit characteristic of the average Westerner. The restlessness, scheming, worry and annoyance that come of that spirit he is singularly exempt from. He believes to the fullest extent in the maxim, "Live and let live." He believes in accumulating by natural but not by artificial means. As a merchant he sells to supply demand, but does not seek to create a demand by clap-trap advertising, or other means, that he may supply it. For this spirit of fairness, his equanimity and settled habits, he is largely indebted to heredity. The people from whom he is descended were distinguished for their liberality, their largeness of thought and fairness in dealing; for their settled convictions, the evenness of their temper and the general serenity of their lives. Strongly religious and shockingly persecuted for

religion's sake they learned to deal with others in a spirit of charity unequalled by any other sect. They exemplified in their daily lives in a truly admirable manner the wholesomeness of the maxim, "Live and let live."

It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. LaBarre has never mixed in politics. He has no taste for the wranglings of public life. He held the position of postmaster at Gibbon during Grant's administration --the only position of a public nature he has ever filled. He is a republican in politics and a strong believer in the teachings of his party. In the matter of religion, he adheres to the doctrines of his fathers, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. LaBarre has but one child, a daughter grown and married -- Mrs. Cora LaBarre White, wife of Alva White, of Gibbon.

Socially, Mr. LaBarre and his family are among the foremost of the community.

p. 235-6 - **GEORGE H. SILVERNAIL**

is one of the old settlers of Gibbon township, Buffalo county, having come with the Soldiers' Homestead Colony in April, 1871. He is a native of Geauga county, Ohio, and was born in July, 1845. He comes of pioneer stock; his parents were born in New York, but settled early on the Ohio frontier. His father, Calvin Silvernail and his mother, Abigail Rathburn, are still living, being residents of Gibbon and now well advanced in years. Besides himself there were six children in the family to which the subject of this sketch belongs, the full list being -- Elizabeth, George H, Eugenia R., John H., James, Eliza and Frederick.

The subject of this notice, George H., was reared in his native county to the age of sixteen, moving thence in 1861 to Wisconsin. There, in September, 1864~ at the age of nineteen, he enlisted in the Union army, entering Company K. Fifth Wisconsin, on its re-organization and serving with it until the surrender. He took part in all the battles in which his regiment participated, chief among them being those at Petersburg, Hatcher's run and Appomattox. He was mustered out in September, 1865, at Ball's Hill, Wis. The following six years he lived in Wisconsin and Michigan, coming to Nebraska, in April 1871. He was accompanied to this state by his brother John H, now of Kearney, and two others,

Daniel R. Davis and Samuel Mattice. In the choice for homesteads these four cast their lots together and agreed to locate as near each other as possible, one man to draw, as was the arrangement, for the entire four. Mr. Silvernail drew for his comrades and himself, getting the twenty-eighth choice . He and his friends took claims on the south side of Wood river, a short distance west of the town of Gibbon, but not liking the soil they gave up their claims there and selected others in section 10, just north of the river. There they located, and our subject, being the only old soldier in the crowd, got one hundred and sixty acres while the others took eighty each. He filed on the southwest quarter of the section, improved it and lived there till 1883, except one year he resided in Gibbon. Selling this he afterward moved to his present place of residence, four miles north of Gibbon, in Valley township. He has been steadily engaged in farming and has filled the usual number of local offices, having been the first precinct assessor (elected in the fall of 1871), one of the organizers of his school district and for several years a member of the school board and more recently clerk of Valley township.

Mr. Silvernail was a single man when he came to Buffalo county, but married in the fall of 1872, November 17th, taking for a companion a young

lady who, like himself, braved the hardships and privations of frontier life at that date in search of a home -- Miss Marcia E. Howe, a native of Newport, N. H., her father, George W. Howe, and her mother, Sarah M. Carr, both being natives of Newport; the father died in the town of Marlow, that state, in 1884, at the age of seventy-three, but the mother is still residing there. Mrs. Silvernail is one of a family of six children, two of whom besides herself were among the early settlers of Buffalo county, Nebr.: these being Mrs. E. C. Griffin, now of Gibbon; and Mrs. Dr. Ira P. George, of Elkins, Colfax county, N. M. Mrs. Silvernail came to Buffalo county in the

fall of 1871. Three children, all boys, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Silvernail -- Merton L., Errol H. and Halbert G. Among the few remaining old settlers of Gibbon township, those who came early and in the arduous undertaking of subduing nature and planting the seeds of civilization, "bore the heat and burden of the day," none have been more faithful in the task imposed on them and none are more highly esteemed than George H. Silvernail and his estimable wife, whose memory and the part they took in the settlement of their adopted home are here commemorated.

p. 236-237 - **DR. M. V. CHAPMAN.**

Veterinary surgeon and farmer, of Gibbon, Buffalo county, is a native of the town of Worcester, Otsego county, N. Y., and was born June 16, 1834. He comes of York state parentage, his father and mother, Jonas and Polly B. Chapman, both having been born and reared in the "Empire State." The father was killed by the explosion of a steamboat boiler while returning from New Orleans, in 1840, and the mother died in Pennsylvania in 1870. There were six children born to these, all of whom reached maturity, and five of whom are now living, the full list being-- Leanora, now wife of Huron Daniels; Orcelia, deceased; Rosabella, wife of L. Close; Andrew Jackson; Stephen Mayne and Martin Van Buren.

The subject of this notice, the youngest of the above children, was reared to the age of twenty years in Otsego and Cayuga counties, N. Y., coming West at that date, and settling in Steuben county, Ind. There, on the 20th of April, 1855, he married Miss Della McLouth, daughter of Rev. B. McLouth, of that county, and settled down to the pursuit of agriculture. In December, 1863, he entered the Union army, enlisting in Company F, Twenty-seventh Michigan volunteer infantry. His was one of the historic regiments of the Union army and did excellent service during the two years it was in the field. It took part in seventeen strongly contested engagements, and lost, in killed and wounded, over eight hundred men out of one thousand, four hundred and eighty-five. Those actually killed in battle were two hundred and twenty-five, being over fifteen per cent. Its heaviest losses occurred at the Wilder, Spottsylvania, Bethsaida church, and at

Petersburg, it being in the assault, the mine explosion and the trenches at the last named place. Our subject was not with his regiment, however, during its entire term of service. During the latter part of the war he was on detached duty. After the surrender he was assigned to a place in the department of the Freedman's Bureau, being assistant superintendent and provost-marshal for Halifax county, Va. He quit the public service in October, 1865, and returned at that date to Steuben county, Ind., where he resumed farming and his other private pursuits. Being a great fancier of horse flesh, a man of close observation and studious habits, our subject began, when only a youth, to give his attention to veterinary matters, reading such books as fell into his hands and "doctoring" his own and neighbors' horses. With the increase of years, he gathered increased knowledge and experience, and discovered in himself a growing taste for the profession of a veterinary surgeon, until at last he made up his mind to perfect himself for this as a pursuit and did so, having followed it successfully for some years. He came to Nebraska in 1878 and purchased land north of Gibbon in Buffalo county, locating there and residing in that vicinity since. He has at different times been largely interested in Buffalo county real estate, but has recently closed out most of his interests of this nature. He is also interested in the state bank of Gibbon, being a stockholder therein. He has a pleasant home one mile north of the town of Gibbon, lying on the banks of Wood river. Having had the misfortune to lose his wife in 1871, Dr. Chapman married again in August, 1872, the lady whom he selected as a

companion the second time being Miss Mary Stiles, of Sauk Center, Minn. He has had born to him a number of children: three surviving of his first marriage, and six of the second. In private intercourse, Dr. Chapman is pleasant and affable, being of a quiet, unobtrusive disposition and very thoughtful for the feelings and welfare of others. He is a man of good intelligence and possesses a large fund of general information. He has never aspired to

public office, being content to pursue the even tenor of his way as a humble citizen of the community where he has lived. In politics he is independent, though he formerly affiliated with the republican party and still votes that ticket in national elections, but for local men and measure he follows his judgment, believing in the survival of the fittest, regardless of party affiliations or personal predilection.

p. 238-239 - **A. EDDY,**

an old settler of Gibbon township, Buffalo county, a prominent and successful farmer, and as kind-hearted a christian gentleman as lives in the State of Nebraska, is A. Eddy, the subject of this short biography. Mr. Eddy has been a resident of the locality where he lives since May, 1874, and he has been identified with the best material, social and moral interests of that locality since settling there. He is well known throughout the county, and those who know him never mention his name but to speak his praise.

Mr. Eddy is a native of Wyoming county, N. Y., and comes of two of the early settled families of western York state. His father, John Eddy, was born in Rhode Island, December 9, 1795, and was taken to western New York by his parents when a lad, settling in Genesee county, where, December 17, 1817, he married Caroline Ward, and there subsequently lived and died. He was a farmer, a man of plain tastes, settled habits and uneventful life. He died, February 14, 1881, after a long life of great activity and usefulness. His wife, mother of our subject, was born January 6, 1799, and died October 29, 1881, after a life of pious, christian endeavor.

In the family to which Mr. Eddy belongs there were eleven children, as follows -- Alfred, born November 9, 1818, married February 21, 1848, died October 2, 1887; Lydia, born May 20, 1820, married to Lewis W. Gill October 7. 1841; Laura, born February 1, 1822, married to George Nichols February 6, 1851; Asahel, subject of this sketch, born October 2, 1823, and married January 1, 1845; Parthena, born September 27, 1825, and married September 28, 1842, to Joseph Dickarson; Edwin, born March 30, 1829, and married March 10 1850; James, born May 30, 1832, and married February 19, 1857; Caroline, born June 13, 1834, and married, May 14, 1856, to Elliott Barber; John, Jr.,

born October 7, 1836, married March 28, 1859, and killed May 31, 1862, at the battle of Fair Oaks, Va.; Rachel, born January 22, 1840, and married, January 6, 1861, to Abram Thompson; and Spaulding, born January 5, 1843, and died July 25, 1843.

The subject of this sketch was reared mainly in his native county, passing his maturer years in the county of Wyoming. He was brought up on his father's farm, receiving as good common-school training as could be had in the public schools of those days, and being brought up to the habits of industry and usefulness common to farm life. January 1, 1845, he married a neighbor girl, Sarah Cook, a daughter of Samuel and Chloe (Warner) Cook, early settlers in western New York. Mrs. Eddy, born August 10, 1825, is a native of Vermont, as were also her parents, but was reared in York state. Her father and mother died in Buffalo in 1831, during the great cholera scourge. Mr. Eddy settled down to the pursuit of agriculture after marriage, and followed it successfully a short time in Wyoming county, but moved West, without any family, and settled in McHenry county, Ill. He was residing there when the trouble came on that resulted in the great Civil war, and like the patriot he was, when the call was made for volunteers to defend the Union, he shouldered his musket and went to the front enlisting August, 1862, in Company E, Ninety-fifth Illinois volunteer infantry. He served with the army in the West and took part in the Vicksburg campaign, being present at the engagements at and around Vicksburg, continuing actively on the front for one year, when, on account of failure of health, he was compelled to take a place as prison guard, in which capacity he served till the end of the war, at Rock Island, Ill.

Returning to Illinois he resided there, engaged in farming, till the spring of 1874, when his mind once

more turned towards the great West and he decided to take up his abode on the rich prairies west of the Missouri river. He landed at Gibbon, Buffalo county, May 1st, that year. He at once purchased a place, buying the historic tract of land known as "Boyd's Ranch," lying about a mile west of Gibbon on Wood river, and there located and has since resided there. Mr. Eddy has bought and sold several tracts of land since he made this purchase, owning now as much as four hundred acres in Buffalo county. He has been steadily engaged in farming and stock-raising, at which he has been successful far beyond the average old settler. His home place is one of the most desirable places in the famous Wood River valley, noted as that valley is for its many fine farms. He has his entire farm under cultivation and it yields him an abundance of Nebraska's sovereign products, corn and hay. It has an abundance of native timber, and, lying on the banks of Wood river, it is furnished with an ample sufficiency of flowing water. It is in as moral a community as there is in Buffalo County; being only one mile from the town of Gibbon it has all needful market, school, church and social advantages.

Mr. Eddy is the father of nine children, eight of whom, four boys and four girls, are living and married. These are Amanda C., born July 13, 1847, and married October 2, 1866, to A. Watenpaugh; Spaulding, born November 14, 1849, and, married

August 9, 1871, to Amanda E. Norton; Henry A., born February 14, 1852, and married March 9, 1887, to Rebecca Peoples; Laura Belle, born June 17, 1854, and married July 2, 1873, to L. S. Buck; Caroline E., born April 15, 1857, and married July 26, 1875, to E. B. Dunkin; George A., born August 2, 1859, and married November 21, 1881, to Martha Trout; Frank D., born December 2, 1861, married January 2, 1887, to Mary E. Hays; Mary R., born October 27, 1886, and married May 10, 1887, to Bailey E. Vesey. Mr. and Mrs. Eddy's first child, a son born February 1, 1846, died in infancy.

In politics Mr. Eddy was reared a democrat and voted the democratic ticket up to the war. He then affiliated with the republican party and for many years voted that ticket straight through on all national and state issues. Of late years, however, he has been an independent republican with decided convictions on the prohibition of the drink traffic. He possesses strong temperance views and is outspoken in his opinion on temperance issues. He is active in his efforts towards temperance reform, and now has enlisted in the great uprising of the farmers to free us from the corporate rule into which the old parties political have fallen and which legislate for the few at the expense of the many.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddy are both members of the Baptist church, having belonged to that church for many years and reared most of their family in that church.

p. 240-241 - C. C. Holloway,

cashier of the State bank of Gibbon, Buffalo county. Mr. Holloway came to Gibbon in May, 1886. His father, Ira Holloway, had previously made investments in Gibbon, and it was to take charge of these investments that the subject of this sketch became a resident of the place. The interests here referred to, consisted mainly of stock in the State bank, of which Mr. Holloway's father was one of the founders. The State bank, one of the institutions of the town of Gibbon, was organized July 1, 1885, under the state banking laws, succeeding at that date, a private banking firm. It was organized with a capital of \$50,000, the charter members being Ira Holloway, H. F. Flint, C. E. Woodruff, D. M. Fuhner, F. C. Hitchcock and W. H. Morrow. Ira Holloway became president; H. F. Flint, vice-president, and F. C. Hitchcock, cashier. Several changes have since taken place in the official

organization and working force of the bank. At present, C. E. Woodruff is president; C. M. Beck, vice-president, and C. C., Holloway, cashier; Mr. Holloway having the general supervision and practical management of the institution and its concerns. The bank was started with a view of meeting the demand for local banking facilities. Its business has increased with the general increase of business of the town of Gibbon and vicinity, and its affairs are now in a fairly prosperous condition. Being organized under the state banking law, it is founded on a sufficiently solid basis to insure its permanent existence, and being backed by men of recognized means and ability, its affairs are managed in accordance with the best business principles and methods. It has, for the past year or two, had to divide business with the First National Bank of Gibbon, which has been started since the

State bank was organized, but it has nevertheless held its own, and has gone steadily forward in its career of prosperity.

Mr. Holloway is a banker somewhat by accident. He was not trained to the business, but took it up on locating in Gibbon. He was a teacher by profession prior to coming to Nebraska, having received a thorough education in his youth, graduating from the Normal School of Milan, Erie county, Ohio, and for a number of years being actively and successfully engaged in school room work. In many respects he is admirably qualified for the profession of teaching, being a good scholar, the first requisite. He has received the necessary training to enable him to impart his knowledge in a clear and concise way, is a hard worker, possesses executive ability above the average, and is painstaking and systemic in his methods. And he is, withal, an ardent advocate of thorough training for the young and warm sympathizer with youth in its struggles for the rudiments of knowledge. These qualities have also helped to make him a success in his present business and would go far towards helping him on to success in any business he might choose. They are not qualities necessarily peculiar to him, but are qualities held in common by the great mass of successful business men. In a general way they are qualities characteristic of the average American. It is the possession of these qualities that enables the general man of affairs to turn his hand with equal facility from one business to another and to prosecute all with a fair degree of success. Besides the excellent school advantages enjoyed by Mr. Holloway in his youth, he gained a good insight into the affairs of the world through his father, who was a highly successful business man. The elder Holloway was a native of New York state, but moved to Huron county, Ohio, when a lad, where he

settled, married and subsequently lived until 1883, when he removed to Lenawee county, Mich., where he resided until his death, September 3, 1887, at the advanced age of seven -five years. He was variously engaged during his earlier years, but retired in late life. He was distinguished for his industry and conscientious devotion to his own personal matters, and much of the success that crowned his life was due to the possession of these admirable qualities. He died about two years ago, somewhat advanced in age, but retaining up to the close of his life the full possession of all his faculties and exhibiting the same marked interest in his business matters and the success and welfare of his family that distinguished him in the more active years of his career.

Mr. Holloway's mother born the maiden name of Achsa Broughton. She is still living. She was born in Lorain county, Ohio, of which her parents were among the first settlers.

Mr. Holloway himself is next to the youngest of a family of ten children, all of whom reached maturity and most of whom are now living. He was born in the town of Peru, Huron county, Ohio, and there raised. He lived there and in adjoining counties till coming to Nebraska four years ago, and, as already stated, was engaged in teaching. He was married in Lucas county, in September, 1880, the lady of his choice being Miss Ruth Smith, of that county.

If more of Mr. Holloway need be said, what he is and what he has done may be summarized in the statement that he is an honest, industrious, capable man of business; an enterprising, intelligent, useful citizen and a pleasant, genial gentleman -- a valuable acquisition to the community where he has cast his fortune, and one whom his fellow-citizens rightly appreciate and willingly indorse what is here said of him.

1860 Census – Buffalo County, 114 people listed, Post Office at Nebraska Center, including (first 15 families listed) –

James Boyd

Walter Barrit

Mehitable Wilson (48) and 5 children (oldest, son 18)

Calvin Thompson, wife & 2 children

James & Michael Crain

Catharine Francis & 2 children

Henry Peck, wife & 8 children – trader and farmer

Robert Bean

George Robinson, wife & 3 children

Henry Dugdale, wife & 2 children
Charles Carter, wife & 6 children
John Evans, wife & 2 children
Joseph Woff, wife and 8 children
Richard Brett
Joseph Johnson

From <<http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/map-machine#s=h&c=40.75024804582859,%20-98.86553764343262&z=13>> map of Buffalo County focused on gibbon Township

Geography –

Wood River west to east winding through second row of sections from top.

Another stream parallel to Wood, north of it empties into Wood north of Gibbon

All cultivated, little grassland

Features –

Gibbon on east edge in center north/south. County road on east edge of Gibbon is township border.

Highway 30 and UP railroad go through Gibbon and on west in southerly slant

Interstate 80 catches corner of the last southeast section with Windmill State Recreation Area at the exit there.