

BONAR GENEALOGY

DOROTHY ELIZABETH RINE BROWN

Descendants of James & Nancy Bonar
of Van Buren Co, Iowa

“History of a Pioneer’s Life in Iowa”

DESCENDANTS OF JAMES AND NANCY () BONAR OF VAN BUREN CO, IOWA
(Documentary proof of their Parents is desired)

Roman numerals indicate generations

I JAMES BONAR was b Sept 15, 1805, in Pennsylvania (date in his Will; Pa in 1850 Census), d Dec 9, 1866, Utica, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, twice married. He and his first wife are bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Washington Twp, V B Co. James m first to Nancy () who was the mother of all of his children. Nancy was b Sept 17, 1805, in the State of Ohio, d Feb 28, 1857, Utica, Iowa. They had 5 daughters and 1 son; their son had daughters but no sons - so James and Nancy did not have any grandsons to carry on the Bonar surname. James m secondly, Mary () McAuley, a widow, b July 10, 1824, d Dec 31, 1868. By her first marriage Mary had at least 2 children, James McAuley and John O McAuley. Mary died before James Bonar's estate was settled and her 2 sons are named in the settlement.

A "Special Iowa Census" 1847 Van Buren Co, Iowa gives: James Bonar, total in family 8; also shows another entry of one James A Bonar, total in family 1 (second entry not identified by me).

1850 Federal Census, Van Buren Co, Iowa: James Bonar 46 Farmer b Penna, Nancy 47 b Ohio, Melinda 17 b Ill, George 14 b Ill, Eliza 12 b Ill, Mary 10, b Ill; Henry 23 b Ill or Ia (not clear), James 13 b Ill or Ia (don't "identify" these 2 Bonars); Jane Kyes 26 b Ill, Anna M Kyes, 1/2 b Iowa (Jane was the dau of James and Nancy Bonar). In the 1880 Census, Margaret (Bonar) Hatch says that both of her parents, James and Nancy Bonar, were born in Ohio; Margaret was min 1846 so did not appear in the above 1850 Census. Another dau, Eliza (Bonar) Nelson also states in the 1880 Census that both parents were born in Ohio. The 1850 Census giving Pennsylvania as the place of James' birth would appear to be correct. The entries in the 1880 Census giving Ohio indicate that James' Parents probably migrated from Pennsylvania and settled in Ohio.

James and Nancy Bonar and their six Children migrated from Illinois (all of the Children were b in Illinois) to Utica, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, in 1843. Their second child is listed as born in Sangamon Co, Illinois.

The Will of James Bonar was filed in Van Buren Co, Iowa, Probate #855; Adm named Dec 17, 1866

I, James Boner of the Township of Washington in the County of Van Buren of the age of sixty one years on the fifteenth day of Sept. A.D. 1866 and being of sound mind do make, publish and declare this my last will and Testament in manner following, that is to say,

First I give and bequeath to my son George W. Boner one roan horse and bed and bedding the same being of the value of one hundred and eighty dollars.

Second I give and bequeath to my wife Mary Boner all articles of personal property that she brought with her when she became my wife. Also such articles as dishes, knives and forks and also such small articles as she needs. Also one third part of all my Estate Real and personal Also one silver watch.

Third I give and desire all the rest of my Estate Real and Personal to my children to Witt— Margaret A. Hatch, Malinda A. Buckles, George W. Boner, Eliza D. Nelson, Mary A. Roe to be equally divided among my said children above named.

And lastly, I do hereby appoint as Executors of this my last Will and Testament John W. Nelson and my wife Mary Boner. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand and sixty-six.* Signed JAMES BONER

The above and foregoing instrument consisting of one sheet of paper was at the date thereof signed and declared by the said James Boner as and for his last Will and Testament in presence of us who at his request and in his presence have subscribed our names as witness thereto.

Signed by Benjamin L Kyes, William Zollars Residence in the County of Van Buren. (Benjamin L Kyes who witnessed this will was married to Jane Bonar, dau of James Bonar; Jane preceded her father in death.) *Year as given in copy received; should be one thousand eight

"A Poem about his Sisters written by George W Bonar" (hundred sixty-six.)
Of single sisters I had five, some dozen years ago.

But they have gone and left me now - to hoe my single row.

Sister Margaret married first, an Englishman named Hatch.

(m 1846)

She left our home to go to his, to cook and sew and patch.

Then sister Jane, she followed suit - and married Yankee Kyes.

(m before 1850)

He wanted her to be his wife, and bake him pumpkin pies.

Then there came an interval - of seven years or so,

Till sister Mary she grew up, and married Albert Roe.

(m c1857?)

Then Nelson came upon the field, and woo-ed our little Lide.

He won her heart and hand and she became his loving bride. (m 1860)

Then sister Linda she was made a Buckle fast,

He followed her in spite of Dad, and married her at last. (m c1860)

Now Buckle, Nelson, Hatch, Roe and Kyes, I'll bid you all good-bye,

If I've not written what's just so. (Why just say I lied)

● II JANE BONAR, b about May 28, 1824, in Illinois, d April 28, 1865, age 40-11--, m before 1850, to Benjamin L Kyes, b about 1814 in New Hampshire. They had 1 daughter.

III ANNA M KYES, b probably early in 1850 (was ½ yr old in 1850 Census), m to _____ Marriott. They lived around Bentonsport, Van Buren Co, Iowa. They had at least 3 children.

IV GEORGE MARRIOTT. IV ALMA MARRIOTT. IV _____ MARRIOTT (dau).

● II MARGARET ANN BONAR, b Sept 27, 1828, Sangamon Co, Illinois, d March 3, 1915, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, m March 3, 1846, to William Hatch, Sr, b Dec 12, 1818, in Hull, Yorkshire, England, d May 12, 1875, Utica, Van Buren Co, Iowa, son of John and Mary Ann (Musgrave) Hatch. Margaret and William, and many of their descendants are bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa. William came from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Van Buren Co, Iowa, in 1844. This was a Methodist family.

1850 Federal Census, Van Buren Co, Iowa: William Hatch 32 b England, Margaret 28 b Ill, Mary 3 b Iowa, Martha 2 b Iowa. 1880 Census, Van Buren Co: Margaret Hatch widow 52 b Ill, father b Ohio, mother b Ohio (her father prob b in Pa rather than Ohio); William (Jr) 27, b Iowa; Eliza E 18 b Iowa; Howard (nephew) 14 b Iowa. Margaret Bonar Hatch's obit says she was b Sangamon Co, Illinois, Sept 27, 1828; her gravestone reads Sept 27, 1824 - but death record and obit are 1828.

Obituary of Margaret Ann Bonar Hatch who d March 3, 1915: Birmingham, Iowa, March 5 —

"Margaret Ann Bonar, the eldest child [eldest is error; she was second child] of James and Nancy Bonar, was born September 27, 1828, in Sangamon County, Illinois, and came to Iowa with her parents in 1843. She was converted and joined the M.E. Church at a camp meeting held near Birmingham, Iowa, thus being a member of the M. E. Church for 70 years. She was married to William Hatch March 5, 1846. Her education was necessarily limited to her residence in Illinois, as she came to Iowa 3 years before it was admitted as a state. There were no public schools and very few private schools in the territory. The nearest house of worship was eight or nine miles away when not held in a private home, her Father's house being used for this purpose very often, or until a church was built in Utica, near her home. Her husband took his young bride to the home farm where she lived as wife and a widow until she was 84 years of age. Then getting quite feeble, she spent the rest of her declining years with her children. Seven came to bless this union, three of whom preceded her to the great beyond, namely: Mariam Leffler, Martha Johnston, and William Hatch. The remaining children were Geo. Hatch of Cantril, Iowa; Sarah Harwood, of California; Lida Moore, of Bentonsport and John Hatch of Mt. Pleasant. Grandma Hatch was left a widow the spring of 1875, and had the care of the minor children and labored faithfully and lovingly for their welfare, - especially for her invalid son John, for almost 40 years. Being a descendant of a hardy Scotch-Irish parentage, she lived to a ripe age and hers was a well-rounded life. She was an affectionate wife, a devoted mother, a loyal friend and a sincere Christian. She threw into all her work, whether at home or away, a great and tireless energy that was the marvel of all those who knew her. So departed a faithful mother in Israel.

"Her death occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Roe Moore (James Monroe Moore), of Bentonsport, March 3, 1915, being at the age of eighty-six years, five months and 6 days. Funeral services were held at Millers chapel Friday, March 5, at 11 A.M., conducted by Rev. Mr. Stine of Stockport, assisted by Rev. Mr. Carroll, of Hillsboro. The date of her burial was her sixty-ninth wedding anniversary." William and Margaret (Bonar) Hatch, Sr, had 7 children.

III MARY ANN HATCH, b Dec 23, 1846, d Oct 12, 1895, m Feb 18, 1871, to James Leffler, b Aug 20, 1845, d Dec 19, 1925. They had 5 children.

IV ALBERT R LEFFLER, b Nov 24, 1871, d Oct 8, 1877.

IV ORELDO LEFFLER, b Feb 11, 1873, d March 25, 1873.

IV FLORENCE LEFFLER, b April 11, 1875, d Aug 4, 1875.

IV OMER LYLE LEFFLER,
see bottom of page.

IV MATTIE ALETHA LEFFLER, b Oct 16, 1876, d Feb 21, 1939, m Dec 10, 1902, Charles Adolphus Howard, b Jan 5, 1873, d Sept 10, 1949. They had a son and a daughter.

V JAMES LYLE HOWARD, b May 15, 1904. V MARGARET LOIS HOWARD, b Aug 7, 1910.

III MARTHA HATCH, b March 24, 1848, d Jan 28, 1878, Van Buren Co, Iowa, bur in Millers Chapel Cem, m Oct 12, 1872, to James Monroe Johnston, b Jan 29, 1849, d Jan 16, 1926. They had at least 2 children.

IV IOWA ROSE JOHNSTON, m L W Dodds.

IV _____ JOHNSTON.

III SARAH HATCH, b March 13, 1854, d March 2, 1924, Napa, Napa Co, California, twice

IV OMER LYLE LEFFLER, b Feb 7, 1878, d March 26, 1937, San Jose, Calif, bur in Santa Clara City Cem, Calif, m to Clara (), who d Feb 20, 1904.

married. First, m March 18, 1873, Van Buren Co, Iowa, to Stephen Andrew Spraker, b Nov 14, 1851, d June 11, 1888, bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co, Iowa. They had 2 sons - names not at hand. Secondly, m George Harwood, and they had 1 son. (Sarah's record not in chronological order.)

IV _____ SPRAKER. IV _____ SPRAKER. IV ROY HARWOOD.

III GEORGE HATCH, b c1850/51, d Nov 30, 1928, bur in Maple Grove Cem, Cantril, Van Buren Co, Iowa, married three times. First, m March 4, 1875, to Anna Warner, b June 4, 1857, d April 20, 1912, in the State of Washington. George and Anna had 3 daughters and 1 son. A record of his second marriage and the name of his second wife is not at hand. George m thirdly, to Josie Harriman, who is now 87 years old (1969) and lives at Cantril, Iowa. George's CH are:

IV ESTELLA HATCH.

IV LESLIE HATCH.

IV ELLA HATCH.

IV GEORGIA HATCH.

An 1856 Census shows George, Age 5; 1860 Census, George, age 9; 1870 Census, George, age 19.

III ELIZA "LIDA" ELLEN HATCH, b Dec 27, 1861, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d Dec 3, 1933, same Co, m Dec 27, 1881 (her 20th birthday), to James Monroe Moore, b Jan 12, 1860, Van Buren Co, d Sept 5, 1937, same Co; both are bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co. They had 12 children.

IV CLAUDIA ETHEL MOORE, b Sept 29, 1882, Mt Zion, Van Buren Co, Washington Twp, d Oct 15, 1951, Bonapart, Van Buren Co, Iowa, m March 29, 1909, to George G Randolph, b c1878, d March 18, 1963; bur in Bonapart Cem. They had 3 children.

V GERALD E RANDOLPH, b March 7, 1911.

V GEORGE PAUL RANDOLPH, b Nov 9, 1917.

V EDITH E RANDOLPH, b March 30, 1914.

IV ERNEST MONROE MOORE, b March 8, 1884, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, d Sept 19, 1959, m Jan 26, 1916, to Mabel Hall; both are bur in Bonapart, Van Buren Co. They had 2 children.

V BERYL ERNESTINE MOORE, b Sept 1, 1916.

V DALE EUGENE MOORE, b Dec 25, 1918, d April 14, 1962.

IV CLYDE MOORE, b Aug 28, 1886, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d April __, 1932, Los Angeles, Calif, bur at Keosauqua, Van Buren Co, Iowa, m Sept 30, 1914, to Edna Dowell. Edna is living in San Diego, Calif. Clyde and Edna had 1 daughter.

V DOROTHY JUNE MOORE, b July 21, 1926.

IV ROBERT WILLIAM MOORE, b Aug 31, 1888, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d Jan 27, 1921, bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co, m Nov 10, 1915, to Mary Lyons. Mary is living at Ottumwa, Iowa. Robert William and Mary had 3 daughters and 1 son.

V ARLENE NEVADA MOORE, b June 27, 1916.

V ROBERT WILLIAM MOORE, JR.

V MARY MARGARET MOORE.

V MARJORIE RUTH MOORE.

IV GLENN PETER MOORE, b March 23, 1890, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d May 18, 1954, Las Vegas, Nevada, m Sept 27, 1923, to Alberta Hice. Berta is living in Nevada. Glenn Peter and Berta had 1 son.

V CLIFFORD MOORE.

IV JAMES ROSS MOORE, b Oct 27, 1891, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d Nov 24, 1945, same Co, bur in Millers Chapel Cem, m March 3, 1930, to Lenora G Hughes, b 1901. They had no children. After James Ross' death, his widow, Lenora, married William "Bill" Peacock.

IV EARL VERNON MOORE, b Aug 27, 1893, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d July 20, 1967, Ottumwa, Wapello Co, Iowa, m June 8, 1917, Wapello Co, Iowa, to Mary Alice Roberts, b Jan 22, 1899, New London, Henry Co, Iowa, d Dec 19, 1966, Keosauqua, Van Buren Co, Iowa; Earl Vernon and Mary Alice, and their elder son, Hollis Earl Moore, are bur in Millers Chapel Cem. After their marriage Earl and Alice lived in South Dakota for several years; they returned to Iowa about Sept of 1923. Earl was a farmer. He and Alice had 2 sons and 4 daughters.

V HOLLIS EARL MOORE, b June 18, 1918, Doland, Spink Co, South Dakota, d May 3, 1939, in the State of Oregon, where he was working as a fire fighter and spotter. He died of Tick Fever, or Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. His body was returned to Van Buren Co, Iowa, for burial in Millers Chapel Cem. He was unmarried.

V NINA GRACE MOORE, b March 17, 1922, Doland, Spink Co, South Dakota, m June __, 1940, at Kahoka, Clark Co, Missouri, to Henry Allen Thomas. They have 6 children.

Res: Des Moines, Iowa. Their first 5 children are married and have families; the youngest is single (1969) and is a student.

VI SHIRLEY JEAN THOMAS, b March 13, 1941, married.

VI DIXIE LEE THOMAS, b Sept 12, 1942, married.

VI AUDREY LUCILLE THOMAS, b April 29, 1944, married.

VI HENRY EARL THOMAS, b Aug 26, 1946, married. In US Navy (1969)

VI ROBERT ALLEN THOMAS, b Oct 14, 1948, married.

VI JANET LOUISE THOMAS, b Sept 1, 1952. Single, is a student (1969).

V NEVA ELLEN MOORE, b June 18, 1923, Doland, Spink Co, South Dakota, m Oct 20, 1940, at Lancaster, Schuyler Co, Missouri, to Glenn Raymond Kisling, b June 25, 1922, Mt Zion,

Van Buren Co, Iowa, son of Harvey Raymond and Jessie Genevieve (Franklin) Kisling. Neva's parents moved back to Iowa when she was about 3 months old. Neva and Glenn have 5 sons. Res: 600-42 St NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402. Neva is a housewife. Education—Graduate of Keosauqua (Van Buren Co, Iowa) High School, 1940. Church—United Methodist; Youth Leader, Decorah (Iowa) Methodist Church, 2 years. Awards—"Honorary Cub Scout" for serving as chairman of District Pow wow (powwow); 5-yr Red Cross Award, Gray Lady work; received Straight Jacket Award by Committees working on State Convention for TOPS "Take Off Pounds Sensibly," served as Chairman; the town was flooded terribly—River crested on Thursday P.M. - our Convention on Saturday with 1200 guests, Waterloo, Iowa, spring of 1965. Affiliations—Gray Lady, 5 yrs; served as Area Captain of TOPS, 3 yrs - held various offices - organized and supervised about 40 Clubs - a voting member in "TOPS CLUB, INC;" Member of DAR (on Avery line), approved April 1969, Mayflower DAR Chapter, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (National Number #540553). Her husband, Glenn Raymond, graduated from Oskaloosa (Iowa) High School, 1939; graduated from US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, 1963. Career—Pacific Tel & Tel Co, Los Angeles Area, 1946-55; Northwestern Bell Tel Co, various cities and assignments in Iowa, 1957 to present - currently is Service Supervisor PBX Dept, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; received 20-yr Service Award. Church—United Methodist. Activities—Enlisted in Iowa National Guard, Oct 1939 - Commissioned, March 1943; currently Director of Operations and Training, Hdq Iowa Natl Guard, rating is Colonel. Military record—Jan 1941 to Jan 1946, US Army including Europe, 78th Inf Div; Dec 1951 to Nov 1953, US Army including Korea, 45th Inf Div. Awards—Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, American Defense Medal, American Theater, European Theater with 3 Campaign Stars, World War II Victory Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, National Defense Service Medal, German Occupation Medal, Korean Theater with 1 Campaign Star; United Nations Korean Service Medal. Affiliation—BPOE Lodge 290, Waterloo, Iowa, 1966 to present. Glenn's Kisling lineage beginning with the immigrant ancestor:

I Johann George Kisling, b Germany, lived in Bucks Co, Pa, m Anna Maria Miller. II George Kisling, b Berks Co, Pa, d Wythe Co, Va, m Catherine Gose, dau of Stephen Gose, b Germany, and Elizabeth Spraker. III John Kisling, Methodist Minister, preached in German, b Wythe Co, Va, lived many yrs in Decatur, Ind, m Barbara Spraker, dau of Jacob and Eve (Cook) Spraker and grdau of Christopher and Elizabeth () Spraker. IV Daniel Kisling, b Wythe Co, Va, lived in Decatur Co, Ind, and Scotland Co, Mo, m Rebecca Bryson. V George Kisling m Mary Maude Grade, dau of Joseph Grade, b France, and Elizabeth (Day) Grade, of Kahoka, Mo. VI Harvey Raymond Kisling m Jessie Genevieve Franklin - they are the parents of Glenn. Jessie's lineage goes back to John Leonard Franklin m in 1847 to Mary Wilson Ross, dau of David and Mary (Wilson) Ross, of Miami Co, Ohio.

Neva (Moore) Kisling is compiling records on the line of James and Nancy () Bonar, pioneers to Van Buren Co, Iowa; she desires to hear from others who may have information.

VI ALLEN RAY KISLING, b Dec 5, 1946, Los Angeles, Calif. Allen Ray is in the U S Navy, and is assigned to School Troops, Eleyson Field, Pensacola, Florida.

VI DEAN RANDALL KISLING, b March 10, 1949, Los Angeles, Calif. Dean Randall is in the U S Army, and is assigned to the 101 Airborne Div, Viet Nam; he is home on furlough as of May 1969.

VI LEE RICHARD KISLING, b April 4, 1951, Los Angeles, Calif. Student.

VI JAMES ROSS KISLING, b Feb 21, 1957, Fairfield, Jefferson Co, Iowa. Student.

VI RUSSELL ROGER KISLING, b March 3, 1964, Waterloo, Blackhawk Co, Iowa.

V LENORA ALICE MOORE, b April 23, 1926, Mt Zion, Van Buren Co, Iowa, m June 20, 1947, to Henry Krasowski. They had 3 children. Res: Hawthorne, Calif.

VI JUDY KRASOWSKI, b Dec 5, 1948, married.

VI RONALD LEON KRASOWSKI, b Nov 24, 1950, married.

VI male KRASOWSKI, stillborn, July 23, 1964, Los Angeles, Calif.

V NELLIE JUNE MOORE, b June 17, 1928, Hillsboro, Van Buren Co, Iowa, m Feb 17, 1948, to Paul Richard Clinedinst. They have 4 sons. Res: Anaheim, Calif.

VI DALE RICHARD CLINEDINST, b Dec 11, 1949.

VI SCOTT RANDALL CLINEDINST, b Dec 28, 1951.

VI DENNIS RAY CLINEDINST, b Jan 16, 1953.

VI PAUL RICHARD CLINEDINST, JR, b Dec 8, 1954.

V LOUIE HERBERT MOORE, b March 28, 1930, Hillsboro, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d May 16, 1968, in Veterans Hospital, Boston, Mass, bur in Mt Pleasant Cem, Gloucester, Essex Co, Mass, m Nov 14, 1952, to June Helen Nelson. They had 4 daughters. The family lives at Gloucester.

VI LINDA DIANNE MOORE, b Sept 3, 1954.

VI KAREN SUE MOORE, b Sept 6, 1957.

VI LORNA JUNE MOORE, b July 21, 1958.

VI KIM THERESA MOORE, b Oct 1, 1961.

Louie Herbert Moore served with the U S Army in the Korean War.

IV PAUL (RAYMOND?) MOORE, b Aug 30, 1895, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d Jan 21, 1949, Ames, Iowa, m May 9, 1925, to Lucia Kastle. They had 2 sons, names not at hand.

IV FERN THEODORE MOORE, b May 4, 1897, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d Jan 20, 1968, m June 10, 1925, Ames, Iowa, to Bertha F Bosma. Bertha lives at Ames. No children.

IV WALTER LEO MOORE, b Feb 20, 1899, d Feb 22, 1899, age 2 days, bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co, Iowa.

IV CRAIG ROOSEVELT MOORE, b July 4, 1900, Washington Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d May 13, 1964, m June 22, 1927, to Helen Black. Helen lives at Ames, Iowa. They had 2 children.

V NORMA MOORE.

V GARY MOORE.

IV ELIZA GERTRUDE MOORE, b April 4, 1902, d Oct 11, 1940, m Sept 9, 1922 to Ralph Keller. Eliza is bur in Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co, Iowa. Ralph is living in Arizona. They had 3 sons and 3 daughters.

V LEO KELLER.

V DOROTHY KELLER.

V DUANE KELLER.

V BEAULAH KELLER.

V DONALD KELLER.

V IRMA KELLER.

● II MELINDA A BONAR, b c1833, in Illinois, m before 1860 Census, to Thomas Buckles, b c1835, in England. "In 1868, they lived at Villa Ridge, Pulaski Co, Illinois. They lived around Keosauqua, Van Buren Co, Iowa, for a time, I think. They may have had children; some think that they remember 2 daughters in this family."--Neva Moore Kisling.

● II GEORGE W BONAR, b Dec 20, 1836, in Illinois, d Feb 12, 1877, m about or after 1860, to Mary Elizabeth Norris, b c1845/6, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d prob before 1866, Belle Plaine, Kansas, dau of Stephen and Rachel (Moore) Norris. George is bur at Millers Chapel Cem, Van Buren Co, Iowa. Elizabeth died leaving 3 small daughters who were reared by their grandfather and grandmother Norris; lived around Cantril, Iowa, part of their lives. Court Records, Van Buren Co, Iowa: Case #1450, Book A, Page 531, George W Bonar (Gdn). George was living in Pulaski Co, Illinois, in 1868. The 3 daughters of George and Elizabeth were:

III GEORGIA BONAR, b in early 1860's, Belle Plaine, Kansas, is buried in Hollywood Cem, Hollywood, Calif, twice married. First, m _____ Martin; they had 1 son - or more children, name or names not at hand. Secondly, m _____ Mott, a wealthy widower in California; he had 2 sons? by his first wife.

III CORA BONAR, b early 1860's, Belle Plaine, Kansas, d at Salina, Kansas, m _____ Estell.

III FLORENCE BONAR, b early 1860's, Belle Plaine Kansas, d Salina, Kansas, m _____ Stoner.

● II ELIZA DORREL BONAR, b Nov 27, 1838, nr Springfield, Sangamon Co, Illinois, d May 6, 1921, Vinita, Craig Co, Oklahoma, m Jan 12, 1860, to John W Nelson, b Sept 25/27, 1832, Wayne Co, Ohio, d April 1, 1889; Eliza is bur in Millers Chapel, Van Buren Co, Iowa. She and John had 9 children.* 1880 Federal Census, Van Buren Co: John Nelson 57 b Ohio (father b Pa, mother b Ireland), Eliza 41 b Ill (father and mother both b Ohio) /Her father appears to have been born in Pa instead of Ohio. The obit of Eliza says that J R Gilchrist was her nephew; John Robert Gilchrist, 1864-1932, m Ludema (Patrick), 1873-1947, - their son was James Ren Gilchrist, b March 30, 1901, d April 1, 1910. Gilchrist information from gravestones, Millers Chapel Cem.

III ?FLORENCE MAY NELSON, b April 30, 1862, d June 16, 1864, age 2 yr, 1 mo, 17 das.

III MINNIE G NELSON, b c1864, Van Buren Co, Iowa, d 1921, m J F Murphy. They lived in Vinita, Oklahoma, and had 3 children.

IV EARL MURPHY.

IV KENNETH MURPHY.

IV MARGARET MURPHY.

III MARIETTA "Mamie or Mattie?" E NELSON, b c1866/7, d 1921, Lewiston, Idaho, m L J Perkins. No further information.

III _____ NELSON, infant son, b March __, 1869, d March 28, 1869.

III ETHEL N NELSON, b c1870, m Orange S Calhoun. They had 4 children.

IV CLAUDE N CALHOUN.

IV JOHN CALHOUN.

IV ORANGE VAN CALHOUN.

IV HERBERT CALHOUN.

III NELLIE M NELSON, m Todd Hootman. They had 2 sons, 2 daughters - name of only one is known. IV KATHRYN HOOTMAN.

III EDNA MARGARET NELSON, b Jan 1, 1876, d Dec 21, 1928, 3310 Cornell St, Des Moines, Iowa, m Oct 4, 1905, to Webb Barker. She is bur in Millers Chapel Cem. They had 5 children.

IV WILLIAM BARKER.

IV DARRELL BARKER.

IV BETHEEN BARKER.

IV PHILLIP BARKER.

IV ZOE BARKER.

III JOHN HATCH ERNEST NELSON, b May 19, 1878, d June 1, 1936, m Grace Gertrude Barker, b Nov 27, 1884, d Aug 4, 1933; bur in Millers Chapel Cem. They had 5 children.

IV JOHN CONLEY NELSON, b April 16, 1906, m Marjorie C Morris. They had 2 sons.

V JOHN NELSON.

V JAMES C NELSON.

IV MERLE ERNEST NELSON, b April 18, 1908, m Roberta John ton.

IV JEAN CAROL NELSON, b Dec 4, 1909, m "Dirk" Miller.

IV PAUL HUGH NELSON, b July 11, 1912.

*All of the children of John W and Eliza Dorrel (Bonar) Nelson were b in Van Buren Co, Iowa.No proof but cemetery record for a Florence May Nelson appears to be a child of Eliza and John.

IV ROBERTA GRACE NELSON, b March 22, 1919, m Robert W Dorothy.

III ?ROYAL H NELSON, b May 12, 1883, d Oct 19, 1884, age 1 yr, 5 mo, 7 das.

Data: Line 52, preceding page - Webb and Edna M (Nelson) Barker moved to Des Moines in 1920.

● II MARY A BONAR, b c1840 in Illinois, youngest child of James and Nancy () Bonar, m Albert L Roe. "My contacts say she lived to be real old. No record of children, but there may have been children; but no one now living remembers ever seeing or hearing of any. She was still living when Margaret Ann (Bonar) Hatch died in 1915, I think."--Neva Moore Kisling.

This concludes the records of descendants of James and Nancy () Bonar that were received.

Neva (Moore) Kisling who furnished the preceding records included the following miscellaneous records, unclassified as of now.

JAMES C BONAR, b April 20, 1841, Stark Co, Illinois, d Oct 29, 1886, (d on train between Des Moines and Osceola) New Virginia, Warren Co, Iowa, m Oct 28, 1866, at Osceola, Clarke Co, Iowa, by Rev J W Todd, to Lucinda Christy, b c1840, d Nov 30, 1912; James C is bur in Maple Hill Cem. They had 3 children. James enlisted at Hopeville, Clarke Co, Iowa, Feb 18, 1862, Co I, 15 Reg, Iowa Inf Vol, Mustered out July 24, 1865. The Mother reported (pension papers) no public record of birth or baptism of children. Note 1888, Osceola, Clarke Co, Iowa: Lucinda (Christy) Bonar's witnesses to her papers were M C Christy and W W Williams. Children of James C and Lucinda: 1 Isaac Marshall Bonar, b Aug 7, 1867, 2 (looked like an unnamed baby of Pension papers), 3 Oneola Bonar, b May 17, 1871.

WILLIAM BONAR, b 1842, Stark Co, Illinois, d Nov __, 1896, Helena, Missouri, m Miss Armstrong. William was in Co L, 3 Iowa Cavalry. William bur in Clarke Co, Iowa.

JAMES C BONAR and WILLIAM BONAR were brothers - sons of DAVID and ANN () BONAR. Information from "Hawkeye Heritage", Oct 1968, Page 164, GAR, Clark Co, Iowa, Osceola Post 173, Osceola, Iowa, chartered May 9, 1883--disbanded June 1, 1928. William bur in Clarke Co, Iowa.)

1854 Special Census, Clarke Co, Iowa, Doyle Twp, Page 162: Bonar, Barnebas, 2 males, 1 female; Bonar, David, 4 males, 4 females; Bonar, Matthew, 3 males, 1 female. (Hopeville in Section 9, Doyle Twp.)

1870 Federal Census, Union Twp, Van Buren Co, Iowa: David K Bonar 37 b Ohio, Plasterer, \$1200; Emiline 32 b Ohio, keeps house; O H 9 b Iowa, M B 7 b Iowa, M J 4 b Iowa - all females.

1870 Federal Census, Lick Creek Twp, Van Buren Co: Samuel Bonar 28 b Pa, Laborer; Amanda 23 b Iowa; Louisa 3, Annie S 1 - both b in Iowa.

Gravestones in old Birmingham Cem, Van Buren Co, Iowa: William Bonar, b 1850, d May? 21, 1852, age 1-9-22; Margaret E (or L?) Bonar, b 1853, d March 31, 1855, age 1-9-25; They were children of J R B and G Bonar. (This old cemetery is about 7 or 8 miles from the homestead of James and Nancy () Bonar of Van Buren Co, Iowa. The cemetery was located near to the sites where the David K Bonar family, and the Samuel Bonar family (see 1870 Census above) lived.

List of Probates in Van Buren County, Iowa, relating to the surname Bonar (spelled various ways):

Number	Name	Book	Page	Number	Name	Book	Page
407	Joseph H Bonner	1st	496	1211	Margaret Bonner	A	292
641 1/2				* 1067	George W Bonar	A	148
766	Josiah M Bonner	1st	431	* 1450	George W Bonar (gdn)	A	531
* 855	James Boner	1st	520	1402	Matthew Boner (gdn)	A	483
909	Mathew Bonner	1st	574	3613	David K Bonar	5	127
1001	Chappel H Bonner	A	82	* 3033	Margaret Ann (Bonar) Hatch	3	514

*Probates that pertain to line of James Bonar of Van Buren Co, Iowa.

"History of a Pioneer's Life in Iowa"

Having heard and read much of the privations and hardships endured by the pioneers of the State of Iowa in general and Des Moines County in particular, and being among that number, we flatter ourselves with the belief that we can add somewhat to the pages of what appropriately might be called, "The History of Pioneer Life in Iowa." In this article we propose relating in a haphazard manner the incidents of those dark days as they present themselves to our memory, without any attempt at flowery language or exquisite coloring to make the picture more impressive, as we consider the plain facts of those early times entail all that is necessary to acquaint the present generation with the pluck and perseverance required to open up to cultivation a new country so remote from civilization as Iowa now, (but then known as Wisconsin Territory, or the Black Hawk Purchase) both by reason of the distance and the slow mode of immigration, — the most of the traveling being with the slow-going ox team. But as my object is merely to give my own experience, and the incidents connected therewith, I will proceed at once.

My maiden name was Louisa Evans. I was married in 1834 to Edward Roberts, at the age of 22. Three years later, in company with my sister and family, we started for the wild western country to try our fortunes. We took the boat at Moundsville, West Virginia, and traveled down the Ohio River to the mouth, thence up the Mississippi to Burlington, reaching there April 5, 1837.

Burlington at that time was in its infancy, hardly meriting the title of town, or even that of a village. A few log huts and a frame hotel were all that marked the spot where so much worth and enterprise now exist. It was merely a point where the Indians came to trade skins and furs, and there the Government land office was held. All else was forests, hills and hollows. At the date of our arrival the entire ground on which the city now stands could have been bought for the price of one yoke of oxen. At the time of our arrival our two families numbered thirteen persons. There being no friends there to take us to our claims, which was located twelve miles west we hired a man who was the possessor of an old lumber wagon and a yoke of oxen to carry us. On account of the bad roads we were compelled to leave our provisions behind. A blinding snow storm had set in, and having an open conveyance, our journey was not very encouraging. Having to cross the trackless prairie, without a house to be seen in the entire distance. After traveling a distance of ten miles, we reached Long Creek about dark. This stream we found on one of its accustomed benders, so much swollen that no amount of persuasion could induce our teamster to attempt a crossing. Our little all which we had been able to bring with us was unceremoniously thrown on the banks of the creek.

After receiving his five dollars pay, our teamster headed his team for Burlington. Our condition was now a trying one. All our worldly possessions which we were able to bring with us, consisting of a scanty supply of bedding and a few days' rations, piled in a promiscuous mass. Having no place for shelter or warmth, our prospects were not very encouraging. My husband and brother-in-law cut down a tree that stood on the bank of the creek, and let it fall across to form a bridge. After the men had carried our goods across on this log, they then assisted my sister and me and the children across in safety. The next move was to find a place of shelter for the night. Mr Wesley Teas, who preceded us a short time before, was living in a little log cabin, about half a mile from the creek. Here we found shelter for the night. The next morning, some of our party notified my brother, John Evans, of our arrival. (John had come in the fall of 1836, and was at that time working for Azariah Gregg.) He at once procured a team of Mr Gregg and moved us to his home.

This was on Friday. By the next Wednesday the men, who had set about preparing material for our first residence in Iowa, had the building up, and we all moved in. In describing this little mansion it is only necessary to state that it was built of logs, and was fourteen feet square. In one half of this building we had a floor made by splitting linn logs and placing them side by side. This we called our bedroom. The other half was our kitchen. Our stove consisted of two forked sticks driven into the ground, with a pole laid across upon which to hang our dinner pot. The chimney was built with sticks lined with rocks at the bottom, and at the top with sticks put together with mortar made of straw and mud. At this time our family consisted of fourteen members, which made just one foot for each person in our little cabin. [It would be 14 sq ft per person]

By this time our store of provisions was becoming very much reduced. It was then arranged that Jonathan Roberts, (my brother-in-law,) should go to Burlington for the purpose of bringing home our provisions left at that place, while my husband attended to the duty of chinking our house and daubing it with mud. This might appropriately be called the finishing touch. As a substitute for a door we hung a quilt.

Jonathan was detained in Burlington two days and nights on account of rain and bad roads, which were so soft as to be almost impassable. While he tarried in town our condition at home became daily more desperate. One peck of corn meal and a little lard were all the eatables

in the house when he left home. To make this scanty supply last thirteen persons until he returned, we had to allowance ourselves, and a short allowance it was, too. The outlook at noon of the second day began to take on a gloomy aspect. We were all disheartened and discouraged, but all with the exception of myself, put on a bold front and tried to look on the brighter side of the picture. My lot seemed such a hard one that I could not conceal the true state of my feelings, and I had the sympathy of all the rest. They resorted to every means to cheer me up and keep me in good spirits. Sister greased her mouth with meat rinds which had been laid by for soap grease, and smacking her lips pretended to have eaten a hearty meal. But such pranks as these did not appease hunger, nor throw any light on the prospects of the future.

I believe I must have felt much as the children of Israel did when they murmured against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, saying, "Would to God we could have died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when he sat by the flesh pots and did eat bread to the fill, for you have brought us forth into the wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."*

The space of time required for the arrival of our provisions seemed to us an age. But the longest day must have an end, and we rejoiced on the third day when our supplies arrived in good condition. With these provisions and our summer's crop we had an adequate supply to last until winter set in. We then bought some hogs of the settlers who had preceded us, who, by the way, were nearly all Virginians. The most of that winter we lived on "hog and hominy." We had to live on this so long that brother John used to remark, "That he was ashamed to look a hog in the face any more."

For two years all the grain we had ground was done on a hand mill. After sifting the flour, we bolted it through my wedding handkerchief. The first horse mill was built about the year 1839, but was destitute of a bolting apparatus. It usually took two days to make a trip to mill with an ox team. As the settlers all used the mill, we had to wait our turn. The first mill with bolting machinery was built at Augusta about 1841. In the fall of that year my sisters' family moved to themselves. Then many lonely hours did I pass in that little cabin with my children, while my husband was away at work.

The Indians camped on Skunk river bottom, only half a mile from our door. Here they congregated in the late fall and winter for the purpose of trapping animals and tanning their skins. But thanks to a kind God we were never molested by them. We hope that the people of today will not think that our associations were such as to demoralize us, and cause us to forget the protection and guidance of our Heavenly Father, for we always gather in our cabins for weekly prayer meeting. Probably there was then more pure and undefiled religion among the people than now, when we have so many fine churches for worship. The pioneers of Iowa worshipped, as did the Puritan fathers and mothers of the east, in the shady groves, which were "God's first temples." And when the weather was too inclement to be out-doors, we enjoyed the hospitality afforded by some of the settlers, who were always free to open their doors for religious services. Dr Teas was our first Minister.

In the year 1843, the first log school house was built, and was used both for school and church purposes. My memory often returns to those days, and it makes me sad to see how few are remaining of those early pioneer friends who have gone before. But we can say like David, "They cannot come to us, but we can go to them."

I am now seventy-eight years of age, and from the course of nature cannot expect to remain much longer, and will say to our few remaining pioneer friends, "Farewell."—Louisa A Roberts.

The preceding is a story of two young couples who came to Iowa in 1837. It was written by Louisa (Evans) Roberts about 1890. They are Jonathon Roberts and his wife Maria Evans and their 6 children (plus 1 child b after arrival in Iowa); and Edward Roberts and wife Louisa Evans and two tiny tots. Edward Roberts and Jonathon Roberts are cousins and the wives are sisters. Jonathon's parents, Reuben and Elizabeth (Barton) Roberts came to Danville, Iowa, in 1838 with the rest of their family. Some were married and came to Iowa later on. The 1840 Census shows the families of Jonathon, Edward and Reuben (Jonathon's father) all located in Danville Twp, Des Moines County, Iowa. These families were located in Marshall Co, (W) Va prior to their trip.

Louisa (Evans) Roberts and Maria (Evans) Roberts were the daughters of Walter Evans (I), b Dec 14, 1769 in Wales, d March 15, 1861, Marshall Co and Barbara Barger, dau of Lieter Barger 1749-1825 and Margaret Hook Barger 1752-1818. Louisa and Maria were sisters to George Washington Evans who married for his second wife, Rebecca (Porter) Allen, dau of John and Nancy (Bonar) Porter. (See bottom of page 130 of this Bonar Genealogy, under 1421, Generation Four.)

The Memoirs of Louisa A Roberts were furnished by Neva (Moore) Kisling, who is a great-great-granddaughter of Jonathon and Maria (Evans) Roberts - Maria being the sister of Louisa.

*Exodus 16:3.