

# Edgar County Genealogical Society

Volume XXXV,  
Number II

November 2018

Winter is a good time to work on your Family Trees

One should always start with the living family members. One reason is that the facts should be more accurate. The person can tell you not only the dates and places, but also give you stories—military experiences and past holiday traditions. You get leads to the past. The shorter days encourage you stay in the warm house and work on the computer. Visiting libraries is more desirable than walking in cemeteries.

Even if you are an experienced genealogist, the holidays are a time to confirm and update your information. You can revisit sites to find additional data, and you can visit libraries to get their new information.

Another reminder is to document your present stories and traditions, because someday your stories will be the interesting stories of “back in 2018.”

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## A FEW OLD MEDICAL TERMS

Ague—Malarial Fever

Apoplexy—Paralysis due to Stroke

Blood Poisoning— Bacterial infection, septicemia

Brain fever—Meningitis

Consumption—Tuberculosis

Remember to call during inclement weather -  
we don't ask our volunteers to venture out if the weather is bad.

## Coming Events

All events are in the Historical Annex at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.  
Meetings are open to everyone interested in family history.

**Monday, December 3, 2018—7PM at Edgar Historical Complex, Christmas Meeting, Bring an organizational tip to share with other genealogists. Light refreshments.**

**Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, November 21, 22, 23—Library Closed due to Thanksgiving Holiday**

**Christmas Holiday—Closes at 4 PM, Friday, December 21, 2018; Opens 9 AM, Wednesday, January 9, 2019**

## Society Information

### Society Officers 2017-18

President

Judy **Cash**

Vice President

Jenny **Barkley**

Program Chair

Secretary

Teresa **Pennington**

Treasurer

David **Neal**

Newsletter Editor

Monica **Brunelle**

Director (1st year/3 yr term)

Phyllis **Sutton**

Webmaster

Teresa **Pennington**

Library Director

Linda **Cary**

### Membership:

**Individual \$25 annually**

**Single Life \$150**

Annual Year: July 1 - June 30

Newsletter published:

August, November,

February & May

Each membership receives one volume (four issues) of the Newsletter annually. Fees received after March 1st will be applied to the coming year, unless stated otherwise on membership application.

programs yearly, including the Annual Business Meeting in June. Those are announced in the Newsletter, the Prairie Press, on our website and Facebook pages.

### Queries:

Each member is entitled to at least one query published annually in the Newsletter, more as space permits. Non-Members are charged \$2 per query. Please limit each query to 10 typed lines, including your name and address. A query should provide at least 3 items: name(s), date(s) and location(s).

### Address Changes:

If your address is changing for any reason (moving or 911 ad-

dress change) ECGS must be notified. We ARE NOT responsible for lost copies of the Newsletter. Replacement cost is \$3 per issue. **All past Newsletters must be mailed separately.**

ILLINOIS STATE  
Genealogical Society  
#361R27  
Founded in 1984

### Meetings:

The Society presents four

*The Society welcomes Ancestor Charts from ECGS members for publication. Charts must be typed or clearly printed on 8 1/2" X 11" paper. A letter, signed and dated by the submitter must be included with the charts, giving permission to ECGS to publish the charts in the next available Newsletter issue.*

*After publication all charts will be placed in the files of the Genealogy Library for reference by other family researchers. Please be sure to include your name, address (snail and email) and current date on each chart.*

### SEPTEMBER, 2018 ECGS MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Judy **Cash**, president. An interesting presentation, titled "Paris and Chrisman in Picture Postcards," was given by Teresa **Pennington**. The oldest picture of Paris was about 1876 although it was printed later on a postcard, because earliest postcards were 1893-1898. Included in the slide presentation were pictures of the courthouse, the businesses on the square and in Paris, churches, the hospitals (old and new), schools, and the Paris Public Library. There are 15 views of the Library on postcards, and Teresa has 14 of them. Postcards are becoming a thing of the past; however, they are fascinating to view and study.

EDGAR COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

A COLONIAL CHRISTMAS IN THE CABIN

Friday evening, November 23, 2018 and

Saturday during the day, November 24, 2018

WITNESS A COLONIAL FAMILY CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY

# Edgar County Genealogy Library

Notice to all Genealogists from The Edgar County Clerk and Recorders Office,  
Paris, Illinois

No Cell Phones or Cameras

Edgar County, IL Clerk and Recorders Office  
115 W. Court St., Room J, Paris, IL. 61944  
Phone 217-466-7433

Notice to all Genealogists Searching in person

You can view Indexes Only! You cannot hand copy any information from the record books — the only way to get the information is to pay for a certified copy, which will be stamped "For Genealogy Purposes Only," this applies to all records in this office:

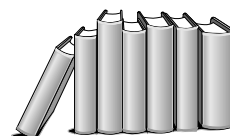
Birth Records you can view Indexes Only from 1860 - 1915 You can receive birth records from 1860 (Delayed Records) through and including the year 1942 (have to be 75 yrs. old). Fees are \$16.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> certification and \$10 for each additional of same record.

Death Records you can view Indexes only from 1877 — 1915 — and may receive death records from 1877 thru 1997 (records have to be 20 yrs. old) — certification will be stamped for Genealogy purpose only. Fees are \$20.00 for the first death record and \$14.00 for each additional certification of the same record.

Marriage Records Indexes only may be viewed for 1823 — 1915. You can receive any full records from 1823 — 1967 or 50 yrs. old to only the names of the bride and groom, name of officiant and the date of marriage thru current date. Full records from 1964 current are limited to only the bride and groom fee of \$16.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> and \$10.00 for each additional certification of same record.

NOTE: Applications Form—you will have to contact the Clerk and Recorders Office at the address above for this form or [www.edgarcountyillinois.com](http://www.edgarcountyillinois.com). This form must be completed before each certification is received. All records will be certified and photocopies will not be issued. Always include a self-addressed-stamped envelope.

Please note: the Military Discharge (DD-214) Records, are now under Lock and Key —A New Application form will have to be filled out in its entirety. The person seeking these records will have to have authorization from the named person.



408 N Main  
Paris, IL 61944-1549

217-463-4209

Hours:  
Wednesday,  
Thursday & Friday  
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed all holidays

Call for appointments during off hours or during inclement weather

## **Librarians:**

Linda Cary  
Norm Carroll  
Linda Barrett  
Jenny Barkley  
Phyllis Sutton  
Judy Cash  
Monica Brunelle  
Joy Van Meter

From *The Paris Beacon*, Paris, Illinois, Friday, Sept. 29, 1882

A TOTAL ECLIPSE

39 to 5

Paris Takes the Cake and \$2,000 Besides

We Parisians had frequently heard that Marshall had an aggregation of baseball players that were invincible. We have an idea that whoever made such a declaration was not "up to snuff."

About one hundred Paris people accompanied the "Reds" to Marshall last Monday to witness the game. Betting was quite lively. Marshallites and most of the Terre Haute citizens, who were in Marshall, placing their money on the "Eclipse."

Promptly at two o'clock Mr. David F. **Sullivan**, of Chicago, the umpire called "play" and the great game was commenced.

Lack of space forbids our giving a detailed account of the game, but suffice it to say that after the second inning the "Reds" had it all their own way. They knocked **Mayer** all to pieces. Such a picnic they never had before.

The score at the end of the seventh inning stood 31 to 3, and was telephoned to Paris, but parties here would not believe it. It was too good news to be true, they thought.

Our boys played a good game throughout. **Shoaff** and **Hepp** form a battery that is hard to beat, and the Marshall boys appreciate it.

The "Reds" and the Paris people who accompanied them, return thank the Marshallites for the gentlemanly treatment accorded while in Marshall.

Below we present the score:

REDS	R	O	ECLIPSE	R	O
<b>Menk</b> , L., lf.....	3	6	<b>Bartlett</b> , 1b.....	2	4
<b>McGlew</b> , ss.....	5	2	<b>Lycan</b> , 2b.....	2	2
<b>Shoaff</b> , J. D., p.....	4	5	<b>Ficklin</b> , cf.....	0	3
<b>March</b> , 1b.....	5	1	<b>Holler</b> , lf.....	0	3
<b>Hepp</b> , c.....	5	3	<b>Shaw</b> , 3b.....	0	2
<b>Underwood</b> , 3b.....	4	2	<b>Shipe</b> , ss.....	0	4
<b>Athon</b> , rf.....	4	3	<b>Cole</b> , L., rf.....	0	3
<b>Shoaff</b> , G., 2b.....	5	2	<b>Mayer</b> , p.....	0	4
<b>Menk</b> , G., cf.....	4	3	<b>Cole</b> , G. c.....	1	2
Total	39	27		5	27

By Innings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Reds	0	0	5	11	1	5	9	0	8	=39
Eclipse	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	= 5

First base on balls—Reds 1, Eclipse 6  
 Struck out—Reds 7, Eclipse 10  
 Left on bases—Reds 3, Eclipse 9  
 Two base hits—Reds 9, Eclipse 3  
 Three base hits—L. **Menk**  
 Umpire—David F. **Sullivan**  
 Scorers—Willet **Judson** and Harry **Frost**  
 Time of game—Two hours and 30 minutes

From *The Prairie Press*, Paris, IL, Thursday, June 25, 2005

Byline: Jenny **Barkley**

### Righting Mr. **Dole**

Every gravestone tells a story.

One of the oldest and most prominent gravestones in Edgar Cemetery was erected about 1890 to mark the burial site of William P. **Dole**, a prominent resident of Paris in the mid-1800s who befriended Abraham **Lincoln** and followed the 16<sup>th</sup> president to Washington.

The stone says simply, “William P. **Dole**, born Dec. 9, 1811 in Danville, VT, died Sept 30, 1889, Washington, D.C.”

But it’s what happened between those lines that makes this man’s story so memorable, especially for the residents of Edgar County.

According to the “The History of Edgar County, Illinois,” published in 1879, **Dole** first arrived in the Illiana area about 1811 when his parents moved from Ohio and settled in Coleman’s Grove, two miles north of Terre Haute, Ind., and about one mile from Fort Harrison on the Wabash River.

**Dole** left their home in 1831 and started his career in Clinton, Ind, where he was a grocer and dry goods merchant among other things. He occasionally traveled down the Mississippi on a flatboat selling produce from Memphis to New Orleans.

It was during these early years that **Dole’s** political life emerged, which eventually led him to Washington. He was elected and served eight years in the Indiana House and State Senate before moving to Paris and opening a mercantile business with a partner, William **Kile**.

**Dole** established a home in Paris at the site of the present Methodist Park on Court Street. While living there he developed a bond with a young itinerant attorney by the name of Abraham **Lincoln**, who is said to have frequented the home.

In 1860, **Dole** served as a delegate from Edgar County to the Chicago Convention where he took an active role in the nomination of Abraham **Lincoln** for the U.S. Presidency. When the successful election concluded, **Lincoln** invited **Dole** to move to Washington and accept a position in the new administration.

At that point, **Dole** sold his interest in the shared business and moved to Washington where he participated in the inauguration on March 4, 1861. A few days later, **Dole** was nominated and confirmed a Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The friendship endured until **Lincoln’s** assassination.

The 1879 Edgar County history book describes **Dole** as a “public-spirited citizen, taking part in public improvements...for the benefit and advancement of the community at large; ...a strong Antislavery man who espoused the cause of human freedom...eminently successful in whatever he undertook; positive in his opinions and convictions.”

The monument of tribute to this early Paris resident is located near the center of Edgar Cemetery, on the oldest and highest point.

After the repair, that took place June 15, it now has been righted and stands proud and tall once again. A final cleaning will restore its grandeur.

*Note: The top of the stone had been toppled by a tree limb during a wind storm in September, 2013. A project of the community enabled the repair work to be done in June, 2015.*

### Editors Note

Every effort is made to provide accurate information as it is listed. All abbreviations, misspellings, etc. are printed as they are in the records themselves. Many of the records are fading and are very hard to read and the handwriting of the period can be a challenge also. All records printed in the newsletter are always on file at the Edgar County Genealogy Library, and you are encouraged to examine the records in person. Many of the files contain much more information than is in the newsletter, so if you are interested in any of the family information, you are encouraged to visit or contact the Library for additional information. *Any differences from the records themselves and the printed information is an error on the editors part and is no way intentional.*

From *Daily Beacon-News*, Monday, August 6, 1934

GRANITE TOMBSTONE REPORTED MISSING AT CEMETERY LOT

Missing: One Tombstone!

One of the most peculiar disappearance in Paris police annals was recorded today when Mrs. Minnie **Williamson** of Detroit Mich., a former resident, reported that the granite stone marking her father's grave in Edgar cemetery, is missing.

Mrs. **Williamson's** father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. N. R. **Dunbar**, are buried side by side in the family plot at the cemetery. Similar headstones set in place sometime since 1923, marked both graves.

When Mrs. **Williamson** returned to Paris to supervise the designation of her father's grave as that of a Civil War veteran, she discovered the headstone was missing. She had visited the cemetery on Memorial Day of this year, and on another occasion four years ago, without noting the absence of the stone.

However, since a large shrub is planted nearby, she thought the stone might have been missing even then and that it escaped her attention.

Instead of the stone, which originally marked the grave, there is only the simple marker provided for all Civil War veterans where no other maker has been placed.

Mrs. **Williamson** said cemetery officials were unable to account for the disappearance of the stone. She appealed to Chief of Police Ad **Crable**, and he suggested an appeal the the columns of the BEACON-NEWS.

"It's the first time I've ever heard of a tombstone being stolen" he said.

From *The Paris Beacon*, Paris, Illinois, Friday, July 10, 1885

Death of John **Barry** of Hunter Township

Last Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> 1885, witnessed the passing away of John **Barry**, after a long life of 117 years.

Born in Brandon county Cork, Ireland, in the year 1768, he crossed the ocean to Canada at the age of 48, and shortly after came to the United States, and worked for several years on the Erie Canal. Was married at Buffalo, N.Y., from which place he emigrated to Franklin, KY. After a short residence at that place he again emigrated, this time to Edgar County, in 1833 where he has resided ever since on his farm. Four children, from a family of five, are living yet in the county.

Mr. **Barry** was possessed of an extraordinary memory, and often related incidents of his early life and time. The Emmet Rebellion in Ireland, in 1798, was fresh in his mind but a few weeks ago. He witnessed the celebration of the Erie Canal, and saw Gov. DeWitt **Clinton**, at the time, who was the projector. His long life has passed through some of the most important phrases of the world's history, and it seems almost incredible that he should have lived so long and retained his mental and physical powers to the degree he did. Last November he walked a mile to the polls and voted the democratic ticket, as he had always done before. Prior to last winter he took pleasure in doing the light work about the house, and had continued until a few months ago.

On the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July he raised himself in bed and knew that it was the National holiday. His remains were interred in the Catholic cemetery at North Arm, last Monday, in the presence of a large crowd of old friends, neighbors, and relatives.

From *The Paris Beacon*, Paris, Illinois, August 28, 1885, page 7

**Ferrell News**

Our school will commence the first of next month. W. H. **Stubbs** will wield the birch.

Eddie, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. **Patton** is very low with the brain fever.

Willie **Mapes'** wheat made 15 bushels to the acre, which we think very good for this year.

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, Thursday, March 22, 1923, page 1

Gives Recollections of First Execution In Edgar County

W. C. **Slemmons**, in the office of the Circuit Clerk Thursday related a page from ancient history in which he was one of the actors. As it relates to the first legal execution in Edgar County it will have some interest for the people who love to delve into ancient history.

Some time in June, 1874, a man camped under a large sycamore tree which stood by the bank of Sugar Creek, a short distance from Paris. The pair were noticed by several farmers who chanced to pass.

Early the next morning the man was observed to harness his horse to his vehicle and depart in the direction of Terre Haute. He was alone, but the fact did not attract attention at the time.

About three days later boys on a hunting expedition chanced to pass the place. On one side of the tree was a large hollow. Their dogs were attracted to the spot and refused to come away when called. The boys investigated and drew from the hollow tree the decomposing body of a woman. Her throat had been cut and the head nearly severed from the body.

Help was called and Sheriff Bert **Holcomb** and his deputy, W. C. **Slemmons**, were soon on the spot and arranged for the care of the body. Two days later a man named John **Casey** was arrested in Charleston charged with the murder. He was brought to Paris by Mr. **Slemmons** and lodged in the old jail.

In the meantime, the coroner, who had delayed the inquest, requested that the prisoner be taken to the scene of the crime to see if he could be identified by the farmers who had passed the camp. When informed of the request and ordered to prepare for the journey, the prisoner remarked that the trip was not necessary; he was the man responsible for the crime and that he was willing to make a statement.

He was informed that he was entitled to advice from an attorney. Mr. **Slemmons** went out and soon returned with the late John G. **Woolley**, then a young attorney beginning the practice of law. The lawyer and prisoner were taken into a private room, where his legal rights were clearly explained. He persisted, and the confession was written out and signed by **Casey**, and a number of citizens affixed their names as witnesses.

When the trial came on he was arraigned and, against the advice of his attorney, persisted in taking the stand, where, to the surprise of every one, he repudiated the confession. This sealed his fate, the jury promptly brought in a verdict of first degree murder. He was sentenced to death on the gallows.

The crime for which he was sentenced was a particularly atrocious one, and it might be that the hardy people of that day would not have stood for delays.

When the time for the execution came a few days later the gallows was erected in the courthouse yard concealed by a high stockade.

In the meantime it had been discovered that the man had been a Union soldier during the Civil War. His body was given an honorable burial in the Edgar Cemetery.

At the time the *Paris Beacon* was published as a weekly, but the day of the execution the editor issued an extra detailing the story of the crime and how the murderer paid the penalty. Mr. **Slemmons** has one of these handbills as he described it filed away among his possessions.

Deputy Circuit Clerk Ed **Fuqua** was an interested listener while Mr. **Slemmons** was relating the story of the first legal execution in Edgar County. He went to the old records and found that O. L. **Davis** was the circuit judge, with Henry **Tanner** prosecuting Attorney, and A. B. **Powell** clerk.

The notation entered shows the man was sentenced to be hanged Friday, June 18, 1875. In addition to the supreme penalty he was ordered to pay the costs of the trial.

*Note: John **Casey** was 37 years old when he was hanged. He had enlisted Mar 11, 1861 at Wilmington, IL, in Company E, 39<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry. He mustered out on December 6, 1865.*

*William C. **Slemmons** (1844-18 January 1934) had served in Company E, 66<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry. He enlisted February 13, 1864. He mustered out July 7, 1865.*

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From *The Paris Beacon*, Paris, Illinois, Friday, October, 9, 1885

**St. Marys School**—The new Catholic school opened Monday morning under very favorable auspices, sixty pupils being in attendance, with more to follow. High mass was conducted in the church by Father **Postner**, the pastor in charge, after which the congregation, including the children, marched to the school house, where the Rev. Chas. **Kuhlman**, of Marshall, formally blessed and dedicated the new building. The three Dominican sisters from Springfield KY, who have charge of the school, are under the guidance of **Sister Mary Lawrence**, Superior. **Sister Mary Dominic**, well known to the Catholic congregation, of this city, as a fine musician, has charge of the music department. The school building, itself, is nicely fitted up, well ventilated and lighted, and provided with all the conveniences which are found in well-regulated schools. Should a sufficient number of scholars apply for instructions in painting lessons, another teacher will be provided for this department.

*Note: The St. Mary's School closed in June, 2018 after 132 years.*

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Monday, September 26, 1936 page 7

PALESTINE TROUP, CIVIL WAR VETERAN, DIES EARLY TODAY

Palestine **Troup**, 87 years old, resident of Edgar County for more that three-quarters of a century and one of the few remaining Civil War veterans, passed away at his home four miles east of Paris having been seriously ill for one week. Funeral services will be held at the residence at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and burial will be at Edgar Cemetery.

Mr. **Troup** was born in Anderson County, KY, March 31, 1845, the son of Jacob Y. and Polly **Spoonmore Troup**. He came to Edgar County with his parents when ten years of age and had since resided here. On September 22, 1870, he was united in marriage to Amanda Neeley, who died in March 1888. To the union were born five children, four of whom are living: Mrs. Frank **Ellsberry** of Paris, Carey N. **Troup**, Las Nuiman, Colo.: Bernard **Troup**, Auriela, Ia.; and Charles **Troup**, Danville, Ill. A daughter, Erma May **Troup**, passed away in October, 1898.

He was married a second time of March 18, 1891, to Violette A. **Brown**, who died April 10, 1932.

Mr. **Troup** served in the Civil War, being a member of Company E, 40<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry, and was wounded in the battle of Peach Tree Creek, near Atlanta, Ga. He was a member of Driskell Post, G. A. R. and the Masonic order. All of his life he had been engaged in farming and stock raising.

NAMING PATTERNS

FIRST SON—Named after father's father

SECOND SON—Named after mother's father

THIRD SON—Named after the father

FOURTH SON—Named after father's oldest brother

FIRST DAUGHTER—Named after mother's mother

SECOND DAUGHTER—Named after father's mother

THIRD DAUGHTER—Named after the mother

FOURTH DAUGHTER—Named after mother's oldest sister



Oldest Citizens Buried in Elbridge Township

Myrtle **Tiffin Wood** 30 September 1885 – 7 July 1989  
 Age 103 years, 9 months, 7 days Vermilion Cemetery

Nettie **York Cassle** 7 June 1882 – 13 March 1984  
 Age 101 years, 9 months, 6 days Vermilion Cemetery

Martha Alice “Matt” **Johnson Taylor** 2 November 1892 – 20  
 January 1994 Age 101 years, 2 months, 18 days New Providence Cemetery

Ruth **Walling Sanders** 17 October 1916 – 20 September 2017  
 Age 100 years, 11 months, 3 days Vermilion Cemetery

Edna **Templeton Knight Brown** 7 September 1906 – 11 October  
 2006 Age 100 years, 1 month, 4 days Vermilion Cemetery

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**Edgar County  
Genealogical Society**

PO Box 304  
Paris, IL 61944-0304

Phone: 217-463-4209

Email:

[ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org](mailto:ecgl@edgarcountygenealogy.org)

website:

[www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Edgar-County-Genealogy-Library/121604417853747>.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check us out on  
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## Publications for Sale

### Cook Funeral Home

(three books in one volume)

Vol. I Jul 1892-Mar 1897

Vol. II Mar 1897-Dec 1902

Vol. III Oct 1918-Dec 1928

\$19 postage paid

### Edgar County, IL Marriages:

Vol. I 1823 - 1859 \$29ppd

Vol. II 1860 - 1877 \$24ppd

Vol. III 1878 - 1886 \$26ppd

Vol. IV 1887 - 1893 \$26ppd

Vol. V 1894 - 1900 \$26ppd

Vol. VI 1901 - 1906 \$28ppd

Vol. VII 1907 - 1910 \$30ppd

Vol. VIII 1911 - 1914 \$28ppd

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### Paris, IL Illustrated & Descriptive 1908

44 pages

138 photos

\$22.50 postage paid

These publications can be ordered from the Edgar County Genealogical Society at PO Box 304, Paris, IL 61944. For a complete listing of our publications send #10 self-addressed envelope to same address or visit our website at [www.edgarcountygenealogy.org](http://www.edgarcountygenealogy.org).

Edgar County, Illinois  
Genealogical Society

Member Name:

Expires: June 30, 2019