

Edgar County Genealogical Society

Volume XXXV,
Number IV
May, 2020

COVID-19 PANDEMIC of 2020

These times are unsettling in that we have little control of the spread of coronavirus, little treatment except symptom treatment, and no prevention except preventing contact--that is hand washing and quarantine. One sometimes forgets that many diseases were similar only about 70 years ago. The viruses have always been difficult to treat. The HIV virus has some controlling treatments only in the last 30 years. The Herpes virus has a specific drug treatment. The small pox, measles, mumps, and chicken pox virus are controlled because highly effective vaccines were developed and are widely given in most communities. There are several antiviral medications, but none are widely effective.

Likewise, some bacterial infections today are controlled by vaccines, like pneumococcal vaccine and tetanus; bacteria are also killed by antibiotics. However, bacteria are constantly mutating, and some are becoming resistant to all antibiotics. Healthcare researchers are constantly warning about the overuse of antibiotics for minor or “no” bacterial infections. The control of the new species of bacteria is then by avoiding contact—hand washing, isolation of specific known cases, and quarantine, until a new antibiotic is developed for it.

There is a story in this newsletter about the quarantine of a small village because of diphtheria in 1910 on page 5. My Mother was born in 1920 and told us of the Doctor coming to their house because of her little sister’s illness of scarlet fever, which is a streptococcal infection easily cured by antibiotics today. The Doctor put a large quarantine sign on the front door and told them to leave it up 2 weeks. They lived in a small village of McKeen in Clark County, IL. My mother was concerned and embarrassed by the sign. She was really happy when their goat ate the sign two days early, and they did not have to put another one up. If one lived on a farm, you were many times self-isolated by the distance to the nearest neighbor.

The best advice today is wash your hands, especially after touching public areas, follow health officials recommendations, and use common sense.

BE CAREFUL AND BE WELL

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

Coming Events

Annual Meeting

Monday, June 1, 2020, 7 P. M., at Edgar County Historical Complex meeting room. TOPIC: To be announced. Check Facebook page.

Meetings are open to everyone interested in family history.

Check our Facebook page anytime for the latest updates!!

Society Information

Society Officers 2019-2020

President
Judy **Cash**
Vice President
Jenny **Barkley**
Program Chair

Secretary
Teresa **Pennington**
Treasurer
David **Neal**
Newsletter Editor
Monica **Brunelle**
Director
Phyllis **Sutton**
Webmaster
Teresa **Pennington**

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 you state other-
wise on membership applica-
tion.

Meetings

The Society presents four
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 respon-
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Newsletter. Replacement cost is
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ILLINOIS STATE
Genealogical Society
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Founded in 1984

*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
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the charts in the
next available
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*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.*

ECGS MEETING

The March meeting was held on March 3, 2020. The meeting was called to order by the President, Judy **Cash**. The reports were given. Possible speakers were discussed. The upcoming meeting in June is the annual business meeting. A committee was formed to recommend the Edythe Stephens honoree for this year.

Mrs. Carol **Pancake** was acknowledged as being very helpful in updating the card catalog. She volunteered several days in the library. She was visiting in the area and lives near St Louis;

Harry **Frost** is a new lifetime member. He is especially interested in people who worked at the Illinois Cereal Mill.

CORRECTION

In the last issue Catherin **Entrican's** last name was misspelled. The correct spelling is **ENTRICAN**.

LIBRARY CLOSED - Temporarily

The Edgar Count Genealogy Library is currently closed because the coronavirus quarantine is in effect in Illinois and Indiana. After the quarantine starts to lift, please check the website at www.edgarcountygenealogy.org to find the exact date when the library will reopen.

Membership Renewal Time Approaches

Edgar County
Genealogy
Library



The year runs from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021.

Individual \$25.00/year
Lifetime for Individual \$150.00

Please mail renewal checks to Edgar County Genealogical Society, PO
Box 304, Paris, IL, 61944-0304

The label on the printed newsletter will have a “L” for life members and the date 2020 for those expiring June 30, 2020 or the date 2021 for those few who have already paid for next year.

If you have questions on your status, you may email us at ecl@edgarcountygenealogy.org or call us at 217-463-4209 when the library is open.

From *The Paris Beacon-News*, Paris, IL, April 26, 1946, page

DR. FLOYD DAVIS SUCCUMBS AFTER LONG ILLNESS

Dr. Floyd M. **Davis**, 79, rated as Edgar county’s leading historian died at 8:30 o’clock this morning after several years illness. He had been confined to his bed for the past 10 days. The body is at the Cook & Ward funeral home. The funeral will be at two o’clock Saturday afternoon at the funeral home. Burial will be at Edgar cemetery.

Dr. **Davis** was born August 3, 1866, a son of Henry W. and Frances O. **Young Davis**. He took pride in the fact that his home, 432 West Court street, had been his residence since his birth. This dwelling has been in possession of the **Davis** family for almost a century.

The deceased had an unlimited knowledge of the folklore of the 15 townships surrounding Paris, even before they were incorporated into what is known as Edgar county. He wrote voluminously on the subject for *The Beacon-News* and other newspapers.

Dr. **Davis** was a connoisseur of antiques, and he had converted his home into a veritable museum of relics brought from the four corners of the earth by his uncle, the late Commodore Jonathan Young, USN, who attained fame for the successful fight he waged against piracy in the 40’s.

For many years an enthusiastic gardener, he had another hobby—repairing old-fashioned clocks. About 20 years ago he was an ardent baseball fan and covered local games for Paris newspapers. In carrying out his historical research it was his custom for years taking his Model T Ford on Monday and motor all week by easy stages off the beaten path, to such places as Palestine, Ill., where the government land patent office was located many years ago, and to quaint little settlements in southern Illinois and Indiana that chanced to attract his fancy.

In young manhood the deceased was a Paris physician. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Harry **Davis** and McFarren **Davis**, the latter being editor of the Paris Beacon for many years. Nearest relative is a niece, Mrs. James **McNamara** of Fort Branch, Ind., who is expected in Paris today. There are several cousins.

408 N Main
Paris, IL 61944-1549

217-463-4209

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

Closed all holidays

Call for appointments during off hours or during inclement weather

Librarians:

*Linda Barrett
Judy Cash
Catherin Entrican
Monica Brunelle
Joy Van Meter*

Letter in possession of Jan Doris of Paris, IL at this time. She obtained it on E-bay and bought it because of the connection to Paris, IL

Envelope postmarked Paris, Ill. Jan 31. Addressed to Angeline Lester, Pleasant Ridge, Hamilton Co, Ohio.

Paris, Jan 30th 1857

Dear Sister

We are all well as usual except colds, The baby has got a very bad one. We have all got a good harty appetite. The children does not fret to go back to Ohio. We have lots of rabbits to eat. I killed three yesterday and three today in about an hour. If you and Earl was out heare you could chase them all the time. I shot two pararie chickins the other morning. We do not think much of them. They are not as good as a black legged shanghi. I don't think I will waste much powder and shot on them. The reason that I did not write any sooner Mr. Arnold got a letter from Henry Smith stating that he would start for this place on the 26th of this month if nothing happend and it is time he was heare. I do not know what is the reason he does not come. They were all well, except his sister Eliza was very sick. She was not expected to live.

We was all out riding on Wednesday, we rode 8 or 9 miles. Elizabeth likes the Country first rate. I have been down south of Paris about three miles to look at the country. I like it pretty well there. If Henry does not come out I believe I will buy there. There is a farm of 60 acres for sale there and I like it. I am sorry that George has got frost bit. It has been pretty cold heare. The thermomitor has been 20 deg. below zero.

Our things all got heare about a week after we did, except Lieb's biscuit cutter, and it is a missing. When George sends my potatoes he must send them by the American Express, for Adams Express has no agent in Paris. I want him to send me a few bunch beans and 25 cents worth of onion seeds. We use brick bats for andirons There is none in Paris for sale, but I guess there will be soon. The chimney is about half one. When the wind blows from the East it smokes like blazes. Charley and Albert goes to bed at dark and gets up at daylight. You must write and tell me all of the news. Tell George I will answer his letter another time.

Give our love to Mother and all inquiring friends.

A. Lester

Yours affectionately,

E. C. Woolley

E. Woolley

From *The Paris Beacon.*, Paris, Edgar Co, IL, Friday, July 21, 1882, page 1

DEATH'S DOING

DR. EDWIN C. WOOLLEY OF THE CITY AT REST

Died—In this city Sunday evening July 16th at 10 o'clock, DR. Edwin C. Woolley.

Edwin C **Woolley** was born at Springdale, Ohio July 18th, 1820. His early life was spent on a farm within one mile of Springdale. He was a delicate boy and for that reason became a diligent reader of books with a strong desire to have a liberal education, which was denied him by his father. He differed from his father in religion and politics, became an ardent abolitionist and a Methodist, and adhered steadfastly to his notions in these regards until his death.

He was married to Elizabeth K. **Hunter**, of Hamilton, Ohio, July of 1842, and shortly afterward commenced the study of medicine, supporting himself meantime by his trade, that of a carriage-body maker, in which trade he greatly excelled, at Symmes Corner, Ohio. He removed to Cincinnati, in 1846, to enter the Ohio Medical College—here he attended lectures and pursued his studies one year—he then established himself at Collinsville, and practiced with good success, while further pursuing his studies for several years—he then returned to Cincinnati and completed his medical course and was graduated from the Miami Medical College in 1855. He then settled at Seven Mile, Ohio, where he remained until March, 1860, when he removed to Paris, in search of health—being threatened with pulmonary disease—he recovered his health and reentered practice in 1861. He followed his profession from that time until stricken down by disease about six years since. He never rested, never despaired, never failed from lack of industry—he died of overwork.

The funeral services were held at the late residence of the deceased, on Chesnut Street, last Wednesday at 3 o'clock p. m., under the direction of Rev. E. D. **Wilkin**, of Danville, who was for several years his pastor and a

most intimate friend. Rev. W. S. **Hooper** assisted in the services. After the usual services at the house, the remains were conveyed to Edgar Cemetery, followed by a large number of friends. The medical fraternity acted as pallbearers.

Note: Dr. Woolley wrote the letter from Paris, IL in January, 1857. The obituary mentions 1860. It could be that he came and went back for a time or that the obituary was slightly wrong in the date.

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris IL, July 19, 1910, Page 2

OUTBREAK OF DIPHTHERIA
Causes Brocton Village Dads to put a Bar on Public Gatherings for Weeks
Six cases of malady in the Ellison Home
Careful Quarantine Regulation Are Being Observed and a Spread
of the Much Dreaded Disease is not Deemed Likely

Brocton, July 15.--Owing to the fact that diphtheria exists in the home of Mrs. Ella W. **Ellison**, in Brocton, the village board met Wednesday night and ordered that for a period of one week, there shall be no public gatherings of any kind within the village. This order will include church services, lodge meetings, band concert, ball games, and moving picture shows.

There are at present six cases of the disease in the **Ellison** home, three of Mrs. **Ellison's** children and three children belonging to her housekeeper Mrs. Liddie **Rhodes**. Two of the latter recently came from Chicago, and it is thought that they brought the disease with them. None are very seriously ill. Miss Flossie **Ellison** first contracted the disease the first part of last week and the house was immediately quarantined, and it is not believed that there will be further spread.

The action of the board in stopping public gatherings was not taken as a result of any real danger that exists but as a precautionary measure to guard against any remote chance of the disease becoming spread.

There is no occasion for any alarm on the part of people living the vicinity of Brocton who had business here or wish to come to town. The cases are so carefully isolated that there is no danger of coming in contact with the disease in the streets or in the business houses. The members of the **Ellison** family and others who may have been exposed will be kept in strict quarantine until the time in which the disease is liable to develop has entirely passed.

As diphtheria develops quickly it is believed that by Wednesday of next week all danger will have passed and everything will go on as before.

It must be remembered that many towns have a few cases of diphtheria and very little attention is paid to it more than quarantining the infected houses. The authorities here are taking no chances but using every precaution possible to safeguard the public.

Note: Mrs. Ella Ellison was a widow. Her husband, Arthur Ellison, had died in 1906. In the 1910 census her household consisted of Ella, 41; Henry, 17; Flossie, 15; Charlie, 14; Maresa, 12; Marquerite, 9; Naomi, 7; Lydia Rhodes, 32, Levon, 3. The household lived on Third Street in Brocton.

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, July 16, 1910, page 7

HAS A CHANCE OF RECOVERY
Decided Improvement in the Condition of Elbridge Lockjaw Patient
Chances now even opinion of physician

ELBRIDGE, July 16--The many friends of James **Brown**, residing near here, and who has been suffering with a serious case of the lockjaw, will be pleased to learn that the attending physician is very encouraged over the condition and thinks the man has an even chance for recovery. **Brown** was very much better today and was able to take a little more nourishment.

Dr. **Evinger**, who is treating the man, has eliminated part of the dose of anti-toxin and is administering 6,000 units every 12 hours, instead of every 8 hours as formerly. The physician states that it is his first experience with lockjaw and he is highly elated over the probably successful outcome.

Note: Tetanus is a bacteria that is found in dirt and manure, but because it needs to be in anaerobic conditions, its growth is extremely retarded by air (oxygen). Puncture or deep wounds were high risk for lockjaw (extreme muscle spasms), which are caused by the toxin produced by the bacteria. Today it is treated by anti-toxin, oxygen and antibiotics; however, mainly prevented by the vaccine, Tetanus Toxoid, which generally needs to be given every ten years and immediately after a deep wound. In 1910 it was only treated with antitoxin, and recovery seldom occurred but always took months.

James Brown was the son of Joseph P Brown and Amanda Forester Brown. He was the brother of Hershel Brown.

James Brown is buried in Vermilion Cemetery. His stone lists 1891 - 1911. The cause of death was not found, but probably related to the lockjaw he suffered in the summer of 1910.

From *The Paris Beacon*, Paris, Illinois, April 10, 1885, page 8

Elbridge News—We are glad to say that we are to have a doctor in our town. Dr. **Evinger**, of Sandford, has purchased property in our town and will move here in a few days. Dr. **Evinger** is a first-class doctor and comes well recommended, and it is the duty of our citizens to give him a share of their patronage.

Note: Dr. John W Evinger (22 Jan 1852 - 6 Apr 1919)

From *Terre Haute Star*, Terre Haute, IN, March 30, 1975, written by Dorothy J. Clark

FAMILY MEMORIES WRITTEN BY SARAH M. STALEY

An account of one family's activities from 1865 to 1922 was written by the maternal grandmother of Mrs. Joseph **Minnis** and loaned to me because it deals with people and events of the Wabash Valley. Written for her children and grandchildren in her last years Mrs. Oliver (Sarah L. **Maddock**) **Staley** has left a precious legacy for her many descendants.

She began her writing of family memories with events leading up to her marriage. She tells that Oliver **Staley** was discharged July 7, 1865, in Louisville, KY, traveled to Washington, D. C. for the "Grand Review" and then to Springfield, IL, where he was mustered out. A farmer before the war, he came home to take up farming again, and made his home with his parents Emanuel and Caroline M. **Norton Staley**.

Oliver **Staley** began courting Sarah L. **Maddock**, daughter of Nathan and Patience **McDonald Maddock**, who lived east of Elbridge, riding his saddle horse over to see her once every two weeks or once a month according to the weather.

They were married Jan. 17, 1867, at her home on a very cold day. Sarah's wedding dress was black silk. The Rev. William **Art** officiated, and after the ceremony an elaborate dinner was served to the guests and a "Play Party" was enjoyed. Such games as "Weevily Wheat" and "Old Sister Phoebe" were played.

As was the custom, the next day was spent with Oliver's parents and the friends and neighbors held the traditional "charivari" that evening with "plenty of noise and lots of fun." In the spring the young couple moved into their first home, a rented farm owned by James **Tabor**, Oliver's uncle, located one mile west of Brocton. There was no town there in 1867. Oliver had young cattle and there was plenty of range on the prairie at that time. A year later they rented Will **Stubbs'** farm "in the timber" two miles south of Elbridge. "Aunt Kitty" **Staley**, Oliver's aunt, came to stay with them, and on February 17, 1868, a baby girl, Laura Patience, was born.

In the fall of 1868, they moved to her parents home in Elbridge. Others in the household at the time were **Maddock's** foster children, 14 year-old girl Maria **Fifield**, and her 16 year-old brother.

In February, 1871, they moved to an older house, where Dr. **Yeargin** delivered their second daughter, Ada Maude, in May, 1872. In the spring of 1874, they moved to the frame of the old house near the road and built on, making it a seven-room, story and a half. Two years later, Mrs. **Staley** began taking in boarders, the local school teachers for three dollars a week. On Dec 2, 1877, a third daughter, Myrtle Caroline, was born.

Mrs. **Staley** did all her own housework, raised chickens, and sold turkeys for 50 cents a head, eggs for eight cents a dozen. In her journal she told of her fear crossing Sugar Creek to visit her mother. She was afraid the horse would be scared on the ice and upset the wagon on the creek.

On Sept. 13, 1881, the fourth daughter, Jessie May, was born. By this time, the two oldest girls were in school and Mrs. **Staley** still boarded the teachers. "About the 1883-1884, we had a pair of mules that was gentle for awhile, but they began to get smart," she wrote. "they tried to run, but never did a very good job of it. One cold winter morning we drove them to Terre Haute to the big wagon. When we got ready to start home, Oliver thought best to take the end gate out of the wagon and me sit down there and let me feet hang out of the wagon across the grade, for if they would want to run and he could not hold them and I could just step on all out which ever it might be. Well, they did not run. . . . we got home alright that time. The next day we traded them to Alex **French** for a house in Terre Haute with some money to boot. . . ."

On May 8, 1888, a fifth daughter Ethel Lenore, was delivered by "Uncle Doc" **Brown**. The next year the oldest daughter married Claude **Steele** and two years later the first grandchild, Sabra Louise **Steele**, was born. Events seemed to happen fast in those busy years. Oliver's father died in 1893, the same year Maude married Charlie **Johnson**. That same month Mrs. **Staley's** father died and 16 months later her mother passed away. Then a few days later Mr. **Staley's** mother died. So much sadness in such a short time.

In the fall of 1896, they remodeled their home into a two story, adding rooms and two porches. In 1901 Myrtle married John **Patton**, and in 1903 the first boy was born in the family, Winfred Staley **Patton**. That year Jessie married Raymond **Marley**, and their baby girl Estee was born in 1906. There was only one daughter left at home.

The Sandford explosion occurred Jan 19, 1907, and their son-in-law, Claude **Steele**, was killed. This was a tragic sadness to the close knitted family, but the grandchildren continued to arrive and life went on. In 1910 Ethel married Cary **Cooper**. At this time the **Staleys** were 70 and 60 years of age, and during the severe winters were forced to stay a few weeks with their children. In 1919 they closed their home and moved in with Cary and Ethel **Cooper**. A few weeks later Oliver died, and was buried in New Providence Cemetery near their old home. In 1922, when the journal stopped, granddaughter, Sabra **Steele**, who had married Homer **Martin** and their baby Ada Lucile were living in the old home place.

Mrs. **Staley** kept a record of her family in the journal also. Her father, Nathan **Maddock** (1815 – 1894) was born in Preble County, Ohio, and married her mother, Patience **McDonald** (1823 – 1896). Their children were:

Elizabeth (1834 – 1865), who married **Welch**

William Riley (1841 – 1901)

John Quincey (1845 – 1915)

Stephen (1848 – 1911)

Sarah Louise (1850 – 1940) who married Oliver **Staley**

A yellowed newspaper clipping obituary related how William **Maddock** had died at the age of 93 at the home of his son, Nathan, in Elbridge, Edgar County, Illinois. William was born in North Carolina in 1785. His father emigrated to Georgia when William was quite young. After his mother died, the father bound him to Joseph **Stubbs** until the age of 18. **Stubbs** was a Quaker and emigrated north with his family and the bound boy to Ohio in 1806, spending the winter in Tennessee and arriving in the spring of 1807. Here William **Maddock** served out his term of bondage, learned a trade, and became a free man. After marrying his former owner's niece, Hannah **Stubbs**, the young couple moved onto their quarter section of government land purchased at \$2.25 an acre and worked hard until it was paid for. Here **Maddock** lived 65 years. His first wife died after eight children and 22 years. Two years later he married Sarah **Huffman** and by her raised seven children. He spent his last year with his son Nathan, who had come from his birthplace in Preble County, Ohio in 1841 to settle at Elbridge, Illinois.

An obituary of Mrs. Caroline **Staley**, widow of Emanuel **Staley** told that she resided near Sandford,, but was formerly a resident of Elbridge township. The mother of Aaron, Oliver, and Emanuel **Staley**, she is also buried at New Providence Cemetery.

Family accounts such as this one, carefully preserved by Mrs. **Minnis** are valuable sources of early local history and genealogy. They “put the meat on the bones” of cold statistics, dates on tombstones, and tell something of the day to day life of the early settlers and their trials and tribulations as well as their joys.

From *Chrisman Courier*, Chrisman, IL, June 29, 1922, page 2

PAYNE-SCOTT WEDDING

Somewhat of a surprise was manifest last week when it became known that Miss Evelyn **Scott** had become the bride of Mr. John **Payne**, as it was expected that the wedding would not take place before late fall. On Monday morning of last week at 6:30 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Samuel **Scott**, Evelyn, and Paul left by motor route for St Louis, where Mrs. Scott and Evelyn took the train for Pueblo, Colo. Arriving there about noon on Wednesday, and at 2 o'clock p. m. the same day the marriage ceremony was read in the manse of the Presbyterian church by the pastor, Rev. Hugh **Barry**. The bride was gowned in a brown satin faced canton crepe dress, with hat, shoes, and gloves to match, while the groom wore the conventional black. Immediately following the wedding, the bridal party was taken on a motor trip to Colorado Springs and Manitou, from which place Mr. and Mrs. **Payne** left the next morning for Grand Junction, Colo., where a newly furnished home was awaiting them at 246 Rood Road avenue.

The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel **Scott**. She was born and reared in this city and graduated from the Chrisman Township High School five years ago. She spent one year at Oxford College, Oxford, Ohio, and three years in the James Millikin University at Decatur, from which University she graduated. Something like a year ago she went to California where for a time she held the position as dietitian in one of the Harvey eating houses, but a few months later was compelled to return home on account of ill health. The groom is a son of Mr. and Mrs. James **Payne**, residing southeast of this city, and he too is a graduate of the Chrisman Township High School and later attend the U. of I. at Urbana. For the past two years he has been employed in the post office at Grand Junction. Both are fine young people and will receive the congratulations of their many young friends.

Note: John Howard **Payne** 26 Mar 1896 – 27 Jul 1952

Evelyn Claire **Scott Payne** 18 Feb 1899 – 13 Apr 1866

Both are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Chrisman, Edgar County IL

Delightful Children's Party

A very enjoyable children's party occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. **Sellar** on Ten Broeck street Tuesday from 3 to 6 o'clock p.m. It was a joint entertainment given for their little daughter, Georgine, and Archie, little son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed **Miller**. Mesdames **Sellar** and **Miller** looked after the entertainment of the little folks, about one hundred of whom were in attendance. The affair was a lawn party, and the spacious yard was provided with swings, hammocks, games, and in fact every essential to a royal good time. The tables were spread in the pleasant shade and at five o'clock a very dainty and appetizing menu was served to the little people, whose appetites had been well sharpened by vigorous exercise. The appointments of the affair were complete in every detail, including some very pretty and appropriate decorations, which added in no small degree to the charm of the occasion.

Note: C. S. **Sellar** was born in Aug, 1864 From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, Aug 31, 1898

Julia A. **Sellar** was born in May, 1870

Georgine **Sellar** was born in Feb, 1894

Tim **Sellar** was born in Jan, 1898

Edward **Miller** was born Mar, 1859

Flora **Miller** was born in Jun, 1862

From *Paris Daily Beacon News*, Paris, IL, January 16, 1928, page 2

Shoaff Bros. Sell The Morning Gazette

Rumors concerning the proposed sale of the Paris Morning Gazette were set at rest Sunday when formal announcement was made of the sale of that property by Messrs. J. D. and F. L. **Shoaff** to H. L. **Cain**.

During the past week much speculation has been indulged in, and many names have been linked up with the deal. It was reported over and over again that Henry P. **Twyman**, former publisher of the Daily News, was the purchaser, and one group of men insisted the Hon. Frank **O'Hair** had an active interest in the purchase.

Mr. **Twyman** and Mr. **O'Hair** both denied any connection with the deal. Discussing the matter with a Beacon-News representative Mr. **Twyman**

said: "I have not purchased the Gazette and I am in no way interested in the purchase. What more, I do not intend to be interested in it either directly or indirectly. My newspaper interests in Paris are in the Beacon-News and will remain there."

The Gazette was established in 1873 by the father of Messrs. J. D. and F. L. **Shoaff**, and twenty years later the brothers, who are now retiring from the newspaper business, took charge of it.

The Beacon-News extends its good wishes to the new owner of the Gazette and hopes that the retiring publisher may find comfort and happiness in the days of leisure, which are now approaching.

Note: According to the "Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879" by Franklin William Scott, Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Illinois, 1910,

"Edgar County Gazette, 1873-1874 – A Democratic paper established by James Shoaff. He died in 1874 and the paper was renamed.

Paris Gazette. 1874 – to date, Continued by T. B. Shoaff and L. A. G. Shoaff, sons of James Shoaff until 1880. It is now owned by J. D. and F. L. Shoaff. Democratic."

2nd Note: James B. Shoaff (1820 – 1874)

His sons: Thomas Benton Shoaff (1847 – 1932)

Louis Antoine Godey Shoaff (1852 – 1946)

Frederick Laufman Shoaff (1858 – 1938)

James Douglas Shoaff (1861 – 1934)

James B. was married to Nancy Melvina Hanks, daughter of Dennis Hanks, a cousin to Abraham Lincoln's mother.

From *The Paris Daily Beacon*, Paris, IL, June 11, 1902, page

OBITUARY

Mattie A. **Staley** died at her home in Wabash Township, Clark County, Illinois, at 3:30 a. m. on June 6, 1902. The deceased was born in Edgar county, September 22, 1869, and lived there until 1899, when she was united in marriage to James O. **Staley**, an energetic and well respected young farmer, who resides in Wabash township, Clark county.

To this union was born one daughter Mary, who brightened and cheered the home for only a few short months, when the angel of death claimed her as his own. During Mrs. **Staley's** lingering ailment, which lasted for several months she manifested the utmost patience at all times, frequently expressing a word of appreciation for the benevolent spirit, which manifested itself through the benevolence of her neighbors and many friends.

Though the bereaved husband through her death, has lost a beloved wife and companion, he is not left friendless, for a host of friends join in his bereavement, ready to share the burden of sorrow occasioned through the loss of this companion.

Funeral services were conducted at New Providence church, on Saturday, June 7, at 11 a. m., Rev. **Broadstone**, of Sandford, Ind., officiating, interment being made in the adjoining cemetery.

Note: James Oliver Staley (1870 – 1947) was married three time in 1894, 1899, and 1903. . His first two wives died at early ages.

First wife Ida Elizabeth Wilt (1874 – 1897);

Second wife Mattie A. Barnhard (1869 – 1902);

Third wife Clova Jane Flinn (1887 – 1961).

His youngest child, Letha Mae Staley Augustus, died in 2019 at age 102.

OBITUARY

On Monday night, 21st instant, after a lingering illness, Gen. Isaac **Sandford**, aged about 57 years.

Gen. **Sandford** was among the early settlers of this section of Illinois. He possessed great energy of character, by which he accumulated a large amount of property. But his energy was not all spent upon his own private affairs. Much of it was devoted to the advancement of the public interests—especially upon internal improvements. Added to his energy of character, he was social in his intercourse with society and bland in his manners. Though not a brilliant scholar, and remarkable plain and unostentatious in his manner, he was respected by all who came in contact with him, and his more intimate acquaintances loved him. He had been for many years a member of the M. E. Church. His death leaves a deep gloom in the community, which cannot soon pass away.

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Paris, IL 61944-0304

Phone: 217-463-4209

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