

**Lincoln & Freda Hays**

101 Rainbow Dr., #3415

Livingston, TX 77351

VOICE MAIL: 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

28 Jun 1997

Mrs. Alma Ishmael  
3603 Whippoorwill Ln  
Enid, OK 73703

Dear Toots,

Well we had marvelous luck in Kansas in tracking down the ancestors. I have made out new sheets with the new information and where we found it. We still have not found where Grandma Henthorn married the first time to Frank Kimble or Kimball, nor where he died. Will work on that when we visit Michigan in late July. We sure did feel good when we found the notice on Pervis Morse and on Sophronia Jane. There was no record of Grandma Henthorn's grandparents death. The newspaper at Goff had a lawsuit against it during the 1885-1886 time period and news coming out of Goff to be put into other county newspapers was not always done each week. Of course, there is also that possibility that our eyes were so tired that we just looked right over it. Those old newspapers are very interesting but quite hard to read. Anyway, I'm sending you a couple of copies each of the three different families to update your book and Zella's.

They were all buried in the Fairview Cemetery. Their burials were before a cemetery book was started. The page in the cemetery book was written down by a lady that knew them and she just sketched on the page the approximate area where they were buried and it was inserted into the book. The odds of that happening sure is slim. But I sure am glad it happened. Right in the middle of the page (the page represents Lot 125) is a drawn rectangle with words "Morris & Children" on the top line, "Krimpy Iron Stake" written in the middle of the rectangle and "Sophrina J. Hill" written on the third line. We thought the drawn in rectangle might represent a fence. We asked all the old timers, but none could remember a fence ever being there. There is nothing there now except grass. What "krimpy Iron Stake" means is anybody's guess. Written on the same page is Mr. Burr (written twice), Mr. Leavit, Mrs. Holt, but no Mrs. Leavitt, and no Mrs. Burr. Albert G. Leavitt's first wife and his first baby were probably the first of the family to be buried there and Mary Leavitt Burr died in 1875 and she was one of the firsts to be buried there. At least we know a little more about their lives, where they lived and worked and the hardship of the times.

Tell Zella "hello" for us. We are on over in upper Missouri ready to move on to Iowa tomorrow. From there we go on up to MN will visit the big Mall in Minneapolis, and then on to Mackinaw Island in Michigan for a motorhome rally. By the end of August we will have worked our way back down to Nashville, TN, and then we will head for the Smokys. Will be back through Oklahoma in late October or early November.

Hope this finds you doing well, Love,

Freda

**Lincoln & Freda Hays**

101 Rainbow Dr., #3415

Livingston, TX 77351

VOICE MAIL: 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

19 Jun 1997

Mrs. Alma Ishmael  
3603 Whippoorwill Ln  
Enid, OK 73703

Dear Toots,

Thank you so much for the most generous check. I do appreciate your contribution to this most expensive and fun hobby. We are in Topeka, KS this week. We are running down the family of Grandma Henthorn. My oh my the surprises we are finding.

My Grandma Beckner (Lillie May Peterman), always referred to her Grandmother as "Grandma Hill". Well we have found Grandma Hill. We found when Sophronia Jane (Leavitt) Morse Hill's first husband Pervis Morse died. We have found where he is buried. He does not have a stone. We found the marriage license when she married Charles B. Hill. We have found where they lived, and where they sold land and moved to near Atchison, KS. We found where they took care of his parents when they were old and how they accompanied their bodies back from Atchison to Goff, KS and the same cemetery where Pervis Morse was buried. We found that Sophronia Jane and Charles B. Hill lived together for 16 years before Charles died. We found where Sophronia Jane and his two sisters all brought his body back from Atchison on the train and buried him in the same cemetery where her first husband was buried. But....we still haven't found the exact date she died and where. We will go back to the library tomorrow and read some more old newspapers. We know that she is buried next to her first husband Pervis Morse. But there is no stone and we only have an old cemetery book that shows her burial place.

Did you know or ever hear of Grandma Mary Ann (Morse) Kimble Peterman Henthorn living in Kansas for a while with her first husband Frank Kimble? We did not find the Kimble-Morse marriage here in Nemaha County in Kansas. The census records show that Kimble was born in Missouri and so we really didn't believe they married in Michigan. But it is looking more and more like they both moved back to Michigan and did not remain in Kansas but a very short while. Have not found where Frank Kimble died or who Mary Ann lived with before she married Ery Peterman. She did have a brother and sister-in law there.

I will be sending an updated page for your book later in the year on all this research we are doing. We will travel to Mackinaw Island after we leave Kansas, and then we will do some more research around Michigan before we head for Tennessee to see the youngest daughter. THIS IS THE LIFE!!!!

Love,

Freda



## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Pervis G. Morse #566**

bir: Feb 1830 NY  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 dea: 4 Jun 1876 Harrison Twp, Nemaha Co., KS  
 bur: 5 Jun 1876 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS  
 Father: Daniel Morse #573  
 Mother: Louisa (Unknown) #574

**WIFE: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

bir: 27 Dec 1833 MA  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 mar: 25 Dec 1879 Nemaha Co., KS  
 dea: 10 May 1908 Atchison Co., KS  
 bur: 12 May 1908 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS  
 Father: Stephen Adams Leavitt #607  
 Mother: Sophronia Ober #608  
 Other h:  
 1879: Charles B. Hill #583

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer1  
M

Name: John Morse #575  
 bir: CA 1850 Kalamazoo Co., MI  
 dea: BEF 1860

2  
M

Name: Charles Morse #571  
 bir: CA 1851 Allegan Co., MI  
 mar: 28 Jun 1870 Nemaha Co., KS  
 to: Margaret A. Brown #670  
 dea:

3  
F

Name: Mary Ann Morse #450  
 bir: 4 Dec 1852 Allegan Co., MI  
 mar: CA 1870  
 to: Frank Kimble #667  
 mar: 17 Sep 1876 Middleville, Barry Co., MI  
 to: Ery Peterman #449  
 mar: 28 Mar 1897 Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr  
 to: Samuel H. Henthorn #669  
 dea: 9 Dec 1930 Barr, Garfield Co., OK  
 bur: 11 Dec 1930 Del Norte Cemetery Drummond OK

4  
M

Name: William Albine Morse #572  
 bir: CA 1859 Barry Co., MI  
 dea:

**Individual biographical text for Pervis G. Morse #566**

Pervis G. Morse was a farmer and a farm laborer. Census records indicate he did not own any land in Michigan in Allegan or Barry Counties.

Sometime just prior to 1870, he brought his family along with his in-laws to Nemaha County KS. He and Sophronia filled out Application 3334 for 80 acres of land in Harrison Township just west of Goff, KS. On the 1870 census, his land was valued at \$550. On the 1875 census record of Nemaha County, KS State census, it is indicated his property is worth \$840.

Pervis Morse lived only 6 years after he moved to Kansas. He died 4 Jun 1876. His death notice in the paper did not carry the cause; however the insurance paper filled out in 1910 by his grandson, Clyde Peterman, indicated that he died of Brights disease.

We drove by this homesteaded land and it was a very gently rolling hill farm with a creek at the very east boundry. This appeared to be a very fine farm, with a very nice homesite in the southwest corner of the property.

Pervis Morse was buried in Lot 125 of the Fairview Cemetery near Goff, KS. His burial there was one of the very first burials in this cemetery.

#### **Individual note for Pervis G. Morse #566**

Based on age of 45 yrs 3 mos at death, Birth Month could be March 1831 \*\* 1850 census Climax Twp, Kalamazoo Co., MI, House 1666 \*\* 1860 census Town of Thornapple Barry Co MI, House 870, Pg 601 \*\* 1870 census Valley Twp, Nemaha Co., KS, House 129 Pg 16/20 \*\* 1870 census Granada Twp, Nemaha Co., KS, House 138 Pg 021 and 023 \*\* 1875 Nemaha Co., KS State Census, Harrison Twp, Pg 2 \*\* Seneca Weekly Courier, June 9, 1876, Pg 3 \*\* Fairview Cemetery Lot Book, Goff, KS, Lot 125.

#### **Individual biographical text for Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

After her husband Pervis Morse died, Sophronia Jane got the Final Homestead Certificate No. 1936 for the 80 acres they had made application for and had improved prior to his death. It was filed for record on 8 Nov 1879. She also sold the same property to Mr. Joseph Salmon on the same day for \$300.

On 25 Dec 1879, Sophronia married Charles B. Hill, who had homesteaded the land directly east of her 80 acres. According to the census records he was a few years younger than she and it was also indicated on the census records that he was crippled. He is listed as a Shoemaker on the 1870 census record. On the 1880 census, they are listed as being Farmers.

On 28 May 1883, Charles and Sophronia Jane sold their 80 acre homestead to Clement T. Hertslet for \$1400. His signature was notarized on 28th of May while he was in Crawford Co., Pennsylvania visiting or doing business in the place where his sister lived, indicating he initiated the deed. Sophronia's signature was notarized on 4 Jun 1883 in Nemaha County. The document was Filed for Record 4 Aug 1883 in Nemaha County.

It is believed they moved into Wetmore, KS for a short time before leaving Nemaha County, KS for Atchison County, KS. An item in the newspaper indicated that Sophronia Hill, of Wetmore, was visiting her brother, Wm. Leavitt during the same time as her husband was still in Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Hill and Sophronia moved to Atchison County, KS prior to 1885, along with two of his sisters and their families. It was read where his parents would spend the winters with the children in Atchison prior to their deaths in 1887 and 1888.

The Goffs Advance newspaper of 22 Mar 1895 carried the obituary of Charles B. Hill. He died on 18 Mar 1895 and was brought by train back to Nemaha County for burial at the Fairview Cemetery. Both his sisters accompanied Sophronia Jane Hill from Atchison and back to Atchison after the burial.

Sophronia Jane Leavitt Morse Hill died 10 May 1908 at age 74 of stomach and kindred trouble with which she had been afflicted for over a year. An insurance paper filled out by Clyde Peterman, a grandson, stated that his grandmother died of cancer of the stomach.

The obituary carried in The Goff Advance newspaper of Friday, May 15, 1908 told of how her sister-in-law and her husband brought Sophronia Jane's body back by train to be buried in the Fairview Cemetery next to her first husband, Pervis Morse. In the same article, it told that her parents and two sisters are also buried there. Since she only had one sister, it is believed that a sister-in-law, the first wife of her brother, Albert, is who they are referring to in the article. Her funeral service was held at the M. E. Church, on Tuesday, 12 May 1908, at 2 o'clock p.m. by Rev. D. N. Rose.

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**Individual note for Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

LDS File: Film #447783 Ord 33078 Temple Logan \*\* Place of birth also listed as NY and Ohio \*\* Deed Book Z, Nemaha Co., KS, Pg 572 \*\* Deed Book X Nemaha Co., KS, Pg 308 \*\* Nemaha Co Marriage Book A, Pg 113 (1870), Book BB, Pg 164 (1878) & 221 (1879) \*\* The Courier Newspaper, Jan 2, 1880, Seneca, KS \*\* 1880 Census Harrison TWP, Nemaha Co., KS House 25, Page 100 \*\* 1900 Census Walnut Twp, Atchison Co., KS ED 20, Sh 3 \*\* Goffs Advance Newspaper, 15 May 1908.



## Family Group Sheet

<b>HUSBAND: Stephen Adams Leavitt #607</b>		
bir:	18 Mar 1806	Meredith, Strafford Co., NH
mar:	26 Feb 1832	Boston, Suffolk Co., MA
dea:	AFT 1885	Nemaha Co., KS
bur:	AFT 1885	Fairview Cem, Goff, NemahaCo, KS
Father:	Joseph Leavitt #615	
Mother:	Sally T. Adams #616	
<b>WIFE: Sophronia Ober #608</b>		
bir:	CA 1810	Johnson, Franklin Co., VT
mar:	26 Feb 1832	Boston, Suffolk Co., MA
dea:	AFT 1 May 1884	Nemaha Co., KS
bur:	AFT 2 May 1884	Fairview Cem, Goff, NemahaCo, KS
Father:	Israel Ober #617	
Mother:	Mary Dodge #618	
<b>CHILDREN X indicates ancestor of preparer</b>		
1 M	Name: Stephen Lewis Leavitt #609 bir: 13 Oct 1832 mar: 1851 to: Miranda Brown #671 dea: CA 1858	MA Barry Co., MI  Between Michigan and Kansas
2 F	Name: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567 bir: 27 Dec 1833 mar: 1 Jan 1850 to: Pervis G. Morse #566 mar: 25 Dec 1879 to: Charles B. Hill #583 dea: 10 May 1908 bur: 12 May 1908	MA Allegan Co., MI  Nemaha Co., KS  Atchison Co., KS Fairview Cem, Goff, NemahaCo, KS
3 F	Name: Mary Ellen Leavitt #610 bir: 3 Nov 1835 mar: 17 Mar 1853 to: Charles Burr #672 dea: 7 Jan 1875 bur: 8 Jan 1875	Roxbury, Suffolk Co., MA Leighton, Allegan Co., MI  Nemaha Co., KS Fairview Cem, Goff, NemahaCo, KS
4 M	Name: James M. Leavitt #611 bir: 27 Mar 1838 dea: CA 1847	Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH OH
5 M	Name: Charles E. Leavitt #612 bir: 18 Apr 1840 dea: 1 Nov 1840	Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH

6 M	Name: William H. Leavitt #613 bir: 3 Sep 1842 mar: 28 May 1865 to: Harriett Doolittle #673 dea:	Ridgeville, Lorain Co., OH Hart, Ocena Co., MI
7 M	Name: Joseph F. Leavitt #636 bir: 29 Mar 1845 dea: CA Sep 1846	Ohio Ohio
8 M	Name: Albert G. Leavitt #614 bir: 13 Apr 1853 mar: 1871 to: Martha Stevens #674 mar: 17 Sep 1878 to: Mrs. Lucy A. Waymire #676 dea: AFT 1908	Allegan Co., MI Nemaha Co., KS  Nemaha Co., KS

#### Individual biographical text for Stephen Adams Leavitt #607

After Stephen Adams Leavitt married in Boston, he and Sophronia remained in Massachusetts for four to five years before moving to the Cleveland, Ohio area. They stayed in the Cuyahoga County area for nearly 10 years before moving on west to Allegan County, Michigan. They buried three of their children in Cuyahoga Co., OH.

It was in Michigan that their oldest son married and started their family. This son, Stephen Lewis Leavitt and his wife Miranda and their family decided to move on west to Kansas and in 1858 they left Michigan. They were never heard of again.

Sometime near 1870, Stephen Adams Leavitt and his wife, their children and their spouses, their grandchildren, all left Michigan and headed west to Kansas. They settled in the Nemaha County area. This area in northeast Kansas is three counties west of Atchison, KS, just below the Nebraska line. The land is quite filled with hills and creeks. They filed for a homestead (Application 3019), and a few years later on 6 Sep 1879 was granted their final Homestead Certificate, No. 1937. The land contained 80 acres and was located as the North Half of the North East Quarter of Section 18, in Township Four, of Range Fourteen. We found that they mortgaged this land for \$400, with a note to be paid in five years, or 1884.

We found evidence that they sold this land in 1883 for \$800., the note for \$400. still outstanding. Both Stephen and Sophronia's signatures were indicated on this Deed. The note for \$400 was released on 7 May 1884. In this release, both Stephen and Sophronia's names are mentioned but no signatures were required. We found no evidence that they bought any other property. It is presumed they either lived in rental property or possibly lived with their daughter Sophronia Jane Hill or their son Albert G. Leavitt, both living at that time at Wetmore, KS, a few miles east of Goff, KS.

During the period 1879 to 1883, Stephen Leavitt continued to fight for the overdue pension of his father-in-law, Israel Ober. The letters written to the pensions office in Washington, D.C. are in his own handwriting. They show very good intelligence of word usage. He solicited the help of his Senator, but to no avail. In the latter part of 1882, his handwriting becoming illegible, he asked a Mr. Radford to write his letter for him. In the letter Mr. Radford states, that "Stephen Leavitt and wife are both poor and Infirm, he is age 76 and quite a cripple with rheumatism and his wife is aged 72 and very nearly blind - they are both worthy people of good character". Mr. Radford's letter did not result in any satisfaction regarding the 1871 Act of Pensions for 1812 soldiers. Finally in desperation to make the pensions office understand that Israel Ober, prior to his death, was cheated out of his deserved



pension, Stephen Leavitt, at age 77, boarded the train at Wetmore on 7 May 1883 and went to Washington, D.C. The records indicate that on 11 May 1883, they issued a reimbursement requisition for \$81.60 to the Secretary as requested by the Audit #2256. The next statement is dated May 15, 1883 and it states that "S. Leavitt decline to....." and here it becomes unreadable and then it continues "under Act of 1871 as service was less than 60 days".

Instead of a pension that should have been paid to Israel Ober beginning in 1871, Stephen Leavitt and his wife as heirs were offered \$81.60 as a pittance for the service of a young man in the War of 1812. In reading the newspapers of the 1879 to 1885 time period, we found Stephen Leavitt was not alone in his pursuit for the money owed to a soldier. The newspapers listed several cases of pension disallowances, plus for those that were getting a pension, a reduction from \$8 per month to \$4 per month by the "Republican" Congress. Taking into consideration that you were 18-20 in 1812-1814 during the war, you would be nearing 75 when the first Act of 1871 that allowed a pension for service of over 60 days; and by the Act of 1878, you would be nearing 82. Noting the lifespan of a male during the 1870-1880 time period was far less, it can be concluded that the government had no intentions of paying out funds for military service. However, for those that happened to live long enough, the government found that by postponement of payments, they could rightfully refuse payment to heirs over age sixteen by law, after the soldier passed on, because only in rare cases were the heirs under sixteen years of age and counting on the soldier for support.

Stephen Leavitt died sometime after the 1885 Kansas State Census was made. On the census record he is listed as an 80 year old widower. His wife Sophronia died sometime after 1 May 1884 and prior to the date of the 1885 Kansas State Census which probably was in June or July of 1885. Search of all available newspapers did not reveal the death dates of Sophronia or Stephen Leavitt. The obituary of his daughter in 1908, indicates that both Stephen and his wife Sophronia are buried at the Fairview Cemetery in Lot 125 at Goff, KS.

Before we left the area between Wetmore, KS and Goff, KS, we drove by the 80 acres that Stephen and Sophronia homesteaded. The land had a creek flowing through the east side with a nice house site near the east road. From the north side, there was a road that we could drive down into the quite hilly property and there we encountered two large oil pumpers with no less than 10 huge holding tanks. The land had some timber and several hillsides that would have been farmable. Today, the creek had a small dam and had backed up to make a small pond for water for several head of cattle that were grazing on the land. There was one pumper on the property across the road east and one pumper on the property across the road northeast. These four pumpers were the only indications that there were minerals beneath the soil in all the sections around the 80 acres that our ancestors owned at one time. Had the technology of oil exploration been known then as it is today, Stephen and Sophronia would have had a life with no money worries.

#### **Individual note for Stephen Adams Leavitt #607**

Pension records of Israel Ober, father-in-law to Stephen Adams Leavitt, have papers in the file showing Leavitt's signature through 1883 \*\* Deed Records, Nemaha Co., KS, Book Y, Pg 421, Book 14, Pg 385, Book 19, Pg 582 \*\* The Seneca Weekly Courier, "Wetmore News", Friday, May 11, 1883 \*\* Fairview Cemetery Plot Book, Goff, KS \*\* LDS Film 818095 Mgs of Boston (Vol 2), Pg 47-48 \*\* 1840 Census, Cuyahoga Co., OH, Cleveland Twp. \*\*1850 Census, Kalamazoo Co., MI, Climax Twp, Pg 117 \*\* 1860 Census (nothing found, research still in progress) \*\* 1870 Census Nemaha Co., KS, Valley Twp, Pg 022 \*\* 1880 Census, Nemaha Co., KS, Granada Twp \*\* 1885 Kansas State Census, Nemaha Co., Wetmore Twp.

#### **Individual note for Sophronia Ober #608**

LDS File: Birth on Film #447784 Ord 33079 Temple Logan \*\* 1870 Census Record Nemaha



County, KS \*\* 1880 Census Record Nemaha County, KS \*\* Pension records of her father Israel Ober indicate that Sophronia is the only living heir in 1883, at Wetmore, Nemaha Co., KS \*\* Obituary of daughter Sophronia Jane Hill indicates Sophronia Leavitt was buried at Fairview Cemetery, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS.

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible, appearing to be a transcription of a document or record.]*

*[This section contains additional faint text, possibly a list or a continuation of the record, which is mostly illegible.]*

## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Israel Ober #617**

bir: CA 1786

mar: 1806

dea: 14 Jan 1879

Father: Jacob Foster Ober #801

Mother: Prudence Lofty #802

New Boston, Hillsborough Co NH

New Boston, Hillsborough Co NH

Wetmore, Nemaha Co., KS

**WIFE: Mary Dodge #618**

bir: CA 1790

mar: 1806

dea: AFT 1850

Father: an unknown person #0

Mother: an unknown person #0

New Hampshire

New Boston, Hillsborough Co NH

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer

1

F

Name: Unknown Girl Ober #775

bir: CA 1809

dea: BEF 1820

Johnson, Franklin Co., VT ?

2

F

Name: Sophronia Ober #608

bir: CA 1810

mar: 26 Feb 1832

to: Stephen Adams Leavitt #607

dea: AFT 1 May 1884

bur: AFT 2 May 1884

Johnson, Franklin Co., VT

Boston, Suffolk Co., MA

Nemaha Co., KS

Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS

3

M

Name: Boy 1 Ober #779

bir: CA 1814

dea:

Johnson, Franklin Co., VT

4

F

Name: Girl 1 Ober #778

bir: CA 1815

dea:

5

F

Name: Girl 2 Ober #780

bir: CA 1816

dea:

6

F

Name: Girl 3 Ober #781

bir: CA 1818

dea:

7

F

Name: Girl 4 Ober #782

bir: CA 1820

dea:

Salem, Essex Co., MA



8 M	Name: Charles Ober #783 bir: CA 1825 dea:	NH
9 F	Name: Girl 5 Ober #784 bir: CA 1827 dea:	
10 F	Name: Girl 6 Ober #785 bir: CA 1829 dea:	Boston, Suffolk Co., MA

### Individual biographical text for Israel Ober #617

Israel grew up on a farm near New Boston, NH with his siblings and many cousins in the area. In 1806 he married Mary Dodge and moved to Johnson in Franklin Co., VT, where two or three of his older brothers were already living with their families. During the next few years, he and Mary had two daughters, one named Sophronia, our ancestor, and the other possibly named Sarah Jane. They also had a son, but his name has not yet been determined.

While in Vermont, War was declared on Great Britain by the United States on the 18th day of June 1812. Israel was drafted at Johnson to serve in the Vermont Militia on or about 1 Sep 1814, to serve for a term of three months. His Company was commanded by Captain Thomas Waterman. The Company was sent to Lake Champlain. When they reached their destination, instead of crossing the water with the rest of his troupes, Israel was sent out on picket and remained there for three weeks. He was then called in and at that time was mustered in. This three week delay in getting his name in the record books, would give him tremendous grief in later years when he applied for a pension, which was set forth by an Act of Congress in 1871. While he actually served a few days less than his three months, his muster book carried only 55 days of service and no pensions were granted for less than 60 days of service.

Israel served his time and was honorably discharged on or about the twenty-fourth of November at Burlington, VT. He and Mary and the children left Vermont and it is supposed spent some time at New Boston where both their parents still lived. However, they did not stay there. They moved on to Essex Co., MA where Israel's brother William was living with his family. His brother William died in 1821 and Israel and Mary moved on to Suffolk County by 1830. Israel and Mary's family had increased to ten children by this time. At Boston, in 1832, their daughter Sophronia married Stephen Leavitt.

They all remained in Massachusetts until about 1837 when both the Ober family and the Leavitt family moved to the Cleveland, Ohio area. They remained in this area for about ten years and then moved to Leighton, Allegan Co., Michigan.

Israel received two land grants in Michigan for his service in the War of 1812, which were set forth in an Act of Congress in 1851.

In 1858, Israel and Mary's oldest grandson, Stephen Lewis Leavitt and his wife and children left Michigan for Kansas. They were never heard from again.

It is not known how long before the families of Israel Ober and Stephen Adams Leavitt also decided to go to Kansas. It is believed they relocated in the early part of 1870. It is believed that Israel's wife Mary died before leaving Michigan. Research is continuing.

Israel became quite ill and was partially paralyzed. His pension record file indicated that he had lived with his daughter and son-in-law since the early 1850s. In 1871 he applied for his pension for his service in the War, but was turned down because of only 55 days of service. Israel's health continued to deteriorate and the last year and a half of his life, he lay in bed, not conscious of anything or anybody. It was stated that his daughter had to care for

him as she would an infant. He died 14 Jan 1879. His appeals for a pension still remained unresolved.

Members of his family who died prior to his death were buried in the Fairview Cemetery near Goff, in Nemaha Co., KS. It is presumed that he too is buried in Lot 125 in the Fairview Cemetery, about 4 miles from where he lived. However, the Barnes Cemetery was 1 mile south of the 80 acre home place of Stephen and Sophronia Leavitt where Israel was living. We have not determined that the cemetery was in existence in January of 1879. We do know that there was a burial there in July of 1879. No stones or records for either cemetery included the name of Israel Ober.

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#### **Individual note for Israel Ober #617**

Federal Census Records: 1810 Franklin Co VT P.O. Johnson pg 332 (Note: listed as Jewel instead of Israel in Index.) \*\* 1820 Essex Co MA - P.O. Salem North pg 052 \*\* 1830 Suffolk Co MA - P.O. Boston page 026 \*\* 1840 Cuyahoga Co OH - Cleveland TWP pg 118 \*\* 1850 Kalamazoo Co MI - Climax TWP pg 117 \*\* 1860 (No record found, research continuing \*\* 1870 Nemaha Co KS - Granada Twp pg 022.

War of 1812 Service Pension Records lists wife's name, marriage year and place; locations; death date; and relationship to daughter, Sophronia Ober Leavitt.



HOMESTEAD.

APPLICATION,

No. 3334 }

LAND OFFICE at Topeka Kansas July 12<sup>th</sup> 1871.

I. Purvis Morse of Nemaha County

Kansas do hereby apply to enter, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862,

entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain," the SW of the South

West quarter of Section twenty eight (28) in Township four (4)

of Range thirteen (13) containing eighty

Acres. having filed my prescriptive declaratory statement thereon on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1870  
Purvis Morse

LAND OFFICE at Topeka Kansas  
July 12<sup>th</sup> 1871.

I. Ira A Smith

Register of the Land Office, do hereby certify

that the above application is for Surveyed Lands of the class which the applicant is legally entitled to enter under the Homestead act of May 20, 1862, and that there is no prior, valid, adverse right to the same.

Ira A Smith Register.

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, *Dope Run Kansas July 12<sup>th</sup>*, 1871.

RECEIVER'S RECEIPT,  
No. 3334

APPLICATION,  
No. 3334

RECEIVED of *Purvis Mouser*

the sum of

*fourteen* dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents; being the amount of fee

and compensation of Register and Receiver for the entry of *Sh of the DM<sup>24</sup>*

of Section *2 &* in Township

*4* of Range *13* under the acts of

Congress approved May 20, 1862, and March 21, 1864, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain."

\$ *14*

*George Merrill* Receiver.

*July 15 1871*



HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, Topeka Kansas July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1871 .

RECEIVER'S RECEIPT,  
No. 3334

{ APPLICATION,  
No. 3334

RECEIVED of Purvis Morse

the sum of

fourteen dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents; being the amount of fee

and compensation of Register and Receiver for the entry of the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the  
S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of Section 28

in Township

of Range 13 under the acts of

Congress approved May 20, 1862, and March 21, 1864, entitled "An act to secure home-  
steads to actual settlers on the public domain."

\$ 14

George Merrill Receiver.

HOMESTEAD.

[AFFIDAVIT.]

Land Office at Topeka Kansas  
July 12<sup>th</sup> 1871.

J. Purvis Morse, of Kawaha Co Kan  
having filed my Application No. 3334, for an entry  
under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862,  
entitled "An act to secure Homesteads to actual settlers on the public  
domain," do solemnly swear, that I am the head of a  
family and

a citizen of the United States, that said application is made for  
my exclusive use and benefit, that said entry is made for the pur-  
pose of actual settlement and cultivation, and not directly or indi-  
rectly for the use or benefit of any other person or persons whom-  
soever, and further, that I have not heretofore had the benefit of  
the Homestead Act, or abandoned an entry made under its pro-  
visions.

Purvis Morse

Sworn to and subscribed this 12<sup>th</sup> day  
of July 1871 before Iren W Smith  
Register of the Land Office.



HOMESTEAD.

Land Office at Topeka Kansas

April 10th, 1877.

FINAL CERTIFICATE,

No. 1936

APPLICATION,

No. 3334

It is hereby certified, That, pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An Act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,"

Sophronia Morse, widow of Purvis Morse deceased has made payment in full for the South 1/2 of South West 1/4

of section No. twenty eight (28) in township No. four (4) of range No. thirteen (13) containing eighty acres.

Now, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this Certificate to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said

Sophronia Morse

shall be entitled to a Patent for the Tract of Land above described.

W. H. Stephens Register.

A. Sophronia Morse widow of  
Purvis Morse deceased who in his life  
time made a Homestead Entry of the  
South  $\frac{1}{2}$  of South West  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec 28 T<sup>4</sup>  
4 R. 13 E subject to entry at Topeka  
Kansas do now apply to perfect my  
claim thereto as such widow, by virtue  
of Section 2291 Revised Statutes of the  
United States and for that purpose do  
solemnly swear that the said Purvis Morse  
was the head of a family and a citizen of  
the United States that he made actual  
settlement upon and cultivated said land  
having resided thereon from the 15<sup>th</sup> day of  
July 1870 to the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 1876 when  
he died, and that this affiant and the family  
of said Purvis Morse deceased have continued  
to reside upon said land to the present time  
that no part of said land has been alienated  
but that I am the sole bona fide owner  
as an actual settler and as such widow  
and that I will bear true allegiance to  
the Government of the United States.



Sophronia Morse  
J. H. Fitzpatrick Register of the Land Office at  
Topeka Kansas do hereby certify that the above affi-  
davit was taken and subscribed before me this 10th day of  
April 1877. W. H. Fitzpatrick Register

6

We Charles B. Hill and Geo. E. Hill do solemnly swear that we had known Purvis Morse from the 15th day of July 1870. that he was the head of a family consisting of a wife and one child and was a citizen of the United States. - that he was an inhabitant of the South 1/2 of South West 1/4 of Section 28 T4 R. 13E. and that no other person resided upon said land entitled to homestead or preemption.

That the said Purvis Morse made a settlement on said land on the 15th day of July 1870 and built a house thereon of pine lumber, It was 24 feet long & 16 feet wide shingle roof, 2 doors, 6 windows, 1 1/2 stories high lumber floors and is a comfortable house to live in. and had lived in said house and made it his exclusive home from the 15th day of July 1870 to the 4th day of June 1876 when he died. That the widow and family of said deceased have continued to occupy said house ~~and cultivated and~~ <sup>to the present time</sup> that since said settlement 20 acres of said land have been plowed and cultivated and a stable has been built.

Charles B. Hill

Geo. E. Hill

J. W. H. Fitzpatrick Register do. hereby  
certify that the above affidavit was taken &  
subscribed before me this 10th day of  
April 1877

W. H. Fitzpatrick Register

I certify that Charles B. Hill & George E.  
Hill whose names are subscribed to the  
foregoing affidavit, are persons of  
respectability

W. H. Fitzpatrick Register

8



FINAL RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, No. 1936

APPLICATION, No. 3334

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, Topeka Kansas

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1877.

RECEIVED of Sophronia Morse widow, of Purvis Morse deed, the sum  
of Nine dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents,

being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of the  
South 1/2 of South West 1/4

of Section 28 in Township 4 of Range 13  
containing 80 acres, under Section 2291 of the  
Revised Statutes of the United States.

4

Chas W. Lind  
Receiver.

FINAL RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, No. 1936

APPLICATION, No. 3334

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, Topeka Kansas

April 10, 1877.

RECEIVED of Sophonia Morse widow of Purvis Morse <sup>decd.</sup> the sum  
of Four dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents,

being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of the  
South 1/2 of South West 1/4

**PAT. DELIVERED BY R.R.**

of Section 28 in Township 4 of Range 13  
containing 80. acres, under Section 2291 of the  
Revised Statutes of the United States.

\$4.00

Chas B. L...

Receiver.

Final Certificate No. 1936

Homestead Application No. 3334

LAND OFFICE

AT

Leptaio Kans.

April 10, 1877.

Sect. 25 Town. 4 Range 13

Approved Aug 18, 1877.

Spofford.

Pat. April 9, 1878

Rec Vol 4, page 290

2-227



Home 1836  
Patent sent by  
mail to F. D. Hill  
Coppering Nevada  
~~to Nevada~~  
Aug 27 1879

HOMESTEAD.

APPLICATION, )

No. 3019 }

LAND OFFICE at Topeka, Kansas, March 17, 1877.

I, Stephen A. Levitt of Nemaha County, Kas

do hereby apply to enter, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain," the N 1/2 of N E 17

of Section 18 in Township

4 of Range 14 containing 80 Acres.

Stephen A Levitt

LAND OFFICE at Topeka, Kansas

March 17, 1877.

I, Grafton Smith

Register of the Land Office, do hereby certify

that the above application is for Surveyed Lands of the class which the applicant is legally entitled to enter under the Homestead act of May 20, 1862, and that there is no prior, valid, adverse right to the same.

Grafton Smith

Register.

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, *Topeka, Kansas, Feb 17, 1871*

RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, }

No. *3019* }

{ APPLICATION,

{ No. *3019*

RECEIVED of

*Stephen A. Leavitt*

the sum of

*fourteen*

dollars

cents; being the amount of fee

and compensation of Register and Receiver for the entry of *N 1/2 N E 1/4*

of Section

*Eighteen (18)*

in Township

*Four (4)*

of Range

*Fourteen (14)*

under the acts of

Congress approved May 20, 1862, and March 21, 1864, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain."

\$ *14<sup>00</sup>*

*Paul Horntown* Receiver.

*Rec'd  
Feb 17 1871*



HOMESTEAD.

[AFFIDAVIT.]

Land Office *Opelika, Kansas*  
March 17, 1871.

I, Stephen A. Leavitt, of *Nauvaha Co. Kas.*,  
having filed my Application No. 3019, for an entry  
under the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862,  
entitled "An act to secure Homesteads to actual settlers on the public  
domain," do solemnly swear, that I am the head of a  
family, &

a citizen of the United States; that said appli-  
cation is made for my exclusive benefit, and that said entry is made  
for the purpose of actual settlement and cultivation, and not di-  
rectly or indirectly for the use or benefit of any other person or per-  
sons whomsoever; and further, that I have not heretofore had the  
benefit of the Homestead Act, or abandoned an entry made under  
its provisions.

*Stephen A. Leavitt*

Sworn to and subscribed this *17<sup>th</sup>* day  
of *March* 1871 before

*Geo. A. Smith*

Register of the Land Office.

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, *Topeka, Kansas* *Feb 17, 1871*

RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, }

No. *3019* }

{ APPLICATION,

{ No. *3019*

RECEIVED of *Stephen A. Sewitt* the sum of

*fourteen* dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents; being the amount of fee

and compensation of Register and Receiver for the entry of *N 1/2 of N 8 1/2*

\_\_\_\_\_ of Section *Eighteen (18)* in Township

*Four (4)* of Range *Fourteen (14)* under the acts of

Congress approved May 20, 1862, and March 21, 1864, entitled "An act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain."

\$ *14<sup>00</sup>*

*Paul Hamstern* Receiver.

16

FINAL HOMESTEAD PROOF

OF

Stephen A. Seavitt

Application No. 3819

Final Certificate No. 1937

Land Office at Topoeco Store

April 10, 1877.



# Final Affidavit Required of Homestead Claimants.

Act of May 20, 1862.

I, Stephen A. Leavitt, having made a Homestead entry  
of the North 1/2 of North East 1/4 of section No. 18  
in township No. 14, of range No. 14 subject to entry at  
Topeka Kansas under the first section of the Homestead Act  
of May 20 1862, do now apply to perfect my claim thereto by virtue of the first  
proviso to the second section of said act; and for that purpose do solemnly swear  
that I am the head of a family & a citizen of the United States; that  
I have made actual settlement upon and have cultivated said land, having resided thereon since the  
25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1870, to the present time; that no  
part of said land has been alienated, but that I am the sole bona fide owner as an actual settler; and  
that I will bear true allegiance to the Government of the United States.

Stephen A. Leavitt

A. H. Sippatuck Register, of the Land Office at  
Topeka Kansas, do hereby certify that the above affidavit was taken and  
subscribed before me this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1871.

A. H. Sippatuck Reg.

Final Homestead Proof required under Section 2291 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

WE, Chas B Hill and Geo E Hill, do solemnly swear that we have known Stephen A Leavitt for 6 years last past; that he is the head of a family consisting of a wife and self and is a citizen of the United States; that he is an inhabitant of the North 1/2 of North East 1/4 of Section No. 18 in Township No. 4 of Range No. 14, and that no other person resided upon the said land entitled to the right of Homestead or Pre-emption.

That the said Stephen A. Leavitt entered upon and made settlement on said land on the 25 day of April, 1870, and has built a house thereon of Stone It is 18 feet long & 14 feet wide shingle roof one door. 4 windows one story high lumber floor & is a comfortable house and has lived in the said house and made it his exclusive home from the 25 day of April, 1870, to the present time, and that he has, since said settlement, plowed, fenced, and cultivated about 27 acres of said land, and has made the following improvements thereon, to wit:

has enclosed with post & rail fence 15 acres. has built 2 corn cribs & one stable. has planted an orchard of 100 peach trees 70 in bearing. & plum & cherry trees & small fruit 50 & 130 of west trees. & has dug a well.

Charles B. Hill  
Geo. E. Hill

I, N. H. Fitzpatrick Reg, do hereby certify that the above affidavit was taken and subscribed before me on this 10 day of April, 1877.

N. H. Fitzpatrick Register  
WE CERTIFY that Charles B Hill and Geo E Hill, whose names are subscribed to the foregoing affidavit, are persons of respectability.

N. H. Fitzpatrick, Register.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Receiver.

FINAL RECEIVER'S RECEIPT, No. 1937

APPLICATION, No. 3019

HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, Topeka Kansas  
April 10, 1877

RECEIVED of Stephen A. Leavitt the sum  
of None dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents,

being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of the  
North 1/2 of North East 1/4

of Section 18 in Township 24 of Range 14  
containing 80 acres, under Section 2291 of the  
Revised Statutes of the United States.

\$4.00

[Signature]  
Receiver.



HOMESTEAD.

Receiver's Office, Topeka Kansas  
April 10, 1877.

RECEIVED of Stephen A. Leavitt the sum  
of Five dollars \_\_\_\_\_ cents,

being the balance of payment required by law for the entry of the  
North 1/2 of North East 1/4

**PAID. RECEIVED BY R.S.**

of Section 18 in Township 4 of Range 14  
containing 80 acres, under Section 2291 of the  
Revised Statutes of the United States.

\$4 00

Chas B Lewis  
Receiver.

HOMESTEAD.

Land Office at

Topeka Kansas

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1877

FINAL CERTIFICATE,

No. 1937

APPLICATION,

No. 3019

It is hereby certified, That, pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress approved May 20, 1862, entitled "An Act to secure homesteads to actual settlers on the public domain,"

Stephen A. Leavitt

has

made payment in full for the North 1/2 of North East 1/4

of section No. eighteen (18) in township No. four (4) of range No. fourteen (14) containing eighty acres.

Now, therefore, be it known, That on presentation of this Certificate to the COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE, the said

Stephen A. Leavitt

shall be entitled to a Patent for the Tract of Land above described.

W. H. Fitzpatrick Registrar

Final Certificate No. 1937

Homestead Application No. 3019

LAND OFFICE

AT

Lobelia Kans.

April 10, 1877.

Sect. 18, Towp. 4, Range 14.

Approved Aug. 18, 1877.

Spofford,

Pat. April 9, 1878

Rec. Vol 4, page 391.

3-108



Home 1937  
Patent sent by  
mail to Mr G.  
Dargent - Aug 28 79  
Sabetha K. Orr

## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Ery Peterman #449**

bir: 1850  
 mar: 17 Sep 1876  
 dea: 18 Apr 1894  
 bur: 20 Apr 1894

Morrow Co., OH  
 Middleville, Barry Co., MI  
 Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr  
 WilhiteCem.KingfsherCo.OKTerr.

Father: John Peterman #568

Mother: Magdalena Groff #569

**WIFE: Mary Ann Morse #450**

bir: 4 Dec 1852  
 mar: CA 1870  
 mar: 17 Sep 1876  
 mar: 28 Mar 1897  
 dea: 9 Dec 1930  
 bur: 11 Dec 1930

Allegan Co., MI  
 Middleville, Barry Co., MI  
 Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr  
 Barr, Garfield Co., OK  
 Del Norte Cemetery Drummond OK

Father: Purvis G. Morse #566

Mother: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567

Other h:

1870: Frank Kimble #667

1897: Samuel H. Henthorn #669

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer

1 M	Name: Freddy E. Peterman #594 bir: 17 Dec 1877 dea: 3 Nov 1879	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Everett, Irving Twp, Barry Co MI
2 F	Name: Della (Dollie) Peterman #595 bir: 26 Aug 1880 mar: 30 May 1895 to: George Myers #688 dea: 1958 bur: 1959	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr Phoenix, AZ Pleasant Hill Cem. Ringwood, OK

**Prepared by:**

Freda M. (LEE) Hays  
 101 Rainbow Dr, #3415  
 Livingston, TX 77351-9300  
 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

Relationship to Husband: great granddaughter

Relationship to Wife: great granddaughter



3 F	Name: Ella (Ellie) Peterman #596 bir: 26 Aug 1880 dea: 4 Sep 1880 bur: 14 Sep 1880	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Irving Cem., Barry Co., MI
4 F X	Name: Lillie May Peterman #356 bir: 27 Sep 1883 mar: 27 Sep 1903 to: Oscar Beckner #355 dea: 7 Oct 1966 bur: 10 Oct 1966	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr  Hosp., Enid, Garfield Co., OK Del Norte Cemetery Drummond OK
5 M	Name: Clyde Peterman #597 bir: 30 Nov 1886 mar: 10 Jan 1909 to: Jessie Long #689 dea: 1960 bur: 1960	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Garfield Co., OK  Farm Home, Garfield Co., OK Del Norte Cemetery Drummond OK

#### Individual biographical text for Ery Peterman #449

Ery Peterman moved as a very young boy from Ohio to Michigan with his parents. It was there in Barry County that he grew to manhood and married a young widow, Mary Ann (Morse) Kimble. Mary not only had lost her first husband, but also their only child, a little girl named May. Ery and Mary started their family with a boy they named Fred. But the young boy died of diphtheria before he was two. Mary was childless again. However, four years after Ery and Mary married, they had twin girls, Ellie and Dollie. But, after 9 days, Ellie lost her fight to live. During the next six years, two more children, Lillie May and Clyde were born, making up their family.

On 17 January 1891, Ery and Mary sold their land in Barry Co., and headed for Kansas where Mary's mother was living. When they reached St. Joseph, MO they stopped to earn some wages by helping build a bridge across the Missouri River.

Ery and Mary headed for Oklahoma Territory upon hearing of additional lands being opened to settlers there in 1893, no doubt from Mary's Uncle Albert Leavitt, who had made the initial run in 1889. On 16 September 1893 at 12 o'clock, the opening of the Cherokee Strip took place. Ery had in his possession Certificate No. 7680 from the General Land Office designated for Township 20N, Range 8 West. It is not known just how Ery made his run to the land that he staked but most probably it was by wagon and team, with some of the most needed tools brought along to build a house for his family. Ery staked a claim for 146.7 acres of land in Section 2, north of the community of Barr in Washington Township in southwest Garfield County. On 16 and 17 October, Ery went to Enid and paid his filing fee and picked up his Homestead Application No. 2117. Mary and the children then joined him and no doubt took great pride in their dugout and a well which Ery had been so diligently working on. It was a typical western pioneer home that included a dirt floor and crates for chairs.

But a long life in Oklahoma was not to be for Ery Peterman. He took very sick and seven months after he made claim to his land, he died of yellow jaundice on 18 April 1894. Mary, having seen a little cemetery just northwest of Hennessey, on her trip to join Ery on his staked land, decided to take his body down to that location for burial. There was no money for a permanent stone.

#### Individual note for Ery Peterman #449



1860 census Irving Dist., Barry Co., MI House 1762, Page 836; 1870 census Irving Dist., Barry Co., MI House 206; 1880 census Irving Twp., Barry Co., MI House 174.

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**Individual biographical text for Mary Ann Morse #450**

Mary was in her middle teens when she travelled to Kansas with her parents and siblings. She is married to Frank Kimble on the 1870 census record in Kansas and they married sometime during the census year which is from July 1869 to June 1870. We found no evidence of a marriage license back in Michigan, and we found no marriage license in Nemaha Co., Kansas. In March of 1874, Mary and Frank had a baby girl they named May. We know that Frank dies, possibly in the forestry industry, but whether it was in Kansas or back in Michigan has not been determined. We do know that May Kimble died at age 6 months and is buried in the Irving Cemetery, in Barry Co., MI. It has not been determined where Frank is buried at this time. It was in the Irving, MI area that she met and married Ery Peterman.

In April 1894 in Oklahoma Territory, Mary, the now 42 year old widow with three children, the oldest 14 years old, was faced with breaking new ground to raise their food and crops on land she had to improve each year for five years to become the owner. Soon, the oldest daughter, Dollie, married George Myers, and she and her husband acquired land of their own. Mary's daughter Lillie May got a job at Hennessey as a maid and child sitter. Lillie May was not happy about leaving her mother, but it was a necessary move because of the hardship of not having a father to provide for the family. Mary told her daughter to write and Lillie May promised she would and she did. Several times she wrote to her mother about her duties and how much she wanted to come home. During the same time Mary wrote her daughter asking why she couldn't find time to write. It seems the lady that Lillie May was working for did not want to lose her help and she intercepted the letters coming in and going out and destroyed them. This continued for almost a year. All during this time, Lillie May could not understand why she did not get a letter from her mother. Finally, Mary made the long trip to Hennessey and found her daughter being used as slave labor and very unhappy. Lillie May got to go home to the farm.

On 28 March 1897, Mary married Samuel Henthorn, a widower, 20 years her senior. Mr. Henthorn had homesteaded land of his own and had built a very comfortable house on his property. Mary and the two children left their dugout and moved over to Mr. Henthorn's place. But, three years later, Mr. Henthorn died of appendicitis at age 67, leaving Mary a widow for the third time. This very strong-willed pioneer was once again faced with carving out a living with no help mate.

She continued to work and farm both properties that her late husbands had homesteaded. In November 1902, after Mary had filed all the proper affidavits, she made final proof as widow of Mr. Henthorn for 80 acres, Final Receiver's No. 4227; and as a widow of Ery Peterman for 146.7 acres, Final Receiver's Receipt No. 7017.

The children all attended Barr School. Mrs. McCluney was their teacher. They were members of the Barr United Brethren Church along with their mother.

After receiving the final papers on both her properties, she had the house that Mr. Henthorn built on the 80 acre farm moved over to the property that Ery Peterman had staked. According to Scovil Swartz, long time friend who lived his life across the road from the Samuel Henthorn homesteaded land, that house going down the road was really a sight for a young boy to see. A few years later, Mary added on to her house. The addition was another house with the outside appearance identical to the one she had.

Mary had a hard life. She lived 28 years on her land after gaining her Homestead Certificate. She entertained many a grandchild at her home during her later years. She died at age 78 of heart and kidney diseases. She is buried near Drummond at the Del Norte Cemetery. A small stone marks her grave.

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Individual note for Mary Ann Morse #450

1860 census Town of Thornapple, Barry Co., MI, House 870; Pg 601; 1870 census Granada Twp, Nemaha Co., KS, House 138, Pg 17/21; 1880 census Barry Co., MI; 1900, 1910, 1920, census Washington Twp, Garfield Co. OK. OK Death Cert. Garfield Co., No. 367, Reg. No. 415.

Mary Ann Morse was born in the town of Thornapple, Barry Co., Michigan, on the 12th of March, 1827. She was the daughter of John and Mary (Morse) Morse. Her father was a farmer and her mother was a homemaker. Mary Ann was educated in the common schools of her native town. She was married to John Morse on the 15th of May, 1845. They had several children, including John, Mary, and William. Mary Ann lived in Thornapple, Michigan, until 1870, when she moved to Granada, Nemaha Co., Kansas. She lived in Granada until 1880, when she moved to Washington, Garfield Co., Oklahoma. She died on the 15th of March, 1907, at the age of 79 years old. She was buried in the cemetery in Washington, Oklahoma. Her death certificate was filed in Garfield Co., Oklahoma, with registration number 367 and registration number 415.



## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Stephen Adams Leavitt #607**

bir: 18 Mar 1806 Meredith, Strafford Co., NH  
 mar: 26 Feb 1832 Boston, Suffolk Co., MA  
 dea: AFT 1885 Nemaha Co., KS  
 bur: AFT 1885 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS  
 Father: Joseph Leavitt #615  
 Mother: Sally T. Adams #616

**WIFE: Sophronia Ober #608**

bir: CA 1810 Johnson, Franklin Co., VT  
 mar: 26 Feb 1832 Boston, Suffolk Co., MA  
 dea: AFT 1 May 1884 Nemaha Co., KS  
 bur: AFT 2 May 1884 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS  
 Father: Israel Ober #617  
 Mother: Mary Dodge #618

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer1  
M**Name: Stephen Lewis Leavitt #609**

bir: 13 Oct 1832 MA  
 mar: 1851 Barry Co., MI  
 to: Miranda Brown #671  
 dea: CA 1858 Between Michigan and Kansas

2  
F  
X**Name: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

bir: 27 Dec 1833 MA  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 to: Purvis G. Morse #566  
 mar: 25 Dec 1879 Nemaha Co., KS  
 to: Charles B. Hill #583  
 dea: 10 May 1908 Atchison Co., KS  
 bur: 12 May 1908 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co, KS

**Prepared by:**

Freda M. (LEE) Hays  
 101 Rainbow Dr, #3415  
 Livingston, TX 77351-9300  
 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

Relationship to Husband: 3-greats granddaughter  
 Relationship to Wife: 3-greats granddaughter



3 F	Name: Mary Ellen Leavitt #610 bir: 3 Nov 1835 mar: 17 Mar 1853 to: Charles Burr #672 dea: 7 Jan 1875 bur: 8 Jan 1875	Roxbury, Suffolk Co., MA Leighton, Allegan Co., MI  Nemaha Co., KS Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS
4 M	Name: James M. Leavitt #611 bir: 27 Mar 1838 dea: CA 1847	Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH OH
5 M	Name: Charles E. Leavitt #612 bir: 18 Apr 1840 dea: 1 Nov 1840	Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co., OH
6 M	Name: William H. Leavitt #613 bir: 3 Sep 1842 mar: 28 May 1865 to: Harriett Doolittle #673 dea:	Ridgeville, Lorain Co., OH Hart, Ocena Co., MI
7 M	Name: Joseph F. Leavitt #636 bir: 29 Mar 1845 dea: CA Sep 1846	Ohio Ohio
8 M	Name: Albert G. Leavitt #614 bir: 13 Apr 1853 mar: 1871 to: Martha Stevens #674 mar: 17 Sep 1878 to: Mrs. Lucy A. Waymire #676 dea: AFT 1908	Allegan Co., MI Nemaha Co., KS  Nemaha Co., KS

### Individual biographical text for Stephen Adams Leavitt #607

After Stephen Adams Leavitt married in Boston, he and Sophronia remained in Massachusetts for four to five years before moving to the Cleveland, Ohio area. They stayed in the Cuyahoga County area for nearly 10 years before moving on west to Allegan County, Michigan. They buried three of their children in Cuyahoga Co., OH.

They arrived in Michigan during the late 1840s. They are in the Climax Township of Kalamazoo County where Stephen Leavitt was a witness to the second marriage of Daniel Morse in Nov 1849. It was there also that their oldest daughter Sophronia married Purvis Morse on 1 January 1850. From Climax Township, they moved up to Leighton Township in Allegan County. We found evidence that Sophronia Ober Leavitt took advantage of a law that allowed women to own land in Michigan. She bought 74.39 acres of Public Land in Leighton Twp, Certificate No. 8035, paying \$1.25 per acre or a total of \$92.98. It was recorded on 2 Mar 1857. Their daughter and her husband lived across the road east. On 18 Mar 1858, Stephen & Sophronia mortgaged this land for \$145 to Joseph Sibley for one year at 10% interest, to be paid semi-annually. It was in 1858 that their oldest son, Stephen Lewis Leavitt, who had married Miranda Brown, along with his children decided to move on west to Kansas and in 1858 they left Michigan. They were never heard of again. We wonder if the mortgage on the land in Michigan was money to give to their son to buy them some land in Kansas also.



On 3 Mar 1860, Stephen & Sophronia defaulted on the mortgage and their land was sold at to the highest bidder from the courthouse steps to pay off the \$167.78 (principle & interest).

By 1865, their son William married in the city of Hart in Oceana County, Michigan. We found evidence there that in Oct 1868 Stephen paid for and received Certificate No. 1132, Patent No. 18950 for 80 acres in Oceana Co, MI. In Nov 1868, we found where Stephen sold to Sophronia, the NW quarter, or 40 acres of this land for \$300. This 40 acre tract that she bought is nearly all one very high mountain covered in timber - quite possibly the highest mountain in Oceana Co. At the base of this mountain we found excavation for sand being done. The road back into the property was quite sandy and could not be explored to the fullest.

Sometime near 1870, Stephen Adams Leavitt and his wife, their children and their spouses, and their grandchildren, all left Michigan and headed west to Kansas. They settled in the Nemaha County area. This area in northeast Kansas is three counties west of Atchison, KS, just below the Nebraska line.

We found where they sold the SW quarter of the 80 acres of land back in Michigan in Dec 1870, to Stewart and Cumback for One Thousand Dollars after they were in Kansas. It was not until several years later in 1876, that they sold the NW quarter to Theron Gurney, the Registrar of Ocean Co., MI for \$10. We did not pursue the stamps posted to see if this was the actual payment for the land or just the figure used in the deed.

The land in Kansas is quite filled with hills and creeks. They filed for a homestead (Application 3019), and a few years later on 10 Apr 1877 was granted their final Homestead Certificate, No. 1937. The land contained 80 acres and was located as the North Half of the North East Quarter of Section 18, in Township Four, of Range Fourteen. They built a house thereon of stone. It was 18 feet long and 14 feet wide. It had a shingle roof and one door. There were four windows and it was one story. It had a lumber floor. We found that they mortgaged this land in 1879 for \$400, with a note to be paid in five years, or 1884.

We found evidence that they sold this land in 1883 for \$800., the note for \$400. still outstanding. Both Stephen and Sophronia's signatures were indicated on this Deed. The note for \$400 was released on 7 May 1884. In this release, both Stephen and Sophronia's names are mentioned but no signatures were required. We found no evidence that they bought any other property. It is presumed they either lived in rental property or possibly lived with their daughter Sophronia Jane Hill or their son Albert G. Leavitt, both living at that time at Wetmore, KS, a few miles east of Goff, KS.

During the period 1879 to 1883, Stephen Leavitt continued to fight for the overdue pension of his father-in-law, Israel Ober. The letters written to the pensions office in Washington, D.C. are in his own handwriting. They show very good intelligence of word usage. He solicited the help of his Senator, but to no avail. In the latter part of 1882, his handwriting becoming illegible, he asked a Mr. Radford to write his letter for him. In the letter Mr. Radford states, that "Stephen Leavitt and wife are both poor and Infirm, he is age 76 and quite a cripple with rheumatism and his wife is aged 72 and very nearly blind - they are both worthy people of good character". Mr. Radford's letter did not result in any satisfaction regarding the 1871 Act of Pensions for 1812 soldiers. Finally in desperation to make the pensions office understand that Israel Ober, prior to his death, was cheated out of his deserved pension, Stephen Leavitt, at age 77, boarded the train at Wetmore on 7 May 1883 and went to Washington, D.C. The records indicate that on 11 May 1883, they issued a reimbursement requisition for \$81.60 to the Secretary as requested by the Audit #2256. The next statement is dated May 15, 1883 and it states that "S. Leavitt decline to ....." and here it becomes unreadable and then it continues "under Act of 1871 as service was less than 60 days".

Instead of a pension that should have been paid to Israel Ober beginning in 1871, Stephen Leavitt and his wife as heirs were offered \$81.60 as a pittance for the service of a young man in the War of 1812.

In reading the newspapers of the 1879 to 1885 time period, we found Stephen Leavitt was not alone in his pursuit for the money owed to a soldier. The newspapers listed several cases of pension disallowances, plus for those that were getting a pension, a reduction from \$8 per



month to \$4 per month by the "Republican" Congress. Taking into consideration that you were 18-20 in 1812-1814 during the war, you would be nearing 75 when the first Act of 1871 that allowed a pension for service of over 60 days; and by the Act of 1878, you would be nearing 82. Noting the lifespan of a male during the 1870-1880 time period was far less, it can be concluded that the government had no intentions of paying out funds for military service. However, for those that happened to live long enough, the government found that by postponement of payments, they could rightfully refuse payment to heirs over age sixteen by law, after the soldier passed on, because only in rare cases were the heirs under sixteen years of age and counting on the soldier for support.

Stephen Leavitt died sometime after the 1885 Kansas State Census was made. On the census record he is listed as an 80 year old widower. His wife Sophronia died sometime after 1 May 1884 and prior to the date of the 1885 Kansas State Census which probably was in June or July of 1885. Search of all available newspapers did not reveal the death dates of Sophronia or Stephen Leavitt. The obituary of his daughter in 1908, indicates that both Stephen and his wife Sophronia are buried at the Fairview Cemetery in Lot 125 at Goff, KS.

Before we left the area between Wetmore, KS and Goff, KS, we drove by the 80 acres that Stephen and Sophronia homesteaded. The land had a creek flowing through the east side with a nice house site near the east road. From the north side, there was a road that we could drive down into the quite hilly property and there we encountered two large oil pumpers with no less than 10 huge holding tanks. The land had some timber and several hillsides that would have been farmable. Today, the creek had a small dam and had backed up to make a small pond for water for several head of cattle that were grazing on the land. There was one pumper on the property across the road east and one pumper on the property across the road northeast. These four pumpers were the only indications that there were minerals beneath the soil in all the sections around the 80 acres that our ancestors owned at one time. Had the technology of oil exploration been known then as it is today, Stephen and Sophronia would have had a life with no money worries.

#### **Individual note for Stephen Adams Leavitt #607**

Pension records of Israel Ober, father-in-law to Stephen Adams Leavitt, have papers in the file showing Leavitt's signature through 1883 \*\* Deed Records, Nemaha Co., KS, Book Y, Pg 421, Book 14, Pg 385, Book 19, Pg 582 \*\* Allegan Co. MI Deed Records \*\* Oceana Co., MI Deed Records \*\* The Seneca Weekly Courier, "Wetmore News", Friday, May 11, 1883 \*\* Fairview Cemetery Plot Book, Goff, KS \*\* LDS Film 818095 Mgs of Boston (Vol 2), Pg 47-48 \*\* 1840 Census, Cuyahoga Co., OH, Cleveland Twp. \*\* 1850 Census, Kalamazoo Co., MI, Climax Twp, Pg 117 \*\* 1860 Census (nothing found, research still in progress) \*\* 1870 Census Nemaha Co., KS, Valley Twp, Pg 022 \*\* 1880 Census, Nemaha Co., KS, Granada Twp \*\* 1885 Kansas State Census, Nemaha Co., Wetmore Twp. \*\*

#### **Individual biographical text for Sophronia Ober #608**

#### **Individual note for Sophronia Ober #608**

LDS File: Birth on Film #447784 Ord 33079 Temple Logan \*\* 1870 Census Record Nemaha County, KS \*\* 1880 Census Record Nemaha County, KS \*\* Pension records of her father Israel Ober indicate that Sophronia is the only living heir in 1883, at Wetmore, Nemaha Co., KS \*\* Obituary of daughter Sophronia Jane Hill indicates Sophronia Leavitt was buried at Fairview Cemetery, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS.



## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: John Peterman #568**  
 bir: CA 1809 PA  
 mar: 18 Aug 1836 Columbiana Co., OH  
 dea: 23 Oct 1890 Barry Co., MI  
 bur: 24 Oct 1890 Irving Cem., Barry Co., MI  
 Father: Mr. Peterman #1497  
 Mother: Eve (Unknown) Kosse #1498

**WIFE: Magdalena Groff #569**  
 bir: 16 May 1814 PA  
 mar: 18 Aug 1836 Columbiana Co., OH  
 dea: 24 Sep 1902 Hastings, Barry Co., MI  
 bur: 25 Sep 1902 Irving Cem., Barry Co., MI  
 Father: Mr. Groff #570  
 Mother: Mrs. Unknown Groff #1607

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer

1  
F Name: Angeline Peterman #584  
 bir: CA 1838 Ohio  
 dea:

2  
M Name: Emanuel Peterman #585  
 bir: 26 Nov 1839 Ohio  
 mar: 1 Feb 1869 Irving, Barry Co., MI  
 to: Alice Heney #589  
 dea: 9 Aug 1904 Barry Co., MI

3  
F Name: Ann Mary Peterman #586  
 bir: CA 1842 Ohio  
 dea:

**Prepared by:**

Freda M. (LEE) Hays  
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 Livingston, TX 77351-9300  
 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

Relationship to Husband: great-great granddaughter

Relationship to Wife: great-great granddaughter



4 F	Name: Sarah (Sally) Peterman #587 bir: 30 May 1844 mar: 10 Oct 1864 to: Henry Kohler #591 dea: 7 Jul 1913 bur: 9 Jul 1913	Columbiana Co., OH Hastings, Barry Co., MI  Hastings, Barry Co., MI Irving Cem., Barry Co., MI
5 F	Name: Alice Elizabeth Peterman #588 bir: 6 Apr 1847 mar: 18 Nov 1866 to: Charles H. Horton #685 bur: 1923 dea: 17 Nov 1923	Ohio Irving, Barry Co., MI  Hastings, Barry Co., MI
6 M X	Name: Ery Peterman #449 bir: 1850 mar: 17 Sep 1876 to: Mary Ann Morse #450 dea: 18 Apr 1894 bur: 20 Apr 1894	Morrow Co., OH Middleville, Barry Co., MI  Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr WilhiteCem.KingsherCo.OKTerr.
7 F	Name: Matilda Peterman #686 bir: 5 Jun 1852 mar: 7 Nov 1875 to: Fred Studt #687 dea: 21 Jul 1917 bur: 22 Jul 1917	Ohio Barry Co., MI  Carlton, Barry Co., MI Fuller Cem., Carlton, MI
8 M	Name: John Peterman #592 bir: CA 1858 dea: 2 Mar 1929 bur: 3 Mar 1929	Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI Bowne, Barry Co., MI Irving Cem., Barry Co., MI
9 F	Name: Amanda Peterman #593 bir: CA 1859 dea:	Michigan

#### Individual biographical text for John Peterman #568

John Peterman is listed a Miller by trade on the 1850 census. He also was a farmer in Michigan. Research is continuing on his early life in Pennsylvania and Ohio. He married in Columbiana County, OH which in on the Ohio - Pennsylvania border. There is evidence that persons named Peterman are in Jefferson County and Harrison County which are the counties next to Columbiana. John and his wife Magdalena, (Lena on marriage record and 1850 census record), move to Richland County to the Bloomfield Twp by 1840. The County line is changed before 1850, and they are listed is Morrow County, Bloomfield Twp in 1850. About 1852, John Peterman moved his family to Barry County, Michigan.

He and his son, Ery owned land together in Irving Township, Barry Co., Michigan. In the later years of his life, Ery bought out his farm and they retired.

John and his wife's health began to deteriorate, and they spent their remaining years living with their daughter, Sarah, a widow with four children all under age 13.

### Individual note for John Peterman #568

1840 Census Bloomfield Twp, Richland Co., Ohio, House 195; 1850 Census Bloomfield Twp, Morrow Co., Ohio, House 744, Page 401B; 1860 census Irving District, Barry Co., MI, House 1762; 1870 Census Irving District, Barry Co., MI, House 206 and 217; 1880 Census Irving Twp, Barry Co., MI, House 174 and 231.

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### Individual biographical text for Magdalena Groff #569

Magdalena, or Lena as she is known on her marriage record and some census records, had a sister Elizabeth Groff, and possibly a brother named Isaac Groff. This name is supposedly pronounced "Grow-f" using the same sound as you would in pronouncing Grover. They are in Columbiana Co., Ohio in the 1830s and 1840s. However, record of her parents have not been located. They are most probably from the Lancaster County, PA area.

Magdalena is mentioned in the Michigan Pioneer Collections as dying of old age at the home of her daughter, Mrs Sarah Kohler, at Hastings. It mentioned she was born in Pennsylvania, May 16, 1814, and was married at the age of 19. This does not agree with the date of marriage record, which when calculated indicates she was married at the age of 21. She was the mother of nine children, eight of whom are living.

The information about her children disagree with the 1900 census records which shows she was the mother of 6 children, four of them still living. This is obviously in error as we have a good record of her having nine children.

In the obituaries of two of her children, a child by the name of Nettie is mentioned. A census record of this Nettie gives the middle initial of "A" so it is possible that the child Amanda may be called Nettie later in life. Research continuing.

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### Individual note for Magdalena Groff #569

Marriage Record Book 3, Pg 107, Columbiana Co., OH \*\* Certified Copy of Record of Death, File No. B-116, Entry No. 1552, Hastings, Barry Co., MI. Entry lists her father's last name as "GROVER" \*\* 1900 census Irving Twp, Barry Co, MI ED 43, Sh 4. \*\* Michigan Pioneer & Historical Collections, Vol 33, 1903 \*\* Hastings Banner, Thursday, Oct 2, 1902, Page 8, Col 2 \*\*

Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Purvis G. Morse #566**

bir: Feb 1830 NY  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 dea: 4 Jun 1876 Harrison Twp, Nemaha Co., KS  
 bur: 5 Jun 1876 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS  
 Father: Daniel F. Morse #573  
 Mother: Mary Ganoung #1811

**WIFE: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

bir: 27 Dec 1833 MA  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 mar: 25 Dec 1879 Nemaha Co., KS  
 dea: 10 May 1908 Atchison Co., KS  
 bur: 12 May 1908 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS  
 Father: Stephen Adams Leavitt #607  
 Mother: Sophronia Ober #608  
 Other h:  
 1879: Charles B. Hill #583

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer

1  
M

Name: John Morse #575  
 bir: CA 1850 Kalamazoo Co., MI  
 dea: BEF 1860

2  
M

Name: Charles Morse #571  
 bir: CA 1851 Allegan Co., MI  
 mar: 28 Jun 1870 Nemaha Co., KS  
 to: Margaret A. Brown #670  
 dea:

**Prepared by:**

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 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

Relationship to Husband: great-great granddaughter  
 Relationship to Wife: great-great granddaughter



3 F X	Name: <b>Mary Ann Morse #450</b>	
	bir: 4 Dec 1852	Allegan Co., MI
	mar: CA 1870	
	to: <b>Frank Kimble #667</b>	
	mar: 17 Sep 1876	Middleville, Barry Co., MI
	to: <b>Ery Peterman #449</b>	
	mar: 28 Mar 1897	Barr, Garfield Co., OK Terr
	to: <b>Samuel H. Henthorn #669</b>	
	dea: 9 Dec 1930	Barr, Garfield Co., OK
bur: 11 Dec 1930	Del Norte Cemetery Drummond OK	
4 M	Name: <b>William Albine Morse #572</b>	
	bir: CA 1859	Barry Co., MI
	dea:	

### Individual biographical text for Purvis G. Morse #566

Purvis G. Morse was a farmer and a farm laborer. Census records indicate he did not own any land in Allegan or Barry Counties in Michigan. He and Sophronia did buy a farm in Oceana County, MI and lived on the farm southeast of the town of Hart for a time before selling and moving to the Pent Water area in Oceana County along the shore of Lake Michigan. There they worked and lived until late 1869.

Sometime in early 1870, he brought his family to Nemaha County KS. He and Sophronia filled out Application 3334 for 80 acres of land in Harrison Township just west of Goff, KS. They made settlement on this land on 15 Jul 1870. They built a house thereon of pine lumber. It was 24 feet long and 16 feet wide. It had a shingle roof, 2 doors, 6 windows, and was 1 1/2 stories high with lumber floors. On the 1870 census, his land was valued at \$550. On the 1875 census record of Nemaha County, KS State census, it is indicated his property is worth \$840. They plowed and cultivated 20 acres of land. They also built a stable for the animals.

Purvis Morse lived only 6 years after he moved to Kansas. He died 4 Jun 1876. Neither his death notice in the paper nor the homestead final papers indicated the cause of his death; however the insurance paper filled out in 1910 by his grandson, Clyde Peterman, indicated that he died of Brights disease. Purvis's brother Daniel also died of Brights disease in 1912.

We drove by this homesteaded land and it was a very gently rolling hill farm with a creek at the very east boundry. This appeared to be a very fine farm, with a very nice homesite in the southwest corner of the property.

Purvis Morse was buried in Lot 125 of the Fairview Cemetery near Goff, KS. His burial there was one of the very first burials in this cemetery.

### Individual note for Purvis G. Morse #566

Based on age of 45 yrs 3 mos at death, Birth Month could be February or March 1831. This date conflicts with the date stated as the birth date of his brother Daniel which is calculated as 4 April 1831. Census records indicate that Purvis was born in the year 1830 \*\* 1850 census Climax Twp, Kalamazoo Co., MI, House 1666 \*\* 1860 census Town of Thornapple Barry Co MI, House 870, Pg 601 \*\* 1870 census Valley Twp, Nemaha Co., KS, House 129 Pg 16/20 \*\* 1870 census Granada Twp, Nemaha Co., KS, House 138 Pg 021 and 023 \*\* 1875 Nemaha Co., KS State Census, Harrison Twp, Pg 2 \*\* Homestead File of Land Owned in Nemaha Co., KS \*\* Seneca Weekly Courier, June 9, 1876, Pg 3 \*\* Fairview Cemetery Lot Book, Goff, KS, Lot 125.



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**Individual biographical text for Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

After her husband Purvis Morse died, Sophronia Jane got the Final Homestead Certificate No. 1936 for the 80 acres they had made application for and had improved prior to his death. It was filed for record on 8 Nov 1879. She also sold the same property to Mr. Joseph Salmon on the same day for \$300.

On 25 Dec 1879, Sophronia married Charles B. Hill, who had homesteaded the land directly east of her 80 acres. According to the census records he was a few years younger than she and it was also indicated on the census records that he was crippled. He is listed as a Shoemaker on the 1870 census record. On the 1880 census, they are listed as being Farmers.

On 28 May 1883, Charles and Sophronia Jane sold their 80 acre homestead to Clement T. Hertslet for \$1400. His signature was notarized on 28th of May while he was in Crawford Co., Pennsylvania visiting or doing business in the place where his sister lived, indicating he initiated the deed. Sophronia's signature was notarized on 4 Jun 1883 in Nemaha County. The document was Filed for Record 4 Aug 1883 in Nemaha County.

It is believed they moved into Wetmore, KS for a short time before leaving Nemaha County, KS for Atchison County, KS. An item in the newspaper indicated that Sophronia Hill, of Wetmore, was visiting her brother, Wm. Leavitt during the same time as her husband was still in Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Hill and Sophronia moved to Atchison County, KS prior to 1885, along with two of his sisters and their families. It was read where his parents would spend the winters with the children in Atchison prior to their deaths in 1887 and 1888.

The Goffs Advance newspaper of 22 Mar 1895 carried the obituary of Charles B. Hill. He died on 18 Mar 1895 and was brought by train back to Nemaha County for burial at the Fairview Cemetery. Both his sisters accompanied Sophronia Jane Hill from Atchison and back to Atchison after the burial.

Sophronia Jane Leavitt Morse Hill died 10 May 1908 at age 74 of stomach and kindred trouble with which she had been afflicted for over a year. An insurance paper filled out by Clyde Peterman, a grandson, stated that his grandmother died of cancer of the stomach.

The obituary carried in The Goff Advance newspaper of Friday, May 15, 1908 told of how her sister-in-law and brother-in-law brought Sophronia Jane's body back by train to be buried in the Fairview Cemetery next to her first husband, Purvis Morse. In the same article, it told that her parents and two sisters are also buried there. Since she only had one sister, it is believed that a sister-in-law, the first wife of her brother, Albert, is who they are referring to in the article. Her funeral service was held at the M. E. Church, on Tuesday, 12 May 1908, at 2 o'clock p.m. by Rev. D. N. Rose.

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**Individual note for Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567**

LDS File: Film #447783 Ord 33078 Temple Logan \*\* Place of birth also listed as NY and Ohio \*\* Deed Book Z, Nemaha Co., KS, Pg 572 \*\* Deed Book X Nemaha Co., KS, Pg 308 \*\* Homestead File for Land Owned in Nemaha Co., KS \*\* Nemaha Co Marriage Book A, Pg 113 (1870), Book BB, Pg 164 (1878) & 221 (1879) \*\* The Courier Newspaper, Jan 2, 1880, Seneca, KS \*\* 1880 Census Harrison TWP, Nemaha Co., KS House 25, Page 100 \*\* 1900 Census Walnut Twp, Atchison Co., KS ED 20, Sh 3 \*\* Goffs Advance Newspaper, 15 May 1908.

## Family Group Sheet

**HUSBAND: Daniel F. Morse #573**

bir: CA 1808 NY  
 mar: CA 1828 NY  
 mar: 16 Nov 1849 Richland, Kalamazoo Co., MI  
 mar: 10 Dec 1862 Allegan Co., MI  
 dea: AFT 1880 Michigan

Father: William Morse #1820

Mother: an unknown person #0

Other w:

1849: Terza Shepherd #574

1862: Nancy R. Gillett #1813

**WIFE: Mary Ganoung #1811**

bir: CA 1810 New York  
 mar: CA 1828 NY  
 dea: BEF Nov 1849 Battle Creek, Calhoun Co., MI

Father: an unknown person #0

Mother: an unknown person #0

**CHILDREN** X indicates ancestor of preparer1  
M  
X

Name: Purvis G. Morse #566

bir: Feb 1830 NY  
 mar: 1 Jan 1850 Climax Twp, Allegan Co., MI  
 to: Sophronia Jane Leavitt #567  
 dea: 4 Jun 1876 Harrison Twp, Nemaha Co., KS  
 bur: 5 Jun 1876 Fairview Cem, Goff, Nemaha Co., KS

2  
M

Name: Daniel Fairchild Morse Jr. #576

bir: 4 Apr 1831 NY  
 dea: 14 Mar 1912 Bedford Twp, Calhoun Co., MI

**Prepared by:**

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 1-888-757-7701 Ext 03415

Relationship to Husband: 3-greats granddaughter

Relationship to Wife: 3-greats granddaughter

3 M	Name: William Morse #577 bir: CA 1835 dea:	NY
4 F	Name: Mary Elizabeth Morse #578 bir: CA 1837 dea:	NY
5 M	Name: John Wesley Morse #579 bir: 30 Jun 1838 mar: 25 Oct 1868 to: Frances McCready #1812 dea: 11 Oct 1915	Seneca Co., NY Barry Co., MI  Central Lake, Antrim Co., MI
6 F	Name: Cornelia Morse #580 bir: CA 1842 dea:	NY
7 F	Name: Louisa Morse #581 bir: CA 1844 mar: CA 1866 to: Mr. Allison #1816 dea:	MI
8 M	Name: Philip Morse #582 bir: CA 1846 mar: 1868 to: Alice Jane Burton #843 dea:	Battle Creek, Calhoun Co., MI Barry Co., MI

#### Individual biographical text for Daniel F. Morse #573

Daniel Morse came to Michigan about 1842, from Seneca/Ontario County area, New York near Seneca Town(ship), at the head of Seneca Lake. It is documented that his youngest son was born in 1846 in Battle Creek, Calhoun County, MI. He is listed on the Kalamazoo County, MI 1850 census record with all his children. However, it appears his wife died between 1846, the date when his last known child was born, and 1849 when it is recorded in the Kalamazoo County marriage records that he, at age 41, married Terza Shepherd on the 16th of Nov 1849.

Between 1850 and 1860, he moved up to Leighton Township in Allegan County, MI where he bought and sold 60 acres of land and then moved on to Thornapple Township in Barry County, MI. However, no evidence could be found of him ever owning land in Barry County.

The 1860 census indicates that his wife's name is Sophrona, the same name as his daughter-in-law. It is believed the census taker just made a mistake on this name as no record of a marriage with a person of this name could be found. However, Terza died before 1862, when Daniel Morse at age 53 of Thornapple Township in Barry County, married Nancy R. Gillett, age 43, of Otsego, in Allegan County on 10 Dec 1862. This Nancy is listed as his wife on both the 1870 and 1880 Barry County Census records.

No record was found of his death or burial place in Barry County. The death record of his son Daniel that is in Book 4 in Calhoun County, is quoted: No. 2082, Date of Death March 14, 1912, Daniel Morse, Male, White, Age 80 y, 11 mo, 10 d, Place of Death Bedford



Twp, Cause Brights Disease, Birthplace New York, Occupation Farmer, Parents Daniel F. Morse, Mary Ganoung, Parents Last Residence Emmett, (which is a Town and Township in Calhoun County near Battle Creek, MI). Date of Record Aug 7, 1912. The Obituary listed in The Evening Statesman, Marshall, MI, on Friday Mar 15, 1912 indicates his middle name to be "Fairchilds".

Daniel's oldest son, Purvis G. Morse also is said to have died from Bright's disease.

The death record of his son John Wesley Morse indicates he died of senility at the age of 77 years, 3 months, and 11 days on 11 Oct 1915. This information was used to calculate his birth date.

Research continuing.

#### **Individual note for Daniel F. Morse #573**

1840 Census Seneca Co NY, Lodi Town(ship) \*\* 1850 Census Kalamazoo Co MI - Climax TWP \*\* 1860 Census Barry Co MI - Thornapple Twp \*\* 1870 Census Barry Co MI - Thornapple Twp \*\* 1880 Barry Co MI - Irving Twp and 1st Ward of City of Hastings Twp \*\* Kalamazoo Co MI Marriage Records \*\* Allegan Co MI Marriage Records, Bk 1, Pg 258 \*\* Barry Co MI Marriage Records \*\* Calhoun Co MI Death Records \*\*

#### **Individual note for Mary Ganoung #1811**

Death Record # 2082, Book 4, Calhoun Co., MI of son Daniel lists mother's name. Also Death Record # 103, Antrim Co., MI for son John Wesley lists mother's name. There is a person named Charles Genoung living 10 houses away from Daniel Morse on the 1850 census record. He is the right age to be a brother to Mary.