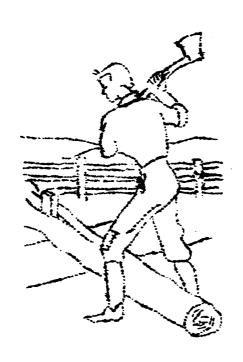
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Oyer

1814 - 1866



PIONEER IMMIGRANT

#### FOREWORD

The contents of this booklet is an outgrowth of a hobby of ours. During the course of our research we have made many acquaintances and written many letters. The inspiration we have received from all these people has in itself been a great reward to us. We are very grateful for all the help we have received.

Our ultimate goal is to someday complete a book of the descendants of Joseph Oyer I along with a few other Oyer families we have come in contact with. However, this is going to run into thousands of names and we still have much information to find, we felt that we would like to compile great grandfathers' family in time for the I963 Oyer reunion.

We ask forgiveness for any errors we may have made and do thank each of you for your splendid cooperation. We hope you will keep this record and that it will serve to keep our family ties bound together.

Sincerely,

July 1963

Verle and Margaret Oyer

### Introduction

This being the 125th year since our ancestor Joseph Oyer took out land from the United States Government, we thought it would be nice to do something special. We have endeavored to compile a geneology of his descendants.

Many changes have taken place in Illinois since the 1830's when the Oyers left Alsace Lorraine and came to America. It seems that they did a pretty good job of covering up their tracks as information of their past has been quite hard to come by. However, by gaining a bit of information here and there we have been able to piece a few things together.

In the 1830's, the area now known as Tazewell and Woodford counties, experienced a great influx of Amish and Mennonite emigrants from Germany and France. Among this group was the family of Joseph Oyer I.

In those days it was a common practice for several of the family, perhaps the father or some brothers and sisters, to precede the rest of the family. We cannot be certain, but this may have happened in the case of our family. Joseph Oyer I, whose fathers' name was probably John Oyer, was the father of fifteen children, one of whom died in infancy. The other fourteen children all came to Illinois and married and lived here at one time.

Joseph Oyer I was first married to a lady whose maiden name we believe was Augsburger. To this union was born probably nine children, counting the one who died in infancy. After this wifes' death, Joseph Oyer I married a lady whose name we believe was Magdalena Litwiller. To this union was born six children. The youngest child, Phoebe, was born in Tazewell county in 1838, thus giving us a definite date that we know the whole family had arrived in Illinois.

Many of the Illinois immigrants made Butler County, Ohio one of their stopping places on the way to Illinois. The Butler County, Ohio settlement was started by emigrants from Alsace, Lorraine. The leaders of this settlement were Augsburgers. If our great grandmother was an Augsburger, we could surmise that Butler County could have had close ties with our ancestors in those days.

According to information obtained from a granddaughter of Catherine Oyer Gerber, the Oyers sailed up the Mississippi River, then up the Ohio River to Cincinnati, and then up the Miami River to Butler County, Ohio. After a short stay here, they again traveled down the Ohio, then up the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers to Tazewell County. They became part of what was known as the Wesley City settlement. Wesley city is a little town along the East Bank of the Illinois River near East Peoria. There were many French settlers in this area.

On August 23, 1838, two men filed a claim in the government land office for two separate tracts of land. These tracts were each 160 acres and joined each other. The south one hundred sixty was filed by Joseph Oyer II, my great grandfather, and the other by a Jacob Oyer. It is interesting to note that in 1838 the names on the government record were recorded Joseph Our and Jacob Our. We have never have been able to verify what relationship existed between these two men, but we are almost positive there was some relationship. Jacob Oyer and Joseph Oyer I would have been in the same generation age wise. A great grandson of Jacob Oyer who lives in Ohio, thinks they were cousins.

Four years later Joseph Oyer II deeded the west 80 acres of his 160 to his father, stepmother, and half brothers and sisters. It seems the east 80 acres must have belonged to the children of the first marriage. Joseph may have acted as an agent for his father and preceded him to the area. This is only a speculation of ours.

On September 7,1851, Joseph Oyer II was married to a widow named Anna Smith Roth. Michael Mosiman was the officiating minister. By a previous marriage, Anna Smith Roth had two children, Fannie and Jacob. Jacob died as a young boy. Fannie Roth grew to womanhood and was married to Joseph Gerig. They raised a large family.

Joseph Oyer II's farm was near a railroad junction known as Farmdale. At one time it hosted a Post Office, store, and several houses. It was here that his three sons; Christian, Peter, and John were born. He died August 16, 1866. His estate was settled on September 15,1866 by public auction. The Crier was Thos. Crep.

Widow Oyer sold the farm in 1879 to John Eckhart. Later, the farm came into the Guth family. It is interesting to note that these Guths are descendants of the immigrant Jacob Oyer who filed land with Great Grandfather.

While we wish we knew more of this early history, we hope these few facts and surmisings will be of interest to each of you. We have found them an inspiration to us.

#### THE FAMILY OF JOSEPH OYER I

We know very little about Joseph Oyer I. We were told that his fathers' name was John. Joseph Oyer I was probably born sometime in the 1780's. His first wife was an Augsburger and his second wife was a Litwiller. We are certain he came to America and lived near Farmdale. His youngest child was born in Tazewell County. He was probably buried in the burying ground that once lay at the north end of his farm. This burying ground has long since been discontinued.

Joseph Oyer I was the father of fifteen children. One of these died in infancy. The other fourteen all grew to maturity and married They were as follows:

- 1.Magdalena Oyer b.Aug.31,1865 d.Har.28,1888.
  married Peter Farney b.Dec.1798 d.Dec.15,1874.
- 2.Catherine Oyer b.Aug.10,1809 d.Nov.15,1897.
  married John Gerber b. d.Oct.15,1856.
- 3.Anna Oyer b. d.Aug.5,1855. married Peter Ulrich b.July 10,1811 d.Feb.8,1904.
- 4. Joseph Oyer b. 1814 d.Aug.16,1866. married Anna Schmidt Roth b. June 27,1814 d. Jan. 16,1892.
- 5.John Oyer b. 1818 d.Mar.12,1872 married Anna Farney b.June 8,1829 d.July 8,1897.
- 6.Peter Oyer b.June 14,1819 d.June 14,1890 married Jacobina Ehresman b.Sept.19,1830 d.Jan.12,1900.
- 7. Christian Oyer b. Jan. 9, 1821 d. July 9, 1904 married Magdalena Grabill b. Jan. 21, 1835 d. Dec. 22, 1910.
- 8 Mary Oyer b. 1823 d.Nov.12,1893. married Christian Zehr b. 1812 d.July 12,1893.
- 9. Barbara Oyer b. Aug. 24, 1825 d. Oct. 30, 1881. married Benjamin Rediger b. Feb. 18, 1818 d. Mar. 27, 1906.
- 10.Andrew Oyer b.Feb.28,1826 d.June 27,1913 married Elisabeth Birkey b.Feb.28 1828 d.Feb.26,1899.
- 11.Elisabeth Oyer b.Feb.21,1829 d.Mar.21,1896.
  married Peter Zehr b.Dec.31,1818 d.Apr.6,1886.
- 12.David Oyer b.May 2,1830 d.July 7,1891.
  married Susanna Forney b.Jan.30,1834 d.Oct.16,1876.
- 13. Fannie Oyer b. 1834 d. May 30,1872.

  married Joseph Rediger b. Mar. 2.1826 d. Mar. 8,1904.

  (after his wifes' death he married Anna Farney Oyer, widow of John Oyer.)
- 14. Phoebe Oyer b. Aug. 1, 1838 d. May 28, 1929.
  married Christian Sommer b. 1832 d. July 3, 1921.

### Geneology of Joseph Oyer II

Joseph Oyer II, the oldest son of Joseph Oyer I, was born in France in 1814. We don't know the exact time he left his native land but we do know he was in Tazewell County, Illinois by the late 1830's. He may have been among the group Weber mentions in his 'History of the Mennonites in Illinois.' Weber mentions a group of young people most of whom were unmarried who arrived at Wesley City in 1831. These were mostly from Alsace and Lorraine. Weber also lists a Joseph Auer who arrived at Wesley City in 1831. Chances are this was greatgrandfather although as yet we have no definite proof.

At one time Joseph Oyer II lived in a brick house that stands along Route 24 west of Sunnyland. His sister Catherine kept house for him for a while. They were both single at this time. His sister Catherine married John Gerber in 1838 and moved to the Creve Coeur area. The Gerber schoolhouse stands on the original Gerber farm.

In 1850 at the time of the National Census, Joseph Oyer II lived with his brother John and family. Then in 1851 he married widow Anna Schmidt Roth. Widow Roths' family considered Anna's marriage a good one as Joseph had a house and owned land.

Joseph became the father of three sons, Christian, Peter, and John. He died rather suddenly August 16, 1866 at the age of 52. He is buried in a little cemetery that lies along Route 24. His grave has no marker.

# Anna Schmidt

Our great grandmother Anna Schmidt Roth Oyer was born in Upper Alsace in 1814. She was the youngest child of Jacob Peter Schmidt. Apparently her father died before the family emigrated.

In 1832, she with her mother, 3 brothers and 3 sisters came to America. They first settled in Lancaster County, Pa. The church at that place treated them kindly. Three years later the family moved to Butler County, Ohio.

In Butler County, Ohio she married Joseph Roth. By this marriage she had two children; a daughter Fannie and a son Jacob. Her husband died around 1850.

In 1851 she was married to Joseph Oyer of Ill. They lived on a farm near a place called Farmdale. Here she became mother of three more sons; Christian, Peter, and John. Her son Jacob Roth died at an early age.

In August 1866 her second husband died, leaving her with three small sons. Christian was 14, Peter 11, and John 8 at the time. She died Jan. 11, 1892 at the home of her son Christian. She was 77 years, 6 months, and 14 days old. Her funeral was held at the Roanoke Mennonite Church in charge of John Smith and Peter Sommers. She is buried in the Roanoke Mennonite Cemetery. According to her wishes her grave was left unmarked.

# The Family of Fannie Roth Gerig

Fannie Roth Gerig was born in Ohio, on April 14,1846. She came to Illinois as a child. After her fathers' death, her mother married Joseph Gerig of near Gridley, Illinois. She died Dec. 23,1919, near Woodburn, Indiana. Following is a list of the Gerig Children:

- 1.Katie Gerig b.Feb.3,1865 d.Oct.10,1941 married Christian Becker b.Aug.1,1869 d.Mar.10,1943.
- 2.Anna Gerig b.Mar.23,1866 d.Mar.26,1872.
- 3. Magdalena Gerig b.Oct.17,1867 d.April 30,1956. married Joel Zimmerman b.Dec.26,1862 d.Nov.6,1940.
- 4. Joseph Gerig b. June 30,1869 d. May 10,1954. married Mary Zimmerman b. Jan. 16,1871 d. June 21,1956.
- 5. Jacob B. Gerig b. Dec. 22, 1872 d. married Minnie Rediger b. May 4, 1886
- 6.Peter Gerig b.July 23,1874 married Malinda Zimmerman b.Mar.9,1879 d.Dec.22,1962.
- 7. Mary Gerig b. Nov. 11, 1876
- 8.John Gerig b.May 11,1878 d.Dec.9,1918. married Lizzie Gerig b.Oct.17,1882 d.Dec.25,1946.
- 9.Christian Gerig b.Jan.17,1880 d. married Mary Ann Litwiller b.Nov.29,1889 d.Jan.8,1948.
- 10.Lizzie Gerig b.May 20,1881 married Henry Becker b.Jan.12,1880.
- 11.Emma Gerig b.Sept.22,1883 d.Nov.1,1959.
- 12. Benjamin F. Gerig b. June 25,1885 married Gesina Jooster b. Jan. 13,1888 d. Oct. 22,1947. then married Mathilda Fannie Litwiller b. Jan. 17,1898.
- 13.Lydia Gerig b.Sept.4,1887 d.Oct.15,1887.

## Christian Oyer Family

Christian Oyer, the oldest son of Joseph Oyer and Anna Schmidt Roth was born near Farmdale, May 18, 1852. When he was fourteen, his father died. His mother soon had a closing out sale and disbanded housekeeping. Christian worked at various places until his marriage to Katherine Zehr, daughter of Rev. Jacob Zehr of Deer Creek, Illinois. He spent his life as a farmer living first in Tazewell County, then near Roanoke, and finally buying a farm north of Fisher, Illinois. After he retired he made his home with his daughter, Anna Unzicker, in Fisher. He died May 20, 1929. He is buried in the East Bend Mennonite Cemetery.

I.Christian Oyer b.May 23,1852. d.May 20,1929 at Fisher, Illinois. He was married to Katherine Zehr.b.Apr.2,1858,d.Apr.14,1921.

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1. Jacob Oyer b. May 24, 1877
   married on Mar. 8,1900 to Elizabeth Zehr bOct13,1877d. July1952
   A.Lester Oyer b.June 5,1903
       married on June 30,1929 to Esther Birkey b.Oct.29,1907.
       a.Marvin Dean Oyer b.Jan.7,1930.
          married on Dec. 25, 1947 to Opal Irene Gabriel b.
          1.Mary Catherine Oyer, b. June 6,1949. (June 21 1929.
          2. Vicki Jean Oyer b. June 16,1950.
          3. Susan Lynne Oyer b. May 12, 1952.
          4.Douglas Lee Oyer b.Sept.26,1953.
          5. Roxann Oyer b. Oct. 14, 1954.
  B.Harold Oyer b.Feb.9,1905 d.Feb.25,1961.
      married on April 27,1930 to Goldie Miller b.Feb.15,1908.
      ordained to the ministry June 28,1931 at Goodfield, Ill.
      a.Darlene Mae Oyer b.Oct.1,1931
         married on Sept.1,1952 to Herbert Brooks b.Jan.29,1932.
         1. Brian Scott Brooks b. Sept. 12, 1953.
         2. Michael Lee Brooks b. May 29,1955.
         3.David Bae Brooks b. July 27,1961.
         4. Douglas Rae Brooks b. July 27, 1961.
      b.Esther Eileen Oyer b.July 3,1933.
         married on May 3,1952 to Nelson Yoder b.Dec.11,1930.
         1. Gregory Lynn Yoder b.Oct.27,1958.
         2. Douglas Kent Yoder b. April 28, 1961.
      c. Viola Mildred Oyer b. June 4,1936.
         married on Mar. 28,1955 to Billie McClard b. May 11,1934
         1. Teri Joann McClard b. Jan. 20, 1956.
         2.Jeffrey Dale McClard b.Dec.4,1958.
      d.Donald Ray Oyer b.Nov.19,1938.
         married on Mar. 7, 1959 to Martha Rainey b. Dec. 7, 1940.
         1.Dawn Sue Oyer b.Oct.3,1959.
         2. Cathy Jo Oyer b. July 1,1961.
 C.Lucille Oyer b.Oct.13,1907.
 D. Wilford Oyer b. Aug. 2, 1909.
    married on Aug.11,1936 to Bessie Sutter b.Jan.24,1912.
     a.Lawrence Earl Oyer b.Feb.20,1943.
        married in July, 1961 to Mary Church.
 E.Willard Oyer b.Aug. 2, 1909.
    married on Dec. 22, 1938 to Viola Birkey b. Sept. 17, 1913.
    a.LaDonna Fae Oyer b.May 28,1940.
        married on June 18,1959 to Leonard Darling.
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1.Leonard Darling b.Aug.13,1961. 2.Coleen Darling b.Sept. 1962.

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b. Dwane Rae Oyer b. Nov. 7, 1946.
      c.Mavis Oyer b.May 9,1951.
   F. Viola Mildred Oyer b. Mar. 16,1.912. d. Dec. 6,1913.
   G.Ruth Oyer b.Nov.19,1913.
   H.Ethel Oyer b.Nov.15,1916
      married on Doc.25,1942 to Elvin Schlappi b.Dec.29,1922.
      1. Sharon Jean Schlappi b. July 4, 1944.
      2. Steven Roy Schlappi b. June 21, 1947.
      3. Stanley Ray Schlappi b. Jan. 15, 1949.
      4. Dennis Dale Schlappi b. Nov. 30, 1952.
2.Anna Oyer b.July 9,1878 d.Oct.3,1948 at Fisher, Ill.
   married Jan. 2,1902 to William Unzicker b. Jan 12,1880, d. June 8,
   A.Ervin Unzicker b.Mar.21,1904
                                                               (1963,
      married Sept.28,1930 to Velma Smith b.Aug.28,1911.
      a. Pearl Anne Unzicker b. Apr. 10, 1931.
         married June 30,1949 to Roger Lamb.
         1.Douglas Faye Lamb b.Feb.12,1950.
         2. Steven Lamb b. Aug. 26, 1951.
         3.Dale Lamb b.
      b.Phyllis Jean Unzicker b.Aug. 22, 1933.
         married Jan. 10, 1955 to Ervin Eugene Rhodes.
         1. Paula Jean Rhodes b. Nov. 1, 1955.
         2.Randall R.Rhodes b.June 29,1957.
         3. Ricky Rhodes b. June 3,1958.
      c.John Robert Unzicker b.Sept.9,1934
         married Sept. 7, 1954 to Wilma Reed.
         1. Beverly Ann Unzicker b. Mar. 10, 1955
         2.Donald Ervin Unzicker b.June 1,1956.
         3. Cheryl Edna Unzicker b. Jan. 18, 1958.
         4. Robert Ryan Unzicker b. May 28, 1959.
         5. Rose Ellen Unzicker b. Nov. 26, 1960.
         6 Joan Louise Unzicker b. June 13, 1962.
      d.Carol Lee Unzicker b.Oct.20, L935.
         married April 10,1955 to Harry Marvin VanCamp
         1. Edward Lee VanCamp b. Aug. 16, 1957
         2 Robert Allen VanCamp b.Nov.1,1959
      e.Patricia Mae Unzicker b.Mar.11,1937
         married June 17,1956 to Donald Eugene Zeck
         1. Thomas Lawrence Zeck b. Nov. 9, 1958
         2.Linda Belle Zeck b.May 11,1960
      f.Darrell Thomas Unzicker b.Mar.29,1940
         married Aug. 18, 1956 to Shirley Ann Martin.
         1. Daniel Thomas Unzicker b. Mar. 21, 1957
         2. David Eugene Unzicker b. Aug. 31, 1958
         3. William Lee Unzicker b. Jan. 20, 1960
         4. Teresa Marie Unzicker b. Nov. 30, 1961
      g.Dale Unzicker b.March 12,1944
                                          d.April
                                                  1948.
   B. Esther Unzicker b. Aug. 18, 1906
  C.Clara Unzicker b.Feb.6,1909
     married to Elmer Springer b. June 29,1906.
   a.Frederick Springer b.Sept.5,1932
         married May 25,1957 to Wilma Marie Kaufman.
         1. Anita Marie Springer b. June 25, 1960
         2. Timothy Frederick b. March 27,1962
   b. Theodore William Springer b. Jan. 12, 1950
  D.Alvin James Unzicker b. May 24, 1913
     married Oct.16,1939 to Emma Zehr b.Feb.18,1913
     a. Nancy Unzicker b. Aug. 4, 1940
         married to Clyde Ingold.
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1. Kenneth Eugene Ingold b. Aug. 5, 1960
         2. Kay Elaine Ingold b. Jan. 9, 1963
      b. James Alvin Unzicker b. Aug. 11.1943
      c.John Unzicker b.Dec.24,1945
      d.Mark Unzicker b.May 24,1951
   E.Elmer Manuel Unzicker b.Nov.16,1911 d.Dec.9,1911
  F.Ores Unzicker b.Aug.11,1916
      married June 28,1940 to Margaret Zehr b.Feb.6,1917
      a.Norma Jean Unzicker b.Dec.23,1943
      b.Ores Dean Unzicker b.Jan.26,1949
   G.Dorothy Unzicker b.Jan.24,1919
  H.Ellis Unzicker b.May 30,1921
      married Mar. 20,1943 to Mildred Jacoby b. Mar. 21,1921
      a.David Unzicker b.June 6,1944
      b.Janet Unzicker b.Oct.17.1949
      c.Juanita Unzicker b.Apr.27,1932
3. Joseph Oyer b. Mar. 29, 1880 d. July 10, 1963
  married Nov. 25, 1909 to Bertha Zimmerman b. Oct. 25, 1889 d. Oct. 14
  A.Walter Oyer, b.April 25,1910
                                                           (1952.
      married Mar. 31, 1931 to Elizabeth Yoder b. Feb. 20, 1909 d. Mar.
      a.Richard Dale Oyer b.June 29,1931
                                                           (5,1941)
         married to Margaret Yoder
      b.Marilyn Oyer b.Aug.10,1933
         married Sept.9,1961 to Lester C.Miller Jr.
         1.David Lester Miller b.July 18,1962
      c.Wilma Jean Oyer b.Jan.21,1937
         married Sept.14,1957 to Virgil Cray
         1.Steven Ryan Cray b.June 19,1958
         2. Julene Elizabeth Cray b. Feb. 7, 1961
     d.Ellen Rose Oyer b.Mar.5,1944 d.Nov. 1944
      Second marriage Dec. 4, 1945 to Freda Teuscher b. July 18, 1909.
     e.Linda Oyer b.Nov.21,1947
     f.Ronald Oyer b.Nov.30,1951
      g.Donald Oyer b.Nov.30,1951 d.Nov.30,1951
  B.Earl R. Oyer b.Sept.2,1911 d.Oct.28,1932
  C.Elmer Joseph Oyer b.May 20,1914
     married June 19,1938 to Ida Yoder b.Feb.20,1914
     a.Darrell Oyer b.Jan.12,1941
     b.Gary Oyer b.Aug.21,1945
     c.Norman Oger b.Jan.11,1951
  D.Leslie Oyer b.Sept.11,1917
     married Feb. 25,1941 to Ruth Heiser b.Nov.30,1917
     a.Carolyn Oyer b.April 12,1943
     b.Nancy Oyer b.May 13,1946
     c.Kathy Oyer b.Mar.18.1952
     d.Kandy Oyer b.Mar.18,1952
  E.Ruth Oyer b.Mar.16,1920
     married June 1,1946 to Raymond Birkey b. May 21,1917
     a. Sharon Joy Birkey b. Dec. 4, 1947
     b.Larry Joe Birkey b.Mar.10,1951
  F.Ruby Oyer b. Mar. 16, 1920
     married Feb.14,1946 to Harlan Birkey b.Oct.4,1918
     a.Joy Marie Birkey b.Aug.7.1948
     b.Joe Allen Birkey b.Sept.24,1952
  G.Dorothy Oyer b.Feb.8,1923
  H.Dora Oyer b.Feb.8,1923 d.June 24,1960
    married Sept. 18, 1948 to Mervin Sutter b. Mar. 14, 1924
    a.Karen Kay Sutter b.Nov.27,1949
    b.Patricia Lea Sutter b.Dec.20,1950
    c.Michael Joe Sutter b.May 10,1952
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I.Darlene Oyer b.Sept.2,1925 d.Dec.22,1925
   J.Lyle Richard Oyer b.July 14,1928 d.Aug.1,1928
   K.Merle Oyer b.April 18,1930
4. Peter Oyer b Jan. 4, 1882
   married Jan. 5, 1909 to Ada Sann b. Mar. 22, 1891
   A.Arthur Oyer b.Mar.24,1910
      married Jan. 24, 1943 to Fern Builta
   B.Margaret Oyer b.Sept.7,1912
      married July 17,1941 to Clarence J. Mosiman
      a.Margaret Diane Mosiman b.April 20,1942
      b JoAnn Mosiman b.Aug. 19,1945
   C.Dr. Russell Oyer b.Sept.27,1920
      married June 30,1944 to Lora Schultz
      a.Frederick Schultz Oyer b.Nov.14,1946
      b.Rodney Allen Oyer b.Nov.i4,1949
      c. Joel Thomas Oyer b. April 7,1953
5.Elizabeth Oyer B.Dec.11,1883 6.Feb.6,1929
  married Joseph Birkey b.Nov.11;1880 on Dec,17,1903
   A.Chester Birkey b.Nov.11,1907
      married to Elizabeth Nuchauser Nov. 1, 1951 b.Feb.28 1913
   B.Lorene Birkey b.Oct. 1909, d.Dec.4,1957
      married Nov. 21, 1934 to John Jackson b. June 6, 1903d. May 8
      a.John Jackson b.Jan.16,1936d.Jan,26,1936
                                                         (1965)
     b. Mary Jackson b. Mar. 24, 1937
     c.Jean Jackson b.Nov. 25,1938
      d. Betty Jackson b. May 21,1941
     e.Sheryl Jackson b.May 12,194 5
     -f.Ralph Jackson b.July 1,1948
  C.Roy Birkey Dec. 11,1911
      married Sept. 1,1951 to Gladys Birkey b.July 7,1920
      a.Nancy Birkey b.Sept.10,1952
  D.Melvin Birkey b.Mar. 22, 1914
      married to Mary Johns Oct. 21, 1939 b.
      a. Beth Ann Birkey b. May 20,1945
         married Mar. 23, 1963 to Joe Hochstetler
      b. John Douglas Birkey b. Nov. 23, 1948
      c.Jane Louise Birkey b.Aug. 28, 1951
  E.Neva Birkey b.Jan.7,1916
      married June 12,1941 to John Yordy b.Jan 13,1913
      a. John David Yordy b. Sept. 17, 1942
      b.Wilma Yordy b.Nov.30,1943
      c.Wallace Yordy b.Apr.30,1945
      d.Carl Yordy b.Nov.11,1946
  F.Edna Birkey b.Aug.11,1918
     married Oct. 3,1938 to Melvin Stahl b.Apr.15,1918
     a.Margaret Stahl b.May 27,1939
       married Oct. 20,1956 to Nelson Gage
           1. Kathy Gage b. Feb. 1, 1960
           2. Karen Ann Gage b. Nov. 3.1961
      b.Lyle Stahl b.Feb.19,1941 Married June 8,1963 to Betty
     c.Marlene Stahl b.Aug.29,1943
                                          (Gage b.Dec.7,1944)
       married Jan. 1961 to Alvin Schwiderson
           1. David Alvin Schwiderson Aug. 30, 1961
          2.Dale Allen Schwiderson b.Jan.4,1963
     d.Marilyn Stahl b.Apr.15,1946
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6. Samuel Oyer b. May 7, 1886
   married Nov. 5,1913 to Elmira Naffziger b. Feb. 17, 1888
   A. Vilas John Oyer b. Oct. 3, 1917
      married Oct.4,1944 to Viola Stauffer b.Nov.3,1919
      a.Jerry S. Oyer b.Jan.28,1946
      b.Anna Marie Oyer b.Oct.16,1949
      c.Helen Mae Oyer b.July 20,1952
      d.Kenneth R. Oyer b.April 23,1955
   B. Verle Christian Oyer b. Sept. 8,1920
      married Aug. 29, 1945 to Margaret Birkey b. Sept. 19, 1924
      a. Verle Curtis Oyer b. Sept. 7, 1951
      b. Vera Christine Oyer b. Sept 6,1954
      c.Vance Gordon Oyer b. Dec. 20,1958
   C.Leta Marie Oyer b.July 6, 1926
      married Sept 4, 1952 to John Eichelberger b.Apr.4,1927
      a.Douglas John Eichelberger b.July 16,1956
      b.Cynthia Marie Eichelberger b.Oct.14,1958
7.Manuel Oyer b. Mar 19, 1888
   married Oct. 2, 1913 to Elizabeth Baecher b.Nov.17,1891
   A.Elsie K. Oyer b.Sept 25, 1914
   B. Bessie Oyer b. Feb. 17, 1917
   C.Mary Oyer b. Feb. 27, 1919
8.Lena Oyer b.Jan. 29, 1890 d.Apr 3, 1950
   married Jan. 31,1907 to John Birkey b.Mar.15,1882
   A.Edward Birkey b.Aug, 3, 1908
   married to Ruth Yoder Feb 14,1932 b.July 26,1908
   Ordained to the ministry in 1942 at Manson Iowa
     a.Dale Birkey b.Sept.26,1934
        married July 24,1959 to Mary Jean Moline
        1. Barbara Lee Birkey b.Dec.12,1960
     b.Doris Birkey b.Sept.26,1934
     c.John Birkey b.Oct.31,1937
       married Aug.1,1959 to Delores Johnson
        1. John Edward Birkey b. May 30,1960
        2. Cheryl Ann Birkey b. Dec. 1, 1961
                      b.Jan.19,1944
     d.Norman Birkey
  B.Simon Birkey b.Mar. 24, 1910
   married June 25,1933 to Erma Donner b.Nov.12,1913
   a.Earl Birkey b.Sept.17,1934
      married Nov. 26, 1954 to Marlys Peterson
      1. Connie Jean Birkey b. Aug. 27, 1955
       2.Colleen Kay Birkey b.Sept.27,1959
       3. Clayton Eugene Birkey b. Jan. 6, 1961
   b.Donald Birkey b.Mar. 2, 1937
      married Feb.1,1959 to Kathleen George
      1.Jay Allen Birkey b.Sept.24,1959
      2.David Lee Birkey b.Dec.12,1960
   c.Marvin Birkey b.Aug.12,1948
   d.Jerry Lyn Birkey b.Feb.5,1952
 C.Clarence Birkey b.Mar.1,1912
    married May 12,1944 to Velma Heiser b.Sept.28,1915
    a. Maynard Roy Birkey b. Nov. 4, 1949
    b.Charlene Birkey b.Aug. 24, 1953
    c.Dennis Jay Birkey b.Aug.6,1955
    d.Mark Lee Birkey b.June 20,1958
 D.Alvina Birkey b.Sept.1913
 E/Katherine Birkey b.June 27,1915 d.Aug.9,1916
 F.Pearl Birkey b.Feb.23,1917
    married Dec. 26, 1958 to Marvin Garber
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G.Elsie Birkey b.Dec.15,1918
      married Aug. 31, 1944 to Ralph Yoder b. Nov. 27, 1911
      a.James Yoder b.Sept.25,1945
      b.Mary Ann Yoder b.Mayl1,1947
      c.Derrill Jay Yoder b.Mar. 26, 1950
      d.Daniel Ralph Yoder b.Dec.9,1952
      e.Marlene Kay Yoder b.Aug.30,1954
      f.Kevin Eugene Yoder b.Oct.12,1962
   H.Orville Dale Birkey b.Sept.19,1920 d.Sept.19,1920
   I.John C.Birkey b.Mar.26,1922
      married June 1,1945 to Carol Garber b.Nov.29,1923
      a.Roger Lee Birkey b.June 1,1947 d.June 1,1947
      b.Robert Melvin Birkey b.June 1,1947
      c.Calvin Roy Birkey b.July 20,1950
      d. Juanita Carol Birkey b. Dec. 30, 1954
      e.David Lee Birkey b.Apr. 20,1957
   J.Anna Mac Birkey b.May 21,1923
      married Aug.12,1946 to Jay Showalter b.Mar.11,1923
      a.Martha Sue Showalter b.Nov.27,1948
      b.Rebecca Lyn Showalter b.Sept.27,1950
   K.Elmer Birkey b.Feb.24,1925
      married Nov.15,1946 to Hazel Swartzendruber b.May 17,1927
      a. Shirley Mae Birkey b. Apr. 30, 1948
      b.Larry Dean Birkey b.Sept.26,1951
      c.Sandra Kay Birkey b.Dec.29,1957
   L.Pauline Birkey b.June 9,1926
      married July 14,1961 to Delbert Kingery
   M.Samuel Birkey b.Oct.11,1927
      married Mar. 18, 1949 to Rozetta Shearer b. July 31, 1927
      a Katherine Marie Birkey b. June 2,1950
      b.Samuel Dale Birkey b.Apr.20,1952
      c. Judith Elaine Birkey b. Oct. 10, 1954
      d.Dorothy Ellen Birkey b.Mar.7,1958
      c.Janice Rose Birkey b.Jan.12,1960 f.Paul David Birkey b.June 27,1961
   N.Jacob Birkey b.Dec.14,1929
      married Aug.13,1954 to Lois Snyder b.Aug.1,1934
      a.Lowell Melvin Birkey b.Oct.24,1955
      b.Marlin Keith Birkey b.Jan.26,1957
      c.Dellis Lynn Birkey b.Dec.12,1959
   O.Joseph Birkey b.Dec.31,1930
      married June 7,1951 to Virginia Bute b.Nov.24,1929
      a. Timothy Allen Birkey b. Mar. 6, 1952 d. Mar. 6, 1952
      b.Suzanne Louise Birkey b.Feb.5,1953
      c.Donna Jean Birkey b.Feb.20,1954
      d. Joellen Rose Birkey b. July 30,1956
9.Katherine Oyer b.Feb.66,1892
   married Mar.1,1910 to Levi Birkey b.Mar.7,1884 d.Sept.7,
   A.Raymond Ellsworth Birkey b.Mar.20,1911
      married Aug.18,1939 to Lela Zehr b.June 14,1916
      a.David Jay Birkey b. June 5,1940
         married Aug. 18, 1962 to Rose Marie Drudge
      b. Virginia Birkey b. July 11,1941
         married Sept.2,1961 to Roman Ray Gingerich
         1. Ricky Ray Gingerich b. July 14,1962
      c.Luanne Birkey b.Nov.14,1944
      d.Kay Birkey b.May 5,1946
      e.Rita Jo Birkey b.July 31,1948
      f.Connie Birkey b.July 28,1953
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B.June Birkey b.July 28,1915
       married Nov.19,1950 to Anthony Stormzand b.Jan.12,1891
                                                 (d.Dec. 1,1960)
       a. John Stormzand b. May 9,1952
    C.Ralph Birkey b: May 27,1917
       married May 25,1945 to Mary Schrock b.May 23,1922
       Ordained to the ministry in 1950 in Michigan
       a.Esther Birkey b.Sept.17,1946
       b.Eleanor Birkey b.Sept.3,1949 c.Carolyn Birkey b.Mar.17,1951
       d.Arlene Birkey b.Mar.8,L954
   F. Velma Birkey b. June 14,1920
       married Aug.17,1940 to Lowell Birkey b.Dec.21,1917
       a.Merle Birkey b.July 21,1941
          married Nov. 24, 1962 to Gerry Sousley
       b. Wayne Richard Birkey b. June 24,1942
          married June 24,1962 to Shirley Arlene Miller
       c.Roselyn Birkey b.May 11,1944
       d.Retha Mae Birkey b.Feb.16,1949
       e.Geveva Birkey b.May 31,1953
       f.Levon Birkey b.Feb.21,1957
    D.Elwood Birkey b.May 31,1919 d.May31,1919
   E.Ellis Birkey b.May 31,1919 d.Feb.10,1920
    G.Infant Girl Birkey b.June 13,1927 d.June 13,1927
10.Elsie Oyer b Jan. 23, 1894
11.John Oyer b.June 7,1896
                              d.Oct.4,1934
    married to Mary Springer
    A.Wilmer Oyer b.Sept.26,1922
       married Feb. 15, 1944 to Marie Birkey b. July 20, 1920
       a.Michol Oyer b.Dec.11,1946
       b Jean Oyer b.Apr.25,1949
       c.Craig Oyer b.Aug.4,1952
       d.Kevin Oyer b.Sept.14,1954
   B.Darlene Oyer
   C. Virginia Oyer
   D.Lyle Oyer
   E.Infant Boy
12.Clara Luella Oyer b.Aug.14,1898 d.Aug.14,1898
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### Peter Oyer

Peter Oyer, second son of Joseph Oyer and Anna Schmidt Roth was born near Farmdale, Tazewell County, Illinois Nov. 6, 1854. Peter never married. He did much carpenter work and some farming. Where ever we go people who knew him refer to him as 'Little Pete' This was to identify him from several other men who had the same name. Uncle Pete died at the Eureka Home for the Aged on Nov. 21, 1931. He is buried in the Roanoke Mennonite Cemetry.

II.Peter Oyer b.Nov. 6. 1854 d.Nov.21,1931

# John Oyer

John Oyer, third and youngest son of Joseph Oyer and Anna Schmidt Roth, was born near Farmdale, Tazewell County, Illinois on Feb. 27, 1859. He married Mary Smith at Meadows where they lived several years. They then moved to Woodford County where they lived until 1921 when they moved to Michigan. In 1955, he and his wife celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary. He died Aug. 19, 1957 just a half year shy of his one hundredth birthday.

III.John Oyer b.Feb.27,1858 d.Aug.19,1957 Married Jan. 15, 1880 to Mary Smith b. Dec. 31, 1861 d. May 27, 1955

1.Ed H.Oyer b.Mar.2,1881 married Nov.29,1908 to Ellen Smith b. June 15,1880 Ordained in 1920.

A.Ethel Oyer b.July 8,1908 married Sept.10,1932 to Samuel Yoder a.Phyllis Ellen Yoder married June 14,1958 to Carl J. Yoder b. Elaine Sue Yoder

B.Thelma Oyer b.Oct.12,1910 married Aug. 3, 1946 to Lloyd Noe a.Randall Lee Noe

b.Judith Ellen Noe

C.Pauline Oyer b.April 26,1914

D.Harold Oyer b.Dec.1,1920

married Dec. 24, 1942 to Esther Hartzler

a.Phillip Edward Oyer b.Michael William Oyrr

c.Cynthia Kay Oyer

2.Daniel S. Oyer b.Dec. 5, 1882 d.Sept. 15, 1954 married Frances R.Zook on Aug. 5, 1909

A.Lois Oyer

married Carl E. Yoder

Second marriage on Aug. 19, 1929 to Phoebe A. Zook b.Jan.22,1895 d.Oct.1,1961

B. John Paul Oyer b.1930. Ordained minister 1956. married Ethel Jennings

a.Phillip Daniel Oyer b.Jan.16,1956 b.Stanley Joe Oyer b.April 26,1958

c.Gary Lee Oyer b.Dec.26,1960

Daniel Oyer was ordained deacon May 28,1923 and ordained bishop on October 4,1942

3.Lydia Oyer b.Oct.9,1884

4.Emma Oyer b.Aug.6,1886 d.May 10,1951

5. Amos Oyer b. June 11,1889 d. May 30,1890

6. Noah Oyer b. April, 1891 d. Feb. 25, 1931 married Aug. 9,1915 to Siddie King b.Oct. 30,1884 d.March 7, Ordained minister September 30,1923. (1963

A. Verna Irene Oyer b. June 20,1920

B.Mary Katherine Oyer b.April 5,1923

C. John Stanley Oyer b. Jan. 5, 1925

married July 3,1949 to Carol Joyce Schertz b.Dec.31,1925

a.Rebecca Schertz Oyer b.March 20,1953 b.Kathryn Ann Oyer b.Sept.22,1954 c.Sarah Elizabeth Oyer b.July 2,1957 d.Timothy James Oyer b.Sept.12.1962

7. Arthur Oyer b. Aug. 26, 1893 d. Oct. 2, 1894

8.Elmer Jesse Oyer b.March 5,1896 married to Dora Springer b.Sept.12,1904 A.Sanford Oyer b.Aug.2,1925 married to Virginia Baker Ordained to the ministry in 1954. a.Sharon Lee Oyer b.Feb.18,1951 b.Jerold Allen Oyer b.Nov.1,1953 c.Marlin Grant Oyer b.Nov.2,1957 d.Debbie Oyer b.Nov.11,1959 B.Melvin Over b.Sept.11,1926 married to Ruth Grieser a.Scott Oyer b.Feb. 3,1956 b.Julie Kay Oyer b.Dec.16,1960 C.Franklin Oyer b.Mar.18,1929 married to Joyce Cender b.Nov.13,1929 a. Steven Lee Oyer b. Aug. 25, 1951 b.Stanley Dale Oyer b.Oct.2,1953 D.Donna Rae Oyer b.Dec.21,1932 married to Donald Cripe a.Linda Sue Cripe b.Sept.1,1958 b.Lori Cripe b.May 12,1961 E.Wesley Oyer b.July 1,1935 married to Virginia Schaer b.Feb.9,1940 F. John Wallace Oyer b. Nov. 9, 1940 G. Janet Oyer b. May 20, 1944 H.Robert L. Oyer b.Sept.20,1946

- 9.Edna Mae Oyer b.April 25,1898 married on April 3,1962, to Joel Bachman
- 10. Jesse Oyer b. May 31, 1901 d. Nov. 30, 1901
- 11. Esther Ruth Oyer b. March 18, 1903 married Aug. 23, 1942 to Cyril Eugene Smith

United States of America to Joseph Our U.S. Patent No. 1325
Filed for record Sept. 4th
A.D. 1879 at 4:30 P.M. oclock

Preemption Certificate No. 19020

The United States of America
To all to whom these presents shall come 'Greeting'

Whereas Joseph Our of Tazewell County Illinois has deposited in the General land office of the United States, a certificate of the Register, at the land office at Springfield, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Joseph Our, according to the provision of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled an act, making further provision for the sale of the Public lands for the North West Quarter of Section Thirty in Township twenty six North of Range three west of the third principal meridian in the district of the lands subject to sale at Springfield Illinois containing one hundred and fifty four and fifty five hundredths of an acre according to the official plat of the survey of the said lands returned to the Gonoral Land Office by the surveyer general which said tract has been purchased by the said Joseph Our. Now know ye that the United States of America in consideration of the premises and in conformity with the several acts of Congress in such case made and provided have given and granted and by those presents do give and grant unto the said Joseph Our and to his heirs the said tract above described to have and to hold the same together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances of whatsoever nature thereunto belonging unto the said Joseph Our and to his heirs and assigns forever.

In testimony whereof I, John Tyler, President of the United States of America have caused these letters to be made patent and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the city of Washington the twentieth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty one and of the Independence of the United States the sixty fifth.

By the President John Tyler

by B. Tyler sec'y

Recorded Vol. 38 Page 312

J. Williamson, Recorder of the General Land Office

Land Transaction Between Joseph Oyer I and Joseph Oyer I.

Joseph Our Jr. 4985 to Deed No. 5257 Joseph Our Sr.

Recorded Aug. 30, 1842

This indenture made this 24th day of Sept., in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred forty two, between Joseph Our Jr. of Tazewell County, Ill. of the first part, and Joseph Our Sen. and Motalina his wife, and Barbara Our and Andrew Our and Elizabeth Ou and David Our and Fanny Our and Jacobin Our of Tazewell County Of the second part, witnesseth that the said party of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of seventy two dollars and seventy two cents paid by the said party of the second part. The receipt of which is hereby acknowledged do by these presents grant bargain and sell unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns, a certain Tract of Land situated in Tazewell Co. Ill. The west half of Northwest Quarter of Section 30 on Township 26 North of Range 3 west of the 3rd principal Meridian containing seventy seven acres and seventy two hundredths of an acre.

Together with all and singular the hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining. To have and to hold the said premises as above described with appurtenances unto the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns forever. And the said party of the first part for themselves, and their heirs, executors and administrators does covenant to and with the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns that are well seized of the premises above conveyed as of a good and indefeasable estate in fee simple and have good right to sell and convey the same premises in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part, his heirs or assigns, agains the claims of all persons whomsoever, will forever warrant and defend.

The conditions of this Deed is such that the above Joseph Our Sr. and Motalina Our his wife, are to have quiet and peaceable possession of the above described premises during their natural lifetime and then Barbara Our, Andrew Our, David Our, Elizabeth Our, Fanny Our, and Jacobin Our, their children, are to have the above described premises forever.

In Testimony whereof the said Joseph Our Jun. has hereunto set his hand and seal the day and year first written above.

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of

Jacob Kern David Kern

Joseph Our Jun. (Seal)

State of Illinois Tazewell County

I Jacob Kern, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County do certify that Joseph Our Jun. whose name appears signed to the foregoing deed of conveyance and who is personally known to me to be the identical person whose name is subscribed to said deed as having executed the same as his voluntary act and deed for the uses and purposes therein expressed. Given under my hand and seal at Washington, Ill. this 24th day of September, 1842.

# Sale Bill

a black cow a white cow a sprackled cow a black heifer a blind mare a brown horse a 3 yr old colt a grey horse a black mare a Fan Mill a straw cotter a shovel plow a shovel plow a breaking plow a dopple tree a wagon 3 old wheels	4 had 3 had	Philipp Esterly Benjamin Rediger Andrew Salzman Joseph Schrock Joseph Schrock Philip Esterly Andrew Salzman George Sist Thomas Grass Peter Neuhouser Alex Birky Joseph Schrock Cartis Opper Nix Rothes John Hofhouer Joseph Yirk Alex Birkey Andrew Rothes John Grim John Spring	\$ 11.00 51.00 27.00 45.50 45.70 90.00 101.00 71.00 71.00 15.00 15.00 15.00
a fork a stack of hay		Robert Kopp Jacob Brucker	1.60 20.50
a stack of hay		Joseph Risser	6.25
a stack of oats a stack of oats		George List George List	11.25 27.00
a stack of wheat		Ben Rediger	70.00
a stack of wheat		Ben Rediger	34.00
a stack of wheat		George List	3.70
a peace of corn		Alex Birkey	44.40
a peace of corn		Henry Schmolberger	12.50
a peace of corn		William Ulrick	12.00
a peace of corn		John Carkly	22.75
a peace of corn		John Carkly	1.75
a lot of Apples		Joseph Yerk	2.75
a plow		Peter Newhauser	1.00
2 single tree		Joseph Yerk	.80
l neck yok		George Zehers	1.40
a breaking plow		Joe Rediger	1.00
a plow		Peter Rothes	•40 •95
a ax a crind stone		John Hess Henry Wittmer	1.50
a log chaine		Jos. Schrock	3.05
a shovel		Peter Ely	.20
a pick		Ben Rediger	.25
a hoe		Jos. Schrock	.05
a gropping hoe		Wm. Ulrich	•75
a hammer		Peter Neuhauser	•50
a cross cott saw		T.V. Pinkham	4.25
a lot old iron		Andrew Salzman	<b>.</b> 40
a sithe		Jos. Schrock	•30 •55
a sithe		Henry Crist	・
a cradle		John Carkil	.25 .10
2 corn cotters		H. Schmollberger	1.10
a lot of toler		Henry Witman	T • T O

a saw 3 iron wages a saw & hoe 2 bridle bits a wash board a sash 2 chairs 2 chairs 2 chairs a carry comb 1 rolling pin a lot sondris a set of harness a lot old iron a lot lumber a lot iron 1 shaving horse a bed sted a bed sted a lot bbls a lot of molasses a lot of molasses a lot of molasses table cupboards a bed stead a cooking stove a dipper 4 benches 5 chairs 1 bee hive	Adam Birky John Hofouer Jos. Schrock George List Carles Opper Philip Esterly Nix Rothe Jos. Yerk T. Hess T. Adam Birkey Wm. Lanikas Jos. Schrock Cartis Opper Robt. Kopp Peter Ely Jos. Schrock Henry Witman Jos. Yerk John Spring J. Sclusman Wm. Ulrick Carlis Opper J. Rosenthal J. Sclusman Jos. Yerk John Grim John Grim John Grim Peter Newhauser Alex Birkey	\$ 1.050500505000505050 1.0505000505050 1.0505050 1.0505050 1.0505050 1.0505050 1.05050
	Total	1035.80

We do hereby certify that the above sale bill in the Estate of Joseph Oyer deceased, is true and correct.

Given under our hand this 15th day of Sept. 1866.

John Gable ,clerk

Thos. Crep, (Grier)