

James F. Gorthy

James F. Gorthy of Courtenay twp, Stutsman Co, was born in New York in 1861, a son of David and Mary Gorthy, who came to Fargo in 1882. Then after $1\frac{1}{2}$ years took up a homestead west of Coopers town. David Gorthy went to the state of Washington in 1908.

James F. lived 15 years in Quebec Canada and came to Fargo with his parents. In 1883 he homesteaded west of Coopers town, and lived on his farm 16 years, then moved to Franklin Co, Naus. for 3 years, then to Himbleton N.D., then bought land near Spiritwood lake.

Mr. James F. Gorthy married Miss Frances O Shear, who was born in New York, at Coopers town N.D.

Their children: Freddie, Clinton, Clarence J. Mary O., Ethel D., Robert H. and Frances Janet.

Bibl. Condensed from, Laurensberry Vol III, 1917, p 619,

From Nelson Co. History -

Royal Osmer Gray, was the son of Mr & Mrs Thomas M. Gray. He was born at Lu Verne Iowa Nov 25, 1895. Corporal Gray entered the service in Feb 1918 in Mpl's. He was sent to Camp Greene for training & remained there until May 1918 when he was transferred to Camp Mills N.Y. From Camp Mills he left for overseas with Co H. 47th Inf. 4th Div. In July he went into action & fought in several battles, the names and dates of which we have been unable to obtain. He met his death in the Argonne forests by shell fire, while leading his squad into action. Corp. Gray was buried by the Divisional Chaplain in the Amer. Cemetery in grave number 60 near Siptsarges Woods.

Carl Oscar Greenland

By O.D. Purinton, Clerk and Historian of the Old Settlers Association.

Carl Oscar Greenland, Son of Frithjof and Nathalia Greenland, was born at Lanesboro Minn, July 18, 1873.

He came to Griggs County in May 1881 with his parents

He was married April 19, 1900 to Miss Bertha Lier.

He is a banker in Binford N^D. He has six children.

Biography of Fritheof Greenland
--Viola Greenland

Oliva and Christian Greenland were the parents of Fritheof Greenland. Fritheof Greenland was born near Toten, Norway, May 14, 1850.

Mr. Greenland married Nathalia Avenrud in 1874. After their marriage they left for America. It took them six weeks to cross the Atlantic. Their experience in crossing the ocean was about the same as that which most people had at that time.

They came to this country because of love of adventure. They also thought they could better their financial condition.

In May, 1881, they emigrated to North Dakota. They came to North Dakota instead of another state because of the great land boom that was taking place in North Dakota at that time. Land in North Dakota was fertile and crops were raised that yielded a large amount of grain.

Wheat was the grain that was raised most, and barley and oats came next in rank. Grain was sold for about thirty-six (36¢) cents a bushel.

If a person plowed a few furrows or left some lumber on a piece of land, it was an indication that he intended to claim it. Mr. Greenland decided that he wanted to claim Section 12 of Ball Hill Township, Griggs County, North Dakota. He went to Valley City for lumber and when he got back, he found that someone else had plowed a couple of furrows on it. Mr. Greenland then claimed Section 24, Ball Hill Township, Griggs County, North Dakota.

Greenland's first house was made of sod and had a shingled roof. Only one room had a floor in it and the other had a sod floor.

Some of the first neighbors were Mathias Johnson, Mathias Fjelstad, Christian Lee, Han Stai, and Edward Stai.

Their first machinery consisted of a reaper and a walking plow. The teams were sometimes only oxen, or only an ox and a horse, and at other times two oxen and a horse.

Logs which had been obtained from the Sheyenne river were used for fuel.

Once when they were coming back from Valley City, the Ball Hill Creek was so swollen that they had to wait a couple of days for the water to go down before they could go across.

Fritheof Greenland died at Binford June 1, 1922 and was buried at the Cooperstown Cemetery, Cooperstown, North Dakota.

The living children of Mr. Greenland are Oscar of Binford, Magnus of Aneta, Ingvald of Cooperstown, and Norah who is on the western coast at the present time.

The children of Oscar Greenland are: Mrs. Clifford Eliers, Florence, Blanche, Thelma, Bernice, Beatrice, Dorothy and Helen Marie.

The children of Magnus Greenland are: Phyllis, Elaine, and Maxwell.

The children of Ingvald Greenland are: Truman, Forrest, and Viola.

This completes the life history of Fritheof Greenland and gives the names of his descendants.

OSCAR GREENLAND

From Compendium of N.D.

Oscar Greenland, cashier of the First National Bank of Binford, Griggs county, was born on the 18th of July, 1873, in Fillmore county Minnesota, and is the oldest in a family of six children, four of whom are still living. His parents, Frithiof and Nathalia (Evenrud) Greenland, were born, reared and married in Norway, whence they came to the United States in 1871 and located in Minnesota, making their home there until their removal to Griggs county, North Dakota, in 1881. Here the father took up a homestead and a tree claim, upon which he continued to reside until 1902, when he left the farm to the operation of his youngest son and removed to Cooperstown, where he has since engaged in the machine business. He has taken a very prominent and influential part in public affairs and has been called upon to fill positions of honor and trust. He was elected county assessor, in which capacity he served two years, and was then elected sheriff of Griggs county. So acceptably did he fill that position that he was reelected, serving four years.

Oscar Greenland was about eight years of age when he accompanied his parents on their removal to North Dakota. He obtained his education in the district schools and in 1892 began his business career as a clerk in the hardware store of Peter E. Nelson at Cooperstown, where he remained for four years. He was next with the firm of Berg Brothers & Company until 1899, when he formed a partnership with his employers and started a hardware and general mercantile business at Binford, which town had just been established, theirs being the second store to open there. Mr. Greenland is still interested in that business, which is now conducted under the style of Greenland-Pritz & Company, Inc. In 1906 he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Binford and has since been a member of its board of directors. They immediately erected a good substantial building, well equipped for its purpose, and from the first have received a liberal share of the public patronage. The bank has a capital of twenty-five thousand dollars and a surplus of ten thousand dollars, while its deposits at the present time amount to one hundred and seventy thousand dollars. In 1908 Mr. Greenland became cashier of the bank, in which capacity he is still serving, the other officers being Lewis Berg, president; Joseph Buchheit, vice president; and N. E. Greenland, assistant cashier.

On the 19th of April, 1900, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Greenland and Miss Bertha Lier, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Mathias C. Lier, who was born in Norway and brought his family to North Dakota in 1899. To this union have been born the following children; Inez Caroline, Florence Mercedes, Blanche Ovidia, Thelma, Beatrice Marjory and Bernic Muriel.

Mr. Greenland is president of the local lodge of Sons of Norway and is a democrat in politics. He is one of the leading representatives of his party in his district and has twice been a candidate for the state legislature but was defeated as the republican party is in the majority there. He takes a commendable interest in public affairs and is a liberal supporter of all enterprises calculated to benefit his town, county or state.

CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRIGGS

From Compendium of N.D.

Captain Alexander Griggs, the "Father of Grand Forks," is one of the most widely known and highly esteemed men who cast their lot with North Dakota. He is now a resident of the state of Washington, but until recent years was engaged in navigation throughout the Red river district, and was identified with the financial growth of the city of Grand Forks and vicinity.

Our subject was born at Marietta, Ohio, in October, 1838, and was a son of William and Esther (McGibbon) Griggs. He removed with his parents to St. Paul, Minnesota, when a boy, and later his family removed to Grand Forks, where his parents died. Our subject was reared and educated in St. Paul, and at an early age began running on the boats of the Mississippi river, and at the age of twenty years was given command of a boat. He continued there until 1870, and then, in company with others, went up the Red river to Fargo with a view of establishing a line of boats, and during that year the Hill, Griggs & Company Navigation Company was formed. In 1871 Mr. Griggs went to where Grand Forks is now located and he entered a claim to the land on which the old town is located, and named the place Grand Forks on account of the junction of the two rivers. He continued to operate a line of boats between Grand Forks and Winnipeg for many years and continued in command until 1890. He was always active in the upbuilding of the town of Grand Forks and was one of the founders of the Second National Bank, of which institution he was president for many years. He also acted in the capacity of president of the First National Bank of East Grand Forks for some years, and established the gas works in company with William Budge, and was also a large owner in the Grand Forks Roller Mill. He served as railroad commissioner for some years, and was the third postmaster of Grand Forks and was mayor of the city. He assisted in building the two bridges across the river, and by his hearty support and influence endeared himself to the people as a man of active public spirit. In December, 1892, Mr. Griggs left Grand Forks on account of failing health, and is now engaged in boating on the Upper Columbia river.

Our subject was married December 27, 1865, in Minnesota, to Miss Ettie I. Strong, a native of Brooklyn. Eight children, seven of whom are now living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Griggs, named as follows; Lois, now Mrs. W.H. Pringle; Ansel; Jennie; Esther; Bruce; James and Clifford. The family all reside in the state of Washington at present. Mr. Griggs is an ardent Democrat and is a man who keeps pace with the times.

CAPTAIN ALEXANDER BER GRIGGS

The county of Griggs received its name from Capt. Alexander Griggs during a session of the territorial legislature in 1881, when few settlers were located in this community.

Because Mr. Griggs was a well known character in the territory his name was chosen for the new county as then designated.

Griggs County was at first called Ole Bull County. Griggs Co. was organized June 16, 1882. The county seat is Cooperstown.

Bibliography: Spokerfield's History of Wells County

Griggs County was at that time (1882) composed of its present territory together with the addition of two western tiers of townships in Steele County.

It was on account of the County seat fight which later developed between Cooperstown and Hope that this part of Griggs County together with a tier of two townships along the west end of Traill Co. were taken to form the county of Steele, thus settling the county seat fight in this county and giving both contending towns the advantages of being county seats.

Bibliography: Nov. 26, 1936 issue of the
Griggs County Sentinel -Courier
Cooperstown, N.D.

CAPTAIN ALEXANDER GRIGGS

Griggs county was named for Capt. Alexander Griggs, pioneer of Grand Forks and member of the state constitutional convention.

Capt. Alexander Griggs, called the father of Grand Forks was engaged in the navigation thro out the Red River district and was identified with the city of Grand Forks and vicinity.

He was born in Marietta, Ohio in 1838. When a boy he moved with his parents to St. Paul and later his family removed to Grand Forks. He was educated in St. Paul and at an early age began running on the boats of the Mississippi river and at the age of twenty three years was given the command of a boat. He continued there until 1870 and then in company with others went up the Red river to Fargo with a view of establishing a line of boats and during that year the Hill, Griggs, and Co. Navigation Co. was formed. In 1871 Mr. Griggs went to where Grand Forks is now located and he entered a claim on the land on which the old town is located and named the place Grand Forks on account of the junction of the two rivers. He continued to operate a line of boats between G.F. and Winnipeg for many years and continued in command until 1890. He was President of the First Natl Bank at Grand Forks for some years and established the gas works in company with Wm Budge and was also a owner in the Grand Forks Roller Mill. He served as R. R. commissioner for some years and was the third postmaster of Grand Forks and was mayor of that city. He assisted in building the two bridges across the river. In December 1892 Mr. Griggs left Grand Forks and was engaged in boating on the upper Columbia river.

He was married Dec. 27, 1865 in Minn. to Ettie Strong, a native of Brooklyn. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Griggs.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: From compendium of History and Bibliography of N.D. -Page 159

Captain Alexander Griggs -

Captain Alexander Griggs, the "Father of Grand Forks," now living in the state of Washington, was, until recent years, engaged in navigation on the Red River district, and was identified with the financial growth of the city of Grand Forks and vicinity -

Mr. Griggs was born at Marietta, Ohio, in October, 1838, the son of William and Esther (McGibbon) Griggs. He removed with his parents to St Paul Minn. when a boy, and later the family moved to Grand Forks, where his parents died. He was reared and educated at St Paul, and at an early age began running on the boats on the Mississippi River, and was given command of a boat at 20 years of age. He continued there until 1870, then, with others, went up the Red River to Fargo, with a view of establishing a line of boats, and during that year the Hill, Griggs & Co. Navigation Company was formed. In 1871 Mr Griggs went to where Grand Forks is now located, and entered a claim to the land on which the old town is located and named the place Grand Forks on account of the junction of the two rivers. He continued to operate a line of boats between Grand Forks and Winnipeg for many years and continued in command until 1890. He was one of the founders of the

Alex Griggs

Second National Bank and was its president for many years. He was also president of 1st Nat'l Bank of East Grand Forks, and established the gas works in company with W^m Budge and was a large owner in the Grand Forks Roller Mill. He was railroad commissioner for some years was the 3rd post master of Grand Forks, and also a mayor of the city. He assisted in building the two bridges across the river. In Dec, 1892, Mr. Griggs left Grand Forks on account of failing health, and is now engaged in boating on the Upper Columbia River.

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Bibliog: From Compend of Hist. & Biog pp 159-160 -
Condensed -

1920

Rev. Ole C. Gronvold

Ole C. Gronvold, of 149-67 - Eddy County was born in Norway about 50 miles west of Christiania, on May 19, 1855. His father, Ole O. Gronvold, a son of Ole Stoveren, was born in Norway and never left Norway. His mother, born Christine Heem, lived always in Norway. Of her 6 children Ole C. was the youngest. He has 2 half-brothers + 2 half-sisters.

At 17, Ole C. clerked for a year in a store in the lumber woods of Norway. He landed at New York in 1873, then to Iowa, where he learned the carpenter's trade at Calmar, and worked at it 3 years. He entered Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa in the fall of 1876, and studied there 5 years. He went to Springfield, Ill. in 1881, for 1 yr. at Concordia Seminary - then 2 years at Luth. Seminary in Madison Wisc. - where he was graduated as a Lutheran minister. He went to Cooperstown in 1884 and in 1886 went to Eddy Co and took homestead N.E. of New Rockford. He had a shanty, a barn, and began farming with oxen.

Ole C. was married at Madison Wisc. to Miss Mary Thompson, born + raised in Norway, + came to U.S. at 6 yrs. She was daughter of Thorgrim Fetcher, a farmer. She died in Jan. 1895. Their children: Ruth, Cara, Olga, Anna (Mrs. Thoma Hagen) Elmer, and Maria.

Bibliog. Condensed from Compend of Hist + Bioq - 1900 - p 750

Gronvold, Ole Christian.

Ord. 1884 - Norske Synode - 1884-'87 -
Born in Aadalen, Ringerike, Christiania,
May 19, 1855, son of Ole Olsen and Kristi (born
Gildbrandsen), emigrated 1873, '73-'76,
Calmar Iowa, Attended Luther College '76-'81,
Concordia Sem, Springfield, '81-'82, Luth Sem, '82-'84
(C.T.) Pastor, Watton (3 congregations) N.D. '84-'87 -

Norw, Luth, Pastors in America, 1914 - p 203
Translated by M.P.

Edwin H. Groven

Edwin H. Groven, a pioneer merchant of Hannaford, was born on a farm in Norway on Feb 7, 1858, the son of Halvor and Isabelle (Bjorn) Groven, natives of Norway.

Edwin H., the oldest of 6 children, ~~left~~^{lived} in Norway until 1871. Then he came to Stoughton, Dane Co. Wis. where he worked on a farm near Kaskaskia Lake about 18 months. Then he went to Dakota Co, Minn. for a year, then to Minneapolis — then ^{worked for} F. E. Thomas in St Paul, until he went in 1880, to Griggs County. He shipped horses there for sale, and did this for several years. He bought the general stock of R. C. Brophy, in Hannaford in the late 80's, and has continued the same.

Mr. Groven was married, in Dakota Co, Minn. in 1887, to Alice Starley, a native of Norway, who came to America as a child. They have two children: Isabelle and Oscar.

Bibl. Condensed from Compend. of Hist & Bioq, 1900,
page, 1235-6.

EDWIN H. GROVEN, a pioneer merchant of Hannaford, is one of the leading business men of Griggs county. He has built up an extensive patronage and is regarded as a man of practical nature and business capacity. His general merchandise store is fully stocked and he occupies a modern structure of good design and finish.

Our subject was born on a farm in Norway, February 7, 1858. His parents, Halvor and Isabelle (Bjorn) Groven, were natives of Norway and his father was a farmer by occupation and was a man of more than ordinary prominence in his native land.

Our subject was the eldest in a family of six children and resided in his native land until 1871, when he came to America and located at Stoughton, Dane county, Wisconsin, where he worked on a farm near Koshkonong Lake about eighteen months. He went from there to Dakota county, Minnesota, where he worked on a farm one year and then went to Minneapolis, where he attended school one term, and after completing the course went to St. Paul, and was engaged by C. E. Thomas, dealer in general merchandise, as collector. He acted in that capacity about eighteen months and in 1880 went to Griggs County, North Dakota. He shipped horses there for sale and continued in the horse business for a number of years. He purchased the general stock of R. C. Brophy, in Hannaford, in the latter part of the '80s, since which time he has conducted the business with eminent success.

Our subject was married, in Dakota county, Minnesota, in 1887, to Alice Starley, a native of Norway, who came to America when a child. Mr. and Mrs. Groven are the parents of two children, Isabelle, and Oscar. Mr. Groven is regarded as one of the most enterprising and successful men of Griggs county, and is widely known as an old settler of that region. He is a Republican in political faith and stands staunchly for the principles of his party, but does not take an active part in public affairs. His strict attention to his business and judicious management have made for him a fortune and a deservedly high standing among the people.

Biography of John Gunderson

--Miranda Gunderson -- *grand daughter*

John Gunderson was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Gunderson. He was born February 11, 1866 in ~~Ellamere~~ *Ellamere* County, Wisconsin.

His parents were poor and therefore left Wisconsin to settle a few years in Minnesota. Making no progress, they came to North Dakota in the year 1881 with horses drawing them in a covered wagon.

Mr. Gunderson bought land in Romness Township and settled down in a frame house. His trips to town were made by driving a team of horses pulling some kind of a wagon. His hardships were many, connected with blizzards and prairie fires.

Some of his nearest neighbors were: A. Rusten; Mr. Lynner; Andrew Idsvoog; G. Gudmundson; Pete Idsvoog; Mr. Michaelson; and R. H. Beldan.

His farm machinery was but little; a walking plow, shoe drill, and a wooden harrow. He had a team or so of oxen and also bronchos.

The education he received was very little and he went to church in the schoolhouse with Mr. Lundebj as minister, a very tall, large man with long whiskers.

His fuel was chiefly wood, which was obtained near the river in the forest, gotten by a method of horses and a wagon.

Mr. John Gunderson was married to Thea Sletten, January 17, 1893 at the home of his wife.

He died December 23, 1929 at his home in Cooperstown, North Dakota and was buried in the Ottawa Cemetery.

Five children were born to them, four of which are living. Five of his descendants are living and they are as follows:

Thorval Gunderson, Cooperstown, North Dakota
Pete Gunderson, Aneta, North Dakota
Mrs. Sophia Morse, Jessie, North Dakota
Mrs. Iver Anderson, Driscoll, North Dakota
Ed Gunderson, Saskatchewan, Canada

Biography of Peter Gunderson

--Myrtle Herberg - granddaughter

Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Everson were the names of the parents of the pioneer. The name of the pioneer is Peter Gunderson. The pioneer was born October 15, 1860, Vernon County, Wisconsin, in a small log shanty. Lanvas was where they got their groceries and mail. There was just one store and a post office in Lanvas. Many times they had to go to LaCrosse, thirty miles, to get their provisions.

The pioneer left Minnesota on account of hard times, no crops, the bugs ate up what little crop they did get, and he went to North Dakota because he thought he could make a better living and because he could get free land. He had heard that people that had gone to North Dakota were making a much better living. He worked in Minnesota for four years to earn enough money to get some and to get to North Dakota.

The trip from Minnesota to North Dakota was long and tiresome. Peter Gunderson and his brother, Ed, bought a team and covered wagon from their father. They took feed and food for the horses along. When they reached Fergus Falls in Minnesota they had no more money so they traded their team for a team of oxen. It was dark when they started from Fargo and soon they had to park for the night. They unhooked their oxen and tied them to the wagon along side of the road. Early next morning before his brother Ed was awake the farmer living close by the road came over to them and was very angry telling them they were camping on his land and said that their oxen were eating his grain, but they were not. They were parked in the road. Their oxen were fat and nice and one hot day when they were about to cross a bridge the oxen waked into the river in place of crossing the bridge. So they had to unhitch and put a log chain on to pull the wagon and oxen out of the river again. South of Fergus Falls they camped for the night. There were about forty other covered wagons besides theirs in the camp. They camped all day one Sunday close to a farmers buildings. They washed their clothes and after they got through they were very hungry so his brother, Ed, went over to the farmer and bought some eggs. They boiled the eggs and fixed up a good dinner. When they sat down to eat they opened the eggs and found they were full of chicks. When they came to Moorhead they crossed the river to Fargo on a raft. Then they went from Fargo to Mayville. They drove from Mayville to the Sheyenne river. Then he went back to Minnesota, worked a few months, and then came back to North Dakota where he is still living.

The pioneer came to North Dakota in May, 1881, The pioneer took up a homestead near the Sheyenne River. He built a house there and lived there for many years. The land was near the Sheyenne River about fourteen miles north of Cooperstown in Griggs County, Lenora Township, and in Range fifty-eight.

The first home was a log shanty. He and his brother, Ed, built it. They went to the woods and chopped it themselves. They used straw and brush for the roof. There were not any windows in the log cabin. They did not even have a stove. It was very cold in the winter. They went forty-five miles to Mayville for provisions. It took three days of hard traveling. Sometimes he walked to Mayville and carried the provisions.

The pioneer's near neighbors were Ole Moen, McCrae, Ellert Olson, Ole Groff, Hegna, and Goltrait.

2

Biography of Peter Gunderson

--Myrtle Herberg

-M. David Nyaa
-d. 1950-

The pioneer did not have more than a walking plow, smoothing drag, and a broadcast seeder. He did not have horses. He had to use oxen which were very slow.

The first crop the pioneer raised yielded twenty-five bushels to the acre. He had one hundred fifty bushels of number one wheat the first year. Rier Anderson threshed for him the first year with a horse-power thresher. The pioneer cooked for the threshers himself. They had home made tables of boards. They had to sit on boxes or anything they could find. He even baked his own bread.

For fuel they used wood which was gotten by the Sheyenne River. They had to chop it as they used it. The wood was sometimes raw and hard to burn.

There was much snow and many blizzards the first three winters. Sometimes they had to shovel their way to the barn. There was once a prairie fire in January. It was very cold and they did not have much clothing, but they all had to go and help put out the fire.

The pioneer married Anna Koloen in eighteen eighty three. (1883) They were married at home in a log cabin. The pioneer had eleven children, five girls and six boys. Their names and addresses are: Mrs. Theodore Herberg, Aneta, N. Dak., Mrs. Ludvig Stokkeland, Aneta, N. Dak., Mr. Alfred Gunderson, Lone Rock, Alberta, Canada, Mr. Gilbert Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak., Mr. Palmer Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak. Mr. Adolph Gunderson, Secretan, Sask., Canada, Mr. Edwin Gunderson, Secretan, Sask., Canada, Mrs. Henry Weberg, Waldof, Ontario, Canada, Miss Minnie Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak., Miss Esther Gunderson, Wheatland, N. Dak., Mr. Henry Gunderson, deceased.

The present home of the pioneer is in Lenora township, near the Sheyenne River in Griggs County, North Dakota. His two sons are farming the land.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

Peter Gunderson

by Mayville Herberg

Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Everson were the names of the parents of the pioneer. The name of the pioneer is Peter Gunderson. The pioneer was born October 15, 1860, Vernon County, Wisconsin, in a small log shanty. Lanvas was where they got their groceries and mail. There was just one store and a post office in Lanvas. Many times they had to go to LaCrosse, thirty miles, to get their provisions. The pioneer left Minnesota on account of hard times, no crops, the bugs ate up what little crop they did get, and he went to North Dakota because he thought he could make a better living and because he could get free land. He had heard that people that had gone to North Dakota were making a much better living. He worked in Minnesota for four years to earn enough money to get some and to get to North Dakota.

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Peter Gunderson (continued)

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--Myrtle Herberg

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY
Peter Gunderson

Mr. and Mrs. Gunder Everson were the names of the parents of the pioneer. The name of the pioneer is Peter Gunderson. The pioneer was born October 15, 1860, Vernon County, Wisconsin, in a small log shanty. Lanvas was where they got their groceries and mail. There was just one store and a post office in Lanvas. Many times they had to go to LaCrosse, thirty miles, to get their provisions.

The pioneer left Minnesota on account of hard times, no crops, the bugs ate up what little crop they did get, and he went to North Dakota because he thought he could make a better living and because he could get free land. He had heard that people that had gone to North Dakota were making a much better living. He worked in Minnesota for four years to earn enough money to get some and to get to North Dakota.

The trip from Minnesota to North Dakota was long and tiresome. Peter Gunderson and his brother, Ed, bought a team and covered wagon from their father. They took feed and food for the horses along. When they reached Fergus Falls in Minnesota they had no more money so they traded their team for a team of oxen. It was dark when they started from Fargo and soon they had to park for the night. They unhooked their oxen and tied them to the wagon along side of the road. Early next morning before his brother Ed was awake the farmer living close by the road came over to them and was very angry telling them they were camping on his land and said that their oxen were eating his grain, but they were not. They were parked in the road. Their oxen were fat and nice and one hot day when they were about to cross a bridge the oxen walked into the river in place of crossing the bridge. So they had to unhitch and put a log chain on to pull the wagon and oxen out of the river again. South of Fergus Falls they camped for the night. There were about forty other covered wagons besides theirs in the camp. They camped all day one Sunday close to a farmers buildings. They washed their clothes and after they got through they were very hungry so his brother, Ed, went over to the farmer and bought some eggs. They boiled the eggs and fixed up a good dinner. When they sat down to eat they opened the eggs and found they were full of chicks. When they came to Moorhead they crossed the river to Fargo on a raft. Then they went from Fargo to Mayville. They drove from Mayville to the Sheyenne River. Then he went back to Minnesota, worked a few months, and then came back to North Dakota where he is still living.

The pioneer came to North Dakota in May, 1881. The pioneer took up a homestead near the Sheyenne River. He built a house there and lived there for many years. The land was near the Sheyenne River about fourteen miles north of Cooperstown in Griggs County, Lenora Township, and in Range 58.

The first home was a log shanty. He and his brother, Ed, built it. They went to the woods and chopped it themselves. They used straw and brush for the roof. There were not any windows in the log cabin. They did not even have a stove. It was very cold in the winter. They went forty-five miles to Mayville for provisions. It took three days of hard traveling. Sometimes he walked to Mayville and carried the provisions.

The pioneer's near neighbors were Ole Moen, McCrae, Ellert Olson, Ole Groff, Hegna, and Goltrait.

The pioneer did not have more than a walking plow, smoothing

Peter Gunderson (continued)

drag, and a broadcast seeder. He did not have horses. He had to use oxen which were very slow.

The first crop the pioneer raised yielded twenty-five bushels to the acre. He had one hundred fifty bushels of number one wheat the first year. Rier Anderson threshed for him the first year with a horse-power thresher. The pioneer cooked for the threshers himself. They had home made tables of boards. They had to sit on boxes or anything they could find. He even baked his own bread.

For fuel they used wood which was gotten by the Sheyenne River. They had to chop it as they used it. The wood was sometimes raw and hard to burn.

There was much snow and many blizzards the first three winters. Sometimes they had to shovel their way to the barn. There was once a prairie fire in January. It was very cold and they did not have much clothing, but they all had to go and help put out the fire.

The pioneer married Anna Koloen in eighteen eighty three. They were married at home in a log cabin. The pioneer had eleven children, five girls and six boys. Their names and addresses are: Mrs. Theodore Herberg, Aneta, N. Dak., Mrs. Ludvig Stokkeland, Aneta, N. Dak., Mr. Alfred Gunderson, Lone Rock, Alberta, Canada, Mr. Gilbert Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak., Mr. Palmer Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak., Mr. Adolph Gunderson, Secretan, Sask., Canada, Mr. Edwin Gunderson, Secretan, Sask., Canada, Mrs. Henry Weberg, Waldof, Ontario, Canada, Miss Minnie Gunderson, Aneta, N. Dak., Miss Esther Gunderson, Wheatland, N. Dak., Mr. Henry Gunderson, deceased.

The present home of the pioneer is in Lenora township. near the Sheyenne river in Griggs County, North Dakota. His two sons are farming the land.

--Myrtle Herberg

Biography of Steen Cornelius Gunderson
--Myrtle Porterville

Steen Cornelius Gunderson was born in Mt. Morris, Wisconsin on January 3, 1858, the seventh of a family of nine children born to Peter and Taren Gunderson.

He attended the grade school in Mt. Morris, and, after a Normal course, he taught in the vicinity for a short while. At the age of 23 Mr. Gunderson went to North Dakota, and later took a homestead near Cooperstown, where he also established a store. While here he met and married Miss Lena Evenstad in 1894. On June 24, 1895, a daughter, Helma, was born. She lived only 14 months. A second daughter, Lena, was born January 13, 1897. The mother passed away five months later.

Except for a period of 2 years spent in Puyallup, Washington, Mr. Gunderson remained in North Dakota until 1909, at which time he returned to Waushara County, Wisconsin. On December 30, 1909, he married a childhood schoolmate, Mrs. Emmaline Hanson, of Mt. Morris. They, with their children, Gerald, Grace, and Lena, established their home near Wautoma. In 1914 a new home was built where Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson have since resided and been actively associated with the Lutheran Church and the life of the community.

Mr. Gunderson had enjoyed comparatively good health until May, 1933, at which time he suffered a light paralytic stroke. He soon recovered, but since that time his health has gradually failed. On Tuesday, March 17, 1936, he suffered a second stroke, from which he failed to regain consciousness, and passed away peacefully at noon, Thursday, March 19th at the age of 80 years, 2 months, and 17 days.

Besides his widow, Mr. Gunderson is survived by his daughter, Mrs. Loran Jones, his stepdaughter, Mrs. Stephen Sullivan, his stepson, Mr. Gerald Hanson, and 3 grandchildren. His immediate family was at his bedside at his passing.

The funeral services were held from the home at Wautoma, then to the Wautoma Lutheran Church (of which he was a member) Rev. C. M. Voole officiating. The burial was at the Mt. Morris cemetery, near where his father, mother, and an older sister are buried.

His daughter's address is:

Mrs. L. R. Jones
1243 Thorndale Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

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Mr. Gunderson had enjoyed comparatively good health until May, 1923, at which time he suffered a light paralytic stroke. He soon recovered, but since that time his health has gradually failed. On Tuesday, Mar. 17, 1926, he suffered a second stroke, from which he failed to regain consciousness, and passed away peacefully at noon, Thursday, Mar. 19th at the age of 80 years, 2 months, and 17 days.

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S.C. Gunderson

S.C. Gunderson, farmer Sec 30-146-57-P.O. Mardell, Briggs Co., was born in Waushara Co. Wis. in 1860. His father died in 1879, and his mother and her family are all living together in Dakota, to which place they came in 1880, having first gone, however, to Southern Dakota. A. brother N. Gunderson, also born in Wisconsin in the year 1856, is associated with him in the management of the farm. They have two sections of first class land, two hundred acres under cultivation, and had, in 1883, twenty bushels of wheat to the acre. Besides these two brothers there are, Maggie, Annie, Esther, and Charles in the family. The aggregate number of acres owned by the brothers and sisters in Dakota is 1,280, all first class land, mostly near the Yellowstone River in Steele Co. Their crop of wheat in 1883 averaged nineteen bushels to the acre.

From "Atlas of Dakota", 1884. p 242

1243 Thorndale Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.
May 6, 1938

Dear Mrs Porterville:

Mother sent me the letter
you had written to her, request-
ing Dad's obituary.

I have wondered since how
I might be able to secure a
copy of the pioneer record
that is being compiled.

The book would mean a
great deal to me as I have
a very vivid memory of those
first years of my life.

Dad talked often of those
"early days" - that must have
been very difficult days for
him and those other pioneers
and he would have been
very happy and honored
indeed to know that he
was to become a recognized
part of the history of Griggs

County.

I feel that we owe you
a great deal for your personal
interest and the honor
you have shown my Dad.

Your Mother was my
first teacher and I
remember her very well.

Our very best wishes
and many thanks.

Percy Gunderson Jones