

As a representative farmer and exemplary citizen of Sverdrup township, this gentleman is deserving of special mention. He is one of the earliest settlers of Griggs county and from a limited start he has gained a fine estate, and on section 6 enjoys the comfort of one of the finest residences of the county. Mr. Langford was born in Cornwall, England, January 8, 1837, and was a son of Samuel and Mary Langford, both natives of England. The father died many years ago and the aged mother survives him and makes her home in Cornwall, England.

Our subject remained in his native land and attended school and also assisted on the farm until he had attained his majority, when he came to America and located at Ontario, Canada. He engaged in the pursuit of farming there until 1872, when he removed to St. Clair county, Michigan, where he also followed farming and resided until 1881, when he went to Griggs county, North Dakota. He erected a shanty on his land, near the site of his present residence, and the little shanty has steadily improved the property and has gathered about him all the conveniences and comforts of modern farming. His buildings are substantial structures and every arrangement has been supplied with an idea to the economical conduct of the farm and the comfort of its inhabitants.

Mr. Langford was married in Canada, in 1859, to Mary Brown, a native of England. Mrs. Langford died about four years after their marriage, leaving two children, Samuel and Bessie. Mr. Langford married Miss Hannah Lewis, a native of England in 1865. Nine children have been born to this union, as follows: Laura M., Alberta A., Olive A., John H., Alfred E., Lillian M., Ida E., who died in infancy, Cora and Minnie. Mr. Langford is prominent in local affairs of a public nature and is justice of the peace. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Methodist Episcopal church and is a trustee and steward of that denomination. In political sentiment he is a Populist. He is a man of broad ideas and keeps abreast of the times and is highly esteemed throughout the county.

Biography of Samuel B. Langford
--Helen Langford

Mr. Samuel Bernard Langford was born in Camelford, Cornwall, England on the seventh of June, 1837.

His father and mother, Samuel and Mary Langford were both born in England and Married in England.

Samuel Bernard Langford left England in 1858. He left England because he thought he could better himself in the United States. The ships of those times were not as comfortable as they are now and whenever the sea was rough the boat rocked very badly. However, he reached land safely. He settled in Bowmansville, Ontario, Canada.

In 1859 he married Mary Brown. Two children were born to them: Mrs. Bessie Kuhns and Samuel Langford. Mrs. Samuel Bernard Langford died shortly after this and in 1865, Samuel was again married. His second wife's name was Hannah Lewis. Nine children were born to them: Laura, Alberta, Oliva, Herbert, Alfred, Lilliam, Cora, Ida and Minnie. Ida died in childhood.

In 1881 he came to North Dakota. He did not bring the family with him but came in March so as to find a place for them to live. The reason that he came to North Dakota instead of any other state was that he knew some people that were already here.

Each person was allowed a homestead and a tree claim free. So he took up his claim in Griggs County, Sverdrup Township on Section Six.

The rest of the family came on in July. They stopped at Sanborn for the night but could not find any bed room as the house was already overpacked. So they had to spread blankets on the floor and sleep that way. The following day they started again on their journey and reached their home tired but glad to get there. The house was just an unpainted frame house of one room upstairs and one room downstairs. There was a small shed on the back of the house.

Instead of cars as we have now they had oxen. The nearest town was Sanborn and so whenever they went they had to start out extremely early. They usually got a large amount of supplies so they would not have to go so often. In the bitter, cold days of winter, they took some kind of a pastry of meat, potatoes, onion and crust over it. They put this under their coat and besides keeping it warm to eat, it helped to keep them warm.

They did not have many neighbors at that time, but the few they had were Jack Brown and Zimmermans.

They had walking plows and oxen. They used large yokes on the oxen. These were generally made out of hard wood. The harrows were just common wooden harrows. They raised oats and wheat and barley but no corn and got very low prices for them. The things they bought were not so expensive as they are now so they did not need as high prices for their grain. They had their hardcoal shipped in, but they used wood from the river and some buffalo bones for fuel.

Sometimes they had very bad storms. Once Samuel Langford and some others were going to the river for fuel. They were caught in a snow storm. It was such a bad storm that they had to get under their wagons for protection. They stayed there for quite awhile and at last the storm started to abate. They then started for home. Many times there were such bad dust storms that they had to quit their work for them. Sometimes the mosquitoes were so bad, especially if it was quiet, that no one could keep on with his work but had to get somewhere out of the danger line of the mosquitoes.

In 1903 Mr. Langford, Mrs. Langford and Minnie moved to town. The rest of the family all being married.

However, Samuel B. Langford was, besides being a farmer, a veterinary surgeon. He took a post graduate course in Minneapolis, Minnesota. There were no cars at that time but he had an old horse and a buggy which he used. He traveled many hundreds of miles with these, as a veterinary.

For some time he was Justice of the Peace and also president of the Old Settlers Association. He was a Democrat politically and a loyal member of the Masonic order for about forty years. He was also an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Samuel Bernard Langford died in Cooperstown, North Dakota on December 26, 1913. He was buried at Mount Hope Cemetery, north of Cooperstown.

DESCENDANTS:

I. Mrs. Bessie Kuhns
Honolulu
Hawaii

Children:

1. Bessie Bell (3 children)
Honolulu
Hawaii

2. Bee Kuhns (2 children)
Tokyo
Japan

3. Jay Kuhns (1 child)
Kauai
Hawaii

4. Mrs. Gertrude Parsons (7 children)
San Francisco
California

5. Mrs. Myrtle Thanum (1 child)
Honolulu
Hawaii

6. Mabel Kuhns
Honolulu
Hawaii

7. Jean Kuhns
San Francisco
California

8. Verle Kuhns
San Francisco
California

II. Samuel Langford, Jr.
Cooperstown
North Dakota

Children:

1. Mrs. Vera Jacobson
Cooperstown
North Dakota

2. Mrs. Marvel Scofstad (2 children)
Cooperstown
North Dakota

3. Mrs. Marion Hogenson
Cooperstown
North Dakota

4. Garth Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

5. Maynard Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

6. Lois Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

7. Warren Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

III. Mrs. Laura Gimblett
Rio Linde
California

Children:

1. Marion Scott
St. Paul
Minnesota

2. Fred Gimblett
Fessenden
North Dakota

3. Elsie Horick (3 children)
Rio Linde
California

Langford

4. Lynn Gimblett
(Dead)
5. Della Johnson (1 child)
Rio Linde
California
6. Herbert Gimblett (1 child)
Wisconsin
7. Charlie Gimblett
Rio Linde
California
8. Lucille Norborn (1 child)
St. Paul
Minnesota
9. Florence Gimblett
Rio Linde
California
10. Ralph Gimblett
Rio Linde
California

IV. Mrs. Charles Houghton
Cooperstown
North Dakota

Children:

1. Ruth Houghton
Cooperstown
North Dakota
2. Mrs. James Hazard (4 children)
Cooperstown
North Dakota
3. Milton Houghton
Washington
D. C.
- V. Mrs. Wilmet Houghton (No children)
Cooperstown
North Dakota

VI. John H. Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

Children:

1. Nellie Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

2.

2. Gladys Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

3. John Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

VII. Alfred E. Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

Children:

1. Dorothy Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

2. Helen Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

3. Evelyn Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

4. Bernice Langford
Cooperstown
North Dakota

VIII. Mrs. Lillian Burling
Fort Lawton
Oregon

Children:

1. Esther Lockton
Michigan

2. Mrs. Anna Cherry (1 child)
Detroit
Minnesota

3. Richard Lockton (1 child)
Minneapolis
Minnesota

4. Godfrey Burling
Fort Lawton
Oregon

5. Morris Burling
Fort Lawton
Oregon

IX. Mrs. Cora Jones
Hannaford
North Dakota

Children:

1. Robert Jones
Hannafor
North Dakota
2. Raymond Jones
Hannafor
North Dakota
3. Richard Jones
Hannafor
North Dakota
- X. Mrs. Minnie Zeller
Lisbon
North Dakota

Now we have completed our list of descendants of Mary and Samuel Bernard Langford, also the life of Samuel Bernard Langford.

Samuel B. Langford

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

Samuel B. Langford was born at Camelford, Cornwall, England on June 7th 1837. In 1858 he left England and migrated to Canada, locating at Bowmansville Ontario. In 1859 he was married to Miss Mary Brown. Two children were born to this union, both of whom are living. They are Mr Samuel Langford of Cooperstown and Mrs Bessie Kuhns of California. Their mother passed early to her final home.

In 1865 Mr. Langford was again married. This time to Miss Hannah Lewis who now lives in Cooperstown.

In 1875 Mr. Langford, with his family, left Canada and took up his abode at St. Claire Michigan, from which place in July 1881, he came to Griggs County. He settled on his homestead on Sec 6 Sverdrup township, and entered upon pioneer life in heroic manner. He built a home and competency for himself and family, and assisted in every possible manner in building on the then unsettled prairie a community of happy and prosperous people, in comfortable homes, and enjoying every facility for education and culture.

While actively engaged in farming, he also practiced as a veterinary with much success

By reason of the confidence reposed in him by his neighbors, he has several times been called upon to fill township, school, and other offices, which he has done with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public.

Mr. Langford was one of the promoters of the Old Settlers Association in its organization in 1906. He was elected president of the organization and continued in this position until his death Dec. 23rd 1913.

Surviving were his wife and ten children, seven of whom are residents of Griggs County, as follows: Samuel Langford, Mrs Alberta Houghton, Mrs Olivia Houghton, Herbert Langford, Alfred Langford. Mrs. Cora Jones and Miss Minnie Langford.

Samuel B. Langford

Samuel B. Langford of Sec 6, Sverdrup Twp, Griggs Co. He was born in Cornwall, England, Jan. 8, 1837, a son of Samuel and Mary Langford, both natives of England. The father died many years ago and the aged mother survives him and makes her home in Cornwall England (1900). He left England at 2 1/2 years then located in Ontario Canada. He farmed there until in 1872 he moved to St Clair Mich, where he also farmed until he moved to Griggs Co. in 1881.

The shanty he built there was one of the first frame shanties built in the neighborhood.

Mr. Langford was married in Canada in 1859, to Mary Brown, a native of England. Mrs. Langford died about 4 years after her marriage leaving two children, Samuel + Bessie. In 1865 Mr. Langford married Miss Hannah Lewis, a native of England. To them 9 children were born: Laura M., Alberta A., Oliver A., John H., Alfred E., Lillian M., Ida E, who died in infancy, Cassa, and Minnie.

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