

Biography of Cora Skanse
--Milo C. Watne

Miss Cora Skanse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jonas P. Skanse was born in the year 1877 on September 29 at Herjedalen, Sweden.

They came to this country because they heard of the free land available and also because a brother and sister had taken up a homestead here.

Miss Skanse, Mr. and Mrs. Skanse, Jonas Jr. and Olaf took the British ship "British-Princess" across the ocean and came to Dakota by train, June 29, 1888.

They filed on section 18, Cooperstown township, built a cabin of lumber but of sod foundation. When going to Cooperstown for lumber or other articles, they traveled by oxen team and a cart.

Quite often prairie fires, the curse of the prairie, and blizzards would rage, but it never demolished Skanse's cabin.

The Houghton School was the nearest, being about 3 miles distant; Bertha Langford was teaching. No church was built then, but the people met in different places and took turns preaching.

Cora Skanse married Gerhald Watne, November 23, 1901 in Cooperstown. Gerhald is now dead. Sons and daughters, Wm. Watne, Constance Watne (now married) Myrtle, Gerald, Milo and Corinne are now residing in Cooperstown.