

Biography of John Wakelam
--Everett Johnson

Edward and Margaret Wakelam were early pioneers of North Dakota. John Wakelam was born February 28, 1852 in Ontario, Canada.

He left his former home merely to seek his adventure and better himself. He came to North Dakota because it was a new country and it was open to homesteading; also it was the closest state. He traveled from Ontario to North Dakota by covered wagon and horses. He came to North Dakota in October in the year 1897.

He took up his land in Stafford Township where he built himself a sod house. The nearest town was Kenmare which was about twenty-five miles distant and also Minot which was about seventy-five miles away. These trips were made entirely by team and wagon. The winters were very cold and blizzards always lasted at least three days. They were through two floods and so had to move up on higher land.

George Allan was the nearest neighbor. They had two horses to start with and not much machinery.

They had a school. This was also the place where the preacher had his sermons. Wood was obtained from around the Mouse River and coal was obtained from Kenmare.

He is still living and on the first homestead he worked. Sherwood is now the closest town which is about fifteen miles. They have a family of ten children who are all still living.

Biography of Martin O. Wallum
--Bernice Wallum

My parents names were Ole Wallum and Marie Wallum. My name is Martin Ole Wallum. I was born in Ringsaker, Norway, May 29, 1861. I immigrated to America with my parents in 1868 at the age of seven. We settled in Holmen, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin.

In 1882 I came to North Dakota to work for Mulstad. I came in an immigrant train or which was usually called a stock car as far as Valley City and drove up to what is about a mile from Hannaford in a lumber wagon and two horses.

I worked for Mulstad that summer. I built his first house and helped herd his cattle up from Valley City.

The following fall I went back to Wisconsin to work in the woods but the following spring I came back and started to help build the railroad from Sanborn to what is Cooperstown now, in 1883. This was very hard work because we had to use wheelbarrows to make the grade higher. Then I began to work for another farmer. I worked there three years and the farmer was unable to pay me so he gave me a quarter section of land for \$1600 in Greenfield township 144, range 59, southeast quarter of section 20.

My first home was built of lumber. It was not very large, being only 16 by 20 feet which was divided into three rooms.

In the year of 1887 I married Clara Christianson Norume of Totten, Norway.

I used to drive to Cooperstown for provisions in a lumber wagon and two horses, and took my wheat to Valley City to have it ground into flour which took me about three days. Many times I helped haul groceries from Sanborn to the stores in Cooperstown with oxen.

My nearest neighbors were Gunderson, John Melray, Mulstad, and Charlie Nelson.

My first machinery was a walking plow, hoe drill, two horses. The only crops I had were oats and wheat. My fuel was hauled from the Sheyenne river.

At this time storms and fires were dangerous. One day we had a hail storm and we didn't have any screens so it knocked out all the windows and we had to open the cellar trap to let the water go down the basement.

The descendants are Mrs. Mable Anson of New England, N. Dak. Mrs. Olga Evenson of Hannaford, N. Dak., Mrs. Dena Williams of Madison, Wis., Mrs. Thresa Trangsrud of Wimbledon, N. Dak. Justin Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak., Marvin Wallum, of Hannaford, N. Dak., Johnnie Wallum, of Wallum, N. Dak., Edna Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak.

Biography of Martin O. Wallum
--Bernice Wallum

Bernice Wallum of Wallum, N. Dak.

The grandchildren are Oliver, Melvin, Agnes, Ethel, and Marion Anson of New England, N. Dak., Vernon, Ralf, Bernice, Dorothy Trangsrud of Wimbledon, N. Dak.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

Martin O. Wallum

by Bernice Wallum

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- My first home was built of lumber. It was not very large, being only 18 by 20 feet which was divided into three rooms.
- In the year of 1887 I married Clara Christianson Norume of Toten, Norway.
- I used to drive to Cooperstown for provisions in a lumber wagon and two horses, and took my wheat to Valley City to have it ground into flour which took me about three days. Many times I helped haul groceries from Sanborn to the stores in Cooperstown with oxen.
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--Bernice Wallum

Ward, David
Mustard Out Coopers Carvers
June 2, 1904.

Another old soldier has answered long call and has gone to join ^{the} vast ~~thru~~ army of our defenders of the Union who have crossed the silent river. Comrad David Ward died about 2 P.M. Monday morning May 30th after a sickness of several weeks passing away quietly and peacefully. He was taken sick with a severe cold and attack of bronchitis the latter part of the winter but recovered and got out + went to work in the damp + cold. His constitution could not stand that kind of treatment and he was again taken sick + succumbed. He had Bright's Disease followed by typhoid fever and in his enfeebled condition could not stand the ravages of the disease. The deceased was born in Guilford Co. N.C. in 1844 and was nearly 60 yrs old. He moved to Indiana with his parents in (1838²)

many friends in extending sympathy to Mrs. Ward ~~family~~ in this hour of bereavement. The nation has not lost a great hero whose name has been blazoned from the house tops for fame achieved but it has lost a modest hero who gave his life to the nation, if need be, for the purpose of perpetuating our glorious union. Let us hope that he will meet with his reward in the ^{regions} of eternal glory.

The funeral took place at the Baptist church of which the deceased was a member at 2 P.M. Tues. Rev. J. S. DeLong pastor of the Methodist church preaching the sermon.

The members of the G. A. R. acted as pall bearers. The remains were interred in the cemetery.

and from there to Nebr. When the war broke out he hastened to enlist and joined Co A. 139th regiment Indiana volunteers at the age of 17, enlisting Apr 10, 1861 at Greenbors Ind. serving 3 years & 8 months, receiving an honorable discharge Sept 29, 1864 at Indianapolis Ind.

He was married in 1871 to Kate Bechler and as a result of that union several children were born & survive him as follows: Mrs. George Adams, Mrs. Eliza Williams, Mrs. Rachel Stabnow and a son Henry.

David Ward & family moved to Gr. Co 6 yrs ago last fall. During his resid. here he had made many friends. He was one of those genial old soldiers who always looked on the bright side of life and was cheerful at all times. The Courier joins with

For Mrs. Porterville
Keep these
From Compendium of N.D.
MILLARD F. WASHBURN

MILLARD F. WASHBURN, one of the earliest pioneer settlers of Griggs county, has resided in the township which bears his name for the past twenty years, and has been intimately connected with the history and development of that region. He has a fine farm in section 20, in which section he first settled, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors in North Dakota.

Our subject was born on a farm in Lake county, Illinois, April 25, 1848, and was the youngest in a family of nine children, born to Seth and Ora (Warren) Washburn. His father was a native of Vermont, and settled in Illinois in the early '40s.

Millard F. Washburn, at the age of seven years, went with his parents to Red Wing, Minnesota, where he finished his education and grew to manhood. He was engaged with the American Express Company five years, and with the Red Wing Milling Company three years, and in the spring of 1881 went to Griggs county, North Dakota. He filed claim to land with the government surveyors, who were then working in the county, and he has lived on the original claim continuously since. He has met with success as a farmer and now enjoys a good income.

Our subject was married, near Cooperstown, in 1883, to Miss Maria Hussel, a native of St. Clair county, Michigan. Mrs. Washburn was born November 10, 1855, and was a daughter of Andrew and Maria (Klinger) Hussel, who followed farming in Michigan. Her father was a soldier in a Michigan regiment during the Civil war, and served two years. Mrs. Washburn was one of the seven children born to this worthy couple. Her father was a successful farmer, and is now living in retirement in St. Clair county, Michigan. Mr. Washburn is chairman of the board of supervisors of Washburn township, and has always taken an active part in local affairs, and the township of Washburn was named in honor of his services. He is a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Millard F. Hashburn

Millard F. Hashburn of Sec. 20, Hashburn twp -
Griggs Co., named in his honor, was born on a
farm in Lake Co. Ill., Apr 25, 1848. He was the
youngest of 9 children born to Seth and Ora (Harren)
Hashburn. His Seth was born in Vermont and settled
in Illinois in the early 1840's -

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the original claim ever since.

He was married near Cooperstown, in 1883
to Miss Maria Husel, a native of St Clair Co., Mich.
Mrs. Hashburn was born Nov 10, 1855; The daughter
of Andrew and Maria (Klingler) Husel, a farmer of Mich.
Mrs. Hashburn's father was a soldier in a
Michigan regiment, during the Civil War, and served
2 years. She was one of 7 children.

Bibliog: Condensed from Compend. of Hist + Biog p 296
1900

Millard F. Washburn

Millard F. Washburn, farmer, Sec. 20-146-58-1,
P.O. Cooperstown, is a son of Seth and Ora Washburn,
natives of Vermont, who moved to Chicago about 1840,
when there was nothing there but the old Fort Dearborn
and a straggling village. He was born in Lake Co.
Ill. in 1848, and educated at Red Wing, Minn.,
where he moved in 1855. He came to Dakota in the
spring of 1881 and located two miles east of Cooperstown,
where he has five and a quarter sections of land,
which produced in 1883, 4,700 bushels of wheat,
an average of eighteen bushels to the acre. Mr.
Washburn married in July 1883, Miss Husel of Michigan.
He is a brother-in-law of T. J. Cooper of Chicago
~~with~~ with whom he is in partnership. They
have a neat and commodious farm house.
Mr. Washburn has two sisters Mrs. T. J. Cooper of
Chicago, and Mrs. Swift of Red Wing. Mr. Washburn's
farm is platted with the Cooper Bros, under the
firm name of Washburn & Cooper.

Bibl. Atlas of Dakota, 1884, p 242

Biography of John Watne
--Roy Watne

The names of the pioneer's parents are Jonas and Jorgena Watne. The name of the pioneer is John Watne. He was born on June 10, 1865. He was born in Norway near Stavanger. Mr. Watne left his home because he would not take military training. He then came to North Dakota because he thought it was the best place.

There was a storm on the ocean when he came to America. The pioneer came to North Dakota in 1888. His first experience was digging wells and working on the Cooper Ranch. Mr. Watne bought his land located in Bald Hill Township. The first house was frame.

When they went to town they drove with oxen which went very slow. The pioneer's neighbors were Lars Watne, and Edward Michaelis. The machinery used was plow, harrow, mower, and binder. The teams were oxen. The pioneer's crops were mostly blue stem wheat which threshed twenty bushels to the acre. The fuel was wood gotten from the Sheyenne River which they bought. They had very many storms in the winter. There were also many fires. They always had to have a fire break.

John Watne was married to Maria Holland in the year of 1902. They were married near Cooperstown. The children of the pioneer are Walter, Cooperstown; Ernest, Cooperstown; Erma, Minneapolis; Alice, Maynard, Otto, Roy, Esther, and Johnney of Hannaford.

The present home of John Watne is in Bald Hill Township, Section 20. It is four miles northwest of Hannaford.

Johanne Watne

From interview by Hannah Lende

Johanne Watne was born June 10, 1865 near Stavanger, Norway. His parents were Jonas and Marie Watne. In the spring of 1888 he came to America with his parents and brothers and sisters. They came from Philadelphia by train direct to Cooperstown. Everything was black in they country. A prairie fire had gone through there in the fall of 1887.

The family stayed at Andrew Watne's in Sverdrup township. Johanne Watne got a job for \$1 a day digging wells all around. The next year he was carpenter and built granaries. Later Mr. Watne worked for Mr. R. C. Cooper. There was very much rain in the year 1890 but the men got their harvesting done. It was so wet they had to haul the grain in the granary. While they were doing this a blizzard came up. There was one foot of snow on the ground. Each time the men went out to get a load they would freeze, so cold it was. A group of men had come from Wisconsin to work and wasn't prepared for this cold weather and almost froze to death.

At one time Mr. Watne was hauling some grain seed out in the field to the crew. Soon he heard a funny noise and thought sure it was the Indians having a war dance. He was tempted to turn around but soon found out to his relief it was just a group of prairie chickens. Indians went through the territory in the spring of the year and camped until fall when they would go back to their settlement.

Mr. Watne remembers being out in a dust storm while working for Mr. Cooper. It was around 1890 or later. He was hauling out seed for the crew in the field. A severe dust storm came and Mr. Watne got lost. The only thing for him to do was to let the mules take him home. Mr. Watne also stayed home and helped his folks in Sverdrup township.

In 1900 Mr. Watne bought his first machinery which consisted of a wagon, plough and drill and started farming on his own on section 7, township 145, range 59. There was land already broke and Mr. Watne broke sixty more acres. In 1901 he put 100 acres into crop which yielded about twenty bushels to the acre.

Mr. Watne was married to Marie Holland in 1903 in Griggs county. Nine children were born to this family. Mr. and Mrs. Watne are still living on the same homestead.

PIONEER BIOGRAPHY

John Watne by Roy Watne

- ✓ The names of the pioneer's parents are Jonas and Jorgena Watne. The name of the pioneer is John Watne.
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- His first experience was digging wells and working on the Cooper Ranch.
- Mr. Watne bought his land located in Bald Hill Township. The first house was frame.
- When they went to town they drove with oxen which went very slow. The pioneer's neighbors were Lars Watne, and Edward Michaelis. The machinery used was plow, harrow, mower, and binder. The teams were oxen. The pioneer's crops were mostly blue stem wheat which threshed twenty bushels to the acre.
- The fuel was wood gotten from the Sheyenne River which they bought. They had very many storms in the winter. There were also many fires. They always had to have a fire break.
- John Watne was married to Maria Holland in the year of 1902. They were married near Cooperstown.
- The children of the pioneer are Walter, Cooperstown; Ernest, Cooperstown; Erma, Minneapolis; Alice, Maynard, Otto, Roy, Esther, and Johnney of Hannaford.
- The present home of John Watne is in Bald Hill Township, Section 30. It is four miles northwest of Hannaford.

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--Roy Watne

Biography of Tønnes Watne
--William Sharpe

May 20, 1929

Tønnes Watne was born February 7, 1854 in Halland, Norway, near the city of Stavanger. His parents were Simon Foss-Watne and Maria Foss-Watne. They lived on the edge of a lake named Hille-Vatne. Tønnes was the third son of seven children and therefore was not in line to inherit any of his father's possessions. The law of those times allows only the first son to inherit his father's goods. As the farm was too small to support all of the family, he decided to come to America.

He came to America in the spring of 1884 with his wife and three children. He travelled by a small steamer from Stavanger to Hull, crossed England by train to Liverpool and by White Star Liner to New York. He landed at Castle Garden and took an immigrant train to Stony City, Iowa.

That fall he left Iowa and came to Griggs County, North Dakota, because of the high priced land in Iowa. Also, there was a colony of Stavanger people settled here and land was still obtainable by preemption and Homestead Acts.

Arriving at Cooperstown, he went out to Nels Herigstad's homestead by wagon drawn by oxen. He bought the homestead rights in 1886 from Julia Bustrack for \$200. The land bought is located at the northeast quarter of section 8, Sverdrup township 145, range 58. His first house was a frame building with a shed on the side.

While working in Iowa, Tønnes had the experience of killing a rattlesnake with his bare hand. The snake had struck up his trouser leg and he had caught the snake by its head and crushed it.

They had a violent snowstorm in 1887 or '88 which covered the house and barn with snow. To get out they first had to take the snow by the door inside the house to be able to make steps to get out.

The first crop they reaped was about a bushel of wheat from the whole farm, the rest having been killed by an early frost. A prairie fire that got away that same fall threatened to burn the house and barn but they managed to plow around it. When all was thought safe, a whirlwind caught up a flaming straw and the fire started again. It didn't get to the buildings but it burned up a lot of brush on this side of the Sheyenne River.

His nearest neighbors were Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm Watne, Andrew Watne, Simon Ouren and Mr. and Mrs. Swen Algaard. His first tools and farm implements were a breaking plow, a walking plow, oxen and later, horses. He helped the hired neighbors and in turn he hired out to Cooper's ranch and the Brown farm.

The first school was taught by Mrs. Will Carleton and Andrew Watne was one of the first to be a member of the school board in this district. A Lutheran by the name of Nessheim was the first minister of the community. Later the pioneers organized the Saron Free Church and Tønnes was one of the first Elders of the Church. He was a member at the time of his death.

Biography of Tønnes Watne
--William Sharpe

Fuel was the brushwood obtained from the Sheyenne Valley and wood and coal bought in Cooperstown.

Tønnes Watne married Bertha Watne May 1, 1880 in Hailand's Church, Norway. He died December 19, 1917 on his homestead and was buried in the Saron Cemetery, Sverdrup township. His wife followed him six months later.

He had ten children, eight of whom are living and are listed below as they rank in the family:

Simon Vatne, Albert Lea, Minnesota
Maria Watne, Cooperstown, North Dakota
Georgeanna Sharpe, Cooperstown, North Dakota
Janna Sharpe, Glenfield, North Dakota
Gretha Greenland, Cooperstown, North Dakota
Laura Vatne, Cooperstown, North Dakota
Rachael Lovegren, St. Paul, Minnesota
Vera LaHue, St. Paul, Minnesota

Two are deceased, Wilhelm Vatne who was killed in the Chinese Revolution in 1911 while acting as a teacher for the Missionaries' Children, and Minnie Vatne who died in 1921 while acting as a nurse at St. Luke's Hospital, Fargo, North Dakota.

There are thirteen grandchildren.

O. M. Hestley.

O. M. Hestley, was born in Norway, Apr 18, 1863,
son of Ole H. Hestley who came ^{to England} from Norway in, 1881.

O. M. Hestley, the eldest of 8 children and
was 18 when he came to Griggs County. In 1885
he homesteaded land for himself. Here he
lived until 1905.

Mr. Hestley was married on the 18th of
May 1886, to Miss Malina Jensen, born in
Norway and daughter of Jens Bull.

Their children:

Olive, who married B. M. Lunde of Hannaford.

Martin, with the U.S. mail department

Oscar and Jeanette

Julius, in a store in Hannaford.

William, Harry and Myrtle.

Bibl: Condensed from Licensberry Vol III, 1917, 219.

Ole B. Westley (B.standing for No.2 of that name in the family)

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

Ole B. Westley, son of Ole Hanson Westley and Olina Westley was born
Jan.25 1876 at Westlye, Stavanger Amt. Norway

In 1881, his father with his family and a group of neighbors, came to the U.S. He says,
" My wife and I crossed the ocean at the same time and in the same ship, she being
one year old, I five. The ship was the old Palmyra of the Cunard Line. This
was an old cattle ship used for passengers for want of other passenger ships.
In mid-ocean the propeller screw broke off and we prepared to hunt at sea bottom,
when a steamer bound for Spain with cattle was compelled to pull us into
St. Johns Newfoundland. In a week the ship was in shape to sail for New York. "
One year was spent by Mrs. Westley and her children in Yellow Medecine Co. Minn. .
before her husband moved his family to Griggs County, in 1882. " With three
yoke of oxen , belonging to others of the same settlement, and prairie schooners
we moved a distance of 300 miles , using just three weeks for the trip.

Arriving at our new home we found it to be a dugout which showed only a little
above ground. On entering we found the floor to be mother earth and most of
the walls the same. Sod was used above the dugout. Beds were merely boxes filled
with straw." This homestead was on NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 20-145-58.

On June 17, 1906 he married Karen B. Herigstad, oldest daughter of Eetuel B. Herigstad.

Mr. Westley has engaged successfully in several occupations In 1904 he
bought a section and 40 acres of land for \$6,120.00, upon which he erected
buildings and established a home. But after some years of successful farming
he sold the land for \$23,300.00, purchased a house in Cooperstown and engaged
in real estate and insurance business. He has four children

Omund Westley

Omund Westley was born in Jaderen, Norway, April 18, 1863. At 11 o'clock P.M. April 9, 1881 he and a company of twenty six, with Betual Herigstad as leader, left Norway. They went on board a small steamship, Johan Sverdrup, and set their course for England.

The trip across the North Sea was quite rough and many of the company started to "feed the crabs". In a couple of days they landed in New Castle, England. When they got on ground again, it were as if the whole town were swaying and the whole company walked as though they were drunk.

Across the harbor was the little city of Shieda and to Mr. Westley it looked like fire and smoke, there were so many industries and factories. They stopped in New Castle just a short time and then boarded the train across England for Liverpool. The company's tickets were entrusted to Herigstad's care and in some mishap in leaving the boat, the tickets were forgotten and he entered the train with his charges having no ticket. The coaches were in small compartments and the company occupied several of these, Mr. Herigstad being in the front coach. When the conductor came to the windows for their tickets, they just pointed ahead, and in this way they crossed England without a single ticket.

Getting off the train in Liverpool, they were taken to the immigrant house by the Line officers and police. On the second section of that train was a man by the name of Tonsing, from Sand, Norway and the tickets were sent with him. This was a great relief to Mr. Westley and the rest, for it looked as if they were going to jail.

The landscape of England from New Castle to Liverpool was very beautiful and they could see a great deal as it was full moonlight all the time, almost like day.

In Liverpool they stayed two days waiting for the steamer of the

White Star line to take them across the Atlantic ocean, but there again they were fooled and were put on board a three thousand ton ship, Palmyra, when they should have gone with one of the best boats of the White Star Line. Liverpool was a very busy seaport and the contrast between rich and poor was very evident on every hand.

There is one special thing Mr. Westley remembers. Four boys had a big two-wheeled cart loaded with coal, and a small donkey between the shafts pulling the load. All went fine until they got to a hill. The donkey pulled with all his might, but all at once the heavy cart lifted the donkey off the ground and his feet went like drum sticks pawing the air, until two boys on each side pulled him down to the ground.

Their waiting in Liverpool was soon over and they were loaded in the ship Palmyra, to tackle the Atlantic ocean. On the way out they came close to the coast of Ireland and a small ship brought them a supply of soft water.

The next four days everything went fine. The weather was nice and it was fine sailing. But the fifth day their propellor broke. The ship shook in the back and the men's dinner was interrupted, dishes and food going in all directions. For the next twenty minutes there was a real calamity on board the ship and the life boats were loosened. They did not know whether they were going to sink or if they were all right.

Distress flags went up on every mast and all over the rigging. About 4 P.M. the same day a big steamer of the White Star line bore down on them. Mr. Westley said he had never seen a more beautiful sight when the green painted boat came near. The white foam and sprays of water were thrown to each side and it looked like they were going to cut the other boat in two. The captains conversed with each other for a few minutes and were soon sailing away. The decks of both ships were

packed with people, all waving handkerchiefs. In one hour they saw no more of the big ship. A short time after another ship bore down on them and took them aboard. The first two cables broke when they started up but the new ones they used held.

It was five days until they were anchored in the harbor of St. John, Newfoundland. Newfoundland in many ways is very much like Norway, with mountains, birch trees, etc., and along the shore line in the city of St. John was a sort of market place where women sold all kinds of fish.

The first two or three days anyone could go ashore for a few pennies. Small boats surrounded the ship. Most of the crew on the ship went ashore and came back late in the evening, drunk. Sailors and immigrants started the worst fight Mr. Westley ever witnessed, but the officers with drawn revolvers finally succeeded in restoring order around 2 o'clock in the morning. After that no one was allowed to go ashore except the ship's officers.

After staying in the harbor of St. John nine days, their ship started for New York, the journey taking them almost five days. In New York they were taken into the Castle garden and arranged in two lines to take their turn to find their baggage and the custom officers looked their baggage over. Right in front of Mr. Westley stood a big Swede who went out of line two times and tried it the third time. The policeman shoved him back and was going to hit him. The Swede ducked, and Mr. Westley being right behind him got the blow over his left shoulder, and could see stars in the sunshine.

Just as soon as the custom officers were ready they were put on the immigrant train onto Chicago. There the Westleys and some of the others had relatives whom they stayed with three days. Mr. Westley and his friends had rides in the street cars all over the city of

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Chicago, the street car being drawn by horses in those days.

Again they boarded the train and for St. Paul, Minn. where they stayed awhile in the immigrant house. Their tickets took them to Granite Falls, Minn. where they had many friends. Some of the company settled around there for good, and many were bound for Dakota territory to get some of the free homesteads. Nine of the company started for Devils Lake including Ole H. Westley, O.M. Westley, Betual Herigstad, Carl Herigstad, Knut Haaland, Sven Loge, Waldemar Klubben, Christian Aarestad, and Martin Ueland (who joined them in Valley City), with Christian Aarestad as leader. There were nine oxen and two covered wagons and each brought their few belongings along.

They drove as far as Benson, Minn. where they shipped their belongings to Fargo, the end of the Great Northern tracks. From there they followed the Northern Pacific railroad to Valley City. Leaving Valley City they could see that there were very few settlers and far between. Finally June 17, they stayed near the bluffs on the Sheyenne river. This was a Sunday afternoon and one of the company saw a sod house not far away. They decided to stay there and look for homesteads. The surveyors were camping by the Sheyenne river, and some of the land was staked up and given section names and quarter markings.

Sven Loge was the first to locate a homestead. He selected some rather rough land by the river, and as there was some fine oak timber they all helped build his log house. Two of the stumps were right in the house and were handy for seats and chopping blocks.

It took about three weeks before they all had found land. Mr. Westley filed on Sec. 20, Sverdrup Twp.

In the meantime they slept under the wagon covers, dishes and kitchen utensils mostly standing around on the ground. Their bread being used up, they had to try making bread. None of them knew how.

One evening Sven Loge took a big bread pan, mixed flour and water to a thin soup, and put one yeast cake in to raise the soup. The next morning Mr. Westley was told to make this up to bread and bake it. All of the others were busy looking for land and working at something. Mr. Westley had seen his mother make bread, so he started to do the best he could. Before he got the dough so it could be handled, he had used about one-half sack of flour, and filled every pan with dough and formed the bread. When baked, the crust was about an inch thick and the rest of it almost slid to the ground. The stove was standing in the open and as the damper was down, Mr. Westley fired until the flames stood a foot out of the two stovepipe lengths, and the bread was just baked on one side. After firing and turning the pans all day, the bread was baked by the time the folks got home in the evening. This one baking lasted nine men one week, and bread and coffee was about all they had.

The next thing was to break up their land and build their sod houses. As there was just two breaking plows for the nine of them, they worked on the cooperative plan, breaking up about five acres for each party. In time all of them had this done and their sod houses built. The Westley's was a dug out in the hill. One end was dug in so far they could almost step on the roof from the ground.

The butter they had bought in Valley City some five or six weeks before, had given out, likewise all other provisions. Mr. Westley and his father while building, had nothing to eat but dry bread and slough water, strained through a new straw hat to get the bugs out.

In the month of August, C. Aarestad and Mr. Westley went back to Granite Falls. Mr. Westley's mother, brothers, and sisters didn't know him when they first saw him, as he was going bare headed most of the time, and the overalls and jacket he wore were four sizes too big for

him. He worked for Kaalhei and Johnson near Granite Falls. The next spring the rest of the men in Dakota got work around Valley City. They all stayed on their homesteads during the winter.

In November, 1881 Mr. Westley's father came to Granite Falls. In the latter part of the winter, all his brothers and sisters got Typhoid fever and one sister died. In the spring while working for Kaalhei, Mr. Westley was taken sick with the fever and in bed for one month.

In the spring of 1882 there was a great flood in Dakota. The river was so high, the settlers didn't dare go across to get provisions and all were close to starvation. A Scotchman by the name of Chalmers, had previously bought potatoes and killed an oxen to keep the family alive through the winter.

In May, 1882 Mr. Westley bought two oxen and one cow, and some oxen and cows for the rest of the men in Dakota. The whole family then started for Dakota territory in the covered wagon for the second time.

There were no schools, churches, or grave yards when Mr. Westley first came to Dakota. Mrs. Jens Bull was the first one who died in Bald Hill township, 1884.

A congregation was soon organized. Mr. Westley's father, Ole taught a parochial school in 1882-1883. It was held mostly in the home of Mr. Westley.

Mr. Westley took a homestead of his own on section 10, Greenfield township, in 1885. He was the first to build a lumber house in the country.

May 18, 1886 he married Melina Jenson by Rev. Hoesheim at Jens Bull's home in Bald Hill township. Eight children were born to this marriage.

Mr. Westley stayed on the farm until 1905 when he moved to Cooperstown and went into politics. He was elected Register of Deeds and held that position four years.

In 1909 he worked three months as deputy, for Martin Garlid in Cooperstown, and then moved to Hannaford where for seventeen years he worked in the Farmers State Bank. He is now residing with his wife in Hannaford and at present takes any job he can get.