

THE FIRST SETTLERS OF KEARNY COUNTY

Kearny County, Kansas

Written by Maxine Ridge

*Reference: Newspaper clippings received from
India H. Simmons, District Supervisor, Federal Writers' Project of Dodge City, Kansas.*

*For more details about the first settlers of Kearny County, see...
The book titled HISTORY OF KEARNY COUNTY KANSAS, Volume I.
Found at the Kearny County Museum/Historical Society in Lakin, Kansas.*

** Additional information added about certain people mentioned in this story*

Kearny County was named by the legislature in 1872 and named in honor of General Philip Kearny, who was killed at the battle of Chantilly, Virginia. Lakin held an election on 3 Jul 1879 to choose township officers.

In 1883, the east half was united with Sequoyah County to help form the organization of Finney County. The west half was joined with Hamilton County to form the organization of that county. In 1887 the old lines were re-established, and Kearny County became a part of Hamilton County. It was finally organized as Kearny County in 1888.

The following are among the permanent settlers who came to Kearny County between 1872 and 1882:

1873	1 Mar	John O'Loughlin (<i>For more information on John O'Loughlin, See Kearny County story, "Mary Veronica Farrell"</i>)
	4 May	Mrs. White, Mother of Mr. O'Loughlin
	4 May	Margaret C. White, sister of Mr. O'Loughlin
	1 Jul	Richard Joyce*
1874	16 Jul	Alonzo B. Boylan*
1875	Sep	Mrs. Alonzo B. Boylan & children (<i>Lenora & Bradner</i>)*
1876	Oct	Thomas J. Pearl *
1878	----	John H. Carter & family*
1878	Nov	Samuel L. Philips & wife (<i>See Kearny County story, "Lakin"</i>)
	Nov	Mrs. Warren Davies & children (Tillie & Louis) (<i>See Kearny County story, "Lakin"</i>)
1879	----	Charles Youngblood & family
	20 Mar	George Hill
	1 Apr	Thomas Morgan & son Thomas
	1 Apr	Harrison Burtch & wife*
	1 May	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dillon & children (Anne, Lena, Charles & Robert) (<i>See Kearny County story, "Lakin"</i>)
	Jul	George Bandle & family

	4 May	Francis L. & Carolina Pierce (<i>See Francis L. Pierce, Kearny County Project Consultant</i>)
	15 May	Frederick Meyer & wife
	15 May	Wilhelm Meyer*
	1 Jun	Mr. & Mrs. William P. Loucks & children (Charles & Faye)
	1 Jul	Samuel T. Foxworthy & family
	11 Aug	Charles O. Chapman*
1880	20 Feb	Theodore Brown & wife
	1 Mar	David H. "Harry" Browne
	1 Jul	Theodore T. Brackett & family
	15 Jul	Daniel Sullivan
	1 Dec	Mr. & Mrs. James H. Waterman & children (Blanche & Charles) (<i>See Kearny County, Kansas story... "Pioneer Reminiscences of Alma Idell (Chamberlain) Waterman"</i>)
1881	1 Mar	Allen Lee & family
	7 Mar	William "Billy" Russell (<i>See Kearny County, Kansas story... "Old Settlers of Lakin"</i>)
	1 Jun	Samuel Corbett
	26 Jul	Arthur G. Stayton & family*
	5 Nov	Hartwell Silas Vezey*
	1 Dec	Mr. & Mrs. James E. Bennett & children (Carrie & Lena)

John O'Loughlin, the first merchant in Lakin, established a store in a dugout in 1873. Henry H. Cleveland broke out the first land for farming purposes on his claims west of Deerfield. John H. Carter proved up the first timber claim that was east of Hartland. Francis L. Pierce proved up the first homestead after five years of residence. He was also the first one to enclose a farm (quarter section) with a fence. This is where the fairgrounds are now (*in 1936*) located. Alonzo B. Boylan was engaged in Stock Raising and was the first agent for the Santa Fe at Lakin, followed by Mr. Harris. Mr. Moore followed Mr. Harris, and Mr. Moore was followed by James H. Waterman, who came to Lakin with his wife and two children, Blanche and Charles, in December of 1880. Mr. Guy Potter was the first manager of the Harvey House. He was followed by Mr. Fisher, who was manager when the Harvey House was moved to Coolidge in December of 1880. The Harvey House was the scene of several social events during the very early days.

The first child born in the county was Carlton Froehlich, son of David Froehlich, a railroad employee and a cousin of Karl W. Froehlich* who took land south of the river (*east of Lakin*) and became a permanent settler. Alice Carter, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Carter, was the first girl born in the county. She was born in March of 1880. Maude Pearl, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Pearl, was the first girl born in Lakin and the second girl born in Kearny County. She was born on 16 Nov 1880.

Among the early deaths in the county was Charles Willis, a horse thief, who was hanged on the railroad bridge over Sand Creek west of the town in 1877 or 1878 by

some plainsmen who took the law into their own hands and administered justice. The first death in Lakin was Mrs. Margaret White (*mother of John O'Loughlin*), who died 8 Aug 1878. In 1877, a little daughter belonging to a Mr. Anderson, an emigrant, died of a skunk bite where they camped on the Santa Fe Trail west of town. The small child was buried south of the railroad fence, and for many years, the little grave was marked by a pile of rocks & stones and could be seen near the stockyards. (*See story, The Lakin Cemetery*)

Harrison (Harry) Burtch, the son-in-law of Thomas Morgan, was shot by George Bandle, the first blacksmith of Lakin, in January of 1880 and died three days later. Mr. Burtch and Mr. Bandle had an argument concerning the amount of money that should be paid for a relinquishment on some land three-fourths of a mile north of town. Mr. Burtch was at the depot when shot. After firing, Mr. Bandle went a half-mile west of town to the home of W. L. Philips, Justice of the Peace, borrowed an overcoat and made his way over the river to the sheep ranch of French Louis. Later he went to the mountains of Colorado. After a long trip, he entered a camp and demanded food from the cook. The cook and Mr. Bandle had some words, which resulted in the cook shooting and killing Mr. Bandle. A child of Harrison Burtch died in 1880. Another death that occurred in 1880 was Goldie Moore, the little daughter of Mr. Moore, the station agent.

The first cemetery was west of town on the Charles S. Smith place. When Mr. Campbell, father of Mrs. Smith, came into possession of the ten-acre tract, he tried to contact the relatives of all those buried in the cemetery. Most of the bodies were moved to the present cemetery, but some still rest in what is now an alfalfa field.

The first Fourth of July Celebration was held in 1880 at the grove on Chouteau Island at the Arkansas River south of Indian Mound near the John H. Carter place east of Hartland. The name of the Island dates back to the disastrous expedition of 1815-1817 when Chouteau, a French trader, retreated to this Island to stand his ground against the Comanche or Pawnee Indians.

Charles O. Chapman was the town Marshall of those days. Before irrigation canals tapped the river, there was always an overflow of water. The wagon of John H. Carter got stuck, and they had some difficulty in getting it out.

The first flag that floated over Kearny County citizens was made by Mrs. Charles O. Chapman, Mrs. W. L. Davies and Mrs. F. L. Pierce. It hung in the dining room at the Harvey House, where a dance was held after the citizens returned from the celebration at Chouteau Island. The next morning the flag was gone and was not seen again in Lakin.

The first sermon preached in Lakin was in 1880 by Rev. Pratt of Garden City. His text was, "I will arise and go to my Father." The first Sunday school was organized the same year. F. L. Pierce was superintendent and D. H. Browne, secretary. These

meetings were held in Mr. Pierce's land office. It was a small frame building on the Santa Fe right-of-way between the Harvey House and Mr. O'Loughlin's store.

An itinerant (*traveling*) minister held an earlier service at the Boylan home. His text was, "Ye believe in God, believe also in me." The first Catholic service was by a Dodge City priest. He said mass at four o'clock in the morning at the Boylan home, in their dining room. His congregation was composed of railroad men who were laying steel at that time on the Santa Fe.

Mrs. William P. Loucks taught the first school in Lakin. The term commenced 17 Nov 1879, and the following pupils enrolled... Bradner Boylan, Charles Loucks, Faye Loucks, Landon Foxworthy, Thomas Morgan, John Youngblood, Will Youngblood, Frank Lewis, Joey Lewis, Lena V. Boylan, E. Brandall, L. Harris, Nellie Harris, Jennie Carpenter, and Ida Lewis.

The board of Education: Alonzo B. Boylan, Mr. James Bennett, and Mr. Thomas Appleby, laid the brick schoolhouse's cornerstone on 5 Jul 1886.

Additional Information
RICHARD JOYCE



Richard and Mary Joyce
Newspaper photographs

RICHARD JOYCE, son of Henry Joyce (1808-1885) and Mary Nyland (1825-1902), was born on 14 Feb 1849 in Mayo County, Ireland. During his early adult years, he worked the railroad yards in England. He came to the United States by way of a ship called "The Adriatic." It arrived in New York City, New York, on 19 May 1873. He was one of the first settlers in Kearny County, Kansas but soon took a government job that took him briefly away from the area. In 1880, he had

returned to Kearny County and was herding cattle for the William Loucks ranch. He soon took the job as Foreman for John O'Loughlin's Pig Pen Ranch in Grant County. About the same time, he homesteaded in the Wagon Bed Springs area and became one of the first white settlers in the area that would later become Grant County, Kansas. He also continued to work for John O'Loughlin for the next 13 years.

On 7 Jan 1886, he married **MARY JOYCE**, daughter of James Joyce (1826-1873) and Honora Moran (1831-1905), in Salina, Saline County, Kansas. (*Maiden name the same. Some records give "could be third cousins"*.) It was during the time of the horrible Blizzard that hit Southwest Kansas and it's believed that many people died during the storm as the temperature dropped to below 30 degrees. Richard lost many cattle at that time, and it took him almost two years to recover from the loss. In 1888, Richard Joyce and two other men, Dan C. Sullivan and Billie Joy organized Grant County.

Richard and Mary's child, **RICHARD HENRY "HARRY" JOYCE**, was born on 4 Sep 1891. There were no doctors in Grant County during that time, so Mary Joyce went to Lakin in Kearny County to deliver her son. About 1917, Harry was married to Estelle Towler, daughter of Edward Towler and Imogene Satterlee. They had two sons, Robert Joyce and Thomas Joyce.

According to the 1900 and 1910 census records, Richard and Mary's farm was located in Sullivan, Grant County, Kansas. Richard died on 27 May 1917, and Mary died on 25 Aug 1939. Both were buried at the Ulysses Cemetery in Ulysses, Grant County, Kansas.

Additional Information ALONZO BRADNER BOYLAN



Alonzo Boylan and Castella (Walter) Boylan
Photographs and additional details, provided by Kristen Burkhart Ferhati

ALONZO BRADNER BOYLAN, son of Firman Boylan (1801-1897) and Laura Hulbert (1803-1868), was born on 22 Jul 1842 in the Village of Canaseraga, Allegany County, New York. He married **CASTELLA FLORENCE WALTER** on 13 Oct 1869 in Lawrence, Scott County, Minnesota. Castella was born on 3 Sep 1851 in Miami County, Indiana. She was the daughter of Dr. Ambrose Blunt Walter (1818-1898) and Hanna Roll (1828-1919). Her father was a physician in Belle Plaine, Scott County, Minnesota. Castella was a teacher in Chaska, Carver County, Minnesota, when she met Alonzo, and he was working as a railway station agent in Blakely, Scott County, Minnesota.

Three children were born in their marriage: **HANNAH LAURA BOYLAN** (1870-1873), who died in Sioux City, Iowa, when a wheel fell off a train that was traveling through the station and hit her while she was standing on the platform, **LENORA VICTORIA BOYLAN** (1872-1970) and **AMBROSE “BRADNER” BOYLAN** (1874-1938).



*Children of Alonzo and Castella Boylan:
Lenora Boylan & Ambrose ‘Bradner’ Boylan*

Alonzo arrived in Lakin on 16 Jul 1874, and Castella followed, with their children, in September of 1875. They moved into a railroad building after they arrived, and Alonzo began the project of having a home built for his family. The home was and still is today, called the “Great White House.” Alonzo and Castella were both active in advancing the community of Lakin.

Their daughter, Lenora Victoria Boylan, graduated from Lakin High School in 1890. She was the school's first high school student to graduate. She married George H. Tate, Jr., and they were proud parents of five children: James, Victor, Cecil, Roland, and Susanna. (*See Kearny County Project Consultant – Mrs. George H. Tate, Jr.*)

Their son, Bradner, served with the Sixth Division of United States troops in France during World War I. He was the first recruit from Kearny County to serve. He was married to Maude Cupps on 2 Mar 1931 in Garland County, Arkansas. They did not have children. Bradner died in Shreveport, Louisiana, while being caught between two trains while transferring cars from one train to another in a rail yard. He was buried at the Lakin Cemetery in Lakin, Kansas

Alonzo passed away on 7 Sep 1918 in Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas, and Castella died there on 14 Oct 1922. They were buried at the Lakin Cemetery.

Newspaper Obituary
ALONZO BRADNER BOYLAN

The Lakin (Kansas) Advocate – Friday, 13 Sep 1918

ALONZO B. BOYLAN, PASSED AWAY

Again, we are called upon to chronicle the demise of one of our oldest citizens. Alonzo Bradner Boylan passed away on September 7th at the home of his daughter after a short illness. He was 77 years of age. Mr. Boylan was born in New York State and came to Lakin in 1874, being the first agent of the Santa Fe here in this area, the position he filled for some time. Except for a short residence in Colorado, he has made his home here, engaged in farming and stock raising.

Funeral services were held at the home on Monday morning, conducted by Rev. Wright, and interment in the Lakin Cemetery. He leaves his wife, a daughter (Lenora Victoria) and son (Ambrose Bradner), and friends innumerable to mourn his loss, being the oldest citizen of this county.

Additional Information
THOMAS J. PEARL

THOMAS JEFFERSON PEARL, son of George and Rebecca Pearl, was born 14 Feb 1847 near Terra Haute, Indiana. When he was ten years old, his father passed away and his mother took the family to live in Nebraska, close to Lincoln. By 1876, Thomas had left Nebraska and settled in Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas. There he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Thomas was married to **MARGARET CATHERINE WHITE** on 5 Nov 1879 in Pueblo, Pueblo County, Colorado. Margaret was born on 12 Nov 1857 in Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa.

They had four children: **MARY MAUDE PEARL**, the first baby girl born in Lakin, Kansas. She married Thomas C. Nelson on 21 Nov 1906 in Lakin, Kansas, **MABEL HELENA (PEARL) HART** (1882-1980), **JOHN T. PEARL** (1887-1927), and **GEORGE A. PEARL** (1894-1972). George never married.

Thomas passed away on 6 Aug 1915 in Lakin, Kansas and Margaret died there on 23 Dec 1920. Burial for both was at the Lakin Cemetery in Lakin, Kansas.

Cemetery Headstone
THOMAS JEFFERSON PEARL & MARGARET C. (WHITE) PEARL



LAKIN CEMETERY
Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas
Headstone photograph provided by Leon Barton

Newspaper Obituaries
THOMAS J. PEARL

The Lakin (Kansas) Advocate, 13 Aug 1915

In the death of THOMAS JEFFERSON PEARL who passed away Friday evening, Lakin has lost one of her oldest and most respected citizens. Few men had more friends, as his quiet, consistent, honest life won for him the respect of all and the genuine affection of many. He was an active employee of the Santa Fe for nearly thirty years and held in high esteem. He retired from their service years ago and spent a considerable amount of time improving his home and surroundings.

Mr. Pearl's illness was of some duration, extending for more than a year. For the past nine months, he was a more patient sufferer, and during all his illness, he never uttered one complaint but was ever hopeful he would soon recover his health and strength.

Thomas Jefferson Pearl was born in Wabash County, Indiana, on 14 Feb 1847. He departed this life in Lakin, Kansas, on 6 Aug 1915, at 68 years, five months, and 22 days.

He was married to Margaret C. White on 5 Nov 1879. The widow and four children survive him: Mary Maude Pearl Nelson, Mabel Helena Pearl Hart, John T. Pearl, and George A. Pearl. Also surviving are one brother of Toledo, Ohio, and one sister of Palmyra, Nebraska.

Funeral service was held at the home Sunday, conducted by Rev. Gibbons of the M. E. Church, and interment in the Lakin Cemetery, attended by many friends and loved ones who knew him long and loved him well.

The pallbearers were Mr. John Sherfy, Mr. Addison Millyard, Mr. Thornton Thorpe, Mr. William Russell, Mr. James Mullany, and Mr. Harry Browne. With his many friends, the Advocate extends heartfelt sympathy to the family in losing a devoted husband, affectionate father, and a man for whom his neighbors all have a kind word.

MARGARET CATHERINE (WHITE) PEARL

The Lakin, Kansas Advocate – Friday, 31 Dec 1920

Margaret Catherine (White) Pearl was born in Dubuque, Iowa, on 12 Nov 1857 and departed this life on 23 Dec 1920, at the age of 63 years, one month and 11 days.

At the age of 16, in the year 1873, she, with her mother (*Margaret Considine O'Loughlin White*) and her ½ brother, the late John O'Loughlin, emigrated to Lakin, Kansas, where she made her home until her death. She was married to Thomas J. Pearl on 5 Nov 1879. Born to this union were four children: Maude Pearl Nelson of Fort Scott, Kansas, Mabel Pearl Hart of Lakin, John T. Pearl, and George A. Pearl, both of Lakin, Kansas. Her husband preceded her to the home beyond on 6 Aug 1915.

Besides her four children, one sister survives her: Mary Canavan of Dubuque, Iowa, and a brother, Thomas O'Loughlin of Miami, Texas. The deceased was a Catholic Church member, and a living faith in her Savior marked her Christian life. Her kindness and love have so enriched the lives of her loved ones and friends. Her first thought was always of home and family, and nothing was ever permitted to interfere with her domestic life. She played a most crucial part in molding the characters not only of her immediate family, but also of many who are now worthy citizens of our community.

Her health failed about six months ago, and since that time, she has been a patient sufferer.

About a week ago, she commenced to grow weaker rapidly and fell asleep on the afternoon of 23 Dec 1920. With her at the time were her two sons and two daughters. Faith has won another victory, and while absent from the body, she is present with her Lord, whom she loved so devotedly and served so faithfully.

Funeral service was held Monday A. M. at the Catholic Church, conducted by Father Dambach of Garden City. Attending were a multitude of friends and loved ones.

The pallbearers were Harry Brown, William Russell, James Mullany, F. L. Pierce, J. H. Waterman, and William O'Loughlin.

Additional Information JOHN H. CARTER

JOHN HENRY CARTER, son of Henry T. Carter and Rachel Blake, was born on 11 Jan 1844 in Madison County, Illinois. He was first married to **MARY PENN.** She was born in March of 1846 in Illinois.

John and Mary had the following children; **AMY (CARTER) LOCK**, born in September of 1865, **ABRAHAM CARTER**, born about 1866, **EZRA CARTER**, born on 3 Apr 1868 in St. Clair County, Illinois, and died on 12 Dec 1910 in Hartland, Kearny County, Kansas. (*Ezra died from a gunshot, caused by a neighboring farmer, George Clark.*), **HATTIE CARTER** was born about 1871, and **ALICE CARTER** was born about 1879 (*The first girl born in Kearny County*).

John and Mary were divorced in about 1896. In June of 1900, Mary was living in Hartland, Kearny County, Kansas, with two of her children, Amy and Ezra. She died the next month, on 8 Jul 1900 and buried at the Lakin Cemetery in Lakin, Kansas.

John H. Carter's next marriage was to **MIRANDA "MINNIE" H. (VAN GILDER) BLACK** in about 1897. Minnie (Van Gilder) Carter was born in Pennsylvania in 1856. She was first married to James Renick Black on 2 Apr 1875 in Marion County, Illinois. James died on 22 Feb 1892.

Sometime between 1900 and 1910, John and Minnie left Hartland, Kansas, and moved to San Diego County, California. One of Minnie's daughters (*Kittie Black Wright*) from Minnie's first marriage lived there with her husband and family. Minnie died there on 9 Oct 1907 and buried at the Glen Abbey Memorial Park Cemetery in Bonita, San Diego County, California. John Henry Carter was also buried there. He died on 14 Aug 1924 in San Diego, California.

Additional Information HARRISON BURTCH

The United States Federal Census Mortality records support the fact that **HARRISON BURTCH** was born about 1842 in New York state, the son of Morris Burtch and Pauline Royce.

He died from the effects of a gunshot in January of 1880 in Kearny County, Kansas. Harrison Burtch had sold a land claim about one and a half miles from Lakin, but the person who bought it decided they did not want the land. Mr. Burtch repurchased it and lived there with his family making improvements. In late 1879, George Bandle, who lived in town, went to Larned and filed papers on the same land. When Mr. Bandle went to Mr. Burtch and explained what he had done, there were harsh words, but they reached an agreement, and Bandle was to pay for the improvements Mr. Burtch had made. Bandle did not make any of the payments, and a few fights broke out between the two men. During the last battle, Burtch, who had a gun with him, somehow lost control of the weapon. Mr. Bandle ended up with the gun and shot Mr. Burtch. Once Harrison Burtch knew that he had been shot, he walked to the store of Mr. John O'Loughlin. From there, he was taken to the home of Mr. Morgan, his father-in-law, where he died.

Harrison Burtch and his wife, **ROSANNA "ROSE" MORGAN**, lived in Outagamie County, Wisconsin, before moving on to Kearny County. Five children were born in their marriage; **GRANT BURTCH, MAY BURTCH, HARRISON BURTCH JR., ABRAHAM BURTCH, and MORRIS BURTCH.**

Mr. Burtch worked as a rancher and a saloon keeper. He was about 40 years old when he died, and he had scars from wounds received on the battlefield during the war. He was known to be a kind-hearted and generous man and did what he could to help during Lakin's early days. Mr. Burtch had assisted many of the town's people, even the man who shot him.

Additional Information WILHELM MEYER

WILHELM MEYER was born on 6 Mar 1845 in Hanover, Region Hannover, Lower Saxony, Germany. He immigrated to the United States in 1872, moved to Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas in 1879, and was a farmer. He married **ELIZABETH EPP** in 1894.

Elizabeth was born on 28 Jan 1854 in Marienburg, West Prussia, Germany, and arrived in the United States in 1881. After arriving, she made her home in Newton, Kansas, and soon married Cornelius Penner. Cornelius and Elizabeth had two daughters, Meta Marie (Penner) Kettler and Eliza Linda (Penner) Becker.

After Mr. Penner passed away on 26 Mar 1892, Elizabeth and her daughters moved to Kearny County, Kansas, where she met and married Wilhelm Meyer. Wilhelm passed away on 11 Mar 1915, and Elizabeth passed away on 11 Apr 1930. Both were buried at the Deerfield Cemetery in Deerfield, Kearny County, Kansas.

**Newspaper Obituary
WILHELM MEYER**

The Lakin, Kansas Advocate – 19 Mar 1915

The funeral services of WILHELM MEYER, who passed away Thursday, on March 11th, were held at the Lutheran Church in Deerfield Sunday. Rev. Pennecamp conducted the service. Interment followed at the Deerfield Cemetery.

Mr. Meyer was born in Hanover, Germany, on 6 Mar 1845 and died 11 Mar 1915. He came to Lakin in 1879 and resided for several years on his farm in Southside Township, and moved to Deerfield, where he lived until his death.

He leaves a wife, Elizabeth, two daughters (*actually stepdaughters*), a brother and sister who live in Iowa, 2 nephews and a niece who reside in this county, together with a host of friends to mourn his loss.

The Advocate extends sympathy to the grief-stricken wife and daughters in this their hour of most profound sorrow.

**Additional Information
CHARLES O. CHAPMAN**

CHARLES O. CHAPMAN, son of Moses Sherwood Chapman (1813-1854) and Elizabeth Robinson (1826-1858), was born on 24 Aug 1845 in Lagrange County, Indiana.

On 10 Oct 1888 in Vicksburg, Warren County, Mississippi, he married **OLIVE JEANETTE RHEUBOTTOM**, daughter of John Rheubottom (1786-1850) and Hannah Wilcox (1826-1918) Olive was born on 5 Sep 1846 in Chautauqua County, New York.

In the year 1880, before his marriage to Olive, Charles was living in Lakin, Kearny County, Kansas and working as a Lawyer. He was also the town Marshal during the 1880s. In the year, 1900, he was working as the County Clerk and by the year 1910, he had his own business as a contractor. He was later active in Real Estate and was Editor of the local newspaper.

In the 1890's, his wife, Olive owned a Notion's Store in Lakin. It was a popular place for the woman in that area to meet.

Charles passed away on 10 Mar 1920 at Fort Dodge, Ford County, Kansas. His burial was at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery in Fort Dodge, Ford County, Kansas. Olive died on 19 Oct 1927 and then buried at the Greenwood Cemetery in LaGrange, LaGrange County, Indiana.

All records indicate they did not have children.

**Newspaper Obituary
CHARLES O. CHAPMAN**

The Lakin, Kansas Advocate – Friday, 19 Mar 1920

CHARLES O. CHAPMAN was born in Lagrange, Indiana, on 24 Aug 1845. In his youth, he went with his parents to the State of Iowa. There Charles enlisted in the Volunteer Service in 1861. In 1864, he re-enlisted at Vicksburg and “mustered out” in July of 1865.

In 1876, he came to Kearny County and filed on a homestead and later moved into Lakin and entered the Real Estate and abstract business. For a time, he was Editor and Publisher of The Advocate, and was soon recognized as one of the “newspaper boys.”

He married Olive Jeanette Rheubottom in 1888 at Lakin and continued to reside here until some four years ago when he went to the Soldiers Home at Fort Dodge to spend his declining years and where he passed to the better world on 10 Mar 1920. He joined the Christian Church of Lakin in August of 1909 and lived consistently with its doctrines to the end.

The G. A. R. at Fort Dodge conducted the funeral services on 12 Mar 1920 by Elder A. C. McKeever. Burial at the Kansas Veterans Cemetery at Fort Dodge in Ford County, Kansas.

**Additional Information
ARTHUR ASA GILBERT STAYTON**

Newspaper Obituaries

The Lakin, Kansas Advocate – Friday, 8 Sep 1916

DEATH OF ARTHUR ASA GILBERT STAYTON

ARTHUR GILBERT STAYTON, son of *Moses Alexander Stayton (1799-1836) and Catherine Smith (1799-1873)*, was born in Nashville, Tennessee on 20 Mar 1832, and died at his home near Hartland, Kansas on 2 Sep 1916, at the age of 84 years, 5 months, and 12 days. The deceased moved with his parents to Jackson County, Missouri, in 1836. He came to Kansas in 1891, where he resided until the time of his death.

He was married to **ELIZA JANE FUGATE** on 15 Jun 1854 in Cass County, Missouri. For more than 61 years, he and his devoted wife walked the path of life together. He had been a member of the Christian Church for fifty years, a Mason for sixty years and a member of the Order of Odd Fellows.

At two o'clock, Saturday afternoon, the funeral was held at the home, the Rev. A. M. Gibbons officiating. The burial was in the Lakin Cemetery.

Mr. Stayton was active all his life and took much interest in public affairs. At seventeen, he took employment with the Merchants Overland Freight Company and worked between Kansas City and Santa Fe, New Mexico, for three years. In 1851, he went overland to the goldfields of California and remained there for three years. He then farmed in Europe for several years. When the Civil War broke out, he was commissioned as Captain by the Confederate Government and became Purchasing Agent for the army's western division with much credit. After the war, he returned to peaceful pursuits, and as stated above, he came to Kansas in 1881 and was a factor in Kearny County affairs until feebleness from age kept him to his home. His will be a remembered life, which covered many years beyond that allotted to man.

Besides the widow, he leaves a daughter, SARAH MELISSA "BELLE" (STAYTON) LOCKE, 1860-1946) and two sons STERLING PRICE STAYTON, (1866-1963) and FOREST LEE STAYTON (1868-1930).

Other children of Mr. Stayton and his wife were MOSES LEWIS STAYTON (1856-1856), BUCHANAN B. STAYTON (Born about 1858 and died before 1916), and LAURA L. (STAYTON) VEZEY (1862-1889) (For more details about Laura Stayton Vezey, See next "Additional Information HARTWELL SILAS VEZEY".)

ELIZA J. FUGATE
Wife of Arthur G. Stayton

The Lakin, Kansas Advocate – Friday, 5 May 1922

Eliza J. Fugate was born near Richmond, Virginia, on 5 Jul 1836 and departed this life 29 Apr 1922, at age 85 years, 9 months, and 24 days.

When a child three years old, she moved with her parents to Cass County, Missouri, and it was there that she grew to young womanhood and was united in marriage with A. A. G. Stayton on 15 June 1854, and they went to Jackson County, Missouri, to make their home.

Again, in the year 1881, she and her husband decided to help develop the vast western prairies and moved to Hartland, Kansas, where she made her home until the death of her husband on 1 Sep 1916, when she came to Lakin to reside with her daughter, Mrs. B. T. Locke. She had been in poor health for some time, but her last illness was of short duration, and her condition was not considered serious until the last few hours of her life.

Mrs. Stayton was converted and united with the Christian Church when a young woman and remained a loyal and faithful member. Her life had been given to making the lives of others bright and cheerful, ever ready to lend a helping hand to those in need. Many are the hearts that feel the loss of this Godly woman, who has taken an active interest in the community development during forty-one years of residence in this county.

Six children were born to bless Mrs. Stayton's home, three of whom, Moses Lewis, Buchanan B., and Laura L., preceded her to the Great Beyond. She leaves to mourn the loss of a daughter, Mrs. B. T. Locke, of Lakin; two sons, S. P. Stayton, of Pueblo, Colorado and F. L. Stayton, of Prescott, Arizona; seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Grandmother, as everyone knew her, will be sadly missed. She always had a cheerful word to all she came in contact with, and many friends will long remember her many acts of kindness.

A funeral service was held at the Christian Church Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. McKeever, and the remains were laid to rest in the Lakin Cemetery.

Additional Information HARTWELL SILAS VEZEY



HARTWELL VEZEY

Photograph provided by Julie McCombs at the Kearny County, Kansas Historical Society

HARTWELL SILAS VEZEY (Also spelled VESEY), son of Gilman Vezey (1827-1916) and Frances M. Stone (1830-1898), was born in 1851 in Illinois. In 1870, at age 18, he lived with his family in Spruce, Bates County, Missouri. The family moved to Sumner County, Kansas, during the mid-1880s, and the following year, Hartwell went to Kearny County, Kansas. There, Hartwell was Section Forman for the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway and was a very active Masonic Lodge member.

Hartwell was first married to LAURA L. STAYTON, daughter of Arthur Asa Gilbert Stayton

and Eliza Jane Fugate (*See above information about Arthur A. G. Stayton*). Laura was born in 1862 in Missouri. She died on 18 Jan 1889 and buried at the Hartland Cemetery in Kearny County, Kansas. Hartwell and Laura had one daughter, **IDA GERTRUDE (VEZEY) MARSHALL**, (1882-1966).

Hartwell married again, to **Mrs. MINERVA REDMON** on 9 Mar 1890 in Garden City, Kansas. She was born in 1859 in North Carolina. Soon after they were married, they moved to Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado.

Minerva died in 1926 in Colorado Springs and buried there at the Evergreen Cemetery.

In 1930, Hartwell was still living in Colorado Springs but soon moved to Larned, Pawnee County, Kansas. He died in Larned on 16 Jun 1934. *To date, his buried place has not been located.*

Additional Information **KARL W. FROEHLICH**

KARL WILHELM FROEHLICH, son of Jacob Froehlich and Elisabeth Zucker, was born on 2 Oct 1853 in Geisingen, Ludwigsburg, Germany. Karl was one of Kearny County's oldest citizens, arriving early in the year 1885. There, he married **MARIE BARBARA WURSTER** on 8 Oct 1885, and they lived on their farm, east of Lakin. Many said it was like the Garden of Eden, with trees, vines, and shrubbery. Marie was born on 13 Feb 1862 in Wurttemberg, Germany.

Karl and Marie did not have children.

Karl Froehlich passed away on 22 Jun 1921 in the Rewerts Hospital at Garden City, Kansas. He had undergone an operation for gallstones and appendicitis earlier, but pneumonia set in, and he did not recover. Burial was at the Lakin Cemetery on 25 Jun 1921. Marie died 13 Sep 1938 in Garden City, Kansas, and was buried at the Lakin Cemetery, next to her husband, Karl.