

# Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch

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## From the Editor

As I begin this edition of the newsletter spring is very slow to arrive here in Northern Iowa. We have had but a few days of weather warm enough to call spring, and have had snow showers over the past few weeks reminding us that winter is not over yet. But the robins have returned and we did see a daffodil peeking out of the flowerbed the other day so perhaps spring is just around the corner.

Do you have a family reunion, anniversary, or special birthday that would make good news for the Dispatch? I'd appreciate hearing if you do and we'd be happy to include the news along with our regular articles.

## Breyfogles in Ohio

In earlier newsletters we have had a discussion about the Breyfogle family members that settled in Ohio, leaving the original home state of Pennsylvania. The 1850 census showed 5 separate family groups living in Ohio.

In the 1860 Federal Census we find that the number of Breyfogle families dropped to a total of four families, but what is most important is that it is during this ten-year period that several Breyfogle families left Ohio and began the westward migration.

Living in Ohio in 1860 were Charles and Matilda Jane (Cloud) Breyfogle, residents in Columbus, Ohio in 1850 as well. Joshua D. and Mary (Reynolds) Breyfogle were living in Delaware, Ohio, the same city of residence as in 1850. Also a hold over from 1850 was George P. and Sarah (Zimmerman) Breyfogle in Columbus, Ohio. The fourth family living in Ohio in 1860 was Lewis W. and Elizabeth M. (Shaw) Breyfogle in Delaware, Ohio.

Lewis W. Breyfogle, born on September 17, 1836 in Delaware, Ohio, was the son of Israel and Elizabeth (Trout) Breyfogle, Sr. Israel and Elizabeth were not located on any census for this period, but according to the work by Lewis W. Breyfogle they were recorded as not leaving Ohio until 1866. As is with all census searches, the trail is often not clear as names were misspelled and often families were not recorded for one reason or another.

It is very possible that Israel and his entire family were living on the same farm but only one family group was recorded under the name of Lewis and Elizabeth.

We know that Lewis and Elizabeth were married on March 25, 1860, just prior to the census that was recorded on July 7, 1860 and that he was listed as a farmer, and it appears the family must have lived on a farm, as all the neighbors listed on this census form were either farmers, or farm laborers. We also know that Israel, although listed as a cabinetmaker in the 1850 census, was also involved with farming for most of his life. So it is possible the entire family was living on a single farm.

At this point we do not have the exact location of that farm for Lewis and Elizabeth, but the census record provides us with a tiny spot on the map where the census record was compiled. The census form recorded the location as Dublin, Franklin County, and Radnor Township. If all this sounds confusing a quick look at the on-line encyclopedia, [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) shows that, “Dublin is a city in Franklin, Delaware, and Union counties in the U.S. state of Ohio.” It goes on to tell us that today Dublin continues to be one of the fastest growing suburbs of Columbus, OH.

In the 1860's the town of Dublin was a few hundred people so it is very possible that the farm may have been very close to the town itself and this leads us to conclude that it is very possible that the farmstead is now part of a metropolitan area. The map of Ohio below shows the location of this village that lies at the intersection of three counties.



As we begin to look deeper into the Breyfogle movement into and then out of Ohio we are struck by

the very colorful and tumultuous period between 1849 and 1865. As we mentioned in earlier editions, many Breyfogle men traveled to California in the 1849 Gold Rush with only a few remaining there as permanent residents. We also have records of the Breyfogle men joining the fight during the Civil War.

So there was movement out of Ohio prior to 1860, but for the most part it was temporary at best.

### **In Search of Roberta "Birdie" Mills**

We will from time to time have questions submitted about the extended Breyfogle family that we simply don't have an answer for. And so is the case now. In an effort to help Stan and Kay Breyfogle in their search for a missing box of photographs we will turn to you and hope you can offer some assistance.

As you can read in the attached letter, Stan and Kay are searching for Birdie Mills and a box of photographs she may have that once belonged to their grandparents Homer and Nellie Breyfogle. If you have any information to help them in their search please contact me by e-mail or letter so that we can forward this on to them. As a reminder to all our readers we do not publish address or e-mail information of others in this newsletter, and only put family members in contact with each other when we have permission from both parties.

- - March 22, 2008 E-mail - -

Hi Dan,

We thank you for sending us information about my grandparents, Homer and Nellie Breyfogle. We have now been able to locate their cemetery, dates of death, an obituary for Homer, and have received their death certificates. Now for our next search, David Breyfogle told us at our South Dakota Breyfogle reunion that Roberta "Birdie" Mills of Overland Park, Kansas has a box of photos and papers from Homer and Nellie but David has lost track of her.

During an online search we found that Roberta Campbell Mills is the daughter of Robert E and Mary Breyfogle Campbell of Overland Park, Kansas and that Roberta was born about 1926, and found addresses for a Roberta C Mills in Spring Hill, Kansas as well as in Overland Park, Kansas. We are wondering with this information if you might be able to find her in the Breyfogle Family Tree book and tell us if she has any children, their names, addresses?

Since she would be in her 80's we may have better success finding her and the Grandparents box (if it still exists) through her children. Thank you for your kind assistance.

Sincerely, Stan and Kay Breyfogle

- - End of E-mail - -

The only record we have of children for Robert E. and Mary (Breyfogle) Campbell is Mary Lois, Frances R. and Robert B., our source for these children come

from the 1930 Federal Census with the children being born in 1925, 1926, and 1927. We do not have any record of a Roberta but wonder if Frances R. Campbell could be Frances Roberta. This is purely conjecture as the year of birth does line up with Stan and Kay's research for this child of Robert and Mary Campbell.

Stan and Kay also provided the follow obituary that offers further clues on the children of Robert and Mary Campbell. We offer it here in the hopes that it will provide our readers with additional information to help us piece this family group together.

### **Obituary – Robert B. Campbell, Sr.**

Robert B. Campbell Sr., age 78, of Gravois Mills, passed away Friday afternoon, July 21, 2006 at Lake Regional Hospital in Osage Beach. He was born September 23, 1927 in Overland Park, Kansas, the son of Robert E. and Mary Breyfogle Campbell.

He was united in marriage on October 6, 1947 with Joan M. Meeker, who preceded him in death on January 23, 1990. On March 25, 1994 he married Patricia McGinnis Evans.

Mr. Campbell worked in the construction industry most of his life. He was a master carpenter and owned Campbell Construction Company prior to his retirement. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, member of the American Legion for 62 years and currently a member of Zack Wheat American Legion Post #624 in Sunrise Beach, the American Legion 40 & 8 Voiture Locale #1403, and Ozark Chapel United Methodist Church in Laurie.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Campbell of the home; three sons, Robert B. Campbell Jr. and wife Cindy, of Gravois Mills, Steven B. Campbell and wife Linda, of Olathe, Kansas, and Jeffery A. Campbell of Sheldon; one daughter, Vickie M. Crockett and husband Rockwell, of Sheldon; two brothers, Thomas Campbell of Spring Hill, Kansas, and Alfred Campbell of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; three sisters, Mary Rogers of Shawnee Mission, Kansas, Roberta Mills of Spring Hill, Kansas, and Morie Ann Thies of Prairie Village, Kansas; nine grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, may other relatives and friends.

He was also preceded in death by one brother, Louis Campbell and one sister, Hilma Marie Campbell. Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie-Sunrise Beach Chapel in Laurie, with Ray Basset officiating. Interment will be in Garber Memorial Estates Cemetery in Laurie, with full military honors under the auspices of the Zack Wheat American Legion Post #624. The family will receive friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Monday at the Kidwell-Garber Laurie-Sunrise Beach Chapel in Laurie. In lieu of flowers the family suggests memorials to the 40 & 8 Nurses Training Fund or the Zack Wheat American Legion To send sympathy e-mails for the family visit [www.kidwellgarber.com](http://www.kidwellgarber.com).

Scholarship Fund. Arrangements are under the direction of the Kidwell-Garber Funeral Home of Laurie.

### **The Breyfogles Leave Ohio**

As we begin to look at the movements of the Breyfogle family beyond the 1850's it is necessary to take a broader approach to the topic. The move from Pennsylvania to New York by one family, and the larger movement to Ohio was focused on a narrow set of moves by a handful of those willing to uproot their families and head to the frontier to seek land and greater opportunity.

We are all familiar with the stories of the westward movement by wagon train to the west coast, but the earlier movement was closer at hand, but no less risky when you consider that none of the lands they were moving to would be considered settled.

As we have discussed before, there was movement to California, primarily at first as a temporary adventure as part of the 1849 Gold Rush. But perhaps the greatest movement was caused by new lands opening to what we now know as the Midwest, at that time still considered the frontier. Many historians called it "greed for cheap land".

But it seems that when an opportunity to pack everything you own into a wagon that is open to all the dust, insects, and rain that come your way, travel over rough terrain with little for roads, and then to settle on a piece of ground with no community or nearby neighbors, it is hard to imagine that greed was the only motivation. Greed seems to point towards quick sure gain in wealth and holdings with little or no investment.

It is very difficult to this researcher to look at the circumstances and think of it as greed. We will leave this critical analysis to others; it is our goal to look at our ancestors shared experience as they began to move further into the western frontier.

If the only reference you have read on the Breyfogle movement out of Pennsylvania and Ohio is that of Lewis W. Breyfogle you most certainly would point to the family of Israel and Elizabeth (Trout) Breyfogle when they made their move west to Kansas. Certainly at the time of his writing this was the first successful emigration that he was aware of.

Daniel and Theresa (Gaby) Breyfogle were, to our knowledge, the first of the Breyfogles that attempted to move west to settle on new land. This excludes those that went west for the gold fields, but their motivations were not the same as Daniel and Theresa. Lewis W. Breyfogle of course discussed this failed attempt to move west about May of 1852. As pointed out in our December 2006 issue of the Dispatch, Daniel and Theresa along with one of their children died on the trail near St. Joseph, Missouri.

Their remaining children returned to Ohio to be raised by Reuben Breyfogle. So this ill fated trip was the first that appeared to be a family rather than an individual seeking a better life as the Gold Rush was over and the trip was certainly to find a better way of life.

The very first Breyfogle family to leave Ohio, according to current research, was Solomon P. and Margaret (Hagerman) Breyfogle in about 1848. Unlike the gold seekers, Solomon and family stopped in Iowa and a few short years later Solomon died at the age of 40, leaving his wife and six children to fend for themselves in Cedar County Iowa.

Israel and Elizabeth (Trout) Breyfogle, as reported earlier, made the move from Ohio in 1866. As reported by Lewis W. Breyfogle, this move involved the entire family along with adult children and their spouses. This was the beginning of the Breyfogle history in Kansas, as Solomon P. Breyfogle was the beginning of the Breyfogle history in Iowa, and later in Minnesota.

In future newsletter we will begin to illustrate the lives of the different groups of the Breyfogle family as their families expanded independent of the others. It is interesting to note how these two brothers, Solomon P. and Israel began a parallel path of emigration by both settling in Ohio when they left the parents in Pennsylvania, but Ohio became a fork in the road when they took separate paths to the future. It is doubtful that either family group knew much of the other as the travel and communication would have been difficult at best.

The Iowa territory became an organized territory on July 4, 1838 and included all of Iowa, over half of Minnesota as well as the eastern halves of North and South Dakota. It became the 29<sup>th</sup> state on December 28, 1846.

Kansas was organized as a territory in 1854 and became the 34<sup>th</sup> state on January 29, 1861. As a territory it also included about half of what is now Colorado.

So by the middle 1860's we have significant Breyfogle settlements in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, and Kansas. There were other families living individually in other locations, which we will also explore, but for now the Breyfogle family had grown in size and was early pioneers in 4 states.

Do you know which family group represented your direct ancestors? We'd be pleased to help you establish this link if you are not sure.

You may contact us by mail or e-mail with comments, articles, or questions:

Mason City, IA 50401

[dan@breyfogle.com](mailto:dan@breyfogle.com)

*Breyfogle Sentinel Dispatch*

Mason City, IA 50401  
USA

To:

State Route 161 crossing the Scioto River, near Dublin, Ohio



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