

→ Naomi Emmich

Clips from my George Clapp narrative

CENSUS

1830 IL Edgar County
1855 IL Clark County
1870 NE Seward

1840 IL Edgar County
1860 IL Coles
1880 NE Butler

1850 IL Clark
1870 NE Butler
1885 NE Butler

PUBLISHED MATERIAL

- * *Biographical Memorial and Record and Illustrated Compendium of Butler, Polk, Seward, York and Fillmore Counties Nebraska* published by George Ogle and Company Chicago 1899
- * *The Darnall Darnell Family With Allied Families* Vol. I Editor and Compiler H. C. Smith Glendale CA 1955
- * *David City Centennial History Book David City, Nebraska 1873-1973* published by Banner Press Publishing David City NE
- * *Dwight Nebraska, the First Hundred Years Memories 1887-1987* Richard Collister
- * *Heritage of Clarks, Nebraska 1865-1976* Clarks Bicentennial Heritage Committee
- * *History of Seward County Nebraska* W. W. Cox, published at Lincoln 1888
- * *Nebraska Reporter*, Seward Nebraska 22 Apr 1875, page 3 column 5, death notice William P. Clapp
- * *Seward County Nebraska 1982* Seward County Historical Society, Goehner NE
- * *Waterman's History of Seward County Nebraska* published 1915

George's First family:

George Clapp, b abt 1815 in North Carolina [have corr due, desc of Margaret Clapp Smart, says birthdate 8 Feb 1817, no response yet], son of John Clapp and Catherine Turknett. George d 6 Nov 1874 Lone Star, Butler Co NE. He was a farmer and a preacher affiliated with the Primitive Baptists. His tin type (from his grand daughter Ruth Clapp of Seward NE) shows a man of medium height, stocky build, with light blue or gray eyes and dark complexion.

m 27 May 1835 Edgar Co IL Edgar Co Illinois comp. Phillip L. Shutt 1964, p7

Eliza Jane White, b abt 1816 in SC. Marian (Anderson) Fairbairn's records say b NC or SC. The majority of the White families in the 1850 and 1860 Clark and Coles census of IL were from SC. Eliza died 1854 after the birth of George Washington (The 1900 census says he was born Dec 1853 IL), and George and Eliza both signed a deed in Clark Co IL, dated 26 Apr 1854. In 1855 George purchased land in Moniteau Co MO. In Dec 1855 George remarried. Most of the family lived in Coles Co IL during this period, but Eliza Jane may have died during or after a move to MO. Eliza Jane appears to be enumerated in the IL state census of 1855, probably abt June, but she may have already died and the female listed in the census could have been a sister or cousin or...helping with the children...

Chronology of this family:

- 1835 George of Edgar Co buys land from Arthur Lamb and Mary his wife of Edgar Co
- 1837 Land patent Douglas twp Clark Co IL, Palestine Land District. (Nov) says resident Clark Co IL (while Dec 1837 patent says resident Edgar Co IL)
- 1839 George Clapp and wife Eliza Jane (of Clark County) sell to John Kime of Edgar Co, the land George had purchased from Arthur Lamb.
- 1840 Edgar Co IL census
- 1850 Clark Co IL census
- 1852 son Cass b MO
- 1853 Dec son George Washington b IL
- 1854 Apr George and Eliza sell Clark Co IL land to Robert Wilson
- 1855 George and Eliza both seem to appear in IL state census
- 1855 Jun George buys land in Moniteau Co MO from David Scott
- 1854 or early 1855 death of Eliza, IL or MO

- x) **Ruth Clapp** b 7 Feb 1903 Plum Creek twp Butler Co NE; d 1 Jun 1983 Seward, Seward Co NE, bur Seward Cemetery, Seward NE. Ruth invited me into her home with enthusiasm and grace. She was proud of her doll collection. It was the only personalization I could see in the home she continued to live in after the death of her father. Everything else was antique and impeccable. She said she had previously had many plants in her home, but was now unable to care for them. She said a neighbor helped her with her sewing projects, otherwise she needed a good deal of rest to deal with a heart condition and diabetes. She provided the tintype of George Clapp and the photos of Henry Harvey and Jennings Bryan. Ruth Clapp's obituary (provided by Wayne Martin) named a nephew, Daniel Hawkins and a niece, Cecilia Giddings who were children of a sister Alice Clapp Hawkins Labide. Wayne also said he had

asked Ruth several years ago how she was related to William P. Clapp that she couldn't recall offhand, but thought he might have been a brother or half-brother to her father.

George's second family:

George was a farmer and preacher.

George Clapp was associated with the Primitive Baptist. Butler County Clerk's Misc. Book lists George Clapp (1875 deed, after the death of George, land had been purchased from William P. Clapp and Nancy, so this was George Washington Clapp) as an officer in the "Good Hope Cemetery, Dwight". It was probably the abandoned cemetery in which Ruth Clapp tells us George was buried. [a note in Marian's work, probably from Wayne C. Martin says: There was a "New Hope Baptist Church" in the Oak Grove settlement of "A" Township, Seward. Page 18 of *Dwight Nebraska the First Hundred Years Memories 1887-1987* Ken Stevens discusses the record book of the Oak Grove church which was given to him by Ruth Clapp. The book dates from 1894 in Dwight and tells of the memberships' vote to move from Dwight, Butler Co to Oak Grove Schoolhouse, Seward Co in 1900. Records of the Oak Grove Cemetery [the cemetery is located in Sec. 23] show it contains stones for Hawkins, Myers, Darnalls, Davis, and Dye families. This Oak Grove Settlement, in section 23 is in the northeast corner of Seward County. Dwight, where George was buried, is in the southeast corner of Butler County. If a line were drawn between the two communities, it would cross Section 4, George's homestead. George's death is noted in Butler County records 6 Nov 1874. He sold the homestead in Seward County 7 Aug 1873 and moved nearer the settlement which later became Dwight, nearer his son William P. Clapp. George purchased the homestead of Arthur C. Albright and his wife Emily on 20 Sep 1873.

George died suddenly of a heart attack after he worked in the field all day. Marian Fairbairn's Aunt Flora Bucy recalled. Flora thought both George and Sarah were buried in Butler Co. Ruth Clapp told us she knew where George was buried, but Sarah had moved away and was not buried in Butler County. Ruth told us George was buried in a cemetery which was abandoned after the rail road was built nearby. She tells us the horses were too frightened by the trains to hold any more funerals there, and the new cemetery was started west of the old one. Her father, George Washington Clapp, tried to maintain the grounds and sought to have a committee continue the work but the cemetery was plowed. He could not afford to have the grave relocated to the new cemetery.

George Clapp

m second 24 Dec 1855 Moniteau Co MO Book II p190

Sarah Louisy Ann Brown (dau of Nancy Allen and James Brown) b late 1830 Bedford Co TN. 1850 Moniteau Co MO census says Sarah was b 1829, but she was not enumerated with her parents in the 1830 census of Bedford Co TN. *[Sorry, I had this backwards when we talked on the phone]*

The 1880 census Butler NE says b 1830 TN. Sarah is variously referred to as Sarah A. and "Louisy," or with both initials. Her marriage 1855 and that of Permelia R. Brown same date according to Moniteau Co Marriage records shows middle initials L. A. The 1868 Quit Claim filed in Edgar Co IL show Sarah Louisy Ann Clap. In the Butler Co rail way right of way her middle initial is A. The estate record of 1874 after George's death shows middle initial A. Still listed as property owner but non resident, in land records of Butler Co NE in 1889. Sarah died 5 Dec 1892 at her home in Butler Co. The date and place of death comes from Butler County District Court records concerning the disposition of that land. 6 July 1893, Tom had sued to partition the widows dower. [Each of the children of George would have received about 3 acres.] He lost and the court ordered the land sold intact and for cash. The heirs of George Clapp who held legal interest in the widows dower were listed. The record stated William was deceased, John was deceased and names their children. It further states "The court also find that on the 5th day of December 1892 the said Sarah A Clapp died...(the property) having been possessed and occupied by Sarah A Clapp at the time of her death."

When I visited with Ruth Clapp in 1977 she said she knew there were a lot of half brothers and sisters that she couldn't separate from the full brothers and sisters, but she thought George's second wife was a Mrs. Brown who had children from a previous marriage. She did not know where Sarah Brown Clapp moved after she left Butler County (the railroad right of way tells us Merrick Co NE), or that she had returned before her death.

Chronology of this family

1855 24 Dec, double marriage of George Clapp to Sarah L. A. Brown and John Eades to Permelia R. Brown in Moniteau Co MO

1856 Jack b MO

1856 George and Sarah his wife sell Moniteau Co MO land to Theodore Dickenson

1858 Henry Harvey b Coles Co IL

1860 Coles Co IL census

1862 George purchases land in Coles Co IL, Permelia b in Pinhook, East Oakland, Coles Co IL

1866 George and Sarah sell Coles Co IL land to Joseph Clapp

1867 covered wagon to NE (records of Marian (Anderson) Fairbairn, from her Aunt Flora Clapp Bucy) Henry Harvey was 8 years old when the Clapps came to Butler Co [sic, should be Seward Co] NE. They came in a covered wagon. There were still lots of Indians there on the Prairie. Aunt Flora Clapp Bucy said they settled near Oak Creek for wood and water. *Waterman's History of Seward County Nebraska* tells of arrival of settlers including Darnalls and Clapps arriving in Section 22 in the year 1867. Land

patents for William P. Clapp Sec 21 13-4 agree with that date, George was in Section 4, John in Sec 19 13-4. Wayne C. Martin reported to Marian Fairbairn that he found a Seward County homestead entry for George Clapp, Section 4-12N-4E, dated 24 Jun 1867. *Cox's History of Seward County Nebraska* tells us George Clapp preached the first sermon in the old log school house, in 1867.

1869 1 Mar George and Sarah sign (in Seward Co NE) a quit claim for the Edgar Co IL land of John Clapp (East Half of the SW quarter of Sec 10 twp 12N range 13W)

1869 6 May, Seward Co NE quit claim dated 1 Mar 1869, filed in Edgar Co IL [this is one of a set of Edgar County IL deeds grouping the heirs of John Clapp. This quit claim proves George to be son of John Clapp and Catherine Turknett, see file 0052]

1870 Seward Co NE census, Feb Rosa b Feb in Seward Co.

1871 Butler Co, *David City Centennial History Book 1873-1973* A. C. Albright, Shelby Davis and J. P. Dunlap were the first school officers. In the spring of 1871 a schoolhouse was built at the southwest corner of what is now the townsite of Dwight. ...the lumber was hauled on wagons from Lincoln...School commenced on October 2, 1871...The first preaching was in the school house on October 29, 1871, by George Clapp a Baptist preacher from Seward County." The above J. P. Dunlap had proved up on the 1868 claim of John Clapp for a homestead in section 9, which John cancelled in 1869, see *Dwight Nebraska, the First Hundred Years Memories 1887-1987* for article on Dunlap family.

1873, July Patent issued for Seward Co land

1873 George and Sarah move from Seward County to Butler County, purchased land from Albright

1874 6 Nov death of George (Estate #40 Butler Co NE: left no will).

1885 census Butler Co NE Sarah and Jack both have farms in Richardson pct, George Washington was living in Plum Creek pct, Leonard was working in Rising City, Reading pct. Permelia and Samuel Dunwoody were in Richardson pct.

1887 Deed Book 24, p56 Sarah A. Clapp and children of Merrick Co, rail road right of way in Butler Co (the rail road was built into Dwight in 1887)

1889 Butler Co Atlas (from Anna McElravy) Sarah Clapp owns land, NE 53+ A of NW ⁴ Sec 18 Richardson. George Washington Clapp was living in Sec 36 Plum Creek.

1892 Dec 5 Sarah died at her home in Butler County NE.

Probate of Sarah Clapp

BUTLER COUNTY NEBRASKA District Court Records:

1893-07-06 Thomas Clapp sues other heirs to partition dower, they do not respond or demurr, so Ct finds for plaintiff Dist Ct Journal p 532

1893-08-?? partial copy, decree, all heirs named, death date of Sarah given, fractional portions due each heir listed, page number missing *SEE BELOW****

1893-09-08 court orders sale of land "confined" rather than partitioned, specifies "for cash" Dist Ct Journal p 538

1893-11-25 Auction held

1893-12-09 Thomas Clapp vs Christopher Clapp . et al (sic)
It is hereby ordered that cause be shown by January 2 1894 why sale should not be confirmed.
Whereupon Court adjourned until Jany 2d 1894

Dist Ct Journal p 34

1894-01-02 Referees' report of sale Dist Ct Journal pp 36,37

1894-01-09 deed filed in recorders office

*** . . . John Clapp, Chesterfield Clapp, James Clapp, Martha L. Darnell, George Clapp, Mandana Hanely, Margret Smart, Andrew J. Clapp, Henry H. Clapp, Leonard J. Clapp, Parmalina O. Dunwoody, Rosa Pyle and Thomas Clapp. And that he also left as his widow Sarah A Clapp. The Court also finds that the said George A Clapp was at the time of his death seized in fee Simple of the following described Real Estate to wit. The North West quarter Section Eighteen Township Thirteen North Range Four East of the 6th P.M. in Butler County Nebr. The Court also finds that after the death of said George A Clapp a portion of said Real Estate was ?stg? to his Widow Sarah A Clapp as her dower Interest in said land which said portion is described as follows The E 1/2 q n W, 1/4 said Section 18 except a strip 58 rods in width from the south End thereof. **The court also find that on the 5th day of December 1892 the said**

Sarah A. Clapp died being in possession at that time of her Dower Interest as above described except a small portion taken by the Fremont Elkhorn and Missouri Valley R R Company as Right of way being a strip 200 feet wide across said land, the court also finds that the said William Clapp is now deceased and that his heirs at law are the defendants herein named, Nancy Clapp, his widow and Mandana Hart, Jane Hart, Jane ___d, Maggie Ford, Sarah Bye and John P. Clapp his children, the Court also finds that the said John Clapp is now deceased and his heirs at law are the Defendants named herein: Mary Clapp his widow and Dora Clapp and Ida Clapp his children. The Court also finds ___ the defendants Chesterfield Clapp, James Clapp, George Clapp, Martha Darnell, Mandana Hanley, Margret Smart, Andrew ___ Henry H. Clapp, Leonard J. Clapp, Parmelia O Dunwoody and Rosa Pyle, and the plaintiff Thomas Clapp with ___g John Clapp are each entitled and each have the undivided one fourteenth part of the tract and parcel of land ? ___? ... having been possessed and occupied by Sarah A Clapp at the time of her death as her Dower Interest ___ Real Estate of her deceased husband George A Clapp. The court also finds that as the widow and heirs at law of William ___deceased, the descendant Mary Clapp (sic) is entitled and have the undivided one forty second part of said Tract ___ parcel of land. The Court also finds that as the children and Heirs at law of the said William Clapp deceased ___ defendant Mandana Hart, Jane Hart, Maggie Ford, Sarah Bye and John C. Clapp are each entitled to and have the undivided one hundred and fifth part of said tract and parcel of land. The court also ___ that as the widow and heir at law of the said John Clapp deceased Mary Clapp and Dora Clapp and Ida Clapp each entitled and each have an undivided 1/42 part of said parcel or tract of land, the court finds that the plaintiff Thomas A Capp (sic) as the son and heir of the said George A Clapp deceased entitled to and heir on undivided one fourteenth interest in said parcel and tract of land. It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the court that shares as above ___ forth be and the same hereby are confirmed and that partition of said land be made if it can be done without material injury to any of said heirs ___a in further or deed by the court that B. O. Perkins, E. W. Hale and ___ G. Osterhout be appointed Referees to make said Partition ___ said Real Estate

Signed by Judge, Robert Wheeler.

The clerk was a bit sloppy at times with his handwriting and this is the only document where George has a middle initial A. It is the only document I have seen where he has any middle initial. At one point the clerk refers to him as George A. Clark, so I'm not going to take the A. very seriously unless I see more of them elsewhere.

Deed says referees: E. W. Hale, B. O. Perkins, George Osterhout
purchaser: Thomas F. Mahoney

John Clapp, father of George

[this is **not** the same John Clapp, son of Barney, whose descendants moved to Vermillion Co IL, care needs to be taken to keep the families separate, especially since grandsons of both John's appear in the 1900 census of Nebraska]

**QUIT CLAIM
FEDERAL LAND PURCHASED BY JOHN CLAPP 1833
EDGAR COUNTY ILLINIOS 1869**

Illinois State Archives Volume 291 page 073 records the sale of Public Domain land tracts to **John Clapp** on **20 February 1833**. This land description matches the description of the land involved in 1869 as the **Quit Claims, lands of John Clapp**. ...land situated in Edgar County State of Illinois to wit:

The East Half of the South West quarter of Section No. Ten (10) Township No. Twelve (12) North Range Thirteen (13) West Containing Eighty (80) Acres more or less...

This land is represented on the map in the 1870 Atlas of Edgar County IL, Grandview Township. The designation on the map is: "J. Clapp Hrs."

Joshua N. Doing purchased for \$300 the "Dower Right of Mary E. Clapp, widow of John Clapp deceased" her interest in this land. Charles W. Kemper of Edgar County Illinois purchased of heirs, quit claims on land described above, deeds and statements:

Filed in Edgar County Illinios Mary

Filed in Edgar County Illinios Otis et al

Filed in Edgar County Illinios James M. et al

Filed in Edgar County Illinios 6 May 1869 pp. 244, 245, 246, 247 and 248

Sworn Statements were sent from Coles County Illinois, Nodaway County Missouri, Seward County Nebraska, and Jackson County Iowa.

Coles County Illinois, 26 Nov 1868 John Clapp and his wife Eliza Jane Clapp Joseph Clapp and Lydia Clapp his wife.

Nodaway County Missouri had two entries, 12 Jan 1869 Reason Clapp and Nancy A. Clapp his wife, and 26 Dec 1868 Reason Wilson and Sarah Wilson his wife.

Seward County Nebraska, 1 Mar 1869, George Clapp and Sarah LA Clap his wife.

Jackson County Iowa, 5 Dec 1868, William Clapp and Naony Clapp his wife.

marriages corresponding to these couples:

John Clapp m Eliza Jane Neal, Joseph Clapp m Lydia Handley, Reason Clapp m Nancy A. Emhuff [poss nee Jenkins], Reason Wilson m Sarah Clapp, George Clapp m Eliza Jane White and second, Sarah LA Brown, William Clapp m Naoma Jones (Jaynes).

John Clapp may have had other children who predeceased him.

Research is being done to find if John remarried and left other heirs who inherited other properties after his death. Perhaps George had a family of younger half-brothers and half-sisters. **yes, this proved to be true**

will update the file on John Clapp to show his three marriages.

Feb. 2019:

Rec'd from
Donna Easton →
Randy C. Summ

You probably have this, too.

This is Naomi Emrick's work.

As you see, several cousins have contributed to this printout. There were five of us researching and found one another through various ways.