

APRIL 16, 1924

THE WINONA REPUBLICAN-HERALD, WEDNESDAY

JACOB JOHNS, PIONEER, LAST CIVIL WAR VET AT ROLLINGSTONE, DIES

JACOB JOHNS, Winona county pioneer, died at a. m. today at his home in Rollingstone from a complication of diseases following a month's illness. He was 83 years of age.

Mr. John's death marks the passing of the last Civil war veteran from Rollingstone, where he has lived since his retirement from farming in the town of Hart in 1912.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday at 10 a. m. at Holy Trinity Catholic church in Rollingstone. Rev. Fr. Henneges, will officiate.

Surviving are his wife, nee Theresa Kryzer, and ten children, Mrs. Edward Rivers, Mrs. John M. Wagner, Mrs. John Ebner, all of Rollingstone; Mrs. Frank Lucas of Hart; Mrs. James Tierman and Mrs. Michael Killian, both of Albertville, Minn.; Jacob of Wilson; Henry, and Edward of Lewiston; and George of Canada.

Mr. Johns came to Winona county when a boy of sixteen, having migrated to this country from Muelhausen, Germany, where he was born August 5, 1840.

On August 12, 1862, Mr. Johns enlisted in company E, sixth Minnesota regiment. He figured in the pursuit of the Indians across Minnesota and Dakota, and remained in the service until August 22, 1865. After being mustered out of service he purchased 80 acres of land in the town of Hart, which by repeated purchase through the years which



JACOB JOHNS II

followed increased to 430 acres. At the time of his retirement he sold his land.

The veteran was a prominent figure during his long career at Hart. He served on the school board, was a member of the town board, and at one time served as town constable. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is also a member of the Winona County Old Settlers association.

August 5, 1921

Jacob Johns Fought Against Indians And Confederates

Rollingstone Man, Pioneer of County and Resident 64 Years, Will Be 80 Aug. 5.

NEVER WOUNDED NOR CAPTURED

JACOB Johns, one of the oldest pioneers of Winona county and one of the few Civil War veterans who was "in the thick of it," will be 80 years old Aug. 5. Mr. Johns is residing at Rollingstone. He has been in Winona county for more than 64 years.

One of the Winona boys that the late Tom Simpson gathered together in this county and took to Fort Snelling in 1862 was Mr. Johns. He enlisted Aug. 18, 1862, and was mustered into the service at Fort Snelling as a member of the Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry.

Before the Sixth Minnesota disbanded it had marched 2,900 miles, traveled 865 miles by railroad and by boat on the Minnesota, Mississippi, Selma, White, and Red rivers and over the Gulf of Mexico to the extent of 4,235 miles. The total distance that the regiment traversed was 2,000 miles. It was mustered out at Fort Snelling, Aug. 22, 1865.

Just as the regiment had been sufficiently organized to start on its way south there were Indian outbreaks in Minnesota and Dakota and these had to be subdued first. Then the soldiers continued south to the scene of operations there.

Mr. Johns was never wounded and never taken prisoner. Bullets passed thru his hat and clothing but he was unharmed. For more than a year after he was discharged he was sick from ague.

The following is the list of battles in which this pioneer participated:

- Birch Cottle, Minn., Sept. 23, 1862.
- Wood Lake, Minn., Sept. 23, 1862.
- Big Mound, Dak., July 24, 1863.
- Dead Buffalo Lake, Dak., July 26, 1863.
- Sony Lake, Dak., July 27, 1863.
- Missouri River, July 30, 1864.
- Ex. White River, Ark., Aug., 1864.
- Helena, Ark., Aug. 12, 1864.
- Spanish Fort and Fort. Blakely, Mobile, March 26 to April 9, 1865.
- Mr. Johns was born in Muelbau-

A Hardy Pioneer



JACOB JOHNS II

sen, Germany, Aug. 5, 1840, the eldest son of Jacob Johns and Margaret John Johns. The family emigrated to this country in 1845, settling first at Manchester, Mo., 23 miles west of St. Louis. In 1852 the family moved to Hazel Green, Wis., and thence to Winona county in the spring of 1856, settling on a homestead of 160 acres in the town of Hart.

In the spring of '57, young Johns, then 17 years old, hired out to a farmer at the wonderful salary of \$10 per month. Even at that he saved a little money each year.

May 18, 1865 he was married to Theresa Kryger. To this union were born 12 children, two of them, Mrs. Nick Kimmel, the oldest daughter, and William Johns, are dead. The children living are Mrs. John Evner and Jacob of Wilson; Mrs. Frank Lucas and Henry of Hart, George of Canada, Edward of Fremont, Mrs. Nicholas Killian and Mrs. James Turcor of Albertville and Mrs. John Wagner and Mrs. Edward Rivers of Rollingstone.

Mrs. Johns is also living at the age of 72. She is in good health and is at present keeping house for her son, Edward Johns, of Fremont.

Jacob Johns II

August 5, 1840

April 16, 1924

nee: Theresa Kryzer

September 28, 1849-1933

Jacob Johns II was born in Muelhausen, Germany, August 5, 1840, the eldest son of Jacob Johns, Sr., and Margaret John Johns. The family emigrated to this country in 1845, settling first at Manchester, Missouri. In 1852, the family moved to Hazel Green, Wisconsin, and then to Winona County. In the Spring of 1856, they settled on a homestead of 160 acres of land in the town of Hart.

In the Spring of 1857, young Jacob, then 17 years old, hired out to a farmer at the wonderful salary of \$10 per month. Even at that, he saved a little money each year.



Jacob Johns II

Theresa Kryzer

On August 12, 1862, Jacob II enlisted in Company E, Sixth Minnesota Regiment. He figured in the pursuit of the Indians across Minnesota and the Dakotas. He remained in the service until August 22, 1865. One of the few Civil War veterans who was "in the thick of it" (as quoted by the town's paper commemorating his 80th birthday), he was mustered into the service at Fort Snelling.

Before the Sixth Minnesota disbanded, it had marched 2,900 miles, traveled 865 miles by railroad and then by boat on the Minnesota, Mississippi, Selma, White, and Red rivers, then on over the Gulf of Mexico to the extent of 4,335 miles. The total distance that the regiment traveled was 8,000 miles.

Just as the regiment had been sufficiently organized to start on its way south, there were Indian outbreaks in Minnesota and the Dakotas that had to first be subdued, and then the soldiers continued on south to the scene of operations.

Jacob II was never wounded and never taken prisoner. Bullets passed through his hat and clothing, but he was unharmed. For more than a year after he was discharged, he was sick from ague.

The following is the list of battles in which Jacob II participated:

Birch Coole, Minnesota, September 23, 1862

Woof Lake, Minnesota, July 24, 1862

Dead Buffalo Lake, Dakota, July 26, 1862

Siony Lake, Dakota, July 26, 1863

Missouri River, July 30, 1864

Ex. White River, Arkansas, August 1864

Helen, Arkansas, August 12, 1864

Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely, Mobil, March 26 to April 9, 1865

On May 18, 1865, Jacob II was married to Theresa Kryzer. To this union were born 12 children, all of whom were born in the brick home originally purchased by Jacob, Sr. Jacob II had, over the years, purchased additional land and eventually acquired 430 acres where he remained until his death in 1924.

Jacob II's death marked the passing of the last Civil War veteran from Rollingsstone, Hart County. Here, during his long career, he served on the school board, was a member of the town board and, at one time, served as town constable. He was 83 years of age at the time of death. He died from complications of an unknown disease after suffering a month-long illness.

The following is a brief history of their 12 children:

- Mary: - married Nick Kimmel of Rollingsstone, Minnesota. Nick was a businessman in the Winona area. They had two children.
- Sophia: - married Frank Lucas of Winona, Minnesota. They had seven daughters and all married men from the Rollingsstone, Winona area.
- Elizabeth: - married John Wagner of Rollingsstone. They had no children.
- Jacob III: - married Elizabeth Kilian. After their marriage, they purchased the Kilian farm on Garvin Heights, the same place Elizabeth was born. They had 11 children.
- Henry: - married Frances Henze. They had two sons. After his retirement from farming, Frances invested in the meat market business, and Henry operated this until his death.
- Annie: - married John Ebner of Rollingsstone. They had six children and are presently living in the Rochester, Minnesota area. Their one daughter, Marian, is living in Norco, California, with her husband, Carl Truax.
- Rosie: - married James Tierman. They had three daughters, all of whom were born in Albertville, Minnesota.
- Emma: - married Michael Kilian of Melrose, Minnesota. Michael was the brother of Elizabeth, married to Jacob III. He was in the patent medicine medical business in St. Michaels, Minnesota. They had no children.
- Johanna: - married Edward Rivers of Rollingsstone, Minnesota. Edward was a businessman, and they lived in Rollingsstone their entire life. They had six children.
- Willie: - married Inez Pier. They had two children, one boy and one girl. They lived in Rushford, Minnesota, until Willie's death at the age of 29 in 1916. Cause of death is unknown.
- Edward: - married Hattie Jung of Fremont, Minnesota. He operated a farm in Winona County until his death which resulted from a farming accident. They had no children.
- George: - married Jessie Limoseth. George, now 86, living in Canada, is the only survivor of the 12 children. He had five daughters. Four are living in Canada and one daughter is living in Kempner, Texas.