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Apr 7, 1999

Dear Ms. Hilleman,

Enclosed you will find a copy of the letter to me from Charlotte Jeltsch - Relative of Dr. Center. When you receive a print from her, the same information may be included. However, I am adding what else I have since I know nothing about what you already have or what she might send.

Also included is a print of a picture of Charles Wilson and Lucy Fellows Sibley.

Charles Wilson Sibley and his brother William Hopkins Sibley left Ohio for Illinois 1 April 1841 with a team and lumber wagon. They settled at Richmond, McHenry Co., built a log house, broke up the prairie and prepared a home for their parents who joined them in the autumn of 1841.

(movement from Illinois to Michigan or Wisconsin unknown at this writing-)
Moved to Jasper County, Iowa in 1864 or 65

Charles W. Sibley b 22 Mar 1821 Grafton, Ohio
d 30 Mar 1898 State Center, IA
m Lucy Fellows 16 Jun 1844, Prairie Ronde, Mich, Kalamazoo Co.
b 8 Jan 1826, Wilkes Barre, PA
d 30 Mar 1900 State Center, IA
She was the 13th child of ABIEL FELLOWS (who fought in the Revolutionary War) and DORCAS (HOPKINS) FELLOWS (who was a grand-daughter of STEPHEN HOPKINS, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.)
Lucy Fellows Sibley - being a Real Daughter of the American Revolution had the honor of having a chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution named for her. This chapter was at State Center, Iowa for a time.

Lusania Viola Sibley, b 5 Sept 1850 at Bloomfield, Wis. m. DR. HENRY H. CENTER of State Center, Ia 15 Feb 1891. d. 30 Oct. 1925. He was b. 26 May 1837 d. 15 Mar 1919. Both buried in Hillside Cemetery, State Center, Ia. He was a member of Co. B. 105 Ohio Volunteer Infantry, civil War. No issue. She a Charter member of the Lucy Fellows Chapt. DAR. Aunt Lute, as she was called by family, was the 3rd child of Charles W. and Lucy Fellows Sibley

I am a grandchild of Mary Helen Sibley, ^{Major} 2nd child of Charles and Lucy Sibley
Charlotte is a grandchild of Emma Emerson Sibley Biernatzki, the 7th child of Charles and Lucy Sibley.

Helen and Dorothy Whitehill (Dietz) were also grandchildren of Charles and Lucy Sibley.
thru Mary Helen Sibley Major

In the history of State Center written by Etta Whitehill and possibly by others you will find that Charles Wilson Sibley had a creamery in State Center for years, part of the buildings of which were still standing the last time I was in State Center.

My aunt, Henrietta Major Whitehill lived with the grandparents Sibley for some years as a young girl, worked in Watson's store, I believe, and met and married W.J. Whitehill and raised their 2 daughters in State Center. One child died in 1913.

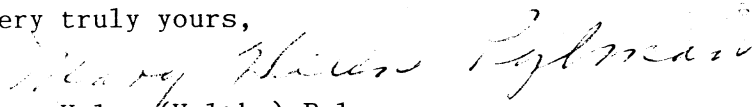
Sibleys, Centers, Biernatzkis, Whitehills, Dorothy Dietz are all buried in Hillside in close proximity to each other except Dorothy who they couldn't fit in for some reason.

I will be in central Iowa May 5,6,7 and will probably check in with someone about the Museum as I did last time I was there and also the cemetery since there are only 2 of us that have much knowledge and connection with the Sibley side.

If you have any other questions, let me know. I don't have too much info. The books - The Sibley Family in America by James Sibley, could be of some help. See page 237 volume I.

Any one doing geanology research might be able to find more info about Dr. Center now that you have some dates if not before.

Very truly yours,


Mary Helen (Holtby) Pylman

559-264-7969

When I was growing up, I used to spend a lot of time visiting at W.J. and Etta Whitehill house and especially with Joan Whitehill Stover, Gr. Dau. of Ben Whitehill of Marshalltown.

2.

I decided I would send you this little photo, which would go well in an album. We made me a negative, of course, and I will be glad to have an enlargement made - (8x10) or 11x14. I think that would be nice to have in the State Center historical society - or maybe you would like to have one. So please let me know how many and what size enlargements you would like & we'll get them to you soon.

Do you know the history of the sketch? As I heard it, the story is that a travelling artist passing through State Center visited the Dr. for some health problem & told Dr. Center that he looked like a "typical Country Dr." & would like to paint a portrait of him. Dr. Center agreed & the artist made the sketch as Dr. Center sat at his desk. He would then paint the portrait from the

March 31, 1999

Hi, Mary Helen,

I'm enclosing a small photo of the Dr. Center sketch. Here's the story:

The sketch is large, 11x14, done on brown paper in chalk or some kind of grease pencil. Aunt Margaret had it professionally framed - fortunately with non-reflecting glass.

I took it to the photo lab that does all my enlargement, etc. work. They also do laser copying, and asked for advice. To make a laser copy, the picture would have to be removed from the frame & I wanted to avoid that if possible (framing was done at least 30 yrs. ago & the picture itself was done in 1914!) So the photographer agreed to try photographing it through the glass. This is the result. He (the photographer) pointed out that there is some reflection from the glass across the top & bottom, but not on the sketch itself. I am very pleased with it - it is a very good reproduction of the picture.

sketch. He then³ left the original sketch as payment for the Dr.'s services. I don't think anyone in our family ever saw the finished portrait.

My grandmother had the sketch & always treasured it. I always loved it - Dr. Carter really does look like my idea of the typical Country doctor! (Wish I could find one like him.)

Please let me know about any enlargements of the photo that you would like. PIERRE-JOSEPH REDOUTÉ - French, 1759-1840

Fondly,

Charlotte

Narcissus, daffodils and jonquils are names used interchangeably now for this graceful flower of spring. Redouté painted *Narcissus tazetta* for his acclaimed book, *Choix des Plus Belles Fleurs*, published in Paris, 1827.

From the Library of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society

P.S. Have a great trip to Iowa!
Our phone: (978) 582-4291

Julia Bell

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