

marry Polly. John's sister had been married to Polly's brother William in 1818. Polly's parents were still unfavorable to her marriage, and when they discovered that she had been seeing him they forbade her marriage to him. Later John and his friend Henry Fulk had gone into the pine forests to work in a turpentine camp, when word was sent to him that Polly was ill with typhoid fever. His return speeded her recovery and her parents relented and gave their consent to the marriage. They were married March 29, 1821. John's brother-in-law, Frederick Fiscus, and John's sister Mary Magdalena were moving to Washington County, Indiana, so John and Polly made arrangements to go with them over the mountains. When John and Polly left the Fiscus family in Washington County they were given supplies to go on to Owen County.

In Indiana spring work had started and John's father and brother Laurence helped him clear forty acres of land, build a log cabin, and plant his first crop. Life took on a serious meaning to them, and after John played a tune on his fiddle and danced a jig, he dedicated his new house and announced that this was the last fiddling and dancing for him.

The couple had ten children: Noah, Lucinda, Frederick, Rebecca, Martha, Mary Magdalena, William, Andrew, Solomon, and Nancy Jane. One day while Noah was visiting his aunt and uncle Elisabeth and Henry Arney, he fell into a kettle of boiling water on the hearth and was so badly scalded that he died within a few days. Later both Lucinda and Frederick contracted scarlet fever. Lucinda died. Frederick survived but remained a cripple throughout his life (probably heart damage). Several years later when John and his sons Frederick and William were cutting trees, a tree fell on Frederick and he died soon after.

In 1849 John and Polly's family and several others moved to Marshall County, Iowa, traveling by covered wagon. Polly died in 1862 and John married Barbara Franklin. He died December 12, 1869.

Laurence

Laurence was born in Stokes County, North Carolina February 9, 1802, the last child of Henry and Magdalena. He came to Owen County with his parents and was married in Greene County to Ruth Owen December 11, 1825. They had several children and his wife died in the early 1830s. He married again but his second wife's name is unknown. She, too, died about 1840 and he married Eliza Crouse in Owen County March 28, 1842. Laurence was a violin maker in his spare time and family tradition has it that one night he dreamed a tune and got up and played it on his fiddle. The tune came to be known as "Lora's Tune." Known children of Laurence Arney and his three wives were: William, Hiram, Macy?, Carey, Martha A., Matilda, Solomon, and John. Laurence died August 7, 1886 and his wife died March 23, 1888. They are both buried in Dutch Bethel Cemetery.

How did the phrase SWEET OWEN come to be?

There may be many explanations, but the one that seems to rise to the top is this one: Daniel Wolsey Voorhees, "The Tall Sycamore of the Wabash," was running for Congress once and he lacked enough to win when all the votes were in save those from Owen County. He said Owen County's vote would put him over. It did. Voorhees was supposed to have said "That's my Sweet Owen County!"

Voorhees, a Democrat, served nine years in the U.S. House of Representatives and twenty in the U. S. Senate. He was born in Butler County, Ohio, lived in Fountain County, Indiana as a boy, and graduated from Asbury (now DePauw) in 1849. He was admitted to the bar in 1850, and began law practice in Covington until moving to Terre Haute a few years later. He died in Washington D.C.

January 7, 1785. They had at least six children: Catharina, Solomon, Levi, John Henry, Adam W., and Matilda. The second son, Levi, was the great-great-grandfather of the author of this short history. Frederick Fiscus, blacksmith and farmer, was an early settler of Owen County, Previously he had migrated to Washington County, Indiana, Pierce Township, in 1822. It was on his land in Jefferson Township that the Dutch Bethel Church and Cemetery were erected about 1825. Mary Magdalena died April 4, 1850 and her husband on February 14, 1859. They are buried side by side in Dutch Bethel Cemetery.

Andrew

Andrew, named for his grandfather Andrew Fulk, was born in Surry County, North Carolina May 21, 1789. He married Elisabeth Spainhower, a daughter of Henry and Louisa Dietz Spainhower, February 23, 1813. Andrew and Elisabeth were the parents of at least ten children: Mary, Solomon, William, Mahala, John Wesley, Lucinda, Eliza, Chaney, Henry J., and Noah. Andrew was a carpenter by trade and also served as a Justice of the Peace in Owen County. He was listed as age 91 in the 1880 census, so he died sometime after that date. His burial place is not known.

Susanna

Susanna was born in Stokes County, North Carolina March 17, 1791. She was married to John Shore April 15, 1817. John Shore was born January 24, 1790, a son of Johannes and Elisabeth Beckel Shore. The Shore family remained in North Carolina. John died February 20, 1867 and Susanna died November 19, 1884. They had at least nine children: John B., William, John H., Solomon, Hiram I., Jacob W., Calvin E., Malinda, and Rebecca S.

Johanna

Johanna was born probably in the year 1794. She married William Boyles August 5, 1818 (her brother John later married William's sister Mary). William Boyles was an early settler of Owen County. In later life William and "Hanna" moved to Hardin County, Iowa where they spent the last years of their lives with their daughter Nancy, wife of Thomas N. Hauser. They died sometime after 1870. Their known children were: John Adam, Caira, Nancy Jane, and Elisabeth.

Lucinda

Lucinda was born in Stokes County, North Carolina sometime in the year 1796. She was united in marriage to Frederick Hauser February 19, 1816. He was born in 1795, the son of Henry and Anna Maria Hauser. Frederick Hauser was an early settler of Owen County and later, in 1850, an early settler of Marshall County, Iowa. He was a minister of the gospel. He died April 28, 1854. His grave was the first in Bethel Grove Cemetery near Lincombe, Iowa. Lucinda died soon after on January 23, 1855 and is buried there as well. The known children were: Laurence W., John, Jacob, Julianna, Anna, George, Mary J., and Catharine.

John

More is known of this son than of any of the other children. This is due largely to a narrative written by his daughter Nancy Neff and his granddaughter Rosaline Arney. John was born in Stokes County, North Carolina July 8, 1797. He attended a subscription school and grew to manhood without any misfortunes. One of his boyhood friends was Henry W. Fulk, a son of Andrew and Rebecca Laydon Fulk. The boys spent a great deal of time fishing and hunting, and one night while possum hunting shot and killed Henry Arney's favorite colt, mistaking it for a deer.

While a young man John became interested in a young girl, Polly Boyles. She was willing to be courted, but her parents were not. John could meet her only at the gate, take her to a husking bee, and bring her back to that same gate. When John's father decided to move to Indiana, John, not yet being of age, was obligated to accompany his father. Times were hard in Indiana. There was a large family to provide for and household articles were scarce. The story is told that one day a fly dropped into Henry Arney's saucer of coffee, and when he took the saucer to the door to throw out the coffee it slipped from his hands and broke. When he took another saucer to show his wife what had happened, it too slipped from his hands and broke. Henry could only say of the saucers that it could have been worse. One Christmas their only gifts were cookies made from the only flour they possessed.

After two years, John was free of his obligation to his father and rode horseback to North Carolina to

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The Coal City Record June 13, 1924

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THE CHILDREN OF HENRY ARNEY

from a 1974 manuscript by C.C. Arney, Weatherford Oklahoma, and shared for this publication by Maxine Harris Asdell

There had been a general migration of families from Stokes County, North Carolina, to Washington and Owen Counties, Indiana during the period after 1814. In the year 1819 Henry and Magdalena Arney decided to move to Indiana, where they would be out of the mountains and would be able to find better land. After a long journey, probably through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky and then up into Indiana, they found themselves in the wilderness of Owen County. They were among the first settlers of what is now Jefferson Township.

Henry and Magdalena Volk (Fulk) had thirteen children: Elisabeth, Jacob, Henry, Catharine, Rebecca, Magdalena, Andrew, Susanna, Mary, Johanna, Lucinda, John, and Laurence. Henry died in 1830. His will is dated September 18 of that year and it was probated November 9. Family members and neighbors, Abraham Slough, Frederick Hooser, John Arney, Frederick Fiscus, Henry Arney, Adam Fiscus, William Boyles, Henry Fulk, and Isaac Hubble bought livestock and farm implements at the estate auction. Magdalena bought a cow, a bee stand, a bull, and a lot of hogs. Mary Magdalena died August 28, 1849. She was 94 years old. She and Henry are buried near their home in Dutch Bethel Cemetery.

The Children of Henry and Mary Magdalena Arney

Anna Elisabeth

Little information is available on the oldest daughter born 1776 and died 1800. A narrative written by Nancy Arney Neff, a daughter of John Arney, simply states that Elisabeth married very young and that her husband was not a good provider. She did weaving to help him make a living, but was too frail for hard work and contracted consumption and died. She left a two-year-old daughter who was raised by Henry and Magdalena. The names of the husband and daughter are not known.

Jacob

Jacob, born March 18, 1778, did not accompany his family to Indiana, but migrated into Ohio. There is a record in Champaign County, Ohio listing a Jacob Arney as a settler of Mad River Township in 1805. It also states that this Jacob was a native of North Carolina. A Frederick Arney is mentioned who may have been a son of Jacob. Jacob married Nancy Truitt in 1805.

Anna Catharina

Anna Catharina was born in Surry County, North Carolina November 25, 1779. She married Adam Fiscus probably in 1801. Adam was a son of Jacob Frederick and Magdalena Smith Fiscus, born November 15, 1775. He was the same Adam Fiscus mentioned in the 1884 *History of Owen County*, but was not the same Adam who served in the Revolutionary War. This Adam was his father's half brother. To Adam and Catharina Fiscus were born at least ten children: Anna Magdalena, Henry, Jacob, Rebecca, John, Abraham, Daniel, Elisabeth, John Adam, and Catharine. Adam Fiscus was a prosperous Jefferson Township farmer who died November 8, 1864. Anna Catharina died October 24, 1864, and they are buried side by side in Dutch Bethel Cemetery.

Henry Jr.

John Henry was born in Surry County, North Carolina May 30, 1781. He was married to Elisabeth Lee February 1, 1800. They had at least four children, possibly more: Mary, William, Catharine, and Jane, all born before 1805. Elisabeth died young and was buried on the Henry Arney farm in Jefferson Township. After several years as a widower, Henry married Mary Brush (1798-1874). They had at least four children: Allison W., Ira R., John Henry, and Mary C.. Henry and Mary migrated to Marshall County, Iowa in 1856 and settled in Iowa Township. Henry died in 1863 and was buried in Bethel Grove Cemetery. One of his grandsons, Wallace Arney, was a member of the Iowa Legislature in the early twentieth century.

Mary Magdalena

Mary Magdalena was born in Surry County, North Carolina on April 3, 1785. She married Frederick Fiscus October 7, 1807. He was a son of Adam and Mary Elisabeth Spainhower Fiscus and was born in Surry County