

The NEED FAMILY in OWEN COUNTY INDIANA

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PART I

NEED families came to Owen County soon after 1845 and for many years connected with families from the county that may be of interest to local family history researchers. The first family to arrive was that of JOHN NEED who came from Carroll County, Ohio into Lafayette Township, with his adult children JACOB and URIAH and with his wife and eight more children. John, one of six known sons of Revolutionary War veteran JACOB NEED and his wife MARY ARNOLD, was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, about 1792. John, just over age 50 when he came to Indiana, had lived in Washington and Greene Counties, Pennsylvania, between 1792 and 1820, then later moved to Carroll County, Ohio, where he lived for about 30 years before coming to Lafayette Township. Also, John's brothers, Jacob Jr. and Michael, had descendants who lived in Owen or neighboring counties. This brief history, which includes only John Need's line and identifies his children and grandchildren, shows the Needs and their family connections to other families. These families include the AUTEN, BEATTY, BLAIR, CHAMBERS, CHRISTIAN, CORNS, DAY, EASTER, HANCOCK, LONG, McAULEY, McCREARY, McCREERY, MARTIN, MILLER, PHILLIPS, RITTER, SCOTT, STROUSE, TIPTON, and WILLEY . . .

JOHN and ELIZABETH (WILLEY) NEED FAMILY

JOHN NEED born about 1792 in Washington County, PA, a son of JACOB and MARY (ARNOLD) NEED, lived in Owen County for thirty years before he died on 2 Sep 1875. John, the sixth-known son of Revolutionary War Vet Jacob Need, lived with his parents in Pennsylvania until after 1820 when the family moved to Ohio. John married ELIZABETH WILLEY, a daughter of WILLIAM and ANN (BUTLER) WILLEY, on 21 Jan 1820 in Carroll County, Ohio. Elizabeth was born 4 Jan 1803 in Virginia. John and Elizabeth Need had these ten children: Jacob, Uriah, Mahala, William, John Jr., Malinda, Nancy Ann, Mary, Joseph, and Michael.

CHILDREN of JOHN NEED (1792-1875)

JACOB NEED, the oldest son of John and Elizabeth Need, born about 1820, married twice. He married ELIZABETH MADDEN on 13 Oct 1846 in Carroll County, Ohio. The 1870 census for Sullivan County, Indiana, shows Jacob living with a wife MARY A. and seven children. The children identified for Jacob Need are: Uriah, Jacob Jr., Elizabeth, John G., Francis M., Isara E., and William L..

Between 1847 and 1854, Jacob purchased Canal and Swamp land in Sullivan County, Indiana, from a Congress Land Sale. Jacob Need served in the Captain Holdson's Company, Co. I, 97th Indiana Regiment of the Union Army during the Civil War.

URIAH NEED, second child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, was born about 1824 in Carroll County, Ohio. Uriah married about 1845 before leaving Ohio for Owen County with his parents and the rest of his brothers and sisters. His first wife, JANE, an Ohio native, was born about 1826. Uriah's older brother moved to Sullivan County about the time of the family's move to Owen County. Uriah signed land patent at Vincennes Land Office for 80 acres in Owen County at E1/2 NW1/4 Sect 13 10N 4W N2 on 1 May 1848. Uriah served along side his older brother, Jacob, in Capt. Holdson's Company, Co. I of the 97th Indiana Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. Uriah married LUCINDA McCOY in Sullivan County on 25 Jun 1863. Uriah is buried at Bethel Cemetery, in Hymera, Sullivan County. The children of Uriah and Jane Need are: Katherine, Julian, and William. The children of Uriah and Lucinda (McCoy) Need are: Noah, Sarah E., Harriet, Rosa, and Mary E..

MAHALA NEED, third child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, born 9 May 1825 in Carroll County, Ohio, and died at age 75 on 28 Jan 1901 at or near Vandalia, Owen County. She married JOSEPH TIPTON, son of WILLIAM and PATIENCE (PUGH) TIPTON on 8 Dec 1842 in Carroll County, Ohio. Joseph Tipton, born 16 Feb 1819 at Douglas Ford, Coshocton County, Ohio, and died at age 36 on 8 Oct 1855 in Owen County, homesteaded

80 acres in Lafayette Twp., Owen County, on 2 May 1846. Also, he served in the Mexican War during 1846-47. Children of Joseph and Mahala (Need) Tipton are: Mary; John Need; William who was living with his uncle William and Sarah (Long) Need near Vandalia, age 13 in 1860; and Eliza who was living with her grandparents John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need near Vandalia at age 12 in 1860.

WILLIAM NEED, fourth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, was born 17 Jan 1831 in Carroll County, Ohio and died at age 56y 5m 17d on 3 Jul 1887 in Lafayette Township, Owen County. William "Billy" Need married SARAH ANN LONG, daughter of GEORGE and MARGARET (KEEFER) LONG, on 22 Jan 1857 in Owen County, Indiana. Sarah or Sally was born 15 Jan 1834 in Somerset County, PA, and died at age 66 on 1 Feb 1900 in Lafayette Twp., Owen County. Billy Need was a young man but still a teenager when his family came to Owen County. Sally was nine years old when she came to Owen County about 1843 with her family, viz., brother's George, Benjamin, and John and sister Magdalena (Long) Keagy, from Crawford Twp., Coshocton County, Ohio. Owen County land records contain several entries for William Need. The earliest one found is dated 1 March 1853 and shows he bought 40 acres (NW/qtr NW/qtr Sec 32 Twp 10 Rn 4). Later in the same year, he bought 80 acres from his parents (E/half NE/qtr Sec 31 Twp 10 Rn 4). William and Sally Need lived in Lafayette Township throughout their entire marriage. Family tradition says that Billy Need was a successful trader, who made periodic trips throughout the area starting with a cart of items for trade and returning home with his cart full of more valued items and driving a herd of cows or sheep. William Need is buried in Splinter Ridge Cemetery. His wife Sally lived in Lafayette Township for almost 12 years after Billy died; she died on 14 February 1899 at age 65y 0m 28d. She is buried beside Billy at the Splinter Ridge Cemetery. William and Sarah Need had these children in Lafayette Township, Owen County: George, Mary E., William Heenan, Malinda, Salina, Michael H., Nancy Ellen, Pius, Joanna, John, Samuel, Richard, and Sylvester.

JOHN NEED Jr., fifth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, may have married NANCY ANN TIPTON on 28 Jan 1858, but in 1860, at age 23 John was living with his parents in Owen County. He died at age 43 on 9 Sep 1876 in Owen County and is buried in Splinter Ridge Cemetery.

MALINDA NEED, sixth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, born 10 Sep 1835 in Ohio, died at age 84 on 4 May 1919 in Owen County. Malinda married first to THOMAS JESSE SCOTT on 5 Apr 1855 in Owen County. They had one child: Sarah Elizabeth who mrd. Charles H. Willejman.. Malinda's second husband was JOHN PHILLIPS, son of SAMUEL and ELEANOR PHILLIPS. They were married on 5 Aug 1858 in Owen County. John Phillips was born 5 Sep 1814 in Ohio and died at age 84 on 7 May 1898 in Owen County. John and Malinda Phillips are buried in Mount Mariah Cemetery in Owen County. They had these children born in Owen County: Stephen D. who mrd. Ruth Mustard; Mary B. who mrd. Samuel Huntsicker; Michael Halter who mrd. Charlotte Davis; Emily who mrd. Donald Lucas; and Della who mrd. Lewis L. Mustard.

NANCY ANN NEED, seventh child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, born Nov 1837 in Ohio, died at age 45 on 27 Feb 1883 in Lafayette Twp., Owen County. Nancy Ann married JAMES BEATTY, son of DAVID and CATHERINE (KOONTZ) BEATTY, on 19 Aug 1858 in Owen County. James Beatty was born 21 Feb 1830 in Carroll County, Ohio, and died at age 77 in Jun 1907 in Owen County. James and Nancy Ann (Need) Beatty are buried in Splinter Ridge Cemetery in Lafayette Twp.. They had these children in Owen County: Mary Elizabeth, Oliver Perry, Alice, James D., Joseph E., Erma A., Robert, Ira Hill, and two whose names are not known.

MARY NEED, eighth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, born 4 Mar 1839 in Carroll County, Ohio, and died at age 52 on 15 Apr 1891 in Owen County. On 5 Jul 1860, Mary, age 21, was living with parents near Vandalia. She married EDWARD A. MILLER, son of ANDREW and ELIZA MILLER, on 15 Dec 1867 in Owen County. Edward Miller was born 6 Apr 1839 in Carroll County, Ohio, and died at age 72y 4m 3d on 9 Apr 1911 in Owen County. Both Edward and Mary (Need) Miller are buried in Splinter Ridge Cemetery in Lafayette Twp. Edward and Mary were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His county history biography tells us that Edward was a "stock-raiser and farmer, one of the four children of Andrew and Eliza Miller, natives of

Pennsylvania, and of German extraction. Edward was reared on a farm, and at the age of fifteen was apprenticed to the blacksmithing trade for the period of three years, and one year thereafter [1858] emigrated to Indiana and settled in Lafayette Township of Owen County, where, in company with his brother, he put on sale 800 head of sheep, and then engaged in the Saw Milling business, having owned, in company with others, the first portable Saw Mill in this county. After his marriage, Mr. Miller engaged in farming and now owns and controls 153 acres of excellent land, in good cultivation, well improved, well stocked, and well supplied with farming implements. Mr. Miller has been assessor of his township for the past eight years, is a staunch Democrat in politics, and a much-valued citizen. He has been successful in life, and has a comfortable and independent home, all of which has been acquired by his own unaided energy and labor." Edward and Mary Miller had one child, a daughter, who died at birth on 17 Sep 1868.

JOSEPH NEED, ninth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, was born 18 Jun 1841 in Ohio, died at age 38 on 18 May 1880 in Owen County, and is buried in Splinter Ridge Cemetery. On 5 Jul 1860, Joseph, age 16, was a farmer living with his parents on their farm near Vandalia. Joseph married twice. His first wife was NANCY AGNES MARTIN, a daughter of JAMES and MARTHA (PATTERSON) MARTIN; they were married on 22 December 1866 in Vandalia. Joseph and Nancy had one child, JAMES ALBERT NEED in 1867, before they were divorced; Nancy married LEWIS W. GIBSON seven months after her marriage to Joseph. Nancy was born 29 Feb 1844 in Vandalia and died 13 Aug 1883 in Vandalia. Joseph married MARY ELLEN CHRISTIAN, born 18 Aug 1852 in Indiana, a daughter of DANIEL CHRISTIAN, on 2 August 1874 in Owen County. In 1880, Mary, age 28, keeping house, on the farm in Lafayette Township. Sometime after Joseph's death on 18 May 1880, Mary married GEORGE AUTEN in Owen County, Indiana. In 1910, Mary Auten was a head of household living in Owen County. Mary died on 12 Mar 1940 at the home of Emma Strouse, in Worthington, Greene County. Mary is buried in Worthington Cemetery. Child of Joseph and Nancy (Martin) Need is: James Albert. Joseph and Mary (Christian) were parents of: Charles William, Emma Bell, and Joseph Jr..

MICHAEL NEED, tenth child of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, died at age 18 on 10 Mar 1864 in Owen County.

Ed. note: Part 2 of this genealogy will cover some of the grandchildren of John Need (1792-1875). Bob Watkins will be happy to furnish additional information such as dates and places of birth and death, and research notes. Refer to his address at the beginning of this article.

John Hyden sues for payment but Finley B. Johnson cries foul

Abstracted from a document in Box 55, Owen County Archives

March term 1841

John Hyden vs. F. B. Johnson

John Hyden complains of Finley B. Johnson, defendant, that he sold and delivered to the defendant a certain four wheeled carriage and gearing, and Johnson promised to pay him, on demand, money in the amount of \$125. But wait. Johnson counters with the claim that he already paid some of it in merchandise worth \$20.20. He lists those things and their value:

40 pounds of flour worth	\$.20
1 boat pump	1.50
A cow and calf	11.00
A "shade" for a gun	.50
and 1,400 shingles worth	6.00

Making shingles for less than a half cent apiece has to be paying the hard way. We wonder how he will pay the \$104.80 still due on that carriage. How long would it take to make another 7,000 shingles?

HIGHET FAMILY in SCOTLAND SEND NEWS to their AMERICAN BROTHER

transcribed from original letters loaned by Richard Highet, great grandson of James Highet and Martha McKeand

A collection of letters written in Scotland and sent to James Highet are only partially legible, but their messages hint of market news, political unrest, fear of cholera, and concern about absent family members. Passages that could not be read are indicated by brackets []. Two of the collection are transcribed here. Others are dated from 1843 through 1850. The James Highet to whom the letters are written was the father of William Alexander "Bill" Highet who married Catherine "Kate" Cline, daughter of Miles and Mary Ann (Botts) Cline. William and Katherine were the parents of Roy Highet who married Mary McHenry, daughter of George and Ann Eliza (Taylor) McHenry. Roy and Mary's son Richard lives in Washington Township at the family home known as "Hight Corner." See photograph on the following page.

Mr. James Highet
Stone Cutter
Indianapolis
State of Indiana
America

Stewarton June 31st 1849

Dear Brother,

After a long delay, I take my pen again to drop you a few lines and as my time is very much occupied at present it will be but few that I will write. I have been in Stewarton since about the beginning of the year have got in purchaser and salesman to store that the inhabitants have had going this few years for supplying themselves with bread and grocery goods and as there is a good deal of business to perform of course I have not time to write long letters to any person.

We are all well here. Mother is still able to go about the house and prepare our meals. Mary is still busy at her trade. Andrew is working in a carpet factory in Newbrunswick. John and his family are well he is still in Townshe[?] factory here.

We are beginning to get a little anxious to hear from you and hope that you will let us have a letter as soon as you can find it convenient. We understand that the Cholera is at present surging in some parts of America but have not been able to learn if it has reached your part of the States we would [] hope that that dreadful malady will not come amongst you. I was in Glasgow at the time that it was at the severest there and I assure you that it was very alarming. Many cut down during a night some of my acquaintances with whom I had conversed on the previous evening. It rages with great [] in some parts of Ayrshire such as Kilwinning and Galston but passed over Stewarton entirely. There is very little news of any consequence to write therefore I will not trouble you with anything further except that the markets here are very reasonable Meal being the only thing that has advanced of late is now 30[] per load of American flour there has not been much fine quality in the market for some time but there is one or two arrivals into Glasgow with news I purchased Indiana brands last week for 24/- per barrel. Indian corn is not used here as an article of food some other goods came to be so low consequently I do not know the price of it. There is still a good demand for it in Ireland and I think that the inhabitants there will feed more of that article in future and less in potatoes.

If writing to Rob give them our complements accept of the same for yourself
from your brother affectionately

Wm Highet

continued next page

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PART 2

In Volume 9, Number 4, Fall 2000, pp.79-81, Part 1 gave a brief history of the Need family who came to Owen County, followed by a more detailed history of John and Elizabeth (Willey) Need, and their ten children. Here we outline some of the grandchildren of that John Need (1792-1875). There is much more detail in Robert's written genealogy including places of birth and death, obituaries, dates for spouses, and other valuable notes. These are available upon request.

JOHN NEED TIPTON, son of Joseph and Mahala (Need) Tipton, was born about 1845 in Coshocton Co. OH. He married Mary Jane Barnhart, dau/o Henry and Margaret. She was born in 1855 in Sullivan Co. IN. Their children were Bernard Schweitzer Tipton and John Bryant Tipton.

GEORGE NEED, son of William and Sarah (Long) Need, was born 19 Oct 1856 in Owen Co. and died 26 Nov 1938 at Vincennes Hospital. On 22 Jan 1882 George married Sarah Jane McAuley, dau/o John McAuley and Lydia Sprague. Sarah was born 1 Aug 1865 in Noble Co. OH. Of their four children only one, Alpha (12 Sep 1895 - 26 Nov 1915), who married Clinton Horace Moffett, lived to adulthood.

WILLIAM HEENAN NEED, son of William and Sarah (Long) Need, was born 19 Mar 1860 and died 30 Aug 1896. He married Lucy Belle McCrary 1 Jan 1888, dau/o William McCreary and Nancy Ritter. She was born 27 Jun 1865 and died 22 Jan 1938 of typhoid.

MALINDA NEED was born 8 Aug 1861 and died 14 Jul 1906. She married Jacob Frederick Blair 14 Mar 1880, son/o John Blair and Mary Myer. Their children: Bert (12 Jan 1889 - 27 Oct 1954); and Curtis (30 Nov 1893 - 9 Oct 1918 U.S.S. Mercy, Norfolk VA).

SALINA JANE NEED, daughter of William and Sarah (Long) Need, was born 19 Jan 1863 and died 2 Sep 1938. She married Prueett P. Day 28 Jan 1883, son/o Levi Day and Sarah Baker. Their daughter: Mary V. (25 Apr 1887 - 28 Dec 1947) married Frederick E. Dayhoff 20 Jun 1908.

MICHAEL H. NEED, son of William and Sarah (Long) Need, was born 17 Jan 1865 and died 22 Feb 1935. He married Cannie McCreery 19 Dec 1889, dau/o Finley McCreery and Palmyra Hutchinson. Cannie was born 16 Jan 1869 and died 30 Nov 1951. Their children were: Pearl Bell (23 Feb 1894 - 28 Mar 1976) who married 1st Roy Emmett Carter 15 Apr 1917 and 2nd Wilbur D. Cooper; Ralph Renos (28 Jul 1898 - 31 Dec 1966) who married Gladys Dillon; and Ruby L. (15 Oct 1902) who married Frank Orson Smith 16 Oct 1930.

NANCY ELLEN NEED was born 18 Apr 1867 and died 1940. She married Wesley Easter 8 Apr 1889. Their children: Otis (19 Dec 1889 - 1952) who married 1st Mamie 26 Aug 1912 and 2nd Faye Fankboner; Johanna (Apr 1892 - 1929) who married Everett J. Sheehy; Orva L. (6 Feb 1899 - 13 Jul 1970) who married 1st Miller and 2nd Lee E. Gee; Dorothy M. (1903 - 1955) who married 1st Ogle Fritz and 2nd Mr. Hewlett; and Mary Ellen (Dec 1908 - 5 Jun 1909).

PIUS NEED was born 14 Oct 1868 and died 12 Mar 1948. He married Minnie B. Strouse, dau/o Charles and Sarah (Stutz) Strouse, 27 Jan 1891. Their son was Renos (23 Mar 1907 - 6 Apr 1926).

SAMUEL NEED was born 28 Aug 1872 and died 9 Apr 1950. He married Emma Barker, dau/o Amos and Sarah (Edwards) Barker, 5 Aug 1900. Their children: Lyman B. (3 Mar 1902 - 20 Feb 1950) married 22 Jun 1929 in Miami FL; Waldo Heneen (4 Aug 1903 - Jun 1961); Nina (1 Nov 1905 - 17 Apr 1975) married Robert Elliott 27 Jun 1933; Chester Baker (23 May 1907) married 1st Loretta Williamson 28 Oct 1938, and 2nd Grace Evelyn Poor in 1962; and Jessie Emerald (8 Jan 1909 - 1 Jul 1975) married Harry Edward Snyder 3 Jul 1933.

SYLVESTER V. NEED was born 14 Jul 1878 and died 13 Mar 1961. He married Anna Jamison 22 Nov 1901. Their children: Opal (8 Oct 1902 - 24 Feb 1927) married 1st Arthur E. Drenz 1 Jan 1925, and 2nd Robert E. McDonald 20 Feb 1936; twin girls who died at birth 6 Apr 1906; and Forest Ulysses (6 Sep 1907 - 1980).

JOSEPH E. BEATTY was born May 1872 and died 1931. He married Cassie A. in 1895. Their children: Edna (Oct 1896); and Raymond (Jul 1898 - 1917).

JAMES ALBERT NEED, son of Joseph and Nancy (Martin) Need, was born 15 Sep 1867 and died 18 Sep 1931. He married Electra A. Hancock 31 Mar 1892, dau/o Maston Hancock and Malinda Wood. Their children: Malinda Agnes (22 Dec 1896) married Odis Vernon Manis 26 Dec 1925; and Foster Russell (19 Nov 1898) married Mina C. Hamlin 27 Dec 1930.

CHARLES WILLIAM NEED, son of Joseph and Mary (Christian) Need, was born 19 Jul 1875 and died 12 Nov 1956. He married Lucille Ethel Coms 26 Dec 1907, dau/o John Coms and Melinda Hicks. Their children: Orley

Clifford (8 Nov 1908 - 21 Jul 1993) married Nina Laura Van Deventer 11 Feb 1932, dau/o John Van Deventer and Laura Hamlin; Audrey Violet (30 Nov 1910 - 20 Oct 1995) married Herbert Otho Beyers; and Alma Arlena (7 May 1924) who married Ralph Donald Heaton 11 Sep 1943, son/o Dexter Heaton and Nona Bender.

EMMA BELL NEED, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Christian) Need, was born 11 May 1878 and died 10 Jan 1970. She married Moses Strouse 8 Mar 1905.

JOSEPH NEED Jr., son of Joseph and Mary (Christian) Need, was born 1 Apr 1880 and died 21 Apr 1957. He married Pearl Long 1 Apr 1906, dau/o Jonathan Long and Susan Lucas. Their children: Forest O. (16 Jul 1907 - 28 Jun 1988) who married 1st Dellah Wiessman, and 2nd Lillian Scott in 1938; and Wilma Lous (11 Jan 1909) who married Hjahmas Sandre.

ETHEL GONSER taught at PATRICKSBURG

photograph and genealogy contributed by Mozelle E. Humbert, Marion, Indiana



4th, 5th, and 6th grades, Patricksburg School 1916. Ethel Gonser, teacher, on right

Ethel Catherine Gonser (b. 29 April 1895 - d. 20 Oct. 1978) was a daughter of Eli and Lydia Ann (Haviland) Gonser of the Coal City area. Eli, born 13 March 1870, was killed by a falling tree 21 April 1911. He and Lydia had four sons, George, Walter, John, and Ralph, and daughter Ethel. After she graduated from Coal City High School Ethel attended Manchester College for a few months where she met her future husband, Verl Victor Smith. They were married 6 June 1917. In 1923 they moved to Marion, Indiana, where Verl taught in Marion High School for 40 years.

After Eli's untimely death, Lydia remarried. She and Noel Love lived southwest of Coal City back a winding road that ran through a valley and up a hill, an area later used for coal mining.

Eli was a son of Jacob and Catherine (Culler) Gonser; and grandson of Eli and Nellie Ellen (Winklepleck) Gonser and David and Anne (Harstine) Culler. Lydia Ann was a daughter of George H. and Catharine (Grim) Haviland; and granddaughter of Sylvanus and Mary Ann (Parner) Haviland, and John and Lovey (Dusthammer) Grim. Known great-grandparents of Eli were Pennsylvanians Jacob Gonser, Philip Winklepleck Sr., Rosina Keyser, Abraham Harstine, and Catherine Zimmerman.