

QUERIES

Jean Kay, 272 E. 1400th St., Payson, IL 62360, jeankay@adams.net
 Seeking location in 1951 of Pinhurst Farms, Quincy, IL, the home of Sarah Lyons Miller.

Des Moines County, Iowa offer of help

Member Ken Crews, 9382 Sperry Road, Sperry, IA 52650, kc9382@yahoo.com, has offered to take digital pictures in Des Moines County, Iowa if the exact tombstone location is given for a cemetery in Des Moines, Lee or Henry Counties. There would be no cost if the photographs could be sent via e-mail. Thanks Ken for your offer. Please contact him if you need a photograph of the tombstone of a relative.

CIVIL WAR LETTER FROM FRANZ SURLAGE

*ich vorhin bemerkte, daß ich einen Brief an
 Euch schreiben wollte, hat her mich beauftragt
 Euch bestens von ihm zu grüßen. Wir nen-
 nen ihn "Charles Schwarz."*

Translation

From the 16th Illinois Regiment we received the following news from Nashville, made available to us in a letter from Mr. Surlage from the 1st of February.

...Easy living arrived here on the 19th of the preceding month and [the Regiment] is [doing] well. I can say the same thing about myself---I am healthy and bearing the arduousness and vexations of this American war with as good a state of mind as the circumstances allow. Besides, we have the assurance now that if we bleed on the battlefield and breath – our last, we will die for freedom and not be branded in history as protectors of slavery.

We did not take part in the last battle of Murfreesboro. General Rosencranz instead gave us an important post on the railroad bridge over the Cumberland, because, as he said, the new regiments were not to be trusted with such a post, as they had already demonstrated on several different occasions. The river has increased in importance in recent months and steamboats with provisions, etc., arrive in large numbers, but despite all that, we only rarely receive full rations, so that often, if we don't want to suffer somewhat from hunger, we have to buy food with our own money, which with the high prices in this place is very uneconomical. For example, a pound of butter costs 60 to 75 cents, a dozen eggs the same amount, a bushel of potatoes 4 dollars, a packet of tobacco 20 to 30 cents, a cord of wood \$20, a pound of sausage 25 cents, and so forth.

...In our mess (6 men), we have had for a long time a black man who cooks for us, washes, etc. he is a splendid fellow and even though he has not enjoyed any schooling and was brought up like a head of livestock, he is nevertheless more clever than many whites, who abuse these poor people in such despicable ways and alas take pride in their white skin. When I mentioned a short while ago that I wanted to write a letter to you, he asked that I sent you his best regards. We call him "Charles Schwarz."

(Added notes: it is believed the letter was written by 1863 and possibly published in a Quincy German language newspaper. More about the 16th Illinois Infantry Regiment History can be found at <http://civilwar.ilgenweb.net/history/016>.)

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
 GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

BIOGRAPHY OF FRANZ SURLAGE

Franz Surlage, born January 29th, 1835, at Wadersloh Regierungs-berirk Munster Provinz, Westfalen Qonigreick Prussia, German. He was one of fourteen children of Bernard Surlage and Magdalena Surlage, nee Vahle. He received his primary education in the village of his birth place. When in 1849 he reached his fourteenth year of age he went to the city of Munster to learn the printers trade. In April 1854, after he served as an apprentice four years and as a journey man for one year at the printing establishment of The Theissing, he took passage on the Bark Copernicus in Bremerhafen for New York. From New York he started for St. Louis, where he arrived in May 1854, where he worked about eight months in a German printing office. In the spring of 1855 he returned to St. Louis, but was unfortunate in finding work at his trade and had again do some other work for a living. In the Spring of 1856 he left St. Louis for Quincy, where two German printing offices existed, but none of them were in need of a compositor. But he succeeded after waiting a few months to find work in one of them. Later he found work at an English office, where a paper under the name of "Republican" was issued, which was later consolidated with the "Whig". In the fall of 1857 he returned to Germany on account of ill health. In the fall of 1858 he returned to Quincy and found work at the "Quincy Whig and Republican." In April 1861 when the war broke out he enlisted in the Sixteenth Illinois Vol. Infantry Regiment and served three years and three months and was mustered out in July 1864 at Chattanooga Tennessee. About two months later he went to Springfield, Illinois, and found employment at a German printing office. In February 1865 he contracted small pox and after being able to walk he went back to Quincy. After being fully recovered he went to Cairo where he worked only for a few months, when he received a call from Major Petri, who had taken possession of the German paper "Tribune" to take the foremanship. When a year or two later T. M. Rogers bought out Petri, he got him in the bargain, and worked for him as foreman until Mr. Rogers died in 18--. A year or two later Mr. Rogers son Thad took the foremanship himself, but he continued to work at the same old place 'till April 11, 1906.

On the 7th of May 1867 he was married to Josephine Futterer, born at Forchheim, Baden, Germany. Eight children were the result of the marriage of which five of them died when from two months to a year and a half old. The three living are: Mary, Josephine, and Frank. His wife died in May 1884 in a runaway accident, at which time he himself was hurt so bad that he couldn't work for a year.

(Franz Surlage died 13 April 1906.) (This article was submitted by Jane Neu, 129 Knollwood, Quincy, IL 62301, mjrbn@comcast.net)

ST. ALOYSIUS PICNIC HAS BEEN HELD SINCE 1855

All Parishes in City Unite for Success of Event on July 19.

All Catholic parishes of Quincy have united to contribute to the success of the annual picnic of St. Aloysius Orphanage which is to be held July 19 on the orphanage grounds. More than seventy picnics have been held by officials of the institution, and proceeds realized from them have aided greatly in the maintenance of the orphanage.

The first orphans' picnic was held by the St. Aloysius Orphan society on June 1, 1855. Since that time few years have passed that a picnic was not held. In recent years they

ST. ALOYSIUS PICNIC con't

have been large events attended by hundreds, and the institution has found that its annual picnic is one of its chief sources of revenue

Those in Charge.

Richard Huck is chairman of the picnic arrangements committee this year and George Hummert is general secretary. Those assisting them are: John Kerkering, ticket books; Bert Kroner, music; F.W. Heckenkamp, publicity; Miss Olivia Terwelp and Miss Winnie Freiburg, cars for parade; Bernard Kemner, building stands; Ted Middendorf, lumber; Herman Winking, canvas; John Grave, decorating; Ben Groeting and Ben Flotkoetter, lights; and Herman Schuering, grounds.

Churches and other organizations, their representatives, and the type of stand they will conduct at the picnic follow:

St. Boniface, Mrs. Adelaide Schmitt, ice cream and candy.

St. Francis, Mrs. John Bange, tango.

St. John, Mrs. Gertrude Wiegman, ice cream and candy.

St. Mary, Mrs. August Dierkes, ham and bacon.

St. Rose, Mrs. Frank Kirch, fish pond.

St. Peter, Mrs. Harry donovan, parcel post.

United Sodalities, Miss Florence Kuhlman, bingo.

W.C.U. women, Mrs. Frank Darius, canned fruit.

W.C. U. men, Bert Kroner, refreshments.

Knights of Columbus, C.N. Terwische, country store

Society is 81 years old.

The St. Aloysius orphan society is this year eighty-one years old. It was founded January 11, 1852, while the Rev. Joseph Kuenster was pastor of St. Boniface Catholic church. The officers at that time were: President, Andrew Stutte; vice president, Clem Kathmann; financial secretaries, Joseph G. Laage and B. Lubbe; treasurer, Bernard Koch.

A child named Twehaus was the first orphan admitted to the home. In 1853 the society was incorporated with a membership of twenty-seven and the same year a second child named Henkaus was admitted.

A plot of ground consisted of three and a quarter acres, between Oak and Elm and Eighteenth and Twentieth streets was purchased in 1855 and on June of that year the first orphans' picnic was held.

Decision to build a new orphanage was reached March 10, 1860, by the trustees John B. Vonderheide, Videll Hellstern, X. Flaiz, Christ Borstadt, Henry Stuckenburg, Fred Happekotte, Henry Mescher and Henry Ridder. The building was constructed in 1860 at a cost of \$4,226.12 and the orphanage was occupied by Franciscan fathers until 1865. Since 1865 it has been under the direction of Sisters of Notre Dame. In 1866 there were thirty-one children in the orphanage, and in 1867, forty-seven. The silver anniversary was celebrated June 18, 1871.

New Home Built.

In 1873, Bishop Baltus of Alton appointed the Franciscan Fathers of St. Francis college, now Quincy college, as spiritual directors of the orphanage.

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