

Kosciusko County
Indiana
1836-1986



Aerial view of courthouse and surrounding buildings, circa 1956.

ter one month into his enlistment. He was discharged at Fort Pickening, Tennessee, in January 1863 in ill health. He then joined the 7th Regiment of the Indiana Cavalry in 1863. His horse was shot out from under him near Memphis, Tennessee in 1864 he once again found himself in the line of war, this time he was held for a short time and discharged 14 July 1865, again in ill health. He married Mary Jane Sneed on 8 October 1867, they became parents to nine children. Laura Bell was born 1 September 1868, George Allan born 2 April 1872, Martha Elizabeth born 29 September 1875, Hannah Gertrude born 1880, Rosa born 23 March 1882, unnamed female (probably still-born) born 23 March 1883, Malverna born 17 June 1884, Myrtle May born 16 January 1888, and Benjamin born 7 April 1890. In December 1888, a 43 year old father of nine children, was declared $\frac{2}{3}$ disabled, thought to be caused from injuries sustained when his horse was shot out from under him near Memphis. He was supplied with an invalid's pension. He died 26 February 1902, at the age of 56.

George Allan Blackburn married Nettie May Morris on 20 February 1891. Seven children were born to them in Jay County. Charles Samuel was born 12 December 1891, Mable Arena born 4 February 1895, Grace born 3 January 1898, Ethel Morna born 25 February 1900, Blanch Flossie born 22 August 1902, Carl born 3 March 1904, and George born 11 November 1905. In 1907 they moved their family and possessions to Kosciusko County, settling on a farm five miles northeast of Mentone. There they worked the land and became parents to five more children. Buelah born 13 September 1907, Mary born 18 October 1909, William born 17 August 1911, Isabelle born 5 October 1913 and Lester Everett born 23 March 1915.

Lester Everett Blackburn married Pauline Eloise Blackford 13 September 1934. He has followed the family tradition of tilling the soil and resides on a farm next to the Kosciusko home place. To this union were born four children. Lester Burdell born 2 February, 1936, a juvenile officer in Warsaw; Sue Ellen Rupert born 12 December 1940, lives in Columbia City and works for United Technologies; Linda Lou Jones born 5 March 1942, married a fellow class-mate and they reside on a farm at Savestapol; Di Ann Smith born 20 December 1943 also married a fellow class-mate and they live at Yellow Creek Lake.

I'd like to end this brief family history with a tribute to my parents, Lester and Pauline Blackburn, they taught me the importance of family ties. Through the years our small family has been separated by time and distance, but we never lose the love and respect we hold for each other. We really can go home again. Thanks, Dad and Mom for the fond memories and the ideals you taught us. *Sue Ellen Rupert, Columbia City, Indiana*

Henry and Flora (Crisler) Blesch

Henry W. and Flora (Crisler) Blesch came from Lemont, Illinois to Seward Township as farmers in 1910, later retiring and living in Akron. Their children were: Evelyn Blesch, married to Roy Meredith, lived in Illinois and Akron, Indiana as educators. Evelyn and Roy had two children: John and Marcia Meredith. Grace Blesch, educator in Burket, Plymouth and Fort Wayne, Indiana. And Ralph Blesch, who died in a train accident at the Claypool bridge at the age of 20. *Evelyn Blesch Meredith, Akron, Indiana*

Charles and Rosa (Albright) Blickenstaff

In 1916, Charles O. Blickenstaff purchased a farm in Lake Township, Kosciusko County, Indiana and moved there with his wife, Rosa (Albright) Blickenstaff and their daughter, Wiladene, born 1914, from Wabash County, Indiana. Another daughter, Esther, was born in 1920.



Golden Wedding Anniversary, 1956, of Charles and Rosa Blickenstaff with daughters, Esther Shaffer and Wiladene Drudge.

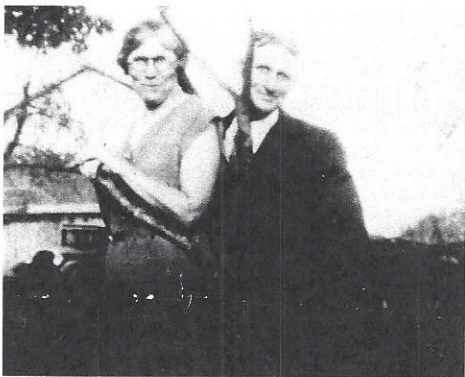
They were members of the West Eel River Church of The Brethren, Silver Lake, Indiana. The family farmed the hundred acre farm for ten years, then moved to a farm two miles east of North Manchester, Indiana.

Wiladene, now of Route Two, Claypool, Indiana, married Harley M. Drudge, born 1910, died 1964, in 1935. He was the son of Charles and Bertha Drudge. They have four children: Peggy, born 1937, now married to John Boggs; Elaine, born 1939, married to Jerry Rager; Marilyn, born 1941; and Rogar, born 1949 and his wife Gonul. They also have seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. The parents and children are members of the Eel River Church of The Brethren, Silver Lake, Indiana.

In 1944, Esther married L. Arden Shaffer, born 1921 son of Addison and Sophia Shaffer. They now are farmers living at Route Two, Silver Lake, Indiana. They have five children: Joe, born 1946 and married to Donna Marlette; John, born 1950; Betty, born 1951 married to John Hill; Susan, born 1954 married to Jim Orr; and Judy, born 1959 married to Sam Lambert. The parents and children are members of the Eel River Church of The Brethren, Silver Lake, Indiana. *Esther E. Shaffer, Silver Lake, Indiana.*

Curtis and Alma (Fisher) Bloom

Curtis William Bloom was born October 9, 1879 to John and Clarinda Bloom in Jackson Township near Sidney, Indiana. He was one of ten children, and lived one mile northwest of Sidney on an adjoining farm of his brother, Joseph Bloom.



Curtis and Alma Bloom of Sidney, Indiana

Curtis married Alma Loretta Fisher, a native of Silver Lake on October 11, 1906. Mrs. Bloom, known as "Al" to friends and relatives was the daughter of Jacob and Lavinia (Phillips) Fisher. She was born June 3, 1881.

Curtis Bloom, known as "Curt," was a rail-roader and farmer. He owned and operated the family farm northwest of Sidney, and was an employee of the Nickel Plate Railroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Bloom were the parents of an adopted son, Robert Marshall Bloom, born November 24, 1912. They also raised as their daughter, Roxie Eileen (Grisso) Bloom. Roxie

was born to Nellie (Brubaker) Grisso and Charles Valentine Grisso of Sidney on May 25, 1924. Her mother died less than six months after her birth, and Mr. and Mrs. Bloom became her parents.

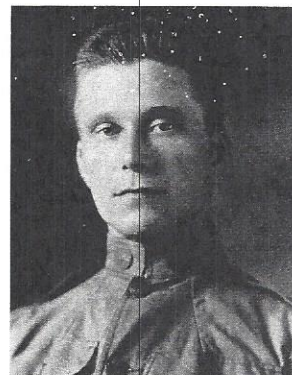
Curtis Bloom died July 30, 1944 at his home. He was 64. Alma Bloom died August 22, 1952 at the home of her son in Fort Wayne. She was 71. Robert Bloom passed away April 24, 1985. He was 72.

Survivors of the Blooms' immediate family include Roxie (Bloom) Stahl of Huntington, a grandson, Mark B. Stahl, of Bloomington, and a great-granddaughter, Alexis K. Stahl, of Bloomington.

Of Curtis and Alma Bloom, let the records state: They were two fine, loving and caring people. They were honest, hardworking, self-sacrificing and great providers for the two children they raised as their own. As the years go by, their children remember with increasing appreciation the loving concern they had for their family and their values of true parenthood as they perceived it and lived it. *Roxie E. Stahl, Huntington, Indiana*

Lester and Ida Mae (Hill) Bloom

Lester Leroy Bloom married Ida Mae Hill, daughter of Frank and Etta (Warren) Hill, and they had two sons: Harold Leroy and Milton Wayne Bloom.



Les Bloom in his World War I Uniform.

Harold Leroy "Hank" Bloom was first married to Pauline Davis who died in 1980. He then married Jeannette (Shively) Bradway in 1983. Hank's daughter, Sally Ann, lives in Texas. Hank's son, Randall Ray, born in 1954, was married in 1975 and has a son, Zachary, born in 1984.

Milton Wayne Bloom married Doris Harden, daughter of Phillip Leroy and Jennie Edith Harden. They are the parents of four children:

Larry Wayne Bloom, born in 1953, married to Tracy Lynn Addair in 1977. They have two children: Karrie Ann, born in 1978, and Joshua Wayne, born in 1981.

Shirlee Ann Bloom, born in 1956, married Daniel Francis Murphy II in 1973 and has two children: Heather Lynn, born in 1974, and Holli Marie, born in 1978.

Angela Erin Bloom, born in 1959, married William Eugene Hough, Jr. in 1984. There is one daughter, Erin Rae, born in 1983.

Anne Allison Bloom, born in 1965, married Michael Anthony "Tony" Knafel in 1985.

Milt and Doris still live in the family home where Milt was born on North Main Street in Claypool. The children all live in Kosciusko County. *Doris Bloom, Claypool, Indiana*

David and Zilpha (Bohrer) Blue

David Blue is believed to have been born in Hampshire County, Virginia (now West Virginia). He was a son of Peter Blue and Susannah (Ketch) Blue. David migrated with his parents to Jefferson County, Ohio, and later to Fayette County, Ohio. He was married to Zilpha Bohrer on June 12, 1823. He migrated to Kosciusko Coun-

near the village of Burkett. This remained his home until the death of his wife on March 10, 1870. She was buried in the cemetery at Mentone, Indiana.

David's brothers Benjamin and William, and perhaps others, were early settlers of Kosciusko County, having migrated there a decade earlier to take up government lands.

David's principal occupation was farming. He was also a cabinet maker and for a short period operated a tannery. He was an exhorter of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His first license was issued on January 11, 1835, in the Deer Creek Circuit in Ohio, and the last was dated January 5, 1876, in the Warsaw District in Kosciusko County.

In 1876 he migrated with his son David A. Blue, and his son's wife, Martha (Beeson) Blue, to northern Jasper County, Indiana, where land was purchased, and where they lived for several years. In 1880 they followed other members of the family to Norton County, Kansas, traveling by covered wagon.

David and Zilpha had the following children: Tallman, Elias, Zilpha Jane, Peter K., George A., Elizabeth, Philip, David A. and James. *John S. Blue, Rensselaer, Indiana*

James and Phoebe (Bloomer) Blue

Peter K. Blue was born near Romney, West Virginia in 1762 and died in Fayette County, Ohio in 1843. He married Susannah Kelch who was born in 1767 and died in Fayette County, Ohio in 1857. Both are buried in a cemetery located between Washington Courthouse and New Holland, Ohio.

Their son, Benjamin Blue, was born in 1802 and died February 25, 1867. He married Margaret Riley who was born in 1795. She died August 7, 1881. Both are buried in the Mentone Cemetery. They came to Kosciusko County, Indiana in 1835. They moved into a bark shanty built by the Indians and had to keep fires burning at night to keep hungry wolves from the door. Benjamin was a Representative in the Indiana General Assembly, 1850-1851.

James H. Blue, son of Benjamin Blue and Margaret Riley Blue, was born November 16, 1830 in Fayette County, Ohio and died January 10, 1916. He married Phoebe Bloomer who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, January 10, 1840. She died January 29, 1923. Both are buried in the Mentone Cemetery. James H. Blue was five years old when he came to Kosciusko County with his parents. He played with Indiana children and an Indian taught him to shoot with a bow and arrow.

James H. Blue married Phoebe Bloomer July 19, 1855. They were the parents of ten children: Elijah Allen, John, Charles, Margaret Catharine, William Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Marion Elmore, Rose E., Anne, and Minnie B.

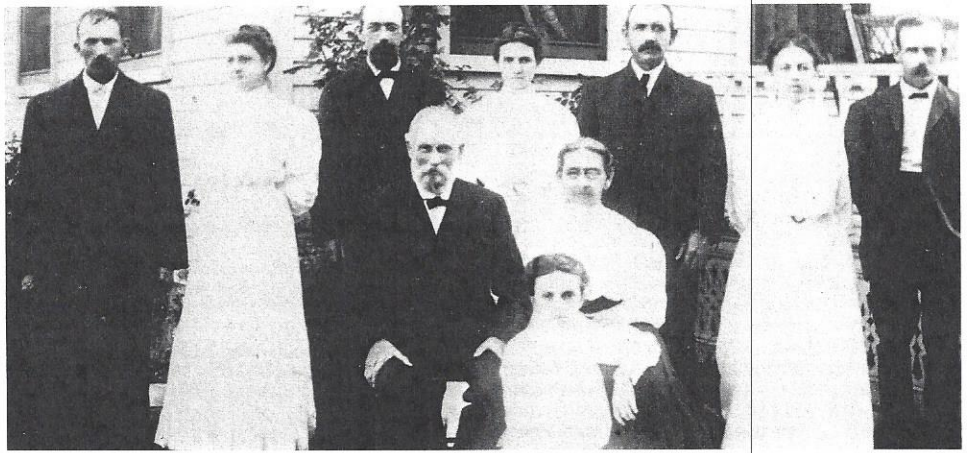
Elijah Allen Blue married Emma Sarber, a daughter of Dr. William Sarber. They were the parents of seven children: Lula, Mae, Bertha, Earl, Edwin, Charles, and Allen, Jr. Lula Blue died in infancy. Mae Blue married Rev. Cyrus Miner and had a son, Wallace. Bertha Blue married Charles Bruner and had three children: Byron, Elizabeth and Dorothy. Earl Blue married Nellie Tucker and had a daughter, Lois. Edwin Blue died in childhood. Charles Blue married Vertella White and had a daughter, Margaret. Allen Jr. Blue had no children.

John Blue married Mary Borton and had two children, Linden and Odie. Linden Blue married Nellie Manwaring and had two sons, James and Stanley. James Blue married Virginia Neal and had two sons, Neal and Linden. Stanley Blue married Barbara and had three children, Barclay, John and Nancy. Odie Blue was never married.

Charles Blue never married.

Margaret Catharine Blue married Amasa Wertenberger and had no children.

William Jefferson (Jeff) Blue married Anna Sarber, a daughter of Christian Sarber and



Picture of James H. Blue and Phoebe Bloomer Blue Family taken on their Golden Wedding Day, July 19, 1905. Seated: James H. Blue and Phoebe Blue, Minnie Blue Mentzer. Standing left to right: William Jefferson Blue, Margaret Catharine Blue Wertenberger, Elijah Allen Blue, Rose Blue Boggess, John Blue, Anne Blue, and Benjamin Franklin Blue.

Susan Hartman Sarber. They had five children, Zeld, Tressa, Helen, Ralph and Cathern. Zeld Blue married Raymond Lash and had three children, Eleanor, Ruth and Philip. Eleanor Lash married Howard Chamberlin and had one daughter, Cathy. Ruth Lash married Clarence Ellison and had one daughter, Janice. Philip Lash married Violet Jones and had two children, John and Ann. Tressa Blue married Ora Beeson and had two sons, Charles Frederick, and James. Charles Frederick Beeson married Florence Culbertson and had three sons: Charles Frederick, Jr., Ronald, and Don. James Beeson married Geneva Horn and had one son, Larry. Helen Blue married Estil Van Dorn and had three children: Myron, Anna and Helen Esther. Myron Van Dorn married Mary Felenchak and had five children: John, Marcia, Carol, Myra, and Jane. Anna Van Dorn married Paul Sommer and had two children, Katharine and Daniel. Helen Esther Van Dorn did not marry. Ralph Blue married Bessie Hook and had nine children: Lewis, John, Glen, Merl, Dorothy, Boyd, Julia Ann, Adam J., and Paul. Lewis Blue married Josephine Crussore and had two children, Debra and Dennis. John Blue died in infancy. Glen Blue married Eldona Flory and had two children, Randall and Belinda. Merl Blue married Thelma Moyer and had three children: Alan, Michael and Cheryl. Merl also married Margaret Arnold and had two children, Daniel and Mark. Dorothy Blue died in infancy. Boyd Blue married Bess Shepherd and had three sons: Steven, Ronald and Richard. Julia Ann Blue married Paul Wallen and had three children: Kyle, Kimberly and Michael. Adam J. Blue married Avril Brown and had two children, Jeff and Sandra. Cathern Blue married Maurice Dunnuck and had four children: Kenneth, Forst, Elaine, and Mariyn who died in infancy. Kenneth Dunnuck married June Weiger and had five children: Daniel, Paul, Linda, David and Jennifer. Forst Dunnuck married Louise Kelly and had seven children: Joyce, Darrell, Thomas, Barbara, Sandra, Stephen, and Jay. Elaine Dunnuck married Thomas Fugate and had two children, Beth and Mark.

Benjamin Franklin (Frank) Blue married Osie Haimbaugh and had one daughter, Leah. Leah married James Joy McClelland and had four children: James Joy II, Joanne, Patricia and Margaret. James McClelland married Mary Alice See, and had two sons, James Joy III, and Corey. Joanne McClelland married James Morey and had four children: James, Thomas, John, and Anne. Patricia McClelland married Jack Berry and had five sons: Jay, Glen, Alan, Charles and Joy Lee. Margaret McClelland married Alan Hammond and had two sons, Scott and Kevin.

Rose E. Blue married Stephen Boggess and had two children, Byron and Miriam. Byron Boggess married Audrey Turner and had one daughter, Eldora. Eldora Boggess married

Homer Stroud and had one daughter, Sharon. Miriam Boggess married Charles Kern and had one son, James. James Kern married Mildred Swanson and had three children: Sanna, Martha, and Lee.

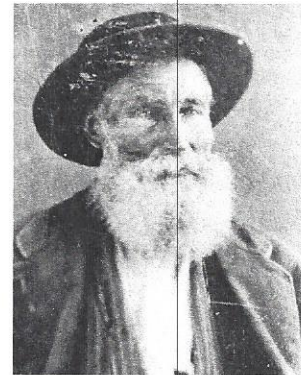
Anna Blue married Mahlon Mentzer (his second wife).

Minnie B. Blue married Mahlon Mentzer and had four children: Annabel, Rosalind, James and Margaret. Annabel Mentzer and Rosalind Mentzer did not marry. James Mentzer married Mildred Shipley and had two children, John and Mary Ann. John Mentzer married Judy Perdue and had two children, James and J.M. Mary Ann Mentzer married James Mulroy and had two children, Sharon and Michael. Margaret Mentzer married Kenneth Foulks and had two children, Frank and Margaret Ann. Frank Foulks married Fran Klinger, and had no children. Margaret Ann Foulks married Duk Min and had two children, Curtis and Leah.

James H. and Phoebe Blue are the ancestors of five generations. Many of their descendants live in Kosciusko County, Indiana. *Elaine Dunnuck Fugate, Mentone, Indiana*

John Blue

John Blue, born 1690-91, was the first known member of our Blue family. It is believed he married first, Elizabeth Van Meter, born 1689, and had sons, John, born 1713, Uriah, and Michael. His second marriage was to a Catron who is listed in his will. I believe they had the fourth son, Abraham.



Benjamin Blue

John settled first in New Jersey, perhaps to serve an indenture for passage to America from Scotland. At least two brothers, likely, came with him, settling finally at Shepherdstown, but John who had probably heard about the wonderful land on the south branch of the Potomac from one of the Van Meters, decided to settle there,

by the Lower Hanging Rocks about six miles from Romney in (now) West Virginia. The hanging rock formation was a huge anticline 300 feet high. His son, John, born 1713, had a beautiful silver cup to eat his porridge from; we imagine that this had belonged to his mother, Elizabeth Van Meter, as her grandparents had gold and silver, coined and uncoined, so they could have had the cup made. John S. Blue, of Rensselaer, Indiana, was the first person to identify the maker of the silver cup.

John Blue (1713) had four sons by his first wife. They were John (1740), Uriah, Garrett and Michael. Widowed, he second married Margaret Keyser. Then had ten children: Abraham, Peter Keyser (ancestor of most of the Blues in Indiana), Jacob, Benjamin, William, David, Jesse, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Hannah.

Peter Keyser Blue married Susannah, daughter of Phillip Kelch and Margaret Drollinger. Her parents were deceased, so David Allen became the guardian for Susannah and her brother, Phillip. Peter K. and Susannah's children were: John P., Abraham, Peter, Jacob, Alice, Margaret, Susannah, David, Benjamin, William and Phillip.

John S. Blue mentions that Abraham, William, David and Benjamin all came to Kosciusko County around 1836-1838. The daughter, Alice, married William Wilcox and they were in Indiana. John P. and Phillip Blue came to Kosciusko County after their mother died.

In the old section of the Mentone Cemetery the following children of Peter Keyser Blue are buried: Alice Wilcox and husband; Abraham, William, Benjamin, Phillip and John P. Blue. The wife of David Blue, her name was Zilpha, is also interred there.

Peter Keyser Blue and Susannah were buried in the Woods Cemetery near Washington Court-house, Ohio, on a hill overlooking the surrounding community. *Helen E. Van Dorn, Indianapolis, Indiana*

Peter and Esther Angelina (Eiler) Blue

Abraham and Nancy (Young-Lindsey) Blue moved their family from Ohio to Indiana in 1836, settling near Clunette in Prairie Township, Kosciusko County. Peter A. Blue was born there in 1837. On February 10, 1839 they moved to a sixteen square-foot log cabin near Yellow Creek Lake in Franklin Township. There were still Indians in the area at that time. They liked to borrow Abraham Blue's gun, and would bring choice parts of the kill to Abraham in exchange for the use of the gun, saying "Heap good gun, brings good blood." As a small child, Peter A. Blue had almost white hair. Some Indians observed his sister, Betty (Elizabeth Blue Doran), dyeing clothes, and motioned for her to dip Peter's white hair into the dye. When the Indians were forced to leave for a reservation they came to say "Good-by" to Abraham's family, and cried.

Samuel, Jr. and Susan (Crook) Eiler moved from Huntington County, Indiana to Franklin Township, Kosciusko County, when their daughter, Esther Angelina was eleven years old. Her name is sometimes listed as "Hester," and she was sometimes called "Het."

Peter A. Blue and Esther Angelina Eiler were married June 28, 1860. They had twelve children: Louisa Ellen (Mrs. Willard Teel); Arcie Emma (Mrs. Hollis Bybee); Nancy Paulina "Love" (Mrs. A.L. Johnson); Eliza Isabel Blue; Arvil Wilbur Blue; Effie Nevada (Mrs. Charles Huffer); Samuel Lindsey; Bertha Pearl (Mrs. Orlando Meredith); Dessie Lurainia Blue; and Edith Ivy (Mrs. Orval Ulrey). All these children were born on the Blue farm near Sevastapol, in Franklin Township, and all grew to maturity except Eliza Isabel who died quite young, and is buried in the Mentone Cemetery.

Early in life Peter became active in the livestock industry, engaging in buying, feeding and shipping throughout his active years. His partners in business were his brother Rhesa, and Horace Tucker, for over 30 years. His ability as

a livestock judge was known throughout this section of the state and at market centers. His amiable disposition and versatile nature won a host of friends, and he was known for his honesty, integrity and square dealing; one whose word could be relied upon implicitly.

He was loved and esteemed by his neighbors, friends and associates. He loved his wife and children and was always concerned for their welfare. In later years Peter and Esther Blue moved to Mentone, and it is said that he, when reminiscing, always recalled tenderly his old home on the banks of Yellow Creek.

On May 17, 1914 his companion of nearly 54 years was taken by the death angel. The shock was more than his advanced years and frailty could endure, his loneliness encompassing him. He died on March 31, 1915, age 77 years, five months, ten days. His brother, Rhesa, and sisters, Elizabeth and Margaret Jane, were listed as surviving siblings in Abraham and Nancy's family of seven children. Peter and Esther rest in the Palestine Cemetery. *Mildred Mahoney, Warsaw, Indiana, Helen E. Van Dorn, Indianapolis, Indiana*

Peter and Elizabeth (Grubbs) Blue

When I was a little girl, my grandmother, Etta Halterman, used to tell me stories of when her father first came to Kosciusko County. The land where he lived was homesteaded by his brother, James. Her father, Peter B. Blue, was born on August 28, 1829 in Fayette County, Ohio, was of Scotch and Irish descent, and came to Kosciusko County with his parents at the age of six. Their first home was a small Indian hut at the edge of what is now Mentone. The stories she told me about those early settlers and their experiences with Indians were especially interesting to me. The one I remember most vividly is the story about her father inviting an Indian family to stay for dinner. In those days the squaw carried the baby on her back on a board, called a cradleboard. They leaned the board, with the baby, up against the outside of the house and the adults came inside to partake of the meal. The menu was chicken, etc. When the Indian family left the "Brave" said "Belly sick — too much big-eyed chick."

Peter Blue and his family saw mighty forests disappear and the settlement became Mentone, formed as a town in 1882. He saw the Indian trails become roads, and the wilderness become fields of grain.

He was married to Minerva Millbern and on June 22, 1857, after two years of marriage, she died. They had one daughter, Margaret, who became the wife of William Mollenhour, and later she died in Mississippi in 1899. However, she is buried in the Mentone Cemetery.

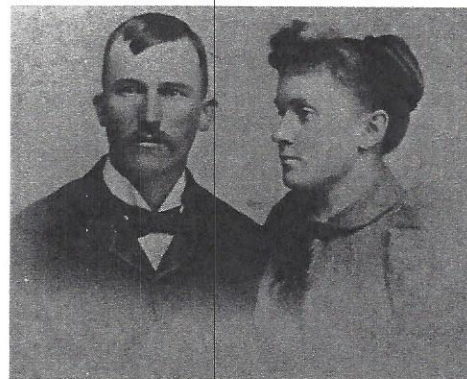
In February 1860 he married Elizabeth Johnson Grubbs. She came into this marriage with two children, Reece Grubbs and Jesse Grubbs. To this union was born seven children, all are buried in the Mentone Cemetery. Franklin, who later died as a teenager, Austin, Alonzo, Benjamin, James, John and Etta. The mother, Elizabeth, died in September 1893. Peter died October 18, 1906. The stranger, as well as the Indians, always found hospitality at their door and they were known as being an honest and kind family.

My grandmother, Julia Etta Blue, married William Edward Halterman, from Athens, Indiana, and they had three children. Verl J.P., born February 2, 1898, died December 1962; Daisy Olive, born October 22, 1899, died October 1979; and Sylvia Opal, born December 23, 1900, died January 3, 1980.

My mother was Sylvia Opal and she was very proud of her Blue heritage. There are many descendants still in the area and some are now scattered throughout the United States. *Iola Tucker Goshert, Mentone, Indiana*

William and Anna (Sarber) Blue

William Jefferson Blue was born October 15, 1864, and died May 18, 1912, the son of James



William and Anna Blue

Hinton Blue and Phoebe Bloomer. My great-grandmother had a little brother, Jefferson Bloomer, whom she called "Jeff," and I suspect for this reason she called my grandfather Blue, Jeff. In October of 1883, on the 10th of the month, another Jeff was born. He is Jeffrey Lee Whetstone, son of Timothy and Cathy Chamberlain Whetstone. William Jefferson Blue would have been his great-great-grandfather, and Aunt Zelta Lash and Uncle Raymond, his great-grandparents.

Jeff Blue went to Kansas in 1884 and remained about 18 months working at farming and observing the land. His brother Frank also went to Kansas for a short time. When Jeff returned to Indiana he married Anna Rebecca Sarber, daughter of Christian and Susan Hartman Sarber, on December 10, 1886. Anna Sarber was born March 8, 1870 and died March 21, 1909.

Their children were: Zelta Hazel, born August 31, 1888, and died September 13, 1983; Tressa Fay, born April 4, 1890, and died December 16, 1958; Helen Ruth, my mother, born December 19, 1893; Ralph William, born July 14, 1899, and died about one month before my brother, Myron James Van Dorn, passed away; and the youngest child Cathern Eleanor, born March 21, 1905.

Aunt Zelta was married to Raymond Lash and they had three children: Eleanor, who married Howard Chamberlain; Anna, who married Clair Ellison; and Philip Lash, who married Violet Jones of Burket, Indiana.

Aunt Tressa married Ora Evert Beeson and had two sons, Charles Frederick and James Beeson.

Helen Ruth married my father, Estil Beach Van Dorn and they had three children: Myron James, Anna Catherine, and Helen Esther.

Uncle Ralph was married to Bess Hook and they had seven children, all yet living: Lewis, Merl, Robert Glen, Boyd, Julia Ann, Adam and Paul. Two, Dorothy C. and John, died as infants.

Cathern Eleanor married Maurice Dunnuck and they had three children: Kenneth, Forst, and Elaine Dunnuck Fugate.

I spent many happy summers in and around Mentone and Burket, and had wonderful times with all of my cousins and later, wonderful times with their families as well. My brother was born in Claypool, my sister in Mentone. I was born in Indianapolis, but as a very small girl I used to have great fears that some day I might not be able to find my way back to Mentone, or "up home," as we called it. It was always a joy to waken in the summer and immediately notice that the upstairs bedroom ceilings sloped instead of being flat as they were in my room in Indianapolis. I would think, "Thank God I'm "up Home" again." Indianapolis was a good place too, but Mentone was very special to me. *Helen Esther Van Dorn, Indianapolis, Indiana*

William and Susanna (Ranscher) Bockman

William Bockman (born Wilhelm Bochmann in Schauben Hanover, Germany January 17, 1816)