

BIRTHS.

Samuel H. Darknell.	Born at Wiltshire, England.	May. 31, 1812.
Jane(Alexander) Darknell.	Born at Wiltshire, England.	Feb. 4, 1834.
10 children were born:		
1. William Henry Darknell.	Born at Watertown, Wisconsin.	Mar. 8, 1852.
2. George Washington Darknell.	Born at Watertown, Wisconsin.	Jan. 28, 1855.
3. Joseph John Darknell.	Born at Watertown, Wisconsin.	Oct. 1, 1857.
4. Arthur Alexander Darknell.	Bom at Watertown, Wisconsin.	Oct. 16, 1859.
5. Sarah Jane Darknell.	Born at Watertown, Wisconsin.	Apr. 11, 1862.
6. Charles Walter Darknell.	Born at Rochester, Minnesota.	Oct. 15, 1864.
7. Frederick James Darknell.	Born at Rochester, Minnesota.	Jun. 28, 1867.
8. Phoebe Ann Darknell.	Born at Rosco, Minnesota.	Sep. 28, 1869.
9. Emma Belinda Darknell.	Born at Rosco, Minnesota.	Jan. 1, 1872.
0. Francis Marion Darknell.	Born at Pine Island, Minnesota.	Oct. 14, 1874.

MEMORANDA.

William Darknell. 2 daughters by 1st. wife: Jennie and Hattie, and 1 daughter and 1 son by 2nd. wife: Amata and Homer.

George Darknell. 2 sons: Walter and Ralph, and 2 daughters: Anna and Grace.

Arthur Darknell. 2 daughters: Millie and Cora.

Sarah (Darknell) Mason. 1 son: Bert.

Charles Darknell. Unmarried.

Frederick Darknell. Unmarried.

Emma (Darknell) Weaver. 4 daughters: Edith, Mabel, Mildred and Charlotte.

Francis Darknell. 4 sons: Raymond, Clifford, Lloyd and Howard, and 1 daughter: Marian.

MARRIAGE OF:

This certifies that the Rites of Holy Matrimony, was Celebrated between:

Samuel H. Darknell, of Watertown, Wisconsin, and-

Jane Alexander, of Watertown, Wisconsin, on June 6th. 1851, at

Watertown, Wisconsin, by Rev. Brooks, assisted by Rev. Forbes, at the Residence of the Brides father. Witnesses: Joseph Alexander and Hannah Alexander.

MARRIAGES:

William H. Darknell, to Virginia C. Justice, in 1878. Dallas, Oregon at the Residence of the Brides father. 1st. wife,

George W. Darknell. to Clara D. Hayward. Feb. 10,1880 at the Residence of the Brides father.

Arthur A. Darknell. to Alice C. Hayward, Oct.16,1880 at Redwing, Minnesota,

Sarah J. Darknell. to Hiram A. Mason, Jan. 1,1880 at the Residence of the Brides Father. Pine Island, Minnesota.

William H. Darknell. to Clara Lefors, 1886 at Rockford, Washington. 2nd. wife.

Emma B. Darknell. to Charles A. Weaver. Mar. 26,1889, at Gettysburg, South Dakota.

Francis M. Darknell. to Mary A. Sheldon. Feb. 25,1903, at Redwing, Minnesota.

DEATHS.

Joseph John Darknell.	Died at Watertown, Wis.	
Phoebe Ann Darknell.	Died at Rosco, Minn.	Sep. 28,1870.
Samuel H. Darknell.	Died at Pine Island, Minn.	Nov. 12,1890.
Sarah Jane Darknell.	Died at Boudle, S. Dakota.	Jun. 29,1891.
Jane (Alexander) Darknell.	Died at Pine Island, Minn.	Nov. 13,1899.
Francis Marion Darknell.	Died at Rochester, Minn.	Dec. 17,1917.
Arthur Alexander Darknell.	Died at St. Maries, Idaho.	May. 6,1922.
George Washington Darknell.	Died at Spokane, Wash.	Jun. 30,1926.
William Henry Darknell.	Died at Fairfield, Wash.	Sep. 7,1927.
Charles Walter Darknell.	Died at Dodge Center, Minn.	Sep. 25,1938.
Emmma (Darknell) Weaver.	Died at Spokane, Wash.	Jul. 26,1940.
Frederick James Darknell.	Died at Stockton, Calif.	Jun. 26,1944.
Amata E.(Darknell) Marion.	Died. at Fairfield, Wash.	Sep. 7,1962.
Homer Samuel Darknell.	Died at Medicine Bow, Wyo.	Sep. 9,1966.
Grace (Darknell) Metcalf.	Died at Fairfield, Wash.	Dec. 8,1969.
Mary A.(Sheldon)-(Darknell)-Ledbetter.	Died at Redwood City, Calif.	Oct. 13,1952.
Clara (Hayward) Darknell.	Died at Fairfield, Wash.	_____>1955.

FRANK DARKNELL FAMILY.

Francis Marion Darknell.	Born at Pine Island, Minn.	Oct. 14,1874.
Mary A.(Sheldon)-(Darknell)Ledbetter.	Born at Pine Island, Minn.	May. 20,1383.
Raymond Alphius Darknell.	Born at Fairfield, Wash.	Feb. 1,1904.
Marian Francis Darknell.	Born at Mazeppa, Minn.	Jun. 29,1905.
Birdie May Darknell.	Born Feb. 29,1908.	Died Mar. 4,1908.
Clifford Edward Darknell.	Born at Fairfield, Wash.	Aug. 23,1909.
Lloyd William Darknell.	Born at Fairfield, Wash.	Aug. 11,1911.
Howard E. Ralph Darknell.	Born at Spokane, Wash.	Apr. 26,1915.

Memoranda.

Raymond A. Darknell, Married Iva Blue. Have no children.

Marian F. Darknell, 1st. Marriage to Jess Garton,- they have 2 sons:

Raymond and Jesse Jr. and 1 daughter: Betty Ann.

2nd. Marriage to Barney Berens. No children.

Clifford B. Darknell, Married Cleo Cox. They have 2 sons: Everett W. and Leslie R.

Lloyd W. Darknell. Married Bernice Wirt. They have 1 son: Lloyd Jr. and one
daughter: Patricia Rae.

Howard R. Darknell, Married Mildred Williams. They have one daughter: Janice Lee.

All that have children, have grand-children and some
have great-grandchildren.

Clifford Edward Darknell. Born at Fairfield, Wash. Aug. 23,1909. Married 1928.

Cleo (Cox) Darknell. Born at Green Forest, Ark, Oct. 1,1909. 2 children:

1. Everett William Darknell. Born at Sanger, Calif. Oct. 7,1928.
2. Leslie Roy Darknell. Born at Parlier, (near Sanger) Oct. 6,1934.
Calif.

Memoranda.

Everett W. Darknell, has 1 son: Chris and twin daughters: Nancy and Sharon.

Leslie E. Darknell, has 4 daughters: Deborah, Cynthia, Melinda and Kimberley.

No.1 son.

Marriages.

Everett William Darknell. Born at Sanger, Calif. Oct.7,1928. Married 1952.

Marjorie Eileen(Purse)Darknell. Born at Denver, Colo. Jun.14,1931. 3 children:

1. Chris William Darknell. Born at Palo Alto, Calif. Jul. 6,1953.
 2. Nancy Eileen Darknell. Born at San Jose, Calif. Feb. 11,1956.
 3. Sharon Lynn Darknell. Born at San Jose, Calif. Feb. 11,1956.
- Twins.

No.2 son.

Leslie Roy Darknell. Bom at Parlier(near Sanger) Calif. Oct. 6,1934. Married 1955.

Helen Frances(Stetson)Darknell. Born at Palo Alto, Calif. Dec. 6,1936.- 4 children:

1. Deborah Lorraine Darknell. Born at Redwood City, Calif. Aug. 26,1957.
2. Cynthia Suzanne Darknell. Born at Redwood City, Calif. Mar. 15,1960.
3. Melinda Katherine Darknell. Bom at Redwood City, Calif. Oct. 24,1963.
4. Kimberley Nanette Darknell. Born at Redwood City, Calif. Oct. 28,1965.

Names & Marriages.	Births.	Place of Birth.	Address or Remarks.
William Henry Darknell. Virginia G. Justice. 1st M. in 1878.	Mar. 8, 1852.	Watertown, Wis.	
Children:			
1. Jennie (Darknell) Blakely.			
2. Hattie (Darknell) Swarthout.			
2nd M. in 1886. to:			
Clara Lefors.	Jul. 6, 1870.	Benton Co. Ark.	Divorced & remarried. Died Apr. 15, 1934.
Children:			
1. Amata E. Darknell.	Feb. 10, 1887.	Rock Cr. Val, Wash.	(Marr. Joseph Marion,
2. Homer Samuel Darknell.	Jun. 4, 1890.	in	1908

Homer S. Darlaiell.	Jun. 4, 1890.	Rock Cr. Val, Wash.	—Died Sep. 9, 1966. in Medicine Bow, Wyo,
M. 1st wife:			
Eliza Jean Bryden, in 1911, in Merritt, B.C.		Can. —————	Died Jul. 4, 1918, in Rawlins, Wyo.
Children:			
1. Norma Lytton Darknell.	Jul. 2, 1913.	Merritt, B.C.	Can.
2. Ona Patricia Darknell.	Jan. 17, 1915.	Merritt, B.C.	Can.
3. Maxine Amata Darknell.	Sep. 2, 1916.	Boise,	Idaho.
2nd M. Apr. 30, 1920, in Penticton, B.C. Can. to:			
Sara Jane McPherson.	Oct. 10, 1901.		
Children:			
Moose Jaw, Sask.			
1. Eudine Bernice Darknell.	Mar. 19, 1923.		
2. Homer Arnold Darknell.	Nov. 20, 1924.		
		Rawlins, Wyo.	
		Rawlins, Wyo.	Died Apr. 6, 1925.

Names & Marriages,	Births	Place of Birth.	Address or Remarks.
Norma Lytton Darknell.	Jul. 2, 1913.	Merritt, B.C. Can.	Lives at Ramona, Cal.
Ray Goff West.	Aug. 7, 1911.	Meeker, Colo.	P.O. Bx. 845. 92065.
M. Dec. 15, 1934.			
Children:			
1. Guy Cleve West.	Nov. 16, 1935.	Rawlins, Wyo.	
2. Lylle Andrea West.	Aug. 22, 1945.	Compton, Cal.	
Ona Patricia Darknell.	Jan. 17, 1915.	Merritt, B.C. Can.	Lives at Medicine Bow,
1st Mar. to Perry.			Wyo. 82329.
M. Jan. 18, 1934.			
Children:			
1. Barbara Jean Perry.	Feb. 11, 1935.	Cal.	
2. Marvin Homer Perry.	Apr. 14, 1936.	Rawlins, Wyo.	
Married 2nd time to:			
Edwin Cronberg.	Jun. 9, 1912,	Neb.	Adopted legally both
			(Perry) children & gave
			them his name.

Maxine Amata Darknell.	Sep. 2, 1916.	Boise, Idaho.	Lives at Medicine Bow
1st M. to Joseph Cook.	Apr. 15, 1905.		Wyo.
M. in 1935.			
Children:			
1. Beverly Jo Cook.	1934.	Hanna, Wyo.	Died at birth.
2. Carole Lynn Cook.	Sep. 25, 1935.	Hanna, Wyo.	
3. Gerold Wayne Cook.	Mar. 10, 1938.	Hanna, Wyo.	
4. Sharon Lee Cook.	Aug. 23, 1941.	Hanna, Wyo.	
5. Joseph Edwin Cook.	1945.	Hanna, Wyo.	Died at birth.
6. Philip Sheldon Cook.	Dec. 19, 1945.	Hanna, Wyo.	
M. (2nd.) Charles L. Buckman.	1951.		
Eudine Bernice Darknell.	Mar. 19, 1923.	Rawlins, Wyo.	Lives in Omaha, Nebr.
William E. West.	Feb. 3, 1916.		
M. Oct. 18, 1914.			
Children:			
1. Suzanne West.	Sep. 24, 1942.	Laramie, Wyo.	
2. William David West.	Jul. 10, 1945.		

Names & Marriages.	Births.	Place of Birth.	Address or Remarks.
Guy Cleve West, Mary Ann Gilbert. M. Feb. 13,1960.	Nov. 16,1935. Aug. 15,1937.	Rawlins, Wyo. Thomaston, Geo.	(Norma's son) lives in Thomaston, Geo.
Children:			
1. Timothy Guy West.	Apr. 10,1961.	Escondido, Cal.	
2. Tracy Ann West.	Nov. 6,1963.	Escondido, Cal.	
Lylle Andrea West. 1st M. 1964. George Leon Rice.	Aug. 22,1945. Apr. 21,1946.	Compton, Cal. Ark.	(Norma's daughter)
Children:			
1. Kelli Dawn Rice.	Nov. 2,1964.	Escondido, Cal.	
2nd M. 1967. George McCollum.	Mar. 25,1946.		
Children:			
1. Edward Lane McCollum.	Jan. 4,1968.	Fresno, Cal.	
Barbara J. Cronberg. 1st M. 1951. John Robb.	Feb. 11,1935.		(Pat's daughter) lives in Cheyenne, Wyo.
Children:			
1. Jonene Dianne Robb.	Jul. 7,1952.	Cal.	
2. Julie Ann Robb.	Nov. 20,1954.		
2nd M. to: Larry Bourret.	Sep. 22,1932.	Laramie, Wyo.	
Children:			
1. Suzanne P. Bourret.	Apr. 14,1960.	Laramie, Wyo.	
2. Ted Allan Bourret.	Feb. 28,1958.	Laramie, Wyo.	
Marvin Homer Cronberg. Shirley May Bavin. M. in 1958.	Apr. 14,1936. Sep. 24,1941.	Laramie, Wyo.	(pat's son) lives in Cheyenne, Wyo.
Children:			
1. Maril Kay Cronberg.	Jul. 28,1959.	Laramie, Wyo.	
2. Kristi Dawn Cronberg.	May. 21,1961.	Laramie, Wyo.	
3. Bobbie Jean Cronberg.	Aug. 4,1965.	Laramie, Wyo.	

Names & Marriages.	Births.	Place of Birth.	Address or Remarks.
Carole Lynn Cook. Harold Hailey. M. Dec. 6,1955.	Sep. 23,1935. Aug. 29,1930.	Hanna, Wyo.	(Maxine's daughter)
Children:			
1. Arlon Dean Halley.	Apr. 29,1957.	Sharon, Okla.	
2. Donald Lloyd Halley.	Mar. 24,1958.	Sharon, Okla.	
3. Kevin Wayne Halley.	Apr. 29,1962.	Sharon, Okla.	

Gerald Wayne Cook. Carole Dee James. M. Aug. 28,1960.	Mar. 10,1938.	Hanna, Wyo.	(Maxine's son) lives in Medicine Bow, Wyo.
Children:			
1. Gerri Lynn Cook.	Apr. 1,1961,	Laramie, Wyo.	
2. Rhoda Lee Cook.	May. 24,1963,	Laramie, Wyo.	
3. Colleen Marie Cook.	Jan. 16,1966,	Laramie, Wyo.	
Sharon Lee Cook. M. Joel Chandler.	Aug. 23,1941.	Hanna, Wyo.	(Maxine's daughter) lives in Birmingham, Ala.
Children:			
1. Joel Craig Chandler.	Sep. 1963.	Birmingham, Ala.	
Philip Sheldon Cook.	Dec. 19,1949.	Hanna, Wyo.	(Maxine's son) Presently in the Navy.
Suzanne West. Roger Carlson. M. Feb. 3,1962.	Sep. 24,1942.	Laramie, Wyo.	(Eudine's daughter) lives in Madison, Wis
Children:			
1. Steven Wade Carlson.	Jul. 26,1963.	Ill.	
2. Paul Wesley Carlson.	Jul. 24,1969.	Ill.	
William David West. M. Candace Francine May.	Jul. 10,1945.	Laramie, Wyo, Omaha, Neb,	(Eudine's son)
Children:			
1. Sandi Elizabeth West.	Aug. 3,1968.		

March 4, 1910 "Miss Grace Darknell narrowly escaped drowning, Tuesday noon, in Rattler's Run, about 1½ miles north of Fairfield.

Miss Darknell was on her way home from town, driving a single horse to a top buggy. Finding the water had risen and was running around the first bridge north of the Doepke place, she attempted to drive through, thinking she could keep in the road and reach the bridge without difficulty. The horse struck the corner of the bridge on the upper side and at once the buggy tipped over throwing Miss Darknell into the stream which had a current like a mill-race. She was carried under or over three bridges and went through or over three barbed wire fences before she was rescued by Charles Loeffler at a point about a quarter of a mile below the bridge. During part of the time she was conscious, though she does not remember much about her thrilling watery trip. She made an effort to keep her lungs inflated, to float face upwards and to avoid swallowing the muddy water. This presence of mind probably saved her. The swiftness of the current was also in her favor but the whole affair seems almost miraculous. After Mr. Loeffler had taken her out he called for help and his brother Otto and Carl Glorfield and young Hays, who were at the house, came and helped him carry her to the Loeffler home. She was unconscious and chilled that some difficulty was experienced in restoring the normal warmth to her body. At latest reports she was doing well and it is not thought any serious results will follow her long immersion in ice cold water. The horse was drowned, probably before it got loose from the buggy and was found in a shallow cove a few rods below the bridge....."

June 4, 1909

Brickyard for Fairfield.

Several of our enterprising citizens are promoting the formation of a company to handle a brick making business and are meeting with good success. Nearly \$20,000 of stock has already been promised and it is the intention to secure about \$50,000 before starting a plant. This is a tangible, profitable enterprise, that will give employment to 10 or 20 men and the product is in increasing demand. F. M. Darknell is actively engaged in pushing the scheme. Let every citizen boast for the new brick yard.

Frank M. Darknell was a rural mail carrier in Rock Creek Valley in the early days.

G. M. BLAKELY FAMILY.

George Martin Blakely was born and grew up in Pine Island, Minnesota where he met and married Jennie S. Darknell.

Jennie Darknell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Darknell, was the second white child born in Rockford, Washington. When she was one year of age her father, an early pioneer who came to this community in 1878, walked with her on his back to Palouse where she was adopted by Dr. and Mrs. Beach. When Mrs. Beach passed away a few years later, Jennie was taken by her father to Pine Island to live with her grandparents. That was how she became acquainted with and married George.

After the birth of two daughters in Minnesota, the Blakely family moved, in 1899, to Rock Creek Valley where they stayed with Mr. Darknell on what is now the S. J. Bendsten farm. At that time Mr. Darknell had a Trading Post which served the Indians from the Coeur d' Alene reservation across the road, and the other early white settlers. That was the birthplace of Earl, the first son. Later the same year they bought a farm in Stringtown, now owned by Aaron Liebing. From Stringtown they moved to the farm in Rock Creek Valley which Mrs. Blakely still owns. It was here the rest of the family was born. The children are as follows:

Ruth, who married Marvin Whaley, deceased, had three children. She is now married to Charles Volpa and lives at Bass Lake, California.

Beth married Lawrence Muhlke from Worley. They have two sons and make their home in Coeur d' Alene.

Pearl resides at Terrebonne, Oregon and is married to Harvey T. Mustard, formerly of Oakesdale.

Earl operates the farm for his mother and is married to a local girl, Minnie Hansen.

Boyd, while teaching school, married Ella Peterson from Troy, Idaho. They had two children. Ella passed away in 1950. In 1956 Boyd married La-Verda Harvy of Yakima. They are now living at Terrebonne, Oregon.

Georgee, who passed away in 1927, was married to R. G. Buchanan and lived at Kellogg, Idaho.

Blaine lives in Spokane Valley. She is married to Evans Holt of Fairfield, who is Principle of the University School.

Ralph, while a junior in Fairfield High School, passed away suddenly from spinal meningitis.

Oren, who is employed by the state highway department, married Lola Mitchell of St. John. They have two sons and make their home in Fairfield.

William passed away when only two days old.

Francis lives at Avery, Idaho and is married to Dan Salla who is in business there.

Leo married Velma Luden, a Fairfield girl. He is assistant superintendent of the Northshore school district in the Seattle area. They live in Bothell with their two daughters.

There are also seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Blakely served for many years on the school board and as road supervisor for the township. In 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Blakely left the farm and moved into Fairfield. Mr. Blakely suffered a stroke in May of 1955, and was bedfast until his death March 14, 1957. He is buried in the Rockford cemetery. Mrs. Blakely has been a patient at the Good Samaritan Home in Fairfield for the past two years.

The lives of the pioneers are full of many hardships and lacked the conveniences which make things easier for us today. Mr. Blakely hauled grain with a wagon and 4 horse team to Harrison Landing on Coeur d' Alene Lake, over rugged narrow mountain roads. The trip took from early morning until long after dark.

The winters were very severe, causing the family to be snowbound for several days at a time and making it difficult for the children to walk the two miles to Alpine, the one room school which they all attended.

In those days grain was cut with a binder and shocked by hand. All the children had their share and more to do in harvest time. Threshing machines were used and it was a big day when the rig moved in to start the harvest. Many times when the crops were scant it was not an easy winter and the family went without many necessary things. Mr. Blakely went out with the crew and sewed sacks and piled them up for the wagons to be loaded. Those sacks weighed well over a hundred pounds.

The family ate from the land, which produced the hundreds and hundreds of quarts of fruit, vegetables and meat which were canned, dried or cured. In the fall Mrs. Blakely sat down with the Montgomery Ward catalog and ordered everything needed for the coming year. It took plenty. Overshoes, leggings, shoes, rubbers, coats, long undies, yarn and yardage goods for the large family. She knitted all the hose, mittens, caps and scarves and sewed the other clothes, including overalls and shirts for the men folk. It was a festive day when the huge box from Ward's arrived and Mr. Blakely went to town with the horses and wagon to bring it home. It came to Fairfield by freight and took about a month.

For a time there was a little church in the valley which the older children attended and sometimes they walked the three miles to Stringtown to go to Sunday school. In winter there was a Literary Society, so called, weather permitting, folks met in the school house for that. There was not much entertainment in those days, but the young folks had good books to read and appreciated the chance to read them. Also there are pleasant memories of the evenings when bowls of apples were brought up from the basement, corn was popped by the dishpan full and the whole family took part in games of checkers, dominoes and rummy.

The nearest neighbors were half a mile away through the field. The Burpee's were west, the McCartney's east and the Stender's on the south.

The Blakely's had a phone in the early days and from then on they

had a switch with which they could connect the neighbors beyond the party line. The telephone line was through barbed wire fence connected by an extra wire to span the gates which were numerous then.

In the fall they filled the mattresses, hand made by Mrs, Blakely. They had no electricity for many years, and pumped water by hand both for the family use and for the stock. The wood was cut and hauled from Idaho. It took a heap of wood against the long winter and for the everburning range. Mrs, Blakely did her huge washing on a board, besides the endless job of baking the many loaves of bread consumed each day. She also helped in the harvests, ran a binder, hauled and put hay in the barn. Earl was out on a gang plow when he was nine, and he was a whale of a mule skinner when just a wee lad.

The older children attended dances held on neighboring farms, on horse back, this was about the only means of transportation then. Every one enjoyed these outings.

The rugged pioneer type of which the Blakely's were such a vital part, are fast passing; indeed it has passed. Theirs was a life dedicated to God, family, home and work. America has a crying need for people of their caliber in these trying times. The descendants of these folk have a proud heritage indeed.

William and Virginia Darknell. They had two children: Jennie and Hattie Darknell.

Jennie Darknell married George Blakely, and they had 11 children:

- (1). Ruth Blakely married 1st. husband Marvin Whaley, they have 3 children:
- a, Jeanne Whaley married Col. James Patterson, they have 3 children:
 - +• James Michael & Irene Patterson, have 3 sons:
Loel, James & Timothy Patterson.
 - +• Cathy Patterson marr. Dr. Hank Vaupel. They have 1 son:
Matthew Brian Vaupel.
 - +• Dede Patterson marr. Terry Honan. they have 1 son:
Terrance Joseph Honan.
 - b, Earl and Ruby Whaley. They have no children.
 - c, Robert and Arm Whaley, who are separated, but have 1 child:
 - +• Shari Whaley marr. Glen Morgan, they have 1 child:
Jeanne Morgan.

Ruth Blakely Whaley marr. 2nd, husband Charles Volpa, no children.

- (2). Beth Blakely marr. Lawrence Muhlke. They have 2 sons:.
- a. Vern and Zelma Muhlke, have 2 sons:
David and Don Muhlke.
 - b. Harold Muhlke, divorced, has 1 son:
James Muhlke.
- (3). Earl Blakely marr. Minnie Hansen. No children.
- (4). Pearl Blakely marr. Harvy T. Mustard. She is a widow. No children.
- (5). Georgia Blakely marr. R.G. Buchanan. She is deceased. No children.
- (6). Boyd Blakely, 1st. marr. to Ella Patterson. 2 children. Ho names given.
Boyd Blakely, 2nd. marr. to LaVerda Harvy. 2 children:
 - a. Bryce Blakely, marr. ? 2 children. No names given.
 - b. Betty Blakely, marr. ? 1 child. No name given.
- (7). Ralph Blakely. deceased.
- (8). Oren Blakely marr. Lola Mitchell. They have 2 children:
 - a. Michael Blakely marr. ? & has 2 children. Ho names given.
 - b. Loren Blakely marr. ? & has 2 children. Ho names given.
- (9). Elaine Blakely marr. Evans Holt. They have no children.
- (10). Frances Blakely marr. Dan Salla. No children.
- (11). Lee Blakely marr. Velma Luden. They have 2 children:
 - a. Patty Blakely marr. ? No children.
 - b, Judy Blakely marr. ? 2 children. No names given.

DARKNELL - HAYWARD
by Grace Metcalf

George W. Darknell was born in Watertown, Wisconsin on January 28, 1855, Miss Clara D. Hayward was born at Roscoe, Minnesota on March 9, 1860. They were married February 10, 1880 at Pine Island, Minnesota. A week later they started for Washington Territory on the train by way of Omaha to San Francisco, going from there by ocean steamer to Portland, where they crossed the bar into the Columbia river, and on to Walla Walla by both water and railroad. From this point they took the stage to Spangle, where a team of horses and wagon took them to Rock Creek Valley, east of Fairfield, where George's brother, William Darknell, lived. About six weeks later, they bought the improvements on a 160 acre farm, located about 3 miles northeast of Fairfield and homesteaded it. They lived there until they moved to Fairfield in 1903. when Mr. Darknell accepted the position of manager of the Farmers Alliance Warehouse and Elevator Co., where he was president of the organization for a number of years. They moved back to the farm in 1905 and stayed there until 1912, when they again moved to Fairfield.

Mr. Darknell was active in community improvement. He was a member of the Fairfield Masonic Lodge and for many years was director of the school district in which he lived and also served as township supervisor. He was instrumental in securing the Palouse Highway for Fairfield and was mayor of Fairfield for several years, serving in that capacity when the city water-works were installed.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Darknell: Anna, Walter, Ralph, and Grace. Walter, the oldest son, passed away when only twenty years of age. Ralph was cashier of the Waverly Exchange Bank for more than 20 years, and held that position at the time of his death in February, 1923.

Anna was employed at the Waverly Post Office for four years, while John Reycraft was post master. Grace (Mrs. Edward D. Metcalf) who also was a postal clerk at the Fairfield Post Office while C. K. Kennedy and Oscar Behrman served as postmasters, is the only surviving member of the family.

WILLIAM H. DARKNELL
by Mrs. Amata Marion

William H. Darknell was born in Watertown, Wisconsin March 8, 1852. When ten years of age he accompanied his parents to Rochester, Minnesota where he was reared and educated. Although living in a comparatively new country at the time, he had the urge to blaze new trails to the far west. In 1873 he came to California, spending his time in the Napa and Sacramento valleys. In 1878 he came to The Dalles, Oregon, where he married Virginia Justice, and later they went to Dayton, Washington. Still later they came to Spokane, bought a tract of railroad land ten miles southeast of Rockford and set to work to establish a home. This region was known as Rock Creek Valley, and he lived there for many years.

In addition to farming activities, he worked at other occupations in order to eke out a meager living in those pioneer days. He worked for a time in a drug store at Rockford. Mr. and Mrs. Darknell's oldest child, a daughter (Mrs. G. M. Blakely) was the second white child born in Rockford. Mr. Darknell, always interested in politics, had the distinction of having polled the first vote ever cast in Rockford. He was a charter member of Fairview Lodge, No. 40 I. O. O. F. of Rockford.

He was Spokane's first "city water-works", hauling water from the Spokane river in barrels—first "stone-boat" and later with a team of horses and a "buck-board". He supplied the housewives on regular days for their cleaning and laundry work charging 250 a barrel. At this time Spokane was little more than a village. James Glover had a small merchandise store and a saw-mill. Cannon and Brown had purchased an interest in the townsite and were potent agencies in the development of it. Settlers were moving in fast with reports of the Northern Pacific Railroad, building westward. A frame hotel called the California House was erected and Francis Cook started the first newspaper, "Spokane Times". Just about this time, too, Spokane County was crested out of a part of Stevens County.

Mr. Darknell also drove stage coach for some time from Colfax to the Snake River and from Cheney to Colfax. Cheney then was the county seat and Colfax the largest town in the surrounding country. For a year he clerked at the Colfax Hotel, owned and operated by a Mr. Beach.

William Darknell's store was on the state line a mile east of the Alpine School and Bethel Church. He started the business in the early 1880's to fill a need in a growing community which was at least six miles from any town, with only muddy trails for wagon travel. He built the store as a one-room addition to the west of the family dwelling. His customers were not only the homesteaders, but the many Indians who lived in Idaho. The Louies were familiar patrons of his store. Characteristic of frontier settlement was the proportionately large number of bachelors who entered the Rock Creek Valley, and they particularly prized the home-made bread, baked by Amata Darknell Marion, which was sold at the store. For us living today, the location of this pioneer store is described as the home-site of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bendsen. The Darknell family owned the first car in Rock Creek Valley and also owned the only organ, which was a source of enjoyment to their neighbours.

William served as assessor of his township in Rock Creek Valley for many years. He was most instrumental in helping to establish the Rock Creek Valley mail route from the town of Fairfield, where he spent his declining years. His life, so closely interwoven with the early development of this country, was rich in adventure and experience. He was a member of the Spokane County Pioneers Society, which was a source of pleasant associations and happy reminiscences during the later years of his life.

Mrs. Amata Darknell Marion, a daughter of William's second marriage (Clara Lefors) cared for her father in his declining years. Amata Darknell married Joe Marion who was a veteran of the Spanish-American War and later operated a dray business in Fairfield. He served as town Marshall and water superintendent for several years.

Mrs. Clara Darknell (Grace Metcalf's mother) told a story of having her son, Ralph, in the store at Rockford one day, when an Indian came up to her and asked to buy her son, because he took a fancy to him. She said they were always friendly, even though the first one she ever saw scared her out of her wits.

Rattler's Run is the creek, (a tributary of Hangman) which runs through the Flegenhauer's property which was previously owned by R. K. Kegley and Nelson Morris in (1878). Flegenhauer's road is called Rattler's Run. An early settler had a hound dog named Rattler who used to run deer down the creek. Later there was a school near the junction of the Rattler's Run road and 3-H called by the name of creek and road; still later, in the '80's, another Rattler's Run school was built on the Darknell property, now owned by John Reinhardt. The old pump still stands by the side of the highway. Minnie Thayer (Corey's sister) taught here; and Mae Bankson of Mt. Hope taught Grace Metcalf at this school.

The active organized sports of the early days were limited. Croquet was a popular summertime game of the 1890's as it was at the George Darknell home on Rattler's Run, where neighboring young folks enjoyed the game with the Darknell family.

In the early 1900's, perhaps in 1902, a Rattler's Run school house was built in a new location farther up the creek between the Darknell and Langdon places. By this time traveling entertainers such as magicians or ventriloquists came by and put on a show for the school children.

METCALF'S
by Mrs. Grace Metcalf.

Alfred Metcalf was born near Mentor, Ohio, not far from the home of Garfield, in 1824. When ten years old he was taken by his parents to Michigan, and he received his education in the public schools and an academy there. He married, and soon after started for California, arriving in 1852. He immediately engaged in mining enterprises in that state. In 1862, after the death of his wife, he moved to Boise Basin, and in 1865 went to Confederate Gulch, Montana, mining in each of these localities. In 1869, he went from Montana to witness General Grant's first inauguration. While east at that time, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Dennis, a teacher at Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1871 he and his wife returned to California, where he had a thousand acres of land, purchased during his mining days. He engaged extensively in orange and other fruit orcharding, but in 1883 lost his fortune by generously becoming financial backer for friends. He then set out for the Coeur d'Alenes, and resumed his mining. He was there until 1887, then came to Mount Hope, Washington, where, through his efforts, the first post office was established. Fraternally, Mr. Metcalf was a Royal Arch Mason.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Metcalf. They were a family much devoted to the church. Alfred, Jr., and Ralph passed away at early ages in California. Mr. Metcalf died July 4, 1895, leaving his wife and three children, Lucy H., age 22; William D., age 18; and Edward D., age 16, who carried on at the farm. William attended W.S.C at Pullman and married Mrs. Lillian B. Gehret, a teacher. Edward was active in community improvements, public spirited, and received awards—one from the U. S. Treasury Department for patriotic service in behalf of the third Liberty Loan Campaign. He married Miss Grace H. Darknell of Fairfield.

Lucy taught school and married John Fisher of St. Maries, Idaho. The surviving members of the family are Lucy's descendants, her daughter, Louise (Mrs. John Crump), her grand-daughter, Dorothy (Mrs. Willis Logan), and five great-granddaughters, of Spokane.

The two following members of the family graduated from the Fairfield High School: Louise Fisher (Crump) in 1922; Dorothy Crump (Logan) in 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. John Crump still reside on the original Metcalf farm.

Copies of new found Cousins.

Ramona, Calif. 92065.
Nov. 1, 1972.

Dear Bill and Margie.

I can't thank you enough for the wealth of information you sent me. It was really my lucky day when my sister Pat went to the Courthouse in Rawlins, Wyo. to look up some information for me. I hope some time we can visit each other and really get acquainted. My father never knew much about his family. He knew Aunt Cora Williams and Aunt Grace Metcalf, and I met Mildred Weaver one time when I was small, but that is about it. His mother, my Grandmother and Grandfather Bill were divorced when Daddy was a baby and he didn't know his father until he was grown.

He didn't even know his sister for several years, because she was sent to Minn. to her grandmothers where she lived until she was about 17, but they became very close as they grew up, and it lasted throughout their life time.

I wrote to Roy J. Alexander who lives in Rochester, and is a cousin on the Alexander side of the family, about the same time I wrote to you. Harold Swarthout, one of our Darknell kin (his Uncle George married Hattie Darknell) sent me his address. He has I understand a very good history of the Alexander and Darknell families, and he has sent me some information and promises more. As soon as I can get all this Bonanza of information compiled and copies made, I'll send you what they have sent me. In the meantime I have made a copy of the direct line from Samuel H. Darknell down thru the present generation and am inclosing it with this letter.

I work part time so it will take me a little longer to get it all together than it would if I could spend more time on it. -

I hope you will write again one of these days when you can find the time, working and taking care of a family doesn't leave much time for other things. My husband and I had our business for 19 years here. I know how little time I have had in the past for doing the things I wanted to do.

Yours ever.

Norma (Darknell) West.

Letters from Cousins.
Box 845, Ramona, Calif. 92065

Dear Clifford and Cleo:

I was delighted to hear from you and to receive the information on the Darknell family; and to know there are some Darknell relatives so near. Do you know Fred Olson who lives at Half Moon Bay? His mother was or is a Darknell. I met Fred in 1930 on the only trip to Fairfield I have ever made there. We have kept in touch after a fashion through the years, and he stopped by about six years ago to see me. I really didn't know tho that there were any of the family left that wore the Darknell name. I am so pleased to know there are some. Do you and Cleo have children? You must write and tell me about your family. We have two, a son and a daughter and four grandchildren. My sister Pat has two children and seven grandchildren, and Maxine has four children and seven grandchildren, Eudine the half sister has two children and three grandchildren. Pat and Max both live in Medicine Bow, Wyo. where Daddy lived for years, and where he died in 1966. Eudine lives in Omaha, Neb. We have lived here in Ramona since 1943, except for a short time when we lived in Compton. We had a Pump and Farm Equipment Sales and Service here for 22 years, until farming went elsewhere and the Metropolitan Water came in and the Pump business got so bad that we just closed it up and Ray went to work for Royal Industries in San Diego as a Factory Manager, he is still there, but maybe one of these years he can retire on Social Security.

One of the Alexander kin who lives in Rochester has sent me quite a lot of information on the Alexander side of the family, and just a little bit about the Darknells. I have inquiries out now to Ramsbury, England to see if I can trace the family back a ways farther. I feel I have been very fortunate to have found so much already from Everett and Margie but once started on this kind of thing it is hard to be satisfied with just a little. You want to know more and more. In the little article about Grandfather carrying Jennie on his back to Palouse, and she was adopted by a Mr. Beach? What is the story behind that? do you know? No one ever told me about that. I don't think Daddy knew about it. It would be interesting to know more about it and what happened to his first wife Virginia Justice. Also what about Aunt Hattie? wasn't she older than Aunt Jennie? If you know anything about these events or know where information can be found about them I would be most interested in hearing about it.

My Mother's Sister and her family or most of them live in and around San Francisco. Aunt Alice lives in Colma. She has lived there for several years and before that in San Francisco. The name is Jones. Her husband died three years ago. I have been trying for some time to get her to tell me about my Mothers people but she "just doesn't know anything", so it will be quite a chore trying to trace them.

Well Clifford I have run off at the face long enough for one time so will let you go now and hope to hear from all of you again. I will be sending some of the information that Roy Alexander sent me, after the first of the year when things cool down a bit from Christmas. It is very interesting, and our Alexander kin weren't slobs.

Have a very Happy Christmas.

Your Cousin

Norma,

P.S. Thanks so much for the information
you sent.

Letters from Cousins.

Ramona, Calif.

Dear Cleo and Cliff:

Jan.19,1973.

It was good to hear from you. Your letter was so full of information. I hope I can just get it all put down now without missing some of it.

I shall write to Ruth soon and see if she can give me some information on Aunt Hattie, and her family.

Fred Olsen's address is: Box 184 Half Moon Bay Calif, and his Phone number is 726-2025. I have only seen him once in 40 years, and he sends a card at Christmas. He was driving truck for some freight line when "I saw him about 6 or 7 years ago." I haven't seen his sister Edna since 1930 when we were in Fairfield visiting, I am not sure but I think their mother was Mildred Olsen.

This information on the Alexander - Darknell family is from Roy Alexander who lives in Rochester and has done much research on the Alexander family. I made some copies for my family and the extra one I have put together with a copy of the Last Will and Testament of one Benjamin Darknell (which tells a story without any explanation.) I heard it was available and sent for it to England, but I do not know what relative he was tho I am sure he must have been one since the name Darknell is an unusual and little known one. I am still searching for information in England on the family so one of these days may come up with something to connect him.

I am sending the information to you so you can get one of the kids or grand kids to help you make copies for your families and if you don't mind will you see that Margie and (Bill)Everett get copies? I have just typed on this until I am dreaming about it so decided to let some of the others do some. Naughty of me huh? I promised Margie I would send whatever Mr. Alexander sent me.

There are several Whaley's in San Diego and two Bobs as well as an old and very famous haunted house by that name in Old Town. I saw a young man by the name of Whaley on T.V. recently in connection with some public office there but for the life of me I can't remember what it was, or what his first name was.

Ray loves hunting and fishing (I can take it or leave it) and for years he has gone to Colo. every fall hunting usually with other fellows but the last few years I have been going with him since some of the other hunters has been taking their wives. We have an 8 ft. cabover camper on a 3/4 ton Ford pickup, a Scout, and a 12 ft. fibreglassed over wood rough water boat and 25 hp. outboard motor for fishing in the lakes. It will work and has done so before we got it on the ocean but Ray isn't navigator enough to trust himself out in rough water. In 1961 we went to Alaska and hunted Moose and Caribou and enjoyed it so much that it has been a memory we would dearly love to duplicate but probably never will. I really think Ray's hunting days are about over, he has had to have cataracts removed from both eyes now. He is recovering now from the last bit of surgery. He will be able to fish and get out into the wilds but I don't think he will have vision enough even with his contact lens to see properly for hunting. He must work yet for 5 years before he can retire on Social Security and whatever benefits he will get from this Company he works for. Thank goodness his brain is much more important to his work than his eye sight and as long as he can see to get there and back and do what paper work is necessary he can make it just fine.

Well I have rattled on enough for this time. Thanks so much for all the information. You write again when you have time and if I get anything new that I know you don't have I will send it along GO you.

Love

Norma & Ray.

Letters from Cousins.

Ramona. Oalif.

May 12, 1973.

Dear Cleo and Cliff:

Your lovely letter arrived this morning and the short family histories are very interesting. Thanks so much for them. Your typing is much better than mine, and not nearly so full of errors. I have never been a very good typist and certainly couldn't hold down a job doing that. I use it because it is at least more legible than my hand writing.

I am looking forward to the pictures of the ancestors. I will try to round up some of our family that might not be too old. I can't promise that they will be too good because we aren't very good photographers.

I still have not been able to get any information on Aunt Hatties family. Ruth said she didn't know anything and two of her sisters didn't remember either. If I could just get birth and death dates of she and her husband and children and the childrens names and who they married it would help fill in the outlines on the families. I sent Ruth an incomplete outline of the Darknell and Blakely families and hope she may be able to put in some dates for me. When she sends it back I will make a copy for you (I thought I had extra copies of it but can't find them in my file) and perhaps you can fill in some of them, or know who can.

Our daughter and her two children have been with us for the past couple of months and she had surgery the 18th of May so I have been a bit busy trying to keep up with my job, the kids, and most of all this little house. Its a wild animal sanctuary, a pig pen, a mad house all rolled into one and sometimes Grandma is about ready to climb the walls. I tell myself it won't last forever, so just hang on. Ray and I are taking a vacation in June, so we will get away for a couple of weeks from the hassle.

I would like nothing better than to have a visit with you and Margies family and with Ruth. Maybe one of these days it can be possible.

Ray does fine now that he has both contact lens. They bother him a bit (nerves mostly) but he will have to learn to live with it and in time he probably will. It really is a handicap to a person who has always been able to see and do what he wants to do.

Oh dear this is such a mess but if I put off sending it right now it might be days or weeks getting rewritten so please excuse it. I will try to write again in a little while after I get the snapshots rounded up to send.

Tell Margie will try to write her soon to.

Love,

Norma.

This historiography was prepared individually for the Darknell surname on November 26, 1973 at the request of

Mr. Ray A. Darknell

The coat-of-arms illustrated left was drawn by a heraldic artist based upon information about the Darknell surname and its association with heraldry. In the language of the ancient heralds, the arms are described as follows:

"Quartered: 1st, or; the letter "D" sa.; 2nd and 3rd, gu.; a sun in splendor or.; 4th, paly of 4, or/sa. Charged with a small inner shield gu."

The Darknell arms is translated:

Divided into quarters: 1st quarter, gold background; a black initial "D". 2nd and 3rd quarters, red background; a gold rayed sun with a human face; 4th quarter, divided: 4 vert. bands, gold and black. A small red inner shield placed over all.

A sun symbolizes glory, splendor, high authority. Seven vivid colors were chosen for use on shields of armor-clad knights to easily identify them at a distance. The heraldic colors gold, silver, purple, blue, green, black, and red were preserved on colorless drawings by dot and line symbols. The Darknell coat-of-arms incorporated red. The color red represents fortitude, creative power.

Information available indicates that in 1972 there were less than 300 households in the U. S. with the old and distinguished Darknell name. In comparison, some family names represent over 400,000 households in the United States.

This report does not represent individual lineage of the Darknell family tree and no genealogical representation is intended or implied.

