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### Colegrove, James (1841 - )

Tresa Gruber

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COLEGROVE, JAMES

File No. B-241

James Colegrove was born May 8, 1841 in Hornellsville, Steuben County, New York. The son of Francis and Amanda (Pitts) Colegrove. He attended the district schools in Arkport, New York, about five miles out of Hornellsville, and he finished at the Alfred Academy. This Academy was founded by the seventh day Adventist. He then taught school for four years in his native state. In 1866 he came to Clearwater, Stearns County, Minnesota, where he located on section 34 Lynden on a farm which he later increased to 400 acres. He also taught school during the winter months and there resided for some 34 years.

He was chairman of the board of supervisors, town clerk, and justice of Peace as well as chairman of the school board of his district.

In 1901 he came to St. Cloud and was made secretary of the Granite City Iron Works, where his invention, the Colegrove Potato Digger, was manufactured.

He was made a Mason in the Clearwater Lodge, No. 28, A.F. and A.M. Clearwater, Minnesota, and several times served as its Master. He is now a member of North Star Lodge, No. 23, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

James Colegrove married Mary Louise Stearns, the daughter of Calvin Stearns. To James and Mary (Stearns) Colegrove three children were born; Mary Louise, who married William W. Robertson. They are located in Bath, Maine and have one daughter, Carrie L. Frances Amanda married Harry Bigerstaff and after his death she married Anthony Murphy of St. Cloud. Pitt Payson, the only son of James Colegrove received his early education in Clearwater, attended the St. Cloud

COLEGROVE, JAMES

State Normal School and the University of Minnesota and graduated from the University of New York. He taught mathematics in the St. Cloud Normal for twenty years and after this period made superintendent of city schools of Virginia, Minnesota. He married Alice Jacobs, and they have one daughter, Helen. Helen married Theodore Dekker and they have two children. They are located at the present time in Duluth, Minnesota.

James Colegrove never really gave up farming or truck gardening, he still keeps a splendid garden in spite of being ninety-three years old.

Mrs. Mary Louise (Stearns) Colegrove died in 1911. In 1915 James Colegrove was married to Mary E. Palmer, the daughter of John and Anna Palmer of Warren, Illinois. They are living at 826-7th Ave. South. This home was bought in 1916.

James Colegrove has a watch in his possession which he has had since 1880. He also tells of a flood in 1867, it started raining the first day of July 1867 and by the 10th the water had reached it's highest point, and the Mississippi bottom land was all under water.

Interviewed: James Colegrove  
Date: June 1, 1936

By: Tresa Gruber

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE JAMES COLGROVE BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Pitt Payson Colgrove	October 13, 1872		James Colgrove	

  

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Louisa Colgrove		A	69	24	

COLGROVE, JAMES

FILE NO. B-242

James Colgrove was born in Hornellsville, N. Y., in 1841. He arrived in Lynden in 1866 and bought a large tract of land. He taught school a number of years and then began improving and tilling his farm. His principal line in farming has been the feeding and fattening of cattle, shipping several car loads each year to eastern markets. His beautiful and highly cultivated farm indicates a practical and intelligent supervision. He has taken a deep interest in public affairs and has held prominent town and school offices most of the time since he became a resident of the town. He has invented and perfected a two horse potato digger that will undoubtedly revolutionize potato digging.



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