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8-19-1936

### Craig, Christopher J. (1837 - 1899)

Dorothy Hansmann

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CRAIG, CHRISTOPHER J.

File No. B-261

Christopher J. Craig was born in Scotland June 24, 1837. He came to Wisconsin when he was ten years of age. Later he, with his parents, moved to Homestead County, Minnesota where he lived until 1847.

On March 1, 1866 he was married to Elizabeth Margaret Ruch (later changed to Rue) who was born at Tiffon, Ohio December 18, 1847. They came to Sauk Centre in June 1866 and located on a homestead near McCormick Lake. They came by covered wagon and oxen team and brought a few cows with them. Mrs. Craig says, "After milking the cows we placed the container in the front of the wagon and by evening it was churned to butter."

They erected a log cabin with the aid of neighbors. At this time all labor was exchanged. For instance if one settler had a house to build all the others came and donated their labor. The same practice prevailed at threshing and harvest time. The women did their work in the same way by organizing "bees." There were quilting, canning, husking, and sewing bees, in fact any time any one needed extra help they just called on the local "Bee."

Christopher J. Craig and Margaret (Ruch) Craig were the parents of Etta A. (Craig) Wilcox; Ely J. who died at the age of twenty-one years; Edna V.; Edith; and Elma May. They also have twenty-five grandchildren and twenty-four great grandchildren.

Christopher J. Craig was a member of the school and town boards at McCormick Lake for many years.

Christopher J. Craig died in the year 1899 and is buried beside other members of his family in Greenwood Cemetery at Sauk Centre. His widow makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. C. D. Wilcox in the city of Sauk Centre. At this writing she is eighty-nine years of age and has

CRAIG, CHRISTOPHER J.

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just cut a wisdom tooth, which came in under a false plate which she has worn for thirty years. The tooth had to be extracted.

Interviewed: Etta A. (Craig) Wilcox  
Date: August 19, 1936  
By: Dorothy Hansmann

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE CHRISTOPHER J. CRAIG BIOGRAPHY

DEATH RECORD BOOK A PAGE 192 LINE 20

Eli J. Craig Died October 31, 1889

Age 21 years and 28 days

Born in Ohio

Son of Christopher Craig