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### Dennis, John Halden (1828 - 1900)

Dorothy Hansmann

Melba Peterson

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John Halden Dennis was born in Somerset County, Maine, on Aug. 18, 1828. He grew up on his father's farm and remained there until he was 21 years of age. His father was a farmer and local minister. In 1850 John H. Dennis went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he was Asst. Supervisor of the Insane Asylum for one year and where he spent two years at the machinist's trade. The next four years were spent in Alleghany county, west to Hudson Wisconsin. Where he was engaged in the lumber business. On June 17, 1856 John H. Dennis and Amanda S. Chapman were united in marriage. Amanda S. Chapman was born in Syracuse, New York. Immediately following the ceremony John H. and Amanda S. (Chapman) Dennis went to Hastings, Minnesota where he engaged in farming until he came to Stearns County in Sept. 1858. Soon after arriving in Stearns County, he took a claim in what is now the town of Melrose where he remained until 1864 when he came to Sauk Centre. John H. Dennis located on a homestead about 2 miles east of Sauk Centre. In 1875 Oakland cemetery, the property of John H. Dennis was made constable and served about 30 years. He was deputy Sheriff of Stearns Co. for 22 years.

The children of John H. and Amanda S. (Chapman) Dennis were: Cora M: who was born in 1857 and died in 1863. Oleana, who was born in 1859 and died in 1863. Blanch M: who was born in 1862 and died in 1869; Lester L., who was born Feb. 19, 1865 and died Dec. 19, 1866; Merton E. was born in 1867 and died the same year; Faustina B. who married S. M. Barton; Hiram I: Leona E. who married C. M. Clark.

John Halden Dennis moved to Minneapolis in 1896 where he died on Feb. 23, 1900. He was interred in Oakland cemetery, Sauk Centre, Minn.

Interviewed: Hiram I Dennis

Date: June 22, 1937

Publication granted

by: Dorothy Hansmann

CENSES RECORD TAKEN FROM THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

1860

DENNIS, JOHN H.

|        |         |    |   |        |           |
|--------|---------|----|---|--------|-----------|
| Dennis | John H. | 34 | M | Farmer | Maine     |
| "      | Amanda  | 22 | F |        | New York  |
| "      | Cora    | 3  | F |        | Minnesota |
| "      | Olena   | 1  | F |        | "         |
| "      | Fastena | 1  | F |        | "         |

DENNIS, J. H.

File No. B-285

J. H. Dennis was born in Somerset County, Maine, on August 18, 1828. He lived on a farm until 1849. His father was a farmer and local minister.

In 1850, J. H. Dennis went to Worcester, Massachusetts, where he became assistant supervisor of the state Lunatic Asylum for a year. The next two years he spent at the machinist trade. The next three or four years were spent in Allegany county, New York, and in Hudson, Wisconsin, in the lumber business.

In 1856, J. H. Dennis moved to Hastings where he engaged in farming. In the same year he married Amanda S. Chapman of Syracuse, New York. They had eight children. The three who were living in 1881 were Faustina B., Hiram E. and Leona E.

September, 1858, they came to Sauk Centre. They took acclaim in what is now Melrose. They lived here until 1864, when they moved to Sauk Centre.

In June, 1859, J. H. Dennis was made constable. He was deputy sheriff for ten years.

In 1875, property belonging to J. H. Dennis in the suburbs of Sauk Centre was laid out and dedicated as the Oakland Cemetery.

Copied from: History of Upper Mississippi Valley  
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