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Engle, Tobias (1847 -)

Melba Peterson

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Tobias Engle was born January 17, 1847, in Grabenden, Switzerland. He is the son of George and Elizabeth Engle who were also born in Switzerland. There were six other children besides Tobias. They are John, Ambrose, Kate, Dora, Lizzy, and Anne. Tobias Engle never attended school. Private tutors taught in his home. He was taught in German.

George Engle and his family came to America when Tobias was an infant. They went from New York to Dubque, Iowa, where they took a claim, but came to Minnesota in 1856 because of better farming conditions in this state. They went to Pleasant Grove, near Rochester, Minnesota. All of their stock and personal goods was moved by oxen.

March 5, 1869, Tobias Engle married Elizabeth Schuyler. She was born in Ames, New York, on March 9, 1843. She was the daughter of Samuel and Mary Schuyler. In 1848, her parents moved to Schuyler County, New York. She received her education at Watkins. When she was fourteen years old she began teaching school. She continued in this work until she was twenty-eight years old. When she was twenty years old she came West with her parents and located at Pleasant Grove, Olmstead County, Minnesota. Tobias and Elizabeth (Schuyler) Engle were married by an Evangelist in Dubque, Iowa.

Mr. Engle carried flour from Rochester to Sauk Centre by oxen and horses. At that time there weren't very many Indians left. They also used the oxen to help build log houses and farms, and they seemed to get along then just as good as they do now. At the time the reaper came out they had to stand on the reaper and tie the straw by hand and it was elevated up to them. The grass that was cut for hay was cut with a scythe. They could cut from two to three acres a day by hand.

For entertainment they had quilting bees and church doings.

In 1880, they moved from Pleasant Grove to a farm three miles east.

of Sauk Centre near Cedar Lake. They lived here until 1883 when they traded this farm for one ten miles southeast of Sauk Centre. Here they lived until 1902, when they moved to Spokane, Washington. In 1906 they returned to Sauk Centre.

Tobias and Elizabeth (Schuyler) Engle have had five children. One, William, is still living. He resides on the Engle farm about two miles south of Sauk Centre. They have twenty grandchildren.

Mrs. Tobias Engle died on February 27, 1931. She was buried in Greenwood Cemetery. Mr. Engle is still living and resides with his son on the farm.

Interviewed: Tobias Engle
Date: October 23, 1936
By: Melba Peterson

Publication Granted

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE TOBIAS ENGLE BIOGRAPHY

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DEATH RECORD BOOK X PAGE 20 LINE 590

Mrs. Elizabeth Engle Died February 27, 1931

Born March 9, 1843 in New York

Daughter of Sam Schuyler

Age 87 years 11 months and 18 days