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James, Whitman R. (1835 - 1913)

Melba Peterson

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Peterson, Melba, "James, Whitman R. (1835 - 1913)" (1937). *WPA Biographic Summaries*. 551.
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JAMES, WHITMAN R.

File No. B-614

Whitman R. James was born near Buffalo, New York, in 1835. He grew to manhood near Hartford, Connecticut, and when he was eighteen years old, in 1853, he came to Minnesota.

Whitman James pre-empted his land in 1853. He paid 73¢ an acre. In 1907 this same James farm was valued at \$75 an acre.

In 1866 Whitman returned to the east to be married. Whitman and Iona Esther James lived one year after their marriage in Minneapolis, and then went to Sauk Centre Stearns County, Minnesota, in 1867. His first claim in Sauk Centre was located near the site of the stockade. He helped lay out the townsite of Sauk Centre previous to his marriage.

Whitman James left Sauk Centre and was chief clerk of the commissary department under Judge E. D. Jones, located at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, he returned to Minneapolis for one year. He lived in Sauk Centre from 1856 until 1906. The remainder of his life was spend in North and South Dakota.

Whitman R. and Iona E. James had twelve children, eleven of whom were born in Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

Whitman R. James died in Britton, South Dakota on March 17, 1913. He is buried in Greenwood cemetery in Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

Information from: Sauk Centre Herald
Issue: April 3, 1910
Mitchell's Stearns County History
Volume II Page 1325
Compiled by: Melba Peterson
Date: April 12, 1937

TAKEN FROM THE CENSUS RECORDS OF 1860

Enumerated June 28, 1860 By-- C. Grandelmeyer

Post Office -- Sauk Centre

Page Number -- 65

William R. James	Age 24
Sex	Male
Occupation	Farmer
Born	New York

Orlando James	Age 23
Sex	Male
Occupation	Farmer
Born	New York

FROM THE RECORDS IN THE STEARNS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

FOR THE WHITMAN R. JAMES BIOGRAPHY

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
1. Baby James	Dec. 22, 1872	Sauk Centre	Whitman R. James	
2. Benjamin James	Mar. 25, 1878	" "	" " "	
3. Baby James	Feb. 24, 1880	" "	" " "	
4. Baby James	Nov. 8, 1881	" "	" " "	
5. Ada James	Sept 20, 1874	" "	" " "	
6. Baby James	Oct. 26, 1884	" "	" " "	
7. Baby James	Mar. 5, 1889	" "	" " "	
8. Baby James	Nov. 24, 1870	" "	" " "	

<u>Mother's Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Line</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1. Iona E. James		A	87	8	Female
2. Esther James		A	327	36	Male
3. Iona E. James		A	427	26	Female
4. I. E. James		A	475	13	Female
5. Joanna		A	163	29	Female
6.		B	39	17	Male
7. Iona		B	167	2	Male
8. Iona		A	21	11	Male