The Odell family name<sup>1</sup> is reported by some to go back to the times of the Norman Conquest and comes from the parish of Odell in Bedfordshire. The name was also known as Wahull, Wadhul, Wodhull, and other variant forms. The name Wodhull was corrupted to Odell as the two forms sounded very similar when pronounced. Odell was pronounced and sometimes spelled Odle with the accent on the first syllable. Many colonists to the United States were from this family line. Records were not kept in England before the middle of the 1500's and it is difficult to trace most families back before this time. Land titles for the aristocracy can sometimes be traced back to the 1200's. Odell is from "Woad-hill", a mustard-like herb called woad, cultivated in this area.

In the survey of land holdings in Domesday's Book, Walter de Flanders was the holder of the Wahull lands in 1086. Walter was the brother of Matilda of Flanders, the queen of William the Conqueror. William the Conqueror granted the land to Walter de Flanders. Odell Castle was about ten miles from Bedford, England but was destroyed in the 1600's but has been rebuilt as a manor house. This house was destroyed in 1931 but has also been rebuilt as the home of Lord Luke of Pavenham.

**Thomas Odell**, **Sr.**<sup>2</sup> was born in England about 1660 and probably immigrated about 1682 to the area now known as Maryland. His parents were Reginald, born about 1634, and Priscilla Odell, born about 1638, and both were from Odell, Bedfordshire, England. In April 1691, Thomas married Sarah Ridgely Brewer, the daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Howard Ridgely. They lived in All Hallows Parish in Anne Arundel County, Maryland where Thomas was a coroner, militia officer, and Justice for the Crown. In 1701, he bought eight hundred acres of land called "Darnall's Grove" in Prince George County, Maryland from Robert Bailey. This land was on the west side of the Patuxent River in Oueen Anne's Parrish near the present day town of Upper Marlborough, Maryland. Thomas and his father-in-law, Henry Ridgely, were elected Vestrymen of Queen Anne's Parrish in 1705.

Thomas Odell reportedly died in Prince George County in 1722. His will was dated April 29, 1717 and probated on April 11, 1722. Sarah Ridgely Brewer Odell was the executrix.

Their children included:

Thomas	born on January 7, 1692
Elizabeth	born on June 5, 1696
Henry	born on April 15, 1698
Anne	born on 1701 and died 1702
Anne	born on November 18, 1703
Rignall	born on October 24, 1705
Sarah	born on April 10, 1709

**Thomas Odell II** was born in All Hallows Parrish, Anne Arundel County, Maryland on January 7, 1692. He married Margaret Beall about 1712 in Prince George County, Maryland. Her sister Sarah Beall married Rignall Odell, the brother of Thomas.

In 1761 Thomas and Margaret Beall Odell were listed in her mother's will and were living in South Carolina by 1758. Thomas Odell owned a four hundred acres plantation in the original

Berkley County on Ninety-Six Creek. Their children included:

William	born about 1714
Rachel	born about 1716
Thomas	born about 1718
Sarah	born about 1720
Mary	born about 1722
James	born about 1725
John	

**James Odell** was born about 1725 in Prince George County, Maryland and married Martha Prather. Martha was born on April 20, 1730 in Prince George County, Maryland. The lived on a plantation called "Ball Christe" in Frederick County, Maryland until James died in 1763.

Their children included: Thomas

born on May 15, 1752

Mary; John; Rachel; Rignall; Margaret; Elizabeth; Eleanor; Martha; Sarah; and Charlotte.

**Thomas Odell III** was born on May 15, 1752 in Frederick County, Maryland and was married twice. He served as a Lieutenant in the Frederick County Militia during the Revolutionary War. Other information known is that his first wife's family name was Garrett and his second wife was Grace Austin.

Thomas was a Methodist Episcopal minister and died on August 27, 1827 in Brown County, Ohio. Grace Austin Odell died at Odell, Tippecanoe County, Indiana on July 6, 1835.

The children from the first marriage included: Nathan Garrett born on November 4, 1772.

The children of the second marriage included:

James; Martha; Nancy; Sarah; Mary; John Wesley; Elizabeth; Thomas; Debra; Rhoda; and Charlotte.

**Nathan Garret Odell**, **Sr.** was born in Maryland on November 4, 1772 and married in Berkley County, Virginia (now West Virginia) to Rebecca Sharp in 1795. This area is adjacent to Maryland. In the early 1800's they moved to Adams County, Ohio and later to Wayne County, Ohio where the family homesteaded. He was a farmer and operated a grist mill until moving to Michigan. In 1828 they were pioneer settlers in Porter Township, Cass County, Michigan, where Nathan died on September 28, 1835 and Rebecca died in November of the same year.

The family lived for many years in Virginia, but did not own slaves. Nathan, Sr. was a miller, owned a mill, and farmed in Virginia. He also owned and operated a grist mill and farmed in Wayne County, Ohio. Nathan Garrett Odell was a pioneer settler in Cass County.

Their children included:

Thomas	born on June 22, 1796 Methodist minister who went to Muscatine, Iowa. Nancy Drake Odell, his wife, died and Thomas married again. They moved to Shawnee, Kansas and Thomas died in 1861.
James	born on September 24, 1798 Married Jane Traverse on November
	23, 1856. Married Caroline Loupee
	on February 27, 1859.
Nathan Garret	born on October 3, 1803
John	born on March 4, 1801
Elizabeth	born on May 21, 1806
Enos Prater	born on August 7, 1808
Lorenzo Dow	born on October 9, 1810
Rebecca	born on May 17, 1812
Silas P	born on April 15, 1814

**Nathan Garrett Odell** was born in Berkley County, Virginia (now West Virginia) on October 3, 1803 and died on February 18, 1844 in Cass County, Michigan.

On February 12, 1829 he married Sarah Drake in Holmes County, Ohio and on September 20, 1842 he married Eliza Shivel in Cass County, Michigan. Holmes County, Ohio is adjacent to Wayne County, Ohio where the Odell family had settled. Sarah and Nancy Drake, wife of Nathan's oldest brother, Thomas Odell, may have been sisters.

After their marriage Nathan Garrett and Sarah Drake Odell left Ohio and went to Porter Township, Cass County, Michigan with several other families. Nathan homesteaded<sup>3</sup> and cleared the land to develop very productive farms. Nathan held Certificate No. 1457 for 80 acres in St. Joseph County, Section 12, Township 8, South of Range 13 from the land office in Monroe issued on January 1, 1831. He also held Certificate No. 23267 for 178 acres in Cass County, Section 10, Township 8, South of Range 13 from the General Land Office of Kalamazoo that was issued on May 1, 1839. It is also thought that he held Certificate No. 902 <sup>4</sup> for 80 acres from Monroe, Michigan Territory, Section 1, Township 8, South of Range 13 issued on November 10, 1830. Many members of the Odell family homesteaded in Cass County, Michigan.

Nathan Odell and his wife belonged to the First Baptist in Porter. When the family first settled in Cass County the land was mostly forests. There were few roads and they mainly followed the Indian trails. Nathan was interested in agriculture and developed and upgraded his land.

The children from the first marriage included:

James Sharp	born on January 10, 1830	married Carolin Loupee
Thomas J.	born on January 30, 1831	married Lavina Travers
David D.	born on March 27, 1833	married Malinda McGaughey
Margaret M. John S.P.	born on November 9,1834 born on October 30, 1836	

ur returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, which said tract has been ye with Office to the Public mathy said Watham and in conf District of for the sale privile 93 loes, all the rights, the the in the 21015 unto consideration of the prem 3 To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting Andrew Jackson rant, and the seal West, further ogether with and Vathon Of Odell thirteen give Land bu Patent, do mak Whe Muited States of the de, .w ret de ANTERICA, Rani the In testimony whereof. Hold these R the Pou South, \$ the a \$ the President, hillowe and, ate of encipit caused these TO SETATE GETEND at athan 9 1 a cortific 5 By eighty acres Given under my United States. said Lands, EEEBereans, Nathan & Odell of Wayne crunty Ohid hat full har the 2 Ath 8 one. have containing uction and provided, the the 2 the Act That the deposited in the General Land the case gan YE. noh Au Monree, Michigan Territory K.NOW in huus Congress, November 10, 1830 1 may according to the the and to his PRESIDENT Monnot tohus mances, of Gent MON ucto of affixed. the mad han z

born on December 27, 1843

The children from the second marriage included: Eliza Sara Wealthy born on December 25, 1842

Nathan Ebenezer

**David D. Odell** was born on March 27, 1833 in Cass County, Michigan. He moved to Decatur County, Iowa where he married Malinda McGaughey on December 24, 1854 in Terre Haute, Decatur County, Iowa. It is not known why he moved to Iowa. David Odell enlisted into the Union Army, Seventeenth Iowa Volunteers, Company A.<sup>5</sup> on February 22, 1862 in Leon, Iowa. David D. Odell is listed as a farmer on his military Certificate of Disability for Discharge<sup>6</sup> and is noted to have been medically unfit for duty two months before his discharge. He died on March 24, 1867 in Decatur County, Iowa and is buried in the Miller Cemetery<sup>7</sup>, Burrell Township, Terre Haute, Decatur County, Iowa.

The Seventeenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry<sup>8</sup> was formed in 1862 from several Iowa Counties. Company A formed in Leon, Decatur County, Iowa under the leadership of Captain J.S. Young. The units traveled to Des Moines where, three days later, they boarded a boat to Eddyville and then went by train to Keokuk, Iowa. Between March and April of 1862, the Seventeenth Infantry mustered in Keokuk, Iowa.<sup>9</sup> After medical examinations they drilled for two weeks. On April 19, 1862, the units left Keokuk by steamer to reach Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri where they received uniforms and guns. On May 5, 1862, the Regiment left by boat to travel down the Mississippi River, up the Ohio River, and down the Tennessee River to Pittsburg Landing. Tennessee. The Battle of Shiloh had occurred on April 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> of 1862 and the men could not believe what they saw at the site. Almost all vegetation had been destroyed. Over 10,000 men had died on each side. The Confederates had come from Corinth, Mississippi for the Shiloh attack on April 6th and retreated on April 7th back to Corinth, Mississippi. The first battle of the Iowa Regiment, which was part of General Grant's Union army, was to attack Corinth, Mississippi on May 28, 1862 just south of Shiloh, Tennessee. The Confederate army retreated during the night and the Iowa Regiments followed the retreating Confederates engaging in several fights. They camped at Clear Springs, Mississippi after several days of marching and engaged in many scouting raids from this camp. The first pay from the Government was with corn in Clear Springs.

On September 19, 1862, the Battle of Iuka, Mississippi was a major engagement for the Iowa Regiment of the Union Army as about seven hundred Union soldiers and eight hundred Confederate soldiers were killed. The Union Army won the Battle. There was great confusion in the command at Iuka and at one time the troops under the command of Captain John L. Young were being fired on by both Union and Rebel troops. A second Battle of Corinth occured on October 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> of 1862. It was about this time that David Odell must have been sent back to Keokuk, Iowa with a tumor in his abdomen. The Seventeenth Infantry of the Iowa Regiment was preparing for the Battle of Vicksburg, Mississippi.<sup>10</sup>

The discharge papers of David D. Odell <sup>11</sup> from the U.S. Army on November 11, 1862 state that he entered the army at age 29. Private David Odell was a member of Captain J.S. Young's Company A, Seventeenth Regiment, Iowa Volunteers enrolling at Leon, Iowa on February 27, 1862 for three years. He was discharged on November 11, 1862 at Keokuk, Iowa by reason of a Surgeon's Certificate of Disability. He was described as being six feet in height, of light complexion, blue eyes, and sandy hair. Andrew J. Baker, Lieutenant, was also in this unit. Lieutenant Baker was a brother of John Baker, the ggg grandfather of the author.

The Certificate of Disability states: "I certify that I have carefully examined said David D.

*Odell of Captain Young's Company and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because of a large tumor in the abdomen, nature uncertain, yield's to no treatment.* Admitted Sept. 2, 1862. Signed, Surgeon in Charge, (Signature not readable)."

ARMY OF THE ITED STATES. CERTIFICATE OF DISABILITY FOR DISCHARGE. ed, in duplicate, in all cases of discharge on secount of disability. Parid & Odell private of Captain J. L. Journge Company, At of the Secontenthe stepiment of United States Sorral Sufferras enlisted by J. L. Jours of at Leon the Regiment of \_ · day of debuuris 1882, to sorre que years; he was born on the Case les in the State of Merchigan in Thevent Fine feet - inches high, light complexion, blue eyes, onje years of age, Soundy hair, and by occupation when enlisted a farmer During the last two months said soldier has been unfit for duty days. (Here consult directions on Form 19, p. 909, Medical Dept. Gen. Reg.) Bration: U. S. Meilitary Hoofs tal Date: Hertrick Lona Nov 8 1802 Commanding Company. I CERTIFY, that I have carefully examined the said David &, Odele Captain Jourgs Company, and find him incapable of performing the duties of a soldier because of (Ilber consult par. 1134, p. 245, and directions on Form 12, p. 289, Med. Dept. Gen. Reg.) .. A large tumor in the addomen nations Mill Jayler Mf boly Surgcom ar chorp Admitted Siph 2 1802 day of hovember 186 : Restuk DISCHARGED, this Elen Nors 1. - When a probable case for pension, special care must be taken to state the degree of disability. / It, 13 Purp, W. I.R. Nors 2. - The place where the soldier desires to be addressed may be here added. Philitary Commandy County-(Gor. Paist. Orr., Oct., 1861.) ( DUPLICATES.)

es REBELLION. Act of July 14, 1862, and subsequent acts. WIDOW'S PENSION Zicille Estates (ORIGINAL WITH INCREASE.) Widow of /Rank : Company : in la Regiment: Sowa. Residence of claimant: County, and State of ocate 5 PAC Post Office : va Attorney : Fee: \$ No contract and manaterial evidence filed since July 8, 1870. Rate of Pension: \$ 8.00 per month, commencing Jarch 24 1 , 1807 the date is the foldier's death , and two dollars per month additional for each child, as follows: Born, 18 11 Commencing | Sixteen, , 18 ,18 . Born. , 18 Sixteen. 18 , 18 .... , 18 Born, 5 Sixteen , 18 , 18 -Born 18 Born Dec Sixteen. . 18 By inet marriago. , 18 , 18 sug. Sixteen, 10,188 " Anyments on all former certificates covering any portion of the spine time to be deducted. Panka ADMITTED, Examiner. APPRO viewer. 17. Chief of Division. DATES SHOWN BY PAPERS. Widow's app. filed; Enlistment, 110 , 1870 Ale 2 10 18 41 671

Malinda McGaughury Odell, the widow of David D. Odell, applied on July 5, 1870 for a Widow's Pension<sup>12</sup> of \$8 dollars per month commencing March 24, 1867. She was to be given an additional \$2 dollars per month for each child. The children listed on the application include:

Nathaniel	born on October 5, 1856
Mary	born on July 11, 1858
Sarah	born on January 31, 1861
Rilda	born on January 24, 1864
James	born on August 17, 1866

Malinda McGaughey Odell died on November 1, 1911 and is buried in Miller Cemetery<sup>13</sup>, Burrell Township, Terre Haute, Decatur County, Iowa. Terre Haute, Iowa was founded in 1854 by Mordicia Miller. Terre Haute, Iowa was reported to have disappeared by 1915. At one time the town included two stores, one blacksmith, one hotel, one shoe shop, one cooper, a school house, physician, a post office and a population of seventy five. The town was located close to the railroad line about three and one-half miles southwest of Decatur City, Iowa where the I and M railroad bed crossed Elk Creek on the road from Decatur that continued south to Eagleville, Harrison County, Missouri. A railroad was never built through the town.

The Odell and McGaughey families were early settlers in the Terre Haute area of Decatur County, Iowa.<sup>14</sup>

The children of David D. Odell and Malinda McGaughey were:

Sarah Odell b. January 31, 1861	d. October 6, 1924	m. January 27, 1881 (Horace Pryor)
Nathan Odell b. October 5, 1856	d. April 7, 1935	m. February 1, 1885 (Amelia Action)
Mary Odell b. July 11, 1858	d.	m. (Lorenze Don Schaffner)
Rilda Odell b. January 24, 1864	d.	m. (Alleson Hamilton)
James Odell b. August 17, 1866	d. June 27, 1943	m. 1. Sarah DeVoss b. 12/21/1872
-		d. 09/23/1925
		2. Rose Cox
Boy Odell	died at birth	

**Sarah Odell** was born January 31, 1861 in Decatur County, Iowa, according to her obituary, and died October 6, 1924 in Blythedale, Harrison County, Missouri. She married Horace Vernon Pryor on January 27, 1881 in Decatur City, Decatur County, Iowa. After their marriage they lived near Terre Haute, Decatur County, Iowa for about five years and then moved to the Donaby area of Harrison County, Missouri in 1886.<sup>15</sup> She and her husband lived on this farm until their deaths. The couple were members of the Donaby Church. Their children included Ira, Florence, Ollie and Clara. Ollie Pryor later married Frank White, grandfather of the author's wife, Betty White Baker.



William Pryor b. August 13, 1824 England m. December 25, 1844 England d. February 8, 1892 Jo Daviess County Illinois



Sarah Peach Pryor b. February 17, 1821 England d. January 3, 1914 Jo Daviess County Illinois



Horace Vernon Pryor b. October 3, 1857 m. January 27, 1881 d. August 19, 1933

Bryon Walter Pryor b. June 6, 1854





Sarah Odell Pryor b. January 31, 1861 m. January 27, 1881 d. October 6, 1924

**William Pryor** and Sarah Peach Pryor<sup>16</sup> were the parents of Horace Vernon Pryor. They came to America from England in 1851, settled in Joe Daviess County, Illinois, and began farming. Sarah Pryor Stanbrough<sup>17</sup>, sister of Horace Vernon Pryor, in a letter to Lena Marie White Smith dated June 12, 1834 reported that "*My father and mother came to this country in 1851. I was 4 years old the day that we got on the boat and we was on the ocean 6 weeks Father went back to England on a visit in 1876 and Aunt Fanny came home with him"*. William Pryor returned to England in 1876 for the sister of Sarah Peach Pryor, "Aunt Fannie Peach," and they returned to America. Three months later, "*Aunt Fanny Peach*" died of cancer at the age of fifty-one.<sup>18</sup>

William Pryor was born on August 12, 1822 in Cropston, Leicestershire, England. His father was John Pryor. William Pryor worked for a nursery, seed, and florist in Sheffield, England from 1844-1851 and then the family immigrated to the United States. <sup>19</sup> The 1851 England Census lists William, Sarah Jane, as living in Handsworth, Yorkshire, England. The family departed Liverpool, England on the ship Rajah and arrived on September 17, 1851 in New York. It is not known why they were traveling in steerage under the name Peach which was the maiden name of William's wife, Sarah. William was listed as a gardener and was listed as traveling to New York. On the same ship was John Smallpope from England traveling to Wisconsin. <sup>20</sup> William Pryor later worked for Mr. Smallpope.

William Pryor was a member of the Odd Fellows which was a society dating from the 17<sup>th</sup> Century organized for the protection and care of their members. The organization was based in the smaller villages and towns in England where there were too few Fellows from the same trade to set up a local Guild. Thus several trades banded together to form a Guild of Fellows. Thus the Guild of Odd Fellows. The Odd Fellows were the predecessors of the modern trade unions. <sup>21</sup>

The county seat of Joe Daviess County, Galena was the richest city in the state because of the mining in the area. During 1845-1856 there would be twelve to fifteen steamboats at a time tied to the docks in Galena. Jo Daviess County provided many generals and soldiers to the Union Army during the Civil War, including Ulysses Grant.

The 1860 Illinois Census, Jo Daviess County, Rush Township, page 781, dwelling 3303 and family 3428 lists the following:

	Age	Occupation	Rel.Est.	PerProp.	Bir.Pl.
William Pryor Sarah Pryor	36 39	farmer	700	340	England England
Mary	14				England
Sarah G.	13				England
Rosa	9				Illinois

Walter P.	6	Illinois
Horace V.	3	Illinois
Burton	1	Illinois

William Pryor was naturalized on October 22, 1861 by the Circuit Court of Jo Daviess County, Illinois.<sup>22</sup>

William and Sarah Peach Pryor had ten children, Mary, October 22, 1845; Sarah, August 1847; Agnes, October 5, 1849; Rosey, November 30, 1851; Walter Bryon, June 6, 1854; Horace V., October 3, 1856; Ira B., May 4, 1858; Willard R., April 21, 1861; Inez B., August 7, 1863; John William, July 26, 1867.

Last Will and Testament of William Pryor<sup>23</sup> January 13, 1892

I William Pryor of the village of Warren in the County of Jo Daviss in the State of Illinois do make and declare this to be my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills by me made.

#### First

I direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be fully paid.

#### Second

I give devise and bequeath unto my wife Sarah Pryor the income of all of my property personal real and mixed so long as she remains my widow and hereby charge that my said property shall not be incumbered or transferred during the widowhood of my said wife.

#### Third

I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Teal. Sarah Jane Stansbrough. Inez B. Hart. share and share alike the east half of the west half of the south east quarter of Section number Nineteen (19) in the Township number twenty (29) north of Range number Five (5) east of the fourth (4) Principal Meridian containing Forty (40) acres of the land more or less.

#### Fourth

I hereby give and bequeath unto my son Walter Byron Pryor the sum on one dollar to be paid within one year from the death or widowhood of my said wife.

#### Fifth

I hereby give and bequeath unto my sons Horace Vernon Pryor and William Rezo Pryor the sum of five hundred dollars each to be paid within one year from the death or widowhood of my said wife.

#### Sixth

After said payment and performance of the directions and legacies declared in the foregoing clauses of this will. I give devise and bequeath unto my sons Ira Barton Pryor and

John William Pryor all the residue and remainder of my property real personal and mixed share and share alike.

*The foregoing will was signed by the said William Pryor in our presents and attested by us in his presents at his request.* Joseph Hicks and Jennie E. Hicks of Warren, Ills Presented and admitted on February 18, 1892 and Recorded in Book R Probate Records page 316 by Joseph Hicks. Edward C. Slothower was appointed the executor on February 19, 1892.

William Pryor died on February 8, 1892 in Warren, Jo Daviess County, Illinois. Sarah Peach Pryor died on January 3, 1914 in Warren, Jo Daviess County, Illinois. They are both buried in the Elmwood Cemetery, Warren, JoDaviess County, Illinois.

The Petition of Edward C. Slothower, nominated executor of the Will and Testament, before the Honorable Wm. T. Hodson, Judge of the County Court of Jo Daviess County, reported that Sarah Pryor, widow, Mary Teal, Sarah J. Stansbrough, Inez B. Hart, W. Bryon Pryor, Horace V. Pryor, Ira B. Pryor, Willard R. Pryor, John W. Pryor were his only children and heirs of law before the Court on Feb. 19, 1892.

The estate included 160 acres of land in Wayne Township, Lafayette County, Wisconsin, 40 acres of land in Jo Daviess County, and Blocks five and six in Jesse Wrights Addition in Warren, Illinois. The total value was listed as \$2500 dollars.

The inventory of the estate of William Pryor included the following:

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
1	Secretary	10
3	Stools	25
3	Beds and Bedding	30
2	Lounges	5
12	Chairs	6
5	Tables	15
2	Bureaus	2
3	Carpets	3
1	Roller	15
1	John Deere Plow	2
1	Hay Rack	20
1	Corn	3
1	Corn Sheller	3
1	Water Tank	3 2 2 5
1	Ton Seed Corn	2
1	Sorgum Mill	5
1	Pair Trunks	8
1	Cutter	3
1	Buggy	15
100	Bu Corn	35
1	Corn Planter	10
1	Cultivator	5
1	Hay Rake	5

1	Dearing Mower	20
1	Ton Hay	6
100	Bu Oats	25
1	Set Light Harness	15
1	Yearling Colt	50
1	Mare	85
1	Mare	100
	Total	533

School Books and Family Library	100
One Sewing Machine	40
Beds, Bedsteads, Bedding for widow and family	100
Stoves and pipes used in the family with the	
Necessary Cooking Utensils	50
Household and Kitchen Furniture	100
1 Milch(sp) cow and calf	50
2 Sheep and Fleeces	15
One Horse, Saddle and Bridle	150
Provisions for widow and family for one year	200
Food for the stock above specified for six months	50
Fuel for widow and family for three months	50
Other Property	100
Total	1005

On February 26, 1892, Sarah Pryor requested that she for this she receive four hundred and seventy-two dollars in money. She signed the document with an "X" and her mark was attested by John Pryor. Sarah also received money for her "Widows Board" from the estate.

The estate of William and Sarah Peach Pryor was settled in 1914.<sup>24 25</sup> The total value of the estate was thirteen thousand seven hundred and eighty-five dollars and forty-three cents. The Probate lists expenses including the following:

Jan. 10, 1914	Funeral Expenses	122.50
Jan. 10, 1914	Warren Sentienl Leader	.35
Jan. 19, 1914	Balance on board and Telegraph Esp.	33.79
Feb.16, 1914	Paid Sheean for legal advice and Exp.	3.50
Mar. 2, 1914	Taxes	89.84
	Executor's comm on \$600 interest	36.00
Mar. 5, 1914	Draft to H.V. Pryor	500.00
	Exchange on above draft	.25
Mar. 6, 1914	Draft to Willard Pryor	500.00
	Exchange of same	.25
Mar. 11, 1914	Walter B. Pryor	1.00
Mar. 14, 1914	Draft to Ira B. Pryor	3961.00
Mar. 14, 1914	To self	3961.00

Total amount	10485.43			
Total amount	10241.96			
Balance on ha	243.47			
Report of sale of Forty (40) acres of will				
Receiv	\$3500.00			
Mar. 10, 1913 Paid to Inez Hart		1000.00		
	Paid to Sarah Stansbrough	1000.00		
	Paid to Mary Teal	1000.00		
Jan. 6, 1914	Paid to Mary Teal	166.66		
	Paid to Inez Hart	166.67		
	Paid to Sarah Stansbrough	166.67		
		\$3500.00		

Money was paid to Mary Teal from March 1911 thru 1913 for expenses of "widow board" of Sarah Peach Pryor who was living with her family until Sarah's death in 1914. The difference of two hundred forty-three dollars and forty-seven cents noted above was for "*taxes, final court costs and such other expenses as may be paid*". The final executor of the estate was E.C. Slothower and the Probate was closed on May 26, 1914.<sup>26</sup>



Horace Pryor Family L/R Ira, Ollie, Flora, Sarah, Clara, (on lap) Horace c. 1888

**Horace Vernon Pryor,** born on October 3, 1857, left Warren, Jo Daviess County, Illinois in 1874, at the age of seventeen, and came to Decatur County, Iowa, near Lamoni, to live with his "Uncle Jimmy" Smith and they became life long friends. He married Sarah Odell on January 27, 1881 in Decatur County, Iowa. Sarah Odell Pryor was born in Decatur County, Iowa on January 31, 1861. They lived near Terre Haute, Iowa for five years before moving to Missouri.

In 1886, Horace Vernon and Sarah Odell Pryor moved to a farm about four miles north of Blythedale, Missouri. Horace Vernon and Sarah Odell Pryor gave ten acres of land for the location of the Donaby Church and School.<sup>27</sup> The Donaby Church and School<sup>28</sup> was the social center of the area at which singing schools, eloquent debates on literary subjects, softball games, spelling bees, and oyster suppers were held at the center. An annual homecoming was held each summer in the church yard which was full of large trees where the horses were tied during the meetings. Tables were set with the food, and after the morning services that were held in the Church, a community meal took place. A Christmas program with Santa, candy, fruit, and gifts was held each year. The Donaby Church fell into disrepair and was destroyed in 1960.



Donaby Church Harrison County Missouri

In 1920, at the age of fourteen, Truman Ben White, father of Betty Ruth White Baker, returned to Blythedale by train in from Capulin, Union County, New Mexico where his father, Frank White, had homesteaded. Truman then lived with his grandparents, Horace Vernon and Sarah Odell Pryor, until Sarah Odell Pryor's death on October 6, 1924. Truman described living with

his grandparents as follows:

Eventually I was moved away, To Grandpa's Pryor I got to stay. Here I was happy as could be, Living with them was Heavenly. This happy home was to be short lived, Because before long Grandmother died.<sup>29</sup>

Following the death of his wife, Sarah Odell Pryor, Horace Vernon Pryor lived in Bakersfield, California and Boise, Idaho in the homes of his son, Ira Pryor, and daughter, Florence Pryor McConnell. On October 20, 1932 he married Alice Gusewelle.<sup>30</sup>

Wayne McQuerry remembered Horace Pryor drove "a very nice Whippet automobile" as he passed the farm where Wayne and his parents lived. This 1930 Whippet sedan with nine thousand miles was sold at the Estate Sale of Horace Pryor in 1933.<sup>31</sup>

Horace died suddenly on a Saturday afternoon, August 19, 1933, while putting chains on his car to go to the polls to vote. He was found in his garage by his hired man, Ike Yates. Mr. Pryor was lying face down and efforts to revive him by neighbors and Dr. See were unsuccessful.<sup>32</sup>

The Estate of Horace Pryor listed \$9269.30 of personal property and \$6120.00 of real estate<sup>33</sup> and Truman B. White was the executor of the estate. The estate was filed and approved on September 11, 1933.<sup>34</sup> Samuel J. Moore owned the property immediately east.

The obituary of Horace Vernon Pryor described him as "a friendly man and had friends. He was a man of strong likes and dislikes. To his friends he was loyal, steadfast and true. Himself, a man of unfailing energy and undeviating character, he had small tolerance for slothfulness or any phase of drunkenness or crime. Here was a man who left the imprint of his individuality on the community in which he lived. His home was the mainspring of his existence. Edgar Guest has said that it ' it takes a heap o' livin' in a house to make it home. A heap of sun and a heap of shadow'. The modern conveniences which electricity made possible were the pride and delight of his heart. The shadow that fell across this home was indeed when two beloved daughters, Mrs. Frank White (Ollie Pryor) and Mrs. Frank Harrison (Clara Pryor) were born away by the silent angel of death. Once again the shadow fell when the wife of his youth and the mother of his children died on October 6, 1924." <sup>35</sup>

Sarah Odell Pryor<sup>36</sup> was described in her obituary as "*a cheerful and kind neighbor and a good worthy wife and mother*. *She had been in failing health for two years before her death but died suddenly after becoming worse in the morning and dying that evening*". The funeral was preformed by Alva L. Ragsdale.

The children of Horace Vernon Pryor and Sarah Odell Pryor were the following:

Ollie Pryorb. December 11, 1886 d. August 19, 1908m. September 24, 1904Ira Pryorb. July 19, 1882Florence Pryor b. March 12, 1884d. 1970m. November 8, 1907Clara Pryorb. February 27, 1889d. before October 6, 1924

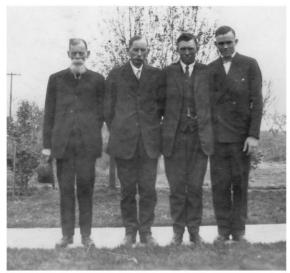
On August 19, 1933, Horace Vernon Pryor died and is buried in the Cedar Hill Cemetery, Blythedale, Missouri adjacent to Sarah Odell Pryor.



Horace Paul, Cholie (Richardson), Ira, and Robert Lee Pryor c. 1922







Ira Barton, Horace Vernon, Ira, Robert Lee Pryor Bakersfield, California c. 1930



Robert Lee Pryor, Ava Leist Pryor, Dorothy Groves Pryor, Horace Paul Pryor



Horace Paul, Murray, Meredith, Marcia, Dorothy Pryor c. 1960

**Ollie Pryor** was born on December 11, 1886 in Harrison County, Missouri and died on November 29, 1908. She lived but twenty-two years, eleven months, and eighteen days. She married Frank White on September 4, 1904. They lived on a farm a few miles north of Blythedale, Harrison County, Missouri.

In February of 1903 Ollie Pryor White united with the Christian Church of Blythedale, Missouri. Truman Ben White was born on July 12, 1905 on the farm north of Blythedale, Missouri. Dorrel White was born on July 17, 1907 and died on April 8, 1908, seven months before the death of his mother,<sup>37</sup> Ollie Pryor. Dorrel was reported to have died of a tumor of the jaw. A photograph of Dorrel White during his first year shows an enlarged jaw. It is possible that this was tuberculosis of the jaw as mandible involvement was more common in children plus it is known that his

mother, Ollie, died of tuberculosis.

The family moved to Colorado in 1908 because of Ollie Pryor White's health. Her health did not improve and the family returned to Blythedale, Missouri where she died of tuberculosis. She was survived by her brother, Ira; two sisters, Florence and Clara; and both of her parents.<sup>38</sup>

The obituary states "The deceased leaves a devoted husband, one little son (Truman White, stepfather of the author), father, mother, and one brother and two sisters to mourn her departure." <sup>39</sup>

The children of Frank and Ollie Pryor White are as follows:

Truman Ben White	b. July 12, 1905	d. February 23, 1990	m. 1. April 4, 1928
			2. February 12, 1967
Dorrel White	b. July 7, 1907	d. April 8, 1908	



Frank White Family Frank, Dorrel, Truman, Ollie c. 1908



Frank White Ollie Pryor White Wedding September 24, 1904



Frank White c. 1904



Ollie Pryor White c. 1904

Ollie Pryor White died on November 29, 1908 and was buried on December 1, 1908 in the Cedar Hill Cemetery, Blythedale, Harrison County, Missouri.

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<sup>39</sup> Obituary, Ollie Pryor White, 1908