



St. Louis Genealogical Society

Quarterly

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Spring 2023



*Dr. Clarence M. Westerman and his collection of elephants.
This fascinating man led an incredible life filled with roller-coaster ups
and downs. Learn more about him in this issue!*

The St. Louis Genealogical Society

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St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly

Spring 2023



On the Cover

Dr. Clarence M. Westerman has been described by his great-granddaughter as “a colorful and controversial” man, and indeed he was. He garnered headlines in local newspapers for a variety of activities, some benevolent, some disturbing, but always interesting! Read more about Dr. Westerman in the article written by his great-granddaughter beginning on page 23.

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Correction from Last Issue . . .

On page 113, in the article “Family Research Inspires Quilt,” the letter from the Mississippi Valley Fair Finance Committee was sent to organizations in Missouri and not all of America as was written. We apologize for the confusion.

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BOOK REVIEWS

African American News in the Baltimore Sun 1870–1927. Compiled and edited by Margaret D. Pagan. Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield Publications, 2021. 98 pages.

Begun in 1837, the *Baltimore Sun* published local, national, and international news devoid of political influence, including articles relating to people of color. In *African American News in the Baltimore Sun*, Margaret D. Pagan abstracted a wide variety of articles published between 1870 and 1927 that “seek to capture the [African American] spirit and the determination to pursue their own interests and live with equality and dignity during a critical time in history.”

The 500 fully abstracted articles selected for this publication include entries on housing, health care, travel, sports, entertainment, lynchings, deaths, education, and political and religious activities. Entries range in length from a single sentence to a third of a page and provide a chronological overview of the African American experience in the United States for nearly six decades.

Although it is most likely a small percentage of all news stories published by the *Baltimore Sun* involving African Americans from 1870 through 1927, it is still a valuable resource for the genealogist researching histori-

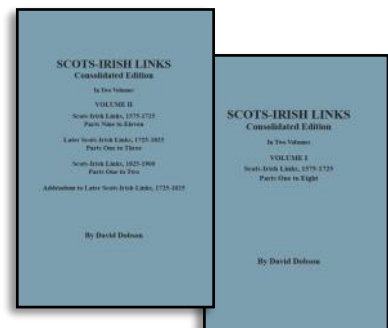
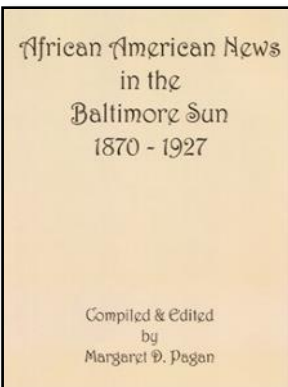
cal events and families living along the eastern seaboard during those years.

*Reviewed by Judy Belford
StLGS Librarian*

Scots-Irish Links: Consolidated Edition. Two volumes. By David Dobson. Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield Publications, 2022. Volume 1: 936 pages. Volume 2: 910 pages. Indexes. Softcover. \$90 each.

This consolidated edition of Dobson’s transcripts of Scots-Irish emigrations brings together “nearly thirty years of intermittent research in archives and libraries throughout the United Kingdom” covering 1575–1900, most of which was previously published separately. The information included gives readers an idea of what is available and where to look. Additionally, each volume has an index.

Emigrants appear alphabetically by surname as listed in Scottish records, along with a reference to the source wherein the name was found. References and abbreviations direct the reader to the source material. “Anderson, John, Burgess of Edinburgh, enrolled as undertaker for Ulster with 1000 acres, 4.7.1609. (RPC.8.312)P” provides genealogically useful detail about Mr. Anderson, and the code in parentheses sends the



Book Reviews

reader to the Register of Privy Council of Scotland, volume 8, page 312, for the actual record.

Both of these volumes provide thousands of informative links to further your Scots-Irish family research.

*Reviewed by Kay Weber
StLGS Irish SIG co-leader*

The Jews of Missouri: An Ornament to Israel. By Mara W. Cohen Ioannides. Springfield, Mo.: The Ozark Studies Institute of Missouri State University, 2021. 226 pages. Softcover. Illustrated, index. \$27.50.

The Jews of Missouri is a wonderful example of genealogical research, and I found this book particularly fascinating. As an urban consultant in my professional life, I have worked with people in several of the cities she writes about and had no idea of this important part of each community's history. I, too, had long ago bought into the common myth that Jews migrated toward urban areas, which does not make rational sense when you seriously think about it, Dr. and Ioannides's research and examples explode that misconception.

From a genealogical perspective, I was impressed by the thoroughness of the author's research and documentation. Her sources are not obscure or unique to a situation but are the types of sources we all use. U.S. census data, local newspaper, passport applications, and a few public speeches comprise most of her resources. Her ability to knit the facts together to develop a very readable narrative impressed me greatly. I learned a much from her description of Jewish migration into Missouri in particular, and I now feel I have a better understanding of the influx of German Jews in the early 1800s, followed by the Russian Jews in the late 1800s. Placing my own ancestors into this migration history helps me to understand what they may have experienced when they first came to St. Louis.

I would have found each of the stories more enlightening if Dr. Ioannides had been

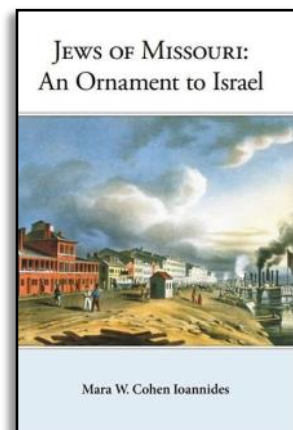
able to delve deeper into how each family was able to retain its Jewish identity and successfully assimilate to the small town culture.

Genealogists often describe this as putting our ancestors into context. Did they keep kosher? If so, how? Did they have Shabbat services at home on Saturday? Were their sons able to become Bar Mitzvah? Were they able to raise their children as Jews? Did they

travel to a larger city which had a synagogue? Did they keep their businesses open on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, or were they closed? For that matter, were they openly Jewish, or did they attempt to keep their identity a secret? Today, do these communities recognize the role Jews played in their history, or is this part of their past ignored? Our Jewish European ancestors often traveled to a nearby town to find a Jewish bride. It is interesting that this custom did not carry over to the United States. Did they make the choice of abandoning their Jewish identity in order to assimilate and earn a living?

Dr. Ioannides teaches English at the University of Missouri in Springfield and has degrees from Columbia University, Carnegie Mellon University, and The Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership, and her resume lists numerous awards and honors. She has a particular interest in American Judaism and Jewish literature and has written extensively on those topics. She graciously spoke about her book with the Jewish Special Interest Group this past year. The paperback is sold through the Ozarks Studies Institute at Missouri State University.

*Reviewed by Carol Waggoner
StLGS Jewish SIG co-leader*



Book Reviews

New-England Runaways, 1769-1773, compiled by Joseph Lee Boyle, Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield Publishing Co., 2021. 328 pages. Softcover. \$45.00.

New-England Runaways, 1778-1783, compiled by Joseph Lee Boyle, Baltimore, Md.: Clearfield Publishing Co., 2022. 310 pages. Softcover, \$45.00.

Joseph Boyle has been compiling genealogical information from advertisements posted in early colonial newspapers referencing runaway servants, slaves, apprentices, and escaping spouses. In these two new books in a long series, he adds into the mix military deserters, horse thieves, and other criminals ranging from small-town burglars to murderers. These two books are focused on New England, but the newspapers Mr. Boyle has used also include Maryland, New York, and Pennsylvania.

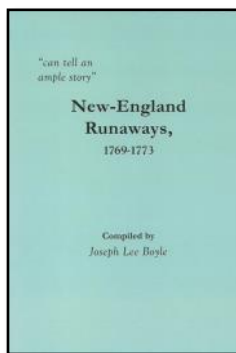
The author sets the stage by pointing out that there were no newspapers in some of the colonies during this time, and in some cases, advertisements for missing people were not posted until many years after the fact. Of course, as in most facets of genealogy research, spelling does not count. Often, the name of the same person is spelled multiple ways within the same ad or in separate ads for the same person.

The advertisements offer us a taste of what life was like in the early years of our country. People were arrested for swearing, getting women pregnant, and being “unfriendly” to the United States. Women were tracked for “eloping” from abusive men, and sometimes men from abusive wives. So many people escaped from jail, one wonders if the doors were ever locked. And, of course, there were dozens of advertisements for enslaved people and servants seeking to escape intolerable situations and being pursued by those who would pay to get them back.

Many of the advertisements have incredible detail. They often include descriptions of exactly what the runaways were wearing. Daniel Butler, age sixteen, an apprentice boy, was wearing a felt hat, light colour’d [sic] jacket, brown trows-

ers [sic], a striped linen shirt, and an old pair of shoes. His return was worth six pence in 1771.

It is hard not to sympathize with poor Jesse Goodell from Connecticut whose wife apparently was done with him, “taking weapons and threatening to kill me, and many times wishing me dead, and such other ill conduct that I could take but little comfort on my life. . . .”



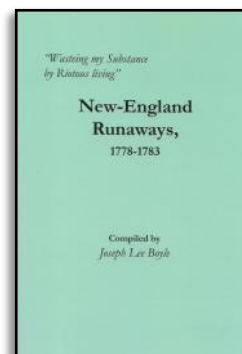
The punishment some counterfeiters received in 1770 was truly appalling. One Thomas Clark was “to stand in the pillory one hour, to have both ears crop’d [sic], to be branded with a hot iron on each cheek with the letter R, to pay 1001 lawful money fine, and cost of prosecution.”

His fellow conspirators received similar punishments with varying fines, although one was to receive thirty-nine lashes with a whip instead of the cropping and branding.

Apprentices, servants, enslaved men and women, lawbreakers of every description, and deserters from ships and armies are described in detail for hundreds of pages. If you are curious about what life was like in the American colonies just before and during the Revolution,

these books will open your eyes. Any of these named individuals may or may not be our specific ancestors, but they give us insight in a very human way to what they endured. As genealogists, many of us have a deep love of history, and this series of books on New England runaways provides us with a level of detail about everyday people that is seldom found when we read historical accounts.

*Reviewed by Ilene Murray
StLGS Publications Director*



Feature Articles from Other Publications

Compiled by Mike Bridwell, Reference Librarian
History and Genealogy Department, St. Louis County Library

Article subtitles are included where available. A note has been inserted in brackets in order to clarify the content of the article if it is not evident from the title. These periodicals are available for your use in the History and Genealogy Department temporarily located at the Daniel Boone branch of St. Louis County Library, 300 Clarkson Road, Ellisville, Missouri 63011.

American Ancestors (New England Historic Genealogical Society)

Vol. 23, no. 4, Winter 2023

- Reaching the Next Generation of Genealogists: Introducing the American Ancestors Family History Curriculum
- The Surprising Origins of the Coryell Family of Colonial New Jersey
- A Shipload of Women: When French Convicts Were Deported to the Gulf Coast
- So Far from Home: A Treasure Trove of Irish Immigrant Correspondence
- Genetics & Genealogy: Samuel Walker, Kinsman of Captain Richard Walker
- The Ties That Bind: The Skinner & Mason Families

The Genealogist (American Society of Genealogists)

Vol. 37, no. 1, Spring 2023

- American Descendants of Rudolf Wilkin: Immigrant from Weiler am Steinberg, Germany, 1727
- The English Origin of Reverend Daniel Sturges of Virginia and Georgia: His Relationship to Lady Hesilrige, and Further Clues to the Identity of Samuel Richardson's Pamela
- Memory and Genealogy
- The Murry Family of Missouri and Montana
- Two Samuel Vincents, Ropemakers of Boston: Their Descent from Matthew Vincent, Shipwright of Kittery, Maine
- Williford Jenkins of Kentucky: The Story of His Life and the Testament to His Character

- The Barons of Wodhull: A Disputed Generation
- Daughters of Liberty in 1774 Nottingham, New Hampshire

Kirkwood Historical Review (Kirkwood Historical Society)

Vol. 61, no. 4, Winter 2022

- Anton Lindahl (1869–1942) Kirkwood's First City Forester
- Meramec Highlands Fad—Progressive Euchre
- Evolution in a Class

Missouri Historical Review (State Historical Society of Missouri)

Vol. 117, no. 2, January 2023

- Down the Mississippi: An Account of a River Journey in the Summer of 1895, Part 2
- George Warren Parker, the Pachyderms, and the Evolution of the Republican Party
- "Twenty-Five Percent of Our State's History, and One Hundred Percent of My Political Life": Senator Roy D. Blunt Reflects on His Half-Century in Missouri Politics
- From the Stacks: Research Center—Rolla
- Remembering the Mother Road: Route 66 in Missouri

NGS Magazine (National Genealogical Society)

Vol. 49, no. 1, January–March 2023

- NGS 2023 Family History Conference: Virginia is for Family History Lovers
- Online Preparation for a Research Trip to Virginia
- Metes and Bounds Land Plats Can Solve Genealogical Problems

Feature Articles from Other Publications

- Library of Congress: Marvelous Resources, Open to All
- Tracing Military Service in State Militia Records
- Unusual Federal Census Records

St. Charles County [Missouri] Heritage (St. Charles County Historical Society)

Vol. 41, no. 1, January 2023

- A History of Postal Service and Post Offices in St. Charles
- Ambassadors of Harmony: The Daniel Boone Chorus Years
- The Springs Around Cave Springs Have Been a Source of Living Waters
- Samuel Keithly Returns Home After Service in War of 1812

St. Clair County Genealogical Society **Quarterly** (Illinois)

Vol. 45, no. 4, 2022

- Topical Index 1978–2022
- The Concert at O’Fallon—Transcription
- 1834 School Land Sale Petition Near Smithton (T1S R8W)

- Anheuser-Busch Bowling Club—Transcription
- Death Records Zion Evangelical Church, Millstadt, Illinois, 1836–1915, part seven
- Chancery Case Files Index, 1870–1920, part four
- Men’s Club—Transcription

St. Clair County Genealogical Society **Quarterly** (Illinois)

Vol. 46, no. 1, 2023

- Understanding Sacramental Records in the Roman Catholic Church
- 1833 School Land Sale Petition Near Caseyville and Fairview Heights (T2N R8W)
- Death Records of Zion Evangelical Church, Millstadt, Illinois, 1836–1915, part eight
- The Grand Jury and the Genealogical Importance of Grand Juror Lists
- Grand Juror Lists, 1881–1885
- 1835 School Land Sale Petition Near New Athens (T2S R7W)
- Some Teachers in St. Clair County (1840–1844)
- Chancery Case Files Index, 1870–1920, part five

A free StLGS consulting service . . .

Ask Louie!

- * **Ask Louie** a specific question about your genealogy.
- * **Ask Louie** for help in determining your next steps.
- * **Ask Louie** to identify documents you still need to review.
- * **Ask Louie** where to find available resources.



Email asklouie@stlgs.org with your specific question. A volunteer from StLGS will contact you with suggestions for steps you can take to solve your research problem.

Give Ask Louie a try!

Note: StLGS volunteers will **NOT** do research for you. Ask Louie is a consulting service only.



St. Louis Genealogical Society

2023 General Meetings & Special Events

Meetings this year will be hybrid: held at several locations, as indicated, AND also livestreamed via Zoom.

You can attend in-person OR virtually; registration is required for all livestreamed meetings.

Additional special events may be announced during the year! Watch our website for updates!

Sat., 8 July 10:00 a.m. *Safety Online* StLGS Technology Team
Hybrid meeting: in-person at the Thornhill branch, St. Louis County Library

Learn steps and procedures you can use to stay safe while using your computer and smartphone. Explore email safeguards, internet browsing, texting, protecting personal information, password management, and software suggestions.

Sat., 12 August 10:00 a.m. *The Battle of St. Louis During the American Revolution* Judy Belford

Hybrid meeting: in person at the Thornhill branch, St. Louis County Library

Over the years a number of books and articles have been written about the bloody attack on St. Louis during the American Revolution, but most people today are surprised about that part of our history. This talk will share the story.

Sat., 9 September 10:00 a.m. *Using the Periodical Source Index (PERSI)* Robin McDonough
Hybrid meeting: in person at the Thornhill branch, St. Louis County Library

The Periodical Source Index (PERSI), produced by the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center in Indiana, is the largest subject index to genealogy and local history periodical articles in the world. Learn how to use this index and access articles about your ancestors.

Sat., 14 October 10:00 a.m. *Historic Webster Groves Families and Their Ties to the St. Louis Community* Steve Schoenbeck

Hybrid meeting: in person at the Grant's View branch, St. Louis County Library

As you drive the streets of Webster Groves, Missouri, you see the names of Swon, Lockwood, Hawken, Gore, and Marshall. Did you know these were all prominent families who helped create this historic city? Join Stephen Schoenbeck of the Webster Groves Historical Society as he introduces us to these early St. Louis County residents and shares some of the resources of the society's archives that you might find useful in your own research.

Sun., 15 October to Sun., 22 October Annual Research Trip to Salt Lake City
One week of research at the Family History Library, the world's largest genealogy library!
Watch for more information. Pre-registration required.

Sat., 11 November 10:00 a.m. *How to Create a Family History Blog or Website* Ellen Mays
Hybrid meeting: in person at the Grant's View branch, St. Louis County Library

Join us as research librarian, Ellen Mays, illustrates how to create a family history blog or website utilizing free blogging and website platforms.

No meeting in December. Enjoy the holidays as we prepare for 2024!



Use your smartphone's camera or scanning app on this QR code to go directly to the StLGS website.

St. Louis City/County Biographies Project: Honoring St. Louisans

Do you have ancestors who are part of St. Louis history? Do you know of St. Louisans who deserve to be remembered for their contributions to St. Louis City or County? Whether they did something newsworthy or were little-known outside their neighborhood, they played an important part in making St. Louis what it is today. We would love to help you share their stories.

St. Louis Genealogical Society has a feature on its website called St. Louis City/County Biographies that links to 300 biographies (and counting) of local citizens from the 1700s to those recently deceased. Biographies are brief (500 words or less) and can include a copyright-free photo or two.

Our biographies honor men and women who are famous, such as architect William Bernoudy and poet Sara Teasdale, to people you may recognize by name if you live in our city: Chouteau, Straub, Gannon, and Lackland. Most of our biographies, however, simply tell the stories of ordinary people who settled here and helped grow our community by working hard and raising families. Their descendants, or those who know about them, are ensuring their memories last.

On the St. Louis City/County Biographies page on our website <https://stlgs.org/research-2/community/st-louis-biographies>, you will find complete details on how and what to submit. Download a copy of the instruction flyer, and while you are there, take a few minutes to read about the lives of many other individuals who have called St. Louis home.

***“History is the essence of innumerable biographies.”
Thomas Carlyle, 1838***

Define Your Line By E. Douglas McFarlin

It's up to you
To Define
The little dash
That I'll call time

Once your name
Is etched in stone
Your time on earth
Is normally gone

On the stone
Two dates you'll find
Parted by
A little line

This little line
Represents
Your time on earth
And what it meant

Your line begins
At your birth
And ends the day
You leave this earth

Another thing
The stone may say
A few kind words
About your stay

While here on earth
It's up to you
Your lines defined
By what you do

Your little line
What will it say?
They are the things
You do today.

Used with permission.

Emma Margurite (Lahman) Tegtmeyer

1874-1964

By Karen (Tegtmeyer) Goode
for the St. Louis City/County Biographies Project

Emma Margurite Lahman was born to George Herman Lahman and Susanna Caroline (Sutter) Lahman on 27 September 1874 in St. Louis, Missouri, and baptized at Holy Ghost Evangelical Protestant Church on 18 October 1874. She was the second oldest of five girls. By the time she was five, Emma and her family were living in Columbia, Boone County, Missouri, and at the age of fourteen, she was living in Carrollton, Carroll County, Missouri, where her father was a cigar maker.

When Emma was twenty-one, she had a brief affair with James Jarboe, a harness maker with a shop next door to George Lahman's cigar shop. She found herself pregnant and came to St. Louis where she had the support of her aunts and uncles. Emma gave birth to her daughter Faith Hope on 18 January 1897. James Jarboe was engaged to someone else, so he did not marry Emma, but he did foster a lifetime relationship with Faith, his only child.

Emma, a single mother at the age of twenty-two, made the decision to entrust Faith's care to friends, William A. Marshall and his wife, Elizabeth Cook, who had been living in St. Louis but by the 1900 census were living in Chicago, Illinois. They adopted Faith when she was six years old. It's not clear how Emma knew the Marshalls, but Faith kept in touch with them and their growing family throughout her life.

Emma met William George Tegtmeyer, a store clerk, whom she married in St. Louis on 27 September 1898. This marriage did not produce children. When Emma's daughter, Faith, turned eighteen in 1915, she came home to live with her mother and stepfather. On 9 June 1917, Faith gave birth to a daughter out of wedlock. The baby, named Emma Margaret Miller, came to live with her young mother, her grandmother, and step-grandfather on North Grand Avenue in St. Louis. Her father, a man named George Miller, was never in her life.



Emma (Lahman) Tegtmeyer, as a young woman and at age 79; photos in the collection of Karen (Tegtmeyer) Goode; used with permission

On 25 April 1919, William Tegtmeyer and Emma (Lahman) Tegtmeyer divorced, and, just a week later, on 3 May 1919, William married Emma's daughter Faith. The 1920 federal census shows William, Faith, Emma (Faith's mother), and little Emma (Faith's daughter) all living together. Apparently, this was an amicable situation, as this family continued living together for many years. Faith and William went on to have six children, whom Emma helped to raise and care for, and, in time, she became a great-grandmother as well.

Emma (Lahman) Tegtmeyer continued to have a close relationship with her ex-husband William and her daughter Faith for the rest of her life. She outlived both William and Faith, dying 5 May 1964 in St. Louis, with burial in Walnut Grove Cemetery, Boonville, Cooper County, Missouri, where other members of her family are buried.

Jacob and Johann Verheyen: The Journey of Two Mid-Nineteenth Century Immigrant Families from Germany to Quincy, Illinois, and to St. Louis, Missouri

By Joe A. Armour

It must have been near freezing in early 1849 when a group of five families left their homes near Qualburg in Rhenish Prussia to begin their long journey to St. Louis, Missouri.¹ Among these were two brothers and their families, Johann and Jacob Verheyen; Jacob's brother-in-law, Johann Verhaalen and family; and the Wilhelm Wells and the Johann Boll families, comprising in total fifteen adults (two over age sixty years) and twelve children fourteen years of age and under. Who were

these families, why did they leave Prussia, and from which European port did they sail?

The Rhine was a few minutes' walk from their homes, and the port of Rotterdam on the Rhine, known as the Waal in Holland, was approximately 150 miles away. From this port, boats steamed to Le Havre, France, where oceangoing ships sailed to the United States. Many from the Rhineland left from Le Havre starting in the 1830s, meaning that it was probably the established route to America. This water route seems more plausible than a land route, a driving distance today of 380 miles. A letter written in 1851 to a would-be immigrant specified this water route, i.e., the Rhine to Rotterdam, then to Le Havre, then boarding a sailing vessel to the United States.²

Emigrants could obtain cheap transport on the otherwise-empty freight wagons returning to Le Havre from delivering cotton to the mills in Alsace.³ Likewise, after delivering their cotton at Le Havre, ship captains were eager to make some money from passenger fares for their return trip to New Orleans. The passengers, after disembarking in New Orleans, would then travel by steamboat up the Mississippi River to St. Louis or other river towns. Before railroads reached the Mississippi, this route was cheaper, faster, and more convenient overall than sailing to New York or other eastern ports and then traveling overland to the interior of the United States. In 1849, between 25,000 and 30,000 immigrants came through New Orleans. Before the Civil War, New Orleans had grown to become the second largest port of debarkation with over 550,000 immigrants.⁴

All those wishing to emigrate from Le Havre were required to have sailing tickets before crossing the French border.⁵ As a result, throughout the German countryside, brokers



The cities of Kleve (Cleve) and Qualburg were located in the farthestmost west area of North Rhine-Westphalia. After Napoleon's defeat in 1815, this area was known as Rhenish Prussia, the westernmost province of the kingdom of Prussia. See FamilySearch wiki on Rhineland (Rheinland), Prussia, German Empire Genealogy.

Map from FamilySearch.org German Genealogy wiki article; used with permission.

Journey of Jacob and Johann Verheyen Families

and agents of the shipping companies roamed the rural towns and villages to sell would-be travelers passage to America.

In addition to providing passage tickets, these brokers or agents would sometimes purchase the emigrants' belongings to facilitate their departure. In addition to making it easier for the emigrants to leave, this generated funds for them to purchase tickets and supplies for their journey. Fares were also cheapest in the winter months, and arrival conditions in New Orleans were better than during the summer months when diseases were more prevalent.⁶ During the 1840s, adult fares ranged from \$16 to \$20, with reduced fares for those under fourteen years of age and for children even less.⁷ Because of favorable tariffs, United States ships could offer cheaper fares than their European counterparts.

However, at Le Havre, emigrants often had to wait until the sailing ship was unloaded and reloaded before boarding. While waiting on land, they had to provide for their own meals and lodging. If lodging was too expensive or overflowing, many had to sleep outside in makeshift tents or shelters. As in all ports, there were unscrupulous predators and thieves waiting to prey on the "naïve" peasants. But by traveling in groups, they were better able to protect themselves and their belongings.

The Voyage

Once on board the ship, passengers were supposed to be entitled to sufficient food and water for each person, but this was not always the case. Seeking to maximize their profits, captains wanted to squeeze as many emigrants onto their ships as possible while minimizing costs, i.e., required provisions. Forewarned, the emigrants brought their own provisions of dried meats, coffee, and sugar plus their own cooking utensils.⁸

Most emigrants were steerage passengers, occupying the normal freight area of the ship

between decks. The height of this space was normally between four and six feet. Tiers of bunks were built two or three high to take advantage of every square inch. In these closed, cramped, and unventilated areas, unsanitary conditions often led to the rapid spread of disease, such as cholera, typhoid, tuberculosis, and pneumonia, with some passengers contracting a disease in the port before boarding. Although there were regulations regarding capacity, space, and accommodations, these were routinely ignored by ship owners and captains and not generally enforced by busy port agents. Some of these regulations included having one toilet for every one hundred passengers, an above-deck cooking range for every two hundred passengers, and bunks six feet long and eighteen inches wide. The passage of these regulations in the U.S. attests to the widespread nature of these abuses.⁹ During storms, the hatches were closed. Therefore, fresh air was shut off, "toilet necessities" were confined to buckets in the steerage area, and cooking hot meals was not possible.

These were the sorts of conditions experienced by the five families from Prussia. According to their emigration records, all the families (possibly excepting the Verhaalens, whose complete emigration records have not yet been found) were destined for St. Louis.¹⁰

In early March, they boarded the 649-ton *Oregon*, with Mr. Ford as its master, at Le Havre, France. To those who had never been to sea, this must have been a frightening experience. Did they echo writer Gottfried Duden's comment, "In no situation in life is man confronted so impressively with his complete dependence on the Supreme Being as when he spends so many hours on the sea"?¹¹ After sailing endless days and nights, they must have wondered if they would ever make it.

But they finally did. After a voyage of fifty-three days, the families arrived in New Orleans on 27 April 1849 and were towed to the third municipality dock by the steamboat *Annawan*.

Journey of Jacob and Johann Verheyen Families

According to the passenger list, they were among the 244 steerage passengers, although a local newspaper, *The Times Picayune*, reported 260 in steerage.¹² Not surprisingly, all five families were noted on the same (third) page of the passenger list. The Verheyen and Verhaalen families were recorded as “ver Hyen” and “ver Haalen,” an indication of their com-

mon heritage with and proximity to the Netherlands. On the passenger manifest, their origin is shown as “Prussia,” their occupation as “farmer,” and their destination as “New Orleans.”¹³

This generic listing of origin and occupation was due to the heavy influx of immigrants at ports where captains did not want to take the

List of Individuals from Emigration Records for 1849 from Qualburg and environs to St. Louis/North America						List of these families on board the “Oregon”				
Line no.	NAME				Inferred Age	Occupation	Line no.	NAME		
	First	Last	Maiden	Year Born				First	Last	Age
1	Johann Verhaalen is found on the 1848 Emigration list but not his family.						94	Johann	ver Haalen	30
2							95	Johanna	ver Haalen	31
3							96	Elizabeth	ver Haalen	3
4	Jacob	Verheien		1812	37	Tagelöhner	97	Jacob	ver Hyen	36
5	Johanna	Verheien	Verhaalen	1815	34		98	Maria	ver Hyen	34
6	Helena	Verheien		1846	3		99	Helena	ver Hyen	3
7	Wilhelm	Wells		1811	38	Shuster	100	Wilhelm	Wels	37
8	Johanne (sic)	Wester-mann	Hendricks	1784	65		102	Johanna	Hendricks	63
9	Cathermia	Wells		1838	11		104	Catherine	Wels	9
10	Wilhelm	Wells		1843	6		105	Wilhelm	Wels	5
11	Franz	Wells		1846	3		106	Franz	Wels	3
12	Allegonde	Wells	Wester-mann	1820	29		101	Alexandra	Wels	28
13	Johann	Verheien		1810	39	Tagelöhner	114	Johann	ver Hyen	28
14	Bartholoma-ia	Verheien	Zadelaer	1814	35		115	Bartholomea	ver Hyen	34
15	Herman	Verheien		1842	7		116	Herman	ver Hyen	6
16	Friedrich	Verheien		1844	5		117	Friederich	ver Hyen	4
17	Margaretha	Verheien		1846	3		118	Margartha	ver Hyen	2
18	Johanna	Verheien		1848	1					
19	Johann	Boll		1784	65	Tagelöhner	119	Johann	Boll	64
20	Franz	Boll			n/a		120	Franz	Boll	55
21	Gerhard	Boll		1822	27	Fassbinder	121	Gerhard	Boll	25
22	Friedrich Wilhelm	Boll		1829	20	Zimmer-mann	122	Friederich	Boll	20
23	Gertrude	Boll		1835	14		123	Gertrude	Boll	11
24	Wilhelm	Boll		1820	29	Zimmer-mann	124	Wilhelm	Boll	28
25	Johanna	Boll	Geurtsen	1813	36		125	Johanna	Boll	27
26	Johann	Boll		1847	2					
27	Johanna Aleida	Boll		1848	1					
Johann Verhaalen was not found on emigration list for 1849 but found on the passenger list of the “Oregon.” There is a Johann Verhaalen listed on the 1848 emigration record from Qualburg with a destination of North America. No birth year is given.										

Journey of Jacob and Johann Verheyen Families

time to record each passenger's exact origin or occupation, and busy port agents did not check the information.¹⁴ There were no deaths noted on the voyage, although it was not until 1855 that captains were required to report deaths.¹⁵ Johanna, daughter of Johann and Bartholomea Verheyen, born 22 November 1848 and christened the following day in Qualburg,¹⁶ was listed on the emigration records in Germany but not on the passenger list. Since she is not on the burial records at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Qualburg, it is presumed she died sometime before boarding.

Reasons for Leaving Prussia

In 1848, there were several uprisings and revolts that started in Italy and France and quickly spread throughout Europe, including various regions of present-day Germany. These were in reaction to the autocratic and conservative authority established in 1814/1815 at the Congress of Vienna after Napoleon's defeat.¹⁷ During his rule, Napoleon had waged war in much of Europe and established the Confederation of the Rhine among the various German political units along that river. To fill his armies, he conscripted men in these regions, and Kleve's quota was 5,000 men.¹⁸ These wars and conscriptions must have been fresh in the collective memory of the villagers, including these emigrants. (Kleve and Qualburg were adjacent villages.) According to Johann Verheyen's son, Frederick, who later became a monk and history teacher at St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kansas, the family feared revolution, prompting them to leave their homes.¹⁹

Many others had preceded them. Seventy-five thousand "German" peasants emigrated in 1847.²⁰ Various factors may have contributed to their departure. Due to population growth in what is today Germany, employers could draw from a larger pool of workers desperate for work.²¹ Perhaps the emigrants were attracted by reports of plentiful jobs or by the cheap land being offered in the Midwestern United States.²²

Missouri was not unknown to those in the German states. In 1824, writer Gottfried Duden had come from the Rhineland to Missouri. He bought a farm west of St. Louis and wrote letters back to Germany about his life. In these, he extolled the region's virtues and geography, which he compared to the characteristics of his homeland. In 1829, he published a glowing account of his experiences and observations of the area where land was cheap, resources were plentiful, and work was rewarded. This account and its later revision, as well as accounts of others, were widely read and recognized in the German states and lured many to the area. Perhaps Duden's recommendation led emigrants to specify St. Louis as their destination on the applications they completed.²³

In addition, St. Louis was a known Catholic town, and nearby Quincy, Illinois, was known to have a "German Priest," which had attracted a number of earlier emigrants from Westphalia.²⁴ Many German emigrants were Catholics from Westphalia and Rhineland bordering the Netherlands. These regions were repressed by Prussia after the end of the Napoleonic wars. To escape political unrest and Prussian repression, the Germans joined the wave of emigrants from the Rhineland and Westphalia to St. Louis and the Midwest that began in the late 1830s.²⁵

Landing in New Orleans

When the Verheyens and other families landed in New Orleans, they must have been eager to begin the next leg of their journey. Perhaps after working in New Orleans to earn steamboat fare as some immigrants did, the families traveled up the Mississippi River to St. Louis, where they stopped briefly. Then, according to Johann's son, Fr. Boniface Verheyen,²⁶ they proceeded on to Milwaukee before returning to St. Louis shortly after the city's Great Fire which started on 16 May 1849.²⁷ This timeline suggests that they must have boarded a steamboat soon after their arrival in New Orleans. Whether all the families

Journey of Jacob and Johann Verheyen Families



"Bird's Eye View of New Orleans," drawn by J. Bachmann. Lithograph by A. Guerber and Co., New York, 1851. Library of Congress Prints and Photography Collection. Public Domain.

traveled on the same steamboat and made the trip to Milwaukee together is unknown.

During the 1840s, the 1,200-mile trip up the Mississippi River between New Orleans and St. Louis took between six and eight days.²⁸ Although steamboat travel provided travelers quick and inexpensive transportation (three dollars), it presented other difficulties and hazards. Deck passage on the steamboats afforded the immigrants little or no protection from the elements, scant privacy, and poor facilities. Just as oceangoing ships' captains crowded as many passengers as possible on their vessels, so too did steamboat captains on their open decks. In these crowded and unsanitary accommodations, diseases such as cholera and typhoid could run unchecked. Furthermore, deck passengers were the ones most in danger of being scalded if a boiler exploded or of drowning if the steamboat hit a snag.²⁹

But the group did arrive in St. Louis, and some, if not all, evidently made it to Wisconsin without incident.³⁰ In the vicinity of Milwaukee, the William Boll and Johann Verhaalen families took up farming. There are several Bolls listed as farmers in the 1850 census of Milwaukee County. The names and ages on the passenger lists match those on the census, with a few other Bolls also listed in the count.³¹ In the emigration rec-

ords that show a destination of St. Louis or North America, there are nine Bolls listed for 1849 and five for 1850. It is not unreasonable to conclude that some of these arrived later in 1849 or earlier in 1850 before the census was taken on 16 July.³² (See next page for a comparison of the Boll individuals in the emigration records, the passenger list of the *Oregon*, and the 1850 census of Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.) Johann Verhaalen and his family are listed in the 1860 census of Franklin, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, with the family including his eight-year-old son, Peter, who was born in Wisconsin.³³

We can also only speculate about why the Verheyens traveled to Wisconsin but did not settle there, or why the two brothers, Johann and Jacob Verheyen, settled in different cities. Was it a quirk of fate or a conscious choice? There are many possible explanations. Jacob's wife, Johanna, was pregnant at the time and would deliver by July 1849. Perhaps they wanted to get settled in a place before traveling farther up the river to Wisconsin or down the river to St. Louis if they had made it to Milwaukee County. In any event, Jacob Verheyen, his wife, Johanna, and their three-year-old daughter, Helena, settled in Quincy, Illinois, while his brother, Johann, and family returned to and settled in St. Louis. At this time, church and naturalization records, as well as city directories, suggest that the Wilhelm Wells family settled in Quincy with Jacob and his family.³⁴

The brothers' story in this country will continue in a future article in the *Quarterly*.

End Notes

Unless otherwise noted, referenced websites were last checked on 30 April 2023.

1. *MigraBase—Auswanderungsdatenbank* (<http://www.wgff-migrabase.de/index.php>) > Suchen [Search], search for "Boll." Also, *MigraBase—Auswanderungsdatenbank* > Suchen, search for "Wells." Also, *CompGen* (<https://gedbas.genealogy.net/person/database>), searches for "Jacob Verheyen" and "Johann Verheyen."

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The Boll Family

1849 Emigration Record						
First Name	Middle	Maiden Name	Sex	Birth Year	Inferred Age	Occupation
Johann			M	1784	65	Tagelohner
Gerhard			M	1822	27	Fassbinder
Friedrich	Wilhelm		M	1829	20	Zimmermann
Gertrude			F	1835	14	
Wilhelm			M	1820	29	Zimmermann
Johanna		Geurtsen	F	1813	36	
Johann			M	1847	2	
Johanna	Aleida		F	1848	1	
Hendrina		Tepoel	F	1793	56	

Passenger List				
Line #	First Name	Last Name	Age	Sex
119	Johann	Boll	64	M
120	Franz	Boll	55	M
121	Gerhard	Boll	25	M
122	Friedrich	Boll	20	M
123	Gertrude	Boll	11	F
124	Wilhelm	Boll	28	M
125	Johanna	Boll	27	F

1850 Federal Census, Lake Township, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin; 16 July 1850

Line	Dwelling	Family	First Name	Last Name	Age	Occupation	Value of Real Estate
17	200	212	John	Boll	70	Farmer	blank
16	200	212	Gerard	Boll	29	Farmer	720
20	200	212	Fred	Boll	20	Farmer	blank
21	200	212	Gertrude	Boll	16	blank	blank
12	199	211	William	Boll	30	Farmer	160
13	199	211	Johanna	Boll	31	blank	blank
14	199	211	John	Boll	3	blank	blank
15	199	211	Johanna	Boll	1	blank	blank
18	200	212	Helen	Boll	60	blank	blank
19	200	212	Theodore	Boll	24	Farmer	blank

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2. Walter D. Kamphoefner, Wolfgang Helbich, and Ulrike Sommer, eds., translated by Susan Carter Vogel, *News from the Land of Freedom: German Immigrants Write Home* (Ithaca, N.Y., Cornell University Press: 1991), 541.
3. Mark Rosen, *Genealogical Historical Services* (<http://genhist.org>) > Documents > Le Havre as emigration port (Part 1: 1817–1860).
4. Frederic Marcel Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty: New Orleans as an Immigrant Port, 1820–1860," vols. I and II, 38, 52–56; "LSU Historical Dissertations and Theses," *LSU Digital Commons* (https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/gradschool_disstheses/3296). Dissertation published in 1978.
5. "Le Havre, France," *Maritime Heritage Project* (<https://www.maritimeheritage.org/ports/France-Le-Havre.html>).
6. Gottfried Duden, *Report on a Journey to the Western States of North America* (1829; reprint Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1980), 246–247.
7. Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty," 63–67.
8. Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty," 73.
9. Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty," 79–80.
10. *CompGen*, searches for "Jacob Verheyen" and "Johann Verheyen."
11. Duden, *Report on a Journey*, Third Letter, 21.
12. "Marine News, Passengers," *The Times Picayune*, New Orleans, Louisiana, 28 April 1849, p. 3, col. 2; digital image, *Newspapers.com* (www.newspapers.com).
13. "Louisiana, New Orleans Passenger Lists, 1820–1945"; database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QKNP-QTGY>), 7 February 1849–29 May 1849 > image 704 > Johanna Ver Haalen; NARA microfilm publication M259, roll 30.
14. Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty," 35.
15. Spletstoser, "Back Door to the Land of Plenty," 81–82.
16. "Deutschland Geburten und Taufen [German Births and Baptisms], 1558–1898," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NFJD-PG6>), Johanna Verheyen, 1848.
17. Mike Rapport, *1848: Year of Revolution* (New York: Basic Books, 2009), 34.
18. Adam Zamoyski, *Napoleon: A Life* (New York: Basic Books, 2018), 410.
19. "Father Boniface Verheyen, O.S.B.: Jubilarian at St. Benedict's College," *The Atchison Daily Globe*, Atchison, Kansas, 26 August 1919, p. 5; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
20. Mike Rapport, *1848: Year of Revolution*, 34.
21. Mike Rapport, *1848: Year of Revolution*, 32–33.
22. Duden, *Report on a Journey*, 218–229.
23. Duden, *Report on a Journey*, 247. Also, James Neal Primm, *Lion of the Valley: St. Louis, Missouri*, 2nd ed. (Boulder, Co.: Pruett Publishing Co., 1980), 147–149.
24. Theodor Bruener, "St. Boniface, the Oldest German Catholic Parish on the Mississippi," *History of the Catholic Church in Quincy*, Lester Holtschlag, trans. (1887; reprint, Quincy, Ill.: Great Rivers Genealogical Society, 2006), 15.
25. William Barnaby Faherty, S. J., *The St. Louis German Catholics* (St. Louis: Reedy Press, 2004), 2–3.
26. "Father Boniface Verheyen, O.S.B.: Jubilarian at St. Benedict's College," 26 August 1919, 5. Also, "Marine News, Passengers," 28 April 1849, p. 3, col. 2.
27. Primm, *Lion of the Valley*, 174. The "Great Fire" in St. Louis started aboard one of the steamboats on the St. Louis riverfront and spread to twenty-three others, jumping to the warehouses on the levee, consuming these as well as 280 businesses and 430 buildings from Front Street to Third Street. The estimated property losses were \$6.1 million.
28. Ernst D. Kargau, *The German Element in St. Louis: A Translation from German of Ernst D. Kargau's St. Louis in Former Years*, W. G. Bek, trans. (Baltimore, MD: Clearfield Company, Inc.; 2000), 234.
29. L. C. Hunter, *Steamboats on the Western Rivers: An Economic and Technological History* (New York: Octagon Books, 1993), 420.
30. Sara Hodge (Mercantile Library, St. Louis, Missouri) to Joe Armour, electronic communication, 16 July 2021, regarding river travel and migration, personal correspondence, privately held by Joe Armour [ADDRESS FOR PRIVATE USE], St. Louis, Missouri. "Immigrants traveling to Milwaukee County at this time would have traveled by steamboat up the Mississippi River to Galena, Illinois, or to Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, or to other river towns before advancing as far as possible on

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the smaller rivers by canoe or keelboat. The final leg of their trip would have been overland.”

31. 1850 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, population schedule, town of Lake, fol. 124v, dwelling 199, family 211, Johanna Boll in household of William Boll; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M4DL-DYK>; citing NARA microfilm M432, roll 1003.

32. 1850 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, town of Lake, fol. 124v, William Boll family, dw. 199, fam. 211; Gerard Boll family, dw. 200, fam. 212; George Boll, dw. 203, fam. 215.

33. 1860 U.S. census, Milwaukee Co., Wisconsin, population schedule, town of Franklin, p. 136 (penned), dwelling 996, family 996, John Verhaalen family; digital image, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GBSN-98P1>); NARA microfilm M653, roll 1420.

34. J. F. Everhart, M.D., comp., *Quincy City Directory of 1855–56* (Quincy, Ill.: Gibson & Morrison, Republican Office, 1855), 53. W. Wells is listed as a “shoemaker.” Also, *Quincy city directory and business mirror for 1857–8* (Quincy, Ill.: Whig Office Steam Press, 1857), 183. William Wells is listed as a “boot and shoemaker.”



Sign outside of Qualburg, Germany. Photo by Sarah Gardner, the author's granddaughter, 2022. Used with permission.

About the Author

Joe A. Armour holds an M.A. degree in history from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and an M.B.A. from Lindenwood University. After a six-year teaching career (primarily social studies but also Latin and French), he began working for UniGroup, Inc., the parent company of United Van Lines and Mayflower Transit, where he held various management positions in his thirty-three year career. During these years, he continued researching his family history and expanding his genealogical knowledge by attending the St. Louis Genealogical Society's meetings and workshops. When he retired in 2009, he devoted more time to his passion and was able to begin writing the results of his findings. His interest in genealogy began as a youth listening to family stories from his parents and grandparents and seeing the places they described.



Lost Photo: John Edwin Thomson, Banker & Financial Agent

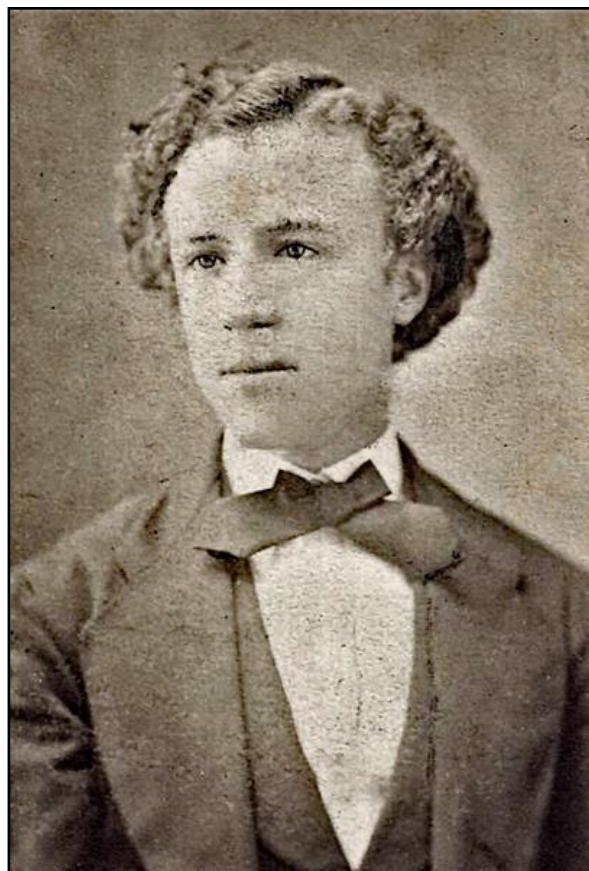
By Shirley Wadell

Several years ago, the St. Louis Genealogical Society (StLGS) received a photo of a young man identified as “John Thompson.” The letter writer had been unsuccessful in finding a living family member of John to whom she could send the photo. She was hopeful that the staff of StLGS might have more luck. The photo has been in our Lost and Found collection on our website and in a notebook in our office, but so far, no one has claimed it.

The black-and-white picture is a carte de visite, two and a half by four inches in size, mounted on card stock, with the name John Thompson written on the back. The name of the photography studio where the picture was taken is stamped on the back and reads: “Cramer, Gross and Company, Photographers and Portrait Painters, Nos. 1200 and 1264 South Fifth St., Bet. Convent and Rutger, below French Market, in St. Louis, Missouri.” According to the website Early St. Louis Photographers, the studio was located at 1200 and 1264 South Fifth circa 1875, so the photo could have been taken around that time.¹

To narrow down who this person was, it is necessary to make a few assumptions. The subject of the photo appears to be between twenty and twenty-five years old, setting his birth between 1849 and 1852. Since the photo was taken in St. Louis, it is possible that he lived in the city.

A search of the federal census records for St. Louis uncovered more than one person by the name of John Thompson or Thomson. Two were farmers. However, the picture presents an image of a fashionably groomed young gentleman, giving an impression that he is a city dweller and not a farmer. The young man in the image is wearing a waistcoat with shawl collar, a vest, and a bow tie, reminiscent of Victorian men’s fashion common around 1874. The Historical Emporium website shows a drawing of three gentlemen dressed in this style.² The census records also included a John E. Thomson,



born about 1850 in Missouri, who was a banker and a financial agent. Based on the picture, this seemed to be a logical fit.

The first federal census in which John E. Thomson appears was taken in 1860 in St. Louis, listing his father as Almon Thomson, age forty-two, born in Ohio, occupation “note and bill broker,” with \$5,000 in real estate and \$5,000 in personal property. Almon was living with his wife, Emma [Lewis] Thomson, age thirty-four, born in England. They had two sons living with them: Almora [Almon] B. Thomson, age fifteen, and John E. Thomson, age nine, both born in Missouri. Also residing with the family was a servant girl, Mary Zurke, age nineteen, born in Prussia.³

In the early spring of 1865, John’s mother, Emma Thomson, died.⁴ The 1870 census shows

Lost and Found Photo: John Edwin Thomson

Alma B. Thompson [Almon, the son], twenty-five, born in Missouri, living with his wife, Jennie (Emanuel) Thomson, twenty-four, born in Mississippi. Almon's occupation is given as "teller in bank," and he owned \$15,000 in real estate and \$5,000 in personal property. His brother, John Thomson, age eighteen, was living with them and attending school. A domestic servant named Mary Glanniz, age twenty-three, was living with them, as well.⁵ Searches for Almon, the father of the two boys, were negative for the 1870 census.

In 1876, the local newspaper reported that J. E. Thomson of St. Louis, Missouri, had married Fannie H. Marston in Muscogee, Indian Territory, on 2 October 1876 at the U.S. Indian Agency.⁶ The bride's father, Rev. S. W. [Sylvester Witt] Marston, D. D., officiated. Rev. Marston's obituary states that in 1876, President Grant appointed him as U.S. agent for the 57,000 "civilized Indians" in the Indian Territory.⁷

Four years later, the 1880 federal census lists Almond [*sic*] Thomson, age sixty-two, widowed, occupation capitalist, living with his son, "Jno E. Thomson," age twenty-nine, and daughter-in-law, Fanny H. Thomson, age twenty-six. John was working as a teller in a bank and owned \$15,000 in real estate and \$5,000 in personal property. The family had one servant, Fanny Cornelia, age twenty, living with them at 918 La Baume Street.⁸

The Death of John's Father

Almon Thomson's will is dated 20 July 1886 but was not probated until 22 August 1892. In it, he appoints his son, John E. Thomson, as the executor and bequeaths the bulk of the estate to him. The document gives instructions for John. As executor, he was to "set aside such portions and property for the support of Jennie E. (Emanuel) Thomson, wife of my son Almon B. Thomson and for the support and education of the children of said son."⁹ Why was nothing left to John's older brother? Apparently, the will was written soon after the younger Almon had embezzled funds from the

bank where he was employed and left town. His father took responsibility for his older son's actions and paid back what was supposedly pilfered, keeping the law from going after Almon Jr.

After his father's death in 1892,¹⁰ John apparently did not follow through with the directives of his father's will. Subsequently, Jennie, the wife of Almon B. Thomson, took John to court for the portion of her father-in-law's estate due to her and her children. She argued that her brother-in-law had taken full advantage of the situation and claimed more than his share of the estate. The publicity received by the court proceedings revived interest in the whereabouts of her husband. Almon had fled the city after embezzling from the bank, although he had continued to be in contact with family members and a few friends from St. Louis.

An article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, dated 8 October 1893,¹¹ laid out the entire updated story, taking up much of the front page of that day's newspaper. The *Post-Dispatch* correspondent reported that Almon B. Thomson and his family were now living in a Harlem boarding house in New York. The correspondent had met with Thomson and his wife in New York and shared Almon's story of what happened in July 1886 and the intervening seven years. Almon described how and why he pilfered \$40,000 of the bank's money and explained that since then he had not been able to earn enough money to support his family. With the financial help of his daughters, the family was barely able to scrape by. He knew he was now living with the consequences of his actions and wanted only for his daughters to be taken care of.

Newspaper articles continued to report on the court hearings between Jennie Thomson, her daughters, Emma and Annie, and John E. Thomson. After about two years, the courts finally granted Mrs. Jennie C. Thomson and her daughters \$32,000.¹² The remainder of Almon Thomson's estate went to John E. Thomson, the youngest son and executor of the will.

Lost and Found Photo: John Edwin Thomson

John again appears in the 1900 census in St. Louis, Missouri. He was now forty-six years old, having been born in November 1853 in Missouri. His occupation is listed as banker, and he was living with his wife, Fannie H. Thomson, age forty-one, born in May 1859 in Massachusetts. The document shows they had been married for twenty-two years but had no children. They lived at 3601 Olive Street, a hotel, as boarders.¹³

John and his wife, Fannie, were still living in St. Louis in the 1910 and 1920 federal censuses. In 1910, John's eighty-year-old widowed mother-in-law, Susan H. Marston, was living with them at the Kings-Way Hotel.¹⁴ Ten years later, John and Fannie were residing at 414 Kingshighway, the Buckingham Hotel,

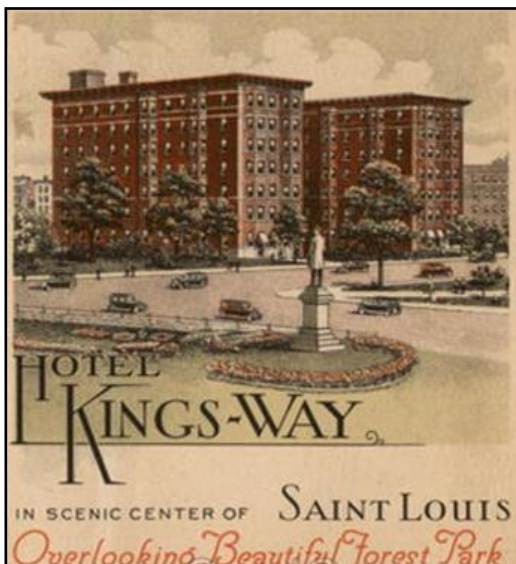
with a servant, Lena Zellweger, thirty-seven years old.¹⁵ They had no children.

Several other sources provide additional details of John's life. *Who's Who in Finance, Banking and Insurance* contains a brief biography of John Edwin Thomson. He began his business life as a cashier in the St. Nicholas Hotel, and in 1873 he was a clerk at Valley National Bank. Later, he worked for the National Bank of Commerce in St. Louis, Missouri. By 1892, he was employed by Citizens' Bank of St. Louis, before retiring from banking. Traveling, riding, golf, and yachting were listed as his hobbies.¹⁶

His passport, numbered 328 and dated 15 September 1911, listed him as John Edwin Thomson, age sixty and born on 15 November 1850 in St. Louis. John's passport application provides a physical description of him as five foot five inches tall, with a high forehead, blue eyes, a regular nose, brown hair, a mustached mouth, pronounced chin, and fair complexion.¹⁷ It included a note that he left the United States on 20 July 1911 and was temporarily sojourning at Stockholm, returning to the United States in three months. "American Legation at Stockholm" is listed as his occupation. The document also served as an emergency passport which enabled the bearer to proceed to Russia. It is unknown whether John took advantage of this provision.

John Edwin Thomson died on 19 March 1929 in St. Louis, of chronic myocarditis. His death certificate lists his parents as Almon Thomson, born in Ohio, and Emma Lewis, born in England. His wife, Frances H. Thomson, living at Kings-Way Hotel, provided the information. John was buried at Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, Missouri.¹⁸

John's wife, Frances "Fannie" H. (Marston) Thomson, survived her husband by four years. Her obituary stated that at the time of her husband's death in 1929, his estate was worth more than \$400,000.¹⁹ A few newspaper articles give details of how she provided for the distribution of this wealth after her death. A



The Kings-Way Hotel was at the corner of West Pine and Kingshighway. This postcard view shows it "Overlooking Beautiful Forest Park." The back of the card says the hotel was a "transient and resident hotel with a dignified yet home-like atmosphere." It had 300 rooms which could be rented weekly or on a permanent basis. (This postcard was posted on CardCow Vintage Printcards, <https://www.cardcow.com/224824/st-louis-missouri-hotel-kings-way/>. Image is in the public domain.)

Lost and Found Photo: John Edwin Thomson

scholarship in her husband's name in the amount of \$50,000 was given to Ranken School of Mechanical Trades. Religious and charitable organizations received \$78,000.²⁰ Family members and employees were left sizable amounts, as well. The *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* reported that Mrs. J. E. Thomson left her nieces, Mrs. Ann Rodgers and Mrs. Emma Southwick, \$50,000 to share equally and an additional \$1,500 each.²¹

John E. Thomson lived an eventful life, one probably not imagined by the young man in the photograph. If anyone is interested in claiming the picture of John Thomson, please email Ilene Murray, publications director of the St. Louis Genealogical Society, at publications@stlgs.org, or call the society office.

Death certificate of John Edwin Thomson, 1929, from Missouri Digital Heritage, <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/birthdeath/>. Public domain.

End Notes

Unless otherwise noted, referenced websites were last checked on 30 April 2023.

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2. "Mens Late Victorian Clothing (1870–1890)" *Historical Emporium* (<https://www.historicalemporium.com/mens-late-victorian-clothing.php>). See the drawing of three gentlemen dressed in this style.

3. 1860 U.S. census, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri, population schedule, p. 159 (penned), dwelling 612, family 1086, John E. Thomson; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com); citing NARA microfilm publication M653.

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6. "Married," *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 15 October 1876, p. 5, col. 1; digital image, *Newspapers.com* (<https://www.newspapers.com>), Thomson-Marston.

7. "The Churches, Death of a Missionary," *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 1 October 1887, p. 8, col. 5, obituary for Rev. Sylvester W. Marston; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.

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10. Shirley Waddell, creator, "Almon Benoni Thomson Sr.," memorial no. 215309350, *Findagrave.com*.

11. "After 7 Years, The Absconding St. Louis Cashier, Located in New York," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 8 October 1893, p. 1, col. 1; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.

12. "She Got \$32,000, Almon B. Thomson's Wife Compromises with John E. Thomson," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 30 December 1894, p. 20, col. 3; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.

Lost and Found Photo: John Edwin Thomson

13. 1900 U.S. census, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri, population schedule, E.D. 378, p. 3B (penned), dwelling n/a, family 57, John E. Thomson; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; NARA microfilm T623, roll 899.

14. 1910 U.S. census, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri, population schedule, p. 10A (penned), dwelling n/a, family 215, John E. Thomson; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; NARA microfilm T624, roll 822.

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About the Author

Shirley Wadell began researching her family history in 1989 and has been a member of StLGS and other genealogical societies for several years. She takes a special interest in photography and documenting graveyards. She has written numerous articles for the *StLGS Quarterly* with an emphasis on reconnecting lost photos and heirlooms with their families.



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Clarence M. Westerman: A Man of Many Facets

By Linda Mansur

From the 1910s through the 1930s, Dr. Clarence M. Westerman was a colorful and controversial figure in St. Louis, Missouri, a man whose life and interests were well-covered in the local newspapers. A prominent surgeon, sports enthusiast, and World War I veteran, he was kept on the front page by his involvement in the American Legion and the St. Louis Boxing Commission, his personal issues, and his skirmishes with the law and social norms.

Clarence M. Westerman was born on 24 May 1886 in Union County, Illinois, the son of August C. and Harrietta “Harriet” Marie (Cover) Westerman. August and Harriet were married on 4 January 1885 in Union.¹ Clarence was only one year old when his father, a baker, died on 1 June 1887.² According to an obituary in the *Jonesboro (Illinois) Gazette*, August Westerman had arrived in the town of Anna, Union County, just three years earlier, relocating from St. Louis where he had relatives.³ Harriet was born on 11 June 1866 in Union County, the daughter of Allison and Mahala Mallison (Sams) Cover. Her father, several brothers, and her grandmother had relocated from Maryland to Union County around 1850. By the time she was eleven years old, both of her parents had passed away, leaving her under the guardianship of relatives.⁴

Harriet (Cover) Mansur

Following the death of her husband, Harriet (Cover) Westerman and her young son, Clarence moved to Mountain Grove, Missouri, where her brothers operated a retail shop. There she met Edward Augustus Mansur, a drug store owner. An article in the *Mountain Grove Journal* reports on their wedding: “December 1 at the residence of the bride, by Rev. A. B. Appleby, E. A. Mansur of the firm E. A. Mansur & Co. and Mrs. Hattie C. Westerman, sister of the Cover brothers, all of this city.”⁵ Harriet and E. A. Mansur had one son, Edward Earl Mansur, born on 23 February



Harriett Mansur, 1937; from the author's collection. Used with permission.

1891, in St. Charles, Missouri. On 16 August 1901, E. A. Mansur died from an overdose of laudanum as he tried to self-treat a stomach ailment. Harriet “Hattie” was widowed a second time, now with two sons, ages fifteen and ten.⁶ By the time of the 1910 U.S. census, Hattie and her sons had moved to 3844 Cleveland Avenue in St. Louis.⁷

Doctors in the House

The fact that his stepfather, Edward Augustus Mansur, came from a long line of doctors may have steered Clarence toward that profession. Westerman received his medical degree from Barnes University in 1906. He served as a professor of general surgery at St. Louis College of Physicians and Surgeons and was a resident physician at Centenary Hospital. The 1909 St. Louis city directory showed his offices in the Syndicate Trust Building at 915 Olive Street. In 1920, he was living at 6025 Pershing Avenue.⁸

Westerman's half-brother, Edward Earl Mansur, also became a doctor. The two shared office space early in Edward's career before Dr. Mansur moved to Jefferson City, Missouri. A 12 November 1911 article in the *St. Louis*

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Post-Dispatch recounted that Westerman had telephoned police headquarters the night before to report that:

while he and Dr. Earl Mansur . . . were driving west on Locust Street in an automobile, they ran down Miss Coralie Smith of 5017 Garfield avenue. . . He said they placed her in the automobile and took her to their office, where they found that her knee and forehead were bruised, after which they took her home.⁹

Apparently, there were no legal repercussions from the event.

The Boxing World

Westerman enjoyed all types of sports, winning a “three-cushion” billiards match in 1916¹⁰ and taking an active role in the St. Louis boxing world. He was chairman and one of three men appointed on 29 May 1916 to the first St. Louis boxing commission.¹¹ Judge Granville Hogan and Robert W. Hall served as the other two commissioners. The organization was designed to help manage the sport, track event dates, and assist in the cooperation of the three boxing clubs that signed the initial agreement: the Future City Athletic Club, South Broadway Athletic Club, and Stag Athletic Club. The commission, while having no regulatory powers, was seen as a necessary step before the passage of a bill to legalize boxing by the Missouri legislature could proceed. All three gentlemen would be reappointed for 1917. By then, four other boxing clubs had signed on to adhere to the rulings of the commission. But in late January 1917, Westerman resigned, citing the failure of the boxing promoters to observe the commission’s regulations.¹²

World War I

On 27 July 1917, Clarence Westerman departed from St. Louis for the U.S. Army Medical School in Washington, D.C., having been appointed a first lieutenant in the Medical Reserve Corps. He went on to serve in both camp

and evacuation hospitals, and his name appeared on passenger lists in France, Newport News, Virginia, and Hoboken, New Jersey.

While in New York on 10 April 1918, Westerman married Caroline “Dixie” Marshall. They likely met in New York. Dixie was born on 10 September 1885 in Shelby County, Missouri, the daughter of Clyde B. and Ida Elizabeth (VanNort) Marshall.¹³ By age thirty, she had progressed from being a model in Los Angeles, California, to become a movie star in New York.¹⁴

On 22 August 1918, shortly after their marriage, Westerman was listed on the outgoing passenger roster from Hoboken, destined for the Second Phase Evacuation Hospital #10 in Froides, France. In World War I, evacuation hospitals were mobile units housed in tents and located some ten miles from the front lines.¹⁵ They were used to quickly treat a large number of casualties and were situated close to roads and rail lines to speed transportation of the wounded to base hospitals. Westerman was promoted to the rank of captain in February 1919 and was listed as such when he left Camp Hospital #28 located in Limoges, France, on the *USS Antigone* on 30 October 1919.¹⁶ Back in St. Louis following the war, he was put in charge of the sanitary detachment of the 138th Infantry, Missouri National Guard.

Life after the War

On 30 September 1921, Ronald Clardix Westerman was born to Clarence and Dixie Westerman, his middle name a combination of his parents’ first names.¹⁷ Clarence would resume his involvement in the boxing world in the 1920s, serving as part of the medical staff for events held in St. Louis by the Western Amateur Athletic Union. On 20 May 1922, Westerman filed the first of two petitions for voluntary bankruptcy, citing some \$33,000 in liabilities and \$24,364 in the value of his properties. His liabilities included civil suits and unpaid bills from his patients. He listed his

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Dixie Westerman and her son, Ronald, taken around 1923; from the author's collection. Used with permission.

residence at the Warwick Hotel and offices in the Arcade Building.¹⁸

The Ku Klux Klan

In November 1922, as part of a fundraising campaign for the Boy Scouts, Westerman presented a letter from the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), City of St. Louis, offering a subscription of \$3,000 each year for the next three years, delivered to him by a person he could not name. The letter indicated that the Ku Klux Klan "would increase the amount to match a higher amount from another organization, up to \$15,000 or \$45,000 over three years." The letter from the KKK read:

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan have been watching your untiring efforts in raising \$150,000 as an extension fund for the Boy Scout movement for the ensuing three years. We feel that the heart of America of tomorrow is in the boy of today. Therefore we want the privilege of sharing the responsibility of furnishing part of the necessary funds towards training these future Americans, who will again bring to America that chivalry, honor, industry and love so necessary for the protection of our pure womanhood and closer relationship of pure Americanism which will protect us from all enemies within and without and

give us that necessary preparedness that the Boy Scout stands for.

It is the constant disposition of a Klansman to assist those who aspire to things noble in thought and conduct and to extend a helping hand to the work. Therefore we deem it a great privilege to tender you our subscription of \$1,500, payable semi-annually for three years, beginning January 1, 1923.¹⁹

While the letter was on the organization's stationery, no name or address was provided. In response, the St. Louis Council Boy Scouts of America released a statement that "the rules of the drive forbid the acceptance of any subscriptions except those which are made over the signature of known individuals or firms. All bona fide subscription cards signed by responsible individuals or officials, we have accepted and will continue to accept without inquiry as to the race, color, creed, or affiliation of the subscribers."²⁰

This would not be the only time Westerman was linked to the KKK. The next month, he was elected commander of the Richard Anderson Post of the American Legion but was challenged with a nomination from the floor because of his alleged KKK connections. According to a 2 December 1922 article in the *St. Louis Star and Times*:

Opposition to Westerman was caused by his inviting the Rev. C. C. Crawford, pastor of the Fourth Christian Church . . . to speak before the post. In that address, the Rev. Mr. Crawford lauded the Klan and severely criticized Jews and Catholics. Last night, in a short talk, Dr. Westerman said the invitation was an unfortunate mistake, and in issuing the invitation he had no idea of insulting any member of the organization.²¹

Westerman had also been critical of a newly organized German-American Citizens League of the United States and had publicly threatened to "mash up" its first meeting.²²

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While the St. Louis American Legion Executive Committee condemned the organization, it also reprimanded Westerman for his remarks. In reply to the reprimand, Westerman said his remarks were made merely as a bluff and he had no intention of carrying out the threat.

Prohibition

In September 1929, Prohibition agents filed a complaint charging Westerman with violating his physician's permit to issue whiskey prescriptions, noting that on several occasions he issued whiskey prescriptions without first having examined the patient, an undercover Prohibition agent, who bought them. An article in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* noted that, until now, physicians had only been charged when blank prescriptions were found in raided drug stores. However, in this instance, two agents went to Westerman's office, and each obtained a prescription for \$3 without an examination. On the same day, the agents returned and received two additional prescriptions, at \$3 each. The agents were able to obtain the additional whiskey prescriptions again without needing an examination.²³ (See page 31 for more on whiskey prescriptions.)

Two days later, three pharmacists who handled whisky prescriptions issued by Westerman were charged in federal warrants with violating the terms of their liquor permits:

The pharmacists named in the warrants are E. A. Hild, proprietor of a store at 7325 South Broadway, and Rudolph J. Joenk, proprietor, and Abraham Packman, clerk, of a store at 2320 Union boulevard. Hild is charged with filing at one time four prescriptions presented by the agents—two obtained from Dr. Westerman on Sept. 10 and two on Sept. 11, although, it is said, the regulations prohibit filling of more than one prescription at one time. The prescriptions were found in Hild's files and seized as evidence. At Joenk's store, it is charged, Packman filled four prescrip-

tions at one time, but the prescriptions, when taken from the files, were found to bear cancellation marks purporting to show they had been filled at intervals.²⁴

Before 1929, the punishment to Westerman for these violations could have resulted in revocation of his physician's permit and a maximum fine of \$500. However, in March 1929, President Calvin Coolidge signed into law the Increased Penalties Act, which greatly increased the consequences for violating Prohibition. Also called the "Jones Act," the legislation was sponsored by Senator Wesley L. Jones of Washington and Representative Gale H. Stalker of upstate New York. It stipulated that wherever any penalty was prescribed for the illegal manufacture, sale, transportation, importation, or exportation of intoxicating liquor as defined in the Volstead Act of 1919, the penalty imposed for each such offense should be a fine not to exceed \$10,000 or imprisonment not to exceed five years, or both.

On 12 February 1930, a federal grand jury returned 113 indictments under the Jones law against persistent offenders; however, that did not mean that the maximum fines were imposed. In an article in the *St. Louis Star and Times*, Wallace Bell, assistant treasurer of the Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust Company and foreman of the jury, was quoted as saying:

The public is under the impression that a person convicted under the Jones law must receive a five year prison sentence and a \$10,000 fine. This is not true, because the judge may inflict any penalty he sees fit, and the law provides no minimum. Many of the jurors personally expressed opposition to the prohibition law but felt that their duty should take precedence. They felt that the law should be either strictly enforced or modified or repealed.²⁵

The last paragraph in the article noted, "The grand jury returned no true bill in the

Clarence M. Westerman: A Man of Many Facets

case of Dr. Clarence M. Westerman, physician, arrested last September on a charge of issuing whisky prescriptions without examining the applicants.”

Just a month earlier, articles in both the *St. Louis Star and Times* and the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* both reported that “Mrs. Dixie Westerman, 6154 Washington avenue, was granted a divorce, citing ‘general indignities.’”²⁶ The *Globe-Democrat* ran an expanded article with testimony from Mrs. Westerman that her husband had a violent temper, became enraged over trivialities, and kicked and beat her.²⁷ She was awarded custody of their eight-year-old son, Ronald, and \$50 a month for his support. Dixie Westerman and her son left St. Louis for California soon afterward.

Elephant Luck

In 1927, the *St. Louis Globe Democrat Magazine* published a detailed article on Westerman and his collection of miniature elephants.²⁸ Surrounded by 400 to 500 elephants of all sizes, Westerman explained how he determined the elephants brought him luck, beginning with his service in World War I.

When we were going across we got into two nests of German submarines. We were convoyed by cruisers. On either side of our ship were the *U.S. Grant* and the British *Andromache*. About 4 o'clock one afternoon a submarine bobbed up on our left. Then she let loose her pill.



Clarence Westerman and his elephant collection; from the author's collection. Used with permission.

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It was ahead of us, on a direct line for the *Grant*. It looked like nothing on earth could keep her from hitting. You could see it moving under the water.

Well, sir, our gunners turned their 6-inch guns on that torpedo. They scored a hit. I don't care what you call it. You can call it marksmanship, or you can call it luck. But they hit that torpedo and put it out of business.

I was carrying an elephant in my pocket at the time. I carried it all through France. The hospitals I was in were bombed, but it brought me luck and brought me out. I was gassed twice, of course, but I might have had my head blown off.

Many's the time when I've been in difficulty and some friend has sent me one of those things, and the look of the whole world would change.

In August 1931, Westerman again filed for bankruptcy, citing more than \$27,000 owed to him by patients, of whom many were wrestlers and boxers.²⁹ According to an article in the 3 December 1931 *St. Louis Star and Times*, Westerman told the bankruptcy court that in 1928, he organized the Westerman Physical Therapy Laboratories Company, intending to take over an old residence, remodel it, and establish a clinic. All of his own property was transferred to the corporation, which also took over his personal debts. By 1931, all the office furniture had been mortgaged, as well as his 400 ornamental elephants.³⁰

And, then, Santa Claus

While much of his life was prominent in the newspapers, less prominent was a role Westerman assumed beginning in 1922. On experimental radio station WIL, Westerman played Santa Claus at the request of inven-

Two Elephants from the Collection



This elephant ashtray is made of cast iron; photo from the author's collection. Used with permission.

The elephant below is twenty inches long by fifteen inches tall and was made in China of bronze with ivory tusks and a wood base; photo from the author's collection. Used with permission.



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tor and early radio leader Lester Benson. When the station's first Christmas time came around, Benson said to Westerman, "We ought to have a Santa Claus," Westerman told the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* in an article published on 20 December 1931, "I'll be your Santa Claus. It would be a lot of fun especially if there should chance to be some children who could listen in."³¹

Westerman noted that the Christmas season of 1931 was the first time he appealed to listeners to send secondhand toys to the radio station, citing thousands of letters received from children writing to Santa Claus. Almost seven truckloads were received. "Sixteen stenographers are kept constantly busy in order to insure that Santa will give joy to a maximum number of WIL juveniles this Christmas." By 1934, radio station KSD was broadcasting Westerman's Santa Claus show, beginning in late November, at 5:45 p.m. weekdays and 1:30 p.m. on Sundays.

Clarence Westerman died on 23 November 1938 at the Veterans' Hospital in Jefferson Barracks after being ill for six months, following a mastoid operation that resulted in septicemia.³² He was fifty-two years old. Obituaries noted that he was survived by his mother, Harriet, and his son, Ronald. Westerman was buried in Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery.

Westerman's mother, Harriet Mansur, passed away in St. Louis on 17 October 1945 and is buried with her second husband, E. A. Mansur, in Mountain Grove, Missouri.³³

Dixie Marshall Westerman reconnected with her Hollywood roots following her divorce in 1930.³⁴ She was living at the home of Tom Kennedy, actor and former Keystone Cop. Kennedy's obituary in 1965 noted he was a native of New York and former heavyweight boxer.³⁵ That may provide a clue into how Dixie Marshall and Clarence Westerman met. Dixie Marshall married a man named Mullin after her divorce and passed away on November 1957 in South Pasadena, California.³⁶ Clarence's son,

Ronald Clardix Westerman, died on 23 December 1996, in Los Angeles, California.³⁷

End Notes

Unless otherwise noted, referenced websites were last checked on 30 April 2023.

1. Illinois State Archives, Illinois Statewide Marriage Index, "Illinois, U.S., Marriage Index, 1763-1900," database, *Ilisos.gov* (<https://apps.ilisos.gov/isavital/marriagesrch.jsp>), Union County, 1885, license no. 2180, August C. Westerman and Hattie M. Cover.

2. Illinois State Archives, Illinois Statewide Death Index Pre-1916," database, *Ilisos.gov* (<https://apps.ilisos.gov/isavital/deathsrch.jsp>), Union County, certificate no. 1440 (1887), August C. Westerman.

3. Darrel Dexter, transcr., "Obituaries and Death Notices in the *Jonesboro* [Illinois] *Gazette*, 1886-1887," PDF, p. 18, "AC. [sic] Westerman" (1887), Genealogy Society of Southern Illinois (<https://ilgssi.org/cpage.php?pt=6>).

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5. "E. A. Mansur and Mrs. Hattie C. Westerman," *Mountain Prospect* (Mountain Grove, Missouri, 4 December 1889; State Historical Society of Missouri, Newspaper Collection on Microfilm, reel no. 31123).

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7. 1910 U.S. census, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri, population schedule, E.D. 216, p. 20A (penned), house number 3844, family 443, Clarence M. Westerman; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; NARA microfilm publication T624, roll 817.

8. 1920 U.S. census, St. Louis (Independent City), Missouri, population schedule, E.D. 574, p. 7B (penned), dwelling 83, family 171, Clarence M. Westerman; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; NARA microfilm publication T625, roll 953.

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10. "Dr. Westerman is Victor in Cue Match," *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 12 February 1916, p. 8, col. 6; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
11. "Commission Will Assume Control of Local Boxing," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 30 May 1916, p. 14, col. 8; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
12. "Peters to Serve on Commission if Powell Declines," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 28 January 1917, p. 18, col. 6; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
13. "New York, New York, U.S., Marriage License Indexes, 1907–2018," Manhattan Borough, v. 4, Clarence M. Westerman and Coralino D. Marshall, license no. 9000; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; New York City Municipal Archives.
14. "Former Shelbyville Girl Now a Movie Actress," *Shelby County Herald* (Missouri), 28 March 1917, p. 1, col. 3; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
15. George Thompson, "Evacuation Hospital," University of Kansas School of Medicine (<https://www.kumc.edu/school-of-medicine/academics/departments/history-and-philosophy-of-medicine.html>) > Archives > WWI > Essays > Military Medical Operations > Evacuation Hospital.
16. "U.S. Army Transport Service Arriving and Departing Passenger Lists, 1910–1939," Clarence M. Westerman, 22 August 1918; digital image, *Ancestry.com*; "Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General, 1774–1985," no. 92, roll/box no. 373, National Archives (NA), College Park, Maryland.
17. "California, U.S. Death Index, 1940–1997," Ronald Clardix Westerman, 23 December 1996; database, *Ancestry.com*; California Department of Health Services, Center for Health Statistics, Sacramento.
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19. "\$15,000 Subscription from Ku Klux Klan for the Boy Scouts," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, 10 November 1922, p. 1, col. 4; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
20. "\$15,000 Gift of Klan Refused by Boy Scouts," *St. Louis Star and Times*, 11 November 1922, p. 1, col. 4; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
21. "Legion Honors Man Who Invited Klan Defender," *St. Louis Star and Times*, 2 December 1922, p. 4, col. 5; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
22. "League Resolution Condemns League of German-Americans," *St. Louis Globe-Democrat*, 26 June 1923, p. 1, col. 7; digital image, *Newspapers.com*.
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About the Author

Linda L. Mansur is the great-grand daughter of Harriet (Cover) Westerman Mansur and Edward Augustus Mansur. She grew up in Jefferson City, Missouri, and now resides in Nashville, Tennessee, with her husband, Jim Grinstead, also from Missouri. A few of Dr. Westerman's elephants have been passed down to her, and Westerman's World War I trench art was donated in 2020 to the World War I Museum in Kansas City.



Whiskey Prescriptions

Alcohol has long had medicinal uses, but during Prohibition, those who depended on it for real or perceived ailments were potentially denied their supply. Enter the U.S. Treasury Department, which worked out a scheme with physicians and pharmacists to authorize prescriptions for alcohol for fees. Basically, licensed physicians were provided with government-issued pads of prescriptions, which they could sell individually for between two and four dollars each. Then, when a "patient" took the prescription to be filled at a pharmacy, another few dollars changed hands. According to Daniel Okrent, author of *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*, "Presumably, doctors were doing examinations and diagnoses, but it was mostly bogus."

As we saw with Dr. Westerman, it was all too easy for those wanting to profit from this loophole to do so, leading to arrests, fines, and copious newspaper headlines!

(Much more information about medicinal alcohol is available in the Ohio State University website's "Temperance and Prohibition" section at <https://prohibition.osu.edu/american-prohibition-1920/medicinal-alcohol>).

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Security brand Pre-War Whiskey, "For Medicinal Purposes."
Photo by Gary Mertz, used with permission.

The image shows two forms used for medicinal liquor prescriptions during Prohibition. The left form is the 'ORIGINAL LIQUOR PRESCRIPTION STUB' and the right form is the 'ORIGINAL PRESCRIPTION FORM FOR MEDICINAL LIQUOR'. Both forms contain the following information:

- Number: E378812
- Permit Number: 97
- Fields for patient name, address, and date prescribed.
- Fields for prescriber name, address, and permit number.
- Fields for kind of liquor, quantity, and directions.
- Fields for dispenser signature and date filled and canceled.

This is a Medicinal Liquor form used during Prohibition to acquire prescription alcohol, usually whiskey, supposedly for medicinal purposes. (image from Wikimedia Commons https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Prohibition_prescription_front.jpg. Public domain.

New Members

The following members joined between 1 January and 31 March 2023.

Welcome!

David Anderson	Princeton, NJ	Richard Layton	St. Louis, MO
Carl Banholzer	Florissant, MO	Marc LeBeau	Fairfax, VA
Cathy Baranger	Mission Viejo, CA	Jennifer Leferth	Festus, MO
Therese Barry	St. Louis, MO	Judith Love	Hillsboro, MO
Carol Beaty	Vero Beach, FL	Shelby Luebbert	Florissant, MO
Jo Beyes	St. Louis, MO	Catherine Mayer	St. Louis, MO
Jeanne Billa	Sun City Center, FL	Ellen Mays	Ellisville, MO
Ron Blaha	Garland, TX	Roberta Mieczkowski	Holt, MI
Patricia Bradford	St. Louis, MO	Sandra Miller	Tampa, FL
Joseph Burkhart	Michigan City, IN	Dawn Morgan	Wildwood, MO
Angela Callahan	Bessemer City, NC	John Newmark	St. Louis, MO
Cecil Compton	Chesterfield, MO	Clifford Ocheltree	New Orleans, LA
Lucinda Cook	Ballwin, MO	Patricia Oder	St. Louis, MO
Lauren Covert	Bridgman, MI	Stephen O'Malley	Henderson, NV
Lorraine Cruse	Millstadt, IL	Elizabeth Ortinou	St. Louis, MO
Lynn Diederichsen	St. Louis, MO	Jane Pahner	Cary, NC
Kathryn Duello	Columbia, MO	Shawn Perras	Hamilton, ON
Jackie Eiffert	St. Louis, MO	Ronald Pimmel	St. Louis, MO
Sheila Endres	Leander, TX	Jean Puszczek	St. Charles, MO
Carolyn Finnigan	Hunnewell, MO	Julie Rich	Moscow Mills, MO
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Anne Fried	Corona, CA	Sharon Rogers	Winfield, MO
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John & Cherri Fryer	St. Louis, MO	Thomas Ryan	St. Louis, MO
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Cheryl Menke George	Aurora, CA	Gary Schlottach	Florissant, MO
Liz Hawn	Sandpoint, ID	Rosemarie Schmidt	Mead, WA
Donald L Hertel	Diamondhead, MS	Judith Schmitt	Fairview Heights, IL
Mary & Frank Hetherington-Hosna	St. Louis, MO	Tracey Sellers	Jacksonville, FL
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Terri Hinderman	Lodi, OH	Marilyn Stanley	Auxvasse, MO
Diana Holder	Imperial, MO	Katerina Barquet Stege	St. Louis, MO
Linda holder	Ballwin, MO	Mary Stiehr	Clearlake, CA
Judith Huff	Pilot Knob, MO	Lucinda Stine	Waukee, IA
Diane Hurd	St. Peters, MO	Robert Tucker	St. Louis, MO
Bridget Hurd	St. Peters, MO	Emily Untermeyer	Rockville, MD
Joyce Huston	St. Louis, MO	Nancy Weller	Springfield, MO
Janet Johnson	Northridge, CA	Dorene Wernke	Edina, MN
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Janet Kowall	Eagle, ID	Jay Willoughby	St. Louis, MO
Marwynne Kuhn	Webster, TX	Beth Wilson	Torrance, CA
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		Matt Yancey	Frisco, TX

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