

**THE LIFE OF
JOHN WHITELAW**

1835-1913



John Whitelaw 1835 - 1913

**A DOCUMENTARY BIOGRAPHY WITH AN
APPENDIX OF WHITELAW FAMILY DOCUMENTS**

By
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2006

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JOHN WHITELOW: A DOCUMENTARY BIOGRAPHY

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INTRODUCTION

John Whitelaw was truly a man of his time. Each stage of his life, particularly his years of coming of age, was experienced in the cauldron of the Industrial Revolution. It must have been stimulating and also unsettling for him and his contemporaries to have personally experienced these massive social, economic and technological transformations.

He was born in 1835, into a family of Scottish weavers, an occupation done on hand looms in family cottages. The Industrial Revolution was already in full swing in Great Britain, and was transforming the weaving industry into one of factory mechanization, with consequent loss of work for hand loom weavers. As a result, John Whitelaw, like many others displaced by the Industrial Revolution, left Scotland and looked for new opportunities in the U.S. It is important to note, however, that Scotland, recognizing the need for a trained labor force to function in the new economy, provided education in literacy and mathematics, and had an organized program of apprenticeships in the trades. John Whitelaw benefited from these advantages, and was able to study both bookkeeping and carpentry, and worked in a thread factory before immigrating to the U.S. in 1855.

At this time, the U.S. was just beginning the process of the Industrial Revolution. It had a great need for immigrants who were literate in English and had skills useful to its emerging industries. Modernized transportation systems made large scale immigration feasible; the ocean liners were safer and faster than before, and, once they had landed on the east coast, newcomers could move to the interior of the country via the growing railroad system. John's family moved first to Wisconsin, to a community of Scottish immigrants, and then later to Kidder, Missouri, a new town built in conjunction with the railroad in the late 1850s.

In Kidder, John Whitelaw found a ready market for his skill as a carpenter and capitalized on his training with machinery to establish a hardware business. These ventures were successful, and he and his wife Mary were able to raise and educate eight children. In his later years, new technological and economic developments continued to affect him. The automobile began to replace the railroads, and Kidder, a railroad town, began a process of decline and marginalization. All of his children except Maggie, the oldest, left Kidder, and, with opportunity open in many fields, pursued a range of careers.

John Whitelaw was not merely caught up in the tide of the Industrial Revolution, however. His success in life was also due to personal qualities that helped him navigate the seismic changes of his time. By all accounts, he was intelligent, conscientious, open to learning, fair and ethical in his dealings, enterprising, and industrious. These were qualities that were recognized in his boyhood and qualified him for special educational opportunities. These traits of character also helped him make decisions about where to live and how to start a business and make it successful in his adopted country. He was astute and accurate in his assessments of where opportunity lay, and his self-discipline and courage helped him to realize his plans.

He also was a kind and generous man, both at home and in the community. His children's letters attest to the genuine affection and respect they held for him. He was fully engaged in the life of his small community, and served in a number of leadership roles. The obituary and other newspaper articles on his community and business life sound the same notes as his children's letters. He seems to have been a loving, concerned, fair and compassionate man in all aspects of his life.

This volume is the third and last of a series of family histories that I have compiled. The other two are: *Dear Sister: Whitelaw Family Letters: 1900-1963*, and *The Life of Mary Neill Whitelaw: 1840-1925*. All three make extensive use of a large archive of papers in the family of Ruth Whitelaw Williams, one of John and Mary Whitelaw's daughters. For the current volume, I have included from *Dear Sisters* all letters written by John Whitelaw and about John Whitelaw. I have also included all other material concerning John Whitelaw that was available to me. Because, it seemed to me, that to understand John Whitelaw I needed to know something of the social and economic context of his life, I also consulted histories and other references. The photographs and other graphic material all are from family archives, except for two; the pictures the Battle of Bothwell Bridge and of Robert Burns are from on-line picture archives.

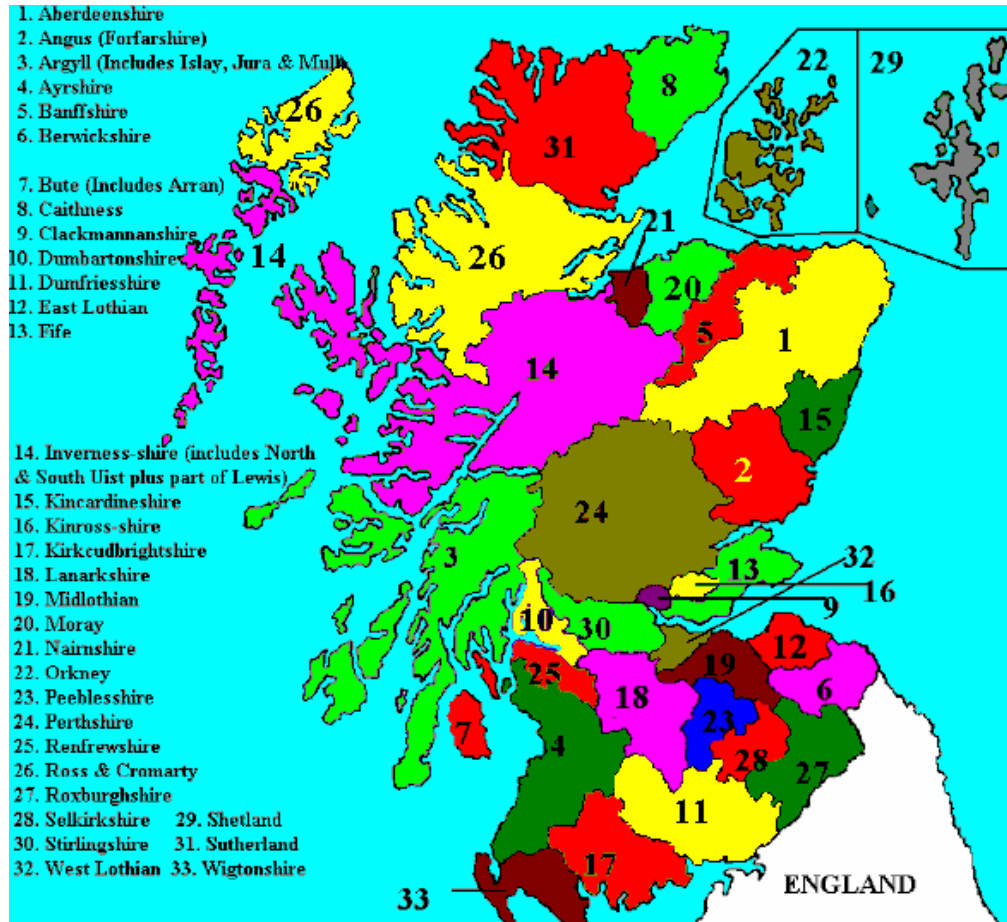
Acknowledgements

I would like to thank everyone who has given me help and encouragement in this family history project. Bill Whitford entrusted me with the Williams family papers after the last Williams family member died, and has been a consistent source of support and information. Dot Harrison guided me through a tour of Kidder and introduced me to Sue Cashatt, the current owner of the Whitelaw home, who let us tour the house. I thank both of them for a wonderful day in Kidder. Anne Kepner and Jean Stamper have shared many photos and showed a consistent, helpful interest. They are hosting a reunion of descendants of John and Mary Whitelaw this summer, which will be an unforgettable experience. Jean Young, the last living grandchild of John and Mary Whitelaw, will attend. I thank her and Margaret Ruth Fluharty, who died in 2004, for their interest and encouragement and for sharing family stories with me. Mary Graves has generously shared with me the large archive of family papers left by her mother, Eleanor Whitford, and Dot Harrison and Jeannie Moore have also sent many photos which enliven these pages. My daughter, Shelley, created the family trees in the appendix, and my husband, Larry, offered ongoing technical support and retouched some of the pictures. I also appreciate very much the letters and emails from many of you, expressing appreciation for the work. This has truly been a family effort. I hope that you will enjoy these publications, and that you will make them available to your children and grandchildren.

*Susan Whitelaw
Rocky River, Ohio
April, 2006*

SCOTTISH HERITAGE

The Whitelaw family comes from Central Scotland. Our ancestors were born in the small towns south and southwest of Glasgow, with such names as Riccarton, Ayr, Strathaven, and Kilmarnock, in the Scottish Council Areas of Ayrshire and Lanarkshire (nos. 4 and 18 on the map.). These areas are also known as the “lowlands” of Scotland, to differentiate them from the “highlands” to the north, which is the home of Scottish clans.



Although clan traditions, tartans, and so on are not part of our Whitelaw heritage, our ancestors did bring other traditions with them from Scotland. Robert Whitelaw (1819-1918), John Whitelaw’s uncle and the first of our family to come to the U.S., identified in a newspaper interview the Scottish historical events and prominent figures with special meaning for the Whitelaw family. “Mr. Whitelaw traces his ancestry to the time of the covenanters in Scotland when all but one of the four Whitelaw brothers were killed at Bothwell bridge and the estates confiscated by the crown. He was born at Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, March 27, 1819, near the home of Robert Burns and has often visited the Burns tomb. He was a member of the same congregational church as Livingstone and

John Kirk, the famous Scotch preacher was pastor.” (For more on Robert Whitelaw, see the Appendix; for more on Scotch congregationalism, see p. 40.)

The Covenanters

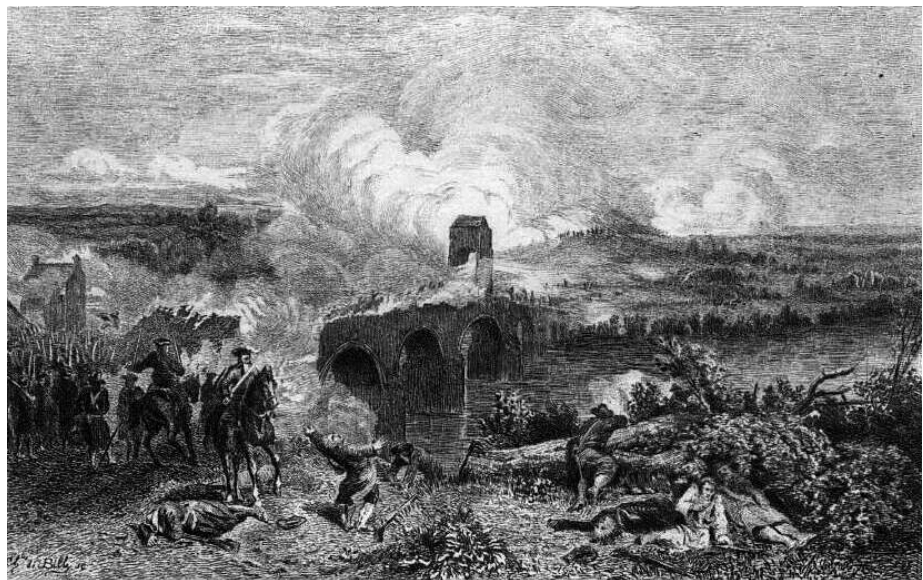
The Covenanters were common Scottish people who in the 17th century formed a movement to put allegiance to religious teaching above obedience to king or church hierarchy. Government efforts to crush them led to “the killing times” when hundreds of Covenanters were hunted down and executed. The Covenanters lost a major battle at Bothwell Bridge in 1679, when 1200 Covenanters were taken prisoner. In the decades following the failed rebellion, the Covenanters became glorified in the minds of the common people of the lowlands, where the Covenanters were based. Although intellectuals came increasingly to see the Covenanters as religious fanatics, for others, they were brave champions “who had fought courageously for freedom of conscience against the oppression of the state. They too became national icons like Wallace and Bruce. . . . The tradition of religious dissent continued in Scotland, nurturing a robust independence of mind and spirit based on the Calvinist inheritance of ‘the equality of souls’ before God. . . . In Scottish religious tradition, the idea of the Covenant, a contract between God and Man and rulers and ruled, had been a powerful force for political revolution in the seventeenth century. (T. M. Devine, *The Scottish Nation* p. 30; p. 199).



Robert Whitelaw (1819-1918)

For the Whitelaws in America, the Covenanters were a potent historical link to the homeland.

William Whitelaw (1869-1944), John Whitelaw’s son, wrote in a letter to his sister: “Mother sent me a book of father’s which I value very much and shall always keep — “The

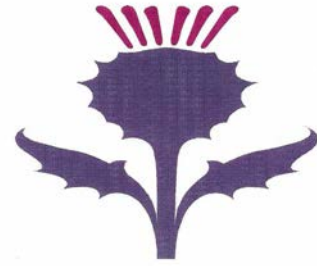
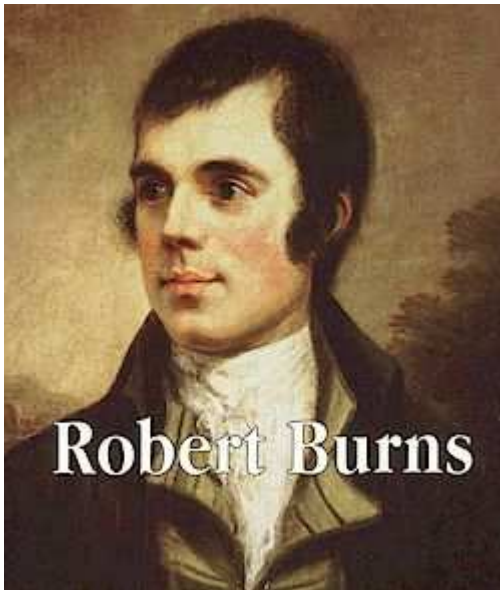


History of the Reformation “ by D’Aubigne. Father bought it in 1854 — I read it at home and down at the shop when I was a boy. It affected me strangely — as few or no other books have done. I could see the whole “Covenanter” history (for which some of our ancestors were executed) in the spirit of that book.” [pictured: *The Battle of Bothwell Bridge, 1679*]

The Ploughman's Poet, Robert Burns

Out of the world of the Scottish peasant also came the poet Robert Burns and his great egalitarian poem, 'A man's a man for aw that.' Born in 1759 to parents in modest circumstances, he grew up immersed in the poetry and songs of the Scottish countryside. Because of his background and the content of some of his poems, he became a political figure as well as a literary one. "It could be argued that Scotland was waiting for a 'ploughman poet' and that Burns was happy to give them one. There was a growing feeling that hope lay not with the establishment or the aristocracy, but among the common people. Then, out of the Ayrshire countryside, a young farmer with little formal education produced a book of poetry, chiefly in the Scots dialect, with such passion, wit and power that the country went wild for him." (www.burnsheritagepark.com/story.htm)

Robert Burns came from Ayrshire, a home base of the Whitelaws, which may have given the family a special feeling of connection to him. Many descendants of John and Mary Whitelaw can attest to the persistence over time of Robert Burns' legacy. Hanging on the dining room wall in the old family home in Kidder was an embroidered motto from Robert Burns, The Selkirk Grace. The design at right was given to me by Dot Harrison, a granddaughter of John Whitelaw's daughter, Mary Whitelaw Shaw.



SELKIRK GRACE

Some hae meat
and canna eat,
and some wad
eat that want it;
but we hae meat,
and we can eat,
and say the lord
be thankit

I myself remember my father (1911-1974), John Moreland Whitelaw (John Whitelaw's grandson), quoting the following Burns couplet on any appropriate occasion:

O wad some Power the giftie gie us
To see oursels as ithers see us!
(from *To a Louse*)

The Weaver Brothers

The first Whitelaw ancestor about whom we have information is John Whitelaw's grandfather, James Whitelaw, who was a weaver by trade. James was born in the small town of Riccarton, Ayrshire, Scotland, in about 1784-85. His parents were William Whitelaw, a shoemaker, and Margaret Henderson Whitelaw.

James married Jean Turnbull, daughter of a weaver, in 1803. They lived in the counties of Ayrshire and Lanarkshire, southwest of Glasgow and had seven children.

Margaret	born	1806
William (John's father)		1807/08
James		1811
John		1814/15
Andrew		1817/18
Robert		1819
Jean		1825/26



James Whitelaw 1784/5 -1866 Scotland

James and all five of his sons, who are known to descendants as the "Weaver Brothers," worked at the family trade. They operated weaving looms at home from a young age under the "just, earnest eye of their father," according to descendant James Whitelaw. (see letter from James Rudolph Whitelaw to William Whitelaw, Appendix).

Weaving was a major industry in the lowland area of Scotland during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Weavers worked at home or in factories using hand looms, to weave cotton, linen, and wool cloth. It was considered a highly desirable skilled trade, and weavers were once "the aristocrats of Scottish artisans." (*Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*, p. 911). These craftsmen were hard hit when power looms were introduced, and were prominent among those emigrating from Scotland in the mid-nineteenth century. The decline of the cottage weaving tradition was almost certainly a factor in the decision of two of the brothers and their families to emigrate to the U.S.: Robert in 1848 and William in 1854.

The roots of the Whitelaws in Scotland consist of the traditions and values of the class of skilled artisans in the lowlands. They were proud of the religious tradition of the Covenanters, who challenged temporal and religious authority and promoted the idea of a "covenant" between the governed and those governing them. They valued the common person, and believed in the equality of all people. When they came to the U.S. the Whitelaws, like other Scottish immigrants, found that these values were quite compatible with the prevailing political ideology in America.

JOHN WHITELAW'S CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH: 1835-1855



William & Jean Wilson Whitelaw

John Whitelaw was born in Strathaven, Scotland, January 13th, 1835. He was one of four children of William and Jean Whitelaw. His siblings were John born in 1831, Janet, born in 1833, and Jean, whose birthdate is unknown. [See appendix family trees.]

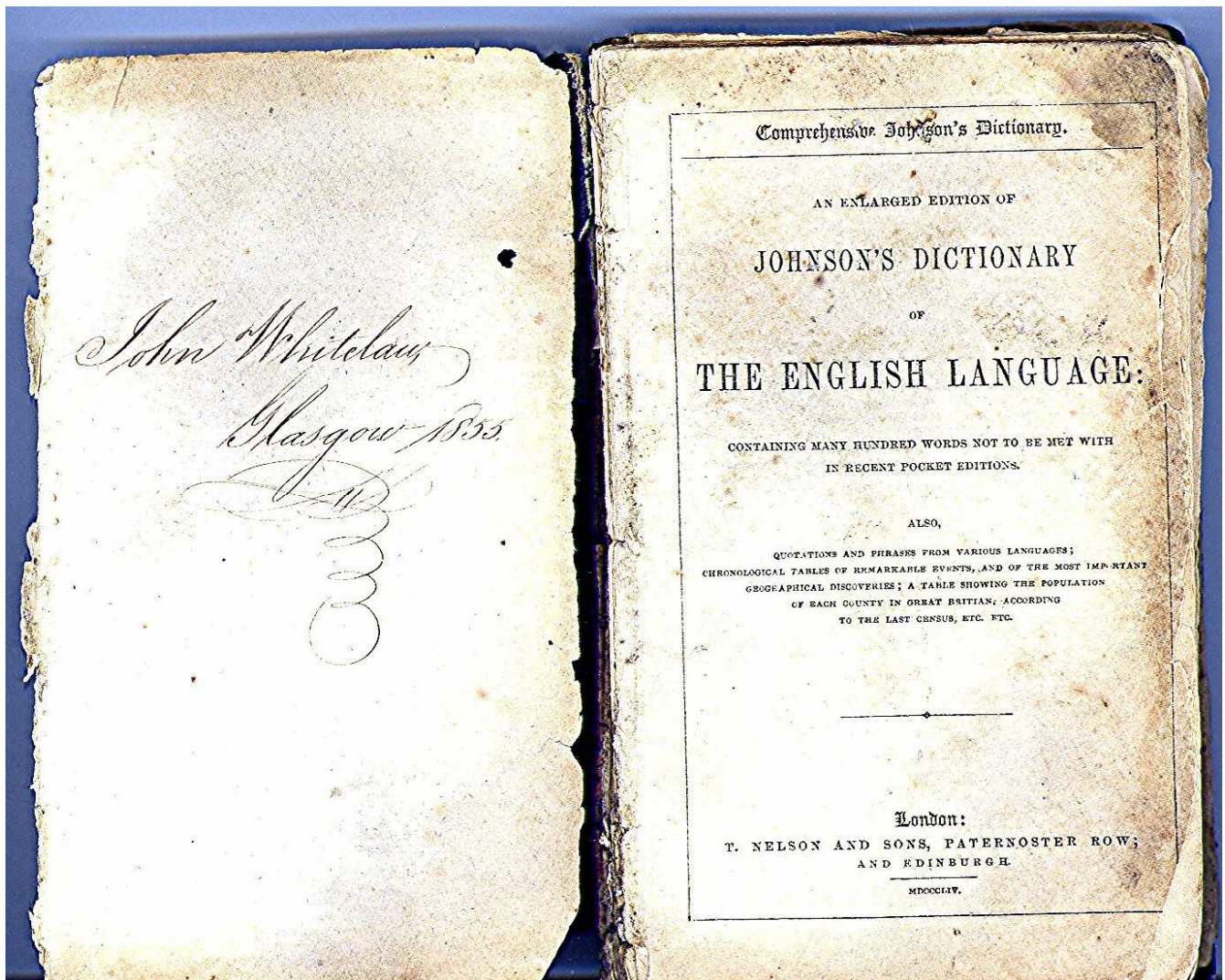
John's mother, Jean, died probably in the late 1830s, when John was still a young boy. His father remarried, to Margaret Reid Martin, and together they had three children: Margaret, born in 1845, and Ellen and William, whose birthdates are unknown.

John's family lived in Glasgow while he was young. John had the equivalent of a grade school education, but also worked as a child at Clark Thread Works. At some point in his employment there, probably when in his mid-teens, he was selected as one of twelve promising young employees to receive two years of private schooling at the expense of his employer, Mr. Clark. Later he worked at Kirk Iron Works as an accountant and book keeper. The Scottish system of education encouraged that young people learn a craftsman's training so he also apprenticed in the carpentry department at the Kirk plant. (From the obituary)



William & Margaret Whitelaw (?)

First pages of Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language, which John Whitelaw bought before he departed for the United States. The inscription reads: "John Whitelaw, Glasgow, 1855."



EMIGRATION AND FIRST YEARS IN AMERICA: 1855 - 1866

In 1855, at the age of twenty, John Whitelaw immigrated to the United States with his parents and his brothers and sisters. The Whitelaw family took a steamer from Glasgow, Scotland, to Liverpool, England, and then an ocean ship to the U.S. They traveled to Portage, Wisconsin, as soon as they arrived in this country.

One of John's uncles preceded the family to the U.S. Robert Whitelaw and his wife Isabel had immigrated in 1848, and settled on a farm in Caledonia, near Portage, Wisconsin. William was Robert's brother and his wife, Margaret, was a sister of Robert's wife Isabel. Strong family connections probably were the reason that the William Whitelaw family also made Portage their destination.

"At the age of twenty years Mr. Whitelaw came to America with his parents and settled in Wisconsin, Portage City. At that time this was a pioneer territory and the sturdy Scotch traits were severely tested in the effort to hew a home out of the timber and his health was somewhat impaired at that time. He pursued his trade industriously and achieved some reputation as a contractor and builder." (From the obituary)



Robert Whitelaw (1819-1918)

The main reason for immigrating to the U.S. was economic. The Whitelaws were part of a large movement of Scots immigrating to the U.S. and Canada at the time. According to *The Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups* (1980), some of the causes and surrounding conditions of this migration were:

- The "hungry forties" (1840s) were a time of high unemployment and social distress in the lowlands and crop failure in the highlands. Organized emigration was seen as an answer to these social and economic problems.
- The Industrial Revolution was more advanced in Britain than America, and America needed workers who were familiar with machinery and manufacture, such as Scottish weavers.
- During the 1850s, immigration from Scotland to the U.S. increased greatly, with over 1,000 a year immigrating annually. This figure rose dramatically by the 1870s.
- The weavers of the handloom industry in the Lowlands formed emigration societies which provided mutual aid to immigrants. Once people started to immigrate, their letters home encouraged their relatives to come also. Many early immigrants provided financial support to their relatives who came later.
- John Regan, an Ayrshire school teacher who settled in Illinois, in 1852 wrote: *An Emigrant's Guide to the Western States of America*. This and other printed material helped prospective immigrants plan a future in the U.S. The railroads provided a means for immigrants to reach the Midwest and west.

Letter from Tom Clark, Jr., Benefactor

[Tom Clark Jr., of the Clark Thread Company, was an employer and benefactor in Glasgow, Scotland, to John Whitelaw. "Clark wrote this letter to John shortly after John immigrated to the U.S. The substance of the letter is quite fatherly, and apparently Mr. Clark was John's benefactor. Clark had employed John in Scotland since he was six years old. According to Mary [Williams Enerson] John worked in the thread factory until he was 16, moving a wheel or similar device that formed the spools for collecting the thread. Clark in his letter urges John to look after his parents. (Mary Whitford Graves's letter, recounting a conversation she had with Mary Williams Enerson in 1991)

Note: The letter is dated 1854, suggesting that the Whitelaws were in the U.S. by then. But other family records suggest that John Whitelaw immigrated in 1855.]

37 Nassau St. New York
15th Dec. 1854

Mr. John Whitelaw
Caledonia by Dekorra
Columbia County, Wisconsin

Dear John

I only rec'd your letter of [illegible] Oct. on 9th Inst, it having gone to Scotland and come back again to me here. Mr. Russell and I left Liverpool on 19th Oct. per "Asia" Steamer and arrived here after a pleasant passage of 12 days 19 hours. We are out on business and expect to be here for a month or two yet. I can readily excuse you for being so long in writing as you would of course be wishing to know more of the place and to see how you would like it.

I am sorry you had such a long and stormy passage. It would be very sore on your Father & Mother and the younger members of the family. You have got some idea now of what a sea voyage is. You were also very mercifully dealt with for in cases of collision it rarely happens that both ships remain afloat. Altho we are at all times under the special care of God, yet it is more apparent when we are in the midst of the stormy waves, & we



realize more fully the fact of God's ruling in nature and providence & that nothing can happen without his persuasion & will.

I trust that long ere this, your parents are comfortably settled in the log house. Their comfort and happiness should be your first care. The first commandment to which God has attached a promise is the fifth "Honor thy Father & thy Mother that thy days may be long on the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." I have experienced the truth of it myself. I remember when my parents were in reduced circumstances, thro the burning of my Father's mill which swept away all his wealth in a night. I was about 22 years of age. I made it my first care to provide for them and for positions in society in which they might be able to support themselves honorably, & and be a blessing to those around them. I believe that with God's blessing following my exertions, this has been the secret of my success. Take advice and adopt the same course in everything by prayer and supplication making your requests known unto God. You have reason to exert yourself on your Father's behalf, as it could not be for himself that he, when somewhat advanced in life, was induced to exchange a comparatively light employment & numerous social & religious advantages in the Land of his birth for a rough and severe toil with few of the comforts of social life & but a meager supply of the means of peace in a strange land. It could not have been personal considerations which led him to take this step but the future wellbeing of his family. You are therefore to reap the benefits of his sacrifices and toil.

I am sorry you were so disappointed in the remuneration given you for your labor, but you must expect to meet with disappointments and rebuffs even from quarters whence least expected. You must learn even to profit by such things. They should teach you how hollow is much of the professed friendship of the world & the value of a true friend when you find one. I have had experience of this also. When the change which I have mentioned took place in my Father's affairs few indeed four former friends knew us in adversity. I believe 19 out of 20 passed me on the street without recognizing me, but a friend loveth at all times.

You ask my advice as to how you should act in your circumstances. I have shown you what is your first duty. The time occupied in doing this will increase your knowledge of the country & of the situations in which you might most profitably engage yourself, and if you find one I think you should try it, after having provided a home for your parents & sisters. You would have it also as a retreat in case of sickness.

I am well pleased with your hand writing but observe you are deficient in spelling and composition. You would have been better had you taken another year or two of the school which I was very desirous you should take, but you must just improve yourself as much as you can thro the Winter.

I understand your land is paid but how it is stocked you do not mention. If you intend to borrow [illegible] dollars on it to stock it I would advise you to have it stipulated to be paid by installments so that it could not be called up so as to embarrass you. With kindest regards from Mr. Russell and myself to you, your Father and all the Family.

I remain
Yours sincerely
Tom Clark Jr.

Letter from Charles Watson, Fellow Immigrant

[The following letter is from a fellow immigrant, who traveled with the Whitelaw family from Glasgow to Liverpool, but who took a different ship across the Atlantic. His letter shows the thrill of adventure and excitement about the future in America, which must have helped at least the younger members of the family get through this difficult trip. The letter was among John Whitelaw's papers when he died, and was kept by his daughter, Ruth Whitelaw Williams.]

Scranton Aug. 31st 1856

My Dear Friend,

I received your note written in Liverpool about 6 days after date and just on the morning that we set sail for the "land of freedom" as they are pleased to term it, and therefore I was unable to answer it but as I afterward learned it would have been useless as your ship sailed three days previous to ours. I am now happy after having got things set amoving to have an opportunity of communicating with you. More especially as I have never heard anything of yourself or ship since we left Liverpool but I sincerely trust God in his good providence has protected and guided you safe across the mighty waters, that this letter shall find you comfortably settled on a snug little farm in some of the fertile nook of the far west, where after the toils of the day are over, and as you set at the cottage door enjoying the cool evening breeze and gazing at the mighty picture spread out before you, whose gigantic dimensions stretch away till they are lost on the distant horizon, and the tints, shades and colourings of which send a warm thrill of joy and gratitude through your heart, and that the toils, difficulties and dangers of the sea are now looked back upon as things only of the past which if they have served any good purpose will only make the rest and blessings now enjoyed more precious.

We set sail as I have said on the 6 of May in the good ship "[illegible first letter] morate Tile" and arrived in New York safe & sound after a passage of 32 days. There was little of any note occurred during the voyage, we had pretty fair weather till the banks of Newfoundland when it began to blow heavy, and continued with little intermission for 4 or 5 days, our ship being good we received little injury except getting a couple of sails torn, there was no disease on board, and only 2 deaths, which considering the number of passengers was remarkable, there being about 800. I took a 2nd cabin passage in Liverpool as I found the intermediate could be uncomfortable, and upon the whole we were well off considering the accounts of sea life generally which at the best is bad enough, as you will have learned. I was sick for nearly 3 weeks but my wife got over it in a few days. From New York we got safely through to our destination except a little accident that befell me before starting. One of our yankee friends in his headlong haste threw a big pot down on my foot and bruised my large toe so that I bit the nail by it (sic)

as well as became a cripple for a fortnight. After I got recovered I set about looking for a job, of which I could have got half a doz. but the carpenter work being very rough in this country and moreover out under the heat of the broiling sun I thought I would take the best I could get, at last I happened to stumble upon a machine shop, where I got employed as a pattern maker, or as a kind of apprentice rather for I was entirely unacquainted with the business. I have been engaged at it for nearly or rather more than 2 months. I like it very well, and if I get employment I think I may succeed. I get [illegible] per day English or 12/ of our, or Yankee money, so that everything considered I have had a very favourable beginning: both the "old woman" and I have enjoyed pretty good health since we came here and like the country, although of course we miss very much the companionship and friends of our Dear Native Country. I have had several letters from home since I arrived, but there was nothing in them interesting to you. I have not heard anything about Mr. Walker since I left, but I wrote to him about a week ago.

We have often thought about your sister who was so sick on board of the steamer and wonder how she stood the long sail. I hope she got better acquainted with the sea and that she as well as all the family are now healthy. I hope you will write me as soon as you have opportunity, a long letter detailing your adventures, since we parted, and likewise how you are situated now, and what sort of country you have got out there.

With sincere wishes for your welfare, I remain your friend,

Charles Watson

Song: Far, Far, upon the Sea

[These lyrics were copied out by John Whitelaw and were with his papers when he died. His daughter, Ruth Williams, kept them after his death. Along with the two preceding letters, these lyrics may have captured some of the issues and emotions associated with John Whitelaw's immigration experience, which may explain why he kept them. This song reflects the excitement, optimism, and sense of adventure of the young immigrants. John Whitelaw wrote at the end of the poem, "A song of human nature.".]

1. Far far upon the sea,
Thy Good ship speeding Free
Upon the deck we gather young & old
And I view the flapping sail
Swelling out before the gale.
Full and round without a wrinkle or a fold
And watch the waves that glide,
By the vessels stately side
Or the wild sea birds that follow through the air
As we gather in a ring
And with cheerful voices sing
O gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair,

Far Far upon the sea
The good ship speeding free
We watch the sea birds follow through the air
As we gather in a ring
And with cheerful voices sing
O Gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair.

2. Far far upon the sea
Watch the good ship speeding free
We'll talk of pleasing days when we were young
And remember tho we roam
The Sweet Melodies of home
The thoughts of happy childhood which we had
when we were young.
And thus we leave our native shore
To return to it no more
Sound the glories that Britania yet shall yield [?]
That Britons rule the waves
And never shall be slaves
Oh gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair.
Far far upon the sea
With the sun shine on our lee
Sound the glories that Britannia yet shall hear
That Britons rule the waves
And never shall be slaves
Oh! Gaily goes the ship when the wind blows
fair.

3. Far far upon the sea
When the good ship speeding free
The thoughts of it shall cheer us on our way
And Scotlands Son's shall shine

In the days of Auld lang syne
With voice & memory softened clear & low
And the men of Aron's Isle
Battling sorrow with a smile,
Shall sing St. Patrick's morning wide of care
And thus we pass the day
As we journey on our way
Oh gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair.

Far far upon the Sea
What ere our Country be
We'll sing our native music devoid of care
And thus we pass the day
As we journey on our way
Oh gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair.

A song of human nature
Copied by John Whitelaw
Caledonia, Wisconsin

Song

Far, far, upon the sea

Far, far upon the sea,
The good ship, speeding free
Upon the deck we gather young & old
And pour the flapping sail
Swelling out before the gale,
Full and roomy without a rick or a fold
And watch the waves that glide
By the vessel's stately side
Oh the wild sea birds that follow through the air
As we gather in a ring
And with cheerful voices sing
O gaily goes the ship
Where the wind blows fair,
Far, far upon the sea
The good ship, speeding free
Oh watch the sea birds follow through the air
As we gather in a ring
And with cheerful voices sing
O Gaily goes the ship where the wind blows fair.

Far, far upon the sea
With the good ship, speeding free
With talk of pleasant days when we were young
And remember the we roamed
The sweet melodies of home
The thoughts of happy childhood which we had
And thus we leave our native shore
To return to it no more
Sound the glories that Britannia yet shall enjoy
That Britain rule the waves
And never shall be slaves
O gaily goes the ship where the wind blows fair
Chorus,
Far, far upon the sea
With the good ship, speeding free
Sound the glories that Britannia yet shall enjoy
That Britain rule the waves

And never shall be slaves
Oh! Gaily goes the ship when the wind
blows fair

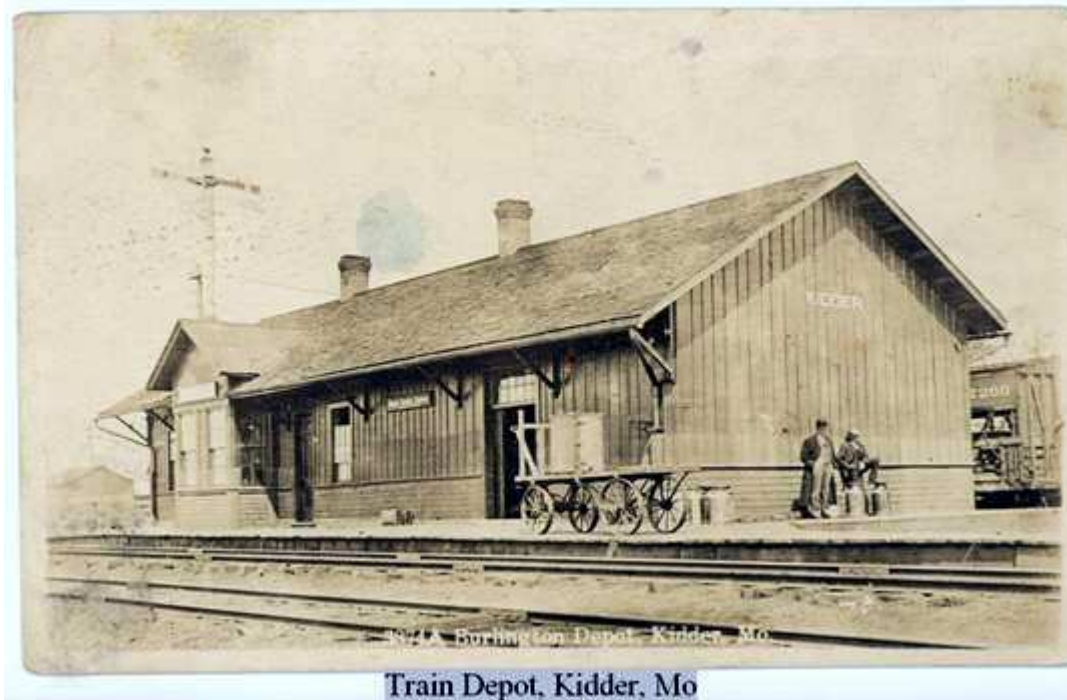
3 Far, far upon the sea
When the good ship speeding free
The thoughts of it shall cheer us on our way
And Scotland's sons shall shine
In the days of Auld Lang syne
With voices & memory soft & clear
As the men of Arden
Battling sorrow with a smile
Shall sing St Patrick's morning vire of care
And thus we pass the day
As we journey on our way
Oh gaily goes the ship when the wind blows
fair

Chorus
Far, far upon the sea
Whether our Country be
Will sing our native ^{music} ~~music~~ vire of care
And thus we pass the day
As we journey on our way
Oh gaily goes the ship
when the wind blows fair

A Song of human nature
copied by John Whitelam
Caledonia
Wisconsin

KIDDER, MISSOURI: 1860s

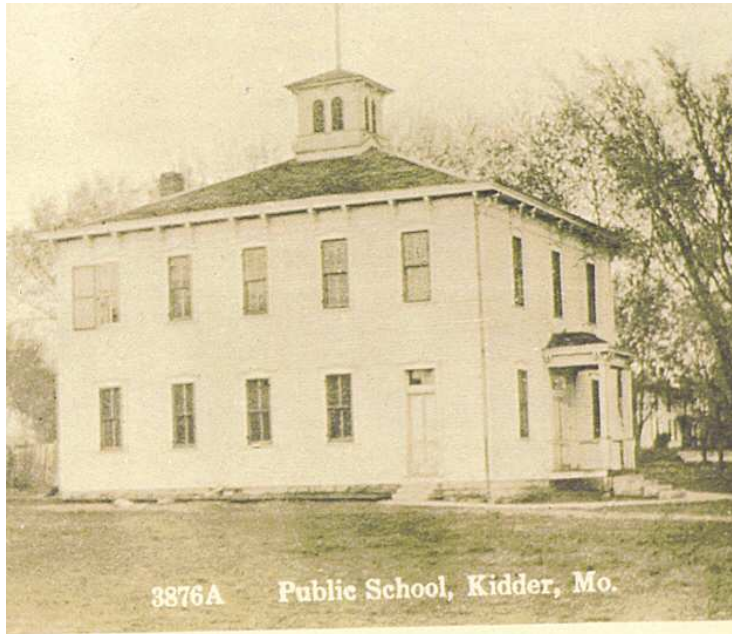
In 1866, John Whitelaw married and moved from Portage, Wisconsin, to Kidder, Missouri. The decisions regarding both these events must have been inter-related; the opportunity to establish a business in a promising new town would enable him to support a family, and his desire to marry and have a family probably gave impetus to the decision leave his relatives in Wisconsin and strike out for new territory.



He left no record that I have found on why he chose Kidder as the place to settle. However, in a letter he wrote years later he identified considerations he thought important in selecting a place to settle down (Letter to Ruth Williams, March 24, 1906). He suggested finding a new town, without much business competition as yet, built along the railroad with consequent access to national markets. In the 1860s, Kidder, Missouri, satisfied these criteria, and in addition, since it was founded by New England Congregationalists, seemed likely to have an educational and cultural atmosphere that was lacking in most new rail road towns.

The town of Kidder was founded in 1860 by the Kidder land Company, a New England Corporation, mainly as a speculative venture in conjunction with the building of the Hannibal – St. Joseph Railroad. The railroad, the main reason for the town's founding and central to its growth, was built in 1858-59.

Soon after its founding, a number of colonists from Massachusetts arrived, joining the earlier settlers to the region. The town is situated in the northeastern corner of Kidder Township, Caldwell County. As originally laid out in 1860, it was about a mile square,



and the founders hoped and expected that Kidder would become a large city. Its location was in fertile agricultural country, mainly prairie, with timber along the creeks. "The virgin prairie soon produced large fields of wheat, corn, forage crops, fruit orchards, and grazing land." (Sue Cashatt, *125 Years of Kidder, Missouri*, 1985). The town founders were determined to keep out saloons, and a clause was inserted into the abstract of every property sold : "No liquor to be sold within the

premises of Kidder except for medicinal purposes."

Although Missouri was a slave state, the village of Kidder remained loyal to the Union. This must have been important to the Whitelaws, who as Congregationalists were surely abolitionists and supportive of the Union. Mary Neill Whitelaw had two brothers fighting on the Union side in the Civil War.



By the time that the Whitelaws arrived in town in 1866, soon after the end of the Civil War, Kidder had about a dozen houses, two general stores, a grocery store, a post office, and a school house, which also housed the meetings of the Congregational Church, of which the Whitelaws were members. Kidder Cemetery was established on a high spot of ground west of town, and the Whitelaws bought a family burial plot there. During the years John Whitelaw lived there, Kidder grew to a population of about 350 in 1900. However, by 1910 the population had declined to about 300, a trend that continued in ensuing decades. Kidder did not live up to its earlier promise of becoming a large city and commercial center, a factor which may have contributed to the decision of the next generation of Whitelaws to seek their fortunes elsewhere.



Ladies of Kidder, c. 1910. Hats by Maggie?

In spite of its later decline, during the years when John and Mary Whitelaw were raising their family, Kidder must have been, like many other small towns in America in the nineteenth century, a very good environment for raising a family and participating in work and community life.

Left: Ladies of Kidder. Maggie, John Whitelaw's daughter, who had a millinery shop, may have made the hats.



Kidder, MO 1878, photo taken from the top of Kidder Institute

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY: 1866-1900

[Included below is a selection of photos of the Whitelaw family from about 1866 to 1900, during the years that the Whitelaw's eight children were growing up. The NARRATOR, who provided the text, is my father, John Moreland Whitelaw (1911-1974) who heard these anecdotes from his father (John Whitelaw, Jr., 1870-1961), whose father was John Whitelaw (1835-1913, our Scottish immigrant ancestor.)]

Both **John and Mary Whitelaw**, that is my grandparents, immigrated from Scotland to Wisconsin originally. I don't believe they knew each other. I know that they came at



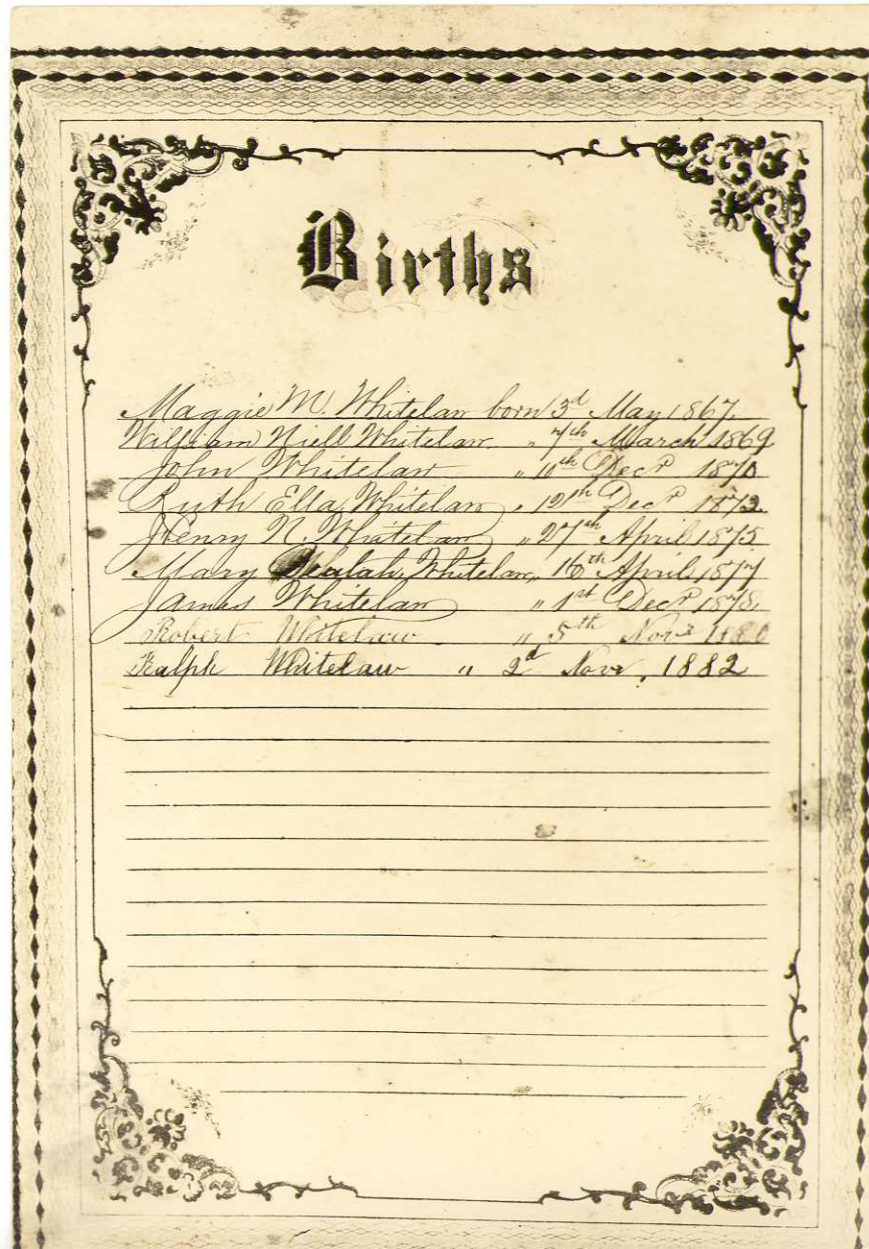
John Whitelaw and Mary Neill Wedding Picture

separate times. John came from around Glasgow but I seem to remember that Mary came from farther north, either in the highlands or right next to the highlands of Scotland. I am sure that they both had relatives in Wisconsin. I don't know exactly how they met. But my impression is that they were married in Wisconsin and not long after that, John took on this hardware and implement store in Kidder, Missouri, and moved the family there, of course. I think all the children were actually born in Kidder. John was a very good carpenter, too, in addition to being a business man. I'm sure he worked a good deal in

Wisconsin as a carpenter. He had served an apprenticeship in Scotland. Of course, both he and Mary were very, very hard workers.

BIRTH REGISTRY FROM THE WHITELAW FAMILY BIBLE

Maggie M. Whitelaw	May 3, 1867
William Neill Whitelaw	March 7, 1869
John Whitelaw, Jr.	Dec. 10, 1870
Ruth Ella Whitelaw	Dec. 12, 1872
Henry Neill Whitelaw	April 27, 1875
Mary Beulah Whitelaw	April 16, 1877
James Whitelaw	Dec. 1, 1878
Robert Whitelaw	Nov. 5, 1880 (died in infancy)
Ralph Whitelaw	Nov. 2, 1882



Maggie, John, Henry, Mary, Ruth, Will. Seated John & Mary Whitelaw



[Above: John and Mary Whitelaw with children, from left – Maggie, John, Henry, Mary, Ruth, Will -about 1878]

First was **Maggie**, who was born about 1866. She spent her entire life living with her parents, helped look after her mother in her old age. After Maggie, then came **Will**. He was born about 1868. He was always looked upon as the most scholarly one in the family and I guess he was very bright. After he graduated from Kidder Institute, the family sent him to Yale University.

Next was **John**. He was born in 1870 and educationally, he had a checkered career. He got through grade school with no difficulty and he went to Kidder Institute, but I don't know just how much he went there. But he also enrolled for a period of time as a special student at Drury College. . . . He took mathematics and mechanical drawing. He began helping at the hardware and implement store at a fairly early age, but he also used to do a lot of farm work with various farmers round that area, particularly at harvest time. I'm not sure but what his father didn't have some patches of land around that the boys helped farm.



Maggie, Mary & Ruth Whitelaw, c. 1890, Kidder, MO

James was probably the most polished one in the family. James didn't make an extended career out of education like Will and Henry had. I don't know how far he went, I think probably through Kidder Institute. James helped for some time in the hardware and implement store. He and John were the two boys who worked there the most [*The Whitelaw boys in baseball uniforms. From left to right: John, Will, James, Henry.*]

Ruth graduated from Kidder Institute and she was a teacher also. She taught for a time in Wisconsin. How I don't quite know, I suppose because the many relatives that John and Mary Whitelaw had in Wisconsin that there was always letters back and forth and that may have been the way. While she was up there teaching in this school she married **Owen**, who was a widower with one child.

Henry was ambitious educationally. I think after Kidder Institute he went to Warrensburg College in Warrensburg, Missouri, and graduated there. Just when he got a strong motivation to be a doctor, I don't know. But the family helped him some and he went on to Rush Medical College, affiliated with the University of Chicago, got his medical degree there.





Ruth and Mary Whitelaw, Kidder, MO c. 1890

After James, came **Mary**. She married **Theo**. I think Mary taught school a year. She had some ability in music, she played the piano quite well. They lived on a small farm outside of Cameron, Missouri. Cameron is a little town about 10 miles from Kidder. But Theo died in an epidemic of influenza that hit this country right after World War I and left Mary with six children. How Mary got by and how all those children got reared (I think all of them, one way or another, graduated from college), I'll just never know, actually.

Well, after Mary, there would come **Robert**, but he died when he was 9 months old. Obviously there is not much to tell about him.

Finally, **Ralph**, the youngest. I don't think he ever did much with his education or got too much of it. I expect he graduated from grade school and probably went to Kidder Institute for awhile. He was kind of the black sheep of the family. I think there was some feeling that at least his mother, if not his father, kind of spoiled him and that he didn't have to face up to the sterner discipline that the other children had because he was the youngest.



Ralph & James 1880s



Will, Henry, James, John, Ralph Whitelaw c.1890 Kidder, MO

Family Anecdotes

[Recounted by John Moreland Whitelaw, grandson of John Whitelaw.]

I thought that I might just make a few comments about some of the things that happened in my dad's family. I always thought amusing incidents that used to be told were descriptive and illustrative of the ethics that the family had.

It seems that **Grandpa Whitelaw** had **Uncle James** out in the garden, Grandpa Whitelaw always had a big garden, and he was instructing Uncle James about how to hoe and take care of the radishes and lettuce, the onions or whatnot in the garden. He was saying to Uncle James, "Now you see, the aim, James, is to hoe the ground all around the plants, not disturb the

roots, but to hoe the ground very thoroughly, be sure that the ground is thoroughly hoed, big clods are broken up, that you have given the plants every opportunity to have a real good nourishment from the ground, from the moisture that it has. Now, do you understand that James, that that is the aim of your work here?" "No," says Uncle James. "I think the aim is to get done." This always appealed to me. Uncle James, at least, had a sense of humor.

My dad felt that **Uncle Will**, who was the oldest brother, always had the whip hand over him and one of the episodes that illustrates this is, when they were about, I suppose Uncle Will was 16, 17, my dad was 14, 15, they got a job to saw up the wood for the school during Christmas vacation, the wood that would be needed to burn the rest of the year. They were using a cross-cut saw, one guy on one end and one on the other end, you just pull it back and forth. My dad, of course, was the younger and the smaller, but he had to hold up his end when you pull a cross-cut saw. So they worked like the dickens cross-cutting up this cord wood for burning up in the stove. When they finally got it done, Uncle Will, of course, being the older, was the one that went to the school board to get the pay, and he got the money (of course they didn't get very much way back then, this is probably about 1885 or 1884). What Uncle Will did, who was this sort of scholarly guy, he went and bought the best edition that he could find of the *Arabian Nights*, and it took all the money to buy it. My dad didn't get any money at all out of the hard work, he got sort of an indication from Uncle Will that after Uncle Will was finished reading the *Arabian Nights*, well he could read it if he wanted to. But he always felt like he had been

shafted on that work project. He didn't have any say in the decision and all they got out of it was the *Arabian Nights*. We always laughed about that.



Then there was the episode with **Uncle Henry** drinking the adifidity [?] It seems like there was an old custom way back then that in the spring of the year, it was a good idea to purge yourself of accumulated wastes and so forth that you had gotten over the winter and this adifidity was a liquid that was just horrible tasting stuff that somehow was supposed to purge you of all the evils that you had accumulated through the winter. At Grandma and Grandpa Whitelaw's, along in the spring, they would pass the adifidity jar, a big quart or half gallon Mason fruit jar, round the table and everybody was supposed to take a spoonful or two at each meal before he ate. Well, Uncle Henry, impatient, on one occasion when this thing was being passed around, just lifted up the jar and drank everything that was left in it. It was almost full at the time he did this. Well, this horrified **Grandma**, she was afraid that he was going to be sick or what was going to happen to Henry, it shook everybody up. It has always been a great family story about the time Uncle Henry just up and drank everything that was left in the adifidity jar. Nothing ever happened, he was just as good as ever afterwards. As I recall, they didn't have any more adifidity that spring. It had shaken Grandma, she wasn't about to risk anybody else, probably just thanking the Lord that Uncle Henry had come though without any fatal effects.

There is one other episode in rearing the Whitelaw children that always struck me as very funny. Because **Grandma** was such a loveable, conscientious and really efficient and effective person, capable in all ways. Really, she was quite a person. But they used to tell this one and it embarrassed her and made her apologetic to her death, really. Way back, the whole family was asleep, all the children, Grandma and Grandpa in their bedroom, they were on the ground floor. Well, she heard this disturbance out by the front door, the front porch. She got up and went out there and began hearing this, "Mother, Mother, Mama, Mama." She recognized the voice and opened the door and there was **Uncle James** who apparently had gone to sleep out in the barn or some place. Of course, what was so embarrassing to Grandma was that she couldn't believe that she had put all the children to bed and got the family tucked in for the night and had missed one of her children. All she had to do everyday, I suspect that Uncle James was always a little bit active, but it is kind of surprising that she missed him. She was just so embarrassed whenever this story was told that I just thought I would include it in the record here because it just shows what a loving mother can overlook when she is so burdened as poor Grandma Whitelaw was.

**THE WHITELAW FAMILY HOME, KIDDER, MISSOURI
BUILT BY JOHN WHITELAW, 1870**



Top: Mary, Maggie, Henry, Ralph, Bottom: John, James, John, Aunt Janet, Mary, Will, Ruth, Kidder, MO.

This beautiful house is a testament to John Whitelaw's skills as a carpenter and builder. The Whitelaws raised all their children in this home, and lived there the rest of their lives. Their welcomed grandchildren and children home for family reunions. This picture, taken about 1900, shows the children in young adulthood, just as most of them were preparing to leave Kidder and establish their lives elsewhere. For me, and I think for other descendents, this picture is emblematic of a particular time and place in our family's history. At the time this document is being written (2006), the house still stands, and much of John Whitelaw's carpentry work, particularly the stairs and the wainscoting, is still visible. It is currently owned by Sue Cashatt, a life long resident of the Kidder area.

John Moreland Whitelaw, (1911-1974), grandson of John Whitelaw, remembered the Whitelaw family home as "that big house that Grandpa had built, at least it always seemed like a big house to me when I was a little boy, several bedrooms upstairs and one or two downstairs, a parlor that was not often used, a big sitting room, a big dining room, a big kitchen, outdoor plumbing except for an inside pump."

JOHN WHITELAW'S PARENTS AND SISTERS: 1867 - 1888



William & Margaret Whitelaw (?)

John Whitelaw's father and step-mother, William and Margaret Whitelaw, who emigrated with him from Scotland, moved to the Kidder area from Wisconsin in 1867, a year after John and Mary. They brought with them two daughters, Margaret, aged about 22, and Ellen. The family lived on a farm in neighboring Daviess County, where John visited them often and helped with the farm. In their last years, they moved into a wing of John Whitelaw's home, built especially for their use.



Isaac & Margaret (Maggie) Whitelaw Dierdorff

John remained in close contact with his half-sisters all his life. His children knew them as "Aunt Maggie and "Aunt Ella". They both married and lived in Hamilton, a town near Kidder. See the Appendix for the obituary of John's sister, Margaret Whitelaw Dierdorff.

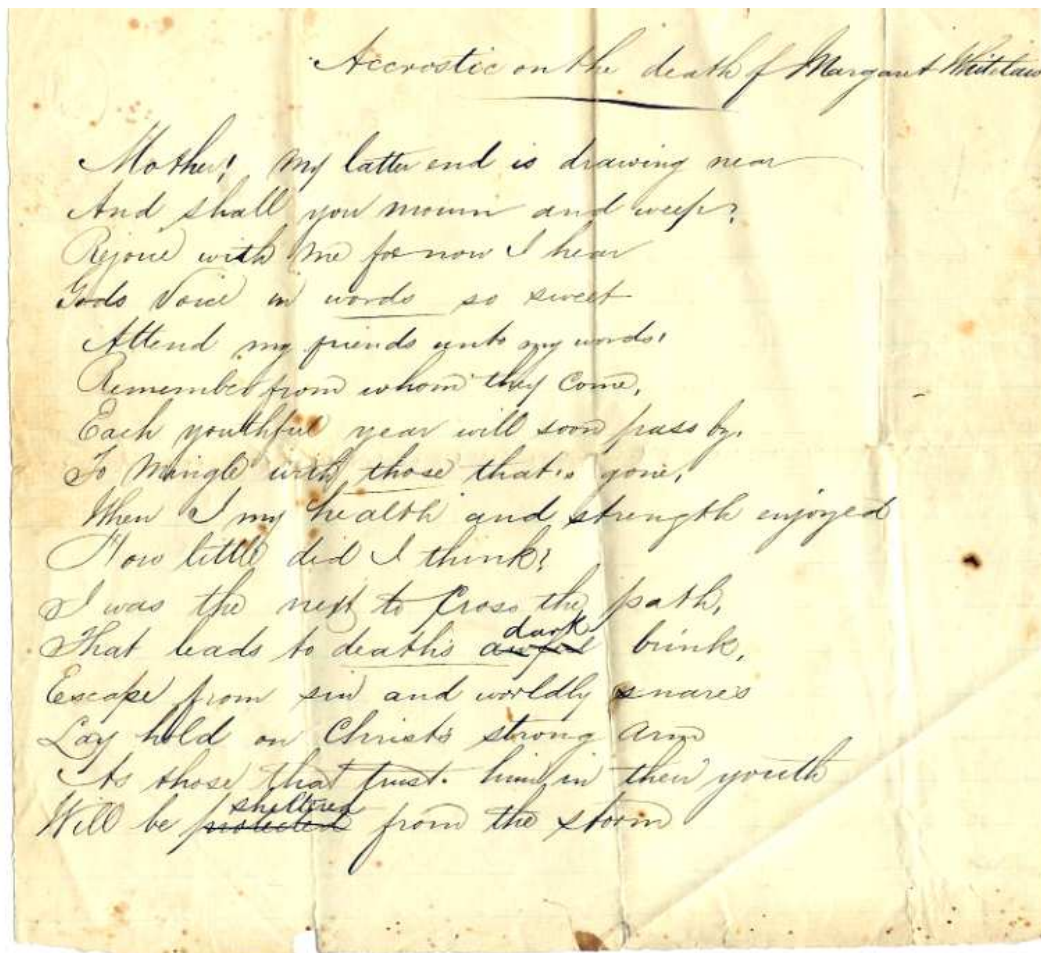
John had three full siblings through his father's first marriage to Jean Wilson. His older sister, Janet, visited occasionally and appears in the photograph of the Whitelaw family on the porches of the family home (p. 32). I believe she died in California. His sister

Jean Semple lived in Pendleton, Oregon. He also had a brother, James, who continued the family trade as a weaver. He lived with his large family in Worcester, Mass.

John's father, William, died in 1887 and his step-mother, Margaret, in the following year. They are buried in the family burial plot in Kidder Cemetery. At some time after his step-mother's death, John wrote an "acrostic" on her name, which was found in the Williams family papers. It is reproduced below.

Acrostic on the death of Margaret Whitelaw

Mother, my latter end is drawing near
And shall you mourn and weep;
Rejoice with me for now I hear
God's Voice in words so sweet.
Attend my friends unto my words,
Remember from whom they come,
Each youthful year will soon pass by,
To mingle with those that's gone.
When I my health and strength enjoyed
How little did I think,
I was the next to cross the path,
That leads to death's dark brink,
Escape from sin and worldly snares
Lay hold on Christ's strong arm
As those that trust him in their youth
Will be sheltered from the storm.



JOHN WHITELAW'S WORK DAYS: 1873-1874

During his first years in Kidder, John Whitelaw worked as a carpenter, repairman, and as a general worker in the building trades, including building coffins for children and adults. The jobs ranged from building an entire house, which could take several months, to repairing picture frames or door handles in part of an afternoon. He also sold washing machines. In November, 1873, he bought the territory of Caldwell County from the washing machine company, and thereafter the diary reflects his activities in demonstrating, selling, installing, and repairing washing machines, collecting accounts, and in expanding his territory. He also sold cord wood and farm products with his father and wife. In 1875, he consolidated these activities into a hardware store and lumber yard, which he ran for 35 years in downtown Kidder, until the business was finally sold in 1909.

In the Williams Family Archive is a diary kept by John Whitelaw for the period from February 1873 through June 1874. I don't know if there were originally other diaries, or why this one survived and the others did not. Perhaps Ruth kept this particular diary as a memento, since it covers the years of her infancy.

The first page of the diary reads: John Whitelaw, Kidder, Mo 1873. The entries cover what he did each day, including both work activities and chores at home, and certain civic responsibilities such as going to church and acting as a trustee for the public school. They do not usually contain family information or purely social activities. The entries account for every hour of the day, showing productive activity for about 10 hours a day, six days a week. The daily entries also include any expenditures made, for either home or business, and money paid to him for work done. Note: Stephen Coult is frequently mentioned; he was also an expert carpenter and was an employee of John Whitelaw for many years until they both retired. The two families were good friends. Note further: when John says he went to "meeting" he means church.

I have photocopied four pages of the diary, which show John Whitelaw's handwriting and entry style. Following that is my transcription of a selection of diary entries. I hope this selection gives a sense of the rhythm of the weeks and the seasons, as well as specific detail of his life. The portrait that emerges from these entries, overall, is that of a man who was meticulous, conscientious, hard-working, competent, and enterprising.

April
 Tuesday 1st
 John Whitelaw
 Kidder Co. Rapp Gates 3^{ho}
 Sundries 7^{ho}

Wednesday 2nd
 John Whitelaw & John Shaw
 Kidder Co. Laying Sides Walk 1st ea

Thursday 3rd
 John Whitelaw & John Shaw
 Kidder Co. Laying Sides Walk
 Whitelaw 1st Shaw 1st

Friday 4th
 John Whitelaw & John Shaw
 School dist. Laying Sides Walk 1st ea
 Working in my garden 1st

Saturday 5th
 John Whitelaw & John Shaw
 John Shaw at my fence 1st
 John Shaw at my fence 1st

Monday 7th
 Helping at Wash 1st dy
 Chas. Wyman filing Sars 3^{ho}
 Sundries 2^{ho}

Tuesday 8th
 Working on barn 1st dy
 Storming, blowing & snowing
 paid J. H. Kemmer for Sides 1 50
 J. Beaumont for Salt
 flour 2 65

Wednesday 9th
 Working on Sides Walk 1st dy
 John Shaw at 1st
 Working on barn 1st dy
 Thursday 10th
 Working on Sides Walk 1st dy
 John Shaw do 1st dy
 Rained afternoon

Friday 11th
 Working on Sides Walk 1st dy
 John Shaw at 1st

Thursday 23rd Sept 1873
 Mr Bacon at Coffin 3^{ho}
 Working on my house 2^{ho}
 Mr Rice at house 3^{ho}

Friday 24th
 Mr Rice at house 1st dy
 Saturday 25th
 Major Colby Rapp Black Boards 3^{ho}
 Mr Kenfrew Rapp Water Conductor 2^{ho}
 Working on house 5^{ho}

Sunday 28th
 Went to meeting Dr Cochran preaching

Monday 29th
 Plastering house 7^{dy}

Tuesday 30th
 M Shaw at house putting
 up ceiling 1st

Wednesday 1st Oct 1873
 Attending Kidder Association
 Meeting in College

Thursday 2nd
 M Shaw Working on house 1st dy

Friday 3rd Oct
 M Shaw Working on house 1st dy

Saturday 4th Oct
 S. K. Wright at house 1st dy

Sunday 5th Oct
 Went to meeting Mr Pasenrand
 Preaching.

Monday 6th
 S. K. Wright at house 1st dy
 meeting of school board held
 this evening

Tuesday 7th
 S. K. Wright at house 1st dy

Selected Diary Entries 1873

O.H. Smith Acct.	802.40
By cash	\$440.00
	75.00
	515.00
	\$287.40

Feby 7th 1873

Rec. from Mrs. Smith to account	10.00
Rec. from Father 10 Bushell	
Oats @ 15	
1 dressed Hog	
Molasses	

Expenses on Sleigh Shaft	.70
Matting	1.50
Paid to Willis	1.30
Rec. P.S. Kemp Coffee Sugar	1.50
Rec. H. Darby 3 spoons	.35

Feby 8th

Went to Meeting. Bro. Mason preaching
Willie went home this afternoon.

10th

Helping in House

Feby 11

Went to Cameron to see M. Walker	
5 yds waterproof @ 1.20	6.00
Dress goods	4.52
Drab	.85
Red dressed goods	1.30
2 yds. Table cloth	1
4 ½ black check	1.75

Feby 14th

Went to Mr. [illegible]'s funeral
Plastering in holes in afternoon
Pd. For soap

.20

Wednesday 18th

Mr. Wylie Acc't	5.38
Raising Barn all day	

Thursday 19th

Went to see [illegible] and others
about accounts, and called at fathers.
Very cold winds.

Reed from Mr. Smith, on Act	\$50.00
-----------------------------	---------

Fri. March 14

Worked on Barn	3 hrs.
Worked in Coult's cellar	7 hrs.

St. 15th

Worked in Coult's Cellar all day

Sun. 16

Wife went to Meeting

Mon. 17

Helping about the Wash & doing chores about the barn	1 day
---------------------------------------------------------	-------

Tues. 18

Working around barn	1 day
---------------------	-------

Wednes. 19

Mr. Coult assisting on cellar	¾ day
Working on barn	¼ day

Thur. 20th

Mr. Coult at cellar	1 day
---------------------	-------

Friday 20th

Mr. Coult at Cellar	1 day
---------------------	-------

Sat. 21st

Mr. Coult at cellar	1 day
Mr. Elgin making estimates	

Sunday 22nd

My wife went to Meeting

Monday 23

Mr. Coult at cellar	1 day
---------------------	-------

Tuesday 24th

Fixing picture frames and doing sundries all day

Wednesday 25th

Washing	½ day
Mr. Harter Raising House	½ day

Thursday 26

Working in barn	1 day
-----------------	-------

Friday 27th march

Working on Barn	1 day
-----------------	-------

Sat. 28th

Working on Barn	¼ day
Mr. Coult at House raising	¾ day

Pd. P.S. Tierney for goods	4.00
----------------------------	------

Sunday 27th

Went to Meeting

R. Lombard
Pautucket R.I
Box 956

Monday 30th

John Whitelaw & E. Austin Kidder Co. laying Side walks	7 hrs. ea
-----------------------------------------------------------	-----------

April Tuesday 1st
 John Whitelaw
 Kidder Co. Repairing gates 3 hrs.
 Sundries 7 hrs.

Wednesday 2nd
 John Whitelaw & John Shaw
 Kidder Co. Laying Side Walks 1 day ea.

.....

Tuesday 8th
 Working on barn 1 day
 Storming, blowing and snowing
 Paid P.S. Kenney for shoes 1.50
 Paid J. Beaumont for salt & flour 2.65

.....

Friday 24th
 Plastering Mr. Coult's house. 3 hrs.
 H. Carr making coffin for child 3.50 5 ½ hrs
 Working in garden 1 ½ hrs
 Pd for coffin screws .26
 Pd for Muslin for Coffin .20
 Rec from C.T. Wyman for filing saws .50
 Rec. from E. Chubluck 35.00
 Paid S.C. Coult 20.00

Saturday 25th
 Mr. Temple Bulding fence 1 day

Monday 28th April
 Working at Sundries and in garden and
 putting out trees in College campus.

Tuesday 29th
 Pruning Trees all day.

Wednesday 30th
 Storming & raining about all day – did not do much.

.....

Monday May 12th
 Washing in the morning
 Coult, went to Cameron for furniture ½ day
 Paid for goods at Cameron 4.60
 Consisting of
 Cloth for baby carriage .55
 Moulding .96
 Backing for Picture frames .48
 2 foot scrapers .60
 4.60

Tuesday 13th May
 Clerking at Township election about 1 day

.....

Sunday June 8th
 Went to Meeting Mr. Huson preaching, rained
 afternoon.

Monday 9th
 Assisting at Washing
 At sundries 1 day
 Pd. For groceries .70 cts
 Prd for postage stamps .15 cts.

Tuesday 10th June
 Went out to father's visiting and
 taking care of my apple trees. 1 day

Wednesday 11th
 Attending to my apple trees at the farm.

Thursday 12th
 Working in Garden
 Planting Potatoes and going to Miss Temple's
 marriage

.....

Tuesday 15th
 Attending to my sick cow
 Went out to fathers

Wednesday 16th
 Cutting oats for Isaac, 1 day

Thursday 17th
 Cutting Oats for father ½ day
 Came home from fathers on account of grain not being
 ripe.

.....

Friday Sept. 19th
 Mr. Whitelaw S.K. Wright at House 3 hrs.
 Running off lime 2 hrs.
 Working in garden 2 hrs.
 Dr. Cochran at rep'g windows and
 putting up picture nails 2 hrs.
 Thayer College rep'g doors 1 hrs.
 Coult Thrashing at Mr. Allens

Saturday 20th
 Whitelaw Cutting Corn Mr. Allens 5 hrs.
 Thayer College at doors 3 hrs.
 Attending Stock Meeting 2 hrs.
 Thayer College at door
 handle for west door .50
 1 slip bolt .50
 1 Spindle for door handle .70
 2 doz screws @ ½ in .30
 1 doz. Small screws .10
 Dr. Cochran 8 window springs .30
 ½ doz. Small screws .05
 3 lb. nails .20

.....

Friday 7th Nov.
Mr. Gilmore Rep'g house 1 day

Saturday 8th
Kidder School jacking up side of school house,
building up [illegible] under house
and rep'g fence. 6 hrs.
Rock 25 c Nails 10 c = 35 cts
Kidder Co. putting blind hinge on blind 15c
½ set blind hangings 25c

.....

Monday Nov. 17th
Rep'g Father's saw and washing with his washer
Paid Brice for the territory of
Caldwell Co. for the sale of
washing Machines \$65.00
Pd for one Washing machine 2.25

Tuesday 18th
Dr. Graham Filing Saw .25 ct
Washing at Mr. Briggs & doing sundries
Pd. Out for Horse & Waggon expenses
Beaumont's paint to repair wagon 3.50
Mrs. Wright harness 2.15
whip .65
Fitzpatrick repair wagon .75
6.65

Wood Accountt
Mr. Craig 1 ½ cord
Mr. Herd 1 ½
Mr. Weiss ½
Mr. Burnett 1
Fitzpatrick 1
Mr. Wymlin 1 ½
7
Mr. Sandills 1 ¾
3
11 ¾

With Mrs. Mary Whitelaw
By Amount of Churning Butter
Eggs as per paper ac't 3
By Cash 6
By 3 doz. Eggs .20
By 3 doz. Eggs .20
By 3 doz. Eggs .20
10.16

Wednesday 19th Nov.
Goods bought at Wilson 2.70
Washing at Mrs. Roberts .25
2.95
Putting up a machine for Mrs. Rogers .50

.....

Thursday Dec. 24th
Not working Christmas Day
Sold to Mr. Semple cranberries .35
" Mrs. Fitzpatrick " 1.00
" Father " .42
Pd to David Crall for
Dr. Norton's Sulky 17.00

Mr. Coult's acct at Mr. Wrights 11.37
Whitelaw's acct 8.56
Neils boots 85 cts
19.93

Friday 26th Dec. 1873
Reed from Mr. Shaw 29.55

Saturday 27th
Washing at home
Paid my taxes on house lot 19.12

.....

Tuesday Dec. 30th
Went to Fammalls with machine.
Traded with Mr. Smith for Mirable & Rockford
Townships for the Gem Washing Machine
to receive 1 cow & 2 hogs &
give him 2 Machines.

.....

1874
Thursday Jan. 8th
Went out to see Amos Farr & others about Building
house

Friday 9th Jany 1874
Left father this morning and went to the saw mill.
Saw some man who was going to build houses and
called at Mr. Ed Miller's and saw interest about the
washing machine.
Then called at Mr. [illegible] & reed from him 40.00
being balance of schoolhouse building as specified.

Saturday 10th
Attending court on Dr. Murphys suit against Smiths.
Kidder Co. working on the
chimney at the Hill house. 2 hrs.

.....

Diary Entries 1874

Wednesday 21st Jan. '74
Making washing machine box for my wife.
Very wet today.
.....

[Diary entries from 2nd March – April 10 concern
building a house for Mr. Baldwin]

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF KIDDER

When John and Mary Whitelaw moved to Kidder in 1866, they joined the newly formed Congregational Church, which at that time was holding services (called “meetings”) in the school building. The original members were practically all New Englanders, who brought the Congregational Church, the religion of the original Puritans and Pilgrims, with them to Missouri. It was claimed to be the second Congregational Church in Missouri, the first one being at St. Louis.



The Whitelaws may have joined this church simply because it was the only church in town when they arrived. However, even when other churches followed, the Whitelaws remained Congregationalists, so they may have had a particular attachment to this denomination.

The Scottish Congregational Church was formed in the late 1700s, as an alternative to the predominant Presbyterian Church of Scotland, which was becoming more doctrinaire and intolerant of dissent. During the mid nineteenth century, when John and Mary were growing up in Scotland, the Congregational Church movement grew. It became identified with ecumenism, education, mission, freedom of conscience and absence of any required creedal affirmation for membership, and equality of women and acceptance of women in the ministry. (The Story of the Congregational Union of Scotland, www.urc.org.uk/union/cus_story.htm) John Kirk, a leader of the Congregational Church movement, lived in the home region of the Whitelaws in Scotland, and was a family hero.

So the Whitelaws had a family tradition, brought from Scotland, of Congregationalism. Another factor in their affiliation with this church undoubtedly was the church's efforts to found a school for secondary and postsecondary education, which became Kidder Institute. This institution, so central to the educational, cultural, and civic life of the Whitelaw family, was an outgrowth of the Congregational Church.

The Congregational Church in Kidder constructed its building in 1882 at a cost of \$1700. Many years later, when the church building was sold, the new owner found the original invoice of \$338 for the purchase of the lumber and hardware. It showed that John Whitelaw's lumber business had handled the ordering and purchase of the white pine, moulding, and other materials to build the church.



Cong'l Church Sunday School: Maggie Whitelaw; Theo Shaw (check mark over head)

The Church flourished during the years that the Whitelaws were raising their large family. In 1886, it had a membership of sixty five families, with eighty persons in the large Sunday School, which C.L. Shaw, the head of Kidder Institute, superintended.

(Pictured, the Whitelaws's daughter Maggie, seated in the center, with the children in her Sunday School class. The boy with the check over his head is Theo. Shaw, who later married Maggie's sister Mary.)

The Roll Call of church members in 1910, reproduced below, was found in the Whitelaw family bible after John Whitelaw died in 1910. It shows eight Whitelaws enrolled in the church in that year: John and Mary Whitelaw, their unmarried daughter, Maggie, and their married daughter Mary and her husband Theo. Shaw, were regular attendees. James Whitelaw was by this time living in Spokane, Washington, but apparently retained his membership. John and Bertha Whitelaw, son and daughter-in-law, whose names are crossed out, moved during the year from Kidder to Kansas.

Roll call 1910

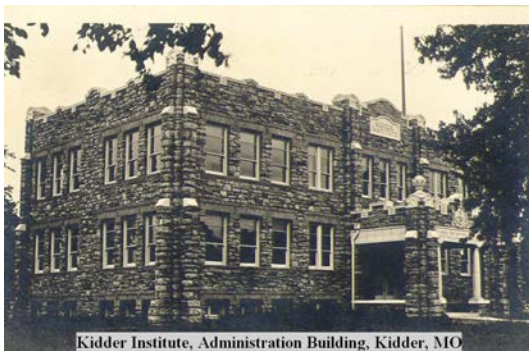
John Whitelan	+ 10	Theo. Shaw	
Mrs. "	+ 15	Mrs. "	
Maggie M. Whitelan	+ 11	Geo. H. Brown	
James Whitelan	Ref. 16	Mrs. "	
Mrs. Sarah Larabee	Ob. 12	S. Cole	
S. C. Coult	Ref. 17	Grace Cole	
Mrs. "	" 18	Mrs. Carrie C. Williams	
Geo. B. Coult	" 19	Leily Gysleman	Kg
G. L. Shaw	+ 20	Maud Ironhalt	
Mrs. "	+ 21	John Whitelan Jr	
John Shaw	Ref. 22	Mrs. "	
Mrs. Edith S. Wheeler	Ref. 23	Robert Clark	Ob.
Mrs. Clara Wilson	Ref. 24	Mrs. "	"
Mary Wilson Marlatt	Ref. 25	Howard Ruble	"
Mrs. S. J. Burbank	+ 26	Wigil Davis	"
Mrs. Emma Wzman	Ob. 27	Effie M. Carter	"
G. W. Shaw	+ 28	Corah Chubbuck	"
Mrs. "	+ 29	Verna Thomas	Ob.
Rene Shaw	Ref. 30	Mrs. Mary Windle	Ref.
Sterling Shaw	Ref. 31	Clara Windle	Ob.
F. D. Chubbuck	Ob. 32	Celia M. Rogers	"
Mrs. "	" 33	Easton Bray	"
Martha Chubbuck	" 34	Ruby Bray	"

KIDDER INSTITUTE



Thayer Hall, Kidder Institute, Kidder, MO

Kidder Institute was one of many such institutions built during the late 19th century; they were precursors of today's high schools and community colleges, and helped to persuade people of the importance of universal secondary education. Serving primarily a rural population, Kidder Institute accommodated both day and boarding students, and provided Chapel services through its Congregational affiliations.



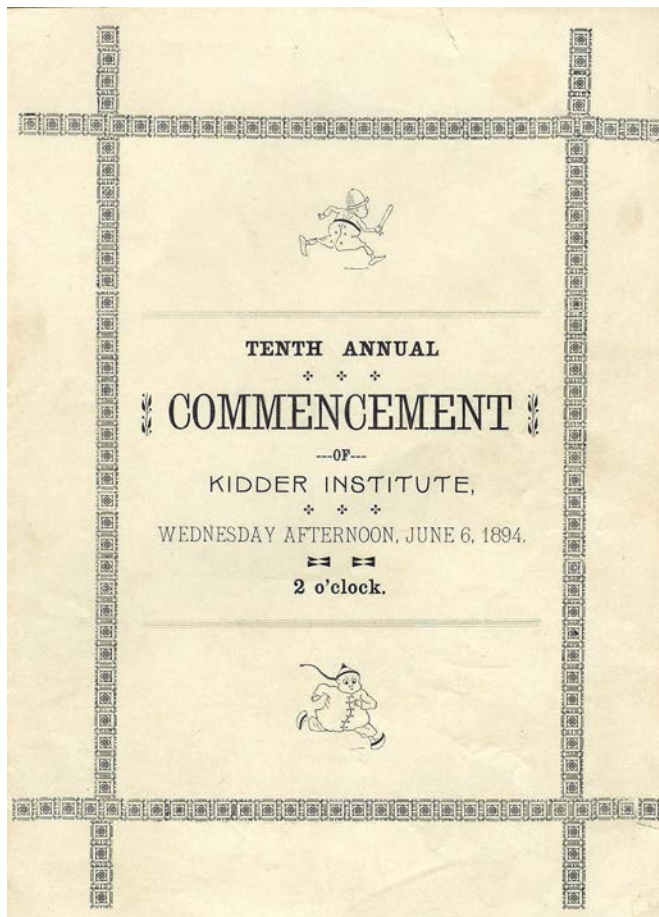
after graduating from Yale, and moved permanently to the State of Washington to pursue his career in education. John Whitelaw's grandson, John Moreland Whitelaw, recounted: "Uncle Will's great ambition had been, after he finished Yale, to get a position as a professor at Kidder Institute and all the family, his parents and all, seemed to be in strong support of this idea. I don't quite know why he thought that was such a plum but he did. But the president of Kidder Institute wouldn't hire Uncle Will. I think there had been some dispute between him and Grandfather Whitelaw and it wound up with a lot of bitterness between the two families. They were both very prominent families in Kidder.

The Whitelaw family were highly connected with Kidder Institute as financial and volunteer contributors, and students. Most of John and Mary Whitelaw's children attended the Institute, and the whole family attended cultural and educational events and graduation ceremonies as a regular part of town life. It was a major disappointment to the family when Will, the oldest son, failed to obtain a teaching position at Kidder Institute



Anyway, Uncle Will didn't get the job. My, I can still remember how bitter Aunt Maggie was over that, she would talk about it."

In spite of this disappointment, the Whitelaw family continued to support Kidder Institute. In 1927, the Principal of the Institute wrote a note to Ruth Whitelaw Williams, requesting a donation for the new chapel: "Dear Mrs. Williams, I am sending a copy of this letter to various members of your family with the hope you will take a pew for the 'Whitelaw Family.' I think you know that the beautiful new chapel is to be also the Kidder Congregational Church and it would like the prominent families like yours . . .to have a pew each. . . . :Your sister Miss Maggie is helping us with her endeavors and is doing her full share.. . ." Yours very sincerely, G.W. Shaw

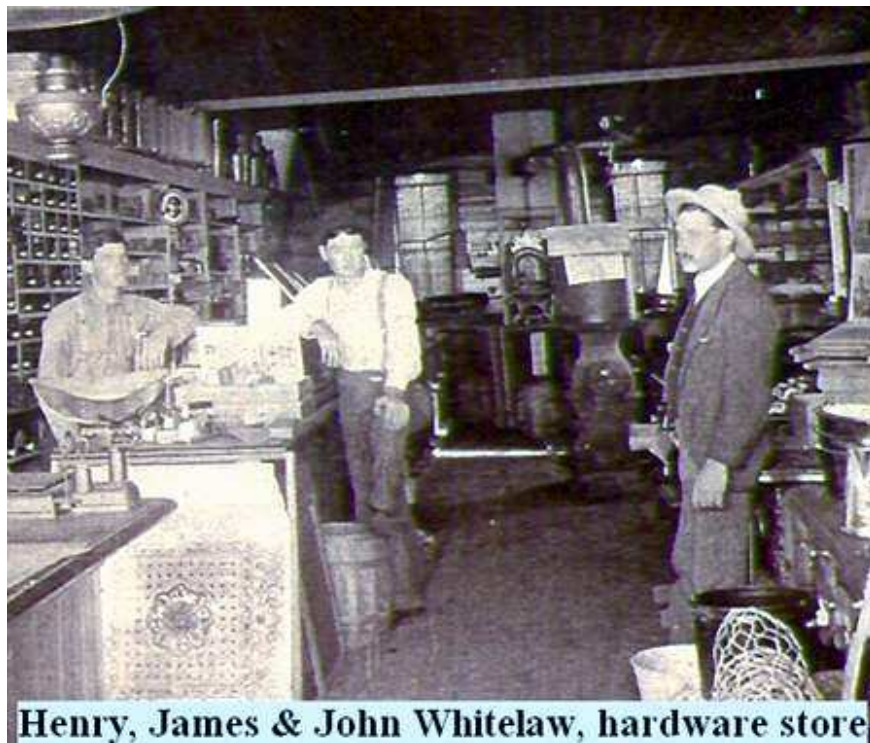


Program for 1894 Commencement at Kidder Institute. Ruth Whitelaw presented an essay, entitled "Life in a Missouri Village."

PROGRAMME.			
Anthem, <i>Praise the Lord.</i>	- - -	Gounod.	
Chorus Class A.			
Invocation.	- - -		
Oration, " <i>The True End of Education.</i> "	- - -		
Chas. S. Railsback.			
Piano Solo, <i>Cachoucha-Caprice.</i>	- - -	Raff.	
Miss Grace Gridley.			
Essay, " <i>The Evolution of Woman.</i> "	- - -		
Miss Ethel M. Moorehouse.			
Vocal Duet, <i>Fairies Revel.</i>	- - -	H. Smart.	
Misses Lizzie Biddle and Grace Hemry.			
Oration, " <i>The Value of Patriotism.</i> "	- - -		
Frank M. Stotler.			
Piano Duet, <i>Overture Egmont.</i>	- - -	Beethoven.	
Misses Lizzie Biddle and Blanche Morton.			
Essay, " <i>Life in a Missouri Village.</i> "	- - -		
Miss Ruth E. Whitelaw.			
Piano Solo, <i>Elfenreigen.</i>	- - -	Kroeger.	
Miss Mabel Hale.			
Oration, " <i>Quietude a Factor in Our Development.</i> "	- - -		
Ebbie Carter.			
Male Quartette, <i>Soldier's Farewell.</i>	- - -	Kinkel.	
Messrs. Shaw, Carter, Fast, Stotler.			
Presentation of Diplomas.	- - -		

THE HARDWARE AND LUMBER STORE: 1875-1909

The main occupation of John Whitelaw during his productive, adult years, was as the proprietor of a hardware and lumber store in Kidder, Missouri, which he owned for over thirty five years. The Whitelaws bought the land for the store in 1875 on the main street of Kidder. The store they built was 135 feet by 55 feet. It offered a complete stock of farm and hardware equipment and lumber to meet the needs of local farmers and craftsmen. The establishment also did carpentry and repair for buggies and other equipment.



Henry, James & John Whitelaw, hardware store

The store was a natural extension of John Whitelaw's occupational interests, and was probably the realization of plans made when he and Mary first decided to move to Kidder as young newly-weds in 1866. It became a family business. All the sons and Maggie, the oldest daughter, worked in the store during adolescence and Maggie (though the store was called "Whitelaw and Sons"), John and Ralph continued to work there in adulthood. John Whitelaw himself went to his office at the store every day until it was sold in 1909.

The business was prominent among Kidder commercial establishments, and John Whitelaw was a respected and trusted businessman, as the following excerpt from a local newspaper indicates.

JOHN WHITELOW

The lumber interest is probably more largely represented than any other branches of trade, the upbuilding of which is due solely to the above named gentleman. He has been engaged in the business here about fourteen years, and his trade has been acquired by always meeting the sharpest competition on straight grades. He never quotes one grade and furnishes another. He "hews to the line, let the chips fall where they may." He carries a stock of lumber from which he can meet the requirements of any builder, and he also deals in builders' hardware and agricultural implements. As an auxiliary to his business he has a wood working establishment, in charge of a competent mechanic, Mr. S. C. Coult, where he has ample facilities for making and repairing of wagons, buggies, etc., and wood-working of all kinds. The workmanship and material are guaranteed first-class, and prices as low as the lowest. Mr. Whitelaw stands ready to meet all competition." The Cameron Daily Vindicator, Cameron, Mo. March 22, 1886, "Kidder: Rise, Progress and Prospects of a Model Town." Reprinted in "125 years of Kidder, Missouri by Sue Cashatt.

This fall you will probably want:

A New Wagon
While the
Ebbert

In a new wagon is this society, get it alone for itself and still have inspection and is thoroughly guaranteed. We have

Lake City Wagons, \$55

Not the best wagon on earth, but a good, practical one for the money. We have a good, complete stock of

Boards, Drop Siding and Shingles

For your fall repairing and will gladly furnish you a quantity to suit your needs any time. Don't forget that we have a full line of the best makes of

Heaters

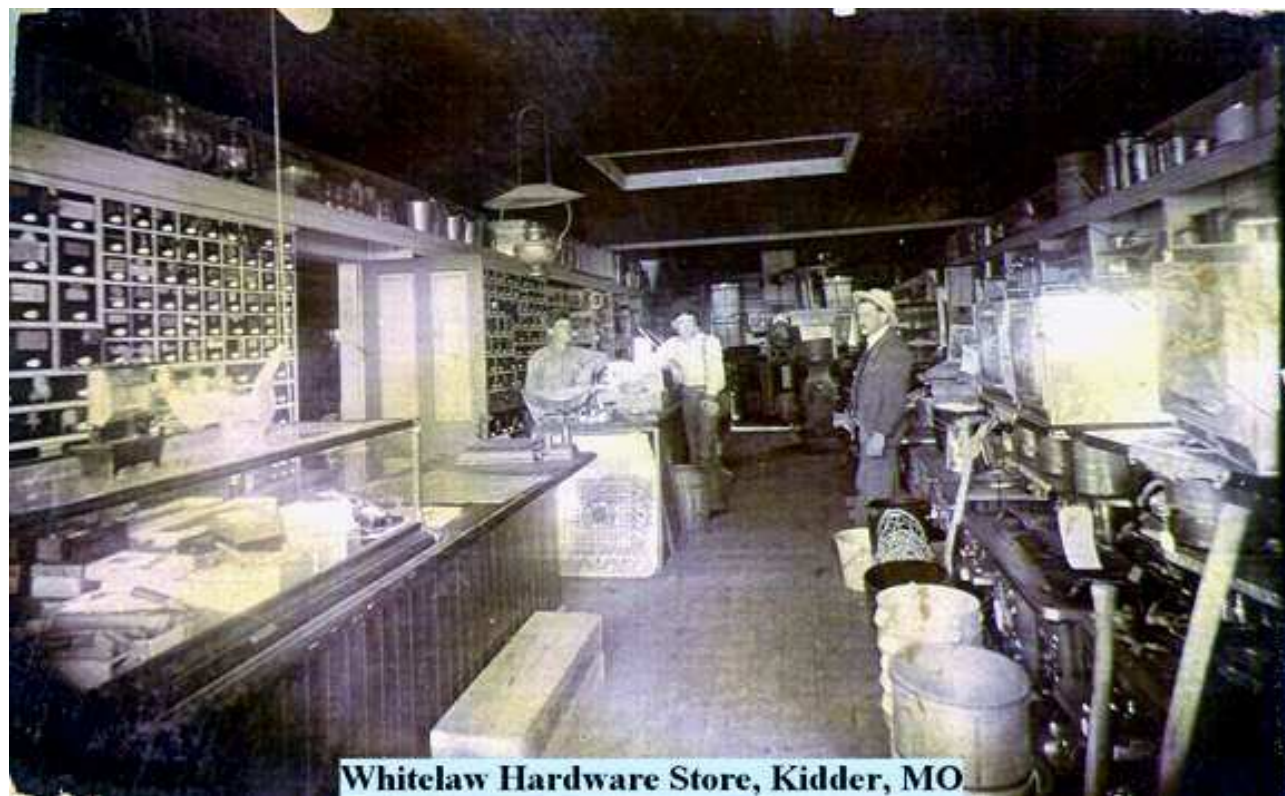
In all sizes. We want your business and feel that we are able to give you value for money.

Whitelaw & Sons

The business took frequent ads in the Kidder newspapers. A sampling is reproduced here..

We Have
CULTIVATORS
 Both Four and Six Shovel Riding and Walking
 Also Disk Cultivators in both Riding and Sled
 Come in if you are in need of one; we'll meet
 all competition on equal goods
 Also the Harvest Season will be on soon. Look
 out for your wants. We have
Binders, Mowers
Rakes
Loaders, Stackers
 Help is scarce and high. Machinery works if
 you only put it in motion. Our stock of
LUMBER AND BUILDING MATERIALS
 Is complete. Let us figure with you if you
 are going to build.
WHITELAW & SONS
 Kidder Independent Ad June 7, 1905

Kidder Independent Ad Dec. 18, 1903
IT MAKES US
FEEL BETTER
 Yes, much better, to advertise in the home
 paper, and, if you will do what we tell you
 there will be substantial reason for your
 feeling better because this "AD" appeared.
 We want to divide our prosperity with
 you, but cannot do so unless you will come
 to our place of business or, at least, let us
 know your wants. When that is done we
 will certainly give you a little more for
 your money than you can find in any other
 place. We meet all competition whatever
 the nature and name of the "special sale"
 they may have going on, and we also treat
 you fairly and liberally when you buy some-
 thing that is not in the "special list."
BUGGIES
 are a little out of season but
NEVER SO CHEAP.
WAGONS
 Are reported going up, our price is the
 lowest since 1895.
 Our **SOFT COAL HEATERS** are remarkably
 convenient, cheap, and attractive.
STEEL STOVES are a specialty with us.
 We have some nice holiday goods: Skates,
 Sleds, Pocket and Table Cutlery, Carving
 Sets, silver plated ware in a large variety
 of articles, and **FLINCH.**
Whitelaw and Sons
 Kidder, Missouri.



Whitelaw Hardware Store, Kidder, MO



Whitelaw lumber yard, Kidder, MO

THE LATER YEARS: 1900 – 1913



John Whitelaw, c. 1906, Kidder, MO

During the last thirteen years of his life, John Whitelaw maintained an active interest in his family, his business, and the town, even after retiring from the hardware store in 1909, when he sold the business

A major theme of these years was the departure of his adult children from Kidder, and the establishment of their families. During these last years of his life (1900-1913), important events in his children's lives were as follows:



Maggie, the oldest, was 33 years old in 1900. She lived at home and was unmarried. During these years, she owned and then sold a millinery shop in Kidder.



Will was 31 in 1900. He had graduated from Yale University and was teaching school in Everett, Washington, having failed to obtain a teaching position at Kidder Institute. He married and had a son, John Willis, born in 1908.



John Jr., age 30 in 1900, lived in Kidder and worked in the family hardware store. He married in 1904 and had three children by 1911. After the hardware store was sold in 1909, he moved to a farm in Lawrence, Kansas.



In 1900, Ruth was 28 years old and teaching school in Missouri. She moved to Wisconsin and taught there until her marriage in 1903. She had three daughters, all born by 1910, and a step-son.



Henry was 25 years old and attending Rush Medical College in Chicago in 1900. He graduated and established a medical practice in the State of Washington, where he married in 1910. He had one child born before his father's death in 1913.



Mary was 23 years old and, in 1900, had been married for one year to Theo. Shaw. They lived in Kidder initially, and later moved to a farm in nearby Cameron. Five of her six children were born by 1913.



James, age 22 in 1900, lived at home and worked in the family hardware store. During this period of time he moved to Washington, married, and worked in various commercial enterprises. His wife was pregnant at the time of his father's death.



Ralph was 18 years old in 1900, and living at home. During the following years, he worked as a farm laborer in Washington and other western states.

To summarize, during these later years of his life John Whitelaw saw the departure of all his children from Kidder except Maggie. To counteract this loss to some extent, before his death in 1913, he saw the family grow through marriage of his children and the arrival of grandchildren.

John Whitelaw maintained his interest in Kidder civic affairs all his life. The following document shows that he was one of the trustees of the Town of Kidder in 1887. This document and the next one were found in the booklet, 125 Years of Kidder, Missouri, by Sue Cashatt.

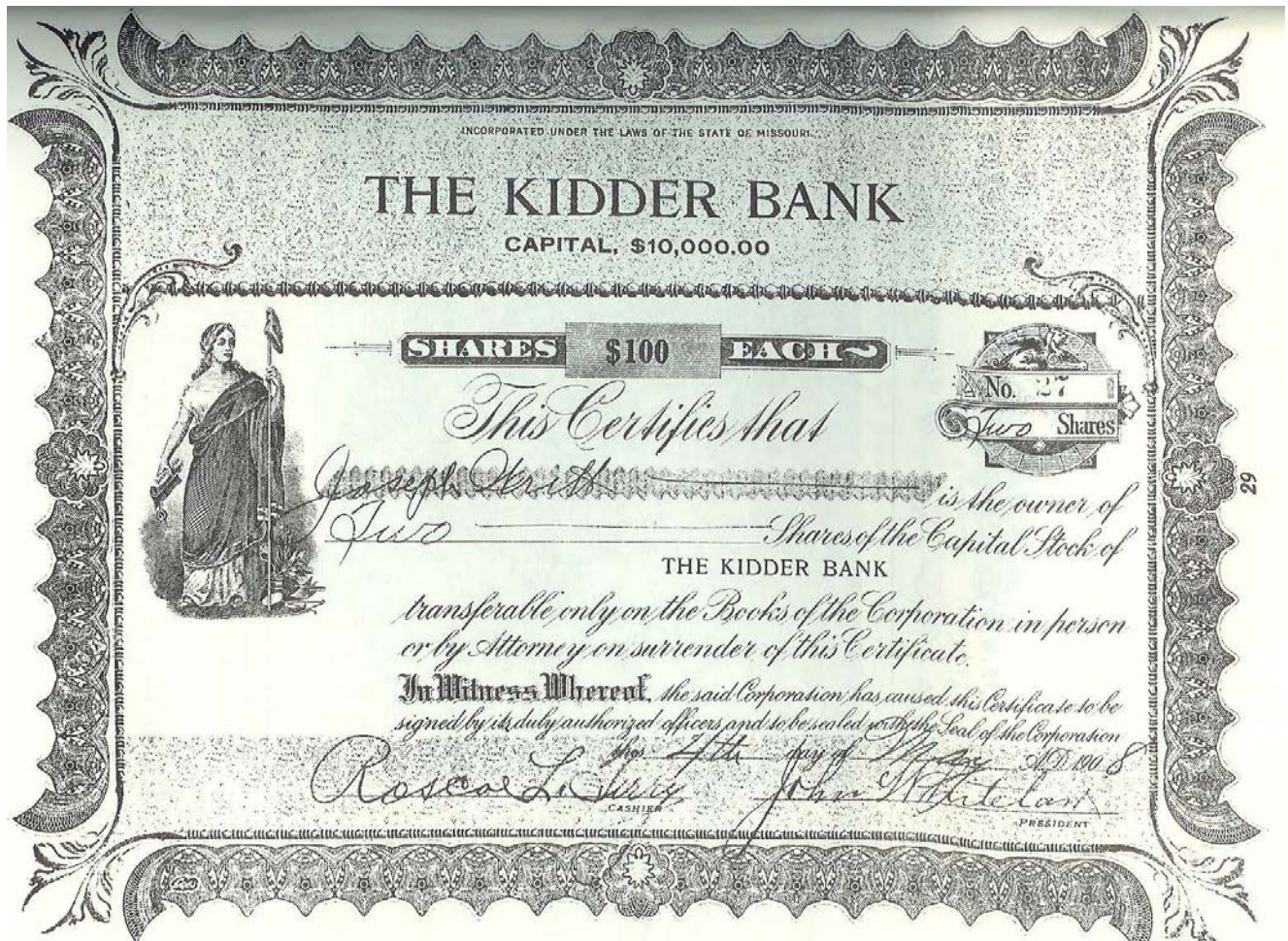
April - 13 - 1887

Record of the Minutes and
Proceedings of the Trustees of the
Town of Kidder

Application having been made by the
citizens of the town of Kidder, Caldwell Co.,
Mo. to the County Court for an order to
incorporate the inhabitants of said town.
The above application having been
granted the following five persons were
appointed as trustees for the term of one
year. -- John Whitelaw, M. B. Waite, Thos. J.
Thompson, James Wilson and M. J. Benson.
On the eve of the 13th of April the above
trustees met for the purpose of organization.
On motion M. B. Waite was chosen as Chairman
J. P. Burbank Marshal and Road Commissioner.
John Whitelaw Collector and Treasurer. C. H.
Chubbuck Clerk and Assessor.
On motion M. J. Benson, James Wilson
and John Whitelaw be a Committee to draw
up ordinances to be submitted to the Board
at the next meeting.
Voted - To adjourn until Monday night
18th inst. and meet at A. Metz's office at
7:30 o'clock.

John Whitelaw Clerk pro-tem.

Another notable activity during his retirement years was his work as President of the Kidder Bank, a prominent local business institution. His name is just barely legible in the lower right hand corner of the share reproduced below.

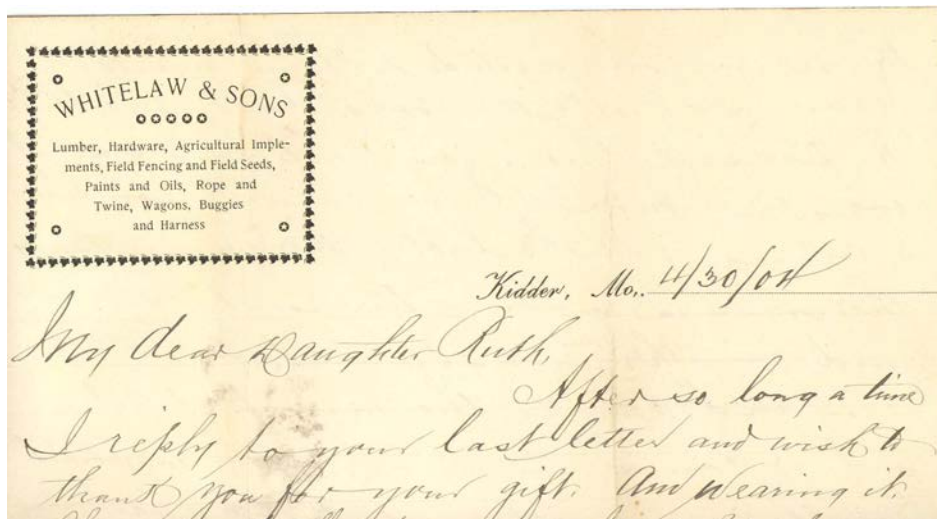


John and Mary, accompanied by their daughter, Maggie, made two extensive trips during these years, to visit their far-flung grown children and other relatives, who were scattered throughout the northern Midwest. These trips took them north to Wisconsin, and across Minnesota and the Dakotas to Washington. It was on the second of these trips, in 1913, that John died while visiting his sons in the Seattle area.

Letters of John Whitelaw to his daughter, Ruth Whitelaw Williams 1902-1913



John wrote regularly to his daughter, Ruth, who lived in Wisconsin, and probably to his other grown children as well. His letters to Ruth, which survive in the Williams family archive, are reproduced below. They present, in his own words, a picture of the life he led during the last years of his life.



12/2/1902

Kidder MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw

Dear Daughter Ruth, Because I have not written before this you must not think I have forgotten you. *[In 1902, Ruth was teaching in Cambria, Wisconsin]*

I think of you often and am always glad to hear thro' others in regard to your welfare. Am glad you are so comfortably situated and enjoying your work. I hope you will keep well and be successful in your work and so make your influence felt for good so that sunshine may radiate all around, dispelling the darkness and letting the sun shine in.

I enclose notice from the Church on the Roll Call, you must send some reply. The Church work goes on about as usual. We don't seem to grow much.

Of course you have heard of Uncle Willies death. The Sup't at the Hospital said there was no cure for his trouble, and he died reconciled.

A letter came in from William at Wash. yesterday. He seems to be well and doing fairly well. Henry is busy at his new work and am very solicitous that he will be a great success. *[The oldest son, Will, had moved to the state of Washington and was a teacher. Henry was in medical school in Chicago.]* With much love from father and mother J and Mary Neill Whitelaw



Henry Whitelaw



William (Will) Whitelaw

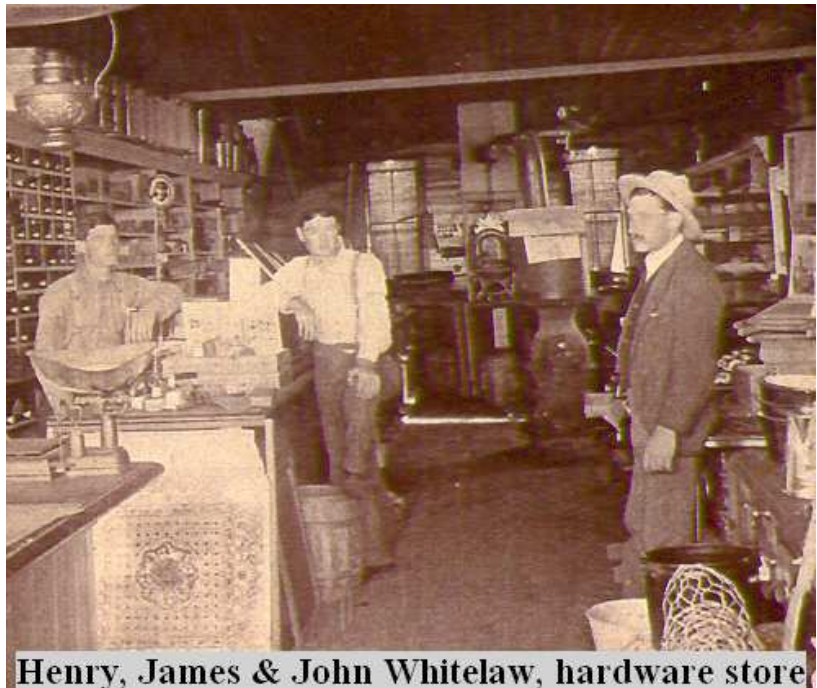
1/13/04

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My dr. Daughter Ruth, I suppose by this time there may have come a lull in your correspondence and that you may find time to read a few lines from your father. *Ruth had married Owen Williams and was permanently settled in Cambria, Wisconsin.* At least I will so take it for granted. I suppose the others have told you of all the local happenings – The incident of all others which made me pause and think, was notice of the death of your Aunt Jeannie in Pendleton, Ore. *[John Whitelaw's sister, Jean Whitelaw Semple]* She had a hard time of it and never would spare herself looking after the welfare of others, a warm, kind hearted woman as ever lived. She has gone to her



Henry, James & John Whitelaw, hardware store

reward. Am admonished day by day of my growing infirmities although am thankful am as well as I am. . . . Mother here is very well and is the main stay of the household – am glad she keeps as well as she is.

The boys are busy just now taking in and shipping out millet and clover seed. We are looking forward to a rather good business year. Mary and Theo as well as the children are well. [*Mary Whitelaw married Theo Shaw in 1899. Mabel was born in 1900; Ralph in 1903.*] Baby Ralph is growing and is little trouble.

We had the Murrell children [*children of John Whitelaw's sister Ellen Whitelaw Murrell*] all here at the Holidays – two at a time for two days each they seemed to enjoy it.



Mary Whitelaw Shaw



Chas. Theodore (Theo) Shaw, Kidder, MO

I expect you begin to realize the high and noble position of being Mistress of your own home – you will always find your position is worthy of your very best endeavor which am sure you will be more than willing to put into it as you tried to do in your teaching.

Hoping Mr. Williams and the little son Garvin [*Mr. Williams's son by his now deceased first wife*] are all well and enjoying with you their new relation and continue to secure to one another the best possible in this life as well as that to come. A few lines from you when you have time. I will close at this time. Am writing at the office, but am sure Mother would say she joins with me in much love for you all. Your Affte Father and Mother John and Mary Neill Whitelaw

4/30/04

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My Dear Daughter Ruth, After so long a time I reply to your last letter and wish to thank you for your gift. Am wearing it, charm and all – some time I might get your photo to put in it, but that will be something that may mature later. . . .

We have passed thro' a very backward spell of weather, but I think we will now have a change for the better. The sun is shining, the grass is growing and mother is having a time with the hens and chicks, the hens don't sit good and of course the chicken coop is short. Mother says she will try it again when the weather is settled.

Maggie is busy as usual and all are well as usual. School closed last week with the usual closing exercises which all declared good. Prof. Stinson does not return, he is going to farm this summer. Our teachers have not been elected yet.

Business is fairly good and if crops turn out well am looking for a busy year. Of course you know Pres. Roosevelt touches the button today that sets the machinery going at the fair. *[1904 World's Fair in St. Louis.]* You of course will let us know when you come. Am so glad you are well and happy in your new home. God bless you all and always be good and true, your affte father and mother John and Mary Neill Whitelaw

10/14/04

Kidder, Mo

From John Whitelaw

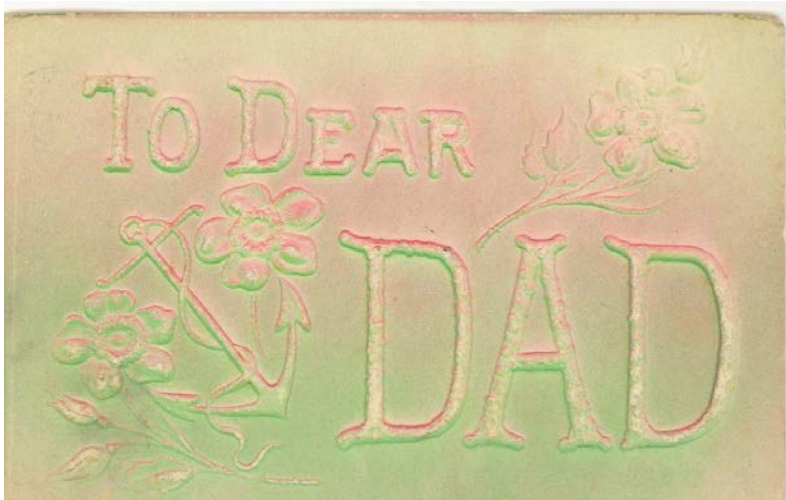
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My Dr. daughter Ruth,. . . I was so glad to learn you had all got home safe and sound. From what I see in the papers of so many RR wrecks especially at this time of year so much unusual travel and largely excursion, when people start off under pleasant good byes to meet with death and disaster before they return. Was so glad this was no part of your experience.

I have been wondering how you got along with the pecans. They have been so hard and remained so all the time and did not get nice and sweet, but mother has put up quite a few as well as Bertha, and there are still some on two of the trees yet. Mother says she is glad the fruit is over. Our tomatoes are very fine, never had them so nice – had no frost and there are still lots on the vines. . . .

I suppose you may have heard from Will and Henry since they returned to their fields of labor. Henry enjoyed his home visit every minute, he is not going to be so comfortable in his boarding arrangements, as he was at Chubbucks. Now he has to eat at restaurant. Will is quite enthusiastic about his new position. I hope he will be quite successful, he is

so thorough in his teaching. . . .Your affte father and mother



1/31/05

Kidder, Mo

From John Whitelaw

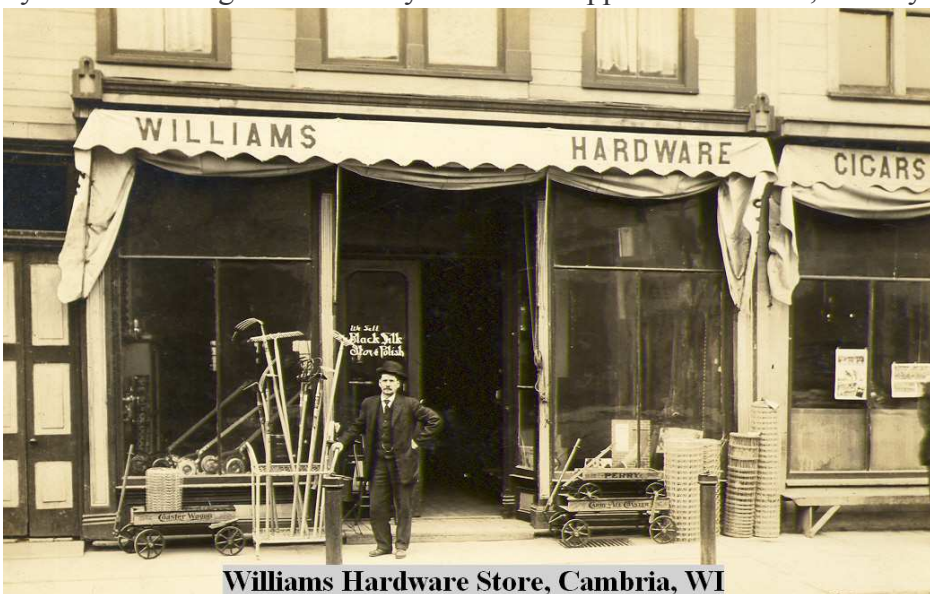
**To Ruth Whitelaw
Williams**

My Dear Daughter Ruth,
Your very acceptable letter came duly to hand with the accompanying package containing a very

necessary article of head wear, am sure I am very thankful to you for your generous remembrances of my often recurring birthdays which seem to come oftener than they used to but such are only the changed conditions with myself. I have heard it said that it was nice to grow gracefully old. I suppose that means that a person should be always satisfied with the providential conditions of our lives. I fully realize this and am trying to live accordingly and do what little good I can as I pass along.

Maggie and some others got up a surprise for me last evening, quite a number of friends came in and all said they had a very enjoyable time as they passed out to go home. Am sure it was a very pleasant occasion for me and one to be long remembered. A few little tokens of their love were left and so now I am supposed to be living on borrowed time. I shall certainly try to make my remaining days count for as much good as possible. *[In a letter to Ruth on Feb. 1, 1905, Maggie described the surprise birthday party for her father: "Monday eve., they were both completely surprised, and seem to have enjoyed it all right.. . . Maude [?] is very sick and Mother decided to go to see her that afternoon. She asked Mrs. Coult to go with her, and Mrs. C. knowing of the party said can't we make some more calls now, Mother said "yes, Maggie is home" so she stayed away from 3 o'clock until six. And I got the house straightened all I wanted to. Father said he surmised as soon as Mr. and Mrs. Coult came in as he remembered the table was so cleared up he could not find his paper. . . . Josie gave him a box of candy she had made. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw a celluloid paper knife and all left money for him to get the book he wanted. Mary made cake, Bertha sandwiches, we had coffee, sweet pickled pears, and sliced oranges. Mabel was delighted with her beads. Ralph shot and dressed two rabbits and brought to father. He is very fond of them. . . .]*

You certainly made me wish I was near enough to your little cottage to partake with you of that big pickerel fish – you seem to remember my weak point when you talk about a good fish – as there is nothing in the eating line I like so well, but you need not despair. Mother and I will certainly visit you sometime during the year and will be pleased to help you out with a good fish – if you should happen to have one, but anyhow fish or no fish



Williams Hardware Store, Cambria, WI

we are coming to see you. We are all so glad you are so happy in your home life. I often think of Garvin's visit and hope he will develop into a fine young man. Hope Owen is well and doing a good business. I had

a nice letter from Henry with many good wishes. The friends around are much about their usual, so will leave some of the others to tell you other news. With kindest regards to Mr. W., yourself, and Garvin, I remain your father John Whitelaw

7/22/05

Marshall, Minn.

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Son and Daughter: [In 1905, John Whitelaw, wife Mary and daughter Maggie traveled to Wisconsin and then to the State of Washington.] After leaving Portage we had a pleasant ride to Sparta and found Mrs. Whitelaw and her son Wendell [*relatives of John Whitelaw*] all right, had a stay there of six hours and took dinner with them. Sparta is a beautiful small city with some considerable business. Wendell is engaged driving a delivery wagon and seems to be well thought of by his employers. So altogether they seemed to be in a fairly good doing way, for which we were glad.



That same evening reached Red Wing at 8:30 found Uncle Dave [*Mary Neill Whitelaw's brother*] and family all well and remained with them the following day, and had a pleasant time, their objection was we did not stay longer but had to pass on, so got to Minneapolis Sat. a.m. 15th inst and

since. As the sun shone there was Mrs. Elizabeth Williams waiting to receive with out spread arms and took us to her home where we were made so perfectly at home that we were quite rested. Had a good dinner and much social conversation, after which we went to Minna Haha Falls and took in the sights. The city has made this resort into a beautiful resort. Have quite a number of wild animals there also, after taking in all the sights we made our way to Union Station and started for Ashland where we reached at 9:30 p.m. Cousin Jas [*relative of John Whitelaw*] met us and were soon at his nice home, has a fine wife and is very interesting – went to church the following day and heard a young man preach – so on Monday we took in the sights.

On Tuesday went to Madeline Island on boat had a nice sail and breathed the fresh air which was very refreshing. Had a grand time at dinner, as Jas knew some of the ministers who were on the island, so the Hotel arranged to have a number of us who were

familiar all sit around at same table, so we had a very enjoyable time, and in due time the boat returned to the pier and we were off for Ashland where we reached at about 6:30 p.m. feeling a little tired but well.

Wed. went fishing only caught one trout. Then started for Marshall and reached here at 2:30 a.m. a long tiresome ride. Hugh and Lizzie [*Hugh was a brother of Mary Neill Whitelaw*] met us and soon were in bed but are not all right, and are now getting quite well rested – expect to go into the country about Sunday. The friends here all well. Have not seen Will Neill yet. Don't think he will hurt anybody. . . . Affectly, Father & Mother



8/11/05

Spokane, Wash.

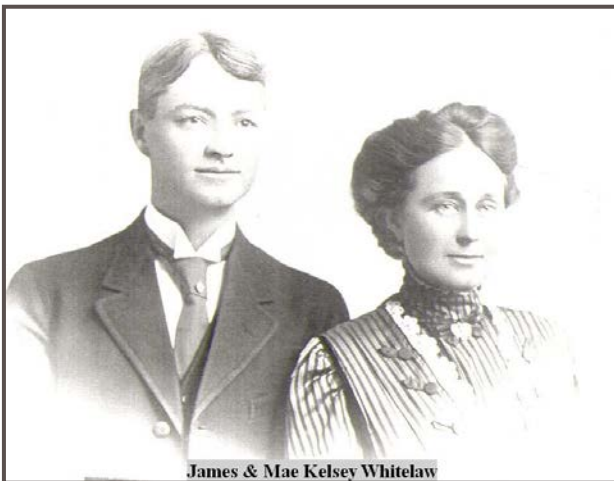
From John and Mary Neill Whitelaw

To Mrs. Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dr Son & Daughter & Garvin, Have just got back from the City, so thought I would write you a few lines. Rec'd your letter here in due time, glad to know you were all well and that we take pleasure in looking

back to the time we spent in Cambria as rather the most pleasant of our visiting. Of course we have no fault to find in regard to any place we have been. Everybody was overflowing with kindnesses – Meant to say to Owen that he is not the only merchant who is experiencing a shortage of business, I have found the same everywhere I have been, but all look for a good time this fall as good crops seem to be the universal condition prevailing amongst the farmers which will certainly set the stone a rolling.

Spokane is a rather fine City, large business houses of all kinds as well as many beautiful residences, but oh the rocks, rocks jutting out of the ground everywhere. When I spoke



James & Mae Kelsey Whitelaw

of the rocks they said one gets used to them. It is hot here during the day but cool nights and we both sleep well.

James and Mae seem to be very happy with each other, James carries lunch for dinner. [*By 1905, James had married Mae Kelsey and moved to Spokane, Washington*]. His business I don't know much about, but they seem to be growing in the estimation of the

public. It is called The Spokane Electric Supply Co. They have a fine store with all kinds of chandeliers etc. hung from overhead and walls, he has a nice office in front of the store and is kept busy. He is Sec'y & Treas'r.

Nyrtia [?] is teaching and will have 70.00 per yr. has the 3 & 4th grades and is only about three blocks from her school. I think May has 48.00 per mo. in a dry goods house – saw her behind the counter one day. They all look well. Spokane river is quite large – used to be a good fishing stream but so much refuse getting into it has killed off the fish. Don't just know when we shall leave for Everett probably end of next week or beginning of following week.

Attended Barnums & Bailey's Show yesterday. It is really worth seeing. The animals in their performance is wonderful – also Horsemanship and everything else which goes into that kind of performance. Also saw the lads looping the loop in an automobile – which was a wonderful performance and passed off without accident. Hoping you are all keeping well – as we are – and give our kindest regards to all our Cambria friends. . . . with much love to all, affectly Father & Mother.

8/17/05

Spokane, WA

From John and Mary Neill Whitelaw

To Mrs. Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Bro and Sis, Had your last letter and glad to hear all the news and that you were well. When not otherwise engaged our minds revert to the journey that we have passed so pleasantly thro and in a great measure live it over again, and no doubt will continue to do so as nothing has transpired that has given us any occasion of regret. Spokane is a fine city full of vim and push. Many new buildings on the way both business and residence, many of them of great size referencing much wealth behind them. Heard this morning that the wheat crop on Mae's Uncle's farm was turning out 45 bushels to the acre of fine wheat.



Have had letters from home and elsewhere – all seem to be in a good doing way. Son Will is now at Everett and think will start for there about next Tuesday morning. Think will have him meet us at Seattle as our ticket takes us only to that point and no further north – so we will have to pay for our trip to Everett. . . .

James and his Mae are real comfortable and happy. His business is light so far as physical strength goes but is busy most of the time and seems to like his work. Don't know how long will stay at Everett, will be governed by conditions – Am getting a little tired of not doing anything but suppose this is what they call visiting so will try and put up with it. Now goodbye all and kind regards to everybody.

Affect'y Father and Mother



12/27/05

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My Dr Daughter Ruth, Another Christmas time has come and gone and I trust we have all made up our minds to be just a little better in the coming days than we have been in the past. Not that I think any have been really bad, but when we take Christ as our pattern and example we find there is always room for improvement. So let us do our level best in our different positions in life.

We have to thank you for our kind remembrances at this time and for your thoughtfulness in providing something for the Old Arm Chair; everyone takes a lounge in it now and then, and we shall always remember your part in adding to its convenience.

We had a turkey and the families were all present and had I trust a very pleasant occasion. I think of you often and the many kind friends we met in Cambria. I see you had a visit from the Minneapolis friends. I always remember the lady, how she met and received us at the depot with such whole heartedness and kindly welcome to their home and showed us around that day, hope to have an opportunity to do something for them of a like character. Our visit last summer has been a subject that has afforded much conversation from time to time, it certainly was a great opportunity for us, and have always got it to think about. Altho we are now established again in the usual routine of business affairs, Mother at her housework and I at my hay feeding etc.

This has been an unusually fine winter thus far – and hope it will continue for the benefit of the poor. Winter has always its terrors for the poor. I have had the Sunday School lesson in mind of a few weeks ago when Ezra read the Scriptures to the people and they were so repentant over their wrong doing, they were told to cease their weeping, and go home, and “Eat the fat and drink the Sweet and give a portion to those for whom nothing had been provided.” This in my mind is practical Christianity of today as well as then.

Now I hope you are trying to keep yourself happy and loving so that your influence will always be felt for the best. Remember us to all the friends and accept much love for Owen, Garvin and yourself, Your affte father John Whitelaw



2/8/06

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My Dear Daughter Ruth, You are always showering upon me some surprise, am sure your happy remembrance of Jan. 30th was equal to anything in the past. I am wearing it every night. It is nice and soft. If thanks would be any

compensation for your mindfulness and loving interest I would gladly tender that but I know the motive that prompts your kindly tokens is prompted by love, which is a quality of the soul that no one can ever pay only in kind. So for the present I can only assure you of our loving interest in you and yours and pray that the Good Lord will abundantly bless your happy home and make you a blessing to all you associate with. Neill Gordon [*born to John and Bertha Whitelaw, Jan. 29, 1906*] is still to the fore and receiving many compliments of Good Will – he is a little fellow with time and room to grow which I hope he may be spared to enjoy both. And a great blessing to the home to which God in his providence has sent him. Hoping you are well and in good spirits. I am your affte father John Whitelaw

3/24/06

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

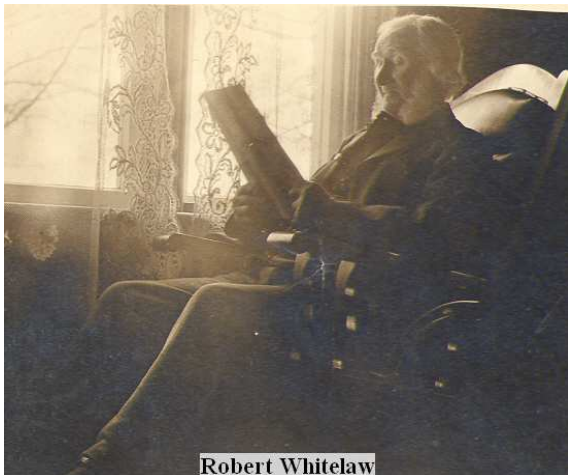
My Dear daughter, Your package was rec'd. Am sure the contents led us to think how very thoughtful you are of our comfort and feel very grateful to you, but feel at the same time you keep yourself too busy. I notice you are desirous to know what I observed when out west in regard to business openings. Well as I did not apply myself very closely in that capacity am afraid my opinion would not be worth much. However, in the first place you must imagine the West is a very large Country with many opportunities, of one class and another, and I can assure you there are very many out all the time looking for the best according to their judgement, and as experience is gained it is often found their judgement was not good and are out again to endeavor to retrieve their loss: this kind of thing I saw. Yet I also saw men who were well located and doing well on account of surroundings developing to insure could [sic] success. There are still many new towns starting along new lines of Rail Road which offer opportunities as I have tried to name, but to make a definite statement it would be almost sure to be disappointing. James has his eye on a new location he was writing about and thought it would be a good place for a Lumber Yard but really a person has to be on the ground and see for himself and after he has done his best it will be far from coming up to his wishes after he spent some time there. All of the thrifty

western towns I was in, it would seem that business was well represented in every department, before you cut loose where one is doing fairly well, be sure you are going to better yourself. But above all things, let go of the “get rich quick” idea as that leads to more disappointment than anything else. I started to keep a diary of events of the trip but failed – will be glad to answer anything you ask me the best I can.

James’ letter this morning says that Mae is still receiving the aid from the doctor, but they think will cut him off soon. Gordon Neill is still on the up grade, and all doing fairly well. Accept our thanks for so many tokens of good will and write again soon. Your affte Father and Mother. P.S. Now Ruth just a word, keep yourself in as peaceful and contented a condition as possible – “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” JW

June 20, 1906
Kidder, MO
From John Whitelaw
To Ruth and Owen Williams

Dear Son and Daughter, As this season of June 16th came around it reminded us very pleasantly of our visit one year ago to your and other pleasant homes. I think we were at your home by this time. While we will not make such a visit this year we will savor the pleasure by talking about it and must say it has been a topic of conversation with us many times and I must say in no place did we enjoy ourselves more than in Cambria and Portage City. Of course this does not reflect against what all the good people elsewhere did for us. Not forgetting the dear friends in Minneapolis. I only wish we had an opportunity to return some of the kindnesses shown us. Nevertheless they have all our love and thanks and our latch string hangs for all of them if they should come this way



Robert Whitelaw

I wrote to Uncle Robert [*uncle of John Whitelaw, born 1819 in Scotland*] some time ago inviting him to Kidder, but have not heard from him. Let me know how he is and if he is thinking of coming. I know it will be something of an undertaking but there would be no trouble as Henry could see him on train at Chicago. I think it would altogether be a pleasant change for him. Of course the drouth here has made things look rather dried up but we expect it will rain soon, as it has been raining in St. Joe and Kansas City. Our oats and hay

crops are almost a failure but corn looks very well especially that has been well worked and good rains from now would make us a full crop yet. We had a fine prospect for fruit but that is seriously damaged and much of it falling off, but still we are all here with warm hearts for all our friends and will not perish for lack of something to eat. . . .



Neill Gordon is a very interesting little fellow and is so well. Bertha is not so well as we would like to see her but gets around pretty well. . . .Your affte father and mother.



12/11/06

Kidder, MO

**From John and Mary Neill Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams**

My dear daughter Ruth, I enclose Bill of Lading of box of fruit – charges prepaid as far as our agent could go. Hope box will arrive safely and you will all enjoy using it. Expect you are cozily located in your new home by this time. Am sure we wish you all may live to enjoy it with

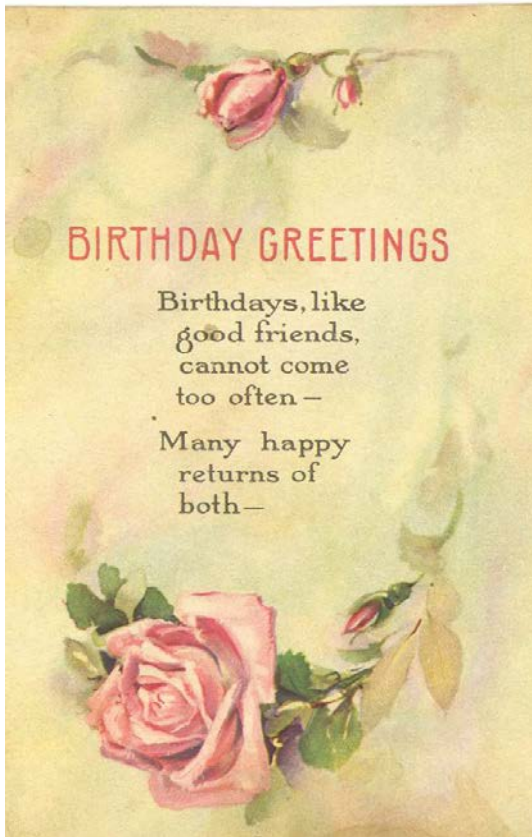
all the other prosperity that God in his providence may be pleased to send you. I don't think I have any news more than what probably Maggie has written you. Am sorry Ralph does not feel like writing to us more [*Ralph was John and Mary Whitelaw's youngest son.*]. Hope he will get along well and grow to be a good man, am sure am willing to do anything in my power for him, but can't force him into anything. Mother and I are very well. I do the chores since Ralph left. Have the jersey cow and calf and two horses. Our new Art Garland Hard Coal stove is fine, it takes so much less work than the old one so we are very comfortable in our home life.

We often look at Henry with Mary Elizabeth [*daughter of Ruth and Owen Williams, born 1906*] in his arms – it is quite refreshing and always makes me smile. Life would be real dull without something to make us smile occasionally. Now I think you also have much to be thankful for and so be happy and good. With much love to Owen and Garvin and yourself. Affectly, Father and Mother



John & Mary Whitelaw & six grandchildren, c.1906, Kidder, MO

[Pictured l. to r. grandchildren: Mabel Shaw, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Neill Gordon Whitelaw, Ralph Shaw (standing), Lucy Shaw; grandparents John and Mary Neill Whitelaw seated. Mabel, Lucy, and Ralph Shaw were the children of Mary Whitelaw and Theodore Shaw; Mary Williams was the daughter of Ruth Whitelaw and Owen Williams; Neill Gordon was the son of John and Bertha Bell Whitelaw.]



2/1/1907

Kidder, MO

From John Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear son and daughter, Your kindly letter full of expressions of good will and sympathy in view of my 72nd birthday was duly rec'd and I can assure you I thank you with all my heart for your interest in the old home and what is left of it. When we are well I have quite considerable ambition left yet to do something and keep up my end for all of which am truly thankful for the kindly providence that has brought us so far along under so favorable circumstances.

Received the box with oatmeal cake and ate a portion of it last night to supper and tasted as tho it had come direct from old Scotland, the land of cakes. I never had any doubt in my mind that you had a little daughter Mary Elizabeth in your home but after I saw the little

worn out shoe the proof was conclusive beyond all question. Am in hopes someday to see some other part of her belongings as well as the reality itself besides the shoe. Anyhow mother thought so much of the little shoe she put it to her mouth and kissed it. Of course that is sentiment but it all shows the motherly heart. I also thank you for Mr. Brown's book on S.S. Missions. I read the preface and several chapters last night and was very much interested. He is certainly doing an important work in Wis. It also seems to me you Cambrians are very highly favored in having such noted musicians perform. Such opportunities don't come to every small town, but it seems Cambria and Kidder are favorably blessed with such social events. . . .



Mary Neill Whitelaw

Mother has had the cold and has also a rheumatism in her right shoulder. She is now using a molasses application and thinks it is helping. Maggie was going to Hamilton today to visit Aunt M. Neill Gordon has had the cold and has had a time with his teeth, but is feeling a little better yesterday and today. Mr. Nesson of the institute class of 99 was here yesterday and talked at the institute in the forenoon and Congregational Church in the evening. . . . Lovingly Father and Mother

1/10/08
Kidder, MO
From John Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Son and Daughter, I have been about a month largely under the Doc's care but am normal now most of the time but not free from some infirmity, but very thankful to be as well as I am – considering my age. Business has not been good since the Holy days and not very good for some time previous. Are very much in hopes as finances becomes more stable things will settle down to more normal conditions. We are very busy trying to collect these days and not making much head way [*collecting on accounts customers had at the hardware store*]. Corn and wheat are bringing a good price but hogs are badly off and farmers are selling their hogs about half fat rather than feed the high price corn.

Tell Mary Elizabeth that granpa has the Old Moo yet and to come and see it again soon. . . . We thank you for all your kind remembrances of us at Christmas, but think it is always beautiful to remember the poor, don't you? Write again soon, Affectionately, Father and Mother

2/15/08
Kidder, MO
From John Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My dear daughter, Yours of the 13th came in this A.M. Found us all well except some colds which are very prevalent at present, and are glad to know you all keep so well, hope you may continue so. Thanking you again for the nice watch charm. I would like to have a wee face to put in it. It may be convenient sometime to send me one. The weather here is very unsettled and pretty cold at times. Altho the weather has been on an average mild. My own health is much improved and am now at the store all day and hope to get along all right.

You did not say whether you wanted the principal of the Note also. So have just sent you a draft for Int. 27.75 and endorsed same on back of your Note and you will find Note enclosed. Should you want the principal let me know. I hope you will be able to select a good watch for Owen which I esteem as a very nice birthday present. Wish him many more such. Mothers Valentine from Mary Elizabeth is a dandy and we all think she deserves it. . . . I hope you all keep well and happy – contentment is a blessed commodity to carry with us day by day. Let us always strive for the best. With much love to you all, we remain yours lovingly – Father & Mother



Garvin, Ruth Jeanette & Mary Elizabeth Williams, c. 1909

Feb. 1909
Kidder, MO
From John Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw
Williams

Dear Son and Daughter,
 Received your letter of
 congratulation on my 74th
 birthday and thank you for
 your many kind words and
 remembrances. We are
 trying to do the best we can
 in our small way a little does
 us as our ambition is not
 great for ourselves but we

have a never ceasing interest in all the children and their children. How are you getting through the winter?



Neill G. & Eleanor B. Whitelaw c. 1910 Kidder, MO

We have had some very stormy days and the roads are now impassable.

Business has been slow since the first of the year but in hopes a change will soon be in sight. Many farms are changing hands and at big prices, which seem to brighten up farm interests.

. . . . One change – Maggie has sold out her Millinery to Mrs. Wm Amet. So she will be free of that trouble. She will do some sewing at home but she will tell you more about it herself. Neill Gordon and Eleanor Bell are both well as well as the parents [*Neill and Eleanor were the children of John and Bertha Whitelaw*]

. . . . We are still without a pastor and don't see much hopes of our getting one as our membership is getting less all the time and ministers salaries seem to be on the increase. We still maintain Sunday School. So we get along. We remain lovingly, Father and Mother



Maggie, Henry, Mary Neill, Helen & Mary Macklin (Henry's daughter & wife) c.1911



Mary Lucinda (Lucy) & Charles Shaw 1910

July 30, 1911

Kidder, MO

From John and Mary Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Daughter Ruth, We are rather lonesome since all the children returned to their homes and Maggie has been gone for ten days to Kansas but it is all right we both are well and eat regularly three times a day. *[Among the visitors were Henry, his wife, Mary Macklin, and their new daughter, Helen, held in the picture above by her grandmother, Mary Neill Whitelaw. To the left are Mary Lucinda and Charles Shaw, children of Mary Whitelaw and Theodore Shaw.]*

The weather however has been uncomfortably hot for most of the time. We had a very light shower today but did very little good so far as watering the thirsty ground, but thankful for small showers.

Crops such as wheat and oats are fair turning out from 10 to 20 bushels per acre (wheat). Oats more than twice that average – if corn matures we will be well supplied as corn is you know our best crop.

I thought today you might want your money so I got a draft for 105.00. You said just to send you 100.00 but thought that 105.00 would be better so find draft endorsed to yourself.

Had letter from Kansas today. All well and very busy. Maggie said she bought something for you. *[Maggie may have been in Kansas to help with the new baby, John Moreland Whitelaw, born June 4, 1911].*

She will tell you about it herself. She would like to help them with their threshing before coming home. The threshers are very disappointing in keeping their dates but expect them again this week. Aunt Maggie is much about the same and all the others are well.

Had a large picnic here last Thurs. Mary and folks all came in and had dinner and supper together. She had a basket so mother was not obliged to do heavy cooking. The Sunday Schools of all adjoining townships were present and had some very good exercises and one of the best drills I ever saw. That was Mount Hebo S.S. [Sunday school] it got the banner with no one objecting, had also some field sports for the young men athletes. So the day was altogether very good. What do you hear from the old uncle and other friends around there. I suppose you're having good farm prospects this year. . . . Lovingly, Father and Mother



John Moreland Whitelaw, 1911

6/16/13

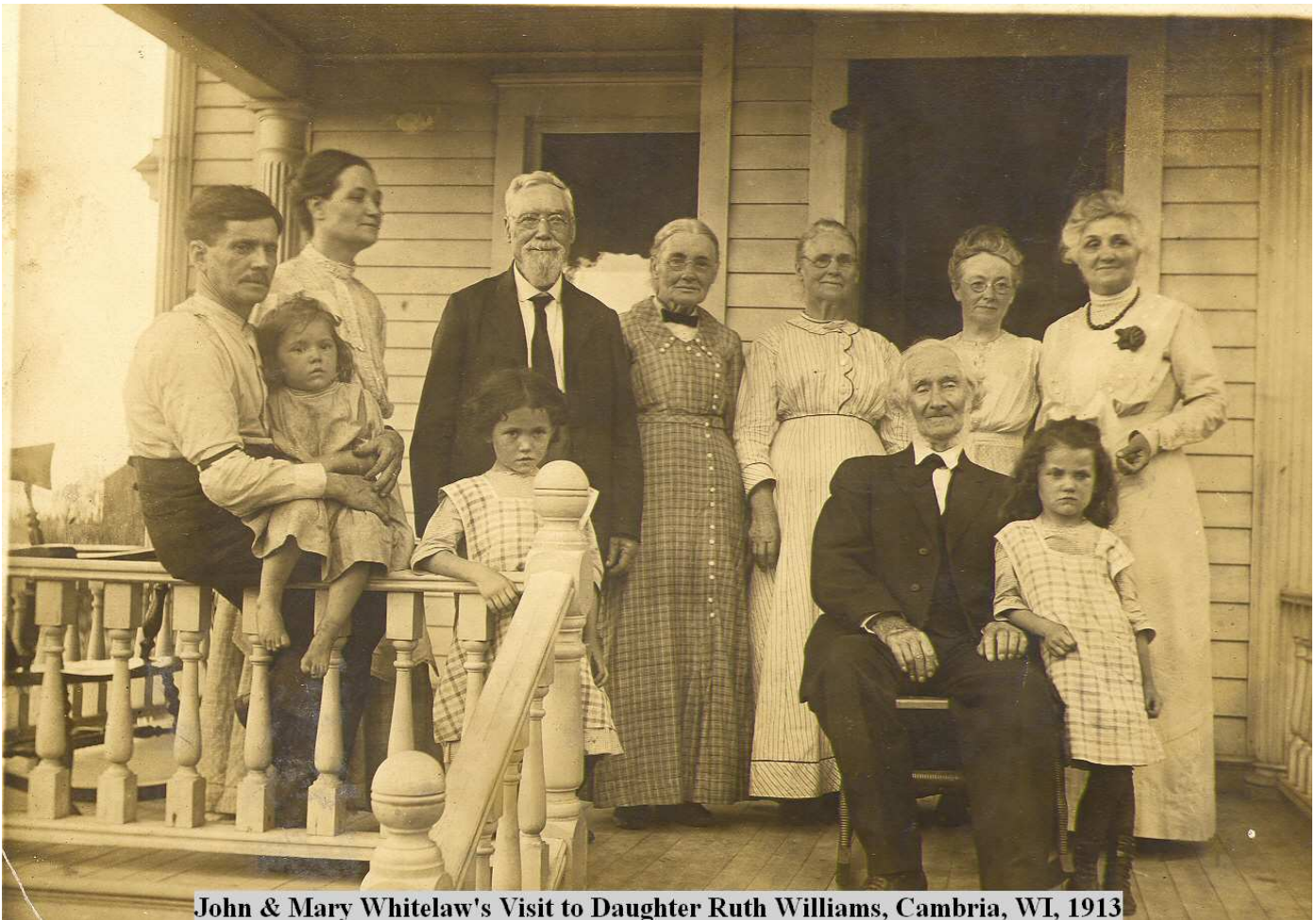
Kidder, MO

From John and Mary Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Son and Daughter, I am pleased to tell you mother has consented to leave here Tuesday evening and will be at Cambria Wednesday evening. *[John, Mary, and daughter Maggie traveled to Wisconsin and the State of Washington to visit children and other relatives].* We will follow one week later but will write again. Hope all are well. Today has been very hot and my hand is a little shaky but think you will make it out. John and

Bertha came Sat. and left this p.m. Had a nice short visit – took children of course – now we are alone. Love to all, Father and Mother



John & Mary Whitelaw's Visit to Daughter Ruth Williams, Cambria, WI, 1913

The Whitelaw family in Cambria, Wisconsin during a family visit in 1913, on Owen and Ruth Whitelaw Williams's porch. Left to right, back row: Ruth Whitelaw William;, her father and mother, John and Mary Neill Whitelaw; Mary Neill Whitelaw's sister, Ann Robertson; Ruth's sister Maggie Whitelaw; cousin Susie Johnson. Front row: Owen Williams, Ruth's husband, holding daughter Margaret Emma; daughter Mary Elizabeth; Robert Whitelaw, John's uncle and father of Susie Johnson; and the Williams's daughter Ruth Jeannette.

DEATH OF JOHN WHITELOW: 1913

John Whitelaw died on August 19, 1913, while on a visit to his son, William, in Seattle, Washington. The cause of death was heart failure. He, his wife, Mary, and daughter, Maggie, were on an extensive trip visiting children and other relatives in Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Washington, where his sons Will, Henry, and James lived. After his death, his sons James, Henry, and Will held a memorial service for him in Spokane, Washington. Then his wife and daughter returned by train with the body to Kidder, Missouri, where he was buried in the family plot at Kidder Cemetery. He was sincerely mourned by his children and by the neighbors and townspeople of Kidder where he had spent most of his adult life. See the Appendix for his Obituary and a newspaper article about his life.

Although he came to the U.S. with few assets except his personal qualities and his skills in book keeping and carpentry, he died leaving a substantial estate, enough to support his widow and his daughter for the rest of their lives. His daughter Maggie's letter of Nov. 13, 1913, reproduced below [page 78], gives more detail on the extent of the estate.

The following family letters describe John Whitelaw's last days and death, and reveal the family's shock and grief at losing the family patriarch.

July 24, 1913

Seattle, Washington

From Maggie Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Yesterday we took lunch and ate on University grounds. Then spent a while in the Museum. The Alaska, Yukon Exposition was held on these grounds and many of the buildings still stand they are used for different departments of the work. The exhibits in the museum came from the collection at the Ex. We did not get all through it, as father was not very well, Mother too had a pain in her head. They both are improved today. I guess we are queer company, but we have to take things slow or just go home.



John & Mary Neill Whitelaw, Seattle, WA.

Aug. 19, 1913

Seattle, Wash.

From Dorothy Whitelaw (Mrs. Will Whitelaw)

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear Sister Ruth and Family, On me falls the writing you that which I wish no one had to do. Father died today very suddenly of heart failure. Was seeming so well and has been so ever since he came. The cool weather here seemed to brace him up and he enjoyed the few outings he felt he could stand. Sun. he attended church twice enjoying a beautiful solo by a man "Tucked in the Cradle of the Deep" and a Temperance Lecture at night. Spoke of how he enjoyed it all. Mon. all day he was quiet and was home. He told Will he had indigestion but no one else knew it. He slept well all night and was down early as usual and ate breakfast seeming as well as usual. Everything as usual until about 10 a.m. he went to bathroom and while there felt gas on stomach. Wasn't there but a few min. and Will helped him to the bed. Maggie got the usual remedies – soon as she saw he didn't rally as usual called his Drs. Within 20 min. from time he first went up stairs he was gone. No pain nor suffering. Very quietly. Dr. says due entirely to heart failure caused by severe attack of indigestion. The gas forming on stomach crowded the heart and that being already weak was too much.



Henry, Mae (James' wife), Ralph, Mary (Henry's wife), Helen, James, Oakesdale, WA c.1912

The folks were already to leave tomorrow for Oakesdale to visit Henry. How thankful it did not occur on the way over. Have notified as many as can. You may know of some near to send word. I know John and Mary at Kidder have rec'd word. Believe intend to go to Spokane. Boys say bring to Spokane when Ralph and rest can see the body. Will

remain until all boys get there. We are not sure how long the stay will be in Spokane yet but will wire you soon as known and they will then go on to Kidder for burial.

Ruth I am so sorry. Mother Whitelaw is a dear brave woman. You don't know how sweet she is with it all. So brave and dear. Margaret as yet hasn't braced up though all tell her she must for your mother's sake. My deepest sympathy and love to you. You'll excuse this wont you please. Father did so enjoy the cool weather and time here. Hope I've told all I should to explain. Lovingly, Dorothy



Aug. 28th, 1913

Spokane, Wash. [?]

**From Mae V. Whitelaw (Mrs. James Whitelaw)
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams**

My dear sister Ruth, You have our tenderest sympathy at this time Ruth. But there is nothing we can do but hope on. We know father was a great good man and will always linger fondly [in?] our memories. We were so happy to know he was coming to see us and will always appreciate the effort he made.

Poor James and Ralph, I feel so sorry that they could not see him. James has borne the loss bravely and I just thought Mother and Margaret were so strong and brave. I know they must be so tired and worn and I just wish we could have kept them here.

We rec'd Margaret's card from Billings, Montana and think they are safely at home now. I do hope Mother won't give way after it is all over. I am sure she won't for she seems so strong hearted and sensible. I do love her so much I never knew a dearer woman in my life. Margaret has so many responsibilities along with her grief that I fear she will be

worn out. She seemed calm here, but I felt they were trying hard for my sake.



I wish I could have done more for them. I am expecting to go to the hospital any day now and then you will have to be Aunt Ruth again [*James and Mae were expecting a child.*]. James has been too busy to write and he wants me to send his love and tenderest sympathy to you all. God be with you. Lovingly Mae V. Whitelaw.

Sept. 6, 1913

Kidder, MO

**From Maggie Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams**

Henry Whitelaw, Rush Med. Sch. Graduate 1906

Dear Sister and Bro. Mother wants me to tell you, she thanks you for the letter today and all the love you have shown her. Henry left us today. He hated to go but we could not ask him to stay longer. James wrote Sunday they were well there. Mother had a fine letter from Ed Chubbuck today. He says "my old home town never laid to rest a better man." Also letters from Will and Uncle Dave. Will's are at Issaquah but unable to get a house yet. Uncle D. could not locate Wendell Whitelaw.. . . Love to you all, Mother and Maggie. We are well.



Oct. 15, 1913
Spokane, Wash.
From James Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

My dear sister, I feel that I have especially slighted you in the way of writing in the recent past, and your second letter received from you since "wee Robin" as we'll call him came, quite condemns me. However you will realize some of the duties that have engaged our attention, and as you are not the only member of the family to whom I have failed to write since I trust you will forgive. Your prompt letter of congratulations upon receipt of the [news of son Robert's birth] was appreciated, and illustrates your ready good will for us and for all. I am glad to report that the progress of both the boy and Mae seem

satisfactory and while we have little anxieties we have lost very little sleep.. . . The shock of father's death just on the eve of his Wee Robin's coming was quite severe for both of us and we both felt called upon for various reasons to control ourselves and suppress emotion so far as possible.

[Unreadable words] It was the earnest intention of both of us to be as considerate of mother as we could and under the circumstances, although what little we could do seemed inadequate to the occasion I'm afraid. I trust father's memory was honored by what we did and that Mother and all gained some consolation thereby as I also did. Our principal idea in having the service here was to benefit Ralph in case we could find him.

While we or any one of us can probably probe into the recent and distant past and find something to make us regretful, I also feel that there are many good and greater reasons for a sense of comfort and cheer to be with us. The chief fact that hurts is the sting of death, and I judge no one ever anticipated very exactly what that would mean in the first loss of a parent until he has experienced it, but in this case I must confess that the thought of father's magnificent character and life conduct was so powerfully in my mind that

when I first looked on his face with its so natural and untroubled expression I felt more like shouting for his victory than despairing for our loss, and to some extent that feeling was with me through the entire ordeal. Believing as I do that our eternal heaven is somewhat of our own making I feel sure of a blessed eternity for father and mother. Secretly that is a proud consolation for me and I'm sure you share in this feeling although perhaps the less said along those lines to others the better.

From what insight I have into the experience, temptations and struggles of the average business man such as father was (I don't refer to the geniuses) I do highly appreciate the manner in which he mapped out his career according to his opportunities and the consistent faithful and sincere method by which he strove in spite of hell as represented



Ralph Whitelaw

by all the disappointments you know of and to carry out his original plan. I am grateful that he was able to round out his career so well and I think in time it may appear clearly to each of us that he completed his career, although there seems to prevail just now the belief that his plan for Ralph went astray. We shall see if his death will not do for Ralph what his life effort probably could not do [*Ralph, the youngest of John's sons, had an unstable life due primarily to alcoholism.*]. I am also grateful that he had some comparative ease in his later life and was not ground down by poverty and debt, even though he would not personally indulge in the luxury of spending on himself. But that is what helped to make him great, generally speaking he thought of others first [*unreadable words.*]



Mary Neill Whitelaw

Along that line we were discussing at our breakfast table how mothers generally lose their appetite for anything good of which there is insufficient for all, and Doc [*James's brother Henry*] said in Scotch, "I much prefer the burned" and we laughed with tears in our eyes at this characteristic expression of mother's. Yes she was and is a heroine in her grief, and Ruth, if you can emulate her in her lifetime in that respect you will have solved a lot of your troubles. I was much pleased to learn that you were calm and brave through the funeral service, and Doc did not report a difference with you so I think you need not be worried about that. I want Owen to know that I appreciate his consideration in going to Kidder and staying and assisting as he

did all of which was manly and kind of him as usual. I feel pretty well acquainted with him as you suggest, at least well enough to believe with you that his heart is in the right place, although I would enjoy a closer association with him and all of you very much. . . . James

Dec. 27, 1914

Issaquah, Wash.

From Will Whitelaw

To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

. . . .We had father with us all too brief a time in his closing days and yet I am thankful that he could be here even a short time – he was one of Nature’s noblemen and the only real aristocracy in the world is of the type he exemplified – patterned after the Man of Galilee. His life and that of the dear mother give me the greatest inspiration I have to right living and effort. . . . Aff your brother Will.





Nov. 13th, 1913
Kidder, MO
From Maggie Whitelaw
To Ruth Whitelaw Williams

Dear sister and all – Your letter came Sunday and I ought to have gotten one off to you before this but I have let the time slip by with other things, at the same time I have written 16 letters this week, of course they have all been business letters but one. Tuesday I made a trip to Hamilton to see a lawyer and found my head had fooled my feet again for I knew it was court week and forgot it, so did not find the man there. Tell Auntie by the time my pocket book was touched maybe I would remember.



I do not know what to tell you to tell Uncle Robert for no value has been put on the real estate, the heirs have to agree on the selling price and all heirs have to sign the deeds. So it is hard to say just what the value of the Estate is. I suppose he took an interest in how Father had done. The inventory of Personal Estate was \$17,700.00 a little over I just don't recall the exact amount. There are the three farms, the home place, 20 acres just N. of town and two lots where my shop stood I believe that is all. In the personal property there are notes to collect and it is impossible to say just what will come out of them and it may take some expense to get them. I appreciate all of this in Father's life but there was so much good besides that I LOVE to think of and that I miss all the time, but I know if I did not have this home and had to hustle for my bread and butter I would not have so much time to think of some other things so I do not mean to undervalue all his Blessing to us. No families have a more blessed

heritage than we have. He was an ideal father. . . . Last week John and I called on a man, the old mother lives with him and she had at least 5 sores on her face that I suppose were cancers one was large as a silver dollar, I can't forget the sight, and then I think how blessed we are that we don't have to see that on our Dear One. Love to all. Mother and Maggie.

Scrap of paper, written on both sides, found in the Williams family papers, probably itemizing John Whitelaw's estate.

estimates

Currency	600. ⁰⁰
Taxes State	1656. ¹²
1 st Natl. Savgs	506. ⁰²
Bonds Self-	1356.
John D	400.
Ralph	400.
Henry	400. ¹
Ruth	400. ¹
Mary E.	200. ¹
Mary	400. ¹
Mable	200. ¹
J. Robert	400.
John W.	400.
Loan	2300. ¹
Furnish	=
Wash	=
Garage	=

Summary	9612.14
Farm	1500.00
Home	1000.00
	<u>12512.14</u>
Approximate value	
Ferry ride	1000. ⁰⁰

APPENDIX

Newspaper Articles on John Whitelaw

An Old Citizen Passed Away

Obituary

Whitelaw Family Trees

James and Jean Turnbull Whitelaw Family

Death Certificates of James and Jean Whitelaw

William Whitelaw – (1) Jean Wilson (2) Margaret Reid Line

John Whitelaw - Mary Neill Line

John Whitelaw Jr. – Bertha Bell Line

Eleanor Bell Whitelaw - Albert Whitford Line

William Whitford – Lynn Seidl Line

Mary Whitford - Nicholas Graves

Martha Whitford - Peter Barss

John Moreland Whitelaw – Alvis Love Line

John Moreland Whitelaw Jr. Line

Susan Whitelaw – Larry Ledebur

Nancy Whitelaw – Jan Benson

Ruth Whitelaw – Owen Williams Line

Henry Whitelaw – Mary Macklin Line

Helen Whitelaw - Clifford Smith Line

Jean Smith - Wayne Stamper

Anne Smith - James Kepner

Mary Whitelaw – Forrest Rieke Line

Forrest Neill Rieke – Donna Bernardi

Mary Rieke - John Reaugh

John Whitelaw Rieke – Gene Robertson

Jean Whitelaw - Gordon Young Line

James Gordon Young – Ann Kettenring

Robert Wallace Young – Kathleen Johnson

Mary Beulah Whitelaw - Theodore Shaw Line

Ralph Theodore Shaw – Harriet Wetherall Line

Ann Shaw - Howe Lagarde

Jane Shaw – Kimball Dietrich

Mary Lucinda Shaw -Hugh Garner Line

Marilou Shaw - John Perris

Roberta Sue Shaw – John Andress

Doris Jean Shaw – Phillip Moore

Charles Russell Shaw –Betty Jo Williams Line

Theodore Whitelaw Shaw – Norma Beasing

Dorothy Shaw - Bob Harrison

Charles Errett Shaw – Wanda Shaw

Margaret Ruth Shaw - Winford Fluharty Line

Gay Wynn Fluharty – Edgar Cooper

David Lincoln Fluharty – Lisa Bergman

Sherman Dennis Fluharty – Robin Fluharty

Will Whitelaw - Dorothy Ellis Line

James Whitelaw – Mae Kelsey Line

William Whitelaw – (1) Jean Wilson (2) Margaret Reid Line (continued)

Margaret Whitelaw - Isaac Dierdorff

Ella Whitelaw – Murrell

John W. Murrell

Andrew Whitelaw Line

Whitelaw family tree, showing the Andrew Whitelaw Line

Letter from James Rudolph Whitelaw to William Whitelaw

Robert Whitelaw Line

Robert Whitelaw m. Isabel Reid

Stone of Life – Newspaper article

Scots in Wisconsin

Obituary of Isabel Reid Whitelaw, wife of Robert Whitelaw

William Reid Whitelaw, M.D.

Horse and Buggy Doctor Now in 59th year at Lodi

Obituary of Rev. J.D. Whitelaw

Obituary of Agnes Whitelaw Gray

An Old Citizen Passed Away

Mr. John Whitelaw one of Kidder's oldest citizens, died suddenly at Seattle, Washington, at which place he and his wife and daughter, Margaret, were visiting friends, on Tuesday of last week.

Mr. Whitelaw was seventy eight years of age, and for many years was engaged in the lumber and hardware business here, which business he sold out a few years ago to Smith and Son.

At the present time of his death he was president of the Kidder Bank.

Probably no man who ever lived in this town had to a greater degree the confidence and esteem of the people of this community.

He was one of those who feared God, and loved his fellow man.

He was never too busy to speak a word of kindly sympathy to any who might need it, and to offer assistance in any way that he could, and many there are that will rise up and call him blessed.

Mr. Whitelaw was born in Scotland, and was a perfect type of those sturdy sons of Caledonia who have left their shining mark on the pages of history, and he leaves behind him a legacy of godliness and uprightness of character which is invaluable.

The deceased is survived by his wife, five sons and three daughters.

The remains are expected to arrive in Kidder today, and interment will take place on Friday.

An Old Citizen Passed Away

The Kidder Independent, Vol. X, August 28, 1913

Mr. John Whitelaw, one of Kidder's oldest citizens, died suddenly at Seattle, Washington, at which place he and his wife and daughter, Margaret, were visiting friends, on Tuesday of last week.

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John Whitelaw 1935 - 1913

John Whitelaw Obituary
The Kidder Independent, Kidder, MO,
Vol. X, No. 41, Sept. 11, 1913

The Kidder In

Vol. X.

Kidder, Missouri, September

Obituary—Whitelaw.

John Whitelaw, son of William Whitelaw and Jean Wilson Whitelaw, was born in Strathaven, Scotland, January 30th, 1835. He died at the home of his eldest son, William, in Seattle, Washington, August 19th, 1913, while on a series of visits to his children. His age was seventy eight years, six months and nineteen days.

John Whitelaw's childhood years were spent in Glasgow, Scotland, where he was employed in the Clark Thread Works. While in this establishment he was selected among twelve boys to receive two years of private schooling at Mr. Clark's expense. Later he entered Kirk's Iron Works in the accounting department in which he became an expert accountant and book keeper—an accomplishment he retained to his death. According to the Scotch idea one should have a craftsman's training so Mr. Whitelaw was apprenticed in the carpentry department of the Kirk plant.

At the age of twenty years Mr. Whitelaw came to America with his parents and settled in Wisconsin, near Portage City. At that time this was pioneer territory and the sturdy Scotch traits were severely tested in the effort to hew a home out of the timber and his health was somewhat impaired at that time. He pursued his trade industriously and achieved some reputation as a contractor and builder.

In 1866 Mr. Whitelaw was united in marriage with Mary Neill of Caledonia, Wisconsin. They moved at once to Kidder, Mo., where they have since resided. To them have been born nine children, Maggie M., William N., John, Ruth E., Henry N., Mary B., James, Robert and

Ralph W. Eight survive him, Robert having died in infancy. To this family the best of fathers is a priceless treasure and a continued inspiration. Fourteen grand-children survive him, and his interest in and solicitation for them was touching in the extreme. Two sisters also survive him.

As a business man John Whitelaw had the confidence of his fellows. He had considerable misfortune by fire in his early business career but was strong in his purpose to succeed and by persistent effort and conscientious work he built up a contracting and repair business and later grew into a general lumber and hardware trade. He disposed of this interest four years ago and has since given his time to banking in which he was locally interested. He was a public spirited and progressive citizen, but a plain democratic man whose religious principles ruled in his business relations and in return for his confidence in human nature, he enjoyed a high place in the esteem of his fellowmen. He was conservative in his career, inclined to earnest careful living rather than to speculative endeavor.

Though limited in his childhood opportunity for education Mr. Whitelaw never let slip any chance to overcome this misfortune and by dint of close and accurate thinking and broad reading he made himself a man of strong mental equipment and wide knowledge. His failure to have for himself the schooling he desired made him zealous for the education of his children and the fact of an institution of higher learning being founded in Kidder at the time of his coming was an incentive to him to remain. He had great interest both in the public and the pri

vate school life of Kidder and was ever in favor of increased taxation or private contribution to further these interests. For many years he was a member of the public school board and gave freely of his time and energy toward it. He built the present public school building. He gave each of his children complete high school education in their day, and four of them enjoyed collegiate training even at his personal sacrifices.

Mr. Whitelaw became an active christian at an early age and gave himself thoroughly to the service of God until his death. For over twenty-five years he was an official of the Kidder Congregational Church. For many years he was leader of the Bible class and was an earnest Bible student, openminded, yet holding ever to the essentials of christian doctrine. His religious convictions were steadily in his thought and above all else he desired his life and that of his family to be pure and exemplary. His faith in God's goodness was never dimmed by his misfortunes and disappointments and he was blessed with a gentle good nature that made his presence a source of hope and happiness.

He died as he had lived, in the Christian's hope of blessed immortality.

CARD OF THANKS

We thank the friends and neighbors who by deeds of kindness and acts of love, gave sympathy and love to us in our need. May such blessings come to you in your time of need.

We also thank the business men of Kidder for the honor shown our Husband and Father by closing their places of business during the hour of service.

MRS. WHITELAW and FAMILY

Obituary of John Whitelaw
The Kidder Independent, Vol. X, Sept. 11, 1913

John Whitelaw, son of William Whitelaw and Jean Wilson Whitelaw, was born in Strathaven, Scotland, January 13th, 1835. He died at the home of his eldest son, William, in Seattle, Washington, August 19th, 1913, while on a series of visits to his children. His age was seventy eight years, six months and nineteen days.

John Whitelaw's childhood years were spent in Glasgow, Scotland, where he was employed in the Clark Thread Works. While in this establishment he was selected among twelve boys to receive two years of private schooling at Mr. Clark's expense. Later he entered Kirk's Iron Works in the accounting department in which he became an expert accountant and book keeper – an accomplishment he retained to his death. According to the Scotch idea one should have a craftsman's training so Mr. Whitelaw was apprenticed in the carpentry department of the Kirk plant.

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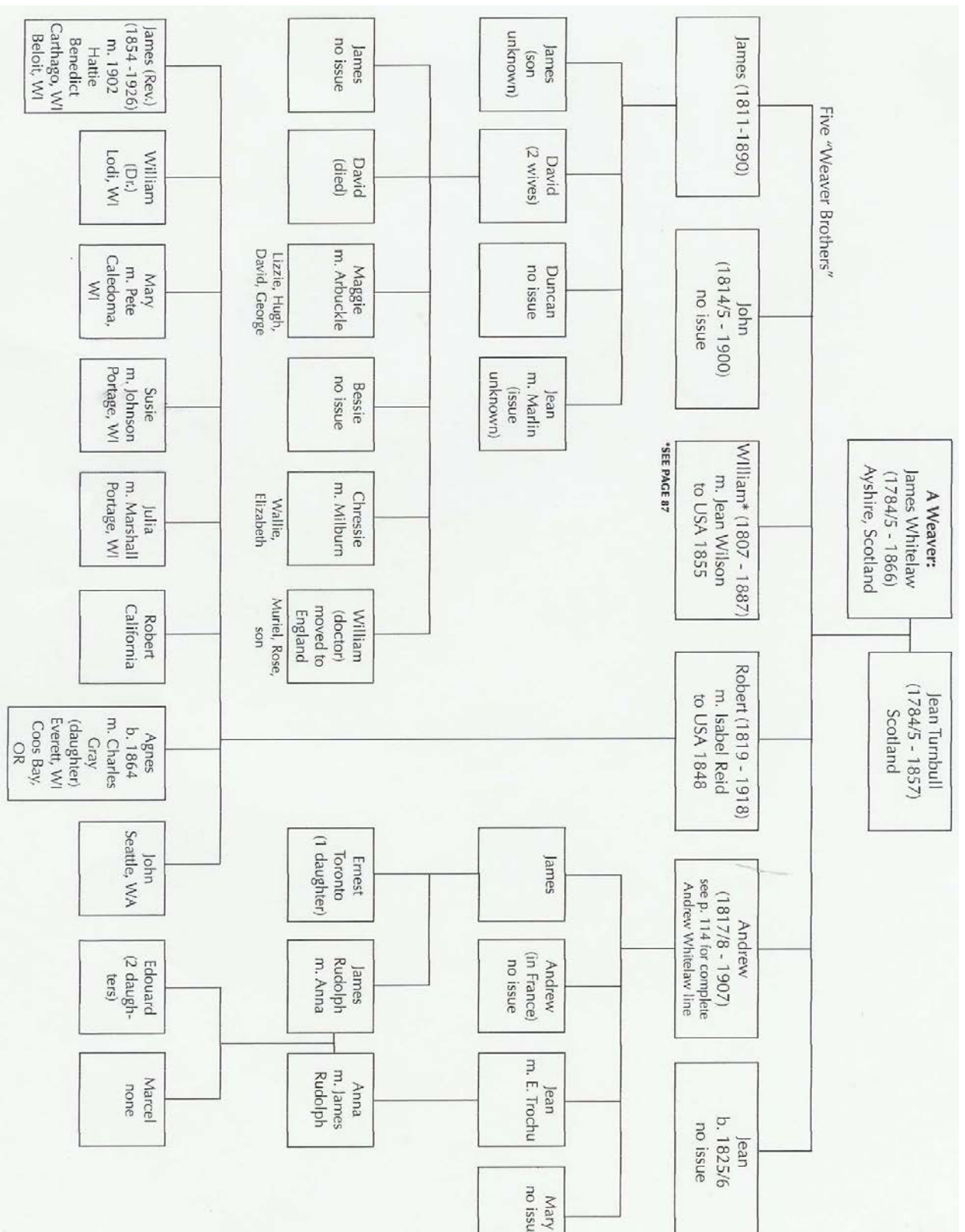
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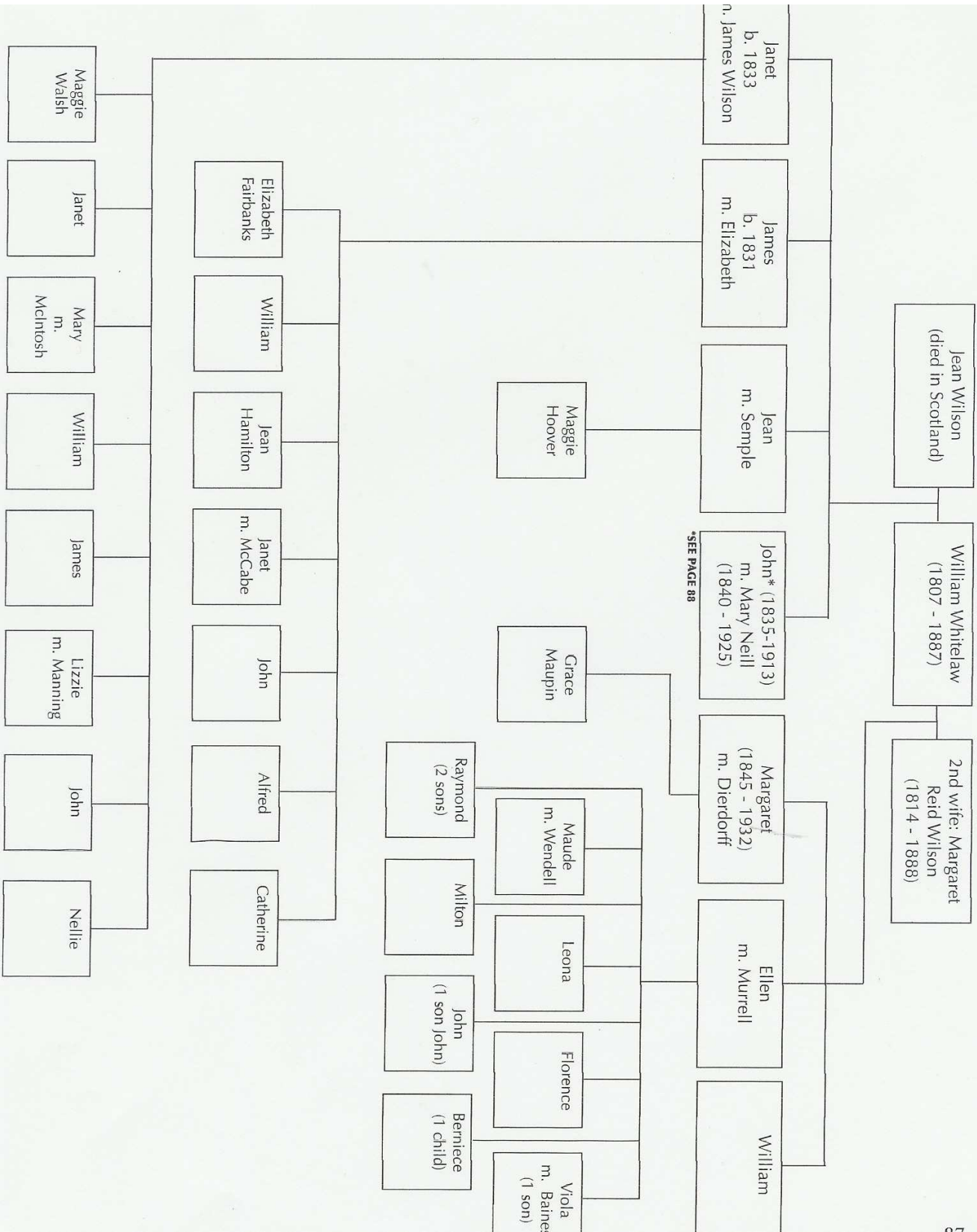
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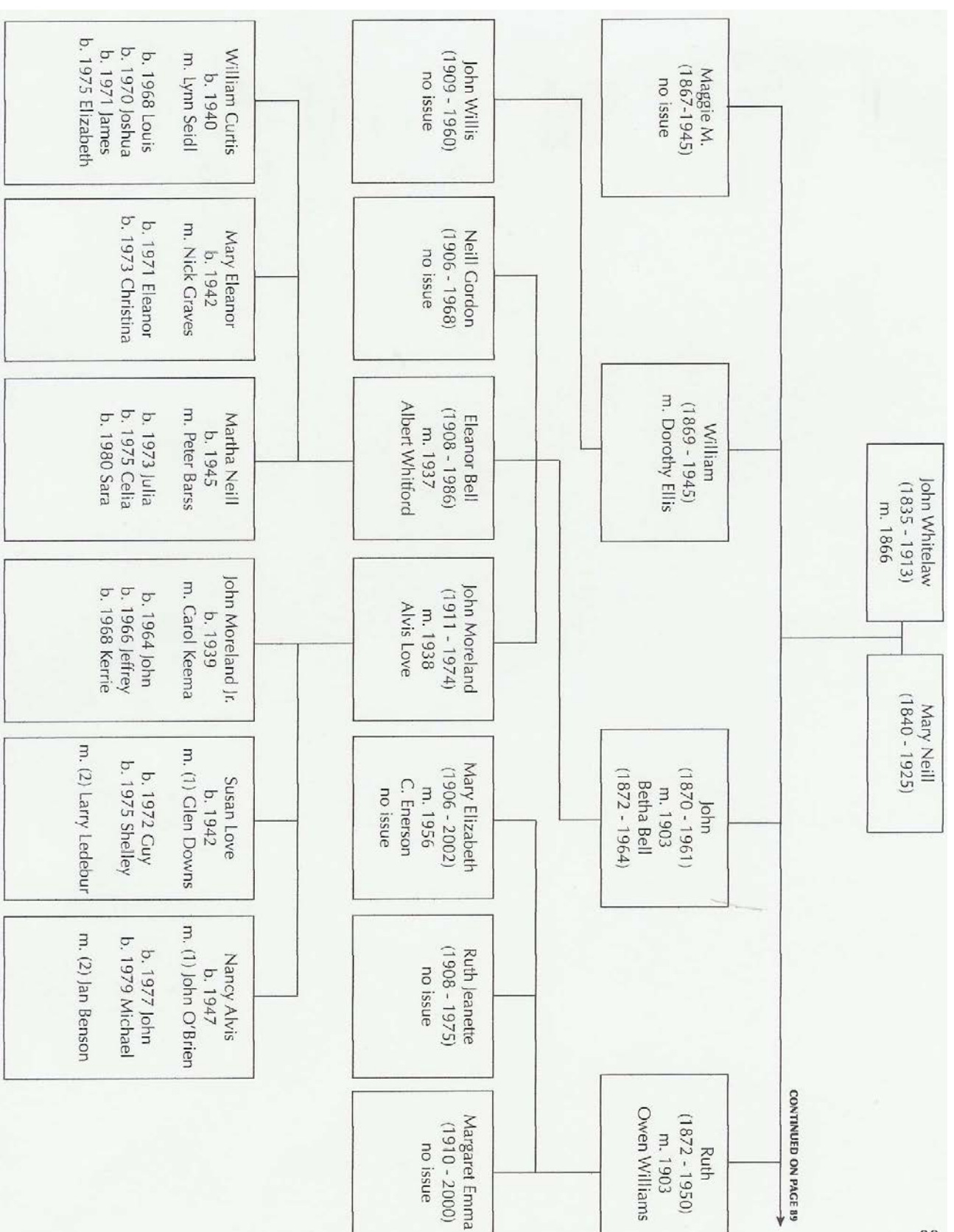
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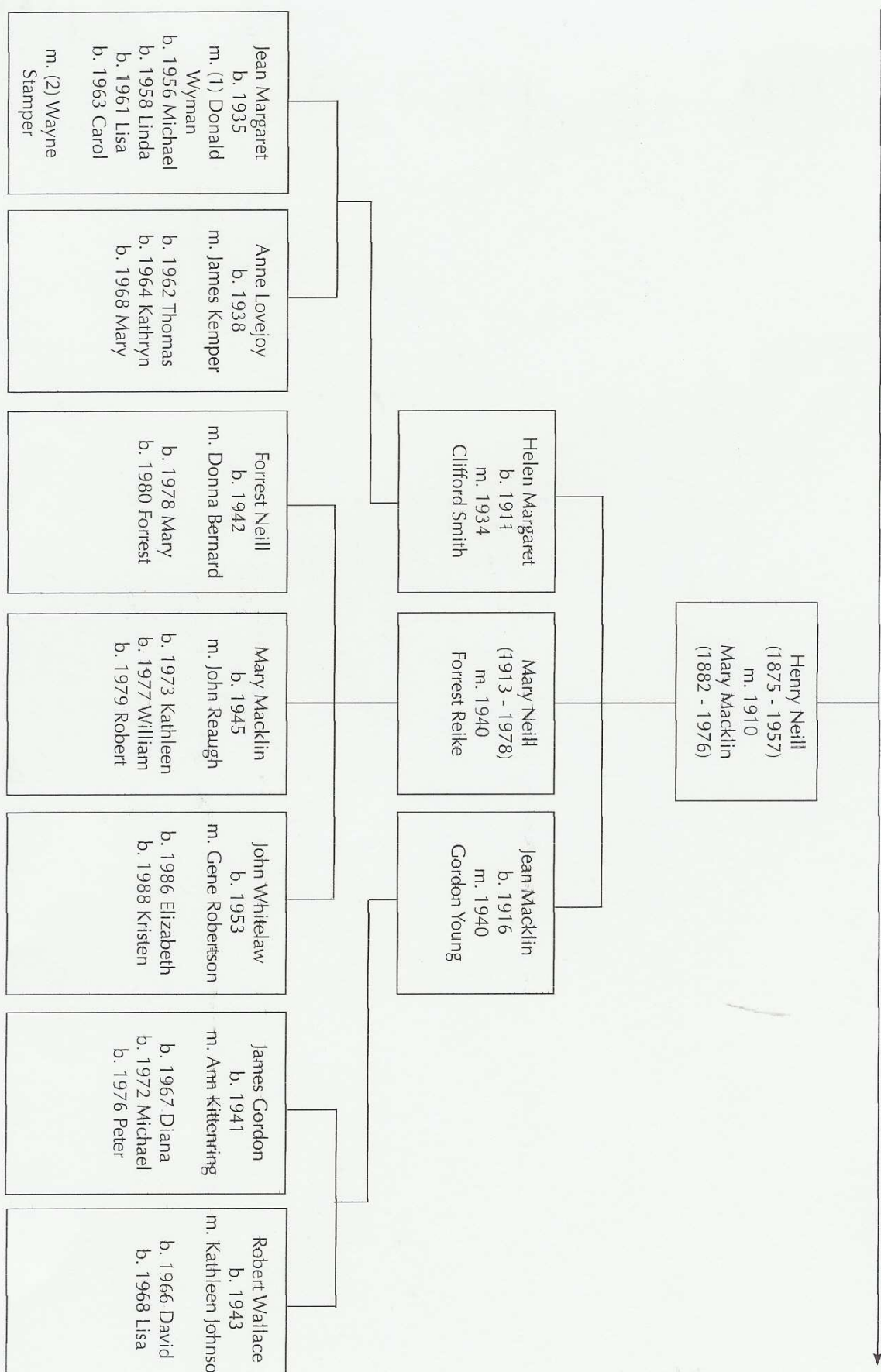
Kidder at the time of his coming was an incentive to him to remain. He had great interest both in the public and the private school life in Kidder and was ever in favor of increased taxation or private contribution to further these interests. For many years he was a member of the public school board and gave freely of his time and energy toward it. He built the present public school building. He gave each of his children complete high school education in their day, and four of them enjoyed collegiate training even at his personal sacrifice.

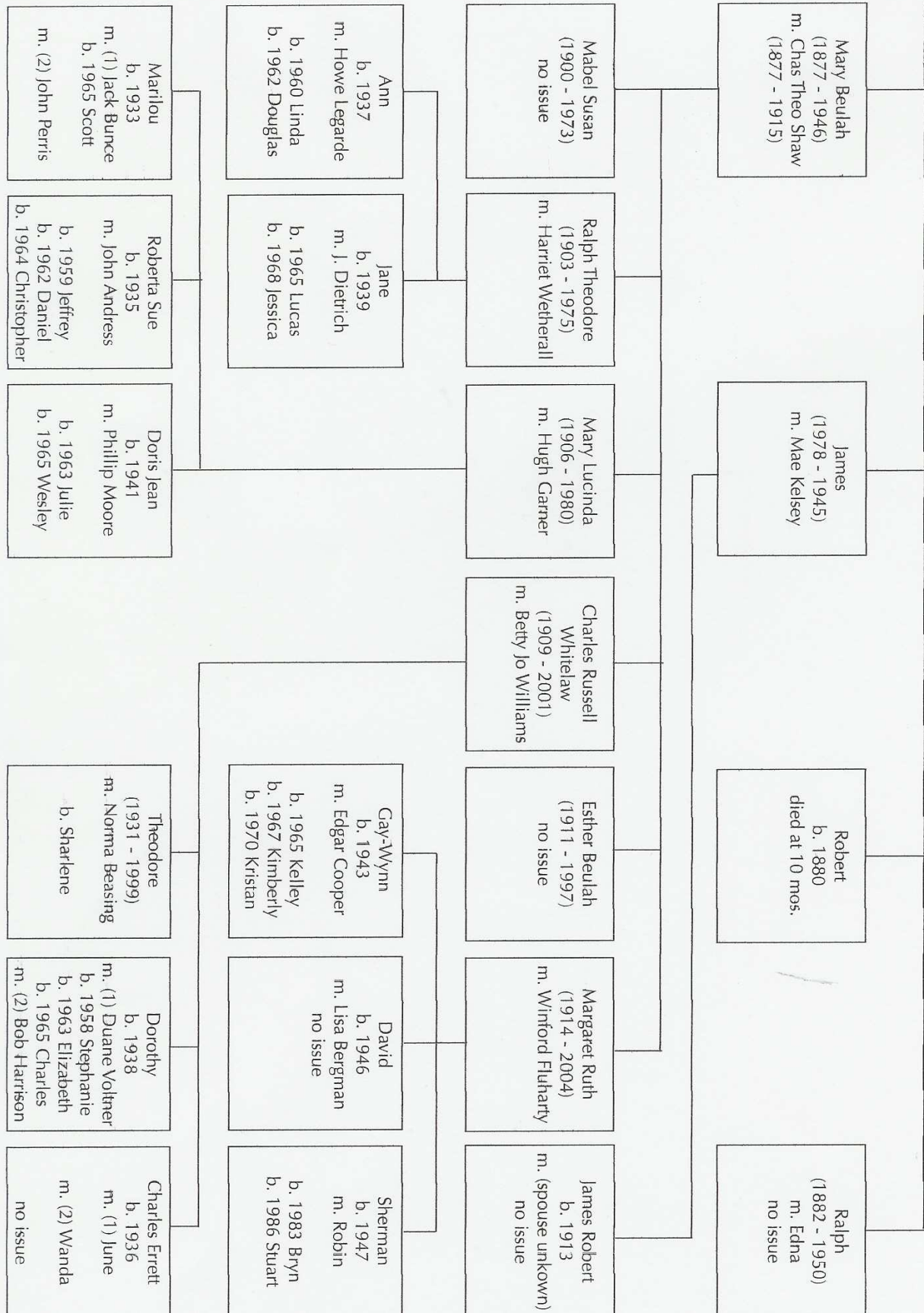
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JAMES AND JEAN TURNBULL WHITELAW FAMILY

James Whitelaw

b. 1784/85 Ricarton, Ayrshire, Scotland

A Weaver

Married: Jean Turnbull

d. Sept. 29, 1866 Scotland

James Whitelaw's parents were William Whitelaw and Margaret Henderson

Jean Turnbull Whitelaw

b. 1784/85

d. May 7, 1857

CHILDREN (five "weaver brothers" plus one sister)



James Whitelaw 1784/5 -1866 Scotland



William & Jean Wilson Whitelaw

William

b. Sept./Oct. 1807 Scotland

m. (1) Jean Wilson; (2)

Margaret Reid Martin

To USA 1855

d. Jan. 2, 1887 Kidder, MO

Children: Janet, James, Jean, John , Margaret, Ellen, William

James

b. April 30, 1811 Scotland

d. June 3, 1890 Scotland

Children: James, David, Duncan, Jean

John

b. 1814/15 Scotland

d. June 3, 1900

No issue

Andrew

b. 1817/18 Scotland

m. (1) Goldie, (2) Janet Miller

d. Jan. 25, 1907

Children: James, Mary, Jean, George, Jean, Andrew

Robert "Uncle Robert"

b. March 27, 1819 Scotland

m. Isabel Reid

To USA 1848

d. Nov. 1918 Portage, Wisconsin

Children: Rev. James, Dr. William, Mary, Susanna (Susie Johnson),
Julia, Robert, Agnes, John

Jean

b. 1825/26 Scotland

No Issue



Robert Whitelaw (1819-1918)

Jean Turnbull Whitelaw (1784/5-1857) Death Certificate

1856-60
Extract of an entry in a REGISTER of DEATHS
Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965

001752

No.	Surname and name Rank or profession and condition (whether married or single, widower or widow)	When and where died, with hour of death	Sex	Age	Parents' names and rank, profession or occupation	Cause of death and how long disease continued - Medical Attendant by whom certified and when he last saw deceased	Burial place Undertaker or other person by whom certified	Signature, qualification and residence of informant, if out of the house in which the death occurred	When and where registered and signature of registrar
416	WHITELAW Jane (Wife of a Watchman)	1857 May Seventh 9h 30m p.m. 37 William St Mile End Glasgow	F	72 years	William Turnbull Weaver (Deceased)	Neuralgia Dyspepsia & Old Age some time As Certified by I. Burns, Surgeon who saw deceased May 7th	Southern Necropolis Glasgow As Certified by Thos Mitchell Undertaker	John Whitelaw Son	1857 May 8th At Glasgow Alexander Macdon Registrar

The above particulars are extracted from a Register of Deaths for the District of Bridgeton
in the Burgh of Glasgow
on 16th October 1990

The above particulars incorporate any subsequent corrections or amendments to the original entry made with the authority of the Registrar General.

It is an offence under section 53(3) of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 for any person to pass as genuine any copy or reproduction of this extract which has not been made by the General Register Office and authenticated by the seal of that office, or made by a district registrar or assistant registrar and authenticated by his signature.

Any person who falsifies or forges any of the particulars on this extract or knowingly uses, gives or sends as genuine any false or forged extract is liable to prosecution under section 53(1) of the said Act.

Authenticating seal or signature

RXD21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Name and surname Rank or profession and whether single, married or widowed	When and where died	Sex	Age	Name, surname and rank of father Name of maiden surname of mother	Cause of death, duration of disease and medical attendant by whom certified	Signature and qualification of informant and residence, if out of the house in which the death occurred	When and where regis- tered, and signature of regis- trar

James	1846	M. S. Williams	Whitlaw	Refugee	1846
Whitlaw	Sept 1846	year	Shoemaker	in the Prison	Refugee 1st
	Sept 1846		day	1904	at Glasgow
Whitlaw	Sept 1846				
Whitlaw	Sept 1846	Margaret	at last by		William, Glasgow
Whitlaw	Sept 1846	Whitlaw	at last by		Quinn, Glasgow
Whitlaw	Sept 1846	M. S. Williams	at last by		Refugee 1st
Whitlaw	Sept 1846				

The above particulars are extracted from a Register of Deaths for the ... District ... of ... Bridgerton ...
in the ... Bury ... of ... Glasgow ...
Given under the Seal of the General Register Office, New Register House, Edinburgh, on 16th October 1900

The above particulars incorporate any subsequent corrections or amendments to the original entry made with the authority of the Registrar General.

This extract is valid only if it has been authenticated by the seal of the General Register Office. If the particulars the relevant entry in the statutory register have been reproduced by photography, xerography or some other similar process the seal must have been impressed after the reproduction has been made. The General Register Office will authenticate only those reproductions which have been produced by that office.

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RXD4(C)

WILLIAM AND JEAN WILSON (First Wife) WHITELAW FAMILY

William Whitelaw
 b. Sept./Oct. 1807 Strathaven, Lanark, Scotland
 m. Jean Wilson
 To USA 1855 (Wisconsin)
 d. Jan. 2, 1887
 buried Kidder Cemetery, MO

Jean Wilson
 b. Strathaven, Lanark, Scotland
 d. Scotland

CHILDREN



Lizzie Manning & Janet Whitelaw Wilson

Janet
 b. March 20, 1833 Scotland
 m. James Wilson
 d. USA
 Children: Margaret, Janet, William, James, John, Elizabeth (Lizzie Manning), Helen

James
 b. 1831 Scotland
 m. Elizabeth
 Children: Elizabeth (m. Fairbanks), William, Jean (m. Hamilton), Janet (m. McCabe), John, Alfred, Catherine

Jean
 b. Scotland
 m. Semple
 lived in Pendleton, OR
 Children: Mabel (m. Hoover)

John
 b. Jan. 30, 1835 Scotland
 m. Mary Neill 1866
 d. Aug. 19, 1913 Seattle, WA
 buried Kidder Cemetery, Kidder, MO
 Children: William, Maggie, John, Ruth, Henry, Mary, James, Robert, Ralph



John Whitelaw (1835-1913)



William & Jean Wilson Whitelaw



3 Cousins: Mabel Hoover, Lizzie Manning, & Maggie Whitelaw

Pictured at right: Mabel Hoover (Jean Semple's daughter) ;
 Lizzie Manning (Janet Wilson's daughter); Maggie Whitelaw (John Whitelaw's daughter).

**WILLIAM AND
MARGARET REID
MARTIN
(Second Wife)
WHITELAW FAMILY**

William Whitelaw (*see
preceding page*)

Margaret Reid Martin Whitelaw
b. July, 1814 Scotland
d. Sept. 26, 1888 Kidder, MO
Buried Kidder Cemetery



William & Margaret Whitelaw (?)



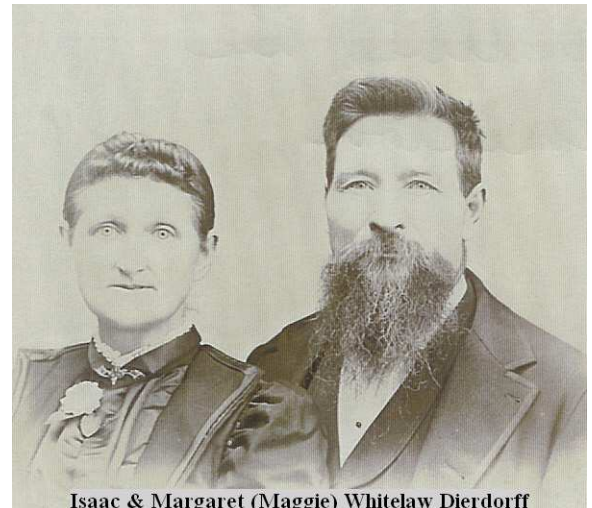
William & Margaret Whitelaw (?)

CHILDREN

Margaret "Aunt
Maggie"
b. Aug. 3, 1845
m. 1872 Isaac Dierdorff
lived: Hamilton, MO
d. Sept. 21, 1932
Child: Grace (m.
Maupin)



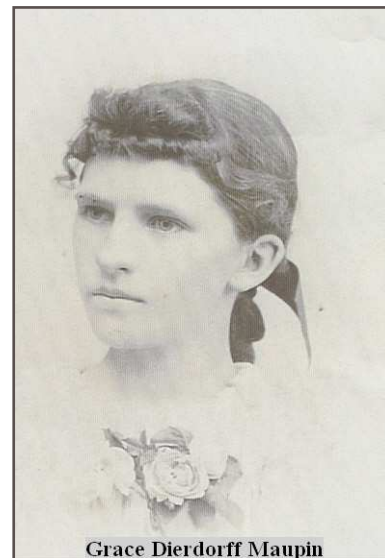
Margaret Whitelaw (Dierdorff)



Isaac & Margaret (Maggie) Whitelaw Dierdorff

Ellen "Aunt Ella"
m. Murrell
lived: Hamilton, MO
Children: Maude (m.
Wendell), Leona,
Florence, Viola (m.
Baines, 1 son),
Raymond (2 sons),
Milton, John (son John),
Bernice (1 child)

William
Birth and death unknown



Grace Dierdorff Maupin

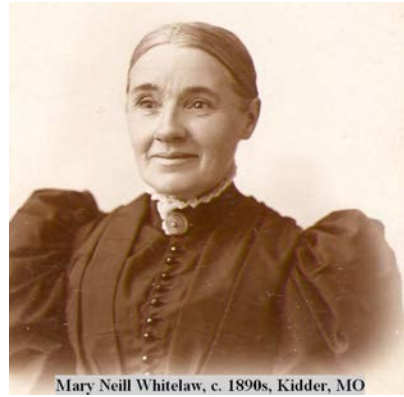
JOHN AND MARY NEILL WHITELAW FAMILY



Married 1866
Caledonia, WI

John Whitelaw 1935 - 1913

John Whitelaw
Born Jan. 30, 1835 Strathaven, Scotland
Died Aug. 19, 1913 Seattle, WA
Buried Kidder Cemetery, Kidder, MO



Mary Neill Whitelaw, c. 1890s, Kidder, MO

Mary Neill Whitelaw
Born Dec. 9, 1840 Mill O'Tor, Scotland
Died August 17, 1925 At Home Kidder, MO
Buried Kidder Cemetery, Kidder, MO



Maggie M. Whitelaw

Maggie M. Whitelaw
B. May 3, 1867 Kidder, MO
Lived in Kidder, MO
D. Dec. 2, 1945 At Home Kidder, MO
Buried Kidder Cemetery, Kidder, MO
No Issue



William Whitelaw

William (Will) Neill Whitelaw
B. March 7, 1869 Kidder, MO
M. Dorothy Ellis
Lived in Seattle, WA
D. Nov. 28, 1944 Seattle, WA
Interred, Seattle, WA



John Whitelaw, c. 1900

John Whitelaw, Jr.
B. Dec. 10, 1870 Kidder, MO
M. Bertha Elizabeth Bell Jan. 21, 1903
Lived in DeSoto, KS
D. Jan. 15, 1961 DeSoto, KS
Buried DeSoto Cemetery



Ruth Ella Whitelaw
 B. Dec. 12, 1872 Kidder, MO
 M: Owen Williams Dec. 9, 1903 Kidder, MO
 Lived in Cambria, WI
 D. Feb. 7, 1950 Cambria, WI
 Buried Cambria, WI



Henry Neill Whitelaw
 B. April 27, 1875, Kidder, MO
 M. Mary Macklin Sept. 7, 1910 Pasadena CA
 Lived in Oakesdale, WA and Corvallis, OR
 D. July 19, 1957 Corvallis, OR
 Buried Mont Abbey Cemetery, Salem, OR



Mary Beulah Whitelaw
 B. April 16, 1877 Kidder, MO
 M. Charles Theodore Shaw May 10, 1899 Kidder, MO
 Lived in Cameron, MO
 D. Aug. 15, 1946, Cameron, MO
 Buried Kidder Cemetery



James Whitelaw
 B. Dec. 1, 1878 Kidder, MO
 M. Mae Kelsey
 Lived in Washington
 D. Feb. 7, 1945 Seattle, WA
 Interred Seattle, WA

Robert Whitelaw
 B. Nov. 5, 1880 Kidder, MO
 D. 1881, age 10 mos.;
 Buried Kidder Cemetery



Ralph Whitelaw
 B. Nov. 2, 1882 Kidder, MO
 M. Edna
 Lived in Kansas
 D. Oct. 16, 1951 U. of Kansas Hospital, KS
 Buried Kidder Cemetery
 No Issue

JOHN AND BERTHA BELL WHITELOW FAMILY



John Whitelaw, Jr.
B. Dec. 10, 1870 Kidder, MO
D. Jan. 15, 1961 DeSoto, KS
Buried DeSoto Cemetery

Bertha Bell Whitelaw
B. Feb. 1, 1872 Earlham, IA
D. Aug. 24, 1964 Gardner, KS
Buried DeSoto Cemetery

Married Jan. 21, 1903



Jean Whitelaw
B. Nov. 1904, Kidder, MO
D. Nov. 13, 1904, Kidder, MO
Buried: Kidder Cemetery



Neill Gordon Whitelaw
B. Jan. 29, 1906 Kidder, MO
Lived in Clinton, SC
D. July, 1968 Clinton, SC
Never Married
No Issue



Eleanor Bell Whitelaw
B. July 9, 1908 Kidder, MO
M. Albert Whitford Oct. 23, 1937 Wisconsin
Lived in Wisconsin and California
D. Sept. 3, 1986 Santa Cruz, CA



John Moreland Whitelaw
B. June 4, 1911 DeSoto KS
M. Alvis Love Sept. 2, 1938 Oregon
Lived in Portland, OR
D. Apr. 1974 Portland, OR



JOHN AND BERTHA BELL WHITELOW FAMILY (cont'd)

ALBERT AND ELEANOR BELL WHITELOW WHITFORD FAMILY



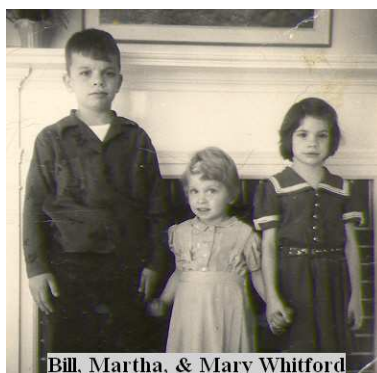
Eleanor Bell Whitelaw
B. July 9, 1908 Kidder, MO
D. Sept. 3, 1986 Santa Cruz, CA

Married Oct. 23, 1937

Albert Whitford
B. Oct. 22, 1905
D. March 28, 2002



Albert & Eleanor Whitford, Bertha Whitelaw



Bill, Martha, & Mary Whitford

William Curtis Whitford

B. Jan. 16, 1940

M. Lynn Seidl

Lives in Madison WI

Children: Alfred Louis Whitford (b. 1968) married; lives in Seattle, WA; child: Olivia

Joshua David Whitford (b. 1970) lives in New York City, NY

James Bryce Whitford (b. 1971) married; lives in Miami, OH

Elizabeth Lynn Whitford (b. 1975) married, lives in Seattle, WA

Mary Eleanor Whitford

B. June 10, 1942

M. Nicholas Graves

Lives in San Francisco, CA

Children: Eleanor Anne Graves (b. 1971) lives in Virginia

Christina Currey Graves (b. 1973) lives in New York City

Martha Neill Whitford

B. Feb. 19, 1945

M. Peter Barss

Lives in Baltimore, MD

Children: Julia Claire Barss (b. 1973) married; lives in Toronto, Ont., two children

Celia Martha Barss (b. 1975) lives in Toronto, Ont.

Sara Barss (b. 1980)



JOHN AND BERTHA BELL WHITELOW FAMILY (cont'd)

JOHN MORELAND AND ALVIS RUTH LOVE WHITELOW FAMILY



John Moreland Whitelaw
B. June 4, 1911 DeSoto KS
OR
D. Apr. 1974 Portland, OR
MI

Married Sept. 2, 1938
Salem, Oregon

Alvis Ruth Love
B. 10/14, 1911 Woodburn,
D. May, 1998 Royal Oak,



John Moreland Whitelaw, Jr.
B. Oct. 3, 1939 Portland, OR
M. Carol Keema
Lives in Sacramento, CA

Children: John Neill (b. 1964) lives in Sacramento, CA m. Jayne; Children: John, Keema
Jeffrey James (b. 1966) lives in Sacramento, CA m. Tamara; Children: Conor, Riley
Kerrie Ruth (b. 1968) lives in San Francisco, m. Adam Barry; Children: Samantha Sierra, Rory

Susan Love Whitelaw
B. Oct. 18, 1942 Portland, OR
M. (1) Glen Downs (2) Larry Ledebur
Lives in Cleveland, OH

Children: Guy Hershey Downs (b. 1972) lives in Ypsilanti, MI m. Shonnie Becker; Child: Gabriel
Shelley Brenner (b. 1975) lives in Traverse City, MI m. David Brenner, Children: Mia, Eva

Nancy Alvis Whitelaw
B. Dec. 16, 1947 Portland, OR
M. (1) John O'Brien (2) Jan Benson
Lives in Royal Oak, MI
Children: John Whitelaw O'Brien (b. 1977), lives in Chicago, Ill.
Michael O'Brien (b. 1979), lives in Paris, France

OWEN AND RUTH WHITELAW WILLIAMS FAMILY



Owen Williams
B.Dec. 9, 1857
D. Feb. 28, 1948
Buried Cambria, WI

Ruth Ella Whitelaw
B. Dec. 12, 1872
D. Feb. 7, 1950
Buried Cambria, WI

Married: Dec. 9, 1903 Kidder, MO



Garvin Daniel Williams (Ruth's stepson)
Married Rena
Lived in Minnesota
No Issue



Mary Elizabeth Williams
B. May 2, 1906 Cambria, WI
M. Clifford Enerson Cambria, WI
Lived in Cambria, WI
D. April 19, 2002 Madison, WI
No Issue



Ruth Jeanette Williams
B. May 13, 1908, Cambria, WI
Lived in Chicago, IL.
D. Dec. 5, 1975 Chicago, Ill.
Never Married
No Issue



Margaret Emma Williams
B. Aug. 13, 1910 Cambria, WI
Lived in Madison, WI
D. 2000 Madison, WI
Never Married
No Issue

HENRY NEILL AND MARY MACKLIN WHITELAW FAMILY



Henry Neill Whitelaw
Born April 27, 1875
Died July 19, 1957
Buried Corvallis, OR

Mary Edith Macklin
Born Nov. 8, 1882
Died Feb. 22, 1976
Buried Corvallis, OR



M. M. Whitelaw

Married Sept. 7, 1910, Pasadena, CA



Helen Margaret Whitelaw
B. Oct. 7, 1911 Oakesdale, WA
M. Clifford L. Smith 1934
Lived in Corvallis, OR
D.



Mary Neill Whitelaw
B. Oct. 26, 1913 Oakesdale, WA
M. Forrest E. Rieke 1940
Lived in Portland, OR
D. Feb. 28, 1978 Costa Rica



Jean Macklin Whitelaw
B. July 14, 1916 Oakesdale, WA
M. Gordon Wallace Young 1940
Lives in Seattle, WA



HENRY NEILL AND MARY MACKLIN WHITELAW FAMILY (cont'd)

CLIFFORD AND HELEN MARGARET WHITELAW SMITH FAMILY

Clifford Smith
B. Feb. 23, 1907
D. March 8, 1991

Married May 30, 1934
Corvallis, OR

Helen Margaret Whitelaw
B. Oct. 7, 1911
D.



Helen Smith, back row far left; Clifford Smith on her left.
In front of her, daughter Jean. Daughter Anne is in the front row,
second from right.



Jean Margaret Smith
B. July 15, 1935 Corvallis, OR
M. (1) Donald Wyman (2) Wayne Stamper
Lives in Portland, OR

Children: Michael Bruce Wyman (b. 1956) m. Barbara Wayson
Linda Anne Wyman (b. 1958) m. James Robert Blinkhorn
Lisa Marie Wyman (b. 1961) m. Richard Hill
Carol Elizabeth Wyman (b. 1963) m. Christopher Walker

Anne Lovejoy Smith
B. Nov. 10, 1938 Corvallis, OR
M. James Kepner
Lives in Portland, OR

Children: Thomas James Kepner (b. 1962)
Kathryn Lovejoy Kepner (b. 1964) m. Alan Lynn Dee
Mary Margaret Kepner (b. 1968) m. David John Martinez



HENRY NEILL AND MARY MACKLIN WHITELOW FAMILY (cont'd)

FORREST AND MARY NEILL WHITELOW RIEKE FAMILY

Forrest Eugene Rieke
B. Dec. 29, 1913
D. Feb. 28, 1978

Married 1940

Mary Neill Whitelaw
B. Oct. 26, 1913
D. Feb. 28, 1978



. Picture on right: Forrest (Joe), John, and Mary Mac Rieke.

Forrest Neill Rieke
B. May 26, 1942 Seattle, WA
M. Donna Bernardi
Lives in Zig Zag, OR
Children: Mary Jane Rieke (b. 1978)
Forrest Rieke (b. 1980)

Mary Macklin Rieke
B. Sept. 12, 1945 Portland, OR
M. John Reaugh
Lives in California
Children: Kathleen Elizabeth Reaugh (b. 1973)
William Patrick Reaugh (b. 1977)
Robert Henry Reaugh (b. 1979)

John Whitelaw Rieke
B. May 9, 1953 Portland, OR
Lives in Seattle, WA
M. Gene Robertson
Children: Elizabeth Whitelaw Rieke (b. 1986)
Kristen Margaret Rieke (b. 1988)



HENRY NEILL AND MARY MACKLIN WHITELAW FAMILY (cont'd)

GORDON WALLACE AND JEAN MACKLIN WHITELAW YOUNG FAMILY

Gordon Wallace Young
B. March 14, 1911

Married 1940
Corvallis, OR

Jean Macklin Whitelaw
B. July 14, 1916



Mary Rieke, Helen Smith, Jean & Gordon Young, Forrest Rieke, Clifford Smith, Corvallis, OR 1940



Henry & Mary Whitelaw, Children & Grandchildren, Corvallis, OR c. 1947

Picture at left: Jean and Gordon Young on their wedding day. Picture at right: Gordon is in back row, second from right; Jean is in the middle row, second from left; son James Gordon is in the front row, far left, and son Robert Wallace is in the front row, far right.

James Gordon Young
B. May 10, 1941 Corvallis, OR
M. Ann Kettenring
Lives in Washington
Children: Diana Jean Young (b. 1967)
Michael Roberts Young (b. 1972)
Peter Fredric Young (b. 1976)

Robert Wallace Young
B. April 28, 1943
M. Kathleen Johnson
Lives in Wheaton, Ill.
Children: David Whitelaw Young (b. 1966)
Lisa Katherine Young (b. 1968) Lives in Wausau, WI

CHARLES THEODORE AND MARY BEULAH WHITELOW SHAW FAMILY



Chas. Theodore (Theo) Shaw, Kidder, MO.

Charles Theodore Shaw
B. March 1, 1877
D. Feb. 13, 1915
Buried Kidder Cemetery

Mary B.W. Shaw
B. Apr. 16, 1877
D. Aug. 15, 1946
Buried Kidder
Cemetery

Married May 10, 1899
Kidder, MO



Mary Whitelaw Shaw



Mabel Shaw c. 1900

Mabel Susan Shaw
B. Nov. 25, 1900
Lived in Missouri
D. Apr. 11, 1973
No issue

Charles R.W. Shaw
B. Feb. 4, 1909
Lived in Missouri
M. Betty Jo Williams 1930
D. June 16, 2001



Charles R.W. Shaw



Ralph Theodore Shaw

Ralph Theodore Shaw
B. Sept. 5, 1903
Lived in New York, Texas
M. Harriet Wetherall, 1929
D. Aug. 17, 1975

Esther Beulah Shaw
B. Aug. 1911
Lived in St. Louis, MO
D. Nov. 27, 1997
No issue



Esther Shaw



Mary Lucinda (Lucy) Shaw, 1927

Mary Lucinda Shaw
B. Sept. 26, 1906
M. Hugh Garner, 1932
Lived in Osborn, MO
D. June 23, 1980

Margaret Ruth Shaw
B. Feb. 9, 1914
M. Winford Fluhrty 1942
Lived in Seattle, WA
D. 2004



Margaret Ruth Shaw c. 1935



CHARLES THEODORE AND MARY BEULAH WHITELAW SHAW FAMILY (cont'd)

RALPH THEODORE AND HARRIET WETHERALL SHAW FAMILY

Ralph Theodore Shaw
B. Sept. 5, 1903
D. Aug. 23, 1975

Married 1929
Port Arthur, TX

Harriett Wetherall
B. Sept. 24, 1902
D. Jan. 10, 1994



Ann Shaw
B. Feb. 22, 1937
M. 1959 Howe Lagarde, Jr.
Lives in Arden, NC
Children: Linda (b. 1960)
Douglas (b. 1962)

Jane Shaw
B. Feb. 20, 1939
M. 1963 J. Kimball Dietrich
Children: Lucas Timothy (b. 1965)
Jessica Shaw (b. 1968)



CHARLES THEODORE AND MARY BEULAH WHITELAW SHAW FAMILY (cont'd)

HUGH AND MARY LUCINDA SHAW GARNER FAMILY

Hugh Merritt Garner
B. Aug. 11, 1906
D. Sept. 18, 1999

Married 1932 Cameron, MO

Mary Lucinda Shaw
B. Sept. 26, 1906
D. June 26, 1980



Picture on left: back row, from left: Lucy Shaw Garner, Charles Shaw, Hugh Garner; Middle row: Mary Whitelaw Shaw, Ted Shaw (Charles Shaw's son), Esther Shaw; Front row: Charles Errett Shaw (Charles Shaw's son), Marilou Garner, Roberta Sue Garner, Dorothy Shaw (Charles Shaw's daughter.)

Picture on right: Lucy and Hugh Garner on their wedding day.

Marilou Shaw
B. Sept. 27, 1933 Osborn, MO
M. 1961 (1) Jack Warren Bunce (1927-1975) (2) 1978 John Rolf Perris (b. 1930)
Child: Scott Bunce (b. 1965) m. Carrie Ann McGowan

Roberta Sue Shaw
B. Dec. 28, 1935
M. June 8, 1959 John Henry Address
Lives in Tutusville, FL
Children: Jeffrey Arthur Address (b.1959) m. Donna Faye Smith; Children: Jennifer Christy, Jeremy Daniel John Address (b. 1962) m. Jean Marie Duva
Christopher Lee Address (b. 1964)

Doris Jean Shaw
B. March 12, 1941
M. 1961 Phillip Knight Moore
Lives in Pleasant Hill, MO
Children: Julie Lynn Moore (b.1963) m. David Rawlings
Wesley Knight Moore (b.1965) m. Janet Juanita, Children: Sharon Lucinda, Alexander Knight, Josiah Emerson, Katherine Irene, Charles Garner, Hosanna Ruth.



CHARLES THEODORE AND MARY BEULAH WHITELAW SHAW FAMILY (cont'd)

CHARLES RUSSELL WHITELAW AND BETTY JO WILLIAMS SHAW FAMILY



Charles R.W. Shaw
B. 1909
D. 2001

Married 1930

Betty Jo Williams
B. 1908
D. 1995



Charles Shaw Family c. 1940

Theodore Whitelaw Shaw
B. 1931
M. Norma Beasing
D. 1999

Children: Sharlene Shaw m. Ron Perrington, Children: Madison, Charlie
Vincent Charles Shaw

Dorothy Shaw
B. 1938
M. (1) 1957 Duane Eugene Voltner (2) Bob Harrison
Lives in Columbia, MO

Children: Stephanie Lynn Voltner (b. 1958) m. (1) Daniel Hendren; Child: Samantha Leigh; m. (2) Don;
Child: Elizabeth Diane Voltner
Elizabeth Leigh Voltner (b.1963) m. Tim Chibnall; Children: Jack Henry Chibnall-Voltner,
Maude Amelia Chibnall-Voltner
Charles Whitelaw Voltner (b.1965) m. Amy McAdams; Children: Asher Charles, Sophia Pearl.

Charles Errett Shaw
B. 1936
M. (1) June Holland Shaw (2) Wanda Shaw
No Issue



CHARLES THEODORE AND MARY BEULAH WHITELAW SHAW FAMILY (cont'd)

WINFORD DAY AND MARGARET RUTH SHAW FLUHARTY FAMILY

Winford Day Fluharty
B. 5/27/1907
D. 9/30/2000

Married 1942
Kidder, MO

Margaret Ruth Shaw
B. 1914



Margaret Ruth Shaw Fluharty's Wedding, Whitelaw Home, Kidder, 1942

GayWynn Fluharty
B. 5/28/1943 Seattle, WA
M. Edgar Eugene Cooper
Lives in Embudo, NM
Step -Children: Kelley Ann Cooper (b. 1965) m. Garcia
Kimberly Rae Cooper (b. 1967)
Kristan Jean Cooper (b. 1970)

David Lincoln Fluharty
B. 1/30/1946 Seattle, WA
Lives in Seattle, WA
M. Lisa Bergman
No Issue

Sherman Dennis Fluharty
B. 11/29/1947 Seattle, WA
M. Robin
Children: Bryn Lee Fluharty (1983)
Stuart Winford Fluharty (1986)

WILLIAM NEILL AND DOROTHY ELLIS WHITELAW FAMILY



William (Will) Neill Whitelaw
B. March 7, 1869 Kidder, MO
D. Nov. 28, 1944 Seattle, WA
Interred, Seattle, WA
Married Dorothy Ellis
Lived in Seattle, WA



John Willis Whitelaw
B. Sept. 11, 1908 Everett, WA
D. 1960 Seattle, WA
Lived in Seattle, WA
No issue

JAMES AND MAE KELSEY WHITELAW FAMILY



James Whitelaw Married Mae Kelsey

B. Dec. 1, 1878 Kidder, MO
D. Feb. 7, 1945 Seattle, WA
Lived in Spokane and Seattle, WA
Interred Seattle, WA



James Robert Whitelaw
B. 1913, Spokane, WA
D. date unknown;
Lived in Seattle, WA
Married
No issue: step-children

FUNERAL OF MRS. DIERDORFF

Funeral services for Mrs. Margaret Dierdorff who passed away on Wednesday evening of last week were held at the First M. E. Church Friday afternoon by Rev. J. W. Ward, the pastor. Interment was by the side of her companion in Highland Cemetery.

Margaret H. Whitelaw was born in Strathaven, Scotland, August 3rd, 1845, and passed away in Hamilton, Mo., September 21st, 1932, aged 87 years, 1 month and 18 days. Her parents removed to Glasgow when she was small, leaving there in 1856 to make a home in America, settling near Portage, Wisconsin. In 1867 they came to Missouri settling on a farm in Daviess county, where in 1872 she married I. S. Dierdorff. Her husband passed away September 23, 1924, just eight years ago. She is survived by her daughter, Mrs. Grace Maupin, and five grandchildren, Mrs. Richard Rhodes, Harry, Gerald, Ernest and Dale Maupin of Kansas City, Kansas, and one sister, Mrs. Ella W. Murrell. She has a number of nieces and nephews in different parts of the United States, only Miss Maggie Whitelaw and sister Mrs. Mary B. Shaw of Cameron and Raymond Murrell of Kansas City, Mo., living near. To the daughter and grandchildren her memory is very precious, and to the Murrell and Whitelaw children she will always be the beloved and revered "Little Auntie." She has gone home to the rest she has longed and prayed for, to meet her loved ones again, and be with the God and Savior she so loved and trusted.

HERE FOR DIERDORFF FUNERAL

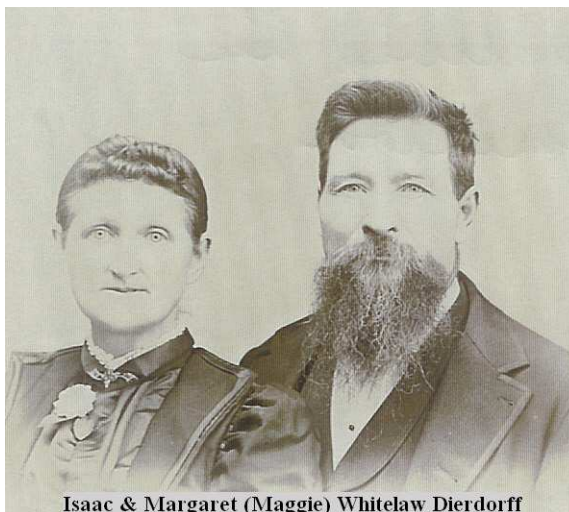
Among the relatives from 'out of town' who came to attend the funeral of Mrs. Margaret Dierdorff held at the Methodist Church Friday afternoon are included Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rhodes and daughters Geraldine and Shirley, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Maupin, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Maupin, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Maupin, Dale Maupin and W. R. Murrell, all of Kansas City.

and grandchildren.

Mrs. Ella W. Murrell

Mrs. Grace Maupin and Family.

Obituary of Margaret Whitelaw Dierdorff, sister of John Whitelaw



Isaac & Margaret (Maggie) Whitelaw Dierdorff

DEATH OF JOHN W. MURRELL

Former Hamilton Young Man Dies in
Wichita, Kansas—Funeral Party
Here Monday

John Whitelaw Murrell, 35 years old, died at his home in Wichita, Kansas, last Saturday morning. He was the son of Mrs. Ella Murrell of this city and was 35 years, 2 months and 3 days old. He was born in Hamilton and spent his boyhood here. Mrs. Murrell was called to Wichita by the critical illness of her son and reached there Friday afternoon.

The remains were brought to Hamilton Monday morning and funeral services were held at the Baptist church here that afternoon, conducted by Rev. W. W. Anderson. The Masonic ritual for the dead was read at the grave in Highland Cemetery, members of the order here attending.

Mr. Murrell had not entirely recovered from the effects of a tooth he had had extracted two months before his death, but was at his work and

told his associates the day before the final attack came that he was feeling better. He was taken suddenly ill on Wednesday evening of last week and regained consciousness only for a few minutes after that.

The deceased was married to Gertrude Mikel and to this union one son, John, Jr., was born. The widow and four year old son, his aged mother, and several sisters and one brother, Raymond, survive.

Mr. Murrell for some time was assistant manager of the Vacuum Oil Company in Kansas City, but about 18 months ago he went to Wichita, Kansas, as sales manager of the lubricating department of the western division of the Marland Oil Company. He stood very high with the Marland company and Messrs. W. D. Hacker and C. R. Blevins of the Wichita office came with the funeral party as an escort. George Hammill, general manager of the central division, and seven of his associates in the St. Joseph office drove here for the funeral, as did several Kansas City men who were associated with Mr. Murrell when he was with the Vacuum Oil Company.

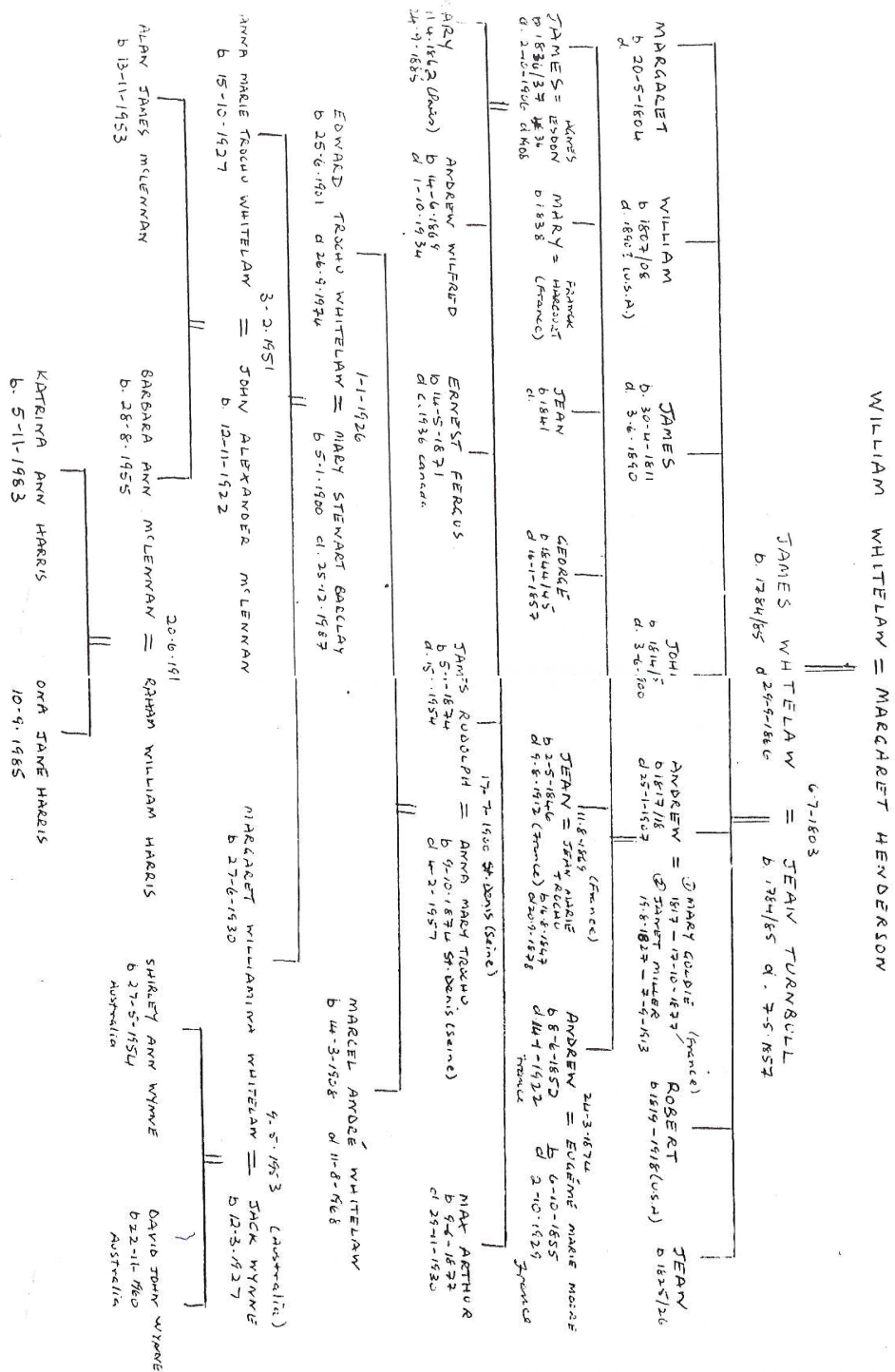
Mr. Murrell was a member of the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and several Masonic bodies of the York Rite in Kansas City and also Ararat Temple of the Shrine.

Funeral services were held at Downing Mortuary in Wichita Sunday afternoon, conducted by Dr. W. F. Abell, pastor of the College Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, who is known as the pastor of the oil men. The executive offices of the Marland Company in Wichita were closed Saturday on account of the death of Mr. Murrell and several officials of the head office in Ponca City, Okla., attended the services in Wichita.

Obituary of John W. Murrell, son of John Whitelaw's sister, Ella Whitelaw Murrell.

(note – last line of the obituary reads: “attended the service in Wichita.)

Whitelaw Family Tree, Showing the Andrew Whitelaw Line, by Anna Trochu Whitelaw



Letter from James Rudolph Whitelaw to William Whitelaw (Son of John and Mary Neill Whitelaw)

Son of John W. & Mary Neill

"Glenview"
Uplawmoor
Renfrewshire
Scotland 22/3/42

My dear Cousin William,

I received your letter of 2/2/42 on 6/3/42, and I sent you immediately a post card announcing its arrival which I trust you received.

I was indeed surprised and delighted to have your letter, which brought back to me memories of letter wiring with American kinsmen, beginning with 1906, up till 1916, since when, in 1927 I corresponded with Mrs. Manning, who also came over here that year. I corresponded with my Grand-uncle Robert, who wrote wonderfully for his age. (By the way, will you kindly tell me the date of his death?) I have a photo of him surrounded by four grandchildren, all girls, Margaret and Julia Johnston, Marion Marshall, and Margaret Whitelaw. I have also a snapshot of him reading (without glasses). I have also a photo of him in front of his house with a gathering of the Clan about him. ~~At~~ I have also a copy of the Portage Daily Register of 21/3/16 giving his picture on his 97th birthday. I have also a similar picture in Leslie's Weekly of 6/4/16.

One of my first correspondents was Mrs. Marshall (1906) from Lodi. My last correspondent was Mrs. Manning (1927). Although Mrs. Manning was here and the only one from America I have seen, I now find myself without data as to which of the two American pedigree stems to which she belongs. From what I can gather Mrs. Manning was your full cousin, and I also learned from her that it was her Aunt Maggie (your sister) who was mainly interested in the family tree. I think that Mrs. Johnston was also much interested. Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Johnston stand out so conspicuously in the family group. Please give Mrs. Johnston our warmest heartfelt wishes. How much I wish the impossible wish that I could come over and see you all.

I have two letters from your father (1906 and 1907), which are especially interesting, since he recalls in detail his boyhood life here, in company with my father and his cousin David, all boys together.

Now, as regards those on this side of the Atlantic Ditch, there is not a great deal to be said. Of the three brothers who remained behind here, there are no descendants of John. James left two sons, David and Duncan (no descendants). David married twice, there being two daughters married in England. His two sons died without issue. By his second wife David had one son, a Doctor with whom I was occasionally in contact, but he moved to England and the connection has been lost, temporarily.

Andrew, my grandfather, had two sons, James (my father) and Andrew. Andrew settled and died in France, left no male descendants. His only daughter, Jean, married a French schoolmaster, Edouard Trochu, and their daughter, Anna, is my wife. There are none of the Whitelaw name now in France.

My father, James, the son of Andrew, had four sons and one daughter. I am the only survivor. My brother, Ernest Fergus, went to Toronto before the last war, and died there six years ago, only leaving one daughter, married and still there. He got on very well there and was consul for Chile. He had about a dozen languages on the tip of his tongue.

There is thus on this side, only two of the third generation from the "Five Brothers", Doctor William, who had two daughters when he went to England, and myself, with two sons, Edouard, married with two daughters and Marcel, unmarried. Marcel has been in the army, invalided out.

As for myself, I have had a happy, crowded, uneventful humble life, unattended by any misfortune or illness, and feel most grateful for my lot, and the way I have been led, a way of pleasantness, and a path of peace. Worries arose to be dealt with on the spot, bearing in mind the most ancient written words in the English tongue:

"Thaes oferode; thisses swa maeg".
That over-rode; so may this be.

For over 40 years, the commercial portion of my life has been spent in the meat trade, in all its branches, in the course of which I even spent a little time in the Argentine, in a packing house at Las Palmas on the Parana, between Buenos Aires and Rosario, overhauling the internal administration there.

I have a butcher-shop, strange to say, never having handled a knife in my life, and I also hold a post in the Ministry of Food, dealing with all the by-products that arise, a subject that has always interested me in this trade. I have the same post in the same room where I sat during the last war, 25 years ago, having been asked to take it up again.

Since you have seen the photos, you will know that we live in a nice little house, with a nice little garden, about 14 miles from Glasgow, on the way to Kilmarnock. There is one Church, one Inn, and one policeman, and one school, to look after the wants of sixty homesteads, quite in the country, seemingly a hundred miles from anywhere, with a loch full of swans, ducks, etc., surrounded by woods and hills, with an overlooking mediaeval tower. Everything is beautiful and peaceful, except of course these days when we hear our ships firing at sea, or hear the grating grinding growl of the winged Huns passing in single file at night on their way to bomb Glasgow and the Clyde, and the guns on the hills roaring at them, and our doors and windows bang and rattle.

Now I think I shall stop for this time. There is so much that could be said, so many subjects to talk over; the war, the state of things in this little island, the vast spaces, energies, potentialities of mighty America, not to mention the Things-of-the-Spirit that, sad to say, have been so much neglected here and in America, for which neglect we are suffering today.

I am leaving it to you, as you suggested, to pass along any words of mine to kith and kin who may be interested in the House of Whitelaw, and particularly in the Five Weaver Brothers who each sat at a weaving-loom, one hundred years ago, in Riccarton, Kilmarnock, Scotland, under the just, earnest eye of their father, your great grandfather.

I am sending one copy of this letter now, and shall post a duplicate later on, in case this meets a watery grave. For all our eyes are towards the Atlantic, whence half of our food comes, and can only come by America's help. With much love to you all from all here,

Your still youthful Cousin,

(Original was signed by James Rudolph Whitelaw.)

Robert Whitelaw (1819 – 1918)

Uncle of John Whitelaw, brother of John's father William

Robert Whitelaw married Isabella Reid in 1847 in Scotland, and they immigrated to America in 1848. They settled in Caledonia and later Portage, Wisconsin. Robert was a prominent and colorful citizen of Caledonia and Portage. He was a farmer and also held positions of community leadership. Robert and Isabella Reid Whitelaw had eleven children, eight of whom lived to adulthood, as follows:

Rev. James D. Whitelaw lived in Carthage and Beloit, Wisconsin

Dr. William R. Whitelaw, lived in Lodi, Wisconsin

Mary married Mr. Pate, lived in Caledonia, Wisconsin

Susanna married K.A. Johnson, lived in Portage, Wisconsin

Julia married John Marshall, lived in Portage, Wisconsin

Robert Whitelaw, lived in California

Agnes married Charles Grey, lived in Everett, Washington and Coos Bay, Oregon

John, lived in Seattle, Washington.



John & Mary Whitelaw's Visit to Daughter Ruth Williams, Cambria, WI, 1913

This picture was taken during John and Mary Neill Whitelaw's visit to their daughter, Ruth Williams, in Wisconsin in 1913. From Left to right, back row: Ruth Whitelaw Wililams, her father and mother, John and Mary Whitelaw, her mother's sister, Ann Robertson, Ruth's sister Maggie Whitelaw, cousin Susie Johnson, who was Robert Whitelaw's daughter. Front row: Ruth's husband Owen Williams, holding daughter Margaret Emma, Ruth and Owen's daughter Mary Elizabeth, Robert Whitelaw, who was John Whitelaw's uncle, and the Williams's daughter Ruth Jeanette.

The following is a transcript of a photocopy of a newspaper clipping – the date and name of the newspaper are not known, but it was probably in a Portage, Wisconsin newspaper, and appeared in the days following Robert Whitelaw's 97th birthday, which was March 27, 1916.



Robert Whitelaw (1819-1918)

[torn paper] **Stone of Life**
Remarkable Vitality Shown by Robert Whitelaw
Is Now 97 years of age
Was born in Scotland in 1819 – Came to Wisconsin in 1848

Robert Whitelaw celebrated the ninety-seventh anniversary of his birth Monday, March 27, 1916; among those who came to congratulate the venerable gentleman was his old time friend J.L. Ellis, of Endeavor, and his son, Dr. W.R. Whitelaw, of Lodi, also came to spend the day with his father. Miss Ethel Christlaw of Lodi, a niece of Mr. Whitelaw, was also here to spend the birthday with her uncle.

Mr. Whitelaw traces his ancestry to the time of the covenanters in Scotland when all but one of the four Whitelaw brothers were killed at Bothwell bridge and the estates confiscated by the crown. He was born at Kilmornock, Ayrshire, Scotland, March 27, 1819, near the home of Robert Burns and has often visited the Burns tomb. He was a member of the same congregational church as Livingstone and John Kirk, the famous Scotch preacher as (sic) pastor. Mr. Whitelaw came to America in 1848 on a sailing vessel which was seven weeks on the ocean. He walked from Milwaukee to Portage and Caledonia, where he located on a farm residing in Caledonia until 1891 when he removed to Portage. He has never worn glasses and in all his life since he has been 21 years of age has he ever failed to declare himself at the polls and expects to cast his ballot in the Fourth ward bright and early at the election Tuesday.

Neither Mr. Whitelaw nor his friend, Mr. Ellis, of Endeavor, who is now 89 years of age, have ever used either tobacco or liquor in any form.

He is one of two of the oldest active curlers in the United States now living, who has passed the 97 mile stone of his life and his comrade, J.R. Hastie of Dekorra, the other, is approaching his 72nd year. Both these gentlemen saw the earliest of the good old Scotch games played in Wisconsin and in fact, in the west. They participated in the first bospiels (?) held at Milwaukee and in Madison and curled in the days of the old wooden blocks as early as 1857 on the Fulton Pond in Dekorra. Both these aged gentlemen take an active interest in the sport today and are frequent visitors at the matched games in this city. Mr. Hastie served several terms as county treasurer of Columbia county and was a teacher in the public schools of Wisconsin when they were first established. The children of Mr. Whitelaw are: Mrs. William Pate, of Caledonia; Mrs. K.A. Johnson of Portage; Mrs. J.W. Marshall of Portage; Robert Whitelaw of Somis, Cal; Mrs. C.B. Grey of Everett, Wash., and John L. Whitelaw of Seattle, Wash. (*handwritten note: and J.D. Whitelaw of Carthage.*)

Mr. Whitelaw's health is very good and he is about with his usual activity. His great many friends in Portage and Columbia county all congratulate him and hope that he will enjoy many more birthday occasions.



Robert Whitelaw

Entry on Scots in Wisconsin, in: Quaife, Milo Milton, *Wisconsin: Its History and Its People 1634-1924*, Vol. II. Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Col, 1924, pages 230-235.

The Scottish settlement in Columbia County, Pynette and Dekorra, is one of the best known in Wisconsin. The people retained the Scotch characteristics for many years and kept up the customs and games of old Scotia. A famous fair was held in that vicinity in the '50s. It is

said it was not possible to make a mistake on such occasions by addressing a man as Mac.

The old Scottish game of curling was first played in Dekorra in 1854 with wooden blocks instead of stone. A great tournament was held in Portage on January 25, 1857 (the Burns anniversary), and Scots from Janesville, Milwaukee, and Dekoora participated. A banquet was held that night which lasted from 8:00 to 2:00 a.m. The toasts were first to the President, then to Queen Victoria, and our motherland. One of the banqueters, an Englishman of unorthodox principles, proposed a toast to Voltaire and Tom Paine. This was too much for the adherents of the Kirk, and Johnny Bull withdrew in disgust when he found no response to his toast. At the games on that occasion **Robert Whitelaw**, ninety-nine years of age, showed his skill by taking part.



Isabel Whitelaw

Obituary of Isabel Reid Whitelaw (the following is a transcript of a handwritten copy of the obituary, published in the Portage Democrat).

Mrs. Whitelaw is Summoned
Sudden Death of Well Known Portage Lady
Native of Scotland, but settled with her husband
in Caledonia, Columbia County in 1848 Mother
of eleven children.

Mrs. Robert Whitelaw aged 82 died in Portage
Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. The funeral
services will be held at her late residence, West

Cook Street, Saturday at 1 o'clock, and the burial will be in Caledonia. Rev. J.G. Blue will officiate. Mrs. Whitelaw united with the Evangelical Union while a girl in Scotland. This body has lately been merged with the Congregationalists. She never transferred her church relations to any denomination in this country. She was always an earnest conscientious Christian. Her illness was brief and severe. She was taken sick Friday Aug. 25, and passed away at sunset Aug. 31 (1905). Isabella Reid was born July 8, 1823 in Lanarkshire Scotland. She married Robert Whitelaw Feb. 5, 1847, and came to America with her husband in the summer of 1848. They settled at once on a farm in the town of Caledonia where they remained until the fall of 1891. Since then their home has been in Portage at 519 West Cook Street. Mrs. Whitelaw was the mother of eleven children. Eight of them as well as her husband survive. They are Rev. J.D. Whitelaw, Ashland; Dr. W. R. Whitelaw, Lodi; Mrs. Pate, Caledonia; Mrs. K.A. Johnson and Mrs. J.W. Marshall, Portage; Robert Whitelaw, Somis, Cal; Mrs. C.B. Gray, Wash; John L. Whitelaw, Seattle, Wash.

William Reid Whitelaw, M.D. (Dr. Whitelaw was the son of Robert and Isabel Reid Whitelaw, and was the first cousin of John Whitelaw.)

Entry on William Reid Whitelaw, M.D. in *A history of Columbia County, Wisconsin*, ed. J.E. Jones. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Co., 1914, page 656.

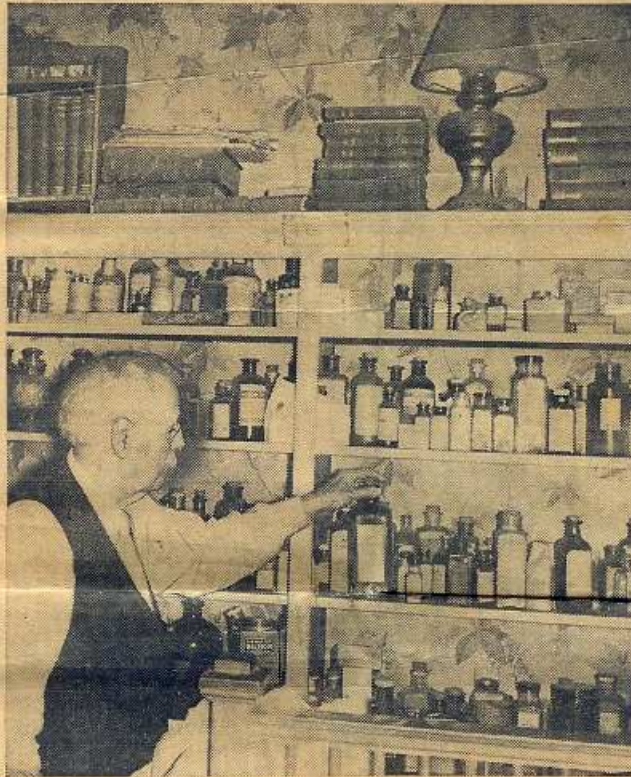
No other physician and surgeon has practiced so long at Lodi and over the territory surrounding that village as Dr. Whitelaw. His record has been one of success as measured by his accomplishments and rewards, and it would be impossible to estimate the value of his services to the community in which he has lived and worked with the devotion of the true physician for more than thirty years.

William Reid Whitelaw is a native of the town of Caledonia, Columbia County, and his family is one of the oldest in this part of Wisconsin. He was born on a farm, April 10, 1853, and is a son of the venerable Robert Whitelaw, who was born in Scotland, was one of the sturdy Scotch colonists who were so prominent among the early settlers of Columbia County, and located in the town of Caledonia in 1848, the year in which Wisconsin became a state. All his active years were spent in farming, and perhaps no other citizen of Columbia County has so long a range of recollection, covering the time when Columbia County was a wilderness, and through all the developments which have made it one of the most productive sections of the state. In Scotland he was trained in the profession of engineer, and followed that line for seven years in that country. Robert Whitelaw now lives retired in the city of Portage at the remarkable age of 95 years, and sixty five years of this time have been within the borders of this country.

Dr. William R. Whitelaw is one of eleven children, eight of whom are still living. His early life was passed on the home farm, and while attending district school he also followed the plow and did all the other duties performed by farmer boys in that time. For

one term during his early manhood he taught school, was a student at Beloit College one year, and finally determined upon medicine as his career, and directed all his efforts towards securing the means necessary for a thorough training before beginning practice. In 1877 he entered the medical department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and was graduated M.D. in June, 1880. In the fall of the same year he came to Lodi, and his practice has been continuous since that time. For thirty-three years, Dr. Whitelaw has been a familiar figure traveling in performance of his duties to the sick, over a wide territory. In cold weather and warm, in snow and rain, day and night, his constant passing has made his face and figure familiar to every house hold. Dr. Whitelaw is a Republican. He is married to Hannah Gidley of Ann Arbor, Michigan. At her death in 1903 she left three children: Robert Gidley; Edith Mabel, wife of Theodore Wing of St. Paul; and Anna Reid.

Dr. Whitelaw and His Bottles



SINCE he graduated from the University of Michigan medical school 59 years ago, Dr. Whitelaw has been bringing citizens of Lodi into the world and keeping them alive. Here he is in the office from which he has never had a vacation.

Horse and Buggy Doctor Now in 59th Year at Lodi

No Vacation Since Young Dr. Whitelaw, Fresh From Medical School, Hung Up His Shingle

Journal Special Correspondence

Lodi, Wis.—It's going on 59 years now since young Dr. William Whitelaw jogged across the prairie with his horse and buggy in search of a place to hang out his shingle. He was fresh out of the University of Michigan medical school, and he'd heard there was an opening in this village.

"I drove down my stakes and I haven't been able to pull them up yet and—do y' know—I don't believe I ever will," says old Dr. Whitelaw today. And there's a twinkle in the eyes of the man who has been at the beck and call of Lodi, man and boy, for nearly three score years.

He sits in his second story office on the main street, his living quarters opening off one corner with the old-fashioned telephone which can still call him to a patient's bedside

at any hour of the day or night.

Keeps His Own Drugs

On the opposite wall is a set of shelves which hold his supply of drugs. Drugstores were scarce when he started his practice and a doctor had to keep his own, a habit he hasn't broken.

Time has brought its changes. Lodi is older now, and more complacent. And so is the doctor who has watched it grow. Specialists have come in, and hospitals, and fast cars. But on the shelf are a couple of large jars of teeth he's pulled.

"One of the early dentists wasn't too strong, so I pulled the teeth that were too deep seated for him." Gas or novocain? "Good Lord, no. Just a pair of pliers."

Today's ribbons of concrete or blacktop were wagon paths when first he came, and he jolted around in a buggy in the summer or slid smoothly along in a cutter in the winter. Farmers clattered up to his office, on horseback, at the darndest hours. Young Doc Whitelaw would hitch up and start out for a 15 or 20 mile ride. "And don't you think of it in distances by automobile, either," he says.

Never a Vacation

More than once he has been marooned out on the prairie in a snow storm with night setting in, but he makes little of that. It was all a part of the job. As for hospitals—"Do y' know, a farm kitchen makes a good operating room, with kerosene lamps for light and a husky farmer to administer the ether or chloroform. I've amputated a number of arms and legs with just that equipment, and no casualties, either."

And for broken arms or legs, "A handful of shingles from the roof or a stray board make good splints if you know how to use a jackknife."

When it comes to vacations, Dr. Whitelaw hasn't had a regular one yet. A bit of a philosopher, he says that "a man gets a good long vacation eventually. Why worry about the short ones you can take on this

Obituaries of Rev. J.D. Whitelaw and Agnes Whitelaw Gray, children of Robert Whitelaw and cousins of John Whitelaw.

PAGE TWO

BELOIT PASTOR DIED SUDDENLY

SON OF WELL-KNOWN CALEDONIA
AND PORTAGE FAMILY AND
ONCE LIVED HERE

July 18,
1926

Rev. J. D. Whitelaw, son of the late Robert Whitelaw of this city, died at his home in Beloit, Sunday evening, following a lingering illness.

Deceased was born 72 years ago, in the town of Caledonia where his father was a pioneer farmer in that community which was settled early and largely by sturdy Scotch immigrants whose descendants are among the town's most prominent and leading citizens today. The Whitelaw family later removed to Portage and the old Whitelaw home occupied the site of the present J. L. Staudenmayer residence, corner of Dunn and West Cook streets. Rev. Whitelaw resided in Portage for a time several years ago. He was a brother of Dr. W. R. Whitelaw of Lodi and also of Mrs. K. A. Johnson of this city. His father Robert Whitelaw, who died in Portage a few years since was noted as the city's oldest resident at the time of his death, lacking only two or three years of reaching the century mark. Rev. Whitelaw is survived by his widow and two daughters, one of which is Mrs. R. J. Osborne of Baraboo.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon from the West Side Presbyterian church, at Beloit, of which he was pastor.

Mrs. Charles Gray Dies on Monday

Mrs. Charles B. Gray, a resident of Coos Bay for many years, died Monday afternoon, Dec. 12, at her home in North Bend. Born Agnes J. Whitelaw, Sept. 20, 1864 at Portage, Wis., she had been married 55 years. With her husband she came to Coos Bay 26 years ago from Seattle and had made her home on the bay since then.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian church of Coos Bay and had been active in church circles all her life. She was actively engaged in church work in Seattle and also with the St. Anne's guild and Empire, a number of years ago.

She is survived by her widower in North Bend and a daughter, Mrs. John Queen, in Coos Bay. Other survivors include a granddaughter Frances Queen, Coos Bay; two brothers, Robert Whitelaw of San Jose, Calif., and Dr. William R. Whitelaw of Lodi, Wis.

Funeral services will be conducted from the Mills funeral chapel in Coos Bay, Thursday, Dec. 15, at 2 p.m. Interment will be at Sunset cemetery. The Rev. O. W. Payne will officiate. The family requests that no flowers be sent and that money which might have been used for such a purpose, be given to the Coos Bay Presbyterian church memorial fund.