

JOSEPH VRATISLAV TEIBEL (Grandfather)

Born - March 19, 1856, Krensko County, Mlada Boleslav (a small town near Prague, Northern part of Bohemia). Died - December 19, 1949 in Ashland, Virginia.

His parents were ALOIS and KATHERINE REPS RESSLER TEIBEL. His father was a shoemaker and merchant at Kovan (store) born 1823 - died 1901.

Father of Alois Teibel was GEORGE TEIBEL. He was born in Zwikau, Kingdom of Saxony. Owner of two big estates. One part in the Kingdom of Saxony (no Germany then) and a part in Bohemia. When Napoleon marched through Saxony in 1812, he took 128 head of cattle from George Teibel. The French government paid for the cattle and sent the money to the Emperor Francis of Austria. He kept the money and placed it with other people's money for cattle and provisions, into the bank of England. But as an Emperor can't be sued, the lawsuit was dropped and nothing could be done, but the papers are on docket in Prague in the court, but Czechoslovakia is separated from Austria, due the world's war, so do not know what has been done with money to be paid to the farmers by Emperor Francis. The papers are still on docket and may some day be revived. George Teibel sold his large estate and got another estate in Rokyto-Ves, Bohemia, where Alois Teibel was born. Alois had one brother and two sisters. One sister married a chief forester who had charge of the hunting preserves and forrests belonging to Prince Thurn Taxis, a German Prince, family and forefathers in old Germany.

Alois Teibel married KATHERINE REPS (first marriage) RESSLER in Krasnoves, Bohemia in 1850. She had a daughter, Elizabeth by first marriage Alois Teibel was a revolutionist (when all Europe was in revolution in 1848) in Vienna, Austria. They lived in Kovan, where son Joseph Teibel attended school along with half-sister, Elizabeth Reps. They went to school in the village where a Catholic priest is considered to hold absolute sway over the spiritual needs of the people and also adviser in the village governing affairs.

Elizabeth Reps Ressler's brother was a manager or supervisor of the estate of Napoleon's son, Duke of Hirschberg, in Northern Bohemia. Emperor Francis of Austria was the Duke's Grandfather and gave him the title of Duke of Hirschberg and estates in northern Bohemia. When Katherine Reps Ressler's father died, her brother, who was a professor of medicine, brought her to his home in Prague and gave her a course in medicine and she became a noted midwife.

Her third brother (Ressler) was a noted Botanist. He traveled all over the world studying Botany and lectured in Vienna, Paris, Prague and other noted cities all over the world. He was claimed to be the best Botanist in the world. He disappeared and nothing was known of him, but was believed to be killed by Indians in Mexico.

In 1867, Alois Teibel, along with his wife and two children, Joseph and Elizabeth, sailed in a sailboat across the Atlantic and landed in Quebec. He was 10 weeks on the ocean. From Quebec they went to Montreal, then to Toronto and on to Detroit, Michigan. Then by train went to Battlecreek, Michigan, then by steamer,

crossed Lake Michigan to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. After two days they went by steamer along the Lake Michigan shore to Sheboygan, Wisconsin. They hired a team and rode 12 miles to Centerville, Wisconsin. Alois Teibel bought eight acres of land by Centerville and he worked at loading the ships and son, Joseph went to school. The country was heavily wooded and like the rest of the pioneers, undertook the strenuous labor of cutting down trees and clearing the land for farming, and in the meantime hauling the wood and selling it.

Then stories of the government lands being opened for settlement in South Dakota reached these hardy forest pioneers. They moved by railroad to Sioux City, Iowa and from there by team of oxen to Yankton, South Dakota, capital of Dakota territory (southeastern part of Dakota territory, now the state of South Dakota). Each settler filed on a homestead of 160 acres and also was entitled to a water claim and timber claim, totaling 320 acres.

In 1863, Brigadier Charles T. Campbell, who after gallant service in the army of the Potomac in its campaigns from Yorktown to Fredericksburg in which he had been several times severely wounded, was assigned to duty in the northwest and located on a homestead about one half mile below what is now the town of Scotland, South Dakota. He thought that this part of the wild country would be an ideal location to start out with the future civilization of this southeastern South Dakota. The country was a wilderness of endless prairies, roamed over by the Sioux Indians and buffaloes. Settlements were few and comprising North and South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana and Minnesota. About

20 miles west of Yankton, Alois Teibel, his wife and two children located on their homestead. In 1870, his son Joseph Teibel (14 years old) clerked in a store called Eiseman & Company. He learned to speak the Sioux Indian language while working here. Alois Teibel bought two oxen from Governor Edmunds of South Dakota and his son Joseph went home on the farm and with the oxen, broke 60 acres of prairie land in 1870. Those pioneer years were years of hard labor, tilling the land and building up that part of the wilderness. They cleared the lands of stones and rocks and made it into fields of grain and trees. On their water claim, they dug into the ground to bring forth water and their timber claims grew into forests of cottonwood trees.

General Custer and his ill fated army of brave men stopped at Yankton and made camp. Joseph Teibel knew them well and waited on many of the officers and soldiers in the store. He remembers the day well when the army was at last on their last march to Montana. The soldiers marched through the streets and their band played, "The Girl I left Behind Me" and there were tears shed by everyone in the crowd who came to cheer them off.

On February 8, 1878, Joseph Teibel and Maria Vyborny were married on Vyborny's homestead. (Her father, Joseph Vyborny started the town of Tabor, South Dakota). He farmed with his father for a while and then moved on to a homestead in Bon Homme, six miles southwest of Scotland, South Dakota, where their two children, Lillian and Joseph, Jr. were born. In 1880 they moved to Scotland, South Dakota and he became the first Marshall of Scotland. He became quite a master of the Sioux Indian language

and quite often was called into the court to act as an interpreter. The country around Scotland became a great agricultural district and selling farm machinery was a thriving business. He became manager and bookkeeper of a hardware and machinery store. As a collector of bills, he had to make long overland trips among the homesteads of all classes and also among the Sioux Indians. he could tell many interesting and exciting stories of his experiences in those pioneer days. He saw Scotland grow into a prosperous little city and a railroad junction in a rich agricultural and cattle country. The planting of trees and thickly settled by people, changed the climate from snow and sunbaked, dry summers into a state of wonderful climate.

In 1889, he was elected County Auditor and he and his family moved to Tyndail, the county seat. He was County Auditor for five years and County Treasurer for four years. After several years in the Hotel business (GRAND CENTRAL HOTEL), he wanted to go back to his pioneering and again set out to take up new land opened up by the government in Western North Dakota. An endless prairie, with not a tree in sight. With the settling of the country, the large county in which he lived was divided into two counties and a town was plotted out and called McClusky and became the county seat. A courthouse was built and Joseph Teibel was appointed to organize the different county offices and attended to the purchasing of books and material suited to each office. It was quite an undertaking and he was highly commended on his ability as an organizer of the courthouse. After several years of work in this courthouse and as a farmer, he decided to sell

out and move to a milder climate. The long rigid winters were proving to be too hard on his and his wife's health. Attacks of rheumatism were crippling them and so in 1918, they moved to Virginia on a farm three miles west of Ashland. The delightful Virginia climate benefited their health in their old age. His parents, Alois and Katherine, lived for 30 years or more in Prince George County, Virginia along with half-sister, husband and children. They were citizens of Virginia since the war between the states, so in a sense, it seemed like home to Joseph Teibel. His parents are burried in Prince George County, near Petersburg, Virginia.

Joseph and Maria Teibel lived with their son, Otto and wife, and six children. Maria Teibel died in 1924 on the farm in Hanover County, Ashland, Virginia and burried in Forrest Grove Cemetary, country church two miles south of their home. Years later Joseph moved to home of granddaughter, Lillian Ferguson in Ashland and died March 19, 1949.