



## Jane E. Wasson (1843-1903)

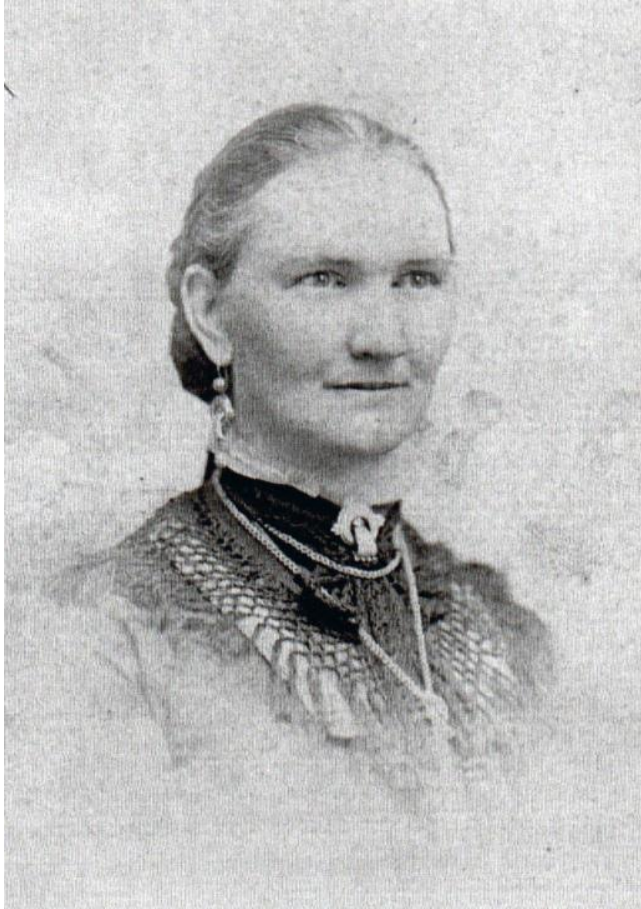
*Jane Wasson was the second of eight children born to John and Jemima Wasson.*

John and Jemima Wasson's daughter Jane was born on December 7, 1843 in Amboy, Oswego County, New York. She moved to Jackson County, Iowa with her family in 1854, and then to Jones County, Iowa by 1860.

Like the rest of her family, Jane attended the Scotch Grove Presbyterian Church when the family moved to the area in 1854. She united with the church when she was 17. She then united with the Onslow Presbyterian Church after it opened in the early 1870s.

As a young woman, Jane taught school for seven years, including in Clay Township District 5.

Jane married Civil War veteran John George Krouse on March 11, 1868 in Jones County. John was born in Kane, Illinois to J.G. Krouse and his wife Margaret.



*Jane Wasson Krouse (left) and John Krouse (right)*

They settled on John's farm, which included 80 acres at the north end of sections 2 and 3 in Madison Township. This had been his parents' farm when his family first moved to Jones County in 1851. He took over the farm after his father died. His mother lived with John and Jane until she died. His farm soon added another 80 acres in the southeast corner of section 34 in Scotch Grove Township, apparently acquired from his sister after 1867.



*John's mother Margaret*





*The Krouses built this house on their farm in 1881. From left to right: Daisy Jane Krouse, Mabel J. Krouse, William G. Krouse, John G. Krouse, Jr., Jane E. Wasson Krouse, and John G. Krouse.*



*The farmhouse on the former John Krouse Farm on 130<sup>th</sup> Street, Madison Township in 2021*



*Former site of the John Krouse Farm*



*View from the John Krouse Farm of the John Wasson Farm (upper left) and the John Wasson Jr. Farm to its left and the James Wasson Farm to its right*



*The Krouse family in 1891*

*Front, left to right: John G. Krouse, Daisy Jane Krouse, Jane E. Wasson Krouse  
Back, left to right: John G. Krouse Jr., Mabel J. Krouse, William G. Krouse*

In 1893, John and Jane Krouse, their daughter Daisy and Jane's mother Jemima travelled to Chicago to attend the World's Columbian Exposition a.k.a. the Chicago World's Fair.

Jane suffered from kidney problems, and had been in poor health for some time when she died on February 1, 1903, just a few months after her mother Jemima died. It was shortly after Jemima's death when her brother William had come to town that she invited all of her surviving siblings to gather at her house because, "It is hard to tell whether we will all ever be together again." That was the last time the five of them gathered together.

Her funeral was held at the Onslow Presbyterian Church. Jane was buried in Wyoming Cemetery, Wyoming, Iowa.

## DEATH OF MRS. J. C. KROUSE.

Gabriel's trumpet has sounded. In response to the call, a soldier of the Cross and a follower of the Lamb has gone forward. She is raised from the ranks but her title is dear to a soul in the mansions in the skies.

The seal of Miss J. G. Krouse, has taken its flight and the life blood is forever stilled. Our knowledge of this mortal life must now be limited to the experience of memory. The present is forever past.

Mrs. Krouse passed away peacefully to rest Sunday evening, Feb. 1st, 1903, at her home three miles northwest of Ooshow, at the age of 59 years, 1 month and 25 days. The primary cause of death was kidney trouble. She had been in poor health for some time, but during the past few months she seemed to be gaining and was able to attend to her duties very well. But apparently it was the approaching sunset. She had not been confined to her bed until about the last week.

Jane E. Warren was born at Geneva, New York, Dec. 7th, 1843, and at the age of 19 years she came west with her parents. During her early womanhood she was one of the teachers in the public schools of Jones county, having taught for about seven years.

On March 11th, 1868, she was united in marriage to John G. Krouse, who survives. To them were born four children, viz., John, William, Mabel and Daisy, all living except her daughter Mabel—one of the purest and noblest of young women—who died in 1892. At the age of 17 years she became a member of the Presbyterian church and remained conscientious and consistent ever to the time her soul hastened Heavenward.

Of her life and its work it is needless for pen to speak. After all, the true test of human life in its relation to character, is that it be positive for some virtuous ideal. When we think of the life of Mrs. Krouse what ideal of virtue does it present?

It is the ideal of fidelity, of conscientiousness, of economy. She was truly faithful to her husband, faithful to her children, faithful to her God. No one ever feared her knowingly doing any wrong. Her test would be, "What would Jesus do?" A personal acquaintance with this woman always brought added respect.

Although she may have suffered, it was not her lot to complain. What she may have suffered mentally or physically no one will ever know. She bore the toil; endured the pain and never complained. What she did was without demonstration. She was never a follower of the world and its gaieties. Her sphere was in the home—and she filled it. The mother's kindly ministrations are over; the wife's wise counsel is ended.

Her mother died only about three months ago. At that time she had invited her brothers and sisters to her house because, as she said, "It is hard to tell whether we will all ever be together again." She was the first to be taken. Her time had come.

The funeral services were held at the Ooshow Presbyterian church Wednesday, Feb. 4th, at 11 o'clock, and were conducted by her pastor, Rev. J. R. McQuown. Her children and her brothers and sisters were all present. Because of the prevailing storm the attendance was limited. The pallbearers were her neighbors, viz., J. Ranken, W. J. Corbin, Wm. Alexander, H. Atwood, J. Young and F. Norris. The music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Hoyt and Donald Stuelein, of Scotch Grove, and Mrs. Ethel Bates, Amy Streopor, Jennie Streopor, Stella McQuown and Ruth Sponser, Mrs. F. M. Franks presiding at the organ. The sermon was by request from the text, John xiv:1. The interment was in Wyoming cemetery. Thus a good woman has been laid to rest; a noble life has ended. We can mourn with those who mourn and sympathize with the sorrowful, but no one can ever fill the place in the home left vacant by the one who has responded to the call of the Death Angel. Farewell, mother, wife, sister, friend!  
R. M. CORBIT.  
Ooshow, Feb. 4th, 1903.

*Jane Wasson Krouse's obituary, Anamosa Eureka, February 5, 1903*



*Marker for Jane E. Wasson Krouse, Wyoming Cemetery*

Jane died without a will. In those days, the money, real estate and personal property in the household was generally regarded as belonging to the husband, so this wasn't unusual. But in Jane's case, her husband John sought to be named as the administrator of her estate because she did own something of value.

When Jane's mother Jemima died a few months earlier, Jemima's surviving children, including Jane, each inherited a one-fifth stake in Jemima's farm, with the property described in the form that John Krouse prepared, below. Jane's share presumably would now pass on to her survivors once Jemima's estate was settled.

Shortly before Jemima died, her son Joe renewed his three-year lease of her farm. He had been renting it from his parents for decades at that point. All the siblings agreed to honor Joe's lease, and agreed to not sell the farm until Joe's new lease was nearing its end.

John Krouse wasn't interested in that agreement. He went to court to force the sale of the farm so that Jane's survivors could get their share. The matter was resolved only when Joe agreed to buy out Jane's share of their mother's farm.

**PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR.**

STATE OF IOWA, JONES COUNTY, SS. TO THE DISTRICT COURT OF SAID COUNTY.

The petition of John G. Krouse of the town of Madison of the County of Jones in the said County of Jones respectfully sheweth: that Jane E. Krouse of the township of Madison died in the said town of Madison on or about 2nd day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and three (1903.) that at the time of her death she was an inhabitant of said County of Jones that she left no will, as far as I have heard, or been able to discover; that she left surviving her the following: John G. Krouse, her husband, Onslow Dorr, a son, Monmouth, Iowa, Dec 2, and 2 1/2 of Dec 1/4, William G. Krouse a son, St. Young, Iowa, Dec 1, and 2 1/2 of Dec 1/4, Daisy Stymie, a daughter, Onslow Dorr, Dec 1, all in the 24th 2nd 1/2 all of full age. that I am the widow of said deceased, and that all the goods, chattels, and effects of the said deceased do not exceed in value the sum of three hundred and twenty five Dollars; and your petitioner prays that Letters of Administration on the estate of said deceased be granted to myself, who is a suitable person to act as Administrator. Dated February 12, 1904.

STATE OF IOWA, JONES COUNTY, SS. John G. Krouse Petitioner.

I, John G. Krouse being first duly sworn (on oath say, I am the above petitioner, have heard read the foregoing petition, and contents thereof are true, as I verily believe.

Subscribed and sworn to by the said John G. Krouse this 12 day of February 1904, before me.

Stal Notary Public. In and for Jones County.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S BOND.**

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS. That we, John G. Krouse as principal, and Daisy Stymie as sureties, all of the County of Jones in the State of Iowa; are held and firmly bound unto the State of Iowa, for its use and benefit, and for the use and benefit of any and all persons interested in the estate of Jane E. Krouse deceased, in the penal sum of One thousand DOLLARS, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we do jointly and severally bind ourselves and our lawful representatives.

THE CONDITION of the above obligation is such that as Administrator of the estate of Jane E. Krouse he will render a true account of his office and of his doings therein to the proper authority, when required thereby or by law; that he will promptly pay over to the officer or person entitled thereto, all money which may come into his hands by virtue of his office; that he will promptly account for all balances of money remaining in his hands at the termination of his office; that he will exercise all reasonable diligence and care in the preservation and lawful disposal of all money, books, papers, securities, or other property appertaining to his office, and deliver them to his successor or to any other person authorized to receive the same; and that he will faithfully and impartially, without fear, favor, fraud or oppression, discharge all the duties now or hereafter required of his office by law, and the sureties on such bond shall be liable for all money or public property that may come into the hands of such officer at any time during his possession of such office, then this bond to be void, otherwise in full force.

WITNESS our hands this 12 day of February 1904, John G. Krouse  
John G. Krouse Jr.  
William G. Krouse  
Daisy Stymie

STATE OF IOWA, JONES COUNTY, SS.

John Krouse sought to be named administrator of his wife's estate.

John remained on his farm after Jane died. He eventually remarried, but soon divorced. Due to failing health, John decided to put his farm up for sale, but he died on February 9, 1920, just eight days before the advertised auction was scheduled to take place. His funeral was held at his home. He was buried next to his wife in Wyoming Cemetery.

# PUBLIC SALE

Having decided to quit farming and leave the farm, on account of ill health, I will offer for sale at my farm, located 2 miles east of Center Junction and 3 miles northwest of Onslow, on

## TUE. FEB. 17, '20

Commencing at one o'clock, the following property:

### 2 WORK HORSES 2

1 Extra Good Milch Cow

1 Jersey Heifer Calf, 1 Bull Calf

### TWENTY HOGS

14 Brood Sows, 5 Shoats and 1 Stock Hog

### 25 Chickens

10 bu. Seed Barley, 50 bu. Oats, 30 bu. Seed Corn, quantity of Hay and Straw, some Corn in field

### 1000 Bushels EAR CORN

#### Farm Machinery

1 McCormick Binder, McCormick Mower, Hay Rake, 8-foot Seeder, Stalk Cutter, 16-inch Sattley Sulky Plow, Prairie Queen Breaking Plow, Walking Plow, Riding Cultivator, Double Shovel Plow, Disc, Avery Corn Planter, (nearly new) Fanning Mill, Tank Header, Corn Sheller, Hay Fork and Rope, Cider Mill, Grind Stone, Hand Grass Seeder, Farm Roller, 2-section Harrow, Galvanized Smoke House, 2 sets Work Harness, 1 set Buggy Harness, 1 Single Harness, 2 Top Buggies, 1 two-seated Open Buggy, 2 Lumber Wagons with beds, 1 light Spring Wagon, 1 set Bob Sleds, 1 Wood Back with Hog Back complete, 1 Hay Rack, 1 roll Woven Wire Fence, some Foultry Netting, etc., etc.

SOME HOUSEHOLD GOODS: 1 Heating Stove, 1 Range, 1 3-burner Oil Stove and other articles.

Terms made known on day of sale

R. D. Cooley, Auction'r  
C. A. Burmeister, Clerk

## J. G. KROUSE

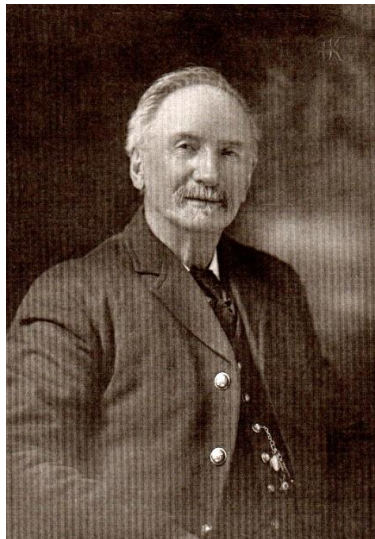
#### Obituary of John G. Krouse.

Monday, February 9, 1920, marked the passing of one of our oldest residents and a pioneer of the county. John G. Krouse was born March 4, 1846, in Kane county, Ill., at which place he lived until the year 1851 when he moved to the farm near Center Junction, which place had been his home until the time of his death. Mr. Krouse lacked just a few days of being 74 years of age. He served all during the Civil war of this country, part of the time in Co. B, 14th Iowa Infantry, and part of the time in Co. K, 9th Iowa Cavalry.

Mr. Krouse was twice married. The first time to Jane E. Wasson, who died on February 2, 1903. To this union were born four children: John G. Krouse, Jr., of Monticello; William G. Krouse of Cedar Rapids; Mrs. Mable Hughes, of Scotch Grove; and Mrs. Daisy Steyne of Cedar Rapids. All of these survive except Mrs. Hughes who died May 7, 1896. He is also survived by six grandchildren and one great-grandchild, also two sisters, Mrs. Emily Reed of Onslow, and Mrs. Esther Pangburn of Center Junction.

Mr. Krouse was a member of the Presbyterian church of Onslow, Iowa. The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon, February 11, 1920, at his late residence near Center Junction. Interment was at Wyoming.

Advertising the sale of the John Krouse Farm in 1920 shortly before the death of John Krouse (left); John Krouse's obituary, Anamosa Eureka, February 19, 1920 (right)



John G. Krouse in 1910; marker for John G. Krouse, Wyoming Cemetery

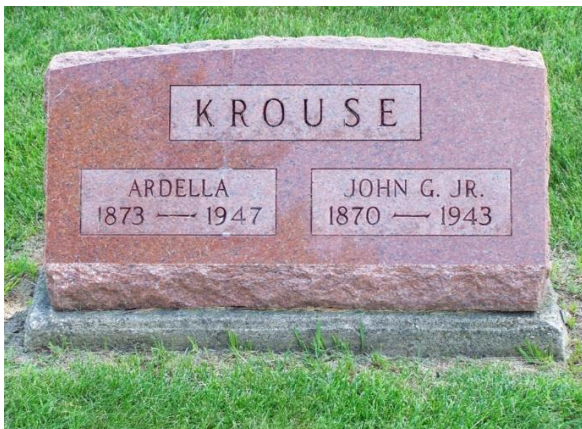
**John Grant Krouse (John and Jane Krouse's son)**

Son John Grant married Margaret Ardella Williamson on September 20, 1893 in Jones County. They had one child, Ira, John and Jemima Wasson's first great grandchild. John worked for the railroad in Monmouth, Jackson County, and later in Monticello, Jones County. John died July 13, 1943 in Monticello, Jones County. He and his wife Ardella were buried in Wyoming Cemetery.



*John Krouse, Jr. and Ardella Williamson Krouse (left); Ira Krouse, John and Jemima Wasson's first great grandchild, was born in 1894 (right)*

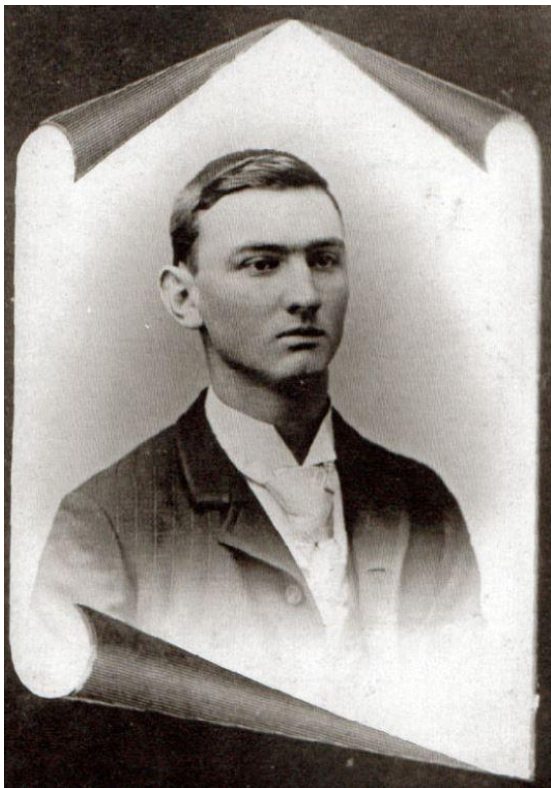
Ira married, and worked for the federal government in various accounting and bookkeeping positions in the Washington, DC, area. He had two children and several grandchildren.



*Marker for Ardella Williamson Krouse and John Krouse, Jr., Wyoming Cemetery*

**William George “Will” Krouse (John and Jane Krouse’s son)**

Son William George “Will” married Louise Greig on September 4, 1895 in Jones County. They had three children. William was a Jones County farmer for a number of years before moving to Cedar Rapids, where he worked as a machinist. All three of their children married, and had a number of children of their own. William died July 9, 1945 in Cedar Rapids, Linn County, Iowa. He and his wife Louise were buried in Wyoming Cemetery.



*William Krouse*



*Marker for William Krouse and Louise Greig Krouse, Wyoming Cemetery*

**Mabel J. Krouse (John and Jane Krouse's daughter)**

Daughter Mabel J. married Gideon Hughes on March 23, 1893 at her parents' home. Mabel died on May 7, 1896 at their Scotch Grove home a few weeks after giving birth to their only child. She was buried in Scotch Grove Cemetery. The child, daughter Mabel, died about five weeks after her mother.



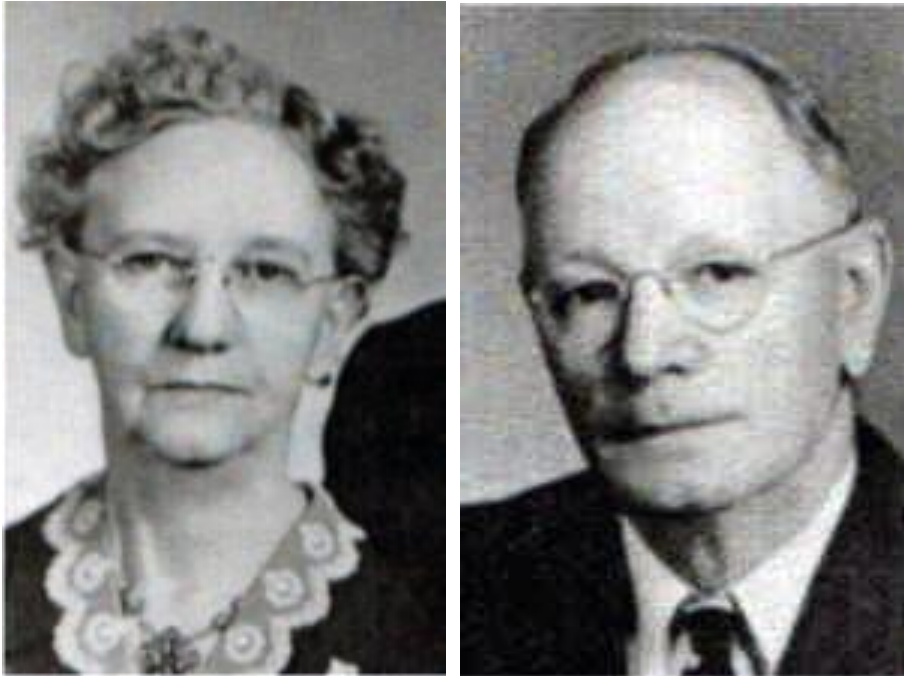
*Mabel Krouse Hughes (left) and Gideon Hughes (right)*



*Marker for Mabel Krouse Hughes, Scotch Grove Cemetery, Scotch Grove, Iowa*

**Daisy Jane Krouse (John and Jane Krouse's daughter)**

Daughter Daisy Jane was a music teacher before she got married, although she gave up her business when her mother Jane died. Daisy married Arthur Steyne on March 4, 1903 in Onslow, Jones County. They had three children. One died young. The other two married and provided their parents with numerous grandchildren. Arthur went on to become an interior decorator. Daisy died June 12, 1958 in Cedar Rapids, Linn County. Daisy and her husband Arthur were buried in Wyoming Cemetery.



*Daisy Jane Krouse Steyne (left) and Arthur Steyne (right)*



*Marker for Daisy Krouse Steyne and Arthur Steyne, Wyoming Cemetery*

Prepared by Mark David Wasson  
Last updated October 31, 2021