

CHAPTER IV

THE CUTSHAW FAMILY

AND

SOPHIA CUTSHAW HUNTINGTON HITCHCOX

Much of the following information was provided by Waneta Batten, a Cutshaw cousin who lives in Michigan. Her generosity in sharing information has been invaluable in developing this story. Her information gave leads so that census records, land records and history books could be found for verification. A trip east to do family history research included Kansas, and helped uncover most of the story of the years the Cutshaws spent there. Additional information has been provided by the great, great grandson of Josephus, Paul Cutshaw and his wife Janis Cutshaw. As in the Huntington story, there is a family tradition of using the same names in succeeding generations. I have included middle names and initials where possible in an effort to eliminate confusion.

#### JOSEPHUS ARNOLD CUTSHAW

Josephus Arnold Cutshaw was born January 17, 1809. On census forms his birthplace is listed as Maryland, but in the *Biographical History Of Cloud County* (Kansas) by Mrs. E. F. Hollibaugh, published in 1903, and in his obituary published in the Concordia paper The Kansas Blade, it states that he was born in Ohio. He married Phoebe Belange who was born in 1809 in New Jersey, probably about 1832. In the section about their son, J.W. Cutshaw, in the *Biographical History* is the following information:

**The parents of Mr. Cutshaw were Jesephus Arnold and Phoebe (Belangee) Cutshaw. His father was of Dutch origin and Pennsylvania birth. He lived for short periods in Ohio and Illinois, and later in Indiana. He gained a considerable fortune in the gold mines of California in 1849. The family came to Kansas in 1876, where the father and mother both died a few years later. There were six children: Mortimer, who lived in the same vicinity for many years, removed to California, where he died. Cecil Cutshaw is a prominent farmer and lives on an adjoining estate.**

The name Josephus is misspelled, and the birthplace differs from other sources, but the remaining information seems to be accurate.

As stated in the preceding biographical sketch, Josephus and Phoebe had six children. The dates and places of birth are from census records, marriage records and obituaries which show some discrepancies:

Mary Malcenia	1833 (1831-1832?)	Ohio
Mortimer M.	1837	Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana
Sophia	1840	Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana
James Wesley	1843	Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana
John B.	1845	Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana
Cecil	1852	LaPorte County, Indiana

A Land Patent for eighty one acres dated 1841 in Marshall County places Josephus and Phoebe in Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana. A copy of this document signed by President Tyler is with the illustrations.

In 1849 Josephus left the family and traveled to California to seek his fortune in the gold rush. C. W. Stewart stated in a tribute given at Josephus's funeral that "When the gold excitement broke out in California, he traversed the then almost interminable road to that far off land, for the purpose of bettering the condition his wife and children who gather weepingly and lovingly around him to-day. Twice did he take that journey to California." An excerpt from *Pioneer Families of Southeast Michigan Especially Lenawee County with new York Origins*, by Helen Lewis, 1994, states:

**Packard, Marvin A., son of Ira, born ca. 1831 NY, moved with his parents to Madison Twp., Lenawee County, MI. In 1852, went by ship with a group of young men to California. In the party was his brother, Joseph, four Cutshaw boys, Edward Hunt, James Phetteplace & Jonah Thayer. He returned by ship, coming via New York City, and was back in Lenawee County, MI in 1853.**

The 1850 census for Marshall County lists Phebe Cutshaw, 39; Mary N. Cutshaw, 17; Mortimer Cutshaw, 13; Sophia Cutshaw, 10; James W. Cutshaw 8, and John B. Cutshaw, 5.

Josephus apparently returned to Indiana in 1851 or early in 1852. The family was in LaPorte County, Indiana in 1852, as the youngest child, Cecil, was born there October 26, 1852. Josephus purchased land in Berrien County, Michigan in the early 1850's. Land records from 1853 to 1865 show that he purchased the NW quarter and NE quarter of Sec 22-8-19 on the 24th of January 1854. The Kansas biographical sketch of James W. states that the family moved to Michigan, near Three Oaks in Berrien County when he was nine years old. As he was born in 1843 this would have been in 1852.

On September 26, 1858, both Sophia and her older sister Malcena (Mary) were married in the family home in Galien Township by E.N. Shadd, Justice of The Peace. Sophia who was 17, married Nathaniel Huntington 29, of LaPorte County, Indiana. Malcena 27, married Levi Marrow 22, also of Laporte County, Indiana.

An Atlas that includes a drawing of the family home in Galien Township published in 1860, shows that at this time the family home was in Section 18. A copy of this map can be found with the illustrations. The Census of 1860 for Galien Township shows J.A. Cutshaw 50, Phebe 50, Mortimer 21, James 17, John 14, Cecil 7. Milton Cutshaw 18, born in Ohio is also listed as living with the family. He most likely was a nephew of Josephus.

James W. (18) enlisted in the Sixth Regiment of The Michigan Infantry Company K, in the summer of 1861. Later that summer Mortimer M. (24) enlisted in the Ninth Regiment of The Michigan Infantry, Company A. They both saw action in the Civil War. James W. was wounded and discharged August 24, 1863 and received a monthly disability pension of \$18 for life. Mortimer was mustered out and re-enlisted in December 1863. He was mustered out September 15, 1865.

*The Berrien County Directory And History*, published by Ed. B. Cowles at Niles, Michigan, 1871 lists Josephus and his son Mortimer as land owners in Niles Township, SW Sec 8. Another source, *History Of Berrien & Van Buren Counties*, published in 1880 lists on page 238 that J.A. Cutshaw

was a Justice of the Peace.

According to Cecil Cutshaw's obituary, James and Cecil drove a covered wagon to Kansas in 1870. This journey took a month. They both obtained land near Jamestown in Cloud County. Cecil went to Minnesota for two years, returning to his farm southeast of Jamestown where he lived for fifty years. An article by Roger C. Nelson and published June 8, 1978, gives this account of one of Cecil's experiences.

#### **THE SETTLER SEZ:**

**Indian Battle: One Flat Tire! Over a century ago, when this area was first being appraised by the white man as a site for his farms and fields, and adventurous young pioneer named Cecil Cutshaw came here looking for land. One experience he had caused him to hide for several days in the tall grass along the north bluffs of the Buffalo Valley, while an Indian war raged to the southeast of him. These hills are in the area from 4 to 5 1/2 miles northeast of Jamestown; the farther distance once known as "Murray Hill," but now better known as "Henry's Hill," since it is owned by Henry Anderson, today.**

**As the story goes, Mr. Cutshaw watched two Indian tribes meet in the area near where today the N.C.K. Rural Electric substation is located, 1/2 mile north and 4 miles east of Jamestown. For several days war dances and then charges to the banks of the marsh, as if this marsh was a boundary, occurred. These continued with little or no fighting, instead apparently they were just intended to impress the opposing tribe of each side's power by bluff rather than killing. Eventually, all went their own merry way, including Mr. Cutshaw, who went safely on about his business.**

The story concludes with an account of a local arrowhead collector who discovered a flat tire on his truck parked in the same area described in the story when he returned after an unsuccessful search to look for metal arrowheads. When he had the tire repaired, it was a metal arrowhead that had caused the flat tire.

Mortimer Cutshaw owned land in Section 35 in 1874 and lived in the area for several years. Josephus and Phoebe moved to Kansas in 1876. Land records show that their land was in Section 25 Township 5R5. At this time James and Cecil had already established themselves as farmers near Jamestown.

James W. Cutshaw and Frances Wilson were married in Laporte, Indiana, February 6th, 1877, and returned to the home James had built on his farm southeast of Jamestown, Kansas. Frances Wilson was born in Galena township, Indiana in 1855. She taught a number of terms of school before she became Mrs. Cutshaw. After coming here, Mr. Cutshaw taught the first term of school taught in Jamestown. School was held in the C. I. Gould stone house at the east end of what is now 1st street.

John B. Cutshaw bought property in Concordia, Kansas in 1878 and land in Sections 14 and 6 in 1879.

Phoebe Belange Cutshaw died January 12, 1880. Her gravestone states that she was "Aged 70 yrs 2 mos 12 dys". A picture of this grave in the Riverview Cemetery, between Concordia Kansas, and Jamestown Kansas, is with the illustrations.

The Census of 1880 dated June 1st shows Mortimer Cutshaw 42, and his wife Mary 34, located in Buffalo Township, Cloud County.

On June 2nd, 1880 James Cutshaw 37, his wife Frances 29, daughter Grace 2, and twin sons Earl 1, and Carl 1, and a farm laborer George Hilton, 18, are also listed as living in Buffalo Township.

Sophia Cutshaw Huntington, her husband Nathaniel and their four sons moved from Iowa to the Jamestown area in 1880. They purchased E1/2 SW1/4 Sec 30 T5R4 in Sophia's name November 17, 1880. Land records show that they sold this land on Aug 26, 1886. Nathaniel filed land and water rights in Johnson County, Wyoming in 1881, so the family was preparing to move there in 1882. They settled in Wyoming in June 1882. Sophia, widowed in 1888, her son Cecil J. Huntington, widowed in 1901, and his children returned to the Jamestown area in the early 1900's where he opened a practice in Osteopathy. His three brothers and their families continued to live in Wyoming at this time.

Josephus Arnold Cutshaw died April 27, 1884. His gravestone states that he was "Aged 75 yrs 3mos 10dys. This impressive tall obelisk stone also has a Masonic emblem prominently displayed and marks the graves of both Phoebe and Josephus. The Riverview Cemetery is located between Jamestown and Concordia Kansas. Pictures are included in the illustrations. A notice of his death appeared in *The Cloud County Kansan* published in Jamestown on May 3, 1884.

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**Mr. J.A. Cutshaw died last sunday night in the 75th year of his age. Mr. Cutshaw was one of the first settlers of this section and was well and favorably known throughout the country.**

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*The Kansas Blade* of Concordia, Kansas, published the following obituary on May 2, 1884.

**Next week we will publish the oration delivered by Mr. C. W. Stewart at the funeral of our dead friend Mr. Cutshaw, which, we think, will be read with interest, and appreciated by the BLADE readers. The procession which followed the honored dead to his final resting place numbered 22 vehicles, and they were occupied by Cloud Counties best class of citizens. The Masons, of which Mr. C. was a high member, turned out in force and performed the last rites of that time honored order for their respected member. The services were held in the Union Church and were composed entirely of the oration of Mr. Stewart. From the church the remains were taken to the grave and interred with the customary solemnities of the Masonic order.**

**Mr. Cutshaw was born in Ohio and, like many thousands of others, wended his way west, state by state, until he reached Kansas some thirteen years ago.**

Locating on wild land, in a then new country, barely redeemed from the savage and the buffalo, with pluck and energy, he hewed out a comfortable home and a competence.

Mr. Cutshaw was a Materialist, an Atheist, and died firmly fixed in that belief. This we say knowingly. He has often so expressed himself to us and in others in our presence. That he did not waver in his belief we have his positive statement made by by him twenty-seven hours before his death and when he knew he must die. We asked personally, "Did he waver in his belief" and he give an emphatic NO. "He would die as he had lived and in that belief."

But Mr. C.,like all other Atheists, did not assume a positive knowledge of the "hereafter."--of a non-existence of a god or immortality. he simply said "to my mind the preponderance of evidence is against the god and immortality theory: of the 'positive,' we cannot know."

Mr. Cutshaw was a true friend of the **BLADE** and has several times contributed to its columns. He was the second man to speak words of approval and encouragement to us when we began the publication of liberal, or Infidel matter. He goes to his grave, the final home of the unconscious dead, loved and repected by the whole **BLADE** family.

Mr. Josephus Arnold Cutshaw come as near being "the noblest work of nature, an honest man," as any one we ever knew.

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This account was copied carefully without corrections. The oration of C. W. Stewart is rather lengthy, but as it contains so much information I have copied it just as it appeared on the front page of the *Kansas Blade*. I did omit the poem, **THANATOPSIS**, by W. C. Bryant and an unidentified poem at the end.

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**Discourse of C. W. Stewart at the funeral of Mr. J.A. Cutshaw.**

**Good Friends: I have come here on this sad occasion, to fulfill an oft repeated promise made to our departed friend during his life.**

Early last winter he said to me, that he feared he could not last much longer, and he wanted me to speak at his funeral. I told him that I hoped that sad task was far off in the future. but he seemed to think not, and specially requested that I should speak at his burial, and hold the service at this particular place.

On last Tuesday, he sent for me and I went to his home little thinking that he was so hear death's door, and when I arrived he grasped my hand and said, "Oh how glad I am that you have come." "I wanted to get your promise again to see that justice was done me at my funeral." I then told him that my promise would be sacredly carried out. And holding my hand with almost a death grasp, while the tears filled his eyes, he said, "I have tried to live an honest, upright life, I have raised a family of six children who are now honorable men and women, and I am content."

And now my friends, without any desire on my part to say anything that would wound the feelings of any class of people, I intend, as far as I am able, to carry out the wish of my dead friend, so that if the cold and silent lips could speak, they would approve my utterances.

There is a special reason for my doing this aside from his request.

This church was erected by contributions from various denominations represented in this community. And were any of them to leave a similar request, there would be no hesitation on the part of their friends in fulfilling it.

Mr. Cutshaw gave of his means, toward building this church and he has a right to the same consideration.

(omitted poem)

There is something sublime in the career of such a man as our poor old friend, whose body lies so silent and still before us.

Truly it may be sad of him, that whatever his hands found to do, he did with all his might. His life was filled with energy, and he threw his whole soul into every thing which he undertook.

Starting in his earlier years from Ohio, where he was born, he came to Indiana, and from that state he removed to Michigan, where he toiled to build him a home. When the gold excitement broke out in California, he traversed the ten almost interminable road to that far off land, for the purpose of bettering the condition of the wife, who but a short time ago preceded him to the silent land, and the children who gather weepingly and lovingly around him to-day.

Twice did he take that journey to California, and in subsequent years, actuated by the same energy, he came to Kansas, and began to battle with the vicissitudes of frontier life.

Onward and upward was his motto, and his labors speak for themselves.

And the concourse of people who have faced the inclement weather to pay this last tribute of respect to him, speaks far more eloquently and forcibly, than I can do, of the esteem in which he was held by the people in this vicinity.

The reason of this is obvious, and I should leave my promise untouched were I not to speak of his opinions on religious subjects.

Thirty years ago, Mr. Cutshaw was emancipated from the bondage of theology.

Thirty years ago, the dawn of Freedom's morning bathed his brow with its radiant light, that now blazes with noonday splendor throughout the world.

As England's great poet says:

"Perplexed in faith but firm in deeds  
At last he beat his music out  
Ehere lives more faith in honest doubt  
Believe me, than in half the creeds."

His mind was filled with a broad liberality, that could be charitable toward the faults and follies of mankind.

**Never, in the time that I have known him, have I heard him utter one hard word toward other beliefs.**

**He did not believe in creeds, but he was willing to grant to others the liberty which he enjoyed. And that kindly charity, that liberal spirit, has endeared him to his neighbors, and to all who have met him.**

**Honorable in his dealings, just and kind to all, his life was like a noble ship that steers her course straight forward over the ocean's wilderness to some far off port beyond.**

**Seventy-five years, with their winters and summers have witnessed this heroic life. Seventy-five years with their joys and sorrows, their griefs and fears have come and gone, and all that remains of our honored friend lies here awaiting interment at the hands of the Order of which he was an honored member.**

**But you will ask, what of the future? I know not. Do you? To me the Spynx has never spoken. Has it spoken to you? We know not whether the gate through which our friend has passed, leads to eternal life and light, or to eternal rest.**

**Our friend did not know, and was not dogmatic upon the subject. But this we know, that if the soul lives on, it is because of the same chain of natural law that placed us here, and not because of the decree of some arbitrary being. And we also know, that if there be another life it will be better than this, and not worse.**

**Our friend had no fear of death. On the contrary he devoted much of his time and energy to the task of "delivering those who through fear of death, were all their life-time subject to bondage."**

**And what if there should be no other life but this?**

**Next to eternal life is eternal rest. Eyes never weep that are closed in death. Hearts do not break that have crumbled into dust.**

**No groans and sighs escape from the dumb lips of the placid dead.**

**But as the years may come and go, the clouds may gather and the storms may howl, but he will heed them not.**

**The summers and winters with their flowers and frosts, will come and go, and amid all the sweet influences of nature his form shall mingle with the elements, while his memory will be cherished in the hearts of all who knew him, while life shall last.**

The Probate Court record shows that in 1884 Josephus's children Mortimer M. Cutshaw, Mary M. Morrow, J. W. Cutshaw, and Cecil Cutshaw were living in Concordia, Kansas. John B. Cutshaw was living in Marshal(?) Lake, Idaho Territory, and Sophia Huntington was living in Dayton, Wyoming. A copy of this document is with the illustrations.

As stated earlier in the *Cloud County Historical Biography*, Mortimer M. Cutshaw moved to California after 1884, but it is not known when he moved or where he lived. According to information provided by Paul and Janis Cutshaw from Josephus's will, Mortimer was co-executor with James W. Cutshaw. Mortimer died in 1890 before probate of his father's estate was complete.

His wife Mary had moved to Wood City, Ohio, by 1895.

According to Paul and Janis Cutshaw, John B. Cutshaw married Lovina Adams in 1895 at Freemont County, Idaho.

Cecil Cutshaw was married to Elizabeth Carlile, October 2, 1884. They lived on his farm southeast of Jamestown, Kansas. The census of 1900 shows that Elizabeth was born in Illinois. Her father was born in Ireland and her mother was born in Ohio. The record lists five children, all born in Jamestown, Cloud County, Kansas. A record from the *LDS Ancestral File* gives additional information.

Blanche	born	April 11	1885
Arthur Lenard	born	May 9	1887
Roy Cecil	born	August 14	1889
Maude Sarah	born	October 26	1891
Clarence William	born	February 2	1896

According to Paul and Janis Cutshaw, Cecil was quite an adventurer and would leave his family for long periods to ride with Wild Bill Hickock. At times his brother James W. would provide for his family. Janis states: "Everyone must have felt sorry for his wife, because they all deeded property over to him and held a mortgage, but within a few years he defaulted and gave the property back".

*The Biographical History Of Cloud County* contains the following information about James W. Cutshaw written in 1903.

**Among the highly esteemed farmers and financially solid men of the Jamestown locality is J. W. Cutshaw, who came to Kansas in 1870 and homesteaded his present farm. he was born in Marshall county, Indiana, in 1843. when he was nine years old his parents removed to Michigan and settled in Berrien county, near Three Oaks, where Mr. Cutshaw was reared. When eighteen years of age he enlisted in company K, Sixth Michigan-Infantry, and served until 1863, when he was discharged on account of a gunshot wound received in Port Hudson, Louisiana, which disabled him for service. His company commander was Captain Ed. Bacon. Their lieutenant colonel was David Bacon--cousins. The warfare of his company consisted of guard duty, tearing up railroads, etc. Mr. Cutshaw returned to Michigan and lived in different localities of that state until 1870, when he emigrated west. He was unmarried when he secured his prairie claim and erected a little cabin a later a board house. But with the accession of a home all his own, "the young man's fancy lightly turned to thoughts of marriage," and in accordance was wedded to Miss Frances E. Wilson in 1877, whose acquaintance he had formed during his youth in Indiana. Of the eight children born to their union six are living: Grace L., a promising young girl of fifteen, died in 1893. Earl J. and Carl F. were born at the same birth and are very similar in personality. The**

resemblance between the twins is so marked they often exercise pranks on their hand-shaking friends. They are manly fine fellows twenty three years of age. Earl J. is a student on his second year in the Kansas City Dental College. He had previously been a pupil of the Concordia high school for two years. Carl F., who represents the Continental insurance business, is located at Lincoln Center, Kansas. he is a graduate from the Concordia high school. Ralph Roscoe, aged twenty, is interested with his father on the farm. After a course in the Concordia high school he matriculated in the Great Western business college for two years. The other sons, Lewis Robert and Paul Fulsom, are young men of promise. They are aged nineteen and seventeen years, respectively. Fannie Louise, their only daughter is a bright little girl of thirteen years. These children have been reared in the school of industry as well as book lore, for Mr. Cutshaw owns five hundred and twenty acres of land and is a large wheat and alfalfa grower as well as stockman. He owns thirteen quarter sections of uncultivated land in Thomas county, Kansas, which he purchased for ranching and speculative purposes, but believing it will produce good wheat, will put much of it under cultivation. His farm in Buffalo township is all first and second bottom land of excellent quality."

"Until the birth of the Populist party Mr. Cutshaw was a Republican, but is not a partisan politician and votes independently. Socially he is a member of the Woodmen and the Grand Army of the Republic. Although Mr. Cutshaw has experienced his share of the early hardships he has given his sons better educational advantages than the average farmer boy receives and has accumulated an estate that warrants all the comforts of life. He is a typical western farmer and he and his excellent family are among the most desirable citizens of the community.

J. W. Cutshaw purchased the land that his brothers and sisters inherited from Josephus. This land was passed down through Roscoe Wilson Cutshaw to Lawrence and eventually inherited by his great great grandson Paul Cutshaw.

The newspaper account of the fiftieth wedding anniversary of James W. and Frances contains this information:

**Mr. Cutshaw was born march 8th 1843 at Plymouth, Indiana, moved to LaPorte, Indiana when six years of age , with his parents, later moving to Michigan. When the civil War broke out he enlisted in the 6th Michigan Volunteer Infantry and spent the first winter of army life in baltimore. he later saw service in the south along the Mississippi and was wounded at Port Hudson, May 27, 1863. Mr. Cutshaw was discharged from service in 1864, when he returned to his Michigan home. He taught school for a time and then concluded like many other young men of that day to take Greeley's advice and "go west and grow up with the country." With his brother Cecil Cutshaw, and a friend they headed westward in the prairie schooner arriving in Concordia, Kansas on**

**November 12th, 1870. At that time there was but three business houses in Concordia, the Land Office, James Bowen's boarding house and the E. Lynn Grocery. After batching for a period of six years, "Uncle Jim" could not stand it any longer so he hit the back trail to find the girl he had left behind.**

On August 4, 1935, a newspaper article appeared in the *Topeka Capital* (Kansas) about three Civil War Veterans living in Jamestown, Kansas. One of these veterans was James W. Cutshaw who was 92 at this time. This information was in the paragraph about James.

**Cutshaw, also a native of Indiana, later went to Michigan, where he inlisted in the 6th Michigan infantry and served until 1863, when he was disabled from further service by gunshot wounds. In 1870 he homesteaded two miles north of here. With Mrs. Cutshaw he celebrated their golden wedding in 1927. Cutshaw walks down town without the aid of a cane and is quite active despite his 92 years. He is one of the largest land-owners in this communtiy.**

James W. Cutshaw died in 1937. The following obituary appeared in a local nespaper.

#### **DEATH COMES FOR JAMES W. CUTSHAW**

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#### **Lingering Illness Fatal for One of the Few Remaining Veterans of the Civil War**

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**James W. Cutshaw, pioneer of Cloud county and one of the few remaining civil War veterans, died Friday afternoon at his home after a long illness. Mr. Cutshaw, affectionately known to his friends as "Uncle Jimmy", would have been 94 years old on March 8.**

**He was born in Indiana, and, in 1861 enlisted in the Sixth Michigan Infantry to serve in the Civil War. He was wounded in action in 1863 and was honorably discharged from service in 1864. He returned to Michigan and in 1870 came to Kansas, taking a homestead near Jamestown.**

**He was married in 1887 to Frances Wilson who survives him. Also surviving are these children: Mrs. Fannie Russell, of Dodge City; Carl, Paul, and Ross, of Brewster; and Robert, of Jamestown.**

**Funeral services will be held Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence, and burial will be in Fairview cemetery.**

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James W. Cutshaw and his wife Frances were parents of eight children, but the names of only seven are known.

Grace L.

born 1878

1893

Earl J.	born 1879
Carl F.	born 1879
Ralph Roscoe Wilson	born 1883
Lewis Robert	born 1884
Paul Fulsom	born 1886
Frances "Fannie" Louise	born 1890

Frances Cutshaw Russell died in 1979. Ralph Roscoe had a son, Lawrence Lyle Cutshaw, and a grandson Paul Cutshaw, who lives in California. Paul and Janis Cutshaw provided the information that twins were born in each generation of J.W.'s descendants.

Cecil Cutshaw died in February 27, 1949, at the age of 96 years, 4 months and 1 day. The following obituary appeared in the Jamestown, Kansas, newspaper.

**CECIL CUTSHAW, NEAR  
CENTENARIAN, DIES**

**Oldest Citizen of Cloud County  
Came to Jamestown in 1870**

**Cecil Cutshaw, last one of the pioneer settlers of the Jamestown community died Sunday morning following a long illness. Mr. Cutshaw was the oldest citizen of Cloud county having reached his 96th birthday anniversary last October, He first came here in 1870 before Jamestown was known and Concordia was a mere trading post.**

**During these early days he spent a great deal of his time hunting buffalo, trapping and fishing. he took part in many a buffalo hunt in western kansas and had his thrills keeping clear of the Indians on the hunting expeditions. He in company with other early settlers went on hunting expeditions that took them to Minnesota, the Dakotas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. he was also a member of a hunting party that made an expedition into Wyoming and into what is now the Yellowstone National park region.**

**Cecil Cutshaw was born at LaPorte, Indiana, October 26, 1852 and died Sunday, February 27, 1949, at the age of 96 years, 4 months and 1 day.**

**He was the youngest of six children of J. A. and Phoebe Cutshaw. The family moved to Niles, Michigan, when he was a small child and there he grew to manhood.**

**In the year 1870 he with his brother, James, came to Kansas driving a team with a covered wagon, and were a month on the road. At that time Concordia was a little settlement of three business houses. He went to Minnesota the following year, where he lived for two years, returning to his farm southeast of Jamestown, where he lived for more than fifty years.**

**He was married to Elizabeth Carlile, October 2, 1884, and they lived on the farm until August 1945, when they moved to Jamestown.**

**He is survived by his wife, and five children, Blanche Barndt, of Columbus, Montana; Maude Legg, of Cody, Wy.; Arthur of San Antonio, Texas; Clarence of Parthenon, Arkansas, and Roy, of Jamestown. Seventeen grand children and six great grand children also survive.**

**Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the Methodist church, at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Leonard Clark. The music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. J.G. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. R.H. Turner, accompanied by Miss Rosalee Vincent. Casket bearers were Claude Neel, Moody Paulsen, Fred Hodgson, Harry Dutton, Ted French and Tom Porter. The A. G. and A. M. had charge of grave side services. Interment was made in Fairview cemetery.**

## SOPHIA CUTSHAW

Sophia Cutshaw was born in Plymouth, Marshall County, Indiana, December 19, 1840, to Josephus Arnold Cutshaw, and Phoebe Belangee. The family moved to LaPorte County, Indiana, in the early 1850's. This was probably when the Cutshaw family and the Huntington family became acquainted.

It is not known what schools Sophia attended, but from her handwriting in her Bible, and from comments by family members about her being "refined and possessing a fine singing voice", it is evident that she received a traditional education, and perhaps even some private schooling. Kathleen Crismier recalls that her mother, Evelyn (Nat's daughter and Hallam J.'s granddaughter) remembered her great grandmother Sophia as very cultured and that she may have attended school in Boston. As her father was reported to have made a considerable fortune in the gold strike in California, it is possible that she did receive some special schooling that would have been unusual for a girl at that time.

Sophia and Nathaniel Huntington were married August 26, 1858 at her father's home in Galien, Berrien County, Michigan. They lived near Nathaniel's parents at Hudson Lake, LaPorte county, and are listed as living there on the 1860 census with their son Hallam Joseph.

A newspaper story about Sophia that appeared in *The San Diego Union* July 5, 1932 states that she attended the Republican Convention in Chicago in 1860. Following are excerpts from the article about that experience.

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### **SAN DIEGAN SAW ABRAHAM LINCON FIRST NOMINATED**

**By Forrest Warren**

**In 1860, Mrs. Sophia Huntington of 1737 Fort Stockton drive attended the Wigwam convention in Chicago when Abraham Lincoln was nominated for his first term at the first national gathering of the Republican party.**

**In 1932, 72 years later, Mrs. Huntington sat in the home of her son, Harry Huntington, on Fort Stockton drive, and heard the exciting details of the Republican and Democratic conventions, both held in the stadium that stands near the site of the memorable Wigwam building. (The reporter then went on to comment on how impressed he was with her young appearance at age 92 and her keen and alert mind that was thinking in terms of present as well as events**

that took place more than 70 years before).

### NO WILD YELLS FOR LINCOLN

**"My father and mother had been intensely interested in the Lincoln and Douglas contest for the presidential nomination," said Mrs. Huntington. "We were living then in Michigan only a few hours ride from Chicago. Father and mother decided to attend the convention as spectators and I went along. We stayed there three days and were in the Wigwam Hall when Mr. Lincoln was declared the nominee. Everything was carried on with decorum and dignity. Of course the crowd--said to have been about 20,000--cheered heartily, but there was no wild demonstration like it was last Saturday when Mr. Roosevelt arrived from New York in an airplane to address the convention. I remember there was a band in the hall and it played sweet music. The crowd cheered when Lincoln won the nomination, but there was no prolonged yelling like we have been hearing on the radio."**

**"I sat by the radio for hours to get every word spoken at the Democratic convention. As I did this, I recalled to my mind the vivid recollections of the Wigwam convention. While I was but a girl in my teens I was just as much interested in what was going on as my father and mother were, because I had heard so much about the Lincoln and Douglas contest. It all made an indelible impression on my mind. And it came back to me again as I sat by the radio and listened. Of course, I just naturally compared the Wigwam convention with the noisy one just closed by the Democrats.**

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There are some puzzling aspects to this article. Sophia was 19, married and living with Nathaniel at the farm in Hudson, LaPorte County, Indiana in 1860. Her son Hallam was ten months old. I believe we could assume that the interviewer misunderstood her, or she may have confused some of the details after 70 years when he quoted her as saying she lived in Michigan. It would have been easy for her to travel to Chicago with her parents as Hudson was not far from Berrien, County, Michigan, where her parents lived.

While Sophia and Nathaniel lived at Hudson Lake, LaPorte County, Indiana, three sons were born.

Hallam Joseph b.1859 Hudson Township, LaPorte County, IN  
Cecil James b.1867 New Carlisle, LaPorte County, IN  
Harry Mortimer b.1869 Niles, Berrien County, MI

New Carlisle is a few miles east of Hudson Township. Nathaniel taught there, and may have also had a Law Office there.

The family left Indiana in 1870, and traveled west to Minnesota where they probably stayed with Nathaniel's father Hallam Huntington at his home on the Blue Earth River near Winnebago. In 1874

they purchased land in Iowa Lake Township, Iowa, about twenty five miles southwest of Winnebago. Their fourth child, John Roy was born May 17, 1875, at Iowa Lake.

The family moved to Cloud County, Kansas in 1880. Land was purchased in Sophia's name near Jamestown in November 1880. Her parents and brothers had settled there. Her mother had died in January of 1880. Sophia stayed in Jamestown with Cecil J., Harry M., and John Roy until the spring of 1882. Nathaniel and Hallam J. had gone ahead to Johnson County, Wyoming to file water rights, land claims and apply for a brand. As Hallam J. applied for the brand in April, Nathaniel probably had returned to Kansas to accompany Sophia and the three younger boys on the trip west to Wyoming. Sophia wrote in her Bible that they arrived at their new home on the Tongue River on June 29th, 1882. As there are lilac bushes on the property where they homesteaded, she may have brought some young plants with her. This property is now part of the IXL Ranch and is a short distance west of Dayton, Wyoming, on the south side of the Tongue River.

The family acquired more property in the area, and eventually the sons married and settled on their own ranches. Hallam J. married Linna Thorn in February, 1884.

In 1888 Nathaniel died of pneumonia in Cheyenne while serving as Speaker of The House in the Territorial Legislature. Sophia was with him in Cheyenne as the accounts of the funeral in the local newspapers mention her presence.

On October 25, 1894, Sophia's son Cecil James married Ellen Morley. Ellen (Ella) from Buchanan, Michigan, was a teacher at the school just a mile from the Huntington ranch near Dayton. They settled on their ranch near Parkman, Wyoming, a few miles east of Dayton.

Henry (Harry) Mortimer Huntington married Jennie Dick Pegg in Denver, Colorado, January 20, 1898, and John Roy Huntington married Martha Hyatt in Denver, Colorado, March 9, 1898.

All the Huntington family but Hallam J. appeared on the Sheridan County Census in 1900. Cecil's wife Ella died in February, 1901 leaving him with three small children to raise. Most of the land the family owned in the Dayton and Parkman area was sold in 1901. Cecil moved to Iowa to earn a degree in Osteopathy in 1903. It is not known if he took the three young children with him, or left them with Sophia who probably moved back to Jamestown, Kansas, at this time. Cecil opened an Osteopathy practice in Jamestown in 1905 and Sophia was living with his family at that time.

In 1909, Cecil married Eva Calkins and move to the Crooked Creek Ranch in Big Horn County, Wyoming in 1909. Sophia apparently had moved back to Wyoming in 1907. She appears on the 1910 census as living with Harry M. Huntington and his wife in Sheridan County, Wyoming.

Sophia married William Hitchcox, a prominent citizen of Jamestown, at Concordia, Kansas, July 5, 1911. The newspaper account in the *Jamestown Optimist* states that she was well known in the area having made her home for some time with her son, Dr. Huntington.

**MARRIED AT CONCORDIA**  
**Mr. William Hitchcox and Mrs.**  
**Sophie Huntington Married**

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Married at Concordia Wednesday, July 5th a 11:30 o'clock a.m. Mr. Wm. Hitchcox of Jamestown, and Mrs. Sophie Huntington, of Sheridan, Wyoming. In the parlors of the Barons Hotel the doors were closed and the quiet, simple but impressive ceremony was performed by Rev. G. E. Carnahan, Mrs. Carnahan being the sole witness. congratulations and dinner at the hotel followed.

Mr. Hitchcox is too well and favorably known to need any introduction to this community. He has been a prosperous farmer here for years, but retired at the present time; is an upright Christian gentleman, a good citizen, and a friend to all. Mrs. Hitchcox is not a stranger to us, having made her home here for some time with her son, Dr. Huntington, leaving here for Wyoming some four years ago. She is a lady in the true sense of the word Christian, sociable, companionable. While here with her son she was a member of, and took an active interest in the literary club.

The groom was dressed in a stylish gray, while the bride was becomingly attired in black silk trimmed in white.

Mr. A. I. Hills had the honor of conveying the company to and from Concordia on one of his large autos.

Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcox will be at home to their many friends after July 10th in the home formerly owned by Mr. Carl Hitchcox. The writer extends congratulations and wishes them all possible happiness.

Mrs. Anna M. Strain.

*The Biographical History Of Cloud County*, by Mrs. E.F. Hollibaugh, published in 1903, includes an extensive section on William Hitchcox. Following are excerpts from that section.

**WILLIAM HITCHCOX**

One of the most genial and highly respected citizens of Jamestown, William Hitchcox, emigrated to Kansas in 1880, and bought the original homestead of E. J. Marsh. The capital he represented would aggregate about two thousand dollars and unlike so many people who brought their shekels to Kansas and lost them, the subject of this sketch accumulated more. He owns and lives on a farm adjacent to Jamestown, one of the best improved properties in the township.

Mr. Hitchcox was born on a farm in Cass county, Michigan, in 1835. He grew to manhood there and was educated in the common schools and lived there until coming to the fair state of Kansas. He was married in 1858 to Elizabeth Jones, also of Cass county, Michigan. To Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcox four children have been born.

**Mr. Hitchcox is an exponent of Republican principles and has served as treasurer of his township. For several years he was a member of the school board and did much to advance educational interest. He is one of those jovial, good-natured men who evidently set store by the old adage-- "Care to our coffin adds a nail no doubt; And every grin so merry draws one out."**

**Mr. Hitchcox and his family are among the prosperous representative citizens of their locality. The latch string of their pleasant, hospitable home is always hanging out, and a cordial welcome is extended to their large circle of friends and acquaintances.**

William Hitchcox's wife Elizabeth died sometime before 1910 as she does not appear on the 1910 census. A copy of the Marriage Certificate shows that at the time he and Sophia were married, he was 76 and she was 70. Sophia had taped a photograph of the house where they lived into her small Bible and a copy of that is included with the illustrations. An article about Mr. Hitchcox appeared in the *Jamestown Optimist* on January 14, 1915.

#### **HIS EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY**

**Grandpa Hitchcox, living at the east line of the city limits, was eighty years of age on Sunday, January 3rd. His children planned a big birthday party for him and twenty-six people were present, including seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Walter Carpenter, Mrs. Isaac Gee and Miss Mable Gee, all of Jewell City; Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Clemons, Phil Clemons, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hitchcox, Rolla and Grace Hitchcox, Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Tebow and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Clemons. These, with several children whose names are not mentioned, made quite a large company. They enjoyed an excellent dinner and spent the day very pleasantly indeed. Mr. Hitchcox, although eighty years of age, is still quite strong and enjoys fairly good health. In spirit he is just "one of the boys."**

Ironically this item was delayed a week as explained in the first paragraph and appeared the day after Mr. Hitchcox died. No obituary was found for him in the *Jamestown* or *Concordia* papers. There is evidence that Sophia stayed in Jamestown at least until 1917. During these years granddaughter Mildred Huntington and grandson Cecil Burton Huntington were living with her while they attended high school in Jamestown. Cecil Burton was living with her when he enlisted in the Marines in 1917, to serve in World War I.

At various times she visited her sons and their families in Wyoming as there are pictures of her with different dates included. The 1920 census shows that she was again living in Sheridan, Wyoming, with her son Harry Huntington and his wife. She later moved to California where she lived with her son Harry M. Huntington in the San Diego area, and with her son Hallam J. Huntington in San Bernadino. Hallam's great-granddaughter, Kathleen Crismier recalled that her mother Evelyn (Nat Huntington's daughter) had talked about living on the same property with Hallam J., Sophia, and

Cecil in the San Bernardino area. She described Sophia as a "very cultured lady" with a fine singing voice.

Sophia visited Wyoming in 1929-30, as my mother Francine Huntington often talked about how worried she was that Sophia's eyesight was failing. Evidently, Sophia insisted on changing my brother Burt (born in September 1929) and as she could hardly see, mother was sure she was going to stab him with the diaper pins. I believe she visited Wyoming again after 1935, as I remember meeting her. I remember that I was in awe of this rather formidable, dignified lady. Oral tradition in the family describes Sophia as a strong independent woman. Her quest for her independence in her later years resulted in her reputation as being stubborn and at times difficult. Her story definitely gives us a portrait of a very strong, independent person. She faced many hardships and difficult situations with great perseverance in her long life.

In her last year of life, 1939, she was living with Hallam's daughter Maude Gaines at Potter Valley, near Ukiah, California. She died in her sleep October 20, 1939. The following obituary appeared in the *Ukiah Republican Press* on October 25, 1939. Although Hitchcox is misspelled throughout, the other information is accurate, if somewhat incomplete.

#### **DIED IN SLEEP**

**The oldest person in Mendocino county and one of the oldest in the state died at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. H. Gaines, in Potter Valley, Friday night. "Grandma" Sophie Hitchcock had retired for the night and before Mrs. Gaines went to bed she went to the room to see how the elderly lady was and found her dead. She passed away in her sleep and for a few days previous had complained of feeling tired. She did not give up until the end and did not like to have people wait on her. Mrs. Hitchcock had retained all of her faculties with the exception of eyesight failing and up to four years ago insisted on living alone and did her own cooking and housework. At that time she lived with her son in San Bernardino, or rather had a nice cottage adjoining his home, and previous to this lived with another son in Wyoming. Last June Mrs. Hitchcock came here to live with her granddaughter for the daughter-in-law above mentioned is 75 and hardly able to care for herself.**

#### **ALMOST A CENTURY OLD.**

**Born in Indiana in 1840, Mrs. Hitchcock was 98 years and 10 months old at the time of her death. Very little is known of her early life for she had outlived all of her generation and her four sons are now all in their seventies. She leaves numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren, four boys and a girl.**

#### **CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES**

**She was married twice and had four sons by the first marriage, three of whom came here to attend funeral services Monday afternoon under auspices of the Christian Science Society, Mrs. Nellie Fox being the reader. Mrs. William harp was soloist accompanied by Mrs. Gladys Richey. The remains were taken to the**

**Chapel of the Chimes, Santa Rosa, for cremation.**

It is not known if her ashes are at the Chapel of the Chimes, or if the family scattered them.