

Oct 12. 1843. A baby girl came to the home of Claus^d & Janna Van Maok Huiseuga born at Loga Birum, a country village. She was the only girl, her bro's were Nisk Stubbs^d & Leo. John^d & Putje born later of some where in the 60 ties. Leo^d & Putje^{young} came to the U.S.A. to Freeport. Stephenson^d when Civil war broke out. Putje enlisted he was so young, only a lad, about 17 or 18 yrs. But he must do something for his new country, so off he marched with many more from his neighborhood.

Grandfather^d & Grandma Huiseuga with their married sons and families, came to America in fall of 1865 in Oct. Ma use to say. D. Zraautje came 2 yrs later, war ended, then they got wood Putje took sick, passed away, lies buried in the Soldee's Cemetery Chattanooga Tenn. Mother didn't get acquainted with father until later, the young men chummed together on the boat, when they arrived in Castle garden, Grand pa said, where do you go Zraautje? he said he didn't know, he had throorn all his clothing over board cause they were so lowsey. Zrautje forgot about his Uncle Bookwood's address it want to, so Grand pa said, come with us, we'll take care of you. Father not quite 20. born Jan 31-46. So all came to Del. ^{maybe 19 yrs.} landed in Freeport. Mother use to tell us children, U.C. yr father was born on a high l — wasn't use to poverty. lice Ma either, but nothing was throorn away. lice were plenty on the boat they came on,

The Huelster family was a wonderful family, born in Germany 5 young men with their parents came to America, born and raised Catholic, settled in Wisconsin, I am not sure where it was in neighborhood of Baraboo - attended the Evangelical meetings all were soundly converted, and all active in our Church.

preachers - teachers, there was Frederick, Henry, William, Anton, August, John and his wife were busy in Naperville College, & one of them Prof. there, they often came to our Foxston home, and later on since I am married Mrs John Huelster came to Oakdale ^{Dup}.

Rev 3-20. Verse has touched many hearts, and been the means of bringing precious souls to Christ.

The Evangelical denomination has done wonders for humanity, I am thankful I belong. I remain J. H.

1865, they landed in Castle New York, took
a train for Illinois, Mother ^{Garden} use to tell us
the train was so slow, the boys would
jump off, pick up things along the track,
I don't remember how many days it took
them to get to Freeport, but more than a
wk. Uncle Leo was working between Freeport
and Baileyville, he had a small house
ready for them to live in, there were
14 in the group, Uncle Dirk & Uncle
Wubbo were married, and had children
Mother soon hired out to Mrs Geizer
who had a boarding house in Baileyville
and a tavern connected, Mother's people
were no drinkers, and while there, Mrs
Geizer, had Mother do her sewing for
her, all hand work, The Geizer had
3 girls, & yrs later came to visit in
our home, Mother sewed from house to
house, and when married in March
25-1867. she had sewing to finish in
her home in Davis, Ill. where I was
born, also Janna, Henrietta, & Klaus
Gerhard, who was named for both his
grand parents, in 1877 we moved to
Freeport. the mo. of August, there I
had my 1st birthday in Freeport. 10 yrs old.
Father was a hard worker and Mother
knew how to save, the older children use
to say, if it hadnt been for our mother
who ventured, when father was always afraid
to go into things. Mother said in German

I think I ought to tell how my folks got into the Evangelical Church, I don't remember, but I do remember when Rev. Hon. Huelster lived in Davis. Henrietta Huelster was my age, we use to be together, I must have been about 6 yrs, sister Jennie about 3 1/4 or 4 yrs Jennie was sick with a fever, Mrs Kaufman our neighbor came over often, to help out, revival meetings were on in Evan Church, Mrs Kaufman said to Father one evening, Henry you work hard every day, and then you take care of your child at night, you go to the meeting this evening, it will rest you, I stay here. (you see my father was a Lutheran, he hadn't started going to any church regular, sometimes to Ebelena some miles W. of Davis so Pa went, came home and went in to see how his sick child was feeling, but when he went up to Jennie, saying Lindling miss if so, she pushed him away, then he broke down, crying, saying, if Jesus pushes me away like that, I am lost. Rev Huelster had for his text, Behold I stand at the door and knock, + so on, Father was all broken up, Mrs K. was a good Christian woman, and she knelt down with father and prayed with him, till he was saved.

131 Nothing ventured, nothing won.
Father was young loved company, games,
especially card playing.

The Hinzenburgs were no card players.
The Hullanders Reform Church was down in
it, and they were a faithful god fearing
family. So when Uncle Martin, Father's eldest
bro came with his gang for our father
to go with them, Ma said she told Father
had I know you would do that, let me
sit here evenings all by myself. I never
would have married you, I thought wedded life
Father put down his foot, said to the
gang, I go no more, and he never did.
Uncle Martin use to make fun of our
Daddy, but our children realized we
had a faithful father, who loved his
home and family. And he prospered.
Mattie Helms Knabe, use to tell me
how my mother use to come to their
home 1/2 miles north of Davis when they
lived in the grove, Ma came barefooted.
It never hurt Ma's feet. We girls thought
Ma had the prettiest feet. Jennie Henrietta
- J. Henrietta use to say, Mother should
never had had a large family, she
had so much system, things went
like clock work, at our house, we all
knew what to do, and when to do it.
She had her little girls sitting sewing
as soon as we knew how to hold a needle.
Jennie didn't care to sew, she loved to
knit and crocheted. I love to think about
my childhood. They were happy days.

W. In winter time, skating seemed
the main sport, my Uncle - Cousins
wanted me to stay^{ed} enjoy their
winters fun, they have boots where
hot coffee^{and} lunches are served,
prizes for the most graceful and
best skater, but I couldn't stay.
My mother was homesick for me,
so I came home last of Aug. 1898.

Mother said they always had many
flowers in their home, I found
it so when I visited there, so
many tea roses every where in
windows it was beautiful.

Grandfather^a & Grandmother's home
had marks on the walls where
the floods had made marks.
Grandfather said, that's why
our gardens do so well. it
makes rich soil. I saw stocks
& fushes in bloom almost as
late as I was. Grandpa James
lived near the river, & every 7
yrs he said it rises, and we
often get it into our homes.

4. Mother loved to sing. She had a fine voice, she taught us many pretty german songs. Jennie and I each had a small rocking chair, there we sat sang songs one after another, and many little prayers she taught us, we always kneel down to say our prayer before we crept into bed.

Prayers before and after meals were always said, yrs later as I read mine Bible, I noticed a verse in

Psalms that I use to say in german before meal, *Alles an dem mahl auf die*
Our Family worship morning was so nice, as I think of it now, it does my soul good to think of all those good times in Forrester. We all had our testaments, Mother read 1st verse than Father, then the children as their ages came, all kneel down for prayer, We all had our prayers after prayer, we rose, sang a verse or 2, then oatmeal was dished on breakfast together was a joy, as I love to think of it now, sometimes a jangle, but you see there were 10 of us, not much sickness among us children it seems Father and Mother knew what to do to keep us husky and well, we always lunched at 10^{oc} and 3. P.M. tea and cookies or eke, no wonder we all grew up strong and healthy.

When I spent the summer 1898 in Germany, I went to Loga to see the Church Mother and her parents worship in, and sat in their pew where they use to sit. Reform Church

One afternoon Grandpa Jansen, Cousin Gertchen Eimer and I took a walk to Mother's old home, it seemed many miles from Leer. Cousin Gertchen was use to walking but she got sick. Grandpa was afraid I wouldn't stand it, but I didn't mind it. I was broke in some, cause we had to walk every where or stay home, in Germany.

Saw Mother's old home from outside, folks were gone, so I walked around the place, where my Mother use to walk, maybe plant flowers, pull weeds, or maybe pick beans.

Ma use to tell us she walked to the river arms, took the ferry to go to work, in a Taylor shop, they were rather poor. She use to tell us when they had Company, all was well, but when Co gone, Grandma would count her coffee beans, so they would reach till they could buy again.

Poverty, hard work, and taxes, was hard on those poor people.