

Julius Emmons

Robert Crews

J. Edwin Crews

Marietta (Crews) Piris

James E Crews, Jr.

Mary (Emmons) Crews
Ackie (Sheridan) Crews
Robert A. Crews



Oscar G. Brauer

Oscar Leo Brauer, Ph.D. Robert Ernest Brauer,

Dr. Lloyd I. Brauer Vivian (Brauer) (Watson) Reiswig Sidney E. Brauer

Mary E. (Brauer) Bean Irma (Brauer) St. John



Maleta (Crews) (Brauer) Hill - John L. Brauer

Maude (Brauer) (Foster) Wiegart Leslie E. Brauer

Easton B. Brauer

Dr. Carroll V. Brauer

Dr. John Clyde Brauer













Elnora (Crews) Snell - John A. Snell

Leila (Saell) Jacobus

Harold A. Snell

Dr. John Buryl Snell

Dr. Gerald I. Snell

Muriel (Snell) Cameron

## THE BIOGRAPHIES OF ROBERT CREWS AND MARY EMMONS CREWS

by

OSCAR L. BRAUER (GRANDSON). Most of the information was told by ROBERT A. CREWS (SON)

In THE EARLY PART of the seventeenth century, in northern England near the Scottish border there lived a young blacksmith named Crews. He had inherited a little property and was doing well with his blacksmith shop.

One day he decided to take a vacation and see the large city of London. While there, he had a little too much to drink. When he awoke, he found himself on a ship four days out on the Atlantic Ocean headed for America. He had been Shanghied and sold to work on the Plantations of Maryland, owned by Lord Baltimore.

After working long enough to pay the cost of his trip across the ocean, he ran off to the mountains of Virginia. Here he set up a blacksmith shop and lived the rest of his life. Two of his great grandsons fought in the American Revolutionary War. After the war they were paid in Continental script. They used this script to buy land in Kentucky, sight unseen. Luckily it turned out to be good land.

One of the two Crews men in Kentucky became well-to-do, raising Negro Slaves and fine horses.

The other Crews brother in Kentucky was not so rich in worldly goods, but he was rich in children, having three sons and two daughters. One of the daughters married a man named Jones and moved to Missouri. One of the sons named John went over into Missouri to visit his sister.

While in Missouri John Crews fell in love with a girl named Martha Rhodis. He married her and settled down in Missouri. They had nine children, six boys and three girls. The exact order in which the children came is not known, but it is thought that Dan was the oldest, and

that Robert, our grandfather, was about the fourth.

Dan was especially gifted in mathematics. He could do cube root in his head. Unfortunately, he died before getting out of Grammar school.

Bill, while in Missouri, followed the trade of breaking wild horses. About the time of the beginning of the Civil War he started gambling and ran off into Illinois. When he finally got back to Missouri he was in poor health. Soon he took pneumonia and died.

Dick was remembered as a hunter, who was a good shot for quail on the fly. He volunteered in the Civil War, but died of pneumonia before he got into combat. Apparently these Crews boys were not very strong, and were especially vulnerable to pneumonia.

Robert (Grandpa Crews), stayed at home and helped his parents until he married Mary Elizabeth Emmons, (Grandma Crews), September 20, 1860.

John enlisted in the Civil War before he was 16. While still in Boot Camp he developed an abscess in his side. The doctor lanced the abscess but did not know enough to put in a drain. As would be expected, the soldier died.

Jim was the youngest child in the family. His mother died when he was quite young. Robert and his wife practically raised him. He lived with Grandma and Grandpa until they started for California. Once Jim, who had blond hair, wished that it were black. He thought that he could dye it black with the stain from walnut shells. He tried it and instead of turning black it turned green.

Eliza, the oldest daughter, married a man named Squire. Squire had been quite chummy with Robert. He was Robert's favorite brother-in-law.

Becky married a man named Williams.

Mandy, the youngest, married a man named Music. Later this Music, with his brother, brought their families to Shasta County, one to South Cow Creek Valley and the other to Whitmore. The one who lived on South Cow Creek died before the Crews family moved to Shasta County. Uncle Bob remembers that the Music from Whit-

more used to stop and discuss old times with Grandpa Crews.

Martha Rhodis-Crews, the mother of the afore-mentioned nine children, had a sister who married a man named Denny. They had a son whom they called Bob. Thus there were two cousins with the same first name. I presume that in order not to have a confusion in names, Denny was called Bob, while Crews was called Robert. At least, Grandpa Crews was always called Robert Crews. Even Grandma called him Robert.

Along toward the end of the eighteenth century a family of Irish descent named Emmons lived in Massachusetts. In 1802 there was born a son, which they named Julius. As far as we know he was the only child. When the boy was about 12 years old, the family moved to Franklin County, Missouri, near the small town of Lonedell. When Julius was 14 years old his parents both died. He continued to run the farm alone until he was old enough to marry.

Having been sobered by the death of his parents, and being of a religious nature, he became a Baptist Preacher. The family had been called "Yankees" by the natives of Missouri. Later he gained a reputation for uprightness and honesty. He was elected Constable and then Justice of the Peace. In later years he was called affectionately "The Old Judge", or "Old Yank".

Young Julius Emmons married a girl named Elizabeth Hedspeth. The couple had two daughters, Rachael and Lavissa. The mother died at the birth of Lavissa.

Julius next married a widow named Hildebrand, of Irish descent. She already had two children, John and Maleta Hildebrand. After marrying Emmons, she had four more children, Jim, Seth, Mary Elizabeth, and Louisa. Our family came through the line of Mary Elizabeth Emmons, who will later be referred to as "Grandma".

When Mary Elizabeth was five years old and Louisa two and one-half, their mother died. Mary Elizabeth could barely remember her mother. Next, the much-married preacher married a widow named Cole. This widow had two children, Jim and Maria Cole. She then had one child by Emmons, a girl whom they named Thankful. (Thankful Emmons married a man named Nappier. They had a daughter named Cora who later became an evangelist and preached all around that country.)

It was this stepmother who really raised Mary Elizabeth (Grandma Crews). This stepmother was inclined to be cross and often spanked little Louisa, who was about the same age as her own little girl, Maria. Finally Seth who was quite a big boy told her that the next time she spanked Louisa, his little sister, that he would spank Maria.

Shortly after this when the stepmother had finished milking the cow and set the bucket down for a moment, Maria dropped some trash into the milk. When her mother asked Maria if she did it, she answered, "No, Louisa did it." Then the stepmother snatched Louisa up and spanked her severely.

Seth stepped up and took Maria and gave her a sound spanking.

When Mr. Emmons came home, the stepmother told him what Seth had done. Mr. Emmons called Seth to him and prepared to give him a whipping. Mary Elizabeth hastily explained the whole story to her father. When he understood the true situation, he saw the justice of Seth's action, and gave him no punishment.

Julius Emmons oldest girls, Rachael and Lavissa, did not get along too well with this stepmother, either. Consequently they married young and moved away, Rachael to Oregon and Lavissa to Texas.

While in Texas, Lavissa's husband died, and she wrote home for help. Bob Denny and another man started to drive a team to Texas to help the widow. The men stopped at a saloon on the way. While they were in the saloon, the team ran off, and one of the horses was killed. The men had to go back to Missouri to get another horse. When they finally did get to Texas, thieves had stolen all of the widow's cattle and horses. Lavissa returned to Missouri.

Rachael married a man named Schrum and went to Oregon by covered wagon. Six hundred and forty acres of land had been offered to colonists who would come to Oregon to stay. Rachael was not heard from again by her father's family in Missouri. However, Mr. Fitzwater in Millville knew the Schrums in Oregon, and stated that they had become quite prosperous.

When Uncle Bob Crews was living in Oregon some years ago, he found in the attic a piece of old newspaper in which was a book review of an historical novel featuring the lives of Rachael and Jim Schrum. One incident mentioned in the review stated that once Jim Schrum went 150 miles with the horse team to get his wife an iron stove. While he was gone some Indians came up to his house to take his wife captive. She saw them coming and met them at the door with a muzzle-loading shotgun. She told the Indians that she had a repeating rifle which frightened them away.

One unusual incident happened in the Emmons family. When Maria Cole, stepdaughter of Julius Emmons, was about 15 years old she developed some of the powers of a spiritualistic medium. The spirit would answer any question that could be answered by yes or no. At night when the girl would ask a question the spirit would tap one tap for yes and two taps for no. When she laid her hands on a table it would move and even lift off the floor. One day a man visiting at the home said that he did not believe that there was any such thing as spiritualism. The girls took a table out in the yard. The man climbed upon it. Then Maria laid her hand on the table. The table now bucked like a steer and sent the man sprawling. He had nothing more to say and left at once.

Julius Emmons, being a Baptist preacher, didn't like the idea of his girls getting mixed up with spiritualism. He forbade Maria to call up the spirit again. Although her stepfather had forbidden her to call up the spirit, it seemed quite entertaining to the other children so she did it on the sly when she thought he wasn't around.

One day she, with a group of young people, were

gathered around the table asking questions of the spirit. Mary Elizabeth was assigned the task of watching and warning if her father should show up. She got so interested in what was taking place that she forgot all about her father. Her father came in unobserved and stood watching them for a while. When the rappings were at their height, the father, the Baptist preacher, spoke to the spirit:

"In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to leave this house and never to return."

As Grandma Crews remembered it, immediately there was a sort of swishing sound and a sort of dragging effect that began near the girl and went to the outer bounds of the house. From then on the girl had completely lost her power as a medium. One day when her stepfather was away, she tried to call the spirit back but could not do it.

When Mary Elizabeth was nearly 18 years of age, young Bob Denny started calling on her step-sister, Maleta Hildebrand. Seeing that the Emmons household was full of girls, Bob Denny took along his cousin, Robert Crews, the next time he called. Robert was paired off with Mary Elizabeth.

In those days a young man did not shop around much in hunting for a wife. Soon the couples were going steady. Bob Denny, understanding the psychology of a preacher, made some pretense of being religious. This put him in good standing with Preacher Emmons. Robert Crews obviously was not religious, but for the time being attended Sunday services where the Emmons girls attended. Julius Emmons had some misgivings about young Robert Crews. However, Robert's keen sense of humor, his disarming smile, and the mischievous twinkle in his eye captivated Mary Elizabeth. The couples were soon married.

This same year (1860), her stepmother (Cole) died. Later, Julius Emmons married a widow named Kelly who had one son, Jim, by her previous marriage. Jim Kelly later married Louisa Emmons. After the Civil War he was pensioned. He died from lead poisoning caused by working in the lead mines.

To Emmons and this fourth wife there was born a

daughter, Fannie, and a pair of twins, Julius and Etta. Emmons was 64 when the twins were born. The twins were the same age as his daughter Mary Elizabeth's third child.

Julius Emmons lived to be 94 years old and died in 1896. One of the daughters writing to Grandma Crews at the time said that they laid the father to rest in a very expensive coffin costing fifteen dollars.

Robert Crews had a small farm, but was ambitious to be something more than a farmer. A friend of his, who was a blacksmith, suggested that the two of them become wagon makers, Crews to do the woodwork, and the other man the iron work. They soon learned that the Studebaker Brothers, and also Bain had already developed the wagon business to an advanced stage. The young men saw that their custom built wagons could not compete in price with the factory-built wagons.

After the birth of his first child, Roswell, in 1861 just before the Civil War, Grandpa Crews decided to become a doctor. So he apprenticed himself to one of a group of doctors, who had organized a makeshift medical school. Each of the doctors took turns lecturing to the students. One day Grandpa Crews' doctor preceptor stopped at the Crews home after attending a child with diphtheria. The family thought that the doctor brought the diphtheria to their child. At any rate, Roswell caught the diphtheria and died.

When the Civil War broke out Bob Denny, Grandpa Crews' cousin, volunteered in the regular army, and rose to the rank of Captain. He served with General Sherman in his march through Georgia.

All of the doctors and students in the medical school volunteered for service. The medical school was converted into a hospital by the regular army. The doctors were taken in as lieutenants and the students as orderlies. The orderlies had the power to write prescriptions, but their main duties were to assist the doctors. As yet the germ theory of infectious diseases was not established. If one wishes to get a picture of the horror of army hospitals in

those days he need only to read the Life of Pasteur by Vallery-Radot. This gives Pasteur's description of the army hospitals around Paris during the Franco-Prussian War in 1871, telling how the surgeons carried infection from one patient to another with their unsterilized instruments. Grandpa Crews said that the horror of the place was almost more than he could stand.

Martha Susan, the second child in the Crews family was born August 15, 1864. How the medical students ran their farms and went to medical school at the same time we can only imagine. However, the army let the soldiers with families and farms go home to harvest the crops. Grandpa Crews was glad to get away from dying men for a while.

However, it was a critical time. The Confederate general, Price, was coming northward and the militia was unable to halt him. The advanced guard of the Confederate army was almost to Lonedell. Most of the men were fleeing northward with their horses, and in many cases their families. Robert Crews felt that he should hurry over to his farm to at least rescue the family. When he got in sight of his house, he saw that a part of the Confederate advance guard was camped around his buildings.

Realizing that he was in the Union Army uniform, and knowing that if he were captured with it on, he would be a "goner", he turned his horse quickly and raced over to the nearest relatives' place, his brother-in-law, Squire. Finding no one at home he crawled through the window of the house and borrowed civilian clothes. Hiding his uniform and his gun in a hollow log, he started out to find his family. Rounding a turn in the road he ran right into some of Prices' men and was taken prisoner.

Since he was in civilian clothes they questioned him carefully. He seemed to be quite neutral as to the issues that separated the North and the South. He did, however, say that he was a brother-in-law to Squire, who was a known Southern sympathizer. The officer in charge decided to take Crews along and make a Confederate soldier out of him.

Upon hearing the news that the Confederate Army was approaching, Julius Emmons, who was a radical antislavery man, knew that he would surely be captured when it arrived. Realizing that he would be more of a hindrance than a help to his family if he stayed in Lonedell, he immediately made his way to Union, the County Seat of Franklin County.

The daughters and stepdaughters all rode in on their horses to the Emmons home, where they felt a measure of security in numbers. Grandma Crews and her young daughter, Martha, were there with the rest. Maleta Denny was being brought up to the Emmons home by Robert Crews' youngest brother Jim, then about 13. On the way over the boy asked Maleta:

"Maleta, is you scared?" "Not exactly" answered Maleta with some misgivings. "I is," stated the boy positively.

One day while Maria, grandma's stepsister, was out riding on the prairie, she saw the Confederate soldiers coming. The soldiers called her to stop, but she bent down on the horse's neck and raced home in time to warn the women. All of the horses, except one mare and colt, were quickly hidden out in the woods along the creek.

The mare and colt belonged to grandma's stepmother. She thought that the Confederates would not take a mare with a suckling colt, because she would not make a good riding horse. How wrong she was! When the soldiers arrived one of them pulled his saddle off an animated pack of bones and put it on the mare.

Hearing that Julius Emmons was a strong Union Sympathizer, Price especially wanted to capture him. When he asked the women where the men were, he was told they had gone to St. Louis.

"I don't believe it," growled Price. "I bet they are in Union. When I get there I'll get every one of them."

Since the men were actually in Union, the women were considerably worried.

Price's objective in this campaign was St. Louis. The commander of the Union Army knew this so he dispatched

8000 regulars to help the militia. With the help of the Regulars, who arrived at this time, Price was stopped and turned back.

After the Confederate army had been driven back in the summer of 1864, Grandma Crews, with the baby, Martha, went back to the farm. She found all of the livestock gone except two sheep and two or three chickens. The yard fences and some of the smaller buildings had been torn down by the raiders and used for wood. Nearly everything in the house had been stolen except a cooking pot in which she found some burned dumplings.

Grandma Crews learned accidentally that her husband had been captured by Price's men. She was walking down the sidewalk of Lonedell, when some of Price's army rode through. Grandpa Crews edged over to the side of the group and called to her:

"Mary, I'm one of Daddy Price's men now."

When she started toward him, he motioned her back. Well he knew that he did not dare reveal his identity now. However, he remained a prisoner.

Price, hoping to check his retreat before the Union armies, didn't want to be bothered with prisoners, so he sent them southward under an armed guard into Tennessee. When about 150 miles from home the band camped for the night near a cornfield. They tied their horses to some trees along a slough, and carried corn from the field to the horses. After most of the men had quit carrying corn and were busy getting supper, Crews took one more armful to his horse. Then dropping his corn, he jumped down the bank into the deep gully and hurried away.

By now the guards were not keeping very careful check on the prisoners. They may not have missed Grandpa until they found an extra horse in the morning. At any rate, he got away. For a long time he traveled at night and hid out in the daytime, stealing vegetables from the gardens and eggs from the chicken houses in order to exist.

One night after walking all night he wound up at the same place he had stayed the night before. From then on he paid more attention to the North Star. Knowing that

the Confederate army was between him and home he began to veer westward.

After a few days' travel Grandpa figured that he had got past Price's army so he traveled northward by day and slept by night. He was careful not to go near houses where he saw men. If there were no men he felt safe to stop and beg for food.

One night, there being no better place to sleep, he crawled into a chicken house. Before morning he became aware of the fact that there was another man in the chicken house. He was very cautious in what he said to this other man until he found out that he, too, was a Union man. From then on they traveled together.

This man had one thing that Crews did not have. That was a pass that would let him through the Confederate lines.

When Price was defeated before St. Louis he decided to swing westward into Kansas. Here he was confronted by the Kansas Militia. The pressure from the two armies forced him to retreat southward, but he was much farther west than the two escapees thought he could be.

One day they suddenly bumped into a Confederate picket. The picket acknowledged the pass of Grandpa's companion but asked what about Grandpa. Grandpa's friend tried to say that the pass was intended for both of them. The picket was dubious but let them proceed. He warned them, however, that they would meet another picket a little furher along, who he thought would not let Grandpa pass, so when he spied a log jamb in the creek near the road, he stopped and crawled into it. Here he lay hidden all day until the army moved past him.

Fearing that he might have difficulty accounting to the Union army for his presence so far south, he began to move farther west. One night he crawled into a straw stack to sleep. Some hounds at the ranch house were aware of his presence and barked all night. Luckily, he was not discovered.

Soon it was getting colder at night as the autumn was advancing. One night even in a strawstack, he felt as if he were going to freeze. He could hear some hogs

bedded down in a nearby stack. When hogs are bedded down and the night is cold, they pile up for warmth. Those on top of the pile get cold and squeal until they can squeeze down among the others. This in turn pushes some other hog out in the cold which causes him to squeal. The continuation of this process keeps up the squealing all night.

This night Grandpa felt that the pigs were much warmer than he was, so he went over and squeezed in with the pigs. Soon the pigs noticed the man-smell, and went woofing out of there and let Grandpa have the whole bed. At least, the bed had been warmed up. Before morning he had to crowd the pigs out of their second bed.

By that time he was well out into Kansas. There he ran into Quantrill's guerillas or robbers, whichever way one wants to classify them.

Quantrill had originally been a trusted Confederate officer with a band of about 250 men and had operated in lower Kansas and in Indian Territory. In time he and his men became more interested in loot than in the war. He was discredited with the Southern higher command, and all of his men left except a handful of ruffians. He recruited a few more to a strength of about 30 men, adopted Union uniforms and continued looting until the Union generals got wise to him. (Quantrill was later captured, his band annihilated, and he was wounded so badly that he died in the prison hospital.)

Crews had no idea what Quantrill would do with him, perhaps shoot him. However, luck was with Grandpa this time. With Quantrill's band was a man named Hedspeth. Hedspeth was an acquaintance of Grandpa, being related to Julius Emmons' first wife. As a result of their acquaintenance Hedspeth gave a good report of Grandpa to Quantrill. The latter gave Crews a muzzle-loading pistol and a horse and saddle. It did not take him long to reach home after this.

After Grandpa Crews got back to Lonedell, the question was what to do. He had been associated with Sherman's army, which was now down in Georgia.

Just then word came of a big Indian, uprising in

Western Kansas. People were leaving their homes whole-sale and fleeing eastward. In return for the help the Kansas militia had given to defeat Price, a home guard was quickly organized in Missouri and sent to help Kansas. Robert Crews thinking that serving his country in one place was as good as serving it in another, volunteered the second time.

This time he served under Captain Austin Boyd in the 24th Volunteers of the Army of Occupation. When this army got to the seat of the trouble, they found that there was no Indian War. A gang of looters had spread the rumor in order to frighten the people away so they could rob them. They followed up with ten-horse teams carrying away all of the ranchers' property. The soldiers rounded up the robbers, shot some of them, and took the others prisoner.

Grandma Crews had neglected to report to army headquarters that her husband had been captured by Price. Fearing that his record in Washington might read AWOL, he never applied for a pension. "Why should I get a pension?" he asked, "I was never wounded!"

The next year after the Civil War, James Edwin, the third child of Mary and Robert Crews, was born January 10, 1866. When Ed was one and one-half years old and Martha three and one-half, Grandpa Crews decided to sell out and drive to California in a covered wagon. So they started westward through Missouri and into Kansas. He expected that as they progressed they would be joined by other wagons so that eventually there would be a caravan, but by the time they were well across Kansas they had been joined by only one wagon, owned by a man by the name of Bart Brundage.

One night the two wagons camped at a place where the timothy and blue grass were waist high. A man by the name of Stevenson came over and demanded that they move on, saying that they were on his land. This angered Brundage who refused to move. Next day he went into the county seat and found that the land did not belong to Stevenson, but belonged to a Creek Indian.

Crews decided to buy the land and stay there. They

(see below)

Pages 14 and 15 will be inserted at a later date

they were omitted from my copy due to a printer's error.

14

the neighbors would think—she didn't intend to get killed if she could help it. So she and Ed began hiding food down near the creek so that in case they had to flee, they would have food.

That night the man and the larger boys took the guns and watched a little way from the house. Every person down to the children had something to do in case of attack. Some one was stationed at every window with a pistol or an ax. Even Nora, still a small child, was to open a pillow and to throw the feathers into the fireplace if an Indian tried to come down the chimney.

Late in the evening two dogs got into a fight on the front porch. Everyone thought this was it. Some of the small children began to cry. Then two of the boys dropped their axes and crawled under the bed. Soon the confusion was cleared up and the watch continued. Later on Maleta and Anna Littrell were sent out to take the older boys some coffee. The coffee was badly needed as one of them was found sound asleep.

Another emergency arose before morning. They ran out of drinking water. It was decided that the only persons who could be spared to go out 100 yards to the spring, were the two small girls, Maleta and Anna. After considerable urging they took the bucket and started out into the dark. Along the trail a limb from a bush hooked into the bail of the bucket and jerked the bucket out of the girl's hands. Thinking surely it was an Indian they screamed and ran back to the house. Finally they were persuaded to try again, and that time got the water successfully.

Next day a friendly Indian came cautiously up to the store and wanted to know why the white men were going to kill all the Indians. It was discovered that a spiteful man in the community had told the Indians that the whites were going to kill them, and had then told the whites that the Indians were on the war path. His scheme worked too well, and he had to leave the country to keep from being lynched.

Grandpa Crews kept on prospering in Bunker Hill until he was considered pretty well to do. While running

the store there, he acquired the Brewster Place about a mile south-west of Burney, and the Beutel Place at the lower end of the Valley.

However, with the election of Cleveland as president, the postoffice was taken away from Grandpa and given to a Democrat. The express office went also. They were moved about three miles down Burney Creek to the present town of Burney. The people began to move also, as they could buy land in Burney but not in Bunker Hill. (The land around Bunker Hill had been owned by a squaw man who had died, and his Indian wife was not allowed to sell the land for twenty years.)

Then the Cleveland depression hit the country. The ranchers frequently did not have money for food. Grandpa Crews was kind-hearted and allowed credit far beyond good business judgment This practically broke him.

He closed the store at Bunker Hill and took up a homestead on Burney Creek at the eastern edge of the old town of Burney (now well within the town). He mortgaged one of his Burney ranches and built a small store right in front of the house on his homestead. Tim Desmond had a store in the center of town which got most of the trade. Grandpa's store at the new location went down-hill quite rapidly. Here he made most of the living for the family by putting up teamsters and their horses. He had two large barns which could house 27 horses for the night. The teamsters who had known him at Bunker Hill now came here. Bob, the last child, was born at the homestead on February 2, 1879.

Crews had some relatives in Missouri named Jones. One day Jones stopped at the Crews store in Burney to visit with Grandpa. He was traveling in a big wagon on his way to visit a relative of his, who lived near Cottonwood. With him was another man. After they had gone Crandpa came to the house, and told Grandma about them. "Do you know who the man with Jones was? He was Jesse James." (Grandpa had met Jesse James, a member of a Guerrila band, during the Civil War.)

Grandpa finally had to close the Burney Store. He mortgaged his other ranch and tried to start a store at Hat

Creek near Cassel. There was a saloon near it which was his undoing. He managed to keep the store going for three years, but finally got to the place where he could not renew his stock. He moved what was left to the Burney Ranch and sold it off as he could. After another year, he gave up storekeeping altogether.

His daughters were afraid of him when he had been drinking and resolved in their hearts that their children would never drink liquor. To the best of my knowledge none of them ever did. Grandpa, himself, was not proud of his intemperance, as shown by the remark he made concerning his daughter's husband. "Martha has got a good man—he doesn't drink". It is improbable that any of the grandchildren ever saw Grandpa Crews drunk, for in 1892 he moved away from Burney. Without the temptation of the nearby saloon, he was able to get hold of himself and make a comeback. One might say that he was a product of his generation, neither better nor worse than most other men.

Three of the girls had married while the family was in the Burney Country. Martha and Maleta married the Brauer brothers, Oscar (in 1883), and John (in 1884) of Burney Valley. In 1889 Louisa Elnora (Nora) married John Snell of Cayton Valley and went to live on his large ranch.

The oldest daughter, Martha, was seriously afflicted with asthma. Her first child, Oscar Leo, was born June 9, 1884. The next two children, Roswell and Elaine died as infants. At the approach of the next child, they thought that they had better go to Redding where Martha would be under the care of a doctor. Lloyd was born July 3, 1888, and Ernest was born March 3, 1890.

While in Burney, Maleta had three children, Maude Ann, October 14, 1884, Leslie Earl, July 26, 1886, and Easton Buryl, March 5, 1889.

For the sake of his wife's health, Oscar Brauer traded a part of his Burney Ranch for a place on Cow Creek, 13 miles east of Millville. Here May was born in May 1893 and Vivian in April 1895. John, also, got tired of the cold Creek. Carroll and Clyde were born there, Carroll in October 1892, and Clyde in March, 1895. It was while John and Maleta were living at Montgomery Creek that the great snow storm occurred which Maleta told about so dramatically.

When in the early 1890's, Grandpa Brauer traded the family's Burney Valley holdings for the Malgin ranch at Oak Run, Oscar built a house on his portion and moved his family from the Cow Creek place to the new location. There Sidney was born in March 1898 and Irma in February 1903.

With the rest of the family moved to Oak Run, John and Maleta traded their Montgomery Creek place for one adjoining Grandpa Brauer so the Brauer families lived as close neighbors.

To John and Nora Snell in Cayton, were born five children—Leila, Harold, Buryl, Gerald, and Muriel.

You will recall that Bob Denny was Grandpa Crews' cousin, and that his wife, Maleta, was Grandma Crews' half-sister. The Dennys fared pretty well financially. Along about 1888, Maleta Denny and her daughter Eva, came to visit the Crews family in Burney. Grandma Crews was very thin, while on the other hand, Maleta Denny was very stout. While they were visiting in Burney, the daughters and their families and a few friends gathered at the Crews place one Sunday. In those days when there was a large crowd for dinner, the children were made to eat at the second table. It is told that Leo, a little boy of four, cried and said that the big fat woman would eat it all up.

In July, 1892, the Crews family traded the Burney homestead for a ranch on old Cow Creek near the Oak Grove school house. Ed, Etta and Bob were still living at home at this time. Since it was 15 miles to the nearest town, the neighbors in the Oak Grove district petitioned for a local post office. As Grandma Crews had been post mistress before and knew how to fill out all of the necessary reports, she was made post mistress and was asked to suggest a name. She suggested "Pawnee", the name of the Indians she knew in Missouri. Having the post office in the Crews home brought the neighbors in for mail regularly.

Across the road from the house was a large community irrigation ditch which furnished all the water needed to keep the ranch green all summer. Consequently, the Crews home was surrounded by luxuriant growth, like an oasis in the desert.

The tall poplar trees and mammoth weeping willows were first to come into view as one approached the house from a distance. The house was built in the form of a T. The front part was two stories high, with four bedrooms upstairs, and the living room and two bedrooms downstairs. The rear wing had only one story, which housed the large dining room and kitchen. On both sides of the rear wing were porches, one covered with grape vines, and the other with a passion vine.

Across the front of the house was a full length front porch, and above it was an upstairs porch. Climbing roses and honeysuckle shaded the downstairs porch and climbed up over the railing of the upper porch. Beside the immense stone chimney at one end of the house was a large thornless climbing rose which produced a mass of small cream-colored blooms in the spring. In the yard was a profusion of flowering shrubs, including roses, lilac, bridal wreath, snowball, hydrangea, syringa, crepe myrtle and peonies, with pink phlox growing everywhere, shedding its sweet perfume over the yard.

Behind the house, there was always a large garden where grandpa raised corn, beans, tomatoes, squash and several varieties of melons. While much of this produce was sold to travelers along the road, there was always plenty for the family. During the summer, the grandchildren would often come with their parents to visit. Grandpa would bring in a watermelon almost as large as he could carry. How he smiled as the eyes of the children would light up at the sight of it. He would cut them each an immense slice, and they would bury their faces in it from ear to ear.

When the orchard came into bearing, there were plums, apples, pears, figs, and some excellent peaches. Since there were more peaches than the family could use

for eating fresh and canning, some were dried and the rest were sold. Bob, and sometimes Ed, would take a team of horses with a load of fifty twenty-pound boxes of Muir peaches to Big Valley where they were peddled out for a dollar per box. They would come back with fifty dollars, which was a lot of money in those days. Imagine today hauling peaches seventy miles with horse and wagon and selling them for five cents per pound.

Beside the garden and the orchard, there were blackberries and raspberries, and also a vineyard with vines loaded with grapes. There were a few vines of the choice Isabella grapes which were much prized.

There was an abundance of green grass and clover for the cows and consequently plenty of milk and cream for the table. Grandpa had made an outside cooler which consisted of a frame covered with gunny sacking. A wooden box was constructed to fit over the top. This box was filled with water which seeped out of holes bored in the sides, and trickled down over the gunny sacking, keeping it wet. The breeze blowing through the wet sacks kept the butter, milk and cream inside cool.

The milk was strained into pans and set in the cooler to let the cream "rise." Then the cream was skimmed off and poured into a big crockery churn. Next, Grandpa went to work on it, churning it up and down until the "butter came". He could tell when the butter had formed by the splashing of the buttermilk in the churn.

Grandma would then wash the butter with water until she had worked out all the buttermilk. Then she would salt it and mold it into pound portions and set it in the cooler to keep cool until needed for sweet corn and muffins.

The Crews family always got up at six o'clock in the morning. Even in winter, when there was nothing to do except the chores, they got up at this early hour and ate breakfast by lamplight.

Uncle Bob made the hay, cared for the livestock, irrigated the clover, and cared for the orchard. He raised hogs which were turned out on public land near Clover Creek. It took considerable time to round up the hogs in

the fall and to butcher them. Grandpa Crews was an artist at dressing hogs.

Grandma Crews had an ash hopper out in the yard. It was a flaring V-shaped affair with a sloping trough at the bottom. All the ashes from both stove and the fireplace were dumped into this hopper. When it rained, the water leached the sodium and potassium carbonates out of the ashes. An iron kettle at the end of the trough collected a black solution of the carbonates. The extra fat taken from the hogs at butchering time was heated to render out the lard. This lard was then cooked with the liquid from the ash hopper to make soft soap, a yellowish gooey mass, but efficient for washing.

The Crews place was about one day's journey from Redding for the teamsters who hauled freight up to the mountains. Consequently, freight wagons with teams of six or eight horses often stopped there for the night. With plenty of hay in the big barn for the horses, and grandma's good Southern cooking, the teamsters found the accommodations excellent.

Sometimes these teams had bells arranged on a frame fastened to the collars of the lead horses. To hear a team of horses coming up the road with the bells jingling is an experience that one will never forget.

While they lived at Pawnee, Grandma's step-sister, Maria Cole, came to visit her. Maria was the one who could call up the spirits in her younger days. She had married a man named Boyd, and had three children.

The Oak Grove school house, which Bob and Etta attended, was about a quarter of a mile from the Crews home. Bob was only 13 when he first came there. When Etta finished the ninth grade, she spent two years preparing to take the county teachers examinations. She needed a little extra coaching before she could pass the county board. Money was scarce at this time, so Bob took a job with Joe Hufford herding sheep to help with her expenses. After Etta passed the board, she taught the Oak Grove school for several years, and then accepted teaching positions in other parts of the state. She married a man named

Lane, who died of appendicitis after they had been married only six months. Later she married Billy Brines, and after his death married Dr. Pirie.

Ed lived at home in Pawnee for about nine years until he married Ackie Sheridan, of Millville.

Bob lived at home and took care of grandpa and grandma until his mother passed away.

Grandpa Crews is remembered for his humor. Two stories he used to tell were as follows: "If you kneel down on an Indian's grave and ask 'What are you doing down there?' He will answer 'NOTHING, NOTHING, NOTHING.'" And "If you drop a rock down into the crater of Mount Burney in the evening, you can hear the rock hit the bottom the next morning.

One day Grandpa was reading in the front room while his little grandson Ernest, who was staying at the house temporarily, was playing near him. With four adults in the family, the little boy often got in the way. Whatever they said to him he interpreted as growling. They also had a very old dog named Shep who would growl at the children when they bothered him. Ernest began to recite his troubles out loud. "Grandma growls at me, Grandpa growls at me, Etta growls at me, Bob growls at me." "And old Shep growls at you!" continued Grandpa, who had been listening.

Although Grandpa Crews was not religious, he knew parts of several hymns and used to sing them while doing the chores, slowly dragging out one hymn in particular. "O . . . nly trust Him, O . . . nly trust Him, Only trust Him now . . . , He . . . will save you, He . . . will save you, He will save you now. . . ."

Grandma Crews had taken so many beatings from life that she often looked on the dark side of things, yet she too was often heard singing hymns as she went about her work.

Grandma felt one more tragedy before she passed away. Her oldest daughter, Martha, had suffered from asthma during the later years of her life, and was worn down both mentally and physically. While visiting her mother, she had a sudden heart attack and died. It was such a great shock to Grandma that she was unable to attend the funeral. This was in April, 1905.

Grandma Crews, herself, lived ten years more, and passed away at the ranch, October 15, 1915, at the age of 73. The obituary notice in the local paper stated that she was born October 22, 1842, and also that she had been married September 20, 1860.

Grandpa Crews out-lived Grandma by five years, and died in the late spring of 1920. He was laid to rest beside Grandma in the Millville Cemetery.

We descendents of the Crews family inherited much of value from them. From Grandpa Crews we got our sense of humor. From both of them we inherited our ability to think, and our desire to obtain an education.

## FAMILY TREE OF ROBERT AND MARY CREWS

Robert Crews Deceased May 1920
Mary E. (Emmons) Crews, Oct. 22, 1842-Oct. 15, 1915 (Married Sept. 20, 1860)
I. Martha S. (Crews) Brauer, Aug. 15, 1864-1905Oscar G. Brauer, 1851-1948
A. Dr. Oscar Leo Brauer, June 9, 1884
<ol> <li>Dr. Raymond Oliver Brauer, March 3, 1915</li></ol>
2. Dorothy Irene (Brauer) Dietz, September 8, 1917David Dietz
B. Dr. Lloyd Irving Brauer, July 3, 1888Shirley (Shepard) Brauer
1. Melva Eileen (Brauer) Brand, July 10, 1919Justus Brand
<ol> <li>Dr. Floyd Shepard Brauer, November 21, 1927Marybelle (Seeley) Brauer</li> <li>Charlotte Elaine Brauer, October 28, 1951</li> <li>Stanley Douglas Brauer, September 25, 1955</li> </ol>
C. Robert Ernest Brauer, March 3, 1890Ruth (Driver) Brauer
1. Jean Elizabeth (Brauer) Burt, May 19, 1925
b. Colene Ruth Strube, July 3, 1948 c. Jolene Nell Strube, July 3, 1948 d. Barbara Lynn Strube, September 21, 1954
D. Mary Einora (Brauer) Bean, May 10, 1893
1. Evelyn Marie Bean, March 9, 1934
2. Martha Elizabeth Bean, December 16, 1935
E. Vivian E. (Brauer) (Watson) Reiswig, Apr. 21, 1895Thomas Watson 1885-1938  ' Isaac Reiswig 1895-1954
1. Margaret Eva (Watson) Hill, April 12, 1918
<ol> <li>Thomas James A. Watson, September 20, 1928Billie F. (Friesen) Watson</li> <li>Richard Thomas Watson, November 26, 1952</li> <li>Robert Friesen Watson, February 11, 1955</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Albert Emmons Watson, June 7, 1931Phyllis E. (Cummings) Watson</li> <li>Dennis Eugene Watson, June 27, 1953</li> </ol>
F. Sidney Emmons Brauer, March 15, 1898
G. Hazel Irma (Brauer) St. John, February 23, 1903
1. Robert Owen St. John, September 28, 1927 Davey Lee (Pearson) St. John
a. Gilbert Owen St. John, April 1, 1948 b. Pamela Rene St. John, May 17, 1950
2. Beverly Joy (St. John) (Brown) Furr, November 19, 1930 (Jack Brown)
a. Jacalyn Lee Brown, January 15, 1948 b. Jilline Gay Brown, November 29, 1950 c. Jerinda Lynn Brown, March 26, 1952 d. Kenith Ray Furr, March 26, 1954 e. Judy Kay Furr, July 28, 1956
3. Patricia Ann (St. John) Ray, March 21, 1935

II. James Edwin Crews, 1866-1948Ackie (Sheridan) Crews, Deceased 1927?
A. James E. Crews, 1911Esther ( ) Crews
III. Maleta Belle (Crews) (Brauer) Hill, April 26, 1868-1954John Brauer, 1855-1912 George Hill, -1951
A. Maude Ann (Brauer) (Foster) Wiegart, October 14, 1884
1. Maleta (Foster) Ide, December 21, 1908Charles Ide
a. Charles Fleming Ide, January 21, 1932Audrey (Dohmann) Ide (1) Linda Lee Ide, January 12, 1952 (2) Jennifer Lynn Ide, January 2, 1954 b. Clifford Foster Ide, May 9, 1933
b. Clifford Foster Ide, May 9, 1933 c. Laurence Eugene Ide, November 8, 1934
2. Stella (Foster) Hill, October 9, 1910Earl T. Hill
a. Joyce (Hill) Meyers, April 30, 1931
3. Bertha Foster, August 2, 1912-1927
4. Clifford Foster, April 28, 1914-1927
5. Marian Foster, April 2, 1916-1927
6. Freda (Foster) Awalt, November 6, 1918
a. Ronna Maudine Awalt, April 20, 1939 b. Rockland Karl Awalt, October 27, 1943 c. Randall Jonathan Awalt, May 28, 1964 d. Rindon Riley Awalt, January 19, 1951 e. Robin Jinine Awalt, January 19, 1954
7. Georgia (Foster) Green, May 13, 1921Leonard C. Green
a. Faith Foster Green, March 8, 1941 b. Ginger Green, February 1, 1943 c. Alanna Green, February 18, 1950
B. Leslie Earl Brauer, July 26, 1886
1. Fern Alois (Brauer) (Wissner) Foster, September 27, 1911(Lloyd Wissner)
a. Kathleen Mayell Wissner, July 2, 1938 b. Donald Bruce Wissner, July 2, 1938
2. Buryl O. Brauer, March 22, 1913(Verna Ruth Gingles)
a. Robert L. Gingles, August 9, 1935 b. Jack Gingles, October 20, 1938 c. Craig Brauer, August 5, 1946 d. Beverly Brauer, March 1, 1948
3. Leslie Douglas Brauer, September 11, 1918Nacarma (Slauson) Brauer
b. Desire Pouglas Brader, Deptember 11, 1910 (Diagram) Brader
a. Stophen Douglas Brauer, May 26, 1950 b. Naedo Adele Brauer, March 18, 1952
a. Stophen Douglas Braver, May 26, 1950 b. Naedo Adele Brauer, March 18, 1952 4. Dorothy Adele (Brauer) Versteeg, July 24, 1920Fred Versteeg
a. Stephen Douglas Brauer, May 26, 1950 b. Naedo Adele Brauer, March 18, 1952

C. Easton Buryl Brauer, March 5, 1889Eva (King) Brauer
<ol> <li>Dr. Richard Brauer, November 7, 1927Beverly (Canine) Brauer</li> <li>Kyle Denise Brauer, November 17, 1956</li> </ol>
D. Dr. Carroll V. Brauer, October 10, 1892-1937Gladys (Smith) (Brauer) Meier
<ol> <li>Carroll Vern Brauer, Jr., October 27, 1925</li></ol>
2. Barbara Jean Brauer, April 12, 1930
E. Dr. John Clyde Brauer, March 12, 1895Alice (McKenzie) Brauer
<ol> <li>Darlene Alice (Brauer) Rose, January 11, 1923</li></ol>
IV. Louisa Elnora (Crews) Snell, October 25, 1870John A. Snell, 1864-1947
A. Leila (Snell) (Ward) JacobusPhillip Ward—Deceased 1954 Floyd Jacobus
B. Harold Adam Snell, July 4, 1892Nellie (Stewart) Snell
1. Stewart H. Snell, June 19, 1914Reva (Kennedy) Snell
a. Sherrill Reva Snell, January 15, 1987
2. Helen Marie (Snell) (Holllenbeck) Williams, August 28, 1915 (Hollenbeck) Richard G. Williams
a. Keith H. Hollenbeck, December 26, 1989
<ol> <li>Marjorie June (Snell) Spragio, November 22, 1928David J. Spragio</li> <li>Ronnie James Spragio, February 17, 1951</li> <li>Michael David Spragio, January 1, 1958</li> </ol>
C. Dr. John Buryl Snell, December 29, 1895Dorothy (Hersey) Snell
1. John Cameron Snell, March 25, 1923Marjorie (DeLos) Snell
a. John Christopher Snell, July 11, 1946 b. Janet Anne Snell, May 21, 1954
2. Dr. Douglas Alan Snell, July 29, 1926
<ul> <li>a. Lauren Marie Snell, August 2, 1952</li> <li>b. Darcy Lynn Snell, April 3, 1954</li> <li>c. Richard Alan Snell, December 19, 1955</li> </ul>
D. Dr. Gerald I. Snell, July 14, 1898
1. Michael Gerald Snell, July 28, 1945
E. Muriel E. (Snell) Cameron, February 4, 1905James Cameron
1. Joyce Cameron, September 8, 1944
V. Mary Etta (Crews) (Lane) (Brines) Pirie, December 23, 1878-Sept. 2, 1953Lane W. Brines Dr. J. F. Pirie, 1940
VI. Robert A. Crews, February 2, 1879