

## **INTRODUCTION**

**What are we to make of a couple that, between them, were married thirteen times? Were they merely unlucky in love? Were they difficult personalities to live with? Were they perhaps simply eternal optimists? In the process of researching my wife's MORGAN and WOLFE families in Jackson County, Indiana, we stumbled upon a couple who between them had at least thirteen spouses. With a treasure trove of information gleaned from two huge Civil War pension files, and some fine preliminary commissioned research by Tom Melton of Seymour, Jackson County, along with our own research in Indiana census, marriage and cemetery records, we have managed to sort out this tangled web of matrimonial (and not-so-matrimonial) relationships. Among other things, this article will demonstrate the value and importance of military pension files in genealogical research.**

**All place names herein are located in Jackson County, Indiana unless otherwise stated.**

My wife's great-grandfather, Matthew Thomas Morgan, was born circa 1828 in Indiana,<sup>1</sup> son of Willis Morgan and wife Sarah (surname not presently known). Census information indicates that Willis was from North Carolina and Sarah was a native of Indiana.<sup>2</sup> Matthew served in the Civil War from Indiana, in Co. A of the 50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, and in Co. E of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment.<sup>3</sup>

We had learned from our own initial research that Matthew T. Morgan and his wife, Barbara Heamer/Heimer of Baden, Germany, were the parents of my wife's grandmother Rosena/Rosa Morgan.<sup>4</sup> It was our desire to flesh out what we knew of the family that led us into a tangled matrimonial web indeed.

Matthew married first Catherine Best on 25 July 1850 in Jackson County.<sup>5</sup> According to his pension application, Matthew divorced Catherine on 4 December 1854 on the grounds of desertion. This date is likely off by at least a few months, as we shall see. Matthew and Catherine had one child known to us: Lafayette (Latty), born circa 1851.<sup>6</sup>

On 5 November 1854, Matthew married Nancy Ellen Hines in Jackson County.<sup>7</sup> Nancy was born on 15 August 1820 in Indiana and died 30 January 1863 in Jackson County;<sup>8</sup> she is buried in Vallonia Cemetery in Driftwood Township. While the Special Examiner sent to Jackson County by the

Pension Bureau to investigate the various marriages did not find a record of this marriage, it appears in Marriage Book C, p. 105. It is more likely then, that Matthew's divorce from Catherine was effective sometime before November of 1854. Matthew and Nancy had five children known to us: Lewis Squire, born circa 1855, died 26 November 1923; Andrew Jackson, born circa 1858; Ewell S., born circa March 1860;<sup>9</sup> Benjamin Franklin (Frank), born 4 April 1860, died 30 September 1918 while hunting squirrels in Grassy Fork Township;<sup>10 11</sup> and John, born circa 1862,<sup>12</sup> died 10 August 1934 in Brownstown.<sup>13</sup>

The pension file made mention of a divorce granted to Matthew Morgan from his wife Lydia on grounds of abandonment. The divorce was granted 17 October 1865,<sup>14</sup> but no record of this marriage could be located in Jackson County. The marriage date was given as 15 October 1863, some nine months after Matthew's wife Nancy Hines died. Recent research turned up the marriage record in Washington County, Indiana.<sup>15</sup> From this record we learned Lydia's surname: Goodwin. A woman of this name, age 26, was noted in the 1860 census of Washington County, Indiana, working as a Housekeeper in the County Poor House.<sup>16</sup> It appears that Matthew and Lydia had a son, Thomas, born circa 1864, as we found Lydia and a 6-year old son of that name as inmates of the Washington County Poor House in 1870.<sup>17</sup>

In his petition for divorce from Lydia, Matthew alleged that she had abandoned him on 13 January 1864, and that the abandonment had continued until the filing in September of 1865. Two months after his divorce was final, Matthew Morgan married Barbara Ann Heamer Snyder on 14 December 1865 in Jackson County, Indiana.<sup>18</sup> Barbara was the widow of Abraham Snyder, whom she had married on 1 January 1854 in Jackson County.<sup>19</sup> Abraham was the son of Johann Christian Schneider and Cinderella Miller of Jackson County, Indiana.<sup>20</sup> He served with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Indiana Infantry Regiment in the Civil War and was killed in the Battle of Peachtree Creek in Fulton County, Georgia on 20 July 1864, one of 300 Union soldiers to lose their lives in that battle.<sup>21 22 23</sup> Abraham and Barbara had four children known to us: Charles Louis (1854); Christian, (1857);<sup>24</sup> Christina (Tena) (1862);<sup>25</sup> and Belle Dora, born 13 May 1863.<sup>26</sup>

Matthew filed for divorce from Barbara on 18 November 1868. The proceeding was entered in the January 1869 term of the Court of Common Pleas, but the divorce was not granted until 5 May 1870.<sup>27</sup> Although we have a record of the marriage to Barbara in the Jackson County marriage records,<sup>28</sup> in his petition Matthew asserts that he married Barbara on 1 November 1866, rather than on 14 December 1865 as the marriage record states.

Matthew's basis for the divorce was an allegation of "adultery with George Snyder and divers other persons to plaintiff unknown..." This George Snyder could very well be George Washington Snyder, brother of Barbara's late husband Abraham and, thus, her brother-in-law.<sup>29</sup> To this marriage of Matthew and Barbara was born a daughter Rosena/Rosa, my wife's grandmother, who was born in June of 1868 according to the 1900 census.<sup>30</sup> We had a very difficult time locating Rosena in the 1880 census. Extensive searches of the 1880 census CD for Indiana<sup>31</sup> failed to find her under any variation of her name. Finally, a search was made for females with the first name of "Rosena," "Rosina" or "Rosa" and about 12 years of age. This resulted in finding her living with her 18-year old half-sister Belle Dora Snyder and her full sister Sarah Morgan (for more on whom, see below). All three girls were enumerated as "Snider," possibly a case of the census taker getting carried away with his "dittos" after listing "Bell Snider" first.<sup>32</sup>

A scant six weeks after his divorce from Barbara became final Matthew T. Morgan married Susan Ann Borden, on 23 June 1870.<sup>33</sup> We do not know of any children born to this union. In the 1870 census we find Matthew and Susan with Matthew's children Lewis, "Franklin" and John from his marriage to Nancy Hines, along with his widowed mother Sarah.<sup>34</sup>

During the October 1871 term of the Jackson County Court of Common Pleas, Matthew petitioned for divorce from Susan on the grounds of

abandonment. He states that on 25 August 1870 (two months after their marriage), Susan abandoned him without any just cause whatever, and that the abandonment continued to the present time. On 19 January 1872, Matthew was granted his divorce.<sup>35</sup> Five months later, on 2 June 1872, Matthew remarried his previous wife Barbara, now “Barbara Morgan.”<sup>36</sup> Apparently, Barbara was well along in her pregnancy, as a daughter Sarah was born on October 15 of that year.<sup>37</sup> It appears that Matthew and Barbara remained together until sometime before her death on 25 June 1880.<sup>38</sup>

Continued research in the 1880 census CD resulted in our locating Matthew living in Grassy Fork Township.<sup>39</sup> Sharing his household, “keeping house,” was a 22-year old divorcee, Hettie Mize, and her 1-year old son William Mize. From this, it seems likely that Matthew may have taken up housekeeping with young Hettie before his wife Barbara died.

Matthew married for the last time on 30 November 1881,<sup>40</sup> Sophia Denton, who was born about 1839.<sup>41</sup> No children were born to this union, and Matthew died on 1 September 1885.<sup>42</sup> It was Sophia’s application for a widow’s pension under Matthew’s Civil War service that generated the large pension file and necessitated a special investigation into their matrimonial affairs. From this file, we found that Sophia had a marital history to rival that of Matthew.

According to the report of the Special Examiner for Pensions, Sophia had married first William M. Walker. They wed on 17 July 1856<sup>43 44</sup> and he deserted her in 1859 or 1860. She married second Henry H. Morgan (brother of Matthew T. Morgan)<sup>45</sup> on 28 July 1861.<sup>46</sup> She claimed that Henry deserted her during the Civil War, in 1862 or 1863. While the examiner could find no record of a divorce, he found evidence that Henry had lived in Wyandotte County, Kansas near his brother Benjamin (and aged mother Sarah, who lived with Benjamin in 1880<sup>47</sup>), and later in Arkansas.

Sophia married for the third time, John Singleton in 1872 and divorced him on 9 December 1879.<sup>48</sup> Then, as we know, she married Matthew T. Morgan on 30 November 1881 and lived with him until his death in 1885. Between the time of Matthew's death and her pension application, Sophia had married two more times. The first of these was to another Civil War veteran, Noah Franklin Hall, who was born circa 1837 in North Carolina.<sup>49</sup> They were married on 18 April 1889<sup>50</sup> and were together until his death on 25 October 1895.<sup>51</sup> She subsequently married George W. Rich on 24 December 1901.<sup>52</sup> Sophia applied for the pension as "Sophia Hall, now Rich," living in Vallonia. The pension files of Matthew T. Morgan and Noah F. Hall were consolidated into one large file, since Sophia eventually applied for pensions under the service of both of them.

The Special Examiner produced a clipping from the *Baltimore Sun*, datelined Brownstown, Indiana May 8 (no year, but 1902 based upon internal evidence):

**“Seven Husbands, Six Pensions. Marrying Veterans has been profitable to Miss Denton.**

Nine years after the death of a sixth husband, and nearly six months after she married her seventh, Mrs. Sophia Rich of this city, has been granted a pension of \$592 as the widow of husband No. 6. The proceeding is unusual, inasmuch as Mrs. Rich is married and the money she will receive is what she would have had during the time intervening between the beginning and end of her widowhood. Mrs. Rich has been married seven times, and has shown a preference for civil war veterans. At the death of each succeeding veteran husband she has been in the habit of drawing a pension until she married the next. Her first marriage was in 1856, when she was wedded as Miss Denton, and the six subsequent marriages have followed at intervals of two to ten years; with each of her weddings she has been married under the name of Denton.”<sup>53</sup>

From the pension file that we received, and the extensive investigation documented therein, we find no evidence that Sophia collected any pensions other than those of Matthew T. Morgan and Noah F. Hall. The investigation



into the numerous marriages of both Matthew and Sophia initially resulted in a recommendation to disallow the pension based upon the possible invalidity of one or more remarriages of both Matthew and Sophia. The opinion of the Chief Legal Counsel, however, ruled in favor of the pensions. His rationale was that it was the duty of he who would contest the pension to prove that previous marriages had *not* been properly dissolved. Since this could not be conclusively proven, the pensions were allowed.

Sophia's last husband, George W. Rich, was no stranger to us. His first wife was Anna Heamer, sister of the Barbara Heamer who married Matthew T. Morgan twice. George and Anna were married in Jackson County on 22 December 1864.<sup>54</sup> Anna died on 20 November 1901 in Jackson County.<sup>55</sup> One month later, on December 24<sup>th</sup>, her widower George married Sophia.<sup>56</sup> During our census research, we had found Rosena Morgan (as "Rosa Thompson") in the 1900 census, living with George and Anna Rich in Driftwood Township.<sup>57</sup>

Rosena Morgan had a child by a Charles Knight, but we have no record of any marriage. This child, a daughter Cora, was born 22 January 1887.<sup>58</sup> At this time we know nothing of Charles. Interestingly, Cora married first Bige Hall, son of Noah Franklin Hall and his first wife Sarah Simpson.<sup>59</sup> Cora and Bige were married in Jackson County on 9 September 1902.<sup>60</sup>

Rosena's first verifiable husband, John Foster Thompson, about 43 years her senior, was born in Indiana, PA circa 1824.<sup>61</sup> John committed suicide by belladonna poisoning at Sparksville on 15 December 1899.<sup>62 63</sup> We had been unable to locate a record for this marriage, but finally documented it via another large Civil War pension file originated by Rosena on behalf of her two sons with Thompson. Rosa (as "Hunsucker") and John were married at Medora on 12 September 1888 by Justice of the Peace Foster Nixon. This marriage took place at the home of Jackson and Martha Weddel, who gave affidavits attesting to this fact.<sup>64</sup> With this information, we were able to go back to the Jackson County Marriage Index and locate the record.<sup>65</sup> Rosena and John Thompson may have had a daughter Julia who died in infancy in 1890.<sup>66</sup> They also had two sons: Charles, born 29 May 1891, and Frank Daniel born 21 March 1893.<sup>67</sup> Charles was killed at Soissons, France on 19 July 1918 and was posthumously awarded the Silver Star.<sup>68</sup> He was the first man from Jackson County to be killed in action in World War I.<sup>69</sup> John's death must have left Rosena in dire financial straits, because in 1900 we find her children Cora Knight and Charles and Frank Thompson living in the Jackson County Poor Asylum in Brownstown.<sup>70</sup>

Rosena would marry her last husband, Henry Columbus Wolfe, son of William Wolfe and Mary Malinda Baxley,<sup>71</sup> in Jackson County on 31 August 1900.<sup>72</sup> Henry was born 27 February 1866 in Harrison County, Indiana.<sup>73</sup> Among the children born of this union was my late mother-in-law, Flora

Belle Wolfe, born 31 January 1909 in Brownstown.<sup>74</sup> Rosena's husband Henry abandoned the family before the 1910 census<sup>75</sup> and Rosena was granted a divorce in Jackson County on 29 October 1912.<sup>76</sup>

Henry's abandonment apparently once again left Rosena in a precarious financial situation. In 1920, we find her daughters Flora and Bertha Wolfe as inmates of the Julia E. Work Training School in Marshall County, Indiana.<sup>77</sup> In this same census, we find Rosena and her son Isaac Wolfe living next door to her half-sister Belle Dora Snyder Blevins,<sup>78</sup> an echo of her situation 40 years earlier, when we found Rosena and Belle Dora living together in the 1880 census. Belle Dora was the widow of James Theodore Blevins, who died in 1907.<sup>79</sup>

We had no success in locating Henry C. Wolfe after Rosena's divorce from him in 1912 until, using the indexed 1930 census at Ancestry.com, he was located in Russellville Township, Lawrence County, Illinois,<sup>80</sup> living near his brother Eli. A death certificate search request with the Illinois Dept. of Health yielded his death record from 1951.<sup>81</sup> Rosena died in Brownstown on 9 July 1921 and is buried in Fairview Cemetery.<sup>82</sup>

## **CONCLUSION**

**As can be seen, this tangled web of relationships could have been very vexing to sort out without the tremendous amount of detail found in the two Civil War pension files discussed. Such files can be invaluable, even if your ancestor was not in the Civil War. If he or she had a brother who served, and who received or applied for a pension, it would be well worth your while to obtain that file.**

**The National Archives raised the fees for such files in 2002. They now offer to send a partial file, containing the handful of documents that they determine to be of most genealogical value, for a reduced fee. I recommend, however, paying the full fee for a complete file. The pension files can be obtained by submitting Form NATF 85 to the National Archives in Washington, DC. You may order these, and other related forms, by going to NARA's web site: [www.nara.gov](http://www.nara.gov).**

**We have found, as well, that divorce may not have been as uncommon in the nineteenth century as many of us would like to believe. I know that the next time I find a spouse and children in the census, I will not assume that the other spouse has died. And, finally, we have seen the effects that death and**

**divorce had on the children of these families, as they moved from Poor House to Orphan Asylum to Work School.**

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- <sup>1</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 213: age 22 in 1850, born in Indiana.
- <sup>2</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 213: Willis Morgan, 55, born NC; Sarah Morgan, 46, born IN.
- <sup>3</sup> Civil War Pension File, Matthew T. Morgan, Cert. #504,729, contained in a consolidated pension file with that of pensioner Noah F. Hall in the name of "Sophia Hall, now Rich," Cert. #569,825; hereinafter "Morgan Civil War Pension File".
- <sup>4</sup> Jackson Co., IN Health Dept., Death Certificate, Rosina Wolf, 9 July 1921: father Matthew Morgan, born KY (*sic*), mother Barbara Hea\_mor? (*sic*); certificate dated 28 May 1996.
- <sup>5</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File (citing Jackson County Marriage Book D, July 25, 1850: Matthew Morgan, of age; Catherine Best, consent of parents; marriage performed by Amos M. Durand, Justice of the Peace.)
- <sup>6</sup> 1860 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, p. 70: age 9 in 1860 census, born in Indiana.
- <sup>7</sup> Jackson County Marriage Book C, p. 105.
- <sup>8</sup> Vallonia Cemetery Records, Driftwood Township, Jackson Co., IN.
- <sup>9</sup> 1860 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, p. 70: birth years for Lewis, Andrew and Ewell imputed from ages in census.
- <sup>10</sup> Vallonia Cemetery Records.
- <sup>11</sup> *Brownstown Banner* Obituary, 3 Oct 1918, p. 1: "Death Claims Man Hunting Squirrels."
- <sup>12</sup> 1870 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, p. 3: age 8 in 1870 census, born in Indiana.
- <sup>13</sup> Tom Melton, Seymour, IN, *Morgan/Thompson/Wolfe Research Report*, Fall 1996. Commissioned research in Jackson County, IN on behalf of Dennis and Sandra Marr of Troy, NY.
- <sup>14</sup> Jackson County Order Book 4, p. 167 (October Term, 1865), Matthew T. Morgan v. Lydia M. Morgan.
- <sup>15</sup> Indiana Marriages 1845-1920, Book G, p. 322: Matthew Morgan & Lydia Goodwin < [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) > no date indicated in this source.
- <sup>16</sup> 1860 Census, Indiana, Washington Co., Washington Township, p. 227 (County Poor House): Lydia Goodwin, Housekeeper, age 26, born in Indiana.
- <sup>17</sup> 1870 Census, Indiana, Washington Co., Washington Township, p. 117 (County Poor House): Lydia Morgan, age 40, and son Thomas Morgan, age 6, inmates of the poor house.
- <sup>18</sup> Jackson Co., Indiana Marriage Record Index, Indiana Works Progress Administration, 1941; Reprint 1998 in 2 Volumes, Jackson County Genealogical Society (hereinafter "Marriage Index") . Vol. 2, p. 201, citing Book E, p. 151: Matthew Morgan & Barbary Snyder.
- <sup>19</sup> Marriage Index, Book C, p. 59.
- <sup>20</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 219: Abraham is age 13, born in Indiana, and living with parents Christian & Cinderella (enumerated as "Schnider").
- <sup>21</sup> National Park Service, Compiler, *Civil War Soldiers & Sailors*: Snider, Abram, IN, 22<sup>nd</sup> Inf. Regiment <<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>>.
- <sup>22</sup> Union Army Regimental History List: Snyder, Abram, Recruit; mustered in October 12, 1862; killed at Peachtree Creek, July 20, 1864 < [www.tarleton.com](http://www.tarleton.com) >.
- <sup>23</sup> Don & Lois Harvey, *Chronological List of Civil War Battles*, 1995, Rev. 14 June 1996 <<http://users.aol.com/dharvey/engage.htm>>.
- <sup>24</sup> 1860 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 531, Abram Schnider family: son Louis, age 6 and son Christian, age 3 in 1860 census.
- <sup>25</sup> 1880 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown, E.D. 105, p. 6C: Ewell Trowbridge household: wife Tena age 18 in 1880, born in Indiana (enumerated as "Trobridge").
- <sup>26</sup> *Brownstown Banner* Obituary: Mrs. Belle Dora Blevins, 3 February 1954, p. 3: obituary gives birth and death dates and names parents.
- <sup>27</sup> Jackson County, Indiana Order Book #7, p. 126 (January Term, 1869): Matthew T. Morgan v. Barbara Morgan.

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- <sup>28</sup> Marriage Index, V. 2, p. 76, citing Book E, p. 181: Matthew Morgan & Barbara Snyder, 14 Dec 1865.
- <sup>29</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 219, Christian & Cinderella Schneider household: son Abraham age 13, son George W. age 8 in 1850 census (enumerated as “Schnider”).
- <sup>30</sup> 1900 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, S.D. 4, E.D. 68, p. 50A, George Rich household: Thompson, Rosa, age 31, born June 1868, father born in Indiana, mother born in Germany (Rosen was at this time the widow of John Foster Thompson).
- <sup>31</sup> 1880 United States Census and National Index, Intellectual Reserve, Inc., 2001.
- <sup>32</sup> 1880 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown, E.D. 105, p. 6C: living as boarders in the household of Ewell Trowbridge (enumerated as “Trobridge”) and his wife Christina/Tena, sister of Belle Dora Snyder.
- <sup>33</sup> Marriage Index V. 2, p. 76, citing Book F, p. 331.
- <sup>34</sup> 1870 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, p. 3.
- <sup>35</sup> Jackson County, IN Order Book #7, p. 472 (October Term, 1871): Matthew Thomas Morgan vs. Susan Morgan.
- <sup>36</sup> Marriage Index V. 2, p. 76, citing Book F, p. 543: Matthew Morgan & Barbara Morgan.
- <sup>37</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File.
- <sup>38</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File: affidavit of George W. Hancock and Albert F. Walker.
- <sup>39</sup> 1880 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Grassy Fork Towhship, S.D. 2, E.D. 108, p. 22.
- <sup>40</sup> Marriage Index V. 2, p. 76, citing Book H, p. 464.
- <sup>41</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Grassy Fork Township, p. 228, Margaret Denton household: daughter Sophia age 12 in 1850 census.
- <sup>42</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File.
- <sup>43</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File: married by “Old Uncle Johnny Bell,” a Baptist preacher.
- <sup>44</sup> Marriage Index, Vol. 1, p. 148: citing Marriage Book D-C, p. 14.
- <sup>45</sup> 1850 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, p. 213, Willis and Sarah Morgan household: son Matthew, age 22, and son Henry, age 12, in 1850 census.
- <sup>46</sup> Marriage Index, V. 2, p. 76, citing Book D, p. 411.
- <sup>47</sup> 1880 Census, Kansas, Wyandotte Co., Shawnee Township, p. 322B.
- <sup>48</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File.
- <sup>49</sup> 1880 Census, Indiana, Washington Co., Gibson Township, p. 403B, Noah & Sarah Hall household: Noah age 37 in 1880 census, born in North Carolina.
- <sup>50</sup> Marriage Index V. 1, p. 234, citing Book J, p. 132.
- <sup>51</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File: contains a “Death Return” for Noah Hall, giving among other things his date of death, and parents: Abraham Hall and Elizabeth Wiener.
- <sup>52</sup> Marriage Index, V. 1, p. 234, citing Book B-L, p. 452.
- <sup>53</sup> Morgan Civil War Pension File.
- <sup>54</sup> Marriage Index V. 2, p. 139, citing Book E-C, p. 100.
- <sup>55</sup> Jackson County, IN Cemeteries, Driftwood/White Church Cemetery: Rich, Anna (Heamer), wife of G.W., b. 9/25/1841, d. 11/20/1901.
- <sup>56</sup> Marriage Index, V. 2, p. 139, citing Book B-L, p. 452.
- <sup>57</sup> 1900 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Driftwood Township, S.D. 4, E.D. 68, p. 59A.
- <sup>58</sup> *Brownstown Banner* Obituary, 7 August 1968, Sec. 2, p. 8: “Mrs. Cora Hubbard Dies Suddenly – Rites Held Saturday.” The obituary states that Cora was born in Sparksville on January 22, 1887, daughter of “Charles and Roszena Morgan Knight.”
- <sup>59</sup> 1880 Census, Indiana, Washington Co., Gibson Township, p. 403B, Noah & Sarah Hall household: son “Bigi” age 3.
- <sup>60</sup> Marriage Index V. 1, p. 233, citing Book L, p. 554.
- <sup>61</sup> Civil War Pension File, John F. Thompson/John Foster Thompson, Cert. #536,161 (hereinafter Thompson Civil War Pension File).
- <sup>62</sup> Jackson Co., IN Health Dept., Certificate of Death, Jno. F. Thompson, Book H19-2; certificate dated June 3, 2003.
- <sup>63</sup> *Seymour Democrat* Obituary, 18 December 1899: states that John committed suicide by poisoning due to melancholia.

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- <sup>64</sup> Thompson Civil War Pension File: affidavit of Rosa Thompson, 6 Jan 1900 states that she was married to the soldier under the name "Rosa Hunsucker." (We presently have no explanation for why Rosena was married under this surname).
- <sup>65</sup> Marriage Index V. 1, p. 283, citing Book J, p. 53, 12 Sep 1888: John F. Thompson & Rosa Hunsucker.
- <sup>66</sup> Jackson County, IN Cemeteries, Carr Township, Unmarked Graves: Thompson, Julia; d/o J.F.; 1890 Feb 27.
- <sup>67</sup> Thompson Civil War Pension File.
- <sup>68</sup> Harry A. Rider, Compiler, *Indiana Book of Merit*, Historical Bureau, Indiana Library & Historical Dept., 1932, p. 731 (this source erroneously gives Charles' birth year as 1887).
- <sup>69</sup> *Brownstown Banner*, 18 September 1918, p. 1: "Jackson County Man Is Killed In France; Charles W. Thompson Is First Soldier From This County To Be Killed In Battle."
- <sup>70</sup> 1900 Census, Indiana, Jackson County, Brownstown, County Poor Asylum, S.D. 4, E.D. 66: Knight, Cora, born 1886 (*sic*); Thompson, Charles, born 1891; Thompson, Frank, born 1893.
- <sup>71</sup> 1870 Census, Indiana, Harrison Co., Washington Township, p. 239-240: William & Mary Wolfe family includes son Henry C., age 3 (family enumerated as "Wolf").
- <sup>72</sup> Jackson County Marriages, Aug 1898-Nov 1902, p. 282: Henry C. Wolfe & Rosena Thompson.
- <sup>73</sup> Illinois Dept. of Health, Death Certificate: Columbus Wolfe (hereinafter "Columbus Wolfe Death Certificate), died 10 Sep 1951; born Feb. 27, 1866, Harrison County, IN; certificate dated 11 Feb 2003.
- <sup>74</sup> Indiana State Board of Health, Div. of Vital Statistics: Certificate of Birth, Flora Wolfe; parents: Henry Columbus Wolfe & Rosena Morgan; Certificate dated 2 October 1933.
- <sup>75</sup> 1910 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown Township, S.D. 4, E.D. 56, Sheet 1A: Rosa Wolfe (enumerated as "Wolf") is with her son Charles Thompson, and three children by Henry C. Wolfe: Isaac, Bertha and Flora. Henry is nowhere to be found.
- <sup>76</sup> Jackson County, IN Civil Order Book #59, Dec. 1911-May 1913, October 29, 1912. Henry did not respond to the filing and Rosena was granted her divorce.
- <sup>77</sup> 1920 Census, Indiana, Marshall Co., Center Township, S.D. 13, E.D. 166, Sheet 8A, Julia E. Work Training School: Wolf, Flora, age 12; Wolf, Bertha, age 17. (The Marshall County Historical Museum in Plymouth, IN has much information on the Julia E. Work School, also known as "Brightside Orphanage").
- <sup>78</sup> 1920 Census, Indiana, Jackson Co., Brownstown, E.D. 74, Sheet 6B.
- <sup>79</sup> *Brownstown Banner* Obituary, 3 February 1954, p. 3: Mrs. Belle Dora Blevins Dies At Age of 91. Obituary identifies her as daughter of the late Abraham Snyder and Barbara Hamer Snyder and names her husband.
- <sup>80</sup> 1930 Census, Illinois, Lawrence Co., Russellville Township, E.D. 51-18, S.D. 24, Sheet 2B: Wolfe, Columbus, age 64, divorced, married at age 33, no occupation.
- <sup>81</sup> Columbus Wolfe Death Certificate: died 10 Sep 1951.
- <sup>82</sup> Jackson County Health Dept., Certificate of Death, Rosena Wolf ; Certificate dated May 28, 1996.