

Henry Baudendistel.

(Continued from page 1.)

Past Eightieth Milestone



Henry Baudendistel.

Not all men order their lives to their liking; nor yet are all men true to themselves in living as nearly to their ideals as possible and attaining to such heights as their opportunities and talents render accessible.

But there are exceptions, and in presenting this article for the public to peruse it occurs to us that we have a subject that will fill all the requirements in this fast age.

In introducing Henry Baudendistel you will find a fellow citizen who has done much and done it well, wherein all honor lies.

Not a pretentious or exalted life has been his, not a political or literary life but a history of a plain, plodding farmer, an honest, upright gentleman, that in the varied walks in life has been true to his possibilities, one of whom the biographer delights to speak of with a feeling of respect and satisfaction.

Henry Baudendistel comes from a noted German ancestry, and was born in Baden, Germany, July 11, 1830.

On last Lord's day quite a number of his relatives made it convenient to call at the parental homestead southwest of Blooming Grove with well filled baskets and assisted to celebrate his 85th birthday anniversary in old-fashioned German style.

The writer formed one of the company, and after congratulations had passed which included a feast

of good things that were relished and highly appreciated, a special interview was had while smoking and the following historical facts obtained. Henry Baudendistel received a practical education in Germany and served as a common soldier. At the age of 21 years he took passage at Havre, France, on a sailing vessel bound for America which sailed in the month of December, 1851.

Was on the ocean 68 days, and during the passage contracted yellow fever and had a relapse of this unwelcome visitor. By careful attention to the rules of health he was convalescent when the vessel and crew landed at New Orleans in November of 1852.

He continued his journey and visited acquaintances in the Hoosier State for five months, but in the autumn of 1853 returned to New Orleans to seek employment and enjoy the mild climate of the Sunny South.

While out hunting on an island in Lake Pontchartrain, he became separated from his boat and before being rescued came near starving, having some tough experience in bill of fare. Outside of alligators he found no game except an old decrepit owl which he killed and boiled, making a thickening of crackers, but the longer he cooked the bird the tougher it became.

He was married in the Crescent

City to Miss Elizabeth Bernhart in November, 1854, and while a resident of New Orleans two children were born unto them, Michael and Katherine.

Michael married Barbara Peters. Katherine or Katrina as she was called, became the wife of Joseph Frey. Joseph Frey and family failing to materialize Sunday on account of rainstorm, etc.

After their removal from Louisiana to Franklin County, the following young Baudendistels materialized and their names were placed on the Family Register: Anthony, Leopold, Andrew, Peter, William and Elizabeth.

Anthony persuaded Anna Alexander to become his wife and chief cook.

Leopold, alias "Lafe" became smitten with a handsome lady in Denver, Col., named Edith Emperor, and now she is empress of his household.

Andrew is the devoted husband of Laura Haag, and both are apparently happy and content to trot in double harness.

Peter Baudendistel is a bachelor and so far, is most fortunate to escape any matrimonial entanglement.

William was captured at an early date in life by Miss Della Cowan, of Colters Corner, and is a farmer in Bath Township.

Elizabeth united her fortunes with Joseph Gossman, formerly of Newport, Ky.

The mother of the aforementioned children died near Boundary Hill in March, 1874, having given birth to twelve, whose names that are dead we failed to note. After the demise of this lady, the father moved to his Blooming Grove Township farm where he still resides.

In 1882 Henry Baudendistel married his present wife, Mrs. Anna Hazelwander, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth Schultz. She is the mother of seven children, only one of whom is living, a son, Henry Hazelwander.

A remarkable coincidence in the births of two of the oldest gentlemen of Blooming Grove Township, James M. Templeton and Henry Baudendistel, both born on July 11, 1830, same year, same month and same day. Both vote the Democrat ticket and both are highly respected citizens.

Our old and well preserved German friend and paterfamilias has twenty-one grandchildren living, and his wife and aged companion is the grandmother of four, making a total of twenty-five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren to their credit, who think well of Grandpa and Grandma Baudendistel.

One brother, Milton Baudendistel, of Cincinnati, is the only lineal descendent now living of this old historic family. All the other members have passed to that bourne from which no traveler returns.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Baudendistel are members of the St. Michael's Catholic Church at Brookville. The husband politically is and has been an old line Democrat. He cast his first vote for James Buchanan, has never missed an election, and is a great admirer of President Woodrow Wilson.

Those present at this feast of the passover and who placed their

and daughter, Helen, Barne Bruns, Mrs. Barbara Baudendistel, Katherine Baudendistel, Louis Burkhardt and Theo. L. Dickerson of Brookville; Andrew Baudendistel and wife, of Union Count; William Baudendistel, wife, four sons, John Harold, Raleigh, Cecil, and two daughters, Grace and Esther, of Bath Township; Henry Hazelwander and wife daughter, Anna, sons, Charles and Gilbert John.

To assert that this anniversary was enjoyed by all present will be making it mild, and before saying good bye to this venerable couple the visitors wished their lives might be spared for other birthday celebrations.

On account of the rainstorm Saturday night, July 10th, Joseph Frey and family could not attend which caused much disappointment to relatives.

T. L. Dickerson  
Brookville, Ind., July 11, 1915.

(Continued on Page 5.)