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NEBRASKA STATE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A Short Sketch of the life and wanderings of W. W. Keeling
written by himself July 7 1915

I was born on the 10th day of October 1831 in a log cabin in Noble Township Shelby County Indiana, Situate on the banks of Flat-Rock river about 3/4 of a mile up stream from the Drake Mill and Eleven miles a little E of S from Thelbyville the county Seat, on a beautiful Sight of ground, our Spring from which we used water for many purposes was at the foot of a hill near Cliffs which was about 30 feet high receding from the bottom of we carried the water up that hill for house use, this was very laborous to me, Yet most of the time we did the work with pleasure as the Surrounding Country was beautiful and as well as my Parents, and Sisters and brothers were kind to me I enjoyed my life most of the time and was happy comparatively Speaking.

My Father was a farmer and before he was married he had had Saved up money and Entered Eighty acres of land which was heavily timbered which he Improved Cultivated until I was Eighteen years old, during this time I was Educated in the Common Schools, at the age of 17 years I Secured through friends & acquaintanance a "Subscription School" and taught for three Months, after which I went to Greensburg, Indiana and Studdies Medicine under the tutorage of Dr Newberry Wheeldon, after which I located with Dr Randolp in the County wherin I was born. in winter of 1851 I was married to Miss Marietta Mitchell lived with until she died in Year 1855. in the time of our wedlock we had born to us One Son and One Daughter, both died in Infancy Soon after my Son died my wife was taken down with Typhoid fever and died

In August 1855 I mooved alone to Winterset Iowa where I practiced medicine until June 1857. After which in company with Dr C. F. Steward his wife and Sister In Law Emigrated to Nemaha City arriving there on the 5th day of July 1857 where I practiced my Profession until the fall of 1863 at which time I moove to Indiana: in the winter 1863 & 1864 but returned to Nemaha, Nebr 2 yr later. In June 1858 was married to Marion R Spiers who was born in Indiana, She was a Daughter of Robert and Marion Spiers who had Emigrated from Scotland in an Early. The result of this marriage was the birth of five children 4 of whom were Boys and Daughter who died 2 years ago last February.

Two of my Sons are Physicians doin a lucrative business. One Son is a Merchant in Shelbyville Indiana and One is with the Chicago Milwalkee and St Paul Rail Road located at Marmarth N. D. After attending a Course of Lectures in the E. M. Institute (Eclectic Medical Institute) of Cincinnati Ohio where I graduated and received my Diploma after which I practiced medicine until the fall of 1891: and since that time have practiced my Profession until the present time. When I came to this place in 1857 the country was comparatively new Settled by people from many parts of the world, also by native Indians half--Breeds Quarter breeds & other mixed Bloods, people mostly poor financially filled with persons full

of life and ambition mostly persons who came here to make homes a good very good class of people. Our town has not improve much in number of inhabitants but the town is built-up with good streets and cement sidewalk and feel that we are progressive and well contented and happy

July 7 1915

W. W. Keeling

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