

LOUIS NEALES

Nemaha, N.T. January 1, 1857

To the Honorable President of the U.S. We the undersigned heirs of Mrs. Mary Neales (formerly Mary Rogers) a half breed Indian of the Omahaw tribe, Do most Humbly Suplicate the audience of our Benefactor, to grant to us the tract of Land on which we now reside, which is Section Twenty in Township four, Range Sixteen East, on the lands selected and granted to half breeds laying between the two Nemehaws in Nebraska Territory. The same being the lands selected by our Parents and on which they remained with us until their death. We are six in number. Two of which are of age, with our own families to support. Our Father died one year ago last March and our Mother, on the 11th day of October last.

All they had was invested in our improvements on said Land. We are destitute of all other means of a subsistence, and most umbly Prey your Honor to hear Petition as we think the treaty places the matter of making titles to said lands entirely at the hand of your Honour.

Louis Neales

Auent (x) Henderson

George (x) Neales

Harriett Neales

Elizebeth (x) Neales

Mary (x) Neales

their marks.

To the Public: on the 26th of January last, we, Robert Hawk and John G. Melvin, purchased of Louis Neal the Land known as Neal's Point or Alamo, in Nebraska Territory, which we have paid for in full, and for which we hold his Quit-Claim deed, and also a bond for a Warranty deed as soon as he shall receive a Paten therefor. The conditions of said bond have been complied with to the letter on our part. We, the said Hawk and Melvin and our associates, forewarn all whom it may concern not to purchase of said Louis Neal any part of said tract or townsite, take any timber, coal, or stone therefrom, or make any improvements thereon, as we intend contesting his rights to the same in the proper courts.

Advertiser: ^{Sept}~~January~~ 3, 1858

To the Public: on the 26th of January last, I conditionally contracted to sell to Robert Hawk and J.G. Melvin a part of the land known as Neal's Point. Said contract has been forfeited by the failure of said Hawk and Melvin to comply with the conditions on their part. I ther for, take this method of warning the public not to purchase stock in said land or in a town called Alamo, which I understand is about to be laid out on said tract, from any persons. I am the sole owner of said land, and will make no titles upon sales by either of the above named gentlemen. I further state that although I have the right to retain the amount they paid me as a forfeiture, I am not disposed to do so, and now notify all person concerned that I am ready and willing to refund to Mssrs Hawk and Melvin the amoun they paid me on said conditional purchase. Louis Neal

Advertiser: ^{Sept}~~January~~ 3, 1858

At the solicitation of a couple of young friends, we found ourself on last Friday evening, seated in an easy carriage, with a span of Coleman's fast nags attached thereto, enroute for Aspinwall; the object of which jaunt was to attend a Ball given by Mr. Louis Neal of that place. Of course everything passed off pleasantly- Mrs. Neal doing the honors of the occasion with a grace and dignity charming to behold. Bright eyes sparkled with pleasure and fair cheeks glowed with the excitement of the quadrille.

Advertiser: January 14, 1858

~~January 3,~~

LOUIS NEAL

Civil Docket

Attorney

McGary

Parties

Hawk Bro & Co.

vs.

Lewis Neal

Action

Assumpsit

Bradford, McLennan
& McGary

S.F. Nuckolls et als

vs

Lewis Neal

Title

Advertiser: June 17, 1858

LOUIS NEAL

Titles of Bills passed at the 5th Session (of the Territorial Legislature)

An Act to authorize Isaac T. Whyte, A.S. Holladay, Louis Neal and Benjamin Holladay, to establish and keep a ferry across the Missouri river at Aspinwall, in Nemaha county.

Advertiser: Nov. 18, 1858

LOUIS NEAL

Decatur, N.T., December 17, 1858

Mr. Editor - a distressing affray occurred last week on the Omaha reservation above this place, which resulted in the death of Tecumseh Fontenelle, a chief of the Omahas.

Lewis Neal, who resides at Haspinwall on the Nemaha reservation an Omaha quarter-breed, and married to a sister of Fontenelle, came several weeks past to visit his relations among the Omahas, expecting to receive some money from the Omahas at the payment.

On Tuesday the 7th inst., Neil had Tecumseh came down to Decature, and in the afternoon of that day a difficulty arose between them at a trading store. They separated and Tecumseh soon left as the evening closed, for his lodge some three miles above this place. An hour after, Neil started for Tecumseh's upper lodges, four miles above here, one of which, a log house, he was then occupying with his wife. On the way, Neal called at the lower lodge, and persuaded Tecumseh to go with him to the further one. They proceeded to the upper lodges, by different routes, Tecumseh arriving first. Neal, a few minutes after his arrival left his house and went to Tecumseh's lodge, with a blanket which he said he had picked up near the lodges. Here high words passed and Tecumseh ordered Neal to leave the lodge. Neal started to the door of the lodge followed by Tecumseh, walking, and when at the door, turned and stabbed Tecumseh who called for a knife, being unarmed, but no weapon was given him and in a few minutes he sank fainting. Henry Fontenelle, a brother of Tecumseh, was then sent for, who, on his reaching the lodge an hour after, attacked Neal wounding him severely. Tecumseh died on Tuesday evening last. Neal was brought to Decatur where he now lies recovering.

The death of Tecumseh has caused great mourning among the Omahas, and they are

LOUIS NEAL

Trouble Among the Indians - We are indebted to our esteemed friend at Decatur for the following particulars of the recent stabbing affair at Blackbird, to which we referred last week. We are acquainted with all the actors in the tragedy. Tecumseh Fontenelle, the person killed, had many friends, and was probably the most influential Chief of the tribe. Revenge is a prominent trait in the Indian character, and we are apprehensive that the citizens of Decatur will scarcely be able to protect Neal from the fury of the tribe.

To add to their embarrassment, Col. Wilson, agent for the Omahas, is absent, and the Indians, not having received their payment, are made more furious by the fancied neglect, and will consequently be less easily controlled. Nothing less than the death of Neal will satisfy them. We shall probably have additional news before our next issue.

Omaha Nebraskan: Wednesday, December 22, 1858

LOUIS NEAL

Disturbance Among the Indians

"A muss occurred a few days ago among the Omaha Indians at Black Bird. Several were killed and others wounded. Tecumseh Fontenelle is said to have been killed, and a half-breed named Neal severely wounded - Louis Neal, we presume, of Aspinwall.

Advertiser: December 23, 1858

LOUIS NEAL

"We learn by a private letter, that the difficulty among the Omaha Indians, to which we referred last week, was confined to a few half-breeds. It appears Louis Neal, who resides on the half-breed reservation below this city and his brother-in-law, Tecumseh Fontenelle, an Omaha chief, quarrelled over some of their Indian affairs, which finally grew into a fight, in which Neal killed Fontenelle. A brother of Fontenelle, then attacked Neal, severely wounding him. Neal was arrested, and is now in custody at Decatur. The Fontenelles being favorites among the Omahas, they have sworn vengeance against Neal, and will most likely kill him the first opportunity."

Nebraska Advertiser: December 30, 1858

LOUIS NEAL

District Court of Douglas county.

On Tuesday next the District Court for Dakota county will be held at Dakota City. Judge Wakely will preside. The most important case in that county will be the trial of Lewis Neal, half-breed, for the murder of Tecumseh Fontenelle, on the Omaha Reserve last Autumn. From a couple of half breeds in this city we learn that the Omaha Indians are very cruious to witness "white man's justice" in the above case. The law of lex talionis being the only code recognized by the savage, we can imagine nothing less than the conviction of Neal for murder will satisfy the rigid notions of the Omahas.

Omaha Nebraskan: Saturday, May 7, 1859

LOUIS NEAL

"We notice by the N. & T., that Marshall West is absent in Burt & Dakota counties, having in custody, Lewis Neal, to await his approaching trial at Dakota."

Nebraska News: May 14, 1859

LOUIS NEAL

Louis Neal - a Half-Breed Indian, well known in this community, indicted for the murder of Tecumseh Fontenelle, in January last, has been convicted of manslaughter, and sentenced to three years imprisonment and \$250 fine.

Nebraska Advertiser: May 26, 1859

LOUIS NEAL

Sheriff's Sale: Notice is hereby given, that by virtue of an execution issued from the office of the Clerk of the District Court for Nemaha county, Nebraska Territory, against Louis Neal, and in favor of Hawk Bro. & Co., for the sum of seventy-two dollars and fifty-five cents; I, Davidson Plasters, Sheriff of said county, have levied upon one horse as property of Louis Neal, and will, on the 30th day of July, A.D. 1859, between the hours of ten o'clock A.M. and four o'clock P.M., from the door of the house in Brownville in said county in which the last term of the District Court for said county was held, proceed to sell at public sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand to satisfy said execution.

Brownville, July 7th, 1859

DAVIDSON PLASTERS
Sheriff of Nemaha co., N.T.

Advertiser: July 21, 1859

LOUIS NEAL

District Court of Nemaha Co. September Term, Appearance Docket

Attorney

Parties

Action

Johnson, M'Gary,
Hewatt

I.T. Whyte, etal
Kinney & Holley
vs
Lewis Neal

Assumpsit

Advertiser: September 15, 1859

LOUIS NEAL

"Lous Neal of this county who has been in jail at Omaha near two years past on charge of killing 'Fontenelle' one of the Omaha chiefs, was last week discharged by the Supreme Court.

Nebraska Advertiser: July 4, 1861

LOUIS NEAL

"Louis Neal lost a fine horse last week, and came near losing his own life by breaking through the ice while crossing the Nemaha River at the Nemaha City Ferry."

Nebraska Advertiser: March 6, 1862

Louis Neal

The Advertiser: July 16, 1863

Taken Up

The undersigned, living near Aspinwall, Nemaha County, Nebraska, has taken up a two year old Colt. - Description: Gelding, both hind legs white half way to the knees, star in his forehead. Owner can have him by proving property and paying charges.

Louis Neal

LOUIS NEALES

"Louis Neal is now recruiting for the Nebraska Veteran Cavalry, Company D. Now is the time to enlist as he will leave for Omaha within a week."

Nebraska Advertiser, June 30, 1864

LOUIS NEAL

Family of; ancestors and descendants

Louis Neal, born in Vermont c. 1805
died in Iowa c. 1855

Married

Mary Rogers, a half-breed Omaha, whose mother was Indian, father a Virginian.
Died at Bellevue, June 24, 1897. *Oct. 11, 1856*

Children of Louis and Mary Neal

Louis
George
Harriet
Elizabeth
Mary

Louis married Susan Fontenelle, daughter of Lucien Fontenelle, in 1856.
died Bellevue, June 24, 1897

Harriet Neal married John C. Odell of Brownville, c. 1856.

GEORGE W. NEAL

George W. Neals

Birthplace: Kansas

Residence: Decatur

Occupation: Farmer

Entry into Service: March 7, 1862, as a private in Co. M, 15th Kansas Cavalry.

Discharge: October 19, 1865 as a private in Co. M., 15th Kansas Cavalry.

G.W. Neal

Birthplace: Kansas

Residence: Nemaha

Occupation: Painter

Entry into Service: March 17, 1862 as a prive in Co. D, 5th Missouri Cavalry

Discharge: September 29, 1865, as a private in Co. A, 7th Kansas Cavalry.

Listed as O.G. in G.A.R. Post #53, Nemaha, June 30, 1896.

Quarter Master Sergt. in 1894, gave age as 54, birthplace as Ohio.

Surgeon, Dec. 3, 1897. Listed his age as 44 in 1883.

These may be the same person with conflicting data. One of them, at least, should be the George Neal listed as brother of Louis Neal.

LOUIS NEAL

Military Service:

Quarter-Master Sergeant, Louis Neals; age 32; residence, Omaha, Nebraska; date of enlistment, May 6, 1864; date of muster into service, August 31, 1864; date of commission or appointment, August 31, 1864; date of muster out of service, July 10, 1865; remarks, no record of date of discharge or dropping from rolls given, probably July 10, 1865. On muster roll May and June, 1865, as absent on furlough.

Roster of Nebraska Volunteers, p. 150

LOUIS NEAL

Society for the Prevention of Horse-Stealing

At a little later day, horse stealing became a formidable evil, with which the early settlers were forced to contend. On August 7, 1858, a large meeting was held at the county seat (Brownville) to provide means of protection from the night riders. * * The main design of the society will be explained by the following section of their constitution: "Upon any horse or mule belonging to any member of the association being stolen, it shall be the loser's duty to notify some officer of the association, who shall notify such a number of the ten riders as he may deem requisite of the fact, and it shall be the duty of the riders so notified to proceed immediately in search of the property so stolen, and to use all diligence to apprehend the thief or thieves. No riders to be allowed, besides all necessary and reasonable expenses, the sum of \$1 per day, as a compensation for their services in that behalf. And it shall be the duty of the President upon the application of such riders and evidence that such services have been rendered, to draw an order to the Treasurer for the amount, which order shall be attested by the Secretary." The riders were William Hays, Jesse Cole, J.W. Coleman, J.W. Bliss, J. Morfsinger, Louis Neal, N. Fontenelle, David Plasters, E. Reid, J. Small.

Address, History of Nebraska, p. 1128

LOUIS NEAL

G.A.R. Records

Louis Neal

Birthplace: Kansas

Residence: Decatur, Nebraska

Occupation: Farmer

Entry into service: September 25, 1861

Rank: Private

Organization: Co. I, 1st. Cavalry

Final Discharge: November 15, 1864

Belonged to Grand Army of the Republic Post #115 Wymore, Nebraska

LOUIS NEAL

Half-Breed Tract

On September 10, 1860, a total of 389 patents were issued in fee simple for a total of 122,240.69 acres. Patent Number 1 was issued to Lewis Neal, the first Indian in the United States to receive an allotment of land in severalty, evidenced by a patent. He was also known as Louis Neales and Louis Neal. His allotment comprised 307.2 acres in the southeast corner of present Nemaha County.

Fragments of information in the National Archives show that this allottee was about twenty-six years old, the son of an American father and a half-breed Omaha woman. His parents were deceased. His wife, Susan was about twenty-three years old. He had a brother, George, and his sisters were Harriet, Elizabeth, and Mary. In 1904 "Louis Neals" was Number 1 on the annuity roll of payments to the Omaha.

"The Half-Breed Reservation" Berlin B. Chapman
p. 16 Nebraska History Vol. 38, Number 1

William H., Mary C., Phillip H., Jacob R., Elizabeth, Belle M., Jerusha, Solomon, Emma, and a daughter, Susan J., who married the Hon. C. F. Haywood, and whose death occurred subsequent to that of the parents. The old farm is now the property of the eldest son, William H. Starr, who was born August 25, 1839, in Vermillion County, Ill. He came with the family to Nebraska; went to California in 1872; remained until 1878; returned, and has since owned the old farm and the fine flouring mill at Brock, formerly known as the Bradley Mill. He has expended about \$4,000 in refitting the mill and equipping it with the best modern machinery; the mill gives employment to five men, has four run of stone, and a capacity of sixty barrels per day. Mr. Starr married Miss Caroline A. Good, of Glen Rock, by whom he has two children—Mary and Burton. Mr. Starr and wife are members of the M. E. Church.

J. D. VANDEVORT, farmer, P. O. Brock. Mr. Vandevort's father, J. M., brought his family from Ohio to Iowa in Territorial times. J. D. Vandevort was born in 1845, in Louisa County, Iowa. He enlisted on his 17th birthday, in the Fifteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, taking his musket and place in the ranks. His regiment served in Missouri and Arkansas, opposing Price and Marmaduke; also participated in the Red River expedition under Gen. Banks, and in the battles preceding the siege and final capture of Vicksburg. Soon after its fall, Mr. Vandevort was captured while on a foraging excursion with three others, and held eight days, and rescued by the Unionists, though the rebels, seventeen in number, by vote had sentenced them to death, and were only prevented by one of their number who threw his hat in mid air, and as it came down put three bullet holes in it with his revolver, exclaiming, that "he would serve the first man who drew bead on the Yankee prisoners worse than that." This regiment participated in the Tupelo raid and fight, in the decisive battle at Nashville, and the investment and capture of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely at Mobile, and is said to have marched and traveled 10,000 miles, or farther than any other Iowa regiment, and was mustered out at Selma, Ala., August 10, 1865. Mr. Vandevort came from Iowa to Nebraska in 1873. He married Miss E. J. Vandevort, a third or fourth cousin, and a native of Lee County, Iowa. They have one only son, Ora A., born November 26, 1876, in La Fayette Precinct.

GEORGE WATHAN, farmer, P. O. Brock. Mr. Wathan was born in 1841, in Shropshire, England. In 1843, his parents, Edward and Ann (Woodhall) Wathan, came to the United States, locating in New York City, where the father engaged at his trade of marble cutting. In 1850, the family removed to Chicago, and a few years later to a farm near Davenport, Iowa. In August, 1861, George Wathan enlisted as a private in the Eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry; at the battle of Shiloh, he and the regiment were taken prisoners, and, for a time, were in the power of the forces of the infamous Wirtz, of Andersonville fame. After about two months, the regiment was exchanged and re-entered the service. Soon after, President Lincoln commissioned our subject as Second Lieutenant, and he was promoted to a captaincy and commanded Company A, of the Mississippi Marine Brigade, Gen. A. W. Elliott, for eighteen months. At the close of the war, Capt. Wathan was called as a witness in the Wirtz trial and testified as to seeing that monster shoot a Union soldier in cold blood at Tuscaloosa, Ala. Capt. Wathan married, in 1866, Miss Alice Mallory, and, in 1870, locating where the Captain now lives. His wife died in 1876, leaving him six children, and he has one by a second marriage with Miss Alice Miller.

DAVID WILKIE, farmer, P. O. Brock, one of the first of the Illinois settlers in this precinct, is a native of Warren County, N. Y., born August 8, 1823. His father, Jacob Wilkie, was a native of the same State and a farmer. David Wilkie grew to manhood, and, in his and her native county, married Lavina Halladay. In 1854, they removed to Sycamore, De Kalb Co., Ill.; here Mr. W. enlisted in the fall of 1861, in the Ninety-fifth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battle preceding, and in the siege of Vicksburg, and was then detailed to do special duty at Springfield, Ill. He was then assigned to the Fourteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and with Gen. Sherman fought through to Atlanta; he was then placed under Gen. Thomas and was a witness of the battle at Franklin, Tenn., and a participant at Nashville, Tenn.; was then in camp about a month in New Orleans, and then took part in the reduction of the Mobile Forts. In September, 1865, having been promoted to Second Lieutenant, he was discharged and rejoined his family in Illinois. In March, 1866, he homesteaded 160 acres of his present 400-acre farm—twelve acres of forest trees, and five acres of orchard are environing a pleasant home—the farm being well provided with barns and all-needed buildings and appliances. Mr. W. is a Republican and a member with his wife of the M. E. Church of Brock. They have an only son, Harvey J., born in Warren County, N. Y., who is settled near them on a well-improved 200-acre farm, well fitted up with first-class buildings.

ASPINWALL.

This village is well located on the bank of the Missouri River, two and a half miles below Nemaha City. The town site was within the half-breed reservation, and belonged,

after the extinguishment of the Indian title, to Louis Neal, of whom it was purchased by I. T. Whyte & Co., in 1856.

The first settler was Louis Neal, a half-breed, who, with his family, located there in 1853. Two years later, John C. Ellis settled there. The first child born in Aspinwall was Louis Neal, Jr., whose date of birth was in 1856. The first marriage was John C. Odell to Miss Harriet Neal; these parties now reside in Brownville. The first death was in 1856—Mrs. Mary Neal, mother of Louis Neal. An old settler assigns as a reason for naming the town Aspinwall, "We wanted to have a big name." The same pioneer remarks that his town "never enjoyed the luxury of a church." The first ferry, a flat-boat, was owned by John C. Ellis, and was run as early as 1856. A man named Higglar and Israel Cummings were among the earliest settlers. The first post office was established in 1860 and John M. Paulin was the first Postmaster. The present Postmaster is F. M. King. The first settler, Louis Neal, took his family to Aspinwall in 1853 and built a house, but hard times and the horde of begging Indians determined him to remove temporarily. He returned, however, in 1854, and made the town his home. Neal removed to the Omaha reservation some fifteen years since. In an affray with Fontenelle, chief of the Omahas, the latter was killed. Neal mollified the nearest relatives by presenting them with several valuable ponies. Marlatt & King are the present merchants. Ben. Holladay, of Washington City, brother of Dr. A. S. Holladay, owns 800 town lots in Aspinwall, and 1,600 acres of land in the precinct. In May, 1861, Dr. Holladay and John H. Mann established a paper called the *Union*, at Aspinwall, but, proving unremunerative, the office was removed to Brownville.

Aspinwall was surveyed as a town site in 1867, by J. M. Hacker. Louis Neal, James Craig, Patrick McLaughlin, Johnson Lyon, D. J. Waitian, Ben. Holladay, M. Romback, D. Phipps and Lucretia Holladay were the proprietors. The town site was on the south half of the northeast quarter and south half of the northwest quarter, and Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Section 20, and Lots 1 and 2, Section 17, Town 4, Range 16. The town had been laid out and platted at a much earlier date, but no official record was made. The date of original survey was in the year 1857. Louis Neal started the first store in 1856. Hoblitzel & Co., of Brownville, opened the second stock of goods in Aspinwall in 1858, in the store afterward occupied by Edward Weisenrider. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Taylor, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in 1860. Among the earliest settlers were Darius Phipps, William Thurman, Henry Hart, Milton Paulin, J. Hegler. The first school was taught in the year 1861, by Clara Parker. The Order of Good Templars organized a vigorous lodge in 1877; the original list of officers is not attainable, but the following-named persons were the most active workers in the cause: S. Gilbert, Miss M. J. Steirs, A. L. Steirs, G. W. Culp, John S. Minick. The town was incorporated in 1870, with the following-named persons as the first town board: B. F. Hasness, Chairman; J. S. Minick, Henry Hart, John Crim and Charles Foy. At the date of its incorporation there were two stores—J. S. Minick and Ed. Weisenrider.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

EUGENE ALLEMAND, farmer, P. O. Nemaha City, was born in France. He came to America in 1854, locating in St. Louis, Mo. Ten years later, he, with his father-in-law, J. Decuille, located on the present Allemand farm. Here, in 1873, a tasteful farmhouse, 33x33 feet, was built; they also planted a fifteen-acre cottonwood grove and a fine orchard of five acres, comprising apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, grapes, and all the small fruits. Mr. Decuille is now in his native France.

Andrew Hist of Nebraska

LOUIS NEAL

Louis Neals, Decatur, Neb., was born at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., Sept. 22, 1832. He is the son of Louis and Mary (Rogers) Neals. Louis Neals, Sr., was born in Vermont about the year 1805 and died in Iowa in 1855. Mary (Rogers) Neals was a member of the Omaha tribe, her mother being an Omaha woman and her father a native of Virginia. She was born and raised in St. Louis, where she received her education. Her father was superintendent of Indian affairs there and was stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. Louis Neals has but little education, except what he has acquired by his own efforts. He was employed on the plains for several years, as teamster and train master, in the early '50s carrying the mail from Independence, Mo., to Salt Lake City. Mr. Neals resided in Jackson county, Mo., from 1850 until the spring of 1856, and was in the livery business there a short time, but was forced to leave the county during the border warfare on account of his political views. He arrived in Nebraska in 1856 and settled on what was then the half-breed tract, now in Nemaha county, where his mother and her family had settled in 1854, and where the mother died in 1856. In the fall of 1878 he removed to the Omaha reservation in Thurston county, where he has since resided with the exception of six years spent in Bellevue, Sarpy county. Mr. Neals is a veteran of the Civil war and was quartermaster sergeant of Co. D, 1st Bat. Neb. Vet. Vol. Cav. from Jan. 1, 1863 to July 10, 1865. He is a member of the Presbyterian church of Decatur. He has been a member of the Masonic order since 1874. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 1, of Omaha. He was married in 1856, at Bellevue, to Susan Fontenelle, who was the daughter of Lucien Fontenelle and only sister of Logan, chief of the Omaha tribe. Mrs. Neals died at Bellevue, June 24, 1897, and was buried there. Mr. Neals at present resides in Decatur with his daughter, May, who is the wife of James Lombert.

LOUIS NEAL AND FONTENELLE FAMILY

Lucien Fontenelle, the father of five interesting children by an Omaha woman, was a man of talents and well liked by those who knew him. He had also great influence with the Indians, especially the Omahas. He was a gentleman in his manners and affectionate to his family. He was a successful trader and in company with Major Drips had a trading post at Fort Laramie and in the spring of 1835 built a log house to store their goods, which they took on pack animals to their fort up the Platte. The house in which he died yet stands on the river bank near Bellevue, close by where the cars of the South-western railroad run daily. Notwithstanding his excellent qualities and refinement he followed in the wake of most Indian traders and finally died from the effects of intemperance. There are many now living who know the history of his family. He kept his children in school in St. Louis until they had a fair English education. Albert, the second son, partially learned the blacksmith trade with John Snuffin, now living at Glenwood, and was a good smith. Henry, the youngest, learned the wagon maker's trade and was handy with tools. He still lives at the Omaha Reserve and has a family, his wife being a half-blood Pawnee. Susan, a fine girl, is now Mrs. Neils. Logan, the oldest, was a remarkable boy and lived to be an Omaha chief of great influence in his tribe, and also greatly respected by the whites who knew him. He was killed by the Sioux in a bloody fight in which he fought bravely. Albert was injured by being thrown from a mule which was the probable cause of his death. Tecumseh was killed in a drinking frolic by his brother-in-law, Louis Neil, who was afterwards almost literally cut to pieces by Tecumseh's friends. Our authorities confined Neil in the Omaha jail for sometime until he was pardoned by Tecumseh's friends. The only fault of the boys was they would sometimes get to drinking and disgrace themselves in that way.

"Forty Years among the Indians and on the Eastern Borders of Nebraska"
Nebraska State Historical Society, Publication II

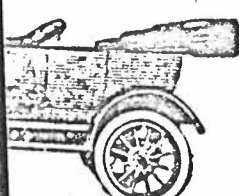
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KELEY, GENERAL PASSENGER AGENT,
Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska

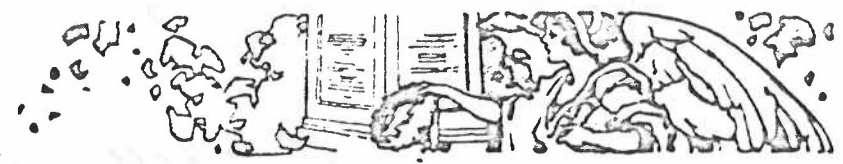


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GROTHE

Phone No. 119



LOUIS NEALS

Mr. Louis Neals passed away, Saturday, Dec. 23, 1916, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. James Lambert, in Decatur, where he was spending the winter.

He was passed 84 years of age, and, until the last year or so, remarkably active for his years. He was born at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., Sept. 22, 1832, and came to Nebraska when a young man, settling in Nemaha county.

In 1863 he enlisted for the civil war, in Co. D, First Nebraska regiment, and served until the close of the war, holding the position of quartermaster's sergeant of his company.

In 1858 he married Miss Susan Fontanelle, who died in 1897, at Bellevue, where they had lived since his return from the war. Of their three children, May (Mrs Lambert) is the only one surviving her father.

After the death of his wife he moved to Decatur where he lived until about six years ago, when he became a resident of Walthill.

In the summer of 1912 Mr. Neals purchased and modernized a comfortable home in the northwest part of town, and on Dec. 22 of that year he married Mrs. Jennie O'Pelt of Oakland, Cal., the two having known each other in their younger days.

He was a member of the Presbyterian church, of the Decatur post G. A. R., a Mason, Knight of Pythias, and he and Mrs. Neals became members of the local chapter of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Neals, who survives him, is spending the winter at the home of her son in Oakland, Cal. He is also survived by a brother, Mr. Geo. Neals, who lives at the soldiers' home in Milford.

Mr. Neals was a man of fine disposition and great affability, who made friends easily, and he was generous of heart and thoughtful of others.

The funeral service was held at his daughter's home on Christmas day and, the next day, his body was laid to rest beside that of his first wife in the Bellevue cemetery.

A. W. TOWNSEND

A. W. Townsend, a veteran of the civil war, who has made his home in Walthill for the past eight years.

JOHN ANDREW OTTESON

John Otteson died at his home in Walthill, Tuesday morning, Jan. 16, 1917, after a lingering illness of many months of suffering with cancer of the stomach. At an early date in the history of the town, Mr. Otteson became a property owner in Walthill and has lived here about ten years, being well-known and respected for his frugal thrift and modest honesty.

Mr. Otteson was a veteran of the civil war and a familiar figure in the occasional gatherings of the old soldiers. He was a member of the Decatur Post G. A. R.

He was a native of Wisconsin, and was born in that state, Oct. 10, 1845. At an early day he went to Iowa and, in 1882, he married Miss Susan Fuller of Denison, Iowa. To them was born a family of five children. They are: Lena May (Mrs. Eugene Fontanelle), deceased; Eliza Maud (Mrs. Method), living at Craig; Levera Monita (Mrs. Granger), of Winnebago; and Miss Lamona, who lives with her mother.

Mr. Otteson enlisted in Company G, 23d Iowa Volunteers with which he served his country in the time of her greatest crisis.

After his return from the war, he brought his family farther west and lived for many years at Decatur. When the new village of Walthill was started he was attracted here and made it his home until the time of his death, moving here in 1908.

When a young man Mr. Otteson at one time was on the road, traveling with a show. It was while a member of the Dan Rice show company that he first visited Decatur and took a fancy to the early Nebraska town to which he afterward came to live.

The funeral was held in the Walthill Presbyterian church, the morning after his death, Rev. C. H. Mitchell more delivering the sermon. The body was conveyed to Decatur for interment, conducted by the G. A. R.

Illinois and, in 1863, at the age of 16, he enlisted at Princeton in the 48th Illinois Volunteers and served until the close of the war.

In 1869 he married Miss Eliza Irvin at Richland, Iowa. Their children are: Wm. I. of Omaha, Frank of Lincoln, Walthill, and Elmer of Dodge.

Malthee Lines

Jan. 26, 1917

1:1

Patents as Recorded from p 1 to 349 inclusive sent to Ind. Office Nov 20 1860
Certified copy of the General Land Office at Washington Oct. 17, 1864

SACS & FOXES,

Half Breed.

No. 1.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

WHEREAS, by the 10th Article of the Treaty, concluded on the 15th day of July, 1830, between the Commissioners on the part of the United States and the Deputations on the part of the Confederate Tribes of the Sacs and Foxes, the President of the United States is authorized to assign to any of the Half Breeds of the Omahas, Iowa and Otoes, and Yankton and Santie Bands of Sioux, out of the tract of country reserved by said treaty between the Great and Little Nemadji Rivers, in Nebraska, for said Half Breeds, "to be held by him or them in fee simple, any portion of said tract not exceeding a section or six hundred and forty acres to each individual;" AND WHEREAS, by section 5 (4) of the Act of Congress, approved July 31, 1854, (U. S. Statutes at Large, vol. 10, page 332.) the President of the United States is "authorized and required to cause to be fulfilled the stipulations of the ninth and tenth articles" of said treaty "by causing said reserved tracts to be surveyed and allotted to the persons properly entitled to the same in fee simple, in such manner and under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe;" AND WHEREAS, a Return, bearing date March 24th, 1860, from the Office of Indian Affairs has been made to the General Land Office, accompanied by "Book A," containing the description and allotment of land within said reservation, made for said Half Breeds and Mixed Bloods of the Omahas, Iowas and Otoes, and Yankton and Santie Bands of Sioux, from which "Book A" it appears that, on the 19th March, 1860, the Secretary of the Interior approved for Lewis Neal the following selections, viz: One South West quarter of the North West fractional quarter of Section twenty. Containing forty acres; the South East quarter of the North West fractional quarter of Section twenty. Containing forty acres; the South West quarter of the North East fractional quarter of Section twenty. Containing forty acres; the South East quarter of the North East fractional quarter of Section twenty. Containing forty acres; Lot number one of Section twenty. Containing thirty four acres and fifty hundredths of an acre; Lot number three of Section twenty. Containing thirty four acres and fifty hundredths of an acre; Lot number four of Section twenty. Containing thirty four acres and fifty hundredths of an acre; Lot number one of Section seventeen. Containing six acres; Lot number two of Section seventeen. Containing three acres and thirty hundredths of an acre; in Township four North of Range sixteen East of the Sixth principal Meridian in Nebraska, containing in the aggregate three hundred and seven acres and twenty hundredths of an acre.

NOW KNOW YE, That the United States of America, in consideration of the premises and pursuant to the provisions of the aforesaid Treaty and of the said Act of July 31st, 1854, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents DO GIVE AND GRANT the tract or parcel of land above described, unto the said Lewis Neal and to his heirs and assigns forever,

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract or parcel of land, with the appurtenances, unto the said Lewis Neal and to his heirs and assigns forever,

In testimony whereof, I, James Buchanan President of the United States, have caused these Letters to be made Patent and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, this 18th day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Sixty and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-fifth

BY THE PRESIDENT:

James Buchanan

By

J. A. B. Leonard

Secretary.

J. M. Ganger Recorder of the General Land Office.

For files in NHS.

Lewis Neal was the first Indian in the United States to receive an allotment of land in severalty, evidenced by a patent. His land was in present Nemaha County, Nebraska.

Chapman can send a sharp, glossy photograph of this patent to accompany his study, "The Otoes and Missourias in Nebraska," p. 44.

ACT OF FEBRUARY 6, 1907.

DECLARATION FOR PENSION.

THE PENSION CERTIFICATE SHOULD NOT BE FORWARDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

State of Nebraska }
 County of Seward } ss.

On this 23^d day of Sept, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and Seven personally appeared before me, a Notary Public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Louis Neals, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is 75 years of age, and a resident of Milford county of Seward, State of Nebraska; and that he is the identical person who was ENROLLED at Omaha, Neb. under the name of Louis Neals, on the 6th day of May, 1864, as a 2^d Sgt, in Co "40" 1st Batt of Neb. Vet. Cav. Vol.
(Here state rank, and company and regiment in the Army, or vessels if in the Navy.)

in the service of the United States, in the Civil war, and was HONORABLY DISCHARGED at St. Neary, Neb. on the 10 day of July, 1865.
 That he also served
(Here give a complete statement of all other services, if any.)

That he was not employed in the military or naval service of the United States otherwise than as stated above. That his personal description at enlistment was as follows: Height, 5 feet 11 inches; complexion, Dark; color of eyes, Gray; color of hair, Dark; that his occupation was Farmer; that he was born Sept 22^d, 1832, at St. Leavenworth, Kansas.

That his several places of residence since leaving the service have been as follows: Neb. Nemaha County, Butt County, and Milford Neb. since about June 1905.
(State date of each change, as nearly as possible.)

That he is now a pensioner. That he has heretofore applied for pension

Artificate No 584071. Oct Febr 6th 1907
(If a pensioner, the certificate number only need be given. If not, give the number of the former application, if one was made.)

That he makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the pension roll of the United States under the provisions of the act of February 6, 1907.

That his post-office address is Milford, county of Seward, State of Nebraska.

Louis Neals
(Claimant's signature in full.)

Attest: (1) Monroe Heiter
 (2) S. J. Gupta

Also personally appeared Monroe Heiter, residing in Milford Neb. and S. J. Gupta, residing in Milford Neb., persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say that they were present and saw Louis Neals, the claimant, sign his name (or make his mark) to the foregoing declaration; that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of the claimant and their acquaintance with him of 2 years and 2 years, respectively, that he is the identical person he represents himself to be, and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

Validity accepted
 S. A. Cuddy,
 Chief, Law Division.

Monroe Heiter
S. J. Gupta
(Signatures of witnesses.)

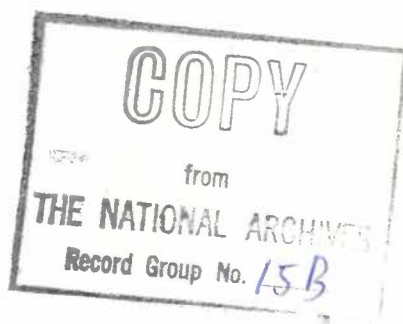
per AW 9 26

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me this 23^d day of Sept, A. D. 1907, and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words _____, erased, and the words _____, added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

[L. S.]

J. H. Perkinson
Notary Public
(Official character.)





Louis Neals - SC - 584,071 - Civil War

Louis Neals alias Lemis Neel
was the first Indian in the
U.S. to receive an allotment
of land ^{in severalty,} evidenced by a patent.

See Nebraska History

Vol. 38
p. 14

Compliments of B.B. Chapman

APR 2 1958

DECLARATION OF A WIDOW FOR ACCRUED PENSION.

STATE OF Nebraska }
 COUNTY OF Thurston } ss:

On this 15th day of May, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, personally appeared before me, a notary public within and for the county and State aforesaid, Jennie Neals, aged 70 years, a resident of Walthill, County of Thurston, State of Nebraska, who being duly sworn according to law, makes the following declaration in order to obtain the pension which had accrued to her husband, named below, at the time of his death.

That she is the widow of Louis Neals who served as Quartermaster Sergeant Co D 1st Battalion Nebraska Cavalry [State rank and designation of organization or name of vessel.] and who was a pensioner of the United States by certificate No. 584071, on the roll of the Pension Agency at Des Moines Ia; that the last payment of his pension was made to the 1st day of Dec, 1916; that he died on the 23d day of December, 1916

That she was married under the name of Jennie Opeel to said pensioner at Dakota City Neb on the 22d day of December, 1912 by John Crews Pastor M E Church; that there was no legal barrier to the marriage; that she had never been previously married; that the soldier had never been previously married. Applicant's former husband's former wife died in 1897 at Bellevue Neb died in Omaha Neb in 1897
 [If there was a prior marriage of either, the date and place of death or divorce of former consort or consorts should be stated.]

That her post-office address is Walthill County of Thurston, State of Nebraska

Attest: (1) Miss Dora Mackey,
 (2) Charles Hudec Jennie Neals
 [Applicant's signature.]

And personally appeared Miss Dora Mackey, residing at Walthill Neb, and Charles Hudec residing at Walthill Neb, persons whom I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, and who, being by me duly sworn, say they were present and saw Jennie Neals the claimant, sign her name (or make her mark) to the foregoing declaration, and that they have every reason to believe, from the appearance of said claimant and their acquaintance with her of 3 1/2 years and 4 years, respectively, that she is the identical person she represents herself to be; and that they have no interest in the prosecution of this claim.

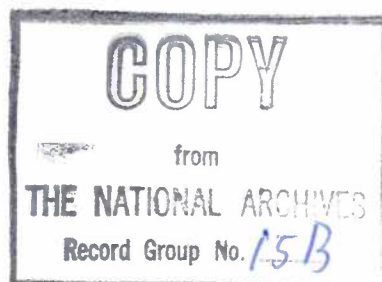
Miss Dora Mackey
Charles Hudec
 [Signatures of witnesses.]

Declaration accepted as
 a claim under act of
March 3rd 1908

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of May, A. D. 1917 and I hereby certify that the contents of the above declaration, etc., were fully made known and explained to the applicant and witnesses before swearing, including the words erased, and the words added; and that I have no interest, direct or indirect, in the prosecution of this claim.

[L. S.]

A. P. Coleman
Notary Public
 [Official character.]



Louis Neals - SC-584,071 - Civil War

Louis Neals alias Lewis Neel
was the first Indian in the
U.S. to receive an allotment
of land in severalty, evidenced
by a patent.

See Nebraska History
Vol. 38
p. 14

Compliments of B.B. Chapman

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.

Free STATE OF

Nebraska



TOWN OF

Omaha

I, Louis Heals born in _____
in the State of Kansas aged thirty two years,
and by occupation a farmer Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this sixth day of May 1864
to serve as a **Soldier** in the **Army of the United States of America**, for
the period of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority:
Do also agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be,
established by law for volunteers. And I, Louis Heals do
solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States**
of America, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all
their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the
orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers
appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at Omaha N.B.
this 6th day of May 1864, } Louis Heals
BEFORE W. B. Trumm
2d Lieut Neb. Cav

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above-named Volunteer, agreeably
to the General Regulations of the Army, and that, in my opinion, he is free from all bodily defects and
mental infirmity, which would in any way disqualify him from performing the duties of a soldier.

Philip Barney

Surgeon U.S. Army
EXAMINING SURGEON.

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have minutely inspected the Volunteer, Louis Heals
previously to his enlistment, and that he was entirely sober when enlisted; that, to the best of my
judgment and belief, he is of lawful age; and that, in accepting him as duty qualified to perform the
duties of an able-bodied soldier, I have strictly observed the Regulations which govern the recruiting
service. This soldier has hazel eyes, dark hair, dark complexion, is five
feet eleven inches high.

W. B. Trumm

1st Batt. Regiment of Neb. Cav Volunteers,

2d Lieut and RECRUITING OFFICER.

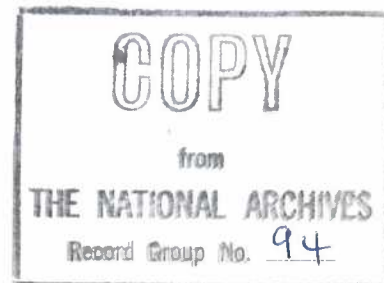
Mustered into the service of the United States, for three years or during the war, from date of enlistment, in Company D,
1st Batt. Regiment of Neb. Cav Volunteers, on the 31st day of August, 1864, at Omaha N.B.

Philip Barney
Surgeon U.S. Army
attest

Louis Neals was
the ~~first~~ first Indian in the U.S.
to receive from the federal
government an allotment of land
in severalty, evidenced by a
patent. See Nebraska History
Vol. 38, p. 16.

His service record in the
National Archives is listed
as Lewis Neals. His
pension file is Soldier's
Certificate No. 584,071.

Presented to the NSHS
by B.B. Chapman
3/6/58





Department of the Interior,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS.

Washington, D. C., June 16, 1898

SIR:

Will you kindly answer, at your earliest convenience, the questions enumerated below? The information is requested for future use, and it may be of great value to your family.

Very respectfully,

Mrs. Louis Neals
Bellevue
Nebr.

A. C. Evans
Commissioner.

No. 1. Are you a married man? If so, please state your wife's full name, and her maiden name.

Answer: no - wife died June 23 1877.

No. 2. When, where, and by whom were you married? Answer:

at Bellevue - in 1856

No. 3. What record of marriage exists? Answer:

probably no
court House records, have family bible record

No. 4. Were you previously married? If so, please state the name of your former wife and the

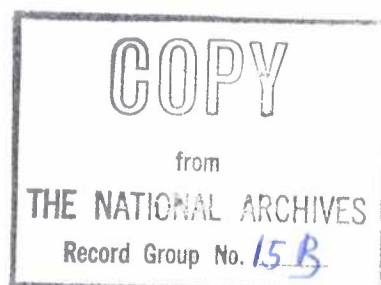
date and place of her death or divorce. Answer: no -

No. 5. Have you any children living? If so, please state their names and the dates of their

birth. Answer: one child aged 22 yrs next
fall - Mary C. Neals -

Date of reply, June 21, 1898

Louis Neals
(Signature)



Louis Neals, - SC 584,071 - Civil War

Louis Neals alias Lewis Neal
was the first Indian in the
U.S. to receive an allotment of
land in severalty, evidenced by
a patent.

See Nebraska History

Vol. 38
p. 14

Compliments of B.B. Chapman

War Department,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

672,909

Washington, Jan'y 17, 1889.

Respectfully returned to the Commissioner of Pensions.

Louis Neals, a 2. M. S. of Company D,
1 Bn. Neb. Cav. Volunteers, was enrolled on the
6 day of May, 1864, at Omaha, 3 yrs,
and is reported: On rolls from Aug. 31, 64,
date of muster in of co., to
April 30/65, present. May & June,
65, absent on furlough. He was
mustered out with a detachment
of the company at Ft. Kearney,
N. D., July 10/65.

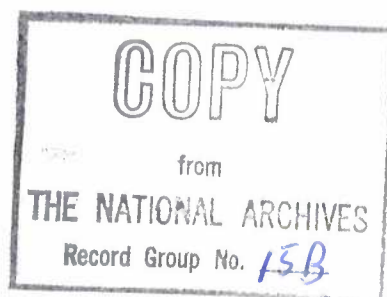
Date cause & extent of furlough
not stated.

Records of this office furnish no
evidence of alleged injury.

R. C. DRUM,

Adjutant General.

By



Louis Neals, SC 584,071, Civil War

Louis Neals alias Lewis Neal
was the first Indian in the
U.S. to receive an allotment
of land in severalty, evidenced
by a patent.

See Nebraska History

Vol. 38

p. 14

Compliments of B.B. Chapman

GENERAL AFFIDAVIT.

State of Nebraska County of Burt, ss.

In the matter of of the application of Louis Neale late
Quartermaster Sergt. of Co. "D", 1st Batt. Neb. Vet. Cav. Bds. for
Invalid Pension
 ON THIS 17th day of September A. D. 1887; personally appeared before me

Charles B. Barlow Notary Public in and for the aforesaid County duly authorized to administer oaths,

Michael Evans aged 54 years, a resident of Decatur
 in the County of Burt and State of Nebraska

whose Post Office address is Decatur, Burt County, Nebraska
 aged _____ years, a resident of _____

in the County of _____ and State of _____
 whose Post Office address is _____

well known to me to be reputable and entitled to credit, and who, being duly sworn, declared in relation to aforesaid case as follows:

That Applicant was formerly Sergeant of
Co. "D", 1st Batt. Neb. Vet. Cav. Bds. covering an
or over Nov 15th 1864 and that while
said Co. was stationed at Omaha Neb
both Applicant and affiant being present
and being personally acquainted with
each other. That while in the line of duty
at said place, upon a drill the horse
upon which the said Louis Neale was
riding stumbled and fell, falling upon
said Louis Neale and injuring his right
shoulder & breast that he was sent to the
man and I afterwards saw him with his
arm in a sling. That I have seen the
said Louis Neale frequently from that
time to the present and he has always
complained more or less of his right
shoulder arm and breast and the same
always has been more or less deformed
since said accident. That prior to the
said 15th day of November 1864 the said
Louis Neale was one of the strongest men
in the Co. and never complained of anything
being the matter with him. That at the time
of said accident there was no Reg. Physician
with said Co. That said Co. was at
that time commanded by Capt.
Henry F. C. Krumme who died at the City
of Omaha Neb. and that there was no other

commissioned officer with said company at the time of said accident, and that said drill was at that time conducted by this affiant. That affiant saw the horse fall on said man and saw some of the comrades assist man to the rear.

Affiant further declare that he has no interest in said case and is not concerned in its prosecution.

Thos. R. Ashby

Michael Evans

(If Affiants sign by mark, two persons who can write sign here.)

(Signature of Affiants.)

State of Nebraska, County of Burt, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this day by the above-named affiant, and I certify that I read said affidavit to said affiant including the words _____ erased, and the words _____ added and acquainted him with its contents before he executed the same. I further certify that I am in nowise interested in said case, nor am I concerned in its prosecution; and that said affiant is personally known to me and that he is a credible person.

[L. S.]

Charles B. Barlow
(Official Signature.)
Notary Public
(Official Character.)

NOTE.—This should be sworn to before a CLERK OF COURT, NOTARY PUBLIC or JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. If before a JUSTICE or NOTARY, then CLERK OF COUNTY COURT must certify as to official character of officer administering the oath unless a general Certificate has been filed in Pension Office, Washington, D. C., then the officer must so state.

INV. ORIG.

Nov 6 72 909

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.

CLAIM OF

Louis Heals
Co. D 1st Battalion
Nebraska Cav.

AFFIDAVIT OF

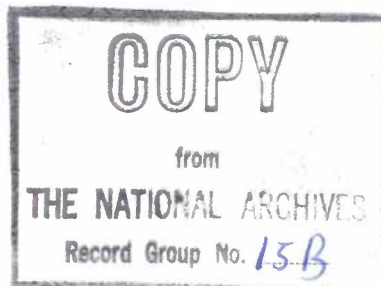
FILED BY

T. W. TALLMADGE,

Attorney at Law and Solicitor of Claims,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

BYRON S. ADAMS, PRINTER.



Louis Neals - SC 584,071 - Civil War

Louis Neals alias Lewis Neal
was the first Indian in
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allotment of land ^{in severalty,} evidenced
by a patent.

See Nebraska History
Vol. 38

p. 16

Compliments of B.B. Chapman

All they had was invested in our
improvements on said land. We are desirous
of all other means of a subsistence, and
most humbly offer your Honor to hear
petition as we think the treaty
closes the matter of making titles
to said lands entirely at the hand
of your Honor.

Louis Poules
Amant & Thaddeus
George & Poole
Harriet Keates
Elizabeth Keates
Mary & Charles
their mother

Keweenaw, N. D. January 1st 1858

To the Honorable President of the U.S.
We the undersigned being of the name
Keates (formerly Mary Rogers) a half breed
Indian of the Keweenaw tribe do most
humbly supplicate the audience of our
Benefactor. to grant to us the tract
of land on which we now reside which
is section twenty in Township four
Range sixteen East on the lands selected
and granted to half breeds lying between
the two Keweenaws in the Nebraska Territory.
The same being the land selected
by our Parents and on which they
remained with us until their death.
We are six in number. Two of which
are of age, with our own families
to support. the rest are minors and
dependant. Our Father died one year
ago last March and our Mother on
the 11th day of October last.